

First Reading: Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18

God ordered Abraham to take his beloved only son to Moriah and offer him as a sacrifice. Abraham built an altar and took out a knife to sacrifice his son Isaac. But God called out to him and told him of blessings that would be bestowed on him and his descendants because he had been willing to do what God had asked.

Second Reading: Romans 8:31b-34

Paul reminds the people that God did not spare his only Son, but gave him up for the sake of all people. This proves God views us all as his children, and that no person can harm or condemn us because God will protect us.

Gospel: Mark 9:2-10

Jesus led Peter, James and John up a high mountain, where he conversed with Elijah and Moses. A voice proclaimed 'This is my Son, my beloved. Listen to him.' Then Jesus was alone and warned them not to tell anyone what they had seen until he had risen from the dead.

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A Fresh Perspective on the Sunday Readings

His Word Today

By Rev. William J. Reilly

“God put Abraham to the test. He called him, ‘Abraham’ ‘Here I am’ he replied. ‘Take your son Isaac, your only one whom you love and go to the land ... Do not do the least thing to him, I know now how devoted you are to God ... I will bless you abundantly’ ... ‘this is My beloved Son. Listen to him.’”

The challenge for Abraham by God was a test that none of us would want to endure. The proof of his love of God surpassed the love for his own son. How profound. Abraham, called the father of believers, followed this God he met. He left his homeland and what he knew to walk with this God who revealed Himself to him. He passed the test.

All of us have trouble giving up, shedding material things to be a disciple. Abraham, who did not know the God who has revealed himself to us in Jesus becomes a model for all, responding with his “Here I am” and accepting the challenge of a new life. As we often are asked to reflect on what we are willing to offer to God, today look around to see what thing or things we can shed.

Lent is the summons I have received. I respond, with God’s help, to come down from the mountain where I meet my God, and show my devotion to Him through service to others.

Take as your mantra this week the psalm verse: **I will walk before the Lord in the land of the living.**



I would like to thank all of you who have made a gift to the 2009 Cardinal’s Appeal. Next week the parish will be conducting our annual Commitment Weekend solicitation for the Appeal. If you have been waiting to make your gift, this is the perfect opportunity to make a pledge during Mass next week. I would encourage you to be as generous as possible. Thank you.

Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha Church

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Re-registration forms for current families are now available in the office. Registration for new families will take place in May.

Help is needed with crafts and skits for the Family Catechesis session to be held on Sunday, March 15th, 3-5:30 pm. Please call the Office of Faith Formation, 227-1710, to volunteer.

TRIP TO NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE DIVINE MERCY

St. Mary's Columbiettes are sponsoring a trip to the National Shrine of the Divine Mercy in Stockbridge, MA on Saturday, April 18th. The bus will depart from the John Jay High School parking lot at 8:30am and will return at 8:30pm. Come join us for a spirit-filled day on the beautiful grounds of Eden Hill. Please call Michele at 897-2521 or Tricia at 440-7534 to make your reservations.

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 would like to donate a basket, please contact Linda at 227-7863.

If you can't donate a complete basket, please consider donated 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.

CHOWDER FRIDAYS FOR LENT

Homemade Manhattan and New England clam chowder will be sold by St. Mary's Columbiettes for the benefit of local parishes. Orders must be placed by Wednesday for pick-up on Friday. The price of \$6.50 per quart includes bread or crackers. Pick up will be at the Fishkill Knights of Columbus Hall on Route 82 between 2:30pm and 6:30pm on all Fridays during Lent. Placing an order is easy; just call Fran at 440-7033 or Lori at 897-5833.

PARENT CHILD CONNECTION

Come join us in the lower level of the Blessed Kateri Faith Formation Center each Tuesday from 10:00am-11:30am. On March 10th we will do a *windy day craft* and on March 17th we will do a craft in honor of Saint Patrick. For more information, please contact Christina Gilroy at scewillow@frontiernet.net.

Please note if Arlington or Wappingers Schools have a delay or closing we will not meet.

MASS FOR VOCATIONS

Young men in grades 8 through 12 are invited to attend a special Mass for priestly vocations to be held on the feast of St. Joseph, March 19th, at St. Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers. The 5pm Mass will be celebrated by His Eminence, Edward Cardinal Egan, and will be followed by dinner. Please RSVP to the Office of Vocations at 914-968-1240 or vocations@archny.org.

Second Sunday of Lent

RULES OF FASTING AND ABSTINENCE

During the penitential season of Lent, it is important to know the traditional rules of fasting and abstinence.

Fasting means eating only one full meal. Two smaller meals may be taken. Snacking is not allowed. **The two major days for fasting are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.** Everyone who can limit themselves to one full meal should do so, but the obligation rests on those between the ages of 18 and 59.

Abstinence means that you do not eat meat. Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays of Lent are days when we do not eat meat. This obligation begins at age 14 and has no upper limit.

CELEBRATIONS FOR SILVER AND GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY COUPLES

Couples celebrating their 25th or 50th Wedding Anniversaries anytime during 2009 are invited to share a special Mass with us in their honor here in our parish on Sunday, June 21st, 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 50th anniversary are invited to attend a Golden Wedding Jubilee Mass at the Cathedral of St. Patrick in New York City on Sunday, May 3rd, at 2:00 p.m. Pre-registration through our parish is needed by April 17th 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.

INVITING CATHOLICS HOME

St. Denis Church in Hopewell Junction will offer a six week series entitled "Catholics Returning Home" starting on April 15th from 7:30-9:00pm in the Rectory Meeting Room. These sessions are for non-practicing Catholics who are seeking answers to questions about returning to the Church. If you know someone who has left the Church, please invite them to attend. For more information, call Deacon Enrico at 227-8382.

TRI PARISH TEEN GROUP

There will be a general meeting tonight after the 5:30pm Mass. Teens who recently attended the Day by Day Agape weekend retreat at Capuchin Youth Ministry will share their experiences. There will be a presentation on St. Patrick, we will plan our March service activity and discuss the April 7th trip to attend the Chrism Mass.

PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA

Join Fr. Jeffrey Galens, Pastor of Good Shepherd in Rhinebeck, on a pilgrimage to Fatima, Portugal from October 18th through October 25th. You will visit the International Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima, as well as places connected with the 1917 miracle. The capital city of Lisbon is also one of the stops on this exciting tour. The all inclusive cost per person is \$1995. For further information, please call 800-653-0017.

Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha Church

LaGrangeville, New York

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

Learn how important God is to your marriage and how important your marriage is to God on the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend, April 17th-19th. For more information, contact Nancy Rizzi at 212-371-1000 x3190.

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK

Next week there will be a second collection to benefit the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Please support our mission of service to the needy of the local community as generously as possible. All donations go toward client programs; our families that we help have gone from 70 in 2008 to 106 in 2009.

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

HELP TO END ABORTION

Every Monday through Friday, during Lent, people will gather for prayer from 1pm to 4pm at Planned Parenthood on Church Street in Poughkeepsie. Contact Rich at 297-7930 to sign up for one hour of prayer and to be a part of this nationwide movement to end abortion.

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: mustard, cereal, juice and paper towels. Please leave your items in the church narthex (vestibule). For those in need of assistance, the SVDP hotline number is 227-7863.

Our next meeting will be March 11th at 7pm in the St. Columba Convent Meeting Room. (Enter through the north side door.) Please come and see what we are all about. We are currently handling twice as many client families and need new members.

PARISH INCOME REPORT

Last Week's Collection: \$12,470

Last Year's Collection: \$9,616

PETITION OF THE WEEK

For our archbishop-designate, Timothy Dolan, that he may be filled constantly with God's graces to be the loving shepherd and holy leader of God's people in our archdiocese. Let us pray to the Lord...

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday 9:00am	March 9 Neil and Arthur Maddock by Diane Maddock
Tuesday 9:00am	March 10 For All Parishioners
Wednesday 9:00am	March 11 Lillian Grimes by the Kibrick family
Thursday 9:00am	March 12 Helen Duggan
Friday 9:00am	March 13 Arlene Jacobs by the Vaughn and Feighan Families
Saturday 9:00am	March 14 Barbara Power Mattura by Suzanne Power
Sunday 5:00pm Sat.	March 15 Frank Correale by his cousins George Ouimet by Tom and Carole De Bellis Theresa and Frederick Searles by Lillianne Lowery Joseph and Angie Cippollone by Antonia Tenuta For All Parishioners

Please pray for those who are ill

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

Liturgical Ministers for March 15th 2009

	Lector	Eucharistic Ministers	Altar Servers
5:00pm Sat Msgr. Desmond	Mary Beth Schmidt	Cathy Anderson, Rose Morse Dennis Rosenfeld	John Maddox, Vaughn Feighan Jenna McGowan
9:00am Msgr. Desmond	Anne Whitton	John McCormack, Cathy Varano Patricia Lyons, Robert Young Rosealice D'Avanzo	Courtney Meester Clare and Christopher Whitton
10:30am Fr. Perez	John Reale	Keith McCartney, Betty Perrino Pat Mackey, Virginia Fisher Geraldine Natale	Angelina, Anne Marie and Zack Reale
12:15pm Fr. Perez	Mary Ellen McCue	Rosemary Archer, Anne Diggins Christine Mikulka	Victoria Scalise, Taylor Hickey Jacqueline Rooney
5:30pm Sun Msgr. Desmond		Rosanne Desjardins	Julianne and Timothy Desjardins

