



DIOCESE OF PATERSON

Diocesan Center
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Office of
THE BISHOP

February 2010

Dear Friends in Christ,

A hope based on faith in God marks those societies under decades of communist rule. This corrupt system saw the destruction of churches, monasteries and seminaries, as well as the exile of priests, religious and laypeople who were sent to labor camps and prisons. It was the Holy Spirit who kept the yearning for faith alive in generations crushed by such a destructive force.

Each year the Catholic Church takes up a **special collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe**. What took decades to destroy cannot be re-built overnight. The ongoing efforts by the Catholic Church continue to be needed in this part of the world – a place where the Catholic Church is one of the most stable institutions in Eastern Europe.

Your donation will help support social service programs, youth ministry, seminaries, pastoral centers and church restoration. Please help nurture the restoration of the Church in this region of the world by making a generous contribution when this collection is taken in your parish.

Asking God's blessing on you, I am

Faithfully yours in Christ,

+ *Arthur J. Serratelli*

Most Reverend Arthur J. Serratelli, S.T.D., S.S.L., D.D.
Bishop of Paterson

P.S. This collection will be taken up next week-end.

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

February 21, 2010

St. James the Greater

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Charlie Lombaerde at the
Request of his wife, Carol

TUESDAY, February 23

8:00AM – Terry Naletko
req. by Carol Lombaerde

SATURDAY, February 27

8:00AM – Charlie Lombaerde
req. by his wife, Carol

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

February 28

8:00AM – George Patterson, III
req. by his parents

11:30AM – Father James Gacquin

ST. JAMES THE GREATER

\$1,697.00 – Regular Collection – February 14, 2010
\$2,477.00 – Weekly Budget Need
\$1,431.00 – Regular Collection – February 15, 2009

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

\$2,475.00 – Regular Collection – February 14, 2010
\$4,410.00 – Weekly Budget Need
\$2,482.00 – Regular Collection – February 15, 2009

TO CHRIST THE DIVINE HEALER WE PRAY FOR:

Bree Andrews, Vickie Bennett, Joseph Bruno, Eric Cerra,
Jerry Cooper, Jason DeLorenzo, Geri Fawyer, Ronnie
Ferriere, Marie Furtado, Nancy Green, Eric Harper, Horace
Harper, Catherine Higgins, Sharon Hubbell, Peter Jaycay,
Sharon Johnson, Chuck Lombaerde, Florence Majewski,
Karen Morgan, Richard Nowicki, Joseph Peraino, Flo Puccio,
Evelyn Schweer, Deena Slain, Bill Sousa, Catherine
Vecharello, Lisa Vergona, Tarra Wagner and Gabriel Wyzga

St. Thomas the Apostle

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Edna Cosman at the
Request of Marion & Dave

MONDAY, February 22

9:00AM – Terry Naletko
req. by Marion & Dave

TUESDAY, February 23

9:00AM – Mary Kelton Mahon
req. by Grace Reich

WEDNESDAY, February 24

9:00AM – Victor DeGennaro
req. by Gerry Mahon

THURSDAY, February 25

No Mass

FRIDAY, February 26

9:00AM – Father Gerald Lewis

SATURDAY, VIGIL, February 27

5:30PM – Edna Cosman
req. by Marion & Dave
- Bernie Reich
req. by his wife, Grace

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

February 28

9:30AM – Deceased Members of the Vergona Family
req. by Gerry Mahon and Family

PILGRIM VIRGIN OF FATIMA STATUE

This beautifully adorned statue is a visible reminder of the
love God has shown in the Blessed Mother. Placing such a
beautiful image in your home turns hearts to prayer and brings
grace to those who open their hearts to any image of God's
love. If you would like to have the statue of Our Lady of
Fatima in your home, please contact Diana, Legion of Mary at
973-948-7601. *Pray the Family Rosary*

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

The Sacred Season of Lent

Create memories with your family this year that they will hold in their hearts for years to come! Make the three disciples of Lent – prayer, fasting and almsgiving – become more than just words for “no video games or treats for 40 days.” Turn these three basic elements of Lent into deep, holy experiences for your family.

Seek Sacrament – Those in your family who have made their first reconciliation should go to celebrate the sacrament during Lent. Help little ones think about to whom they should say “I’m sorry” to each day.

Behold the Cross – Move your family’s crucifix so it is near your front door (or whichever door you use most often). It will serve as a daily reminder of Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross for us.

Kneel, Stand – Attend the Stations of the Cross on Friday evening. Before you go, you may want to purchase and bring the book *Stations of the Cross for Children* so even the youngest members of your family can follow along. (To be continued – Taken from Family Faith on the Go)

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

Yesterday was a very special day for us as the following children from our parishes received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the very first time:

Joseph Bergman, Katarina Bisl, Annika Dugan, Kristian Dugan, Derek Gautan, Sage Bruzaud-Holstein, Jessica Koba, Joseph Koba, Garrett Lapina, Jack Marion, Denali Nebel, Anthony Savarese and Mark Sternefeld from St. James Parish and Aidan Blevins, Nikki Delgado, Jenna Dispenziere, Benjamin Dispoto, Natalie Dube, Zachary Ellicott, Michael Gaffney, Sean Kealy, Steven Lawrence, Allison Lombardi, Jackson Melnick, Randi Mae Miley, Kelly Murphy, Bridget O’Keefe, Charlotte Pagliaro, Nicholas Rittweger, Sierra Rutnik, Kelly Rymaniak, Jeremy Shear, John Seibert, Kiara Shadwell, Brady Sullivan, Emilia DeGroat-VanderPloog, Ryan Van Wingerden and Matthew Voss from St. Thomas Parish.

Please keep these young parishioners and their parents in your prayer as they continue on their faith journey towards the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist in May.

Special thanks to our catechists, Patrice Kealy and Anne Voss, and our aides, Hannah Blevins and Lauren Seibert for assisting their parents in the preparation, to Sister Nivia Arias for our beautiful day of retreat, and to Msgr. Jim O’Rorke, Fr. Jim Mulligan and our pastor, Fr. Wayne for celebrating the sacrament with us!

World Youth Day Meeting

Our next meeting will take place **today**, February 21st at 1:30PM in the Father Lewis Center. We will be discussing future fund-raising efforts along with finalizing our deposit payments and assuring our place for WYD 2011 in Madrid.

From the R.C.I.A.

As we begin the Season of Lent, final preparation for our R.C.I.A. Catechumens and Candidate also begins.

On February 21, the Catechumens will travel to the Cathedral for the Rite of Election at 4:00pm with Bishop Serratelli.

On February 27, the Rite of Call to Continuing Conversion will be celebrated with our Candidate, John, at the 5:30pm Mass.

We ask that all our Parishioners remember in prayer in a special way our Candidate, John, and Catechumens, Jim & Bill, as they continue on their journey to Full Initiation into the Catholic Church.

All adult parishioners continue to be welcome to participate in the R.C.I.A. process.

Peace be With You, Patricia Hope,
Coordinator for the R.C.I.A.

Blood Drive

The Knights of Columbus extends a thank you to everyone who contributed during our Blood Drive on Sunday, January 31st. We collected a total of 21 whole blood units and monies were donated to the U.S. Fund for UNICEF to support their relief efforts in Haiti. Our **next** Blood Drive is scheduled for **Sunday, April 25, 2010**.

Friday Soup Suppers

Each Friday during Lent, the Columbiettes will be serving a meatless **Soup Supper** at the Father Lewis Center from **5:00PM to 7:00PM**. Sign up sheets will be available at both churches if you plan to join us for soup and fellowship. Following the meal, **Stations of the Cross** will be prayed at St. Thomas at 7:00PM.

St. Thomas the Apostle Tricky Tray

On Friday evening, May 7th, we will be hosting our Annual Tricky Tray. If you are interested in assisting our committee in any way, please call Deirdre Burgos at 973-948-6092. All volunteers are welcome. We will be holding a meeting on Tuesday evening, February 16th at 6:00pm. Please feel free to join us in the Father Lewis Center.

Mother’s Market

The Mother’s Market will be hosted by our own Mom & Tots Group. Buy or sell new and gently used children’s items, clothes and toys on **Saturday, March 27th** in the Father Lewis Center from 10:00am to 2:00pm. You may reserve a table to sell your items by calling Vickie at 973-948-3376.

Helping Haiti

Catholic Relief Services (CRS), the official international humanitarian agency of the U.S. Catholic Church, is responding to victims of the massive earthquake in Haiti. To donate, please call 1-877-HELP-CRS, donate online at www.crs.org or send a check to Catholic Relief Services, PO Box 17090, Baltimore, MD 21203-7090. In the memo portion of your check, please write: Haiti Earthquake. For more information, go to crs.org and crsespanol.org.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISHES

STC -- St. Thomas Ch. or Fr. Lewis Center

SJC -- St. James Ch. or Church Hall

REC -- Fr. Gacquin Religious Ed. Center

Sunday, February 21, 2010

First Sunday of Lent

9:30 a.m. STC & REC Gr. 6-7-8 Mass & Class

9:30 a.m. STC C.L.O.W.

9:30 a.m. STC Coffee Hour after Mass

11:30 a.m. SJC Coffee Hour after Mass.

3:00 p.m. STC Conf. Candidates & Sponsors

Monday, February 22

11:00 a.m. REC Prayer Shawl Ministry

7:00 p.m. STC Reconciliation and Taizé

Tuesday, February 23

4:00 p.m. REC Gr. 1 & 2

7:00 p.m. STC K of C Officers' Mtg

Wednesday, February 24

4:00 p.m. REC Gr. 3, 4 & 5

Thursday, February 25

9:30 a.m. STC Moms & Tots Group

Friday, February 26

All day: STC Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

3:00 p.m. STC Chaplet of Divine Mercy

4:00 p.m. STC Evening Prayer & Benediction

5:00 p.m. STC Columbiettes' Soup Supper

7:00 p.m. STC and SJC Stations of the Cross

Saturday, February 27

9:30 a.m. REC Legion of Mary Mtg.

10:00 a.m. REC Lenten Family Day

6:30 p.m. STC Pot Luck Dinner

Sunday, February 28, 2010

Second Sunday of Lent

Future Events

Women's Morning Retreat

Sat. Mar. 6 STC 9 a.m. – 12 Noon

Mothers' Market at St. Thomas

Sat. March 27 10 a.m.—2 p.m.

Taizé Song and Prayer at St. Thomas, 7 p.m.

Mon. Feb. 22; Mon. Mar. 8; Mon. Mar. 22

The Season of Lent has begun. Within the Diocese of Paterson, the **Mondays of Lent** have been designated as “**Evenings of Reconciliation.**” Each church of our Diocese will be open from **7 p.m. until 8:30 p.m.** for the Sacrament. You are welcome to enter any Catholic church for Reconciliation. With our situation here, the schedule will be as follows:

STC: Feb. 22, March 8, March 22

SJC: March 1, March 15, April 1.

Stations of the Cross are prayed **each Friday evening, 7 p.m. at both St. James and St. Thomas** each week of Lent.

(A Soup Supper is offered at St. Thomas each Fri., courtesy of our Columbiettes, 5 p.m.-7 p.m.)

For Women Only: A dynamic Catholic speaker and author, Genevieve Kineke, will be visiting our area on **Sat. March 6th**. She will be leading a **Women's Morning of Reflection** at St. Thomas Church. The hours are 9 a.m. till 12 Noon. Genevieve is the author of a very insightful book: *The Authentic Catholic Woman*, which shows in many surprising ways how women's faith can be expressed in everyday life. Cost will be: \$ 10.00, collected at door. Bring a friend. Call Lucy VanderPloog at 973-948-2250 for more info. Refreshments will be served.

A Catholic Men's Conference 2010 is set for **Sat. March 13th** at Seton Hall U. It is entitled: “Champions of Faith” and will bring men together to form a brotherhood to strengthen faith, family, and your identity as a disciple of Jesus Christ. Thousands of Catholic men will gather and hear some of the most dynamic Catholic speakers in the country, incl. Joe Klecko, former Jet, and Fr . Benedict Groeschel. Begins 8 a.m. with reg. & breakfast. Closes with Mass at 4 p.m. with Archbishop Myers of Newark. Cost \$ 20 (seniors and students: \$ 15) Confessions available throughout day. Register online at www.rcan.org/menscommission

Every Friday is an opportunity to have a personal audience with God. St. Thomas Church holds **Adoration from 10 a.m. till 4 p.m.** **At 3 p.m. the Divine Mercy Chaplet** is recited. **At 4 p.m. Evening Prayer** is prayed. Stop in during the day and enjoy the peaceful silence of God's presence.