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The Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 13, 2016

**SACRED HEART CHURCH
ITALIAN NATIONAL PARISH
37 SCHUYLER AVENUE
STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT 06902
203-324-9544**

**REV. ALFONSO PICONE
PASTOR
REV. MARTIN deMAYO
PAROCHIAL VICAR**

TRUSTEES

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203-348-3499

PRESIDENT OF THE PARISH ADVISORY

COUNCIL: MRS. FRANCES BIANCO
203-329-2126

ORGANIST & DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

MR. GREGORY FREILINO

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

MRS. CAMILLE VITTI
203-348-3185

RECTORY OFFICE STAFF

MRS. BEA CENTONZE
MRS. NANCY BENTLEY
HOURS: MONDAY-FRIDAY
10:00 AM – 3:30 PM

HOLY MASS

MONDAY – FRIDAY 7:00 AM
SATURDAY 8:00 AM

SATURDAY VIGIL MASS 4:00 PM

SUNDAY: 8:30 AM
10:00 AM (ITALIAN), 11:30 AM
1:30 PM (SPANISH)

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE (CONFESSION)

SATURDAY 2:45 PM to 3:45 PM

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

4:00 PM TO 5:00 PM

MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA

**MONDAY EVENING AT 7:00 PM IN ENGLISH
At 8:00 PM IN SPANISH
FOR THE SACRAMENTS OF MARRIAGE
AND BAPTISM**

Please call Rectory Office

**WEB SITE stamfordsacredheart.org
Email address sacredparish@optonline.net**



WE WELCOME ALL PARISHIONERS

Please feel free to contact anyone on our office staff. We ask that all members of the parish be registered. Registration forms should be requested in the rectory office. This registration is our only means of certifying anyone as a member of our parish.

HOLY MASS

Saturday: March 12, 2016

4:00PM Carmine Coppola & Deceased of Family by A. Coppola & Family

Sunday: March 13, 2016

8:30AM Deceased of the Joseph & Loiseau Families by Family

10:00AM Francesca & Pancrazio & Giovanna Musilli by Family

11:30AM Luisa & Michael D'Elia by Family

1:30 PM Fabio Salgado by Gloria Salgado

The Lamp for the week of March 13 through March 19, 2016 in Memory of
Maxima Rivera by Iris Rios & Julia Rosa
The Hosts for the week of March 13 through March 19 in Memory of
Mary Cassone by Victor Cassone Family

Monday March 14, 2016

7:00AM Angela Lionetti by Daughter Debi

5:30PM Giovanni Marena by Angela D'Elia

Tuesday March 15, 2016

7:00AM Benito Naccarato by Connie

5:30AM John Giardano by M/M B. Mallozzi & Family

Wednesday, March 16, 2016

7:00AM Dorothy San Filippo by The Pelli Family

5:30PM Madeline, Gina & Giovanni Legiero by Perrotta Family

Thursday March 17, 2016

7:00AM Luigi & Luigia Casinelli by Tramontozzi Family

5:30PM Vincenzo Mallozzi by Rosa Mallozzi

Friday March 18, 2016

7:00AM Mary Cassone by Sister Cathy & the Family of Victor Cassone

5:30PM Maria C., Joseph, James & Dorothy Malafarina by Family

Saturday March 19, 2016

8:00AM Patricia Gerardi by M/M J. Centonze

4:00PM Sylvia & Frank Sileo & Mary & Toddo Ienner by Carol & Jimmy

Sunday March 20, 2016

8:30AM Giuseppe, Maria & Mariano Tucciarone by V. Tucciarone

10:00AM Antonio, Vincenza & Maria Angela DiLorenzo by G. DiLorenzo

11:30AM Edith and Anthony DeVito by Children

1:30PM Celia Longobardi by Gladys Neciosup

STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be held on all Fridays of Lent at 6:00PM in English, at 7:00PM in Italian and at 8:00PM in Spanish.

SUNDAY COLLECTION The collection for the weekend of March 5 & 6 totaled \$4,046.00. The monthly collection totaled \$1,584.00. The Catholic Relief collection totaled \$ 633.00. Thank you for your generosity. If you are away from Church, please try to make up your envelopes.

THE ILL OF THE PARISH- Please remember in your prayers the following parishioners who are ill: Dr. John Centonze, Giuseppe Pampena, Isabella DiCamillo, Ron Taranto, Emilio Coppola. The thoughtfulness of cards or a phone call would be welcome. Please keep the parish office (203-324-9544) informed of anyone who needs a priestly visit and the Sacrament of the Sick.

PALM CROSSES. We will be selling Palm Crosses on the weekends of March 12 & 13 and March 19 & 20. Please call the rectory for reservations or fill out the tear off here and put in envelope with **Attn Marie** on it. Throw it in the basket.

NAME _____ PHONE NUMBER _____

How many crosses _____ When do you want to pick them up? _____

Pickup will be in the church vestibule on the above dates. They will be \$10.00 ea.

PRE-BAPTISMAL CLASS will be held in English on the first Saturday of every month at 1:00PM in the Church. The next class is to be held April 2, 2016. Please call the Rectory at 203-324-9544 to register for the class. Baptisms in English are held on the second Saturday of each month. The next Baptism class in Spanish will be held April 16, 2016 and thereafter on the third Saturday of each month at 1:00PM. Baptisms in Spanish are held on the fourth Saturday of each month at 1:00PM.

FOR THE DECEASED: We ask the Lord to grant Eternal Rest to: Filomena Romano, and the deceased of our Parish.

SAVE THE DATE

THE ROSARY SOCIETY will have their **"EVENING OF RECOLLECTION"** on Thursday, March 17, 2016. The price is \$22.00 and Dinner will be served after the Rosary. It will be Chicken Parmigiana, Chicken Cutlets, Salad, Dessert and Coffee. RSVP by March 10th. Please call Barbara Cerulli 203-348-1268. Father Nicholas Pavia will be the guest speaker and he will take questions after the reflection. All the women of the parish are welcomed.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY will be celebrated with Bishop Frank Caggiano at St. Augustine Cathedral at 2:00PM, Sunday April 3rd. It will include the dedication of the Divine Mercy Shrine, Celebration of Mass and a reception at Kolbe Cathedral High School. All are welcome!

ALL COUPLES CELEBRATING 25, 30, 35, 40, 45 AND 50+ YEARS OF MARRIAGE. Please join Bishop Frank Caggiano in the celebration of your Wedding Anniversary Sunday, April 17, 2016 at St. Paul's Parish, 84 Sherwood Ave, Greenwich, CT at 3:00PM. Please call the rectory to register 203-324-9544.

GENEROSITA` Cortesemente cercate di aumentare sia la vostra offerta settimanale sia quella mensile. Un aumento di \$5, \$10, \$15 o piu` sara` molto apprezzato. Se andrete via per la vacanze o se vi e` impossibile partecipare alla messa nella Chiesa del Sacro Cuore, vi chiediamo di fare il meglio possibile per recuperare le settimane in cui siete mancati. Iniziate a utilizzare le buste settimanali della canonica. Grazie per il vostro supporto.

MESSA IN MEMORIA SETTIMANALI Se qualcuno vuole donare l'ostia, il vino per la messa o la lampada del santuario in memoria di una persona cara o come una donazione si prega di contattare l'ufficio 203-324-9544. L'offerta e` di \$25.00 per ciascuna.

INFIRMI DELLA NOSTRA PARROCCHIA- Per favore ricordate nelle vostre preghiere i seguenti parrochiani che sono ammalati: Dr. John Centonze, Isabella DiCamilo, Ron Taranto, Emilio Taranto. Se avete in mente di mandare una cartolina o di telefonare ai familiari o direttamente a loro sarebbe un pensiero veramente apprezzato. Per favore informate l'ufficio parrocchiale, se qualcuno ha bisogno della visita di un sacerdote e del sacramento degli infermi. Telefonate ufficio 203-324-9544.

POR LOS ENFERMOS DE NUESTRA PARROQUIA Por favor incluya en sus oraciones a los siguientes feligreses que están enfermos de nuestra parroquia: Dr. John Centonze, Ron Taranto, Isabella DiCamillo, Emilio Coppola.

CLASES PRE-BAUTISMALES: en Español se ofrecen el tercer sábado de cada mes, a la 1:00PM en la Iglesia. Por favor llamar a la oficina para registrarse (203) 324- 9544. Los Bautizos en Español se celebran el cuarto sábado del mes a la 1:00PM.

OFRENDAS POR LA SEMANA: Dedique la vela del Santísimo, el Vino y el Pan a un ser querido por una semana. Cada ofrenda es \$25.00.

GRACIAS POR SU GENEROSIDAD: por favor trate de incrementar su ofrenda semanal o mensual, un aumento de \$5.00, \$10.00 \$15.00 o más es apreciado. Gracias por su apoyo y participación en nuestra parroquia del Sagrado Corazón. Si se va de vacaciones o está enfermo no se olvide de enviar sus sobres. Nuevamente gracias por su generosidad.

SACRAMENTOS: Estaremos ofreciendo clases de RCIA, para adultos que no han recibido los sacramentos; bautizo, comunión y confirmación, si esta interesado por favor comunicarse con la oficina para más información.

RULES OF LENT

DAYS OF FAST GOOD FRIDAY: Limit one full meal on this day for all who are 18 years old, but not yet 60 years old. Two other meatless meals may be taken, but together should not equal a full meal.

DAYS OF ABSTINENCE FROM MEAT: All Fridays of Lent: An obligation for those who are 14 years old and up.

WEEKDAYS OF LENT: There is no longer an obligation to fast, however, voluntary acts of self-denial and charity are recommended.

EASTER DUTY: The obligation to receive Communion at least once a year, during the Easter Season. This obligation may be fulfilled between the first Sunday of Lent and Trinity Sunday, May 22, 2016.

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION will take place on the weekend of April 23/24, 2016. There will be three seats to be filled. We ask that you prayerfully consider running for a seat on the Council. There is much happening at Sacred Heart and we encourage you to join us in helping renew our beloved Sacred Heart Parish. Meetings are held on the Fourth Monday of the month starting in September through June. All who are interested may call Fran Bianco at 203-329-2126 or the rectory at 203-324-9544. Or you may fill out the form that is in the rear of the Church.

SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST A Sacred Cantata by T. Dubois. On Sunday, March 20th Palm Sunday, at 7:00PM in the Cathedral of St. Augustine, the Bridgeport Diocesan Choir will again present The Seven Last Words of Christ, under the direction of Dr. David F. McCaffrey III and the chorus of voices represents parishes throughout the diocese. The concert is free and open to the public. There will be an opportunity for a goodwill offering.



ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL This is Annual Catholic Appeal Commitment Weekend throughout the Diocese of Bridgeport. Our parish goal this year is that every family and individual will participate to the very best of their ability, in recognition and in thanksgiving for God's many blessings. All registered parishioners should have received a special letter from Bishop Caggiano seeking their personal commitment and a pledge of support. If you are among those in our parish family who have already responded in the spirit of stewardship and discipleship or will do so today, fervent thanks and blessings are yours. If you are still contemplating your Appeal gift, please give from your heart on behalf of those whose lives will be changed for the better because you cared. Every pledge and gift is vitally important and will bring us closer to reaching our goal. God will indeed bless and reward your generosity and concern for others, of that you can be assured. The Bishop's video will be shown at all Masses this weekend.

This week you will be receiving a letter from Father Picone in which he requests all of the parishioners of Sacred Heart Parish to participate in the 2016 Annual Catholic Appeal. Your gift through the appeal will help change many lives, one at a time. As Pope Francis said during his visit to America last year, "We are called upon to respect the life and dignity of all people by serving the poor and reaching out in compassion." If you have already made your contribution, thank you. Remember that you will have the opportunity to submit your contribution in the regular collection during commitment weekend March 12 & 13.

2016 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

<u>SACRED HEART PARISH GOAL</u>	\$45,000.00
<u>CURRENT CONTRIBUTIONS TOTAL</u>	9,430.00

All of our parishioners listed below have already generously contributed to the 2016 Appeal. For these offerings we are very grateful. We are depending upon your charity to enable us to reach our goal and have Sacred Heart Parish participate in a broader Christian Community. God Bless your efforts.

M/M A. Biggica, M/M S. Biggica, Mrs. C. Cardillo, M/M N Casinelli, Mrs. M. Conte, M/M E. Coppola, Mrs. I. Deegan, Ms. J. Desrochers, M/M. J. Dongallo, Dr. & Mrs G. D'Onofrio, M/M D. Dunn, M/M/ V. Fanning, Mr. A. Ferrajina, M/M A. Follo, Ms. M. Lainez, Mr. R. LaRoche, Jr., M/M F. Leone, M/M J. Loglisci, M/M J. Macari, Ms M. P. Malafarina, Mrs. M. A. Marino, M/M T. Moccia, Mrs. G. Nowakowski, Mr. P. Pelli, Mrs. T. Piacenza, Mrs. M. Powers, Mrs. R. Rainone, M/M A. Richichi, M/M A. Rizzi, Ms. C. M. Romaniello, M/M J. B. Sabia, M/M J. A. Sabia, Jr., Ms. M. Scime, M/M T. Schmalzl, Ms. R. Tarzia, Mrs. L. T. Terravecchia, M/M M. J. Vaccaro, Mr. F. Verrastro.

LETTER FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Parishioners,

Limited by our human nature, we sin against God. Too often we succumb to the temptations of this temporal world when our hearts and minds should be focused on the eternal. As Christians we believe Christ, born among us, willingly took on flesh and bone, and then obediently sacrificed His life in a most excruciating death so that our sins that incurred His Father's wrath could be washed away.

As Christians we know God loves us despite our weaknesses, our proclivity towards hurting the One Who loves us more than our human minds can comprehend. Just as that lamb in the pasture strayed from the fold, so do we when in shame we hide in the dark bushes and hedges of this life. Just as the Prodigal Son squandered his legacy, wallowing in the mud of transgressions, we too must come to our senses and find our way home.

In Matthew 5:48 Jesus tells us, "Be perfect as the Father in Heaven is Perfect." In Luke 6:36 Jesus says, "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful." Is Jesus speaking in hyperbole or is it really possible for us to live our lives in such holiness? If only we would walk in Christ's footsteps, obey His commandments to love Him, ourselves and others, and show mercy towards everyone hungering and thirsting for the peace of Christ! It is the surest way, with God's graces, to one day reach Heaven.

Think of this loving God as we do the father of the Prodigal Son who forgives, forgets, and welcomes his wayward children with open arms. Let us show an act of kindness to a neighbor who never says hello. Help someone carry groceries from the car. Or just something simple like a happy greeting and a sincere smile.

May God Bless You!

Father Alfonso Picone.