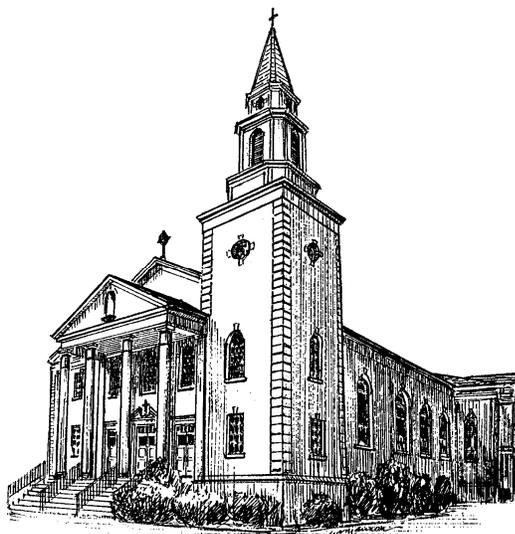


*The People of God called to form the Christian Community of*

# *St. Mary's Church*

*March 8, 2020*

*Second Sunday of  
Lent*



## **Mission Statement**

*We the Roman Catholic community of St. Mary's, united in the Eucharist and under the guidance of St. Mary of the Assumption, strengthen our faith by praising God, proclaiming His word, sharing His love with all people and serving those in need.*

**St. Mary:  
Pray for Us**

Rev. Stephen A. Carey, *Pastor*  
Rev. Thomas Pendrick, *Parochial Vicar*  
Rev. Patrick W. Donohue, *In-Residence*  
Deacon John L. Sylvester, *Permanent Deacon*  
Mr. Joel Condon, *Director of Music Ministry*  
Mrs. Kathleen Sylvester, *Pastoral Associate for Liturgy/RCIA*  
Dr. William J. Mascitello, *Pastoral Associate for Catechetics*  
Mr. John Weiss, *Business Administrator*  
Beth Miloscia, *Youth and Young Adult Ministries*  
Dory Weiss, *Parish Secretary*  
Mrs. Mattea Truppe, *Pastoral Council Chairperson*  
Mrs. Janet Kaine, *Parish Trustee*  
Mr. Michael Daly, *Parish Trustee*

Parish e-mail: [info@stmarysdumont.org](mailto:info@stmarysdumont.org)  
Parish Website: [www.stmarysdumont.org](http://www.stmarysdumont.org)

Religious Education Office: 201-384-0557  
Extension 20

e-mail: [religioused@stmarysdumont.org](mailto:religioused@stmarysdumont.org)

Director of Music:  
email: [music@stmarysdumont.org](mailto:music@stmarysdumont.org)

## **Eucharistic Liturgy**

Saturday Eve: 5:30 pm  
Sunday: 7:45 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 pm  
Holydays (except Saturday): 7:00 am, 8:45 am, & 7:30 pm  
Weekdays: Monday - Friday 7:00 am & 8:45 am  
Saturday: 8:30 am  
Holiday: 9:00 am on Major Civil Holidays

## **Religious Devotions**

**Miraculous Medal Novena:** Saturday following 8:30 am Mass.

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**  
First Friday of the month, 8:00 am - 7:00 pm, in the lower church.

## **Sacrament of Penance**

**Saturday:** 4:00 - 4:45 pm  
Private confessions at any time. Please call the parish office.

## **Sacrament of Marriage**

Common policy of the Archdiocese of Newark asks that arrangements be made one year in advance. Engaged couples must call to make an appointment to speak to a priest.

## **Sacrament of Baptism**

Parents should register for the Baptism Preparation Program at the rectory...even before the baby is born!

## **Catechumenate**

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is the process by which adults (and children who have reached the age of reason) are prepared to receive the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist. If you, or someone you know, would like to inquire about becoming a Catholic, please call the parish office.

## **Ministry to the Sick and Homebound**

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is available to be celebrated with anyone in need. Please do not wait until death is imminent to contact the parish regarding an ill family member. Eucharistic Ministers and others serve our community by visiting and bringing Communion to the sick and homebound. Please call the parish office if you wish such a visit.

## **God's Plan for Giving - Tithing**

Tithing is God's plan to support His Church. Full tithing means 10% of gross income to God. We ask half of this, or 5%, for your parish Church. The other 5% goes to your favorite charities.



*This Week*

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>March 7 - Vigil</b>
5:30PM	Peter Prior
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>March 8 - Second Sunday of Lent</b>
7:45AM	Phyllis Lyons
10:00AM	Am Joon Park
12 Noon	Parishioners of St. Mary's
<b>Monday</b>	<b>March 9 - Lenten Weekday</b>
7:00AM	Catherine Crowley
8:45AM	John (Andy) Prior
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>March 10 - Lenten Weekday</b>
7:00AM	Comfort Afriyie
8:45AM	Gerard Glynn
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>March 11 - Lenten Weekday</b>
7:00AM	Arthur Mortensen
8:45AM	Peggy, John and Rev. Dan Cronin
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>March 12 - Lenten Weekday</b>
7:00AM	Louis Giovanni, Sr.
8:45AM	Vincent McLaughlin
<b>Friday</b>	<b>March 13 - Lenten Weekday</b>
7:00AM	Patty Barry
8:45AM	Rosemary and Tom Ray
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>March 14 - Lenten Weekday</b>
8:30AM	Nena Asistin
5:30PM	Parishioners of St. Mary's
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>March 15 - Third Sunday of Lent</b>
7:45AM	Dennis and Daniel Daly
10:00AM	Pat Langford
12 Noon	Vincent Filingeri

### ***In Loving Memory***



The Bread and Wine offered at this week's Masses are given in memory of Tom Murphy requested by Mary Murphy and family.

The Sanctuary Lamp will burn in praise of God and in memory of Phyllis Lyons requested by Josie Parrella.

We ask your prayers for our recently deceased Rosemarie Sabatini, Richard J. Deiser and Frances R. Hans.

### **St. Patrick's Mass - March 15th**

Our annual St. Patrick's celebration will be held on Sunday, March 15 at the 10:00 a.m. Mass. **Cardinal Joseph Tobin** will be our Celebrant and Grand Marshal of the parade. Following Mass, all are invited to join us for a social in Szelest Hall featuring tea, soda bread, Irish dancing, and bagpipes.



### **Sunday – March 8**

8:30AM PACT Angels Session LC/School  
9:15AM RCIA Kids Sacred Heart Rm  
6:30PM JWalk Stations of the Cross Practice UC  
7:00PM Penitential Rite  
ASCPG Raffle Sale after all Masses

### **Monday - March 9**

After 8:45AM Mass Rosary LC  
1:00PM Transfiguration Penance Service at St. John's, Bergenfield  
6:15PM Bell Choir Rehearsal UC  
7:00PM PACT Angels Session UC/School  
8:00PM Basketball SH  
8:00PM RCIA MSRm

### **Tuesday – March 10**

After 8:45AM Mass Rosary LC  
3:30PM PACT Angels Session UC/School

### **Wednesday - March 11**

After 8:45AM Mass Rosary LC  
7:00PM Arts & Environment Meeting Sacristy  
7:00PM OLPH Novena LC  
7:30PM Line Dancing SH

### **Thursday – March 12**

After 8:45AM Mass Rosary LC  
7:30PM Adult Choir Rehearsal School

### **Friday – March 13**

After 8:45AM Mass Rosary LC  
9:30AM St. John's Food Kitchen, Newark  
7:00PM Stations of the Cross LC  
7:15PM Basketball SH

### **Saturday – March 14**

After 8:30AM Mass Rosary LC  
5:00PM Set-up St. Patrick's Day SH  
After 5:30PM Mass Sale of Soda Bread

### **Sunday – March 15**

7:30AM Feeding at Missionaries of Charity Soup Kitchen, Newark  
9:15AM RCIA Kids Sacred Heart Rm  
10:00AM First Scrutiny  
10:00AM St. Patrick's Mass, Cardinal Tobin, Main Celebrant. Social to follow SH.  
6:30PM JWalk Stations of the Cross Practice UC  
After all Masses Sale of Soda Bread

### **Lenten Giving Tree**

Our parish will collect items for St. Clare's Home for Children, which is a part of the AIDS Resource Foundation in Newark. Tags are now available. Please take a tag off the Lenten tree and return it with the item to church before the end of Lent.







# FASTING IN A *FAST-PACED WORLD*

by Art Zannoni

Often our lives seem to move at break neck speed, laced with stress and governed by calendars and schedules with barely a spare moment. With the arrival of Lent, Catholics are challenged to look at this way of living by fasting from moving at the speed of humankind and embracing moving at the speed of God.

Fasting (as opposed to dieting) confronts our culture. Fasting, in a society that has plenty and is motivated by immediate self-gratification, is generally not perceived as a value. Yet, for Jews, Christians, and Muslims, fasting is part and parcel of practicing one's faith in today's culture.

## **Biblical Roots of Fasting**

The Bible provides a treasure-trove of reflections on the meaning of fasting. In both the Old and New Testaments fasting usually means total abstinence from food from morning until evening (see 2 Samuel 1:12; Jonah 3:7; Acts 9:9). This is still the case for Muslims today during the month of Ramadan.

## **Fasting as Mourning**

In both Old Testament times and Jesus' times, fasting could be done for a number of different reasons. One motive was as an act of mourning. For example, after the death of King Saul, David and his men "mourned and wept and fasted until evening for Saul and his son Jonathan" (2 Samuel 1:12). David likewise refused to eat after the death of his general Abner (2 Samuel 3:35), and after the death of his first child by Bathsheba (2 Samuel 12:18-21). Such fasting was an expression of grief and mourning.

## **Fasting as Sorrow for Sin**

In the Bible, fasting is also understood as

an expression of sorrow for sin. Fasting was prescribed for this reason on the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur). In later Jewish tradition, and among observant Jews today, this fast was interpreted to mean complete abstinence from food on the Day of Atonement, not merely smaller meals or no eating between meals.

## **Fasting as Prayer**

According to the Bible, fasting could also be done in conjunction with prayers of petition. David fasted while his child by Bathsheba lay mortally ill, in the hope that God would spare his child's life (2 Samuel 12:15-17, 22). David's fast was a prayer for God's intervention.

Like any act of religious piety, fasting could be done mechanically. Joel called for a fast that was an expression of true repentance, of truly turning to God: "Rend your hearts, not your garments, and return to the Lord, your God. For gra-

acious and merciful is he; perhaps he will again relent and leave behind a blessing" (Joel 2:13-14). Joel's message is that external expressions of mourning are not enough; it needs to be internalized in our hearts.

## **Fasting as Justice**

One of the best biblical descriptions of the meaning of fasting is provided by the prophet Isaiah. Speaking through the prophet, God says: "Is not this the fast that I choose: to lose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin?" (Isaiah 58:6-7)

In this passage God does not speak of helping the poor in general but specifi-



cally helping the oppressed: those who are poor, not because of misfortune but because they are the victims of injustice. This teaching about fasting is a call to eliminate the injustice that causes their hunger, rather than simply feed them. God demands not merely mercy, but a rooting out of injustice and a repairing of its effects. There is quite a difference between our being charitable to others and our making reparation for the harm we have done to them.

Whose sins of injustice lie behind the suffering of the oppressed? It may be our personal, individual sins, or it may be the sins of the society of which we are a part. The relevant point is that we are to root out these sins and to repair the damage that our individual and collective sins have wrought.

Isaiah's prophecy provides food for meditation during Lent. When we are considering what special practices or penance we will undertake, do we think mainly in terms of ourselves? "I'll give up TV, spending too much time online, alcoholic beverages or chocolates." Or do we think of the needs of others: "I'll give up some of my free time to help the

single parent to care for his or her children, volunteer at a nursing home, tutor a child. I'll go through my clothing and see what I could donate to a thrift shop. I'll go without pay for a day and take time off from my regular job to volunteer at a local food bank or to take an elderly person to the doctor.

#### Jesus and Fasting

According to the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus fasted forty days and forty nights (Matthew 4:1). The Gospel of Luke states that he ate nothing, implying that Jesus abstained from food (Luke 4:2). Subsequently Jesus was tempted by the devil, but the cleansing that happened as a result of his fasting empowered him to stand up to the devil's threefold temptation.

Jesus, himself a prophet who followed in the footsteps of the prophet Isaiah, challenged his disciples in the Sermon on the Mount to be joy-filled when fasting (Matthew 6:16-18). Fasting is not a time for show and tell, but rather a time to ponder what works of remedial justice and healing mercy we could undertake as our fast: undoing any wrongs we have committed.

Fasting may be from making abusive use of our tongues through put-downs and other forms of verbal abuse. Or fasting may be from failing to use our voice to speak out about injustices in our society. Or it may be speaking up by contacting our legislator, requesting that he or she provide legislation for more affordable housing for the poor.

Both Isaiah and Jesus teach us that the best way to mourn for our sins is to undo their harmful effects. That is what Lent is all about. Jesus reminds us that our fasting is not to be seen by others, but by God (Matthew 6:18). What type of fasting will God see us practice this Lent?

#### Reflection Questions

- What is the type of fasting God wishes of me?
- What is the penance God asks of me?
- What is God nudging me to do this Lent?"

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