

10 March 2024
IV Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday)

Sunday Mass: Anticipated Sat. 4PM/Sun. 8AM Ancient Rite Latin Mass
Sunday 9:30 AM (Live-streamed) & 11 AM
Confessions: Wed. & Fri. 6:30-6:55 PM/Sat. 7:30-7:55 AM
Sat. 2:30-3:30 PM & 6:30-7:30 PM

THE HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS

Mon. 11 Mar. Bl. John Kearney, Pr., Martyr under Oliver Cromwell
8 AM Ancient Rite Latin Mass
For: Special Intention

Tue. 12 Mar. St. Joseph Zhang Dapeng, Martyr, Chinese layman
8 AM For: Robert McCauley+
Req: Frances McCauley
Holy Rosary for the Preborn & the Newborn

Wed. 13 Mar. Sts. Ruderic, Pr. And Salomon, Martyred by the Moslems
7 PM For: Gertrude Newman+
Req: Her Family

Thu. 14 Mar. St. Matilda, Wife of King Henry of Saxony
8 AM For: Phillip Castronovo+
Req: Mr. & Mrs. William Alessi

Fri. 15 Mar. St. Louise de Marillac, F'dress Daughters of Charity
8 AM For: Lillian Brennan+
Req: Mr. & Mrs. Owen Waller

Sat. 16 Mar. St. Heribert (1021), Bishop
8 AM For: Special Intention

4 PM For: Patricia Silver+
Req: Mr. & Mrs. Michael Bonanza

Sun. 17 Mar. V Sunday of Lent (New Calendar)
Passion Sunday (Traditional Calendar)
8 AM For: Robert Nunez (L.)
Req: Friend
9:30 AM For: The Parishioners of OLGCC
11 AM For: Gennaro Rucci+ (5th Ann.)
Req: His Family

AFTERNOON OF RECOLLECTION WITH FR. MAXIMILLIAN MARY beginning this Sunday at 3 PM. Spend some time with Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament and be inspired and moved by the beautiful voice and music of Father Maximillian.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASS

Tue. 12 March: 7 PM Jr. High School Class 8 PM Sr. High School & Adult Class

NOTE TO PARENTS OF CONFIRMATION CLASS

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be conferred on **WED. 1 MAY at 7 PM at St. John the Baptist Church on West Dominick St. in Rome.**

The class will participate in a Day of Recollection on **FRI. 26 APRIL here at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, from 9 AM-2:30 PM.**

This spiritual preparation for Confirmation is required for all those who will be confirmed this year (10th grade). More details will be given as the date approaches.

Also, at class this week, the confirmation candidates will be given information about selecting a sponsor for Confirmation. They may choose a sponsor of the same or the opposite gender; who is at least 16 years old; and who practices the Faith (i.e. receives the Sacraments). They will be asked for their sponsor's name at class on 19 March. If the sponsor is from another parish, they must ask their parish priest for a sponsor certificate. Please get this to me as soon as you can.

ADULTS WHO HAVE NOT BEEN CONFIRMED

Please contact Father as soon as possible so that you can be prepared to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

ROSARY SOCIETY MEETING: THU. 14 MARCH 6:30 PM

Ladies, please join us as we pray "Mary's Way of the Cross".

On Sat. 27 April, the Society plans to have a Mother-Daughter luncheon at the Rectory. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board for those who would like to help organize this event.

SODALITY MONTHLY MEETING: THU. 14 MARCH 6:30 PM

We will choose which charities to donate to for our Lenten work of mercy. Also, a reminder that we will be going to see the movie "Cabrini" on Sun. 17 March. Details will be discussed at the meeting.

MEN OF ST. JOSEPH'S SOCIETY: ATTEND HOLY MASS IN A BODY on Sunday 17 March at 9:30 AM in honor of St. Joseph, whose feast day is Tue. 19 March.

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING: MON. 18 MAR. 7 PM

Members of the Finance Committee are asked to meet at the Rectory. We will reviewing the first half of the fiscal year, and our way forward, given the item on the back page of this bulletin. Please inform Father if you are unable to be at the meeting.

FOR THE MEN OF THE PARISH: A MAGNIFICENT WEBSITE

The Catholic Gentleman is a truly wonderful spiritual resource for any man who wishes to deepen his faith and follow Christ more faithfully. Produced and peopled with lay men, the website has videos and a blog covering very practical and insightful topics. I cannot urge our men enough to have a look: catholicgentleman.org.

Our Parish's Liability for the Sexual Abuse Scandal

This past Wednesday, the Pastors of the Diocese were informed of their parish's share in the overall \$100 million payment to the Victims of the sexual abuse committed by priests, religious and lay members of the Diocese of Syracuse. We had been apprised in an earlier meeting that the parishes would be charged with “substantial amounts” of payment to meet this court-approved settlement. At that time, a figure was given us based on the 2022 financial report of our parishes, but the actual, final amount owed would be based on the 2023 financial report.

So, this past Wednesday we learned that the indebtedness of the parish of Our Lady of Good Counsel would be \$344,016.00. Now, take a few very deep breaths and revive yourself. That is what I had to do when presented with this figure.

How did the Diocese arrive at the amount to be levied against each parish?

Well, basically, they divided the parishes into categories, based on the amount of savings or assets that the parish reported. They then figured out what percentage of that amount would be exacted from each of the categories. The higher your savings, the larger the percentage of your savings would be taken. The highest category, for parishes with over a million dollars, was 55%. Our parish has savings in the amount of \$706,072. We fell into the category from which 47% of the amount of the savings would be exacted. Thus the \$344,016.

As devastating as this news is for us, we can thank God, that we will still have a “cushion” in savings to fall back on should the economy change or some catastrophe strike, God forbid.

In figuring out these percentages, the officials of the Diocese told us that there were 50 parishes of the Diocese who would find continued operation very difficult with this levy. They tried to tilt the percentages to the advantage of these parishes. (But all parishes are being charged with payments into the fund, at very considerable sacrifice).

Bishop Lucia expressed once again, his relief that the Bankruptcy filing was now completed, and that hopefully we can “move on” in doing the mission that is entrusted to us of bringing the Gospel of Jesus Christ to our portion of the vineyard of the Lord. He also told us that in order to settle with the Victims' committee for this amount, he needed the permission of the Holy See. He asked for and received the permission, with the stipulation that no churches or properties were to be sold in order to raise these funds.

As of now, the Insurance Companies have not yet committed themselves as to what amount they will contribute to the fund. I have asked our Chancellor for the following information, which I have not received as of bulletin publishing time: how many victims were there in total to be paid by this settlement?; how much was paid out by the Diocese to victims prior to the bankruptcy settlement?; how much has the Diocese had to pay in legal fees thus far. In October, we were informed that the Diocese had, up till then, paid about \$10 million in lawyers' fees.