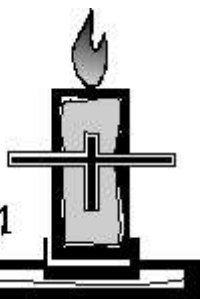


God  
is my Light  
and my salvation



**Second Sunday of Lent**  
**February 28, 2010**

*"This is my chosen Son; listen to him."*



**MONDAY, March 1**

8:30AM - + Marion Coolbaugh  
r/o Helen & Ann Sikora

**TUESDAY, March 2**

8:30AM - + Jean Placzek  
r/o St. Mary's Rosary Society

**WEDNESDAY, March 3**

8:30 AM - + Angela Poland  
r/o Wanda Czarcinski

**THURSDAY, March 4**

8:30 AM - + Kazimierz & Genowefa Karwowski  
r/o Helen

**FRIDAY, March 5**

8:30 AM- + Barbara Gleason  
r/o The Coffee Ladies

*Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after 8:30  
AM Mass. Adoration immediately following Mass  
until 12 noon.*

**SATURDAY, March 6**

8:30 AM - + Mary Petrock  
r/o Helena Kielbasa  
5:00 PM - + Estelle Rudnicki  
r/o Grandson Ronald Jones

**SUNDAY, March 7**

8:00 AM - + Parishioners  
9:30 AM - + Clementina Todaro  
r/o Maria & Vincent Morano  
11:00 AM- + Joseph Karpinski  
r/o Daughter Jolanta Gnap

**Second Sunday of Lent**  
**February 28, 2010**

**First Reading: Genesis 15: 5 - 12, 17 - 18**

God told Abram that he would give him the land of Egypt and his descendants would become great people. Abram then made sacrifices to God, cutting them in half. A torch passed between the pieces, as a visible sign to Abram of God's promise.

**Second Reading: Philippians 3: 17 - 4:1**

Paul urges the Philippians to avoid becoming too interested in material possessions. He reminds them that their most important wealth is their faith in Jesus, which will lead them to eternal life.

**Gospel: Luke 9: 28b - 36**

Jesus took Peter, John and James to a mountain to pray. When his clothes grew incredibly white, Moses and Elijah appeared. They spoke of the scripture he was to fulfill. Then a cloud came down and a voice said, "This is my Son, my Chosen One. Listen to him." The disciples who had seen Jesus' glory did not disclose this experience to anyone until much later.

**Stations of**



**the Cross**

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Will be recited  
every Friday during Lent  
at 12 noon in English and  
6:30 pm in Polish  
in the Church.

Please make an extra effort to  
attend.



**Gorzkie Zale (Bitter Lamentations)** will take place after the Polish Mass on Sundays during Lent. A prayerful meditation on the Passion of our Lord in song followed by the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

**PARISHIONER PRAYER LIST**

NURSING HOME/ASSISTED LIVING:

Catherine Barbati, Martha Burke, Bernadine Hnasko, Peter Jannone, Adeline Melesurgo, Donna Rabke, Lee Sarlo, Clara Vadimsky, Helen Vanderbeek, Helen Wawrzyński.

HOMEBOUND: Clementine Buono, Andy Civiletti, Alice Czado, Carmela Ciminelli, Henrietta DePass, Florence Colanduoni, Bronia Litowski, Vicki Mitzen, John and Anna Occhipinti, Genevieve Wawrzyński.

NOTE: Please call the Parish Office (732) 356-0358 with the names of homebound, nursing home/assisted living or hospitalized parishioners.

Please also notify the Parish Office when the status of a parishioner changes.

GOD'S GIFT FOR GIVING

Last Sunday Our Generous Stewards of St. Mary's Parish Contributed:

5:00 PM - \$ 953.00            9:30AM - \$ 1150.00  
 8:00 AM - \$ 824.00        11:00 AM - \$ 786.00  
TOTAL : \$3713.00

**March Open House at Holy Family Academy**



Holy Family Academy is holding evening Open Houses every Monday night in March from 6:30 - 8:00 pm. Principal Judith Clayton will be available to give tours, answer questions and provide registration material about the school and the enhanced Preschool and Kindergarten programs for September. Welcome Wednesday Tours are also available from 9:00 - 2:00 throughout the school year. Call for an appointment (732) 356-1151.

**Church Women United** will hold a World Day Of Prayer for the women of Cameroon, Africa on Friday, March 5th 10:00 AM at the Presbyterian Church Bound Brook, Mountain and Union Ave. Refreshments will be served. Call Rosanne Short (732)469-0759 for more information.

**Weekend Schedule March 6 - 7, 2010**

<u>5:00 pm Lector</u>	Diane Urbielewicz
<u>Eucharistic Ministers</u>	Martha Ptaszynski Theresa Richardson Walt Urbielewicz
<u>8:00 am Lector</u>	Catherine McGuire
<u>Eucharistic Minister</u>	Ed Hagan
<u>9:30 am Lector</u>	Tony Provenzano
<u>Eucharistic Ministers</u>	Jim DeMaio Karen Graebener Josephine Vadinsky
<u>11:00 am Lector</u>	Dorota Sokolnicki
<u>Eucharistic Minister</u>	Frank Grodzki

**Contribution Statements for 2009**

Contribution Statements have been sent to parishioners who have offered \$600 or more during the year. If we missed you or if you would like to receive a statement, please call the Parish Office. 732-356-0358.

CONCERT IN REMEMBRANCE OF OUR DECEASED PRIESTS  
 The Diocesan Office of Liturgical Music in collaboration with the Office for Priest Personnel presents a "Concert In Remembrance of Our Deceased Priests" at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi, on Sunday, March 7, 2010 at 5:00 pm. An expanded Diocesan Festival Choir of nearly 70 singers, under the direction of Thomas DeLessio, will perform John Rutter's Requiem with a professional seven-piece orchestra. The concert is in observance of the "Year for Priests" as declared by the Holy Father. The Necrology of Priests listing the names of all deceased priests of the diocese will be printed in the concert program. Please join us as we remember and celebrate our faithful servants who have gone before us. Tickets are not required.

**The Catholic Spirit** is now available, in its entirety, online. The electronic edition lets you read **The Catholic Spirit** exactly as it appears in print — every article, photograph and advertisement — using your favorite web browser at home, work or anywhere there is an Internet connection. The issue is searchable and the pages are downloadable so you can take the Catholic Spirit with you on your laptop. Each week's issue is available Thursdays at noon. Visit today: [www.catholicspirit.com](http://www.catholicspirit.com) and click on Electronic Edition



**Students to Leaders  
Education Dinner**

Catholic schools prepare our young people to be future leaders and responsible citizens for business, our communities and our nation. To keep the legacy

alive, we must strive to keep Catholic elementary and secondary schools available, accessible and affordable to Catholic parents and their children.

*You can help by attending the Students to Leaders Education Dinner on Wednesday, May 19th at the Palace at Somerset Park, in Somerset, New Jersey. The special guest speaker is author Mary Higgins Clark.*

Proceeds from the dinner support the Foundation for Education, an endowment fund which provides tuition assistance grants to low and middle income families whose children attend diocesan schools.



*Diocese of Metuchen Council of Catholic Women  
Lenten Spiritual Retreat  
Guardian Angels Church  
Market St., Edison*

*Guest Speaker: Mary Morell-The Catholic Spirit  
"Moving Forward with Faith and Joy"  
Saturday, March 13, 2010  
9:30 am - 2:30 pm*

*Celebration of the Eucharist after Registration  
No lunch provided - Please bring a bag lunch  
Coffee, tea, cold drinks and dessert will be served.*

*Cost : \$7.00*

*Registration Forms are located on the back wall  
in the upstairs vestibule*



How else but through a broken heart  
may the Lord Christ enter in?

- Oscar Wilde

The effect of our sharing in the body and  
blood of Christ is to change us into what we  
receive.

- Pope Saint Leo the Great

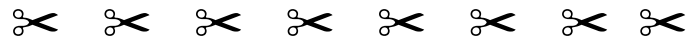
**Immaculata High School Entrance Exam**

On Thursday, March 25, Immaculata High School, located at 240 Mountain Avenue in Somerville, will administer the Diocese of Metuchen HSPT Entrance Exam to all current 8th graders interested in applying for September 2010 admission. The exam will begin at 8:00 am. Please contact Matt Piccuto, Admissions Director, at 908-722-0200 x218 for an application and registration information. Students MUST be registered prior to the exam.

**Fostering Awareness for People with Special Needs**

*A Symposium will be held at the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center in Piscataway to foster awareness for people with special needs on Saturday, March 13 from 9 am to 3 pm. Parents, teachers, catechist, advocates, care givers and those with special needs are invited to attend. The fee is \$10 which includes lunch and 2 workshops. The day will close with the keynote by Tony Melendez, world famous musician, and a prayer led by Bishop Bootkoski.*

*For more information: [www.diometuchen.org](http://www.diometuchen.org) or call Pat at 732-562-1990 ext 1310. The Symposium is sponsored by the diocesan Offices for Catechesis and Respect for Life.*



The Consul General of the Republic of Poland  
in New York is sponsoring  
Polish American Bridge  
Art Contest 2010  
by the Nowodworski Foundation

All students ages 10 to 17 living within the United States can participate in the "Polish-American Bridge" Art Contest 2010. Only 1 original artwork, not published before, can be submitted for the contest.

The artwork (either painting or collage) shall present an image or design expressing an idea of a "bridge" connecting the United States and Poland. It is open to the imagination of the student as to translate the meaning of the word "bridge" to an idea and how it is represented in art form.

The contest rules and entry forms are located in the front and back vestibules.

The deadline to submit artwork is March 10, 2010.



## 2009 Bishop's Annual Appeal Telephone Campaign

In an effort to secure the funding which is critical to sustaining our pastoral, educational and charitable ministries, the Diocese of Metuchen is embarking on a telephone campaign for the 2009 Bishop's Annual Appeal. Calls will be made from March 1st through March 25<sup>th</sup> (excluding Sundays) to those who have not yet made a gift to the 2009 appeal. Please note that callers will not ask for your credit card information. Callers have been instructed to honor the National Do Not Call list even though as a religious institution we are exempt. Any questions or concerns can be directed to Very Reverend Sylvester J. Cronin, Executive Director, Stewardship & Development by phone at 732-562-2431 or by e-mail [scronin@diometuchen.org](mailto:scronin@diometuchen.org).



Lent is a season of soul-searching and repentance, a season for reflection and taking stock of the patterns of sin in our lives. Lent is also a time of preparation. We journey into the desert for forty days to face our temptations and prepare our hearts for a new way of being.

The Gospel tells us that Jesus, led by the Spirit into the desert, prayed, fasted and overcame the temptations of the devil. As with us, the Spirit calls us to face the devil's influence and to turn away from sin throughout the season of Lent. The temptations that Jesus faces in the desert are those that many of us struggle with every day: materialism, power, and ego.

### **The First Temptation: Materialism**

The Gospel of Luke tells us that at the end of his 40 days of fasting, the devil approaches him and says, "If you are the son of God, command these stones to become bread."

What is the real temptation here? Jesus is hungry and clearly has the power to work this miracle. But bread represents earthly goods, and Jesus knows that his hunger can be satisfied by God alone. Jesus does not condemn the material goods that we need to survive as humans; rather, he challenges us to give up those that keep us from being faithful to God.

### **The Second Temptation: Power**

Next, the devil shows Jesus all the kingdoms of the world, He promises that Jesus will be the ruler of all if he would prostrate himself in worship. Jesus replies, "It is written: You shall worship the Lord, your God, and him alone shall you serve." It must be realized that Jesus does not set out to rule the world or gather power for himself. Rather, he comes to serve his flock through preaching, teaching and healing. Jesus also knows that he must suffer. As he begins to teach the apostles that the Son of Man must be rejected and killed, Peter cannot believe this will happen. Jesus rebukes him and says, "You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do." He is trying to explain that he himself must suffer for our sins by dying on the cross.

### **The Third Temptation: Ego**

Finally, the Gospel of Luke goes on to tell us that Jesus is brought to Jerusalem, made to stand on the parapet of the temple, and taunted to "throw himself down" to prove that he is the Son of God. Jesus tells the tempter that the Lord God is not to be put to the test. Jesus is saying that he does not have to prove who he is by miraculous shows of strength. He has no need to inflate his ego. Jesus does not need fame.

Throughout the life of Jesus, we read of his healings; he even raises Lazarus from the dead. But in not one of these instances does Jesus heal a single person out of pride or ego. He is simply carrying out his mission on earth - to fulfill the coming of the reign of God. In fact, Jesus approaches many of his miracles with humility. When the woman who is hemorrhaging touches his cloak, she is healed. Jesus lets her know that she has saved herself saying, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace."

In the present world, are we overly concerned with how others view us? Are we looking for fame and recognition of our talents? Are we putting our needs and desires before others? Let us look deep within our hearts this Lent. Let us try to emulate the life that Jesus led.



*The light that shines farthest shines brightest at home.*  
-Anonymous