

First Sunday of Lent

March 1, 2009



MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, February 28

5:00 p.m. **Thanksgiving for George Cote**
r/o Charlene Cote

SUNDAY, March 1

8:00 a.m. **Thecla Supple**
r/o Mary & Bill Supple

10:30 a.m. **Michael Beebe**

MONDAY, March 2

8:30 a.m. **Pauline Yonaitis**
r/o Susan Reyolds

TUESDAY March 3

8:30 a.m. **Sirianni Family**
r/o Susie Falvo

WEDNESDAY March 4

8:30 a.m. **Thanksgiving for George & Yolan Cote**
r/o Charlene Cote

THURSDAY March 5

8:30 a.m. **Michael Esposito**
r/o Alice Esposito

FIRST FRIDAY, March 6

6:30 p.m. **Jay Cassero**
r/o Barbara Colacchia

7 p.m. Stations of the Cross**

FIRST SATURDAY, March 7

9 a.m. **Angela Pesce**

5 p.m. **Andrew Peterson**
r/o Nancy & Charles Guerriere

First Friday: Mass at 6:30 p.m. followed by Stations of the Cross

First Saturday: Mass at 9 a.m. followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Dear Parishioners,

In the desert we come to know ourselves, our strengths and weaknesses, and our divine calling. In the desert Jesus encountered beasts and angels. There are wild beasts and angels in everyone of us. Sometimes, owing to our superficial self knowledge, we fail to recognize the wild beasts in us and give in to vainglory, or we fail to recognize the angel in us and give in to self-hatred. But in the silence and recollection of the desert we come to terms with ourselves as we really are, we are reconciled with the beasts and the angels in our lives and then we begin to experience peace again for the first time. Lent is the time for the desert experience. We cannot all afford to buy a camel and head off for the desert. But we can all create a desert space in our overcrowded lives. We can set aside a place and time to be alone daily with God, a time to distance ourselves from the many noises and voices that bombard our lives every day, a time to hear God's word, a time to rediscover who we are before God, a time to say yes to God and no to Satan as Jesus did. Welcome to Lent! Welcome to the desert!

Stations are places where people wait while they are going from one place to another. A school-bus stop is like a station. People wait at train stations or bus stations or airports. Think of some stations where you have been.

Stations are also places where people take time to think about Jesus as he went to die on a cross. They are "Stations of the Cross." They show us how much Jesus loved us. There are presently fourteen stations on the Via Dolorosa, and some offer chapels or places to pray and meditate. Today churches of all traditions have rediscovered their significance and invite people from their community to walk the stations with Jesus. I'd like to extend this invitation to you Dear Parishioners to come every Friday during lent at 7:00 p.m. and celebrate Via Dolorosa.

In Christ

Fr Zenek, SDS

Daylight Savings Time begins March 8 (clocks move forward)



Stations of the Cross
Every Friday of Lent, 7 p.m.



Forgiveness Sunday
Holy Hour and Vespers
Sunday, March 22, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Please join us for prayer and benediction.



Saint Theodore Church Welcomes New Member!

Anthony Troy Gullo was baptized on February 22, 2009. God bless you Anthony.

Saint Katharine Drexel-Feast Day March 3



Saint Katharine Drexel (1858-1955) dedicated her life and her fortune to philanthropy. She founded a Catholic order of sisters, *the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament*, to work for Native Americans and African Americans. Katharine Drexel was born in Philadelphia November 26, 1858, the second daughter of Francis Drexel, a highly prosperous

banker, and Hanna Langstroth, a Quaker. (The area in Philadelphia, Drexel Hill and Drexel University were named after her relatives.) Hannah died five weeks later. Her father married Emma Bouvier in 1860. They were devout Catholics and both gave a great deal of their time and money to philanthropic activities. The girls were educated privately and were encouraged to conduct a Sunday school for children of the employees at their family's summer home. The family traveled extensively in Europe and took a 6,000 mile trip through the American West in the private railroad car lent to her father by James J. Hill, head of the Great Northern Railroad.

Katharine's stepmother, to whom she was very devoted died in 1883 and her father, two years later. She used her great wealth to help the many needs of the Church, especially for missions in the West and South. In 1889 she began a novitiate with the Sisters of Mercy in Pittsburg, with the understanding that in two years she would found her own order, the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, committed to the service of Native and African Americans.

Having taken a vow of poverty, she lived the rest of her life with extreme frugality. At the same time, her income from her father's trust amounted to more than a \$1,000 a day. During her lifetime, she opened, staffed and directly supported nearly 60 schools and missions, especially in the West and Southwest US. She donated her life and fortune (in excess of 20 million dollars) to help Native and African Americans. She founded Xavier University of Louisiana, the only predominantly Afro-American Catholic institution of higher learning in the US. Religious education, social service, visiting in homes, in hospitals and in prisons were also included in the ministries of Katharine and the Sisters. Regarding a cure attributed to Katharine, The medical board in Rome stated: "There is no natural cause for the cure attributed to Blessed Katharine Drexel." She was canonized on October 1, 2000, in Rome by Pope John Paul, II.

Lawn Maintenance for St. Theodore


An area of great concern for me is the high cost of lawn maintenance of our property. Last year \$10,600 was expended for this purpose. I think you will agree that eliminating this service will be very cost-effective. My plan for reducing spending in this area is to purchase a riding mower and cut the grass myself, along with volunteers. If you would care to donate towards the purchase of a mower, I would be most grateful. **To date we have received donations from William & Jeannine Gleba, Nadie & Paul Hill, Philip Kinney and Jeanne Szamreta, Carol and Vincent Perna, Mary Rupell, Ronald Semonche.**

Thank you, Fr. Zenek

Job Opportunity with US Census Bureau

Temporary, part-time job opening for the 2010 Census—\$13-\$20 per hour, flexible hours—open to NJ residents, 18 yrs old or older—must have a valid Social Security #; pass a multiple choice test. US Citizens will be given preference. Questions: call Michael Daronco, Recruiting Assistance 908-684-7935; to schedule a test call: 866-861-2010.

Prayers for the Sick

 Margaret Glackin, Leslie Kuhn, Erin Stanton, Jasmine Lee, John Grigalunas, Mrs. Fred Logan, Mrs. Skawinska, Debbie Carmeci, Anna Saksa, Stephen Michael

Our Weekly Offering

February 21 & 22, 2009	\$3,206.00
Last Year	\$4,911.41

Religious Education Corner

- ✓ **First Penance Rehearsal**—Second Graders report to the church on March 2 at 6:15 p.m.
- ✓ **Second Graders with Parents** report to the church for First Penance on March 3 at 7 p.m.

****NOTICE TO REL. ED. STUDENTS & PARENTS****

Mar. 20: 2nd & 3rd Graders are to attend Stations of the Cross

Mar. 27: 4th to 8th Graders are to attend Stations of the Cross

Apr. 3: ALL STUDENTS are to attend Stations of the Cross

****Parents are to attend the Stations of the Cross with their children****



Religious Education Student: Print name on the line, cut section and give to your Religious Education teacher on 3/2/09.
For February 28/March 1, 2009

MINISTRIES

ALTAR SERVERS

March 7 Carlee Moran, Auston Viotto

March 8 Robert & Juliette Capaldo 8; Angelica Jackson, Melissa Cairo, Melody Haag 10:30

March 14 Sean Flaherty, Christopher Pollack

March 15 Mackenzie & Robert Mason 8; Gianna Orrechio, Walter & William Gonsiewski 10:30

LECTORS

March 7 Fran Licciardiello

March 8 Joan Capaldo 8; Elmer Kollar 10:30

March 14 Mary Rupell

March 15 Theresa Lucas 8; Helen Picht 10:30

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

March 7 J. Mattison E; Eileen Mattison C; R. Vonderheide C

March 8 Diane Kegan E; Rose Strohmaier C; Emily Cirone C 8
Joy Haag E; Tina Jackson C; Patricia Kollar C 10:30

March 14 Denise Flaherty E; Tim Flaherty C; Charles Shipley C

March 15 Monica Merkel C; Nadie Hill C; Bill Supple E 8; Phil Koskoff C; Mary Koskoff C; Jane Labato E 10:30