

2nd Week of Lent

March 11 & 12, 2017

Lenten Mass Responses

Mass of Saint Francis Cabrini

Missal # 902 – 911

Mass Intentions

Saturday

5:00 PM For Tillie Cimini by Angela & Paul
Pecchia – 2nd Anniversary

Sunday

8:00 AM For the Parishioners of St. Brigid's

10:00 AM

For Richard Cedor by his wife, Jean –
4th Anniversary

Thursday

7:30 AM For Ralph Labriole – Birthday
Remembrance by his daughter, Sandy
Cerrito

Next Saturday

5:00 PM For Elizabeth Bercen by her daughters

Next Sunday

8:00 AM Mass of Thanksgiving for Denise and
Robert on their Wedding Anniversary

10:00 AM

For Joseph Tessier, Jr. – Birthday
Remembrance by his mother,
Roseanne

MASS STORM POLICY

Mass will be cancelled in the event of a snowstorm when there is a parking ban in Johnston and/or no school in Johnston. This is due to a safety issue and insurance protection.

Parish Stewardship

Weekend of March 4 & 5, 2017

Budget Collection	\$2,639.00
March Monthly to Date	\$ 725.00
Fuel Collection to date	\$1,483.00
# of Budget Envelopes Used	116

Lenten Responsorial Psalm

With the Lord, there is mercy
And the fullness of redemption,
Call to Him in your trials,
He will answer whenever you call.

Religious Education News

Religious Education Classes continue this week on Tuesday: Grades 1 – 5 meet from 3:30 – 5:00 PM. Grades 6 – 9 will meet from 6:30 – 7:30 PM.

Blood Pressure Clinic

The Parish Nurses will hold their monthly Blood Pressure Clinic after all masses next weekend in the sacristy.

2017 Catholic Charity Appeal

“Faith and Good Works”

This weekend our parish will join all the parishes in our diocese in having the first of two “in-pew” collections for the Catholic Charity Appeal. Envelopes and pencils are in each pew to enable you to fill out the information and place it in the collection basket as it comes around a second time. Please feel free to take an envelope home to fill out and return it next weekend with your pledge and/or donation.

20-Week Club Winners

The 20-Week Club winner for week 18, March 5th was Stephen Ciarlo # 227.

20-Week Club Note

Dues will be collected this weekend before and after Masses in the foyer of the church. Please have your membership dues paid up by March 19th.

Daily Prayer Book for Lent

This Prayer Book for Lent is available *free* in the foyer of the church. It is meant to encourage taking five minutes a day for prayer and reflection during the Lenten Season. Please pick one up for yourself, your family members, and/or your friends and continue a past Lenten tradition or start a new one.

Father Bob's Ramblings

Some people have asked me about the broken shards of pottery in our Lenten Display this year. As with most of our liturgical décor, they have a symbolic meaning.

St. Paul writes about us as being 'earthen vessels' which hold 'wealth untold'. Furthering that symbolism, as we journey through this Lenten Season, we come face to face with our brokenness – hence the broken earthen vessels.

None of us likes to look at our own brokenness. We have to admit our faults and failing, our sin. Yet the other side of that is that we encounter the compassion and mercy of God. When we admit our dependence upon Him then we receive the bounty of His forgiveness. And the gift of the Resurrection heals our brokenness and restores the wholeness of the 'earthen vessel'.

This weekend our Gospel reading is the Transfiguration of Jesus on the mountaintop. What Jesus is revealing to the apostles is the totality of His earthen vessel, within which His divinity is as well. It is a prefiguring of glory that each of us will share in the kingdom of heaven.

In the first reading today from Genesis God promises Abraham that he will receive blessings in abundance. God begins that covenant relationship that guarantees that those who believe and follow Him will be restored one day to the wholeness of the Garden of Eden.

Our earthen vessels may not be shattered but we certainly all have our chips and cracks. Let us bring them to the Lord during this Lenten Season and seek his healing and wholeness.

In the next column, I want to share with you an article I came across with some different ways in which we can fast during this Lent.



Do you Want to Fast this Lent?

In the words of Pope Francis

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope
- Fast from worries and have trust in God
- Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful
- Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled
- Fast from words and be silent so you can listen

Save the Date

A Cabaret featuring a *Frankie Valli Tribute* is scheduled for Friday, June 23rd at 6:30 PM at the Santa Maria DiPrata Hall, Walnut Grove, Cranston. This event will feature local entertainer, Michael Panarello, who will entertain with his interpretations of Frankie Valli at approximately 7:45 PM.

The fundraiser, catered by *Ralf's Kitchen*, will include a wine fountain with cheese & crackers, antipasto, and a pasta station as well as a cash bar. Tickets for this entertaining, memorable, and enjoyable evening (21 and older) will go on sale in May in the church foyer. The price per ticket is \$30. Please consider supporting this fundraiser and market tickets to friends and family members. Any questions, please call Louisa @ 401-942-0576.

Lenten Fast and Abstinence

Regulations

Church Law requires **abstinence** from meat on Ash Wednesday and the Fridays of Lent for those 14 and older. In addition, Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are **fast days** for those between the ages of 19 and 59, meaning that no solid food should be taken between meals and only one full meal that day. Serious reasons such as one's health can excuse a person from these rules.