

# March 4, 2018

# Third Sunday of Lent

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday, March 3

5:00 p.m. Parishioners of Saint Theodore Church

### Sunday, March 4

8:00 a.m. + **The Donovan Babies**  
By Mom

10:30 a.m. Parishioners of Saint Theodore Church

### Monday, March 5

8:45 a.m. + **Thomas and Beatrice Nappi**  
By Angela Gross

### Tuesday, March 6

8:45 a.m. + **Theresa Rebinski**  
By Henry Rebinski

### Wednesday, March 7

8:45 a.m. + **Sergio and Sabina Cappelluti**  
By Sam and Marietta Tridente

### Thursday, March 8 **NO MASS**

### Friday, March 9

8:45 a.m. + **Joseph D'Ercole**  
By Richard and Maryjane Petteruti

### Saturday, March 10

5:00 p.m. **Altar Rosary Society**

### Sunday, March 11

8:00 a.m. Parishioners of Saint Theodore Church

10:30 a.m. + **Rocco and Harriet Zarillo**  
By The Gallo Family

**ATTENTION:** Father Damian advises, that during this Flu Season, parishioners just nod their heads instead of shaking hands during the peace giving at Mass.

In today's Gospel we read about how Jesus overturned the tables of the merchants and the moneychangers in the Temple at Jerusalem. In order to understand the relevance of Jesus' action, we must learn more about the activities that were going on in the temple area. Worship at the Temple in Jerusalem included animal sacrifice, and merchants sold animals to worshippers. Moneychangers exchanged Roman coins, which bore the image of the Roman emperor, for the temple coins that were needed to pay the temple tax.

Jesus' action at the Temple in Jerusalem is recorded in all four Gospels and is often understood to be among the events that led to Jesus' arrest and Crucifixion. The Gospel of John, however, places this event much earlier in

Jesus' public ministry than do the Synoptic Gospels. In John's Gospel this event occurs at the very beginning of Jesus' ministry, after his first miracle at the wedding feast at Cana. We must read the Gospel of John carefully, especially in its presentation of Jesus' relationship to Judaism. The Gospel of John tends to reflect greater tension and animosity between Jesus and the Jewish authorities than the Synoptic Gospels. The Gospel of John was the last of the four Gospels to be written, and its narrative reflects the growing divide between the Jewish community and the early Christian community. Thus, greater emphasis on the distinction between Christianity and Judaism is found in John's Gospel.

Reflecting upon the destruction of the Temple of Jerusalem (A.D. 70), John recalls Jesus' cleansing of the Temple and uses that story to interpret this later event. John explains to his audience, an early Christian community, that temple worship would no longer be necessary because it was surpassed in the passion, death, and Resurrection of Jesus. With greater frequency than the other Evangelists, John intersperses post-Resurrection reflections of this Christian community in his narrative.

After clearing the Temple of the merchants and the moneychangers, John's Gospel tells us that the people asked for a sign of Jesus' authority to do such an audacious act. In response, Jesus predicted his death and Resurrection. Throughout John's Gospel, the language of signs is distinctive. Jesus' miracles are called signs, and the people look to these signs for proof of his authority. Here we learn that the sign par excellence will be Jesus' passion, death, and Resurrection.

During Lent we reflect upon the meaning of this sign for us and for our world. We might take this opportunity to consider the quality of our prayer and worship. In our prayers we seek to deepen our relationship with the person of Christ. In our worship with the community, we gather to experience anew the passion, death, and Resurrection of Jesus and its significance in our

lives. Christ promises to be present with us when we gather for prayer.



### Saint Theodore Church Fundraisers

- **Panera (March 15):** Between 4 pm and 8 pm. When you dine at Panera's in Hackettstown, and present your server with a our flyer, our church will receive 20% of your purchase. Flyers will be inserted in our bulletin; also, you can download one from our website: [www.sttheodorenj.com](http://www.sttheodorenj.com): *Calendar of Events: Special Events.*
- **Vacation Raffle (April 8):** Offering a choice of one destination from five distinct packages from which to choose. Options include: air or driving travel, with or without children accompanying you. Price per ticket: \$20. Parishioners will be soon receiving tickets in the mail. Additional tickets will be sold by the Altar Rosary Society before and after all the weekend Masses or Monday through Thursday, 9 am to 1 pm in the Parish Office.
- **50/50 Raffle: (May 27):** Parishioners will be receiving in the mail soon a book of tickets for our annual 50/50 Raffle. As in the past, the books are \$100-\$10 per ticket. These chances will be sold before and after the weekend Masses in the Parish Center.



### REQUESTS FOR PRAYER

Stephen, Bridget M., Savannah Paine, Bobby Gross, Keira Hedges, Peter, Zachary, Logan Peter Saksa, Anna Saksa, Lauren Lane, Jay Mildrum, Philip Kinney, Peter S., Mary Supple, Mary Rupell, Susan Reynolds, Robert Dicheck, Christian, Tara, Zoe, Teagan, Eric Harding, Kathy & Bob Y., Irma Marquart, Dolores Staiano, Gerard Schnaars, Glenda L., The Rasimowicz Family, Michael Dante

### Bishop's Annual Appeal 2018

To date, the Bishop's Annual Appeal has received from parishioners: \$1,865 Pledges; \$1640 in

Payments from 16 parishioners. This represents 26.6% of our goal of \$7,000.

### Our Weekly Offering

**Sunday collection needed to meet**

**weekly expenses: \$3,637.**

February 25: \$2,431 (\$1,206)

February deficit: \$4,582

**Bible Study** Every Tuesday @ 6:30 pm:  
**Stations of the Cross** Fridays during Lent: 7pm

### March Calendar

**March 2 & 3, 8:45 a.m.:** First Friday & First Saturday: Mass and Benediction

**March 2, 7 pm:** Grades 5-8 To attend Stations of the Cross

**March 5, 6:15 pm:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade at Church

**March 7, 7 pm:** Altar Rosary Meeting

**March 12, 6:15 pm:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade at Church

**March 14, 6:30 pm:** Trustees & Pastoral Council Meeting

**March 15: 4p to 8p** Panera Fund Raiser

**March 17 & 18, 5pm; 8 & 10:30 am:** Lenten Retreat begins

**March 18, 10:30 am:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade First Confession

**March 19, 20, 21, 7 pm:** Lenten Retreat

**March 21, 7:30 pm:** Easter Confessions

**March 24, 10 am:** Easter Egg stuffing

**March 24, 10 am:** Grounds Cleaning

**March 24 & 25:** Altar Rosary Bake Sale

**March 28, 6pm to 9 pm:** 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Retreat



### Holy Week Services

**Penance Service**, March 29: 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.; 9 p.m. to 10 p.m.

**Holy Thursday**, March 29:

Confessions, 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.; 9 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Mass of the Lord's Supper 7 p.m.; Visit to the Repository until 10 p.m.

**Good Friday**, March 30: Confessions 4p.m. to 5 p.m.; 6:30 p.m. to 7 p.m., **7 p.m.:** *Liturgy of the Passion, Holy Communion*, Stations of the Cross, Day 1 of Divine Mercy Novena

**Holy Saturday**, March 31: Confessions 12 noon to 1 p.m.; Day 2 of Novena, Easter blessing of Food; 8 p.m.: Easter Vigil Mass

**Easter Sunday**, April 1, 7:30 a.m.: Day 3 of Novena, Procession and Mass;

10:30 a.m. Mass followed by Easter Egg Hunt

**Diving Mercy Chaplet Day 9:** April 2, 8 a.m.