

**THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (R.C.I.A.)**

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults was the manner in which the Early Church introduced new members into the church and had them receive the three Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. Over 25 years ago the Church encouraged parishes to once again re-introduce the R.C.I.A. program as a means of bringing new converts into the Faith. It was also recognized that, in addition to people who had never been baptized, this format could also work for those baptized in another Christian denomination who wanted to become Catholics, and those baptized as Catholics but who never received formal training in the Faith or the other Sacraments of Initiation. In the last 25 years R.C.I.A. has been the means of bringing thousands of adults to the Catholic Faith in the United States. It has been similarly successful in other parts of the world.

This year we have instituted an R.C.I.A. program here at Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha Parish and have been blessed by several participants. We have three "catechumens". These are individuals who have never been baptized and they will receive Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Communion at the Easter Vigil. We also have nine "candidates". These are individuals who have already been baptized. Some of these will make a Profession of Faith in the Catholic Church because they have been baptized in other Christian denominations; others are baptized Catholics who did not receive all the Sacraments of Initiation. All these will receive Eucharist and Confirmation at the Easter Vigil. I ask that you keep Andrew Bearid, Vittal Rao, Dawn Scafari, Ton Djinaj, Sandra Doyle,

Gretchen Del Medico, Michael Del Medico, Sean Lyons, Kristen McCarthy, Thomas Norton, Brian Schnell, Jessica Speziale, and Amanda Vogel in your prayers during this Lent, the final period before they become full members of the Church.

There are other parts of the R.C.I.A. process that occur during Lent. They have already been officially enrolled as candidates, and today they will be given the Creed. Now they are called to undergo three scrutinies during the remaining Sundays of Lent. These are questions they will be asked in order to ensure their sincerity about receiving the sacraments and becoming part of the parish community. There are also prayers of exorcism linked with the scrutinies. These are just prayers directing them to strive to follow Christ and His Way, and reject any evil. You will see this taking place after the homily at different Masses on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of Lent.

Seeing this process occur at the Liturgy often causes people to think of family members or friends that also might want to enter our faith or complete the Sacraments of Initiation. The R.C.I.A. formal training process usually begins in September and ends with the Easter Season. However, if you know anybody that might be interested in this program, please have them contact the Parish Office. While formal classes will not start again until September, there are usually many questions that can be answered before then, and the development of a prayer life can start immediately. As I stated early on, this can be an excellent way to bring others into the Catholic Faith. If you, or anyone you know, are interested, please call the Parish Office.

***STATIONS OF THE CROSS AND BENEDICTION AT BLESSED KATERI***

Stations of the Cross and Benediction are every Monday at 7pm in the Main Church. Confessions will continue on Monday evenings from 7:30-8:30pm in the Chapel where our confessionals are located. The Chapel is open daily from 7am-7pm; enter through the steel doors by the restrooms, just off the handicapped parking lot.

**FAITH FORMATION NEWS**

This Friday, March 20th, our 8th grade classes will be attending their Confirmation Retreat from 9am-4pm here at Blessed Kateri Church. All students should bring the \$25 Confirmation fee (made payable to *Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha*) to their classes this week, and report to the church meeting room by 8:45 am Friday morning. Let us pray for our candidates this week, that they may experience the presence of God in their lives in a very special way on their retreat day.

This week our deacons will be conducting the Stations of the Cross in the main church on Monday, March 16th at 4:30 pm, again at 7 pm. and on Wednesday, March 18th at 2:30 pm. All parents and parishioners are encouraged to join us at any of these times in this ancient Lenten tradition.

Re-registrations forms for current families are available in the office and will be mailed home at the end of the week to all those who have not yet picked theirs up. Please remember that the firm deadline for holding the "same-day, next grade" spots for your children is Wednesday, April 1st. Waiting lists will be filled in on Thursday, April 2nd. Registration for new families will take place in late May.

**CATHERINE OF SIENA**

On Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, at 3pm Sr. Nancy Murray (sister of comedian Bill Murray) will bring St. Catherine of Siena to life in her one woman performance, *Catherine of Siena, A Woman for Our Time*. Join us at St. Joseph School in Millbrook, NY for this memorable portrayal. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children (children under the age of 5 are free). Please call 677-3670 for directions and information.

**CAVATELLI NIGHT**

The 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Knights of Columbus, St. Mary's Council, is sponsoring Cavatelli Night on Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at 6pm at the K of C Hall in Wappingers Falls. This delicious Italian dinner includes: cavatelli, meatballs, salad, bread, dessert, coffee, tea and soda all for \$14 for adults and \$9 for children under 12 years of age. For reservations and information, contact John at 917-709-8021.

**RULES OF FASTING AND ABSTINENCE**

During the penitential season of Lent, it is important to know that all Friday's are days of abstinence. Days of abstinence are days when we do not eat meat. This obligation begins at the age of 14 and has no upper limit.

**STATIONS FOR THOSE WHO GRIEVE**

On Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup> at 7pm, St. Denis Church will hold Stations of the Cross for all who have experienced the loss of a loved one. By walking the way of the Cross with Christ, we can unite our pain with Him and receive His comfort and peace.

**HAPPY SAINT PATRICK'S DAY  
HAPPY SAINT JOSEPH'S DAY**

**COMMITMENT WEEKEND**

At all Masses this weekend you will have the opportunity to view a short film on the Cardinal's Appeal. The Cardinal's Appeal supports our parish religious education programs, our retired priests and religious and our young men entering the Seminary system. Please be as generous as your means will allow.

**CELEBRATIONS FOR SILVER AND GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY COUPLES**

Couples celebrating their 25<sup>th</sup> or 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversaries anytime during 2009 are invited to share a special Mass with us in their honor here in our parish on Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, at 10:30am. Their families and friends are welcome to come. Please call the parish office with your name and phone number, and let us guess which color you deserve!

In addition, couples celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary are invited to attend a Golden Wedding Jubilee Mass at the Cathedral of St. Patrick in New York City on Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>; at 2:00 p.m. Pre-registration through our parish is needed by April 17<sup>th</sup> if you wish to attend.

If you are a 2009 Golden or Silver Anniversary couple, please give us a call soon at 227-1710. We look forward to celebrating your anniversary with you.

**CHRISM MASS**

The Ordinary (Bishop of a diocese) is expected to celebrate the Chrism Mass with the priests of his diocese on Holy Thursday morning or some other day during Holy Week when most of the priests can attend. In the Archdiocese of New York, the Chrism Mass is celebrated at Saint Patrick's Cathedral on Tuesday evening of Holy Week. This Mass is very special because, after the homily, all the priests renew their priestly vows. Then the Cardinal consecrates the Oil of Sacred Chrism, thus the name of the Mass. The Oil of Chrism is used at Baptism, Confirmation, and Ordination to Priesthood. The Cardinal also blesses the Oil of Catechumens, used to strengthen those preparing for Baptism, and the Oil of the Sick, which is used to anoint those who are sick or dying.

Tickets are available for parishioners of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha to attend the Mass of Chrism on Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>. A bus will be leaving from the church parking lot at 1pm and return at approximately 9pm. The cost for adults is \$25 per person. There will be opportunity to have lunch on your own in the city before the Chrism Mass. Please bring payment to the Parish Office by March 30<sup>th</sup> if you would like to go.

**COME SHARE THE FUN!**

Be a part of Blessed Kateri's first Vacation Bible School. Adults are needed to lead and share their faith with children for one week this summer. This can be a great time to see some old friends and to make some new ones. Come share the SPIRIT and join us. For more information, call Rose Morse at 632-1832.

## Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha Church

LaGrangeville, New York

### TRI PARISH TEEN GROUP

There will be a Core Group meeting this evening at 6:30pm in the Meeting Room. Our next regularly scheduled meeting of all teens will be Sunday, March 22nd. The teen group is planning a trip to the Chrism Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral on Tuesday, April 7th. A bus will be leaving from the church parking lot at around 1:00pm and we will have lunch in the city prior to going to St. Patrick's. The cost for teens is \$25 for both the bus and lunch in the city.

### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL EASTER FOOD BASKET APPEAL

Easter is approaching and it is time once again to ask for Easter Baskets for our less fortunate families

If you can't donate a complete basket, please consider donating one or more of the following items: milk, eggs, canned vegetables, salad mix, stuffing mix, cranberry sauce, gravy, candy, or a ham or a turkey. If you can help, please contact Linda at 227-7863.

### CATHOLIC WIDOWS/WIDOWERS CLUB

This month's meeting of the Catholic Widow/Widowers Club will be on March 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. Meetings are on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at the East Fishkill Community Center; for additional information please contact Joan at 223-3097.

### PASTORAL CARE FOR THE SICK

If you are sick, homebound, or in the hospital and would like to receive Holy Communion or would like a pastoral visit, please contact Deacon John by leaving a detailed message at 223-8410 or calling the rectory at 227-1710. If you prefer, you may e-mail Deacon John at [JBarone49@gmail.com](mailto:JBarone49@gmail.com)

### BLESSED KATERI PRAYER NETWORK

If you have intentions or requests that you would like our Prayer Network to pray for, please call Nancy Vaughn at 226-4053, or Betty Paraggio at 223-5674.

### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

This week the items needed by the SVDP food pantry are: canned fruit, canned soup, pasta and crackers. Please leave your items in the church narthex (vestibule). For those in need of assistance, the SVDP hotline number is 227-7863.

### PARISH INCOME REPORT

Last Week's Collection: \$10,029

Last Year's Collection: \$9,616

### PETITION OF THE WEEK

For all those preparing for Easter Sacraments – R.C.I.A. participants, Confirmation Candidates and First Holy Communion Students – that they may grow in the faith of Christ during this Lenten Season. Let us pray to the Lord...

### MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

<b>Monday</b>	<b>March 16</b>
9:00am	For All Parishioners
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>March 17</b>
9:00am	Salvatore Arcabascio and Cathy Reilly by Geraldine Natale
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>March 18</b>
9:00am	Gerald Plass by Lisa Davis
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>March 19</b>
9:00am	Joseph C. Austin, Lt. Col. US Air Force by his wife Beverly Austin
<b>Friday</b>	<b>March 20</b>
9:00am	Anne Diggins (L) by Suzanne Power
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>March 21</b>
9:00am	Patricia Kelly by the Altar Rosary Society
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>March 22</b>
5:00pm Sat.	Joseph and Anthony Gauci by Antonia Gauci
9:00am	Francine Santarpia by Betty Perrino
10:30am	Edward Guilfoyle by the Serino Family
12:15pm	Donald McManus, Sr. by the LaColla Family
5:30pm	For All Parishioners

### *Please pray for those who are ill*

Jackie and Joe DePalma--Marion Carney--Billy Jacobs  
Deneé DeVizio --Caitlin Ann Martin--Rick Cole--Maria Sorrentino  
Marcia Sabol -- Marie Gauci--Johnny Romano--Amanda Jones  
Fred Matthews--Victor Thomas--Wendy Sullivan  
Raymond Trangalli--Susan Lancellata--Concetta Liccione  
Mary Griego--Bob Wilson-- Joseph Liccione--Steve Majusiak  
William Grafer--Mark Kearney --Richard DeLeo Sr.  
Frank Fetzter--Marie Fetzter--Ann Leonard--Jane Kurz

### Liturgical Ministers for March 22<sup>nd</sup> 2009

	Lector	Eucharistic Ministers	Altar Servers
<b>5:00pm Sat</b> <b>Fr. Perez</b>	Norm Dauerer	Anthony and Andrea Cirone Beverly Austin	Julianne and Timothy Desjardins, Brian Kusior
<b>9:00am</b> <b>Fr. Perez</b>	Mary Biasotti	Betty Perrino, Diane Maddock, Cheryl Gallina, Patricia Lyons, Cathy Varano	James Hagen, Tabitha Akins Ryan Quinn
<b>10:30am</b> <b>Msgr. Desmond</b>	Laura Leahy	John McCormack, Ruth Recchia, Anne Diggins, Lorraine Travia, Rose Morse	Alex Rodriguez, John Maddox, Brad Fisher
<b>12:15pm</b> <b>Fr. Perez</b>	Noe Ilano	Keith McCartney Julie and Dave Borges	Angela Alessandro Emily and Amanda Silva
<b>5:30pm Sun</b> <b>Msgr. Desmond</b>		Tara Izzo	Claire and Elizabeth Baxter

