

MASS INTENTIONS

THIS WEEK

Saturday 5:00 James Scanlan
 Sunday 8:00 Meredith Trapp, Randy Isikewicz
 Fr. Bob Kemmery, Parish Family
 10:00 Lewis Carrington
 Monday 8:00 Kay McLoughlin
 Tuesday 8:00 Beverly McElroy
 Wednesday 8:00 Rita Cordeiro
 Thursday 8:00 Communion Service
 Friday 8:00 Philip Bradley, Jr.

NEXT WEEKEND

Saturday 5:00 Daley, Rodrigues, O'Keefe &
 Zontini Families
 Sunday 8:00 Charles Tunis
 Fr. Bob Kemmery, Parish Family
 10:00 Daniel Tranzillo

PRAY FOR THE ILL OF THE PARISH

Martin Coughlin, Loretta Stephens, Regina Zanis, Harry Marcoux, John Keane, Tris Windle, David Cousins, Lynne Scalia, Alex Podeszwa, Thomas Stone, Nick Bartick, Pam Hedlund, Len Hedlund, Greg Morongell, Nora Gould, Edan Pearl, Anne Caruso, John M. Pollard, Peter Cruckshank, Bill Hannon, Ivy Davis, Maddy Hayes, Clare Stevenson, Joseph Nosari, Vincent Lencvewski, Jeffrey Wolfgang, Louise Francke, Joan Ouellette, Bev Sarazin, Tyler Benscoter, Agnes Wolfgang, Fr. Paul Smith, Marilyn Drewes, John L. Sullivan, Kameron Hardaker, Ray Castriotta, Julianne Sullivan, Robert Grudzina, Brenda Kowalski, Marge LaGrassa, Jim Lewis, Joyce Loechner, Frank Salomone, Paul Chamberlain, Pauline Laberge, Chad Larivee, Patrick McNulty, Dick Wentworth, Nuvia Downs, Karen Mary McNulty, Olivia Hart, Alex Haas, Patrick Devine, Gerry Csaposs, Peggy Carson, Ed Daly, Addie Priess, Frank McCarthy, Andree Yager, Loretta Reiter, Paul Kasczak, Joe Conlan, Patty Camarra, James Manley, Betty Babcock, Thomas Murphy, Tom & Deb O'Connor, Chris Frazier, Melissa K., Jayne Boyle, Vittoria Hillis, Baby Lillian Thoman, Jessica O., Fran McDonagh, Paul Hendrickson, Donna Hibbert, Margaret Royce, Beth Nixon, Maureen Hall, Anne O'Brien, Ben McMahan, Gerry Moynihan, Martha Moynihan, Richard Paskiewicz, Mary Rodrigues, Emily Sparks, Martha Byron, Stephen Moreau, Tara Maughn

PRAY FOR LOVED ONES IN THE MID-EAST

Brandy Nelson, Timothy Horigan, Scott Doucette, Michael Wilson, David Lucas, Sean Lucas, Peter Civita Shayne, Peter Cabral, Gregory DeLuca, Joshua Schmitt, Joseph Long, Brad Howard, Thomas Scudder, Jeffrey Stebbins, Phillip McDonough, David Wilcox, John Amick, David McDonald, Lt. Edward J. Maloney, Andrew Kelley, William James Miller, David Orloski, Stephen Tamaro, Michael L. Hamilton, Thomas Crawford, Aaron Charette, Nicholas McGahey, Edward Prufer, John Reuland

PRAY FOR OUR BELOVED DECEASED

COLLECTION RESULTS —THANK YOU!

March 31 Regular \$6,014.00
 Catholic Relief Services \$2,880.00

HOLY WEEK AT ST. JOAN OF ARC

Next Sunday is Palm Sunday and we begin our journey through Holy Week.

Thursday, April 18

Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:00pm

All Eucharistic Ministers are invited to process into the church as a group at the opening of the 7 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper. Please gather in the Parish Center no later than 6:40 that evening.

Friday, April 19

Good Friday Services 3:00pm

Saturday, April 20

Easter Vigil 7:30pm

NO CONFESSIONS on Holy Saturday.

April 21 Easter Sunday

Masses at 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00am

PARISH PANCAKE BREAKFAST

The second Parish Pancake Breakfast of 2019 will be held this Sunday, April 7, after the 8am and 10am Masses in the Parish Center. Offered at the breakfast are blueberry, cranberry and plain pancakes, along with sausage, juice and coffee - all you can eat for \$6/adults, \$2.50/children under 12, and FREE for children under 7, with a family limit of \$15. Come on down and enjoy the great food and fellowship! The Parish Pancake Breakfasts are sponsored by the Knights of Columbus as fundraisers for their charitable activities.

**Kenya
Korner**



Classes have begun at St. James Elementary School where St. Joan of Arc is sponsoring five students — Tiffany, grade 7; Eznah, Roseanne, and Emmanuel, grade 5; and Vincencia, Grade 4. Two of our former elementary students, Michael and Bridgit, are attending Form 2 High School.

Parish contributions are enabling St. James Elementary School to purchase 10 computers for classroom use. Your continued generosity is changing the lives of Kenyan children by making learning opportunities a reality! Thank you!

Several Kenya Konnection members are making plans for a mission visit to Holy Cross Parish this September. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Dennis & Barbara Smith at barbsmith764@gmail.com.

GUILD SPRING TEA & FASHION SHOW

All women of the Parish are invited to join us in the Parish Center this Tuesday, April 9, at 2:00pm to celebrate Spring, while enjoying delicious finger sandwiches and "sweet treats", and marveling at the beautiful outfits from the Thrift Shop and Boutique that will be showcased by our very own "super models".

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



The Knights of Columbus will be meeting this Wednesday, April 10, at 7:30pm in the Parish Center. The Knights of Columbus is the world's largest Catholic family fraternal service organization with over 13,000 councils located throughout the U.S. and several countries. Men

interested in joining the Knights of Columbus are asked to call Martin Culik at 774-207-0911.

SOCIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY

All interested persons are welcome at our next meeting this Thursday, April 11, at 9am in the Parish Center.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

The Bereavement Support Group will not meet in April, but will resume their monthly meetings on Sunday, May 19, at 4:00pm.

SERVANT OF GOD—FR. VINCENT CAPODANNO

Fr. Capodanno, a Maryknoll priest and Navy chaplain during the Vietnam War, was awarded the Medal of Honor, posthumously. Now, as a Servant of God, his cause for canonization is under active consideration by the Vatican. At 7:30pm on Wednesday, April 24, the SJA Knights of Columbus and SJA Guild present Jim Schermerhorn, from Our Lady of Lourdes, who will discuss Fr. Vince's early life; his time as a Maryknoll missionary; and his work with the Marines in Vietnam, as well as the circumstances surrounding his death and Medal of Honor in 1967. Father Vince's story is a moving one, an account of great love, sacrifice and unselfishness, and we hope you can join us to hear more about this good man and future saint. Refreshments will be served.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

God always waits for us with open, loving arms. Let God be the strength of your marriage by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are April 13-14, 2019 in Brewster, MA and June 8-9, 2019 in Medway, MA. For more information, call Stephen & Michelle O'Leary at 800-710-9963 or visit them at <https://ww.mema.org/>.

LENTEN MISSION

Fr. Gene Toland, MM will present a two-part Lenten Mission here at St. Joan of Arc Church entitled, *We Are A Missionary Church*. Fr. Toland is a Maryknoll priest and has ministered in South America and elsewhere for several decades. It is said that Maryknollers are sometimes known as the "Marines of the Catholic Church" for their reputation of moving into rough areas, living side-by-side with indigenous peoples and learning the language. Maryknollers focus on combating poverty, providing healthcare, building communities and advancing peace and social justice. The Mission will take place this Sunday, April 7 and Monday, April 8 at 6:00pm in the Church. All are welcome!

LENT—A TIME FOR BOUNDLESS COMPASSION

Please join us in the Chapel at 8:45am this Wednesday April 10, for a time of reflection, conversation, and quiet prayer facilitated by Judy Burt Walker, based on the work of Joyce Rupp's book, *Boundless Compassion*. All are welcome, even if you were unable to attend in prior weeks.

LENTEN COFFEE FOR MEN



Each Friday of Lent, the men of our community are invited to the Parish Hall immediately following the 8:00am Mass. There will be a meditation and reflection regarding men's spirituality and opportunity for discussion led by Fr. Bill. Coffee and breakfast food will be served.

LENTEN EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

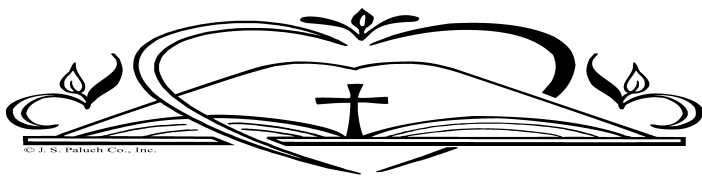
The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed from 1:00pm until 4:00pm each Friday during Lent. All are welcome to come and spend some time with our Eucharistic Lord as a particular Lenten devotion this year. A sign-up sheet has been placed in the church foyer to ensure that someone will be present throughout the adoration period.

RCIA

Please continue to keep Bob Lorefice in your prayers as he continues to prepare for his full Communion with the Church at the Easter Vigil.

LENTEN PRO-LIFE PRAYER

Father of all mercy, we thank you for this season of grace and light. We know that sin has blinded us. Draw us ever closer to you, in prayer and penance. Since you, O God, are light itself, give all your people a clearer understanding of what is sin, and what is virtue. Grant in particular that we may see, as never before, the profound dignity of every human life, including the vulnerable unborn children. Give us grace to defend our brothers and sisters in the womb by our prayers, our words, and our self-sacrificing actions. We pray through Christ our Lord. Amen.



APRIL FAMILY MASS

Our Family Mass is this Sunday, April 7, at 10:00am. Thank you to our students and families for participating in this special liturgy with Fr. Bill and the Parish Community. Afterwards, all are welcome to join us in the Parish center for refreshments.

FAITH FORMATION SCHEDULE

Grades 1-9 meet at their regular times this Monday, April 8. Look forward to seeing you all on Monday.

IMPORTANT GRADE 2 PARENT MEETING

There is an important Grade 2 Parent Meeting scheduled for this Monday, April 8, at 3:30pm in the Parish Center. We plan to review the calendar of events as well as the expectations for First Communion in May.

PARISH PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

As our parishioner Nicole O'Leary continues her vocation discernment with the Little Sisters of the Poor, let us remember Nicole and all those discerning a vocation in the Church, in our prayers.

Lord God, the Provider of all our needs. Manifest in your Church, the Holy Spirit whom you so abundantly bestowed on Our Lady and the apostles at Pentecost. Bless St. Joan of Arc Parish with an increase of men and women to minister in the Church. Form our parish in your image to be the sacred environment for listening to the Spirit that these young men and women may hear your call and respond with generous hearts. May they give themselves, their time, and their talents to serve your Son, Jesus Christ and the Church. Amen.



THE CHALLENGE OF MERCY

The Gospels leave no trace of doubt that *all* – (the woman accused of adultery; the woman who dares to touch the hem of Jesus' robe; the blind beggar on the streets of Jerusalem; the Samaritan woman at the well; the homeless person sitting on the street corner of every one of our cities) – absolutely *all* stand on holy ground in God's sight. Certainly Jesus' compassionate actions speak not only of profound understanding and courage, but of a deeply healing and merciful love.

Saint John the XXIII opened the Second Vatican Council nearly 60 years ago with the words: "*Now the Catholic Church wants to use the medicine of mercy rather than taking up the arms of security...it wants to show herself a loving mother to all; patient; kind, moved by compassion and goodness.*"

Pope Francis, also bids us look anew at God's face of mercy: "*It is hardly an exaggeration,*" writes the Pope, "*to say that God's is a visceral love. It gushes forth from the depths naturally, full of tenderness and compassion, indulgence and mercy.*"

One look at the mass violence perpetrated in our world today is proof enough of the need of deep healing and mercy as expressed by these two great pontiffs. We might listen to the gospel story of the stoning of the adulteress as we always have, – a punishment of a time gone by; until we recall the more recent stoning of a young woman in the Middle East by a righteous and raging radical mob. Suddenly the harsh brutal, injustice of the Gospel scene is no longer a story from the past. It is alive today – the same unmerciful, destructive ignorant behavior.

As human beings and as societies, we have been acculturated to accept an "*eye-for-an-eye*" mentality. It is hard for us to grasp the full healing power of reconciliation, forgiveness and mercy. It is difficult enough to live this holy principle in our daily encounters, much less on a larger scale! Indeed, how *is* one to live this kind of mercy without the grace of the One who becomes that mercy in us?

In Jesus' encounter with the woman caught in adultery, he turns a page for all humankind. He renews hope for every person. He dismisses condescending, legalistic attitudes. In action and in word Jesus "*draws a line in the sand*" – for the people of his time and for all future generations. As disciples we cannot hold on to our stones of righteousness *and* reach out with healing mercy. We must drop one or the other. So let us ask for the grace to rise to the Gospel challenge and drop our stones of harsh judgment, so that we might choose mercy.