First Sunday of Lent 21 February 2010 Saint Luke Church, Whitestone, N.Y.



In all you do, remember the end of your life, and then you will never sin. (Sirach 7:36)



I found these words as I was contemplating what I would share with you as the church begins the holy Season of Lent. Lent is a time for self-questioning; a time for self reflection as we ask in faith and love: "Your ways, O Lord, make known to me." Lent is about sin which seeks to distort our true greatness as children of God. Lent is about our salvation in Christ - the cause of our joy and the reason for our hope.

On Ash Wednesday most of us received the symbol of ashes given in the form of the cross. In this sign that church proclaims both our sinfulness and our salvation. For the journey of Lent will lead us to the celebration of the Paschal Mystery of our Lord's Passion, Death and Resurrection. As the words for the Good Friday Liturgy proclaim as the Cross is carried into the church: "This is the wood of the Cross, on which hung the Savior of the world. Come, let us worship."

Even Jesus faced temptations as today's Gospel tells us. Yet in answer to the first temptation Jesus says - "One does not live on bread alone." (Luke 4:1-13) An answer that challenges us to decide what in this life leads to salvation and what leads to sin and death.

"In all you do, remember the end of your life, and then you will never sin." Oh, if such a way of life was easy! Yet we know how difficult it can be - and so trusting in God's mercy and love we begin the discipline of Lent so that with mind and heart renewed we can celebrate the Good News of Salvation in Christ.

God bless.

Let us pray for one another,

MISSION STATEMENT

As a community of believers in Jesus Christ and in communion with the universal church, we strive to follow the Lord's command to love God and one another. Rooted in word and sacrament, we grow together as a Eucharistic community inviting all to the Good News of Jesus.



LENT & EASTER 2010



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Wednesdays after the 12 Noon Mass February 24, March 3, 10,17 & 24

FRIDAY EVENINGS AT 7:30pm

February 19 - Parish
February 26 - Disciples in Mission
March 5 - Family
March 12 - Liturgical Ministers
March 19 - Prayer Groups
March 26 - Family

ITALIAN STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Monday evenings at 7:30pm February 22, March 1, 8, 15, 22

DISCIPLES IN MISSION

Lenten Faith Sharing Program See Bulletin Flyer for more information.

FAITH FORMATION

Luke in Lent - Scripture Study of the Lenten Gospels February 16, March 9 & 16 Fr. Chirichella February 23 & March 2 Fr. Dettmer Tuesdays at 7:30pm in the Rectory

COULD YOU NOT WATCH ONE HOUR WITH ME?

Quiet prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. Tuesday afternoons 3:00PM-5:30pm





Save the Dates!

Join us each month at the Family Mass (11:45am) on the following dates!

February 21st

In preparation for Easter,

(1st Sunday of Lent) Monsignor Tosi will talk to the

children about Baptism.



March 28th

(Palm Sunday)

Children are invited to walk in

the Palm Procession.



April 18th

Eggs will be distributed to celebrate the Easter season.



May 9th (Mother's Day) Honor the Blessed Mother and all Mothers.



June 20th (Father's Day) Remember St. Joseph and all Fathers.





We hope to see @ all families there!

STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS BEGINS ---

A series of Diocesan Convocations were recently held to present the process and time line for "Christ, Jesus, Our Hope" - the process for strategic planning relative to the parishes of our Diocese. Meetings were held for the clergy, parish staffs and representative lay people from each parish. The lay representatives were chosen from among the Parish Trustees, Parish Pastoral Council and Parish Finance Council.

The Steps of the Parish Consultation Process are as follows:

- 1. Creation and distribution of Parish Data Report, listing relevant pastoral and financial data. This report is reviewed by the pastor (and/or his staff) in advance of its distribution.
- 2. A Meeting of Lay Leadership and/or a Parish Assembly is held to provide feedback on the parish data.
- 3. A joint Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) and Parish Finance Council (PFC) Meeting to complete the Planning Questionnaire that will be needed to create the Parish Self-Study Report.
- 4. Creation of a comprehensive Parish Self-Study Report for distribution to all parishioners.
- 5. Submission of the Parish Self-Study Report to the Planning Commission.
- 6. Response to each Parish Self-Study Report from the Planning Commission, on behalf of the Bishop.

The timeline for the implementation of these steps is from March 2010 to September 2010.

We will continue to keep you informed as the planning process moves forward. Please keep this important work in your prayers.

CONGRATULATIONS!!

At the 11:45am Mass on Sunday, February 28 we will be installing 24 new Altar Servers. Believe it or not this brings the number of Altar Servers up to 75. Here are the names of our newest servers:

William Chao	Evan Katsefes	Gabriella Serrano
Alexis Colletti	Joseph Licalzi	Timothy Sommer
Louis Damiano	Michael Lombardi	Steven Spiezia
Philip Damiano	Julia Manno	Austin Tirado
Andrew DeCanio	Antonino Mignano	Kristina Viscup
Michael DeCanio	Gabriella Polito	Casey Zbierski
Lauren Dierks	Russell Riescher	

Lauren Dierks
Gabriella Fiacco
Joseph Hili
Russell Riescher
Frank Romano
Richard Schiano

CONGRATULATIONS AND MANY BLESSINGS TO THEM ALL!!

February 14 Collection \$13,558 Amount Needed \$13,000

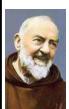
Envelopes Mailed 1,750

Envelopes Received 704

SECOND COLLECTION ---

This weekend, February 20 & 21, there will be a second collection taken up for the Support of Home Missions Black & Indian. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

PADRE PIO PRAYER GROUP



The next meeting of the Padre Pio Prayer Group will take place on Tuesday, February 23 at 7:30pm in the church. All are welcome to attend.



<u>DIOCESAN WEDDING</u> <u>ANNIVERSARY</u> CELEBRATION

Couples celebrating their 25th, 30th, 40th and 50th anniversary are invited to attend the Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass on Saturday, April 24, 2010 at Our Lady of Angels Church, located at 7320 Fourth Avenue, Brooklyn at 11:00AM. Please call the Rectory at 718-746-8102 to register no later than Friday, March 26. All registered couples will receive a personalized certificate and those couples in attendance will have their picture taken with Bishop DiMarzio who will celebrate Mass.



A LENTEN REFLECTION ---

He is compassionate and filled with gentleness, slow to punish, and abundant in mercy, for He knows our frailty, He remembers we are only dust. St. Therese of the Child Jesus and the Holy Face (Little Flower)

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION & LECTORS ---

The Little Black Book for Lent and Easter are in the sacristy. Please pick up your copy and sign the sheet.

ST. LUKE'S ANNUAL ITALIAN DINNER DANCE ---

Come join the fun! This annual event will take place on Saturday, March 20 from 7:00pm until Midnight in St. Luke's School Hall. Tickets are \$50 per person.

For more information please call Damiana at (718) 746-6269.

THE BEREAVEMENT GROUP ---

The Bereavement Group meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 2, 2010 at 7:30pm in the Rectory. The bereavement ministry is an outreach to those who have experienced the death of a loved one. Through prayer, scripture and faith filled sharing this ministry seeks to bring healing to those left behind. If you are interested in joining us once a month, please call Sister Catherine T. Reilly, O.P. at (718) 746-8531, or Father Vincent Chirichella at (718) 746-8102.



Save the Date 100TH ANNIVERSARY GALA

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2010 NORTH HILLS COUNTRY CLUB MANHASSET, NEW YORK 6:30PM TO MIDNIGHT

he gala will commemorate the 100 years St. Luke School has provided a Catholic education to its students. Proceeds raised will benefit the school and enable us to continue to remain an educational institution where faith and knowledge meet.

Since 1910, St. Luke School has provided its students with a Catholic atmosphere that nurtures the growth and development of the whole person: intellectually, spiritually, emotionally and physically. St. Luke School is a Catholic institution of learning that is fully accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools serving the needs of children from nursery to grade eight.

TICKETS, SPONSORSHIPS AND JOURNAL AD OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE For more information call HIMT COMMUNICATIONS, LLC at 516-997-1950

St. Luke School Fundraising Committee

St. Luke School
4th Annual Fashion Show

"A Red Carpet Event"

Friday, April 23, 2010 7:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Immaculate Conception Center 7200 Douglaston Parkway Douglaston, New York

Fashions are provided by "Caché"

Enjoy a fun filled evening of Good Company, Good Food, Raffles Prizes and Beautiful Fashions. Cocktail Hour, Full Buffet Dinner, Open Bar & Desserts will be served.

\$60.00 Admission Per Person

Adult Reception!

Reserve your seat today Reserve your seat today

Call St. Luke School at 718-746-3833



Need Based SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

for

St. Luke School

Applications will be available in the Spring

All funding for financial assistance and allocation of these funds is determined by PSAS (Private School Aid Service).

Financial need is based on a variety of financial components including family size, income, assets and other data.

For more information, please call the school at (718) 746-3833.

LENTEN REGULATIONS Reprinted from The Tablet Msgr. Anthony Hernandez, Chancellor

"Conversion to Christ, believing in the Gospel, ultimately means this: To exit the illusion of self sufficiency in order to discover and accept one's own need - the need of others and God, the need of His forgiveness and His friendship. So we understand how faith is altogether different from a natural, good feeling, obvious fact: Humility is required to accept that I need Another to free me from 'what is mine,' to give me gratuitously 'what is His.' This happens especially in the sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist.

His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI, in his Lenten message for 2010 invites us to reflect on our complete and total dependency on God. He discusses the shortcomings of a worldly understanding of Justice, which focuses exclusively on its external aspects. The pope calls our attention to the fact that injustice, which is the fruit of evil and sinfulness, is often rooted in the human heart. Therefore, the invitation of this Lenten season is to enter into a true spirit of conversion: One that challenges our tendencies to a destructive self-sufficiency and egocentrism by fostering a true sense of dependency on the Lord, who is the source of our joy and hope. This dependency is most especially lived and fostered in the prayerful participation in the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist, the source and summit of our faith.

This year our diocese will once again celebrate Reconciliation Monday on March 29, which is the Monday of Holy Week. As in the past, we hope that this will be a wonderful opportunity for the faithful to participate in this great Sacrament of Healing.

In order to assist us during this Lenten season, the Church reminds us of some of the minimal requirements that are to be observed:

ABSTINENCE: All the faithful who have reached 14 years of age are required to abstain totally from meat on Ash Wednesday and the Fridays of Lent.

FASTING: All the faithful between the ages of 18 and 59 inclusive are bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. This practice involves limiting oneself to a single full meal and avoiding food between meals. Light sustenance may also be taken on two other occasions during the day.

EASTER DUTY: After they have been initiated into the Most Holy Eucharist, all the faithful are bound by the obligation of receiving Holy Communion at least once a year. This precept must be fulfilled during the Easter season, unless for a good reason it is fulfilled at another time of the year. By special indult, in the United States, the time period for fulfilling this precept has been extended to include the period beginning the First Sunday of Lent (February 21) to Trinity Sunday (May 30).

LENTEN REGULATIONS

(continued)

Special Considerations

SOLEMNITY OF ST. JOSEPH, HUSBAND OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY:

This year the Solemnity of St. Joseph falls on Friday, March 19. As this is a Friday during Lent, a dispensation from abstinence from meat to those members of the faithful who celebrate this day has been granted. Those who avail themselves of this dispensation should substitute a different day during the season of Lent to observe these penitential disciplines.

The following also should be noted:

The obligation to observe, as a whole or substantially the penitential days specified by the Church, is a serious one. Days of penance are not merely individual exercises - they are not observed by the whole Church, as the Body of Christ.

After having reached the age of discretion, members of the faithful are bound to confess once a year grave sins which have not already been absolved.

The faithful are encouraged to celebrate the sacraments of the Eucharist and Penance frequently during the Lenten season. Reading the Scriptures, prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, generosity toward the poor and the needy are additional means of becoming more involved in the Lenten season. Operation Rice Bowl is one example of a specific way to give alms.

Pastors and parents are responsible to see that young persons, who are not bound to the above requirement, are educated in an authentic sense of penance.

All other Fridays of the year remain days of penance in prayerful remembrance of the Passion of Jesus Christ. The Bishops of the United Stated have recommended abstinence from meat as a penance for all Fridays of the year, although each individual may substitute for that tradition some other practice of voluntary self-denial or personal penance. This may involve acts of mortification, prayer or charity.

In this Year for Priests, let us continue to pray for the priests of the Diocese of Brooklyn, that this Lenten season be a time of prayerful renewal in the service of the Lord and his people.

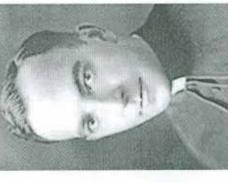


Brooklyn Saints





Bishop Octavio Cisneros Sunday, March 7, 2010 4:00PM



Bishop Francis X. Ford (1892-1952) presented by:

Bishop Ignatius Catanello Sunday, March 14, 2010 4:00PM



Monsignor
Bernard J. Quinn
(1888-1940)
presented by:

Monsignor Paul Jervis Sunday, March 21, 2010 4:00PM

Please join us!

For the presentation of three local priests on their journey to sainthood.

"They walked among us..."

Solemn Evening Prayer and presentations will be held at:

ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL 250 Cathedral Place Brooklyn, NY 11201 (718) 852-4002

Open to All!

Celebrating "The Year for Priests", Saints Peter & Paul Spirituality Center.



DIVINE MERCY CONFERENCE ---SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 2010 Cardinal Spellman High School - Bronx

This conference is co-sponsored by the Marians of the Immaculate Conception (M.I.C.), The Franciscan Friars of the Renewal (C.F.R.), and the Divine Mercy Apostolate of the Diocese of Brooklyn.

For information and registration (including optional bus transportation) call 1-800-462-7426. Online at www.thedivinemercy.org/bronx

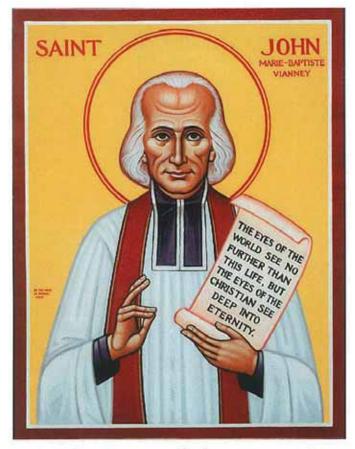
MUSIC MINISTRY CONTINUES ITS VISIT OF MASSES ---

The Choir will be visiting the following Masses:

Folk Group Saturday, March 6 5:00PM Mass

Adult Choir Sunday, March 7 10:30AM Mass





The Year of the Priest June 2009 - 2010

"Sometimes, temptations are useful in making us recapture our lost sense of the Presence of God by means of an act of love or aspiration."

- On Temptations

"We can do nothing by ourselves, my children, but we can do everything with the help of God..."

-Sermon on Temptations

"Offer your temptations for the conversion of sinners. When the Devil sees you doing this, he is beside himself with rage and makes off, because then the temptation is turned against himself."

-On Temptations

St. Luke School Mommy and Me Classes

Grow, learn, explore and laugh all in a safe environment.

Lots of fun activities for baby and mom

(or dad, grandparent, caretaker, etc.)

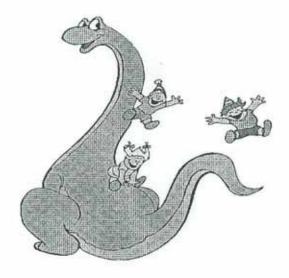
Playtime, story time, parachute, music time, arts and crafts,
marching band and holiday parties.

Coffee and bagels for adults, juice and snacks for children.

Classes are held every Tuesday in the school auditorium for children from birth and up

9:30AM to 11:00AM \$5.00 per child (2 siblings \$8.00). No registration is necessary.

For more information, please call Vicky at 718-344-7620, Tina at 646-229-6594 or visit out website at www.saintlukeonline.com





PRE-JORDAN PROGRAM---

If you are planning a spring Baptism, please note the following dates:

Baptism Sun-	
March 14	
March 21	
April 18	
April 25	
May 16	
May 23	

For more information or to schedule a Baptism, please call Sister Catherine T. Reilly, O.P. at 718-746-8531.

ATLANTIC CITY BUS TRIP ---

Join the St. Luke Golden Age Club for a bus trip to the Showboat Hotel & Casino in Atlantic City on Tuesday, February 23, 2010. Bus leaves 8:00am SHARP!! Cost is \$25 per person. For more info, please call Eileen at (718) 352-3902 or Martha at (718) 539-4396.



THE XAVIER SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND ---

Has a large lending library of books in Braille, large print and audio CD's. They record ten periodicals (some weekly, some monthly and some quarterly), and provide the Mass readings for Sundays and Feast days in all three formats. Mailing is free to and from people certified as blind (which can also include having partial vision or having difficulty dealing with traditional print because of other physical ailments, dyslexia or other impediments). To register and get a free catalogue of books and periodicals and other items available, call (212) 473-7800 or (800) 637-9193. There is a web site at

www.xaviersocietyfortheblind.org. Email: info@xaviersocietyfortheblind.org.



TRIP TO ITALY --- July 13-24, 2010

Coordinators: Br. Dominic, O.S.F., and Fr. Bill Sweeney, chaplain at St. Francis Prep. Padua, Venice, Ravenna, Florence, Assisi & Rome. Contact Fr. Sweeney at (718) 423-8810 for more information.





SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon.- 1Pt 5:1-4; Mt 16:13-19 Tues.- Is 55:10-11; Mt 6:7-15 Wed. - Jon 3:1-10; Lk 11:29-32

Thurs.- Est C:12,14-16,23-25; Mt 7:7-12

Fri. - Ez 18:21-28; Mt 5:20-26 Sat. - Dt 26:16-19; Mt 5:43-48

In Our Thoughts & Prayers

<u>WE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF THE PARISH:</u>

JOAN MEANEY ANN PITARO COSMO DITUCCI GRACE GAMBY SARA DARAB

AND FOR THE DECEASED: EMIL JOSEPH SVEBEL MARIA LUISA CORBO RHODA DOTI

<u>Collective Intentions Mass ---</u>

The next Collective Intentions Mass will be celebrated on Sunday, February 28 at 1:00pm.

At this Mass we pray for:

FRANK & VIRGINIA McGOURTY

ANNOUNCED MASSES FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 22, 2010

Monday, February 22

7:00 Joseph Tomasso 12:00 Mary Brienza

Tuesday, February 23

8:30 Maria, Giuseppe & Anna Varriano 12:00 James Farrell (Birthday)

Wednesday, February 24

7:00 Antonio Caruso 12:00 Rocco Michielli & Family

Thursday, February 25

8:30 Marie Latkowski (44th Anniversary) 12:00 Dinka & Anton Honovic

Friday, February 26

7:00 Carlo & Gilda Bonetti 12:00 Maria Matrullo

Saturday, February 27

8:30 Antonina & Antonino Caccioppo

MEMORIALS

The Altar Bread is in memory of **BENOIT SIMARD** at the request of Mr. & Mrs. Jack DiDonna.





BISHOP McDONNELL HIGH SCHOOL REUNION ---

Will be held on Saturday, March 27 from noon to 5pm at the former Bishop McDonnell building. Classes graduating in years ending in "O and 5" will be honored. All graduates of 30's and 40's classes are welcome. For info contact Rita Monaghan-Maloney at 718-857-2700, ext. 2253 or rmaloney@blmns.org.



ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY SPEECH AND HEARING CENTER -

Will be sponsoring free speech and hearing screenings from February 1, 2010 through May 3, 2010. Please call (718) 990-6480 for an appointment and directions. The Speech and Hearing Center is located at 152-11 Union Turnpike, Flushing, NY.



YEAR OF THE PRIEST PILGRIMAGE TO FRANCE ---

Join Fr. Thomas Gilbert with Seminarian Sean Suckiel for the Year of the Priest Pilgrimage to Lourdes, Ars, Paray le Monial, Nevers, Mont St. Michel & Paris. May 10-19, 2010. Cost: \$2,979 per person from New York. For additional information or to make a reservation please call Sean Suckiel at (718) 278-1834 or Fr. Thomas Gilbert at (718) 849-4048.



LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR ---

The Little Sisters of the Poor have an upcoming event to benefit their elderly poor at Queen of Peace Residence, 110-30 221 Street, Queens Village, New York.

The Irish Night Celebration with dinner and dancing will take place on Friday, March 10 from 7:00pm to 11:00pm at Antun's of Queens Village (96-43 Springfield Blvd.). Enjoy traditional Irish fare and entertainment provided by Irish Mist. Tickets are \$40 each and advanced reservations are required. For more information please call the Development Office at Queen of Peace at (718) 464-1800, ext. 2544.

All proceeds benefit the elderly Residents at Queen of Peace.

