

“ FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT,  
JESUS RETURNED FROM THE  
JORDAN AND WAS LED BY THE  
SPIRIT INTO THE DESERT FOR  
FORTY DAYS, TO BE TEMPTED  
BY THE DEVIL. ”

LUKE 4:1-2





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# Mass Intentions

for the Week

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## **THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT MARCH 10, 2019**

### **SATURDAY, MARCH 9**

*The Mass of Anticipation for the 1st Sunday of Lent*  
 4:00PM Albert Catanio—Birthday Remembrance

### **SUNDAY, MARCH 10**

*The Second Sunday of Lent*  
 7:30 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church  
 9:00 AM Chris Tasca—5th Anniversary  
 10:30AM Dina Coelho—Memorial  
 5:00PM Mary Palombo Falchini—Birthday Remembrance

### **MONDAY, MARCH 11**

*Lenten Weekday*  
 7:30AM Susan Miner Dumont—11th Anniversary  
 12:05PM Sue Carcieri—Memorial

### **TUESDAY, MARCH 12**

*Lenten Weekday*  
 7:30AM Hans G. & Hans F. Loffler—Memorial  
 12:05PM Special Intention

### **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13**

*Lenten Weekday*  
 7:30AM Richard Curran—1st Anniversary  
 12:05PM J.R. Beretta, Jr.—Memorial

### **THURSDAY, MARCH 14**

*Lenten Weekday*  
 7:30AM Michael Dellorfano—Memorial  
 12:05PM Mary Daly—Memorial

### **FRIDAY, MARCH 15**

*Lenten Weekday*  
 7:30AM Timothy Franzone—Memorial  
 12:05PM Raelene Hornby—Memorial

### **SATURDAY, MARCH 16**

*Lenten Weekday*  
 8:30AM Dec'd of Lee & Pyun Families—Memorial  
*The Mass of Anticipation for Second Sunday of Lent*  
 4:00PM Bethany Briggs—Memorial

### **SUNDAY, MARCH 17**

*The Second Sunday of Lent*  
 7:30 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church  
 9:00 AM Dec'd of the McGinley & Kiernan Families—Mem.  
 10:30AM Susan Metzger—Memorial  
 5:00PM Mary Gianardi—6th Anniversary



Dear Parishioners:

Ash Wednesday has come and gone! How is your Lent going? Have you taken up the sacred discipline of prayer, fasting and alms giving? Forty days always seems like a very long time to commit to such a radical departure from our normal routine. However, if we stick to our Lenten discipline for forty days we grow spiritually and deepen our relationship with the Lord.

So in other words, it's well worth the effort!! Praying more helps us grow more connected to God. Fasting more helps us grow more dependent on God. Giving more helps become more aware of God in our brothers and sisters. Pray, fast and give alms!

Have you given up something for Lent? Many people sacrifice a pleasure for these forty days like cigars, chocolate, sweets, or alcohol. Many others take on some extra spiritual exercise like attending Mass daily, making the Stations of the Cross weekly, reading the Sacred Scriptures or praying the Rosary.

All these things are excellent ways to enter into Lent. The point of such sacrifice and devotion is not to make us healthier, skinner or smoke-free, but rather to strengthen our faith and deepen our relationship with the Lord. If we lose weight and get physically healthier, it's an added benefit, not the primary purpose.

I remember as a kid competing with my brothers and sisters who could make the biggest sacrifice for Lent. Everybody gave up candy but only the brave would do

something more dramatic like giving up watching any TV! My older brother and I did that one Lent and watched no TV. Such a sacrifice was tough but worth it!

In our time, we might all consider fasting from our cell phones and technology like our computers or iPads. I know it's not possible to put away the phone or computer for 40 days, but maybe one or two hours a week or even all day on Friday. Less Twitter, less Instagram, less Facebook, less texting and less email, all lead to less distraction.

Instead, spend some time talking directly with God in Church, at Mass, in Confession or even at home. God is not on Facebook, God doesn't tweet, and God doesn't text or email! Lent calls us back to the basics with prayer, devotion, and the Sacraments!

Lent is really a little like Spring Cleaning for the soul. We seek to remove the excess debris that blocks God in our lives and hearts. We especially clean our souls by making our way to Confession to humbly and sacramentally receive God's mercy, and forgiveness, of our sins.

Speaking of Spring Cleaning, the interior walls of the Church appear much cleaner and brighter. They were recently cleaned through a special process, and the grime and dirt washed away. This hadn't been done in many years. The cost was \$3000. I am grateful for your support of the monthly Building and Grounds Collection that funds such needed maintenance of our physical plant.

I wish to offer my thanks to Paul Anderson and our OLM

Maintenance crew for their great job of snow removal. Although we've had fewer storms, they've worked extra hard in ensuring the parking lots and walkways are cleared of snow and ice when it does snow. They do so at all hours of the day and night and always in time for Mass!

On Saturday night we celebrate in advance the feasts of St. Patrick and St. Joseph. Our Gaelic and Garlic Night is a great event with good food, good music, and good fun for the family. All the proceeds help our OLM Outreach Ministry to the Poor.

Next Sunday at the 10:30AM Mass we celebrate St. Patrick with Irish hymns and readings in the Irish language. A light reception of Irish bread and coffee follows. It's the Second Sunday of Lent, but we'll make sure it's got an Irish flavor!

We celebrate St. Joseph on March 19th with Mass in Italian celebrated by Bishop Evans. Fr. James Sullivan, OP, the Pastor of St. Pius V, is our preacher. He's Irish but don't worry he lived in Rome many years and belongs to the St. Joseph Province of the Dominican Friars. Mass is at 12:05 and a reception of Italian pastry and coffee follows.

Thanks for your support of the Catholic Charity Appeal we're off to a good start! It's Lent! Pray, fast, and give alms! See you at Stations on Friday! Be well. Do good. God Bless.



**What are the different forms of prayer?**

In spirituality “prayer” may have a multiplicity of meanings. For instance, it may refer to an activity or to a state of mind. There are styles of prayer and forms of prayer. The Season of Lent is an appropriate time to learn about the different forms of prayers, since prayer is an integral part of the Lenten fast.

There are at least four different forms of prayer: (1) Blessing and Adoration; (2) Prayer of Petition (asking for what we need, including forgiveness); (3) Prayer of Intercession (asking for what others need); and (4) Prayer of Thanksgiving (for what God has given and done).

Prayers of blessing and adoration express praise and honor to God. Some good examples include the Te Deum, the Glory be, or the Gloria. This form emphasizes God’s power and the wonder of His creation. Prayers of petition are perhaps most familiar to all of us. We ask God for what we need, including forgiveness, mercy, strength, and so on. This type of prayer helps us change our minds so that we ask God for what He knows is truly good for us. God knows what we need even before we ask Him of course, but he wants us to ask, and so grow in our trust and love of Him. His providence has already anticipated our prayers from the beginning of creation itself to provide for our daily bread. Some examples include the *Memorare*, and Kyrie at Mass.

Prayers of intercession help fulfill the commandment to love our neighbor as ourselves. Here we ask God on behalf of others. This is particularly important for the souls in purgatory who need our intercessory prayer so that they will be purified and made ready for heaven. This type of prayer emphasizes that we are not isolated individuals in this life, but part of the living Body of Christ. The Hail Mary is an example.

Finally we have prayers of thanksgiving. St. Ignatius of Loyola tells us that the spiritual life begins with gratitude. Thanksgiving instills in us that everything we have comes to us as a gift from God (our health, our families, our friends, and our existence). It is right and just to give him thanks. Grace before meals and St. Thomas Aquinas’ Prayer after Communion are good examples of this.

Just a quick note: The Our Father and the Mass are two of our most perfect prayers not only because they come directly from Christ, but because they encompass all of these forms of prayer.

*Weekly Collection*

**March 3, 2018**

Weekly.....	\$12,662.00
EFT.....	\$1,825.00
	<b>Total=\$14,487.00</b>
Outreach.....	\$1,364.00
Building & Grounds.....	\$2,937.00

If you have been away on vacation or visiting another parish, we kindly ask you to please make up your missed budget envelopes. We depend solely upon your weekly support to meet our weekly parish expenses.

**Thank You for Your Generous Support!**

**Please remember Our Lady of Mercy Church in your will or estate.**



**Our Lady of Mercy**  
**2019 Parish Goal=\$200,000**  
**Pledged to Date=\$62,350**  
**Number of Donors=149**  
**Average Gift=\$418**

**hank You for Your Generous Support!**  
**Make your Pledge Today!**



We offer our prayers and condolences to the families of Sarah “Sally” Hussey and Gerald DeGiulio whose Masses of Christian Burial were celebrated last week.





**Upcoming Events:**

● **Wednesday, March 13:** Hearing Screenings for Students

**March 16:** No School! Professional Day for the Faculty.

*Discover the OLM Difference!*  
[www.olmschool.org](http://www.olmschool.org)



•RE Classes on Sunday, March 10th meet as regularly scheduled

•Celebration of 1st Penance: Saturday, March 16th at 1pm



● **OLM Food Pantry** is always in great need of non-perishable food items. Please leave items in the Food Box in the vestibule.

● **OLM Bereavement Group** meets Thursday, March 21st at 4:00PM in Mercy House. All those experiencing grief or loss is welcome to join us for prayer, discussion and support.

● **For more information** about OLM Outreach, please contact OLM Outreach Director, Doug Green at 884-4410 or by email at [outreach@olmparish.org](mailto:outreach@olmparish.org)

**Guidelines for Lenten Fast & Abstinence**



Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 6, 2019. **Abstinence from meat on Ash Wednesday and the Fridays of Lent** (for those 14 and older) is required by Church law. Also, **Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting:** those between

the ages of 18 and 59 should eat less, meaning, take no solid food between meals and only one full meal that day. Serious health conditions excuse a person from these precepts. Pastors and parents are encouraged by the law of the Church to ensure that minors who are not bound by the law of fast and abstinence are educated nonetheless in an authentic sense of penance.

Following the implementation of the revised Code of Canon Law on November 27, 1983, the National Conference of Catholic Bishops in the United States determined that the rules of fast and abstinence which have existed for the last several years in this country be maintained. Namely, that the faithful observe suitable penitential practices on all Fridays throughout the year. These penitential practices need not include abstaining from meat. However, as indicated above, the faithful must not eat meat on all the Fridays of Lent as well as on Ash Wednesday. They must also observe faithfully the fast regulations as they have been stated above in accord with the universal law of the Church (Cf. Code of Canon Law, Canons 1250-1252).



**OLM Lenten Book Rack:** A selection of spiritual and informative books/pamphlets is available during Lent on our OLM Book Rack. Feel free to stop and browse and take a book for Lent!

**OLM Lenten Table:** During the Season of Lent a table is placed in the vestibule with many donated old and new religious articles. They are available for you to take without cost. Stop by and take something home for Lent!

# 1st Sunday of Lent



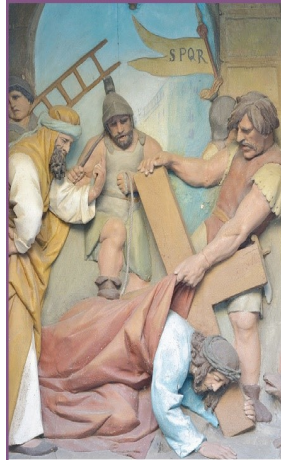
**A**s we celebrate this first Sunday of our penitential season, it is interesting to note that the word “Lent” comes from the Old English *lencten* or *lengten*, which means springtime and derives from the concept of lengthening daylight.

By the fourth century, Lent had come to be a period of intense final preparation for catechumens who would be baptized at Easter and a period of re-conversion for penitents, serious sinners who were seeking reconciliation.

As conversion and re-conversion took place within the community of the faithful, Lent was soon seen as an excellent opportunity for all to fast, pray, and engage in charitable works in preparation for baptismal renewal at Easter.



*This bulletin insert was written by Marion Eagen, a liturgist and musician in the diocese of Scranton, Pa. © 2002 Resource Publications, Inc., 160 E. Virginia St. #290, San Jose, CA 95112, (408) 286-8505. All rights reserved.*



## Lent at Our Lady of Mercy Church

65 Third Street,  
East Greenwich, RI



### Daily Masses during Lent

Monday - Friday, 7:30AM & 12:05PM

### Confessions during Lent

Monday - Friday 11:45AM - 12:00PM  
Mondays 6:00PM - 6:45PM with 2 priests  
Saturdays 3:00PM - 3:45PM

### Stations of the Cross

Fridays at 7:00PM

### Lenten Mission

Sunday, March 24 – Wednesday, March 27  
“The Face of God is Mercy: A Reflection on the Prodigal Son”  
Father Nathan Ricci, Mission Preacher

### Lenten Special Events at Our Lady of Mercy

**Saturday, March 9 · 5:00PM – 8:00PM**  
Gaelic & Garlic Night to benefit OLM Outreach Ministry

**Sunday, March 17 · 10:30AM**  
Saint Patrick Day Mass  
Irish Music and Readings in the Irish Language

**Tuesday, March 19 · 12:05PM**  
St. Joseph Day Mass & Music in Italian

**Saturday, March 23 · 9:00AM – 3:00PM**  
All Day Confessions

**Friday, March 29 · 5:30PM – 6:30PM**  
Community Lenten Soup Supper

**Friday, April 5 · 1:00PM & 7:00PM**  
Living Stations of the Cross

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