

SATURDAY, March 17, 2018

9:00 A.M. JOSEPH & MARGARET SHADE r/b Mary Sillup
 4:00 P.M. ANGELA MASTROLIA r/b Lynn & Eric Ludwig
 JOHN & BRIDGET O'BRIEN r/b Joan Rochette
 5:30 P.M. MARTIN BARR r/b Lottie Barr & daughter
 RAYMOND J. BREW, SR. Wife & sons

SUNDAY, March 18, 2018

8:00 A.M. ROSE GUIDA r/b Brian & Laura Golembiewski
 TED NEBUS, SR. r/b Ted Nebus, Jr.
 10:00 A.M. JOAN BUELL r/b Mark & Barbara Maguire
 JOHN H. JACKSON r/b Lou & MaryAnne Berardi
 12:00 P.M. PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
 5:30 P.M. HELEN PIE r/b Chua family
 CONNIE "BEBE" SANSONE r/b Cousins

MONDAY, March 19, 2018

9:00 A.M. RAY JANKOWSKI r/b Family

TUESDAY, March 20, 2018

9:00 A.M. SHEILA SUCALDITO r/b Gallera family
 ANDREW STURZIONE, SR. r/b Family

WEDNESDAY, March 21, 2018

9:00 A.M. DOMINIC FALCONE r/b Gloria & Raymond Burke
 JAMES ROBINSON, SR. r/b Gourmet Kitchen

THURSDAY, March 22, 2018

9:00 A.M. MARTIN DEVEREUX r/b Fox family
 JAMES ANGELLELLA r/b Brenda Sternik

FRIDAY, March 23, 2018

9:00 A.M. CHRISTOPHER SIBOLE r/b Sibole family

SATURDAY, March 24, 2018

9:00 A.M. AUGUST SILVA & CYNTHIA KERWIN r/b Family
 GERARD DISTEFANO r/b MaryAnn Distefano
 4:00 P.M. JOHN SLICEWSKI r/b Family
 ANGELA MASTROLIA r/b Lynn & Eric Ludwig
 5:30 P.M. HILMAN KNIGHT r/b MaryGrace & Butch Neuhaus
 MICHAEL BOSTICH, SR. r/b Regina Leitner

SUNDAY, March 25, 2018 Palm Sunday

8:00 A.M. BETTY COUSINS
 TED NEBUS, SR. r/b Ted Nebus, Jr.
 10:00 A.M. JOAN BUELL r/b Sternik family
 ROBERT MORANO r/b Berardi family
 12:00 P.M. ROCCO BERARDI r/b Ray & Eunice Krawczuk
 5:30 P.M. PEOPLE OF THE PARISH



PLEASE PRAY FOR Dorothy Johnson, Vincent Marzulli, Debbie Fromkin, Brian Oehme, Bronislaw & Zofia Buczek, Tom O'Rourke, Manuel Canencia, Annemarie Logan, Eleanor Passarella, Grace Philhower

ALTAR SERVERS for March 24th & 25th

Sat., 4 pm: Isabelle Cattelona, Gianna & Jack Narciso
 5:30 pm: Virgil & Johanna Icasiano
 Sun., 8 am: Mia Rose & Emily Fleming
 10 am: Grace Dalton, Constance Bricker, Ruffa Tubig & Olivia Schlesier
 12 Noon: Alfred Petrowski, Kelvin & Kurt Langomes
 5:30 pm: Gabriella Cohen & Anthony Fauci

**Faith In Our Future
 Cohort 18 Update ~ March, 2018**

The Cohort's Hispanic and Haitian Ministry Subcommittee has made available the schedule of Spanish and Creole speaking Mass & Confession at Mother of Mercy Parish in Asbury Park, and has also recruited volunteers to help teach regularly scheduled ESL classes. If you are interested in teaching ESL (you DO NOT have to speak a foreign language), please call Brother James 732 775-1056. The Subcommittee is also making available information about the following resources in Monmouth County: immigration, children and families, housing and food, and mental health services. Please check the Cohort 18 News section at www.holyinnocentschurch.net.

Shop Rite Gift Cards Holy Innocents Parish continues to participate in the *ShopWithScrip* fundraising program. The Parish Office currently carries Shop Rite gift cards (\$25 denominations). Scrip cards can be purchased any time during office hours, Monday thru Friday.

Eucharistic Adoration is held at Holy Innocents every Thursday (*except holidays and holy days*) 9:30 am-9 pm AND on First Fridays from 9:30 am-2 pm. Special thanks to all who make regular Adoration possible here at Holy Innocents! Please invite your friends and family members to participate.

Altar Rosary Society Next meeting: April 16th. Regular meetings are the 3rd Monday of the month at 10 am in the Religious Ed Annex (directly upstairs from Parish Office). For more info, please call Maria 848 702-1811.

Holy Innocents Seniors Club meets on the 1st & 3rd Fridays of the month at 1:30 pm in the cafeteria. If you would like more information about this group, call Alice Kohlman 732 988-4471. **Next meeting: March 16th. New members are always welcome! Please note there will be NO MEETING on April 20th.**

Dear Parishioners,

During Lent, many of us make time to go to confessions (also known as reconciliation or penance) because we are all required to go to confession at least once a year and it fits the penitential character of this holy season. So, especially for those of you who may be intimidated by confession or just out of practice, I would like to offer some practical instruction so that you can feel more comfortable going to confession.

When is confession offered? All year round, confession is offered on Saturdays after the 4 pm mass (usually at about 5 pm). During Lent, I also offer confession after any daily Mass I say. Also, this Lent, we have two Deanery Penance Services where people can go to confession, on Wednesday March 21st. One is at 3:30 pm at St. Rose Church, Belmar. The other is at 7 pm here at Holy Innocents.

How do we prepare ourselves to go to confession? We first need to pray that the Holy Spirit may reveal to us our faults that we need to confess. Then, it is often a good idea, especially if it has been a while, to examine your conscience. If one looks online for an "Examination of conscience", one can find many examples of questions to ask yourself to find out how one has sinned. Common sins include: putting other things before God, taking the Lord's name in vain, missing Mass on Sunday or Holy Days, participating in sins of abortion, use of pornography, sex outside of marriage, using contraception to prevent pregnancy, being a distraction for others during Mass and lying. Once one knows what sins they should confess, they are ready to go to confession.

How do we confess our sins in confession? We begin by saying, "Bless me Father for I have sinned", and stating how long it has been since your last confession. You then state your sins and let the priest know when you are done. He will then counsel you, ask questions if needed and give you prayers to say afterward. You then pray an act of contrition and then he absolves you. If you need any help with any of these steps, feel free to ask the priest and he should be perfectly willing to help you. (And if not, pray for him!) It is important to make sure you state all the grave sins you remember or else you may make the confession invalid. Do not be afraid of offending the priests by your sins. We really have heard just about everything and it is better to be forgiven of these sins than to bear guilt.

Can I go to a penance service where there is no individual confession and everyone is forgiven at the same time? This is known as General Absolution. Going to confession in this manner is a valid form of the sacrament of reconciliation only in times of emergency when it is impossible for the priest to hear everyone's confessions. (Examples include during a plane crash, in an impending natural disaster or before a battle in wartime.) However, if it is not one of those extreme cases, Catholics are still required to go to confession individually to a priest. If you ever hear of a priest absolving a whole crowd without hearing individual confessions and it is not during an emergency situation, then it is an abuse of the sacrament and should be reported to the Diocese for further investigation.

God bless and have a holy Lent!

Fr. Carter

P.S. Our school's 8th grade class is performing a Living Stations of the Cross this Friday, March 23rd at 7 pm in the church. Please come out to support them.

Catholic Radio Domestic Church Media will hold their 2018 Radiothon March 21st—23rd. It is through the support of listeners and benefactors that they are able to continue their mission to bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to as many people as possible. Please prayerfully consider a gift in any amount and call 1 609 882-9357!

Reading Group started a new book called, "Catholic For A Reason". It is a series of essays about God and the Holy Trinity edited by Scott Hahn. Reading Group meets every other Thursday in the School Conference Room at 7 pm (next meeting 3/22). Feel free to contact Fr. Carter for details: toddcarterpriest@gmail.com. This book is available through book stores and online retailers.

Next Family Game Night Join us Friday, March 23rd at 5 pm in the cafeteria. All ages are welcome, but children must be accompanied by an adult. You may bring your own game to play. Enjoy old favorites or learn new games. Pizza & drinks are provided, and a free-will offering taken. Gamers are encouraged to bring snacks or dessert for the sharing table.

Holy Innocents Music Ministry The Adult Choir sings at the 10 am Mass, the Folk Group at the 12 Noon Mass, and The Teen Praise Group the first Sunday of the month at 5:30 pm Mass. The Choir practices in church every Tues., 7 pm. If you are interested in being a part of our parish music ministry, speak with the Music Director.

Religious Education Office

Sr. Bernadette Schuler, osf
732 922-4242 x28

VIRTUS for adults training is presented throughout the year at different locations. ANY adult volunteer or staff member working with children is **REQUIRED** to attend this one-time training session and also submit to fingerprinting & criminal background check. Advance registration required at <http://www.virtusonline.org>. Please call Sr. Bernadette if you need more information.

Stations of the Cross Come experience Stations of the Cross as part of your Lenten journey. Every Friday, now through Good Friday, we will present Stations of the Cross at 7 pm in the Church. Join us - all are welcome!

The Annual Catholic Appeal—IN ACTION! Catholic Schools in Burlington, Mercer, Monmouth & Ocean Counties welcome more than 16,000 Catholic and non-Catholic students from many different cultural backgrounds. Parents as the primary educators of their children, work in partnership with teachers to develop their children's potential to become life-long learners. Donations to the ACA help to ensure that curriculum and performance standards and development of educators continue at high levels in the 31 Catholic elementary schools and 7 high schools in the Diocese of Trenton.

St. Vincent dePaul Society Holy Innocents SVDPS provides financial assistance and also maintains a small (non-perishables only) food pantry to assist residents of Neptune and a limited surrounding area. Please call 732-922-4242 x24 for information or assistance. Someone is available at the pantry on Sundays following the 10 am & 12 Noon Masses. SVDPS gratefully accepts local grocery store gift cards, as well as monetary donations through the poor boxes in church and the green Social Concerns envelopes. There's always a need for helping hands. Anyone interested in volunteering with this ministry, please call for more information.

Holy Innocents Church Increased Giving Update:
Thank you to all those parishioners who committed to the Increased Giving Campaign! One of the very best blessings here at Holy Innocents is the generosity of our faithful. If you are interested in taking advantage of the Electronic Giving Program, please visit our website www.holyinnocentschurch.net and click on the appropriate link.

Holy Innocents School News

Holy Innocents PTA invites you to their Annual Gift Auction: Saturday, April 21st! Ticket order forms are available on both the School and Church websites. In the mean time, they are soliciting donations of goods or services, gift certificates, and new gift items for auction. Donations will be collected in the School and Parish Offices during regular hours, Monday through Friday. Also gratefully accepted are cash donations, which are then used to purchase larger gifts for auction. Thank you for your consideration, and we hope to see you April 21st! Any questions, please call the School Office 732 922-3141 x13 or email holyinnocentsgiftauction@hotmail.com for more information.

Schedule for the Coming Week

- Sat., Mar. 17 **Happy St. Patrick's Day!**
5:00 pm Confessions
- Sun., Mar. 18 8:45 am Religious Ed (K-6)
7:00 pm AA in cafeteria
- Mon., Mar. 19 5:30 pm Bible Study in the conference room
6:00 pm Confirmation practice (4 pm group)
7:00 pm Religious Ed (7)
7:00 pm Confirmation Practice (7 pm group)
- Tue., Mar. 20 9:30 am Rosary Makers in Relig. Ed. Annex
4:00 pm Confirmation in church
NO Religious Ed (K-6)
7:00 pm Confirmation in church
NO RCIA
- Wed., Mar. 21 3:30 pm Lenten Penance Service at St. Rose, Belmar
7:00 pm Lenten Penance Service at Holy Innocents
- Thur., Mar. 22 9:30 am-9:00 pm Adoration in chapel
6:30 pm AA in cafeteria
7:00 pm Reading Group in conference room
- Fri., Mar. 23 5:30 pm Family Game Night in cafeteria
7:00 pm Living Stations of the Cross in church
- Sat., Mar. 24 5:00 pm Confessions
- Sun., Mar. 25 8:45 am Religious Ed (K-6)
7:00 pm AA in cafeteria
- Mon., Mar. 26 5:30 pm Bible Study in the conference room
7:00 pm Religious Ed (7)
- Tue., Mar. 27 9:30 am Rosary Makers in Relig. Ed. Annex
4:15 pm Religious Ed (K-6)
NO RCIA