

FR. JOHN PREPARES FOR PILGRIMAGE

Twenty-two pilgrims will be leaving for the Holy Land on Sunday, March 19. The ten-day journey will take them across Israel in the footsteps of Jesus. From the shores of the Mediterranean Sea to the Judean Desert, across the waters of the Galilee and Jordan, down the cobblestone streets of Jerusalem and Nazareth ... this and much more will be the spiritual experience of the pilgrims who will be carrying your petitions and praying for you as you pray for them.

Next week there will be a basket placed at the front of the church near the side-altar of the Sacred Heart. You may write your intentions and place them in the basket. These will be lifted in prayer with each Mass offered daily at the holy sights to be visited.

While Fr. John is away, a visiting priest, Rev. Newman Egbo, will be here to assist with the basic daily spiritual needs of the parish, *ie.* daily Mass, funerals, confessions, spiritual counseling, etc. Rev. Desmond Newman Egbo was ordained by Bishop Gregory Ochiagha in Holy Trinity Cathedral, Orlu in Igboland, Nigeria on December 30, 2006. He is a priest of the Secular Institute of Schoenstatt Fathers, their home-base is in Germany with priests ministering worldwide. Fr. Newman's brother, Alex, is a parishioner of Sacred Heart and some of you will remember Fr. Newman from past visits. May

we welcome him to our parish and offer him our hospitality for the ten days that Fr. John will be in the Holy Land.

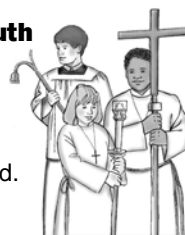
Please remember to place your prayer petitions in the pilgrims' basket near the Sacred Heart side-altar. They will be faithfully remembered as we offer daily Mass.



SIXTY-FIVE CONFIRMED IN THE FAITH - Last Thursday evening 65 of our parish teens, with their sponsors and families at their side, celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation through the *Invocation of the Holy Spirit* and the *Laying on of Hands* by Abbot Elias Lorenzo, OSB. We now welcome them as fully initiated in the Faith and responsible members of the Church. We pray that they may live their lives worthy of their call and that we may be a faithfully support them.

BECOME AN ALTAR SERVER

The Parish is looking for **Adult and Youth Altar Servers**. Our adult altar servers assist at Funeral Masses and our youth servers (4th grade or higher) assist with weekend Masses, Holy Days, and Weddings (optional). Training is provided. Altar servers are assigned based upon availability and the needs of the parish. If you are interested, please contact Sr. Nadine 908-756-0633 x118 or email: srnadine@comcast.net.



LENTEN INSTRUCTIONS - 2017

1. The days of fast and abstinence are **Ash Wednesday** and **Good Friday**.
2. **All other Fridays** of Lent are **days of abstinence**.
3. The obligation of fast applies only to Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59.
4. Fasting in the Catholic tradition means to limit oneself to one full meal and two smaller meals which together are not equal to a full meal, so as to experience hunger.
5. The obligation of abstinence applies to all Catholics who have reached the age of 14.
6. Abstinence in the Catholic tradition means to abstain from meat.

► **The Memorial of St. Patrick falls on a Friday this year.** For members of the faithful celebrating this Memorial and who desire it, Bishop Checchio has commuted the penitential obligation on March 17, to the obligation to abstain from meat on another day that same week.

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"Joy is not necessarily the absence of suffering, it is the presence of God." — Sam Storms



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***Spirit of God, guide the hearts of these,
Your disciples, with the fire of Your love!***

With gratitude we recognize the leadership of Mrs. Louise Timko, our Director of Religious Education and Faith Formation, and our team of dedicated catechists: Denise Figueroa, Paul Carlisle, Catherine Yuill, Mary Bill, Sue Rusk, Maria Huber and devoted catechist aides: Dominic Faustini and Anthony Montuori

Kaitlyn Adlassnig
Robert Albano
Angelo Amil
Caitlin Barbara
Autumn Barge
Kaitlyn Baskiewicz
Patrick Berry
Richard Bolesta Jr.
Deleaney Born
Lauren Borsos
Evan Cabrera
Michael Capone
Nicola Carannante
Rayden Clapp
Kenneth Clevenger
Samuel Corry
Patrick Corsello
Kristin Culver
Nicholas DellaSala
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Julianna Fuschetti
Brian Gallagher
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Amanda Hernandez
Lauren Hutchison
Madison Karcher
Robert Kelly
Christopher Lee
Nicholas Loniewski
Elizabeth McMahon
Nicole Mehl
Courtney Nagy
Troy O'Connor
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Antonio Ortega
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Henry Sprigle
Heidi Sutor
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Brianna Tirado
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Sofia Yuill

**March 9
2017**

