

# St. Mary Roman Catholic Church

10-08 49th Avenue

Long Island City, NY 11101

Hours: Mon-Fri 9 to 12, 1 to 5pm

718-786-0705

Email: [stmarylic1008@gmail.com](mailto:stmarylic1008@gmail.com)

Website: [stmary-lic.org](http://stmary-lic.org)

## St. Joseph Center/Religious Education

10-15 49th Avenue

Long Island City, NY 11101

917-832-6104

Email: [dre.stmarylic@gmail.com](mailto:dre.stmarylic@gmail.com)

## Parish Staff

### **Pastor**

Rev. Christopher J. Turczany

### **Director of Music**

Dr. Justin Bischof

### **Director of Religious Education**

Giovanna Varlese

### **Assistant Director of Religious**

Lisete Afonso

### **Director of Maintenance**

Ray Rychalski

### **Administrative Assistant**

Marie Gabrielle Diharce

## Schedule of Masses

### **Masses:**

Saturday 5:00 pm

Sunday 9:30 am and 12:00 pm

Monday-Thursday: 12:15 pm

**National Holidays:** Mass at 9:00 am

**Confessions:** Saturday 4:00 pm to 4:40 pm

**Anointing of the Sick:** First Saturday of the month at the 5:00 pm evening Mass.



## February 18, 2024 First Sunday of Lent

### **RCI Program:**

Are you interested in becoming a Catholic, or are you a baptized Catholic seeking to complete the Sacraments Initiation?

For an application or any questions, please send an email to [dre.stmarylic@gmail.com](mailto:dre.stmarylic@gmail.com)

or call 917-832-6104.

### **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:**

Wednesday 11:00 am to 12:00 pm

### **Baptism:**

4th Saturday of the month at 1:30 pm. For courtesy please arrive fifteen minutes earlier.

Please call the Rectory for an appointment with the Pastor.

### **Weddings:**

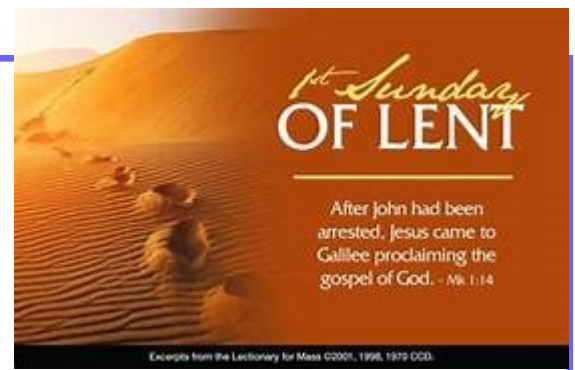
Arrangements should be made at least six months in advance in prior to the wedding date. Please call the Rectory for an appointment with the Pastor. All couples are required to attend the online Pre-Cana and present the certificate when completed.

**Funerals:** Monday through Saturday

**February 18, 2024**

**Fist Sunday of Lent**

Ashes and rainbows make a strange combination. Ashes are dirty, messy, and ugly. Rainbows, on the other hand, are beautiful and inspiring. But we encounter them both at the beginning of Lent this year. On Wednesday, ashes were smudged on our foreheads as a sign of our mortality and sinfulness. Today we hear that God set a rainbow in the sky as a sign of the covenant with us. As we begin this season of Lent, let us recognize both truths: we are always in need of repentance, but God stands ever waiting to forgive us. As ashes remind us to repent of our sins, may rainbows remind us of God's eternal forgiveness.



**Mass Intentions For The Week**

**Saturday, February 17, 2024**

5:00 pm Loretta Luizer

**Sunday, February 18, 2024**

9:30am Margaret Tito

12:00pm Albert Setford

**Monday, February 19, 2024**

9:30am People of the Parish

**National Holiday-President's Day**

**Tuesday, February 20, 2024**

12:15pm Gabrielle Diharce

**Wednesday February 21, 2024**

11:00am Blessed Sacrament

12:15pm People of the Parish

**Thursday February 22, 2024**

12:15pm People of the Parish

**Friday, February 23, 2024**

NO MASS

**Saturday, February 24, 2024**

5:00pm Tony Montagnino

**Statistics February 10-2024 and February 11-2024**

2/10-5:00 pm 75

2/11-9:30 am 145

1/28-12:00 pm 170

**Total Count 390**

1st Collection \$1,757

2nd Collection \$ 614

**Pray for the sick,**

Jean Willison, Michelle Yashita, Pat Gamble, Camille Sollis, Maria Vessillo, Teresa Ortiz, Joe Sullivan, Martha Catel, Jimmy O'Neil, Robert Keegan, Joan Pacheco, Madelaine Sullivan, Mary Roedner

**Pray for the Deceased**

Joseph Vessillo  
Christopher A. Polizzi, Nicholas Correa, Ines Cano, Sal Caiaccia, Emily Loiacono, William F. Marsh, Antonio Natale, Antonio Magri, Stella Bonilla, Albert Setford, Rosa D'Amato

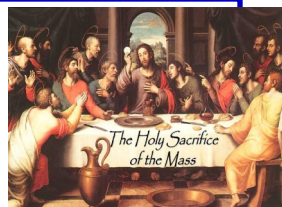
**Purgatorial Intentions**

Anthony DeFelica, Evarito Sipin, Frank Carrado, Yolanda Sipin, Genevive Roeder, Pasqual Cafiero, Robert Rohan, Tommaso Valesse, Leonardo Antonio, Donna Vova, Vincenza Rios, Mildred Schifano

**Holy Sacrifice of the Mass**

**February 18 to February 24, 2024**

**Phil Quartararo/Mike**



**Join us in Indianapolis!**

**Diocese of Brooklyn**

**July 17-21, 2024**

**Diocesan Pilgrimage Led by Bishop Robert Brennan**

Courtesy: Diocese of Columbus

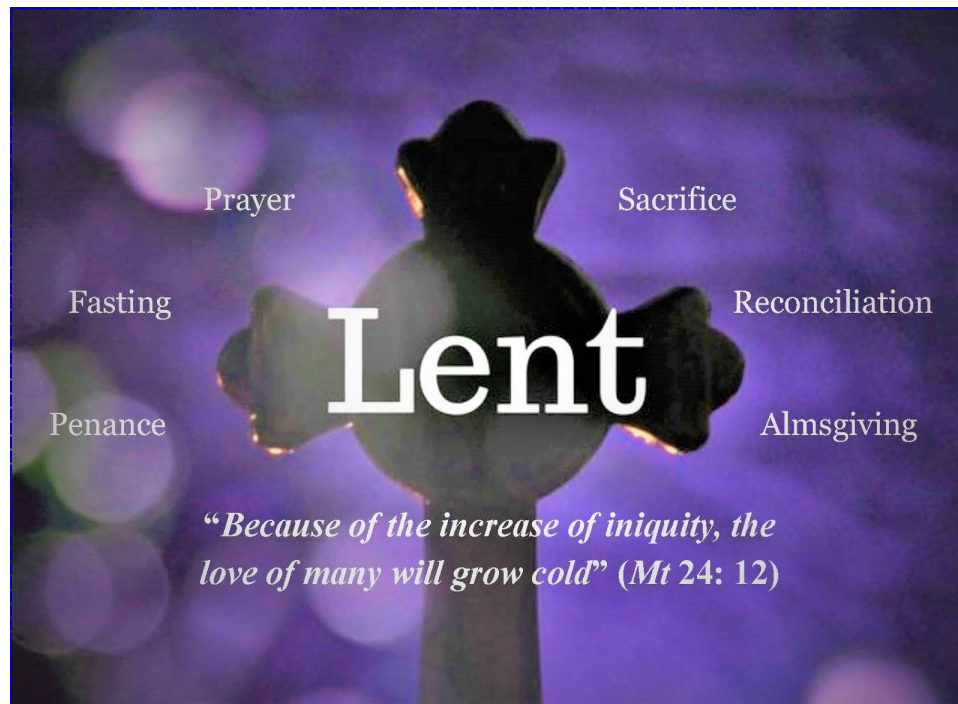


Travel Arrangements by  
Peter's Way Tours  
516-605-1551

**Please Note: Make reservations  
by January 29, 2024**

**SCAN**  
for more  
Information or  
To enroll online





## 1st Sunday of Lent: **Temptation**

- Gospel: Luke 4:1-13 Jesus was led by the Spirit through the wilderness and was tempted there.
- **TEMPTATION, Our human experience.** We always have this battle between good and evil in ourselves. Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit to the desert where He was tempted by the devil.
  - **1st Temptation:** Jesus fasted for 40 days and nights and was very hungry. The devil said **"If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become loaves of bread."** -- This was a temptation to **PRIDE** and to **PHYSICAL COMFORT**.
  - Jesus answered: **"Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God."** -- *What's more important than the physical is the spiritual. (Our bodies die but our spirit is eternal. We are nourished by the Word of God.)*



# World Day of the Sick: Pope prays for Myanmar, Palestine, Israel and Ukraine

Pope Francis prays for all those who are unable to receive medical treatment in the world, and especially in war-torn nations such as Myanmar, Palestine, Israel and Ukraine.



**By Francesca Merla**

**2-11-2024**

**Vatican News**

Addressing the faithful gathered in St Peter's Square during his Sunday Angelus, Pope Francis recalled that the 11 February marks the World Day of the Sick, which, he said, "this year draws attention to the importance of relationships in illness".

In this regard, the Pope noted that the first thing that we need when we are sick is "the closeness of loved ones" as well as that of health workers and of God.

"We are all called to be close to those who suffer" stressed the Pope, expressing his closeness "and that of the whole Church" to those who are sick or frail.

Pope Francis then went on to highlight that it is not possible to keep silent, as this day is celebrated, "about the fact that there are so many people today who are denied the right to care, and therefore the right to life!"

"I am thinking of those living in extreme poverty; but I am also thinking of the territories of war: there, fundamental human rights are violated every day! It is intolerable". Pope Francis then prayed for Ukraine, Palestine and Israel, before renewing his prayers for Myanmar, where Rohingya Muslims, for whom the Holy Father prayed during his General Audience on 7 February, continue to be subject to extreme violence and ethnic persecution.



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**St. Mary's**  
 10-15 49<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
 Long Island City, NY 11101  
 917-832-6104

We encourage parents to attend **every Sunday Mass at 9:30 a.m.** alongside their children.

Following the Mass, we invite parents to let their **kids explore and grow in their faith** by attending our

**Catholic faith classes for all ages**, which commence at **10:30 a.m.**

**If you have any questions, please reach out to:** May God bless you and your family abundantly.  
 Yours in Christ, Giovanna Varlese, Director.

**Giovanna Varlese 917-832-6104 dre.stmarylic@gmail.com**



**St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church  
 Pledged the Amount \$ 30,034  
 For "The Annual Catholic Appeal 2024"**

- ⇒ Goal: \$17,344
- ⇒ Pledged: \$30,034
- ⇒ Received: \$1,760



**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**

In person AA Meetings  
 held in St. Mary's Church Basement,  
 gather Mondays at 7:00 pm  
 Wednesday meetings take place via Zoom at 7:30 pm  
 For more information, please visit the website:  
**Licgroupsaa@gmail.com**  
 Live Hotline from 9:00 am-2:00 am at 212-647-1680  
 Monday-Sunday

**Oh sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth**  
**St. Mary Parish Choir**  
**Sunday Mass at 12:00 pm**  
**Rehearsal in the Church 11:15 am - 11:40 am**



Our Parish Choir helps lead the congregation in song (along with our Cantor) at the Sunday Noon Mass every week.

Do you like to sing? If so, we would like to hear from you!

There is a painless and quick audition with Dr. Bischof our Director of Music to sing through a hymn and discuss the Parish Choir commitment.

To sign up for an audition, please contact Dr. Justin Bischof at **646-206-7638** or **justin@justinbischof.com**.

## ***Here are some prayers for the First Sunday in Lent:***

- Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted of Satan; Make speed to help thy servants who are assaulted by manifold temptations<sup>1</sup>.
- Holy One, whom alone we worship and serve, your Word and Spirit sustain us in the wilderness. Keep us faithful in times of struggle and testing so that we may enter into your glorious realm with Jesus Christ our Savior<sup>2</sup>.
- Loving God, we rest in the confidence that you aren't just a God to make covenant. You are the God that maintains and keeps covenant<sup>3</sup>.
- Lord God on this first Sunday in Lent, we remember the trials and temptations of your son Jesus Christ in his journey through the wilderness, and how he triumphed over all<sup>4</sup>.
- In this Lenten season, loving God, you call us to a time of reflection and contemplation. This is a time to ponder where our wandering steps have separated us from you<sup>5</sup>.

## **Fasting and Abstinence during Lent**

Lent is the time before Easter during which the faithful abstain and fast in remembrance of the ultimate sacrifice Jesus made on Calvary. It is a 40-day time of preparation before Easter, the memorial of the death and resurrection of Jesus. There are two main ways that Catholics use to focus on growing closer to God during the Lenten season: abstinence and fasting.

### ***Abstinence***

Abstinence is the act of “doing without” or avoiding something. For example, someone may abstain from chocolate or alcohol by not consuming them. Particular days of abstinence during Lent are Fridays, Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. As canon law states, Catholics over the age of 14 are expected to abstain from the eating of meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays throughout the Lenten Season (Canon 1250 - 1253).

During Lent, Catholics are also encouraged to undertake some sort of personal penance or abstinence. Examples include giving up sweets, a favorite TV show or not listening to the radio in the car on the way to work. Giving up these things isn't some sort of endurance test, but these acts are done to draw the faithful closer to Christ.

For example, a person may give up his favorite TV show, but if he simply turns the television to another channel, the Lenten penance really does not mean as much. Instead, the person should consider devoting the spare time to prayer or perhaps his family.

As always, when considering acts of penance that are stricter than the norm, it is important that the Catholic would speak with a priest or spiritual director. Any act of penance that would seriously hinder one's health or the health of others would be contrary to the will of God.

### ***Fasting***

Fasting is the act of doing with less. In the Catholic Church, those ages 18 - 59 must fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday (Canon 97). On such days, those fasting may eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals, sufficient to maintain strength. However, together, the smaller meals should not equal a full meal.

Eating between meals is not encouraged, but liquids are allowed.

It is important to understand that the Church excuses certain people from these obligations. Examples include those who are frail, pregnant or manual laborers. The Church understands that certain people are not able to commit to the Lenten fast.

The time of Lent, through fasting and abstaining, may be an important reminder of what it means to suffer. This small suffering should not be met with misery but with great joy as we better understand the incredible sacrifice that Jesus Christ made for humanity.