



Dear Brothers and Sisters of Our Lady of Lourdes,

**ST. JOSEPH FEAST + TABLE REMINDER:**

*Our St. Joseph Novena concludes with Mass at 7:00 pm on Thursday March 19. If you would like to bake or bring some food, treats, or desserts please call the rectory 973.325.0110. Most importantly, however, we want you to join us for the Feast Day Mass & Table.*

**DIVINE MERCY AND THE WOMAN AT THE WELL**

**June 15, 2016, by Bishop Robert Barron Published in Commentary**

*This is an excerpt of an article by Bishop Robert Barron about this Sunday's Gospel and its manifestation of the Good News of God's Divine Mercy.*

God's mercy is **relentless**. Customarily, pious Jews of the first century would have assiduously avoided Samaria, a nation, in their minds, of apostates and half-breeds. Yet Jesus, journeying from Judea in the south to Galilee in the north, moves right through Samaria.

Moreover, [Jesus] speaks to a woman in public (something that men simply didn't do) and he consorts with someone known to be a sinner. In all of this, Jesus embodies the love of God, which crosses barriers, mocks taboos and overcomes all of the boundaries that we set for it. Thomas Merton spoke of the Promethean problem in religion, by which he meant the stubborn assumption that God is a distant rival, jealous and protective of his prerogatives. In point of fact, the true God is filled with hesed (tender mercy) and delights in lifting up human beings: "The glory of God is a human being fully alive," to quote St. Irenaeus.

[God's mercy is] **divinizing**. At times, we have the impression that God's mercy serves a reparative or healing purpose alone, that it solely binds up the wounds of our sin and suffering. That God's love heals is obviously true, but this tells but part of the story.

Jesus asks the woman at the well for a drink, thereby inviting her to generosity. When she balks, citing the customary taboos, Jesus says, "If you knew who was asking you for a drink, you would have asked him, and he would give you living water." This is a pithy expression of the central principle of spiritual physics, what St. John Paul II called "the law of the gift." As St. Augustine knew, we are all wired for God, hungry for absolute reality. But God, as St. John knew, is love.

Therefore, to be filled with God is to be filled with love, which is to say, self-emptying.

The moment we receive something of the divine grace, we should make of it a gift, and then we will receive more of the divine grace. In a word, our being will increase in the measure that we give it away. This is the "water welling up to eternal life" that Jesus speaks of. God wants not merely to bind up our wounds; he wants to marry us, to make us "partakers of the divine nature."

[God's mercy is] **demanding**. We tend to understand the proclamation of the divine mercy according to a zero-sum logic, whereby the more we say about mercy, the less we should say about moral demand, and vice versa. But this is repugnant to the peculiar "**both/and**" logic of the Christian gospel. As Chesterton saw so clearly, the church loves red and white and has always had "a healthy hatred of pink."

It likes both colors strongly expressed side by side, and it has an abhorrence of compromises and halfway measures. Thus, you can't overstate the power of the divine mercy, and you can't overstate the demand that it makes upon us. Jesus tells the woman that she comes daily to the well and gets thirsty again, but that he wants to give her the water that will permanently quench her thirst.

[God's mercy is] a **summons to mission**. As soon as she realizes who Jesus is and what he means, the woman puts down the water jar and goes into town to proclaim the Lord. The jar symbolizes the rhythm of concupiscent desire, her daily return to worldly goods in a vain attempt to assuage her spiritual hunger. How wonderful that, having met the source of living water, she is able to set aside her addictions and to become, herself, a vehicle of healing for others.

The very best definition of evangelization that I've heard is this: one starving person telling another starving person where to find bread. We will be ineffective in our evangelizing work if we simply talk, however correctly, about Jesus in the abstract. Our words of proclamation will catch fire precisely in the measure that we have been liberated and transformed by Christ. (Author: Bishop Robert Barron)

In Christ's Peace,  
Father Jim Ferry



**OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH – MARCH 15, 2020**



<b>SATURDAY 14 MARCH</b> 8:30 am Vito Napolitano 5:30 pm Susan Konstead
<b>SUNDAY 15 MARCH</b> 7:30 am People of the Parish 9:30 am Deceased Members of the Pflug and Napolitano Families
<b>MONDAY 16 MARCH</b> 8:30 am Colleen Blasi
<b>TUESDAY 17 MARCH</b> 8:30 am Deceased Member of the Cassels Family
<b>WEDNESDAY 18 MARCH</b> 8:30 pm Susan Quigley Aker
<b>THURSDAY 19 MARCH</b> 8:30 am Vincenza & Luigi Russo
<b>FRIDAY 20 MARCH</b> 8:30 am Peggy & Hughie Mc Donald
<b>SATURDAY 21 MARCH</b> 8:30 am Edward Proctor 5:30 pm Nancy Lynch
<b>SUNDAY 22 MARCH</b> 7:30 am People of the Parish 9:30 am Louise Chiamonte 11:30 am Susan Quigley Aker



<b>SUNDAY 15 MARCH</b> 9:30 am St. Joseph Novena 10:30 am Children's Choir Rehearsal  <b>NO 11:30 AM MASS TODAY DUE TO ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE</b>	<b>3rd SUNDAY OF LENT</b>
<b>MONDAY 16 MARCH</b> 7:00 pm St. Joseph Novena	
<b>TUESDAY 17 MARCH</b> 7:00 pm St. Joseph Novena	
<b>WEDNESDAY 18 MARCH</b> 7:00 pm St. Joseph Novena	
<b>THURSDAY 19 MARCH</b> 10:00 am Deadline for News & Announcements for Mar 29th bulletin email: lourdesbulletin@aol.com.  6:00 pm Choir Practice 7:00 pm St. Joseph Novena & St. Joseph Table— CH   <i>May St. Joseph obtain for the Church and for the world, as well as for each of us, the blessing of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.</i> <span style="float: right;">Saint John Paul II</span>	
<b>FRIDAY 20 MARCH</b> 6:30 pm Stations of the Cross	
<b>SUNDAY 22 MARCH</b> 10:30 am Teaching Mass 10:30 am Children's Choir Rehearsal	<b>4th SUNDAY OF LENT</b>

**PLEASE NOTE**

**WEEKDAY 8:30 am MASS for LENT WILL BE HELD IN THE MAIN CHURCH**

In addition,

**The Tuesday Morning Retreat with Sister Sandy DeMasi starting March 3 and then alternating Tuesdays will take place in the main church.**



**PRAYERS Needed For...**

Daphne Brown	Dolores Otero
Cheryl Fontana	Mark Quarno
Catherine Gascoyne	Gregory Roxborough
Nicholas Larusso	Mary Lou Ruppel
Mary McGuines	Pat Schoeler
Matthew McHugh	Katerina Zachos

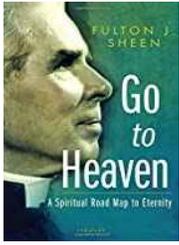
**PRAYER Requests**

*If you wish to have a friend or loved one prayed for, please call the rectory at 973.325.0110.*

 <b>WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE</b>			
<b>MAR 21 – MAR 22, 2020</b>			
Mass	Lector	Eucharistic Ministers	Altar Servers
5:30 pm	Pat Sigalas	Frank Refinski Eileen Reilly	David Broking Jordan Broking
7:30 am	Joy Hayward	Bless Bernardo Howard Casey	Tim Brennan
9:30 am	Andrew Novoa	Carmelita Dizon Joseph Petrillo	Briana Sampson Volunteer
11:30 am Adult Choir	Katrina Greene	(C) Espie Cain Nancy Lanfrank Wendy Sheyka	Ramone Eugene Amir Stewart
11:30 am	Children's Liturgy:	Annamarie Frey	<i>Called to Serve</i>

**CHRISTIAN BOOK DISCUSSION –  
Our Next Book: “GO TO HEAVEN”**

By: BISHOP FULTON J. SHEEN



Join the Book Discussion Group on  
**Wednesday, MARCH 25th**  
**7:00 pm - Knights of Columbus**  
**Room, Connor Hall**

**FOOD FOR THE NEEDY**



March 28-29 is our monthly food collection  
for St. John’s Church, Newark. Please bring  
non-perishable food and place it in the bins  
in the Church lobbies. Thank you.



**WOMEN’S SPIRITUALITY RETREAT**

APRIL 3—5

Marianist Family Retreat Center—  
[www.capemaymarianists.org](http://www.capemaymarianists.org)  
Cape May Point, NJ 08212  
609-884-3829

Join with other women in an exploration of your own story and stories of women in faith. Come alone, or with a relative or friend. A team of women has prepared this weekend of rest and renewal. Eucharist, other prayer experiences, beach walks, socials and fun are included.



**OUR LADY OF THE LAKE**

**SCHOOL BOOK FAIR**

YOU’RE INVITED TO A GRAND EVENT

Please come to our GRAND Event on  
Sunday, March 22, 2020 from 9:00 am—1:30 pm in the school  
auditorium, 26 Lakeside Ave. in Verona.

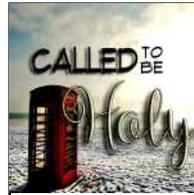
\*FREE coffee and donuts—\*Games and prizes—\*Chances to  
enter raffles for books and posters— \*Story time with Clifford  
after each of the Masses.

Not able to make it? Books can be purchased on our  
homepage: <https://www.scholastic.com/bf/oll>.

**How to Report Abuse**



The Archdiocese takes very seriously any and all  
allegations of sexual misconduct by members of the  
clergy, Religious and lay staff of the Archdiocese.  
We encourage anyone with knowledge of an act of sexual  
misconduct to inform us immediately so that we may  
take appropriate action to protect others and provide  
support to victims of sexual abuse. Individuals  
who wish to report an allegation of sexual misconduct  
may do so by calling the Archdiocesan Office of Child  
and Youth Protection at 973.497.4012.



“God has called us with a holy calling...  
according to His own purpose and grace.”

If you think God is offering you the grace of a  
vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life, please continue to  
pray and do not hesitate to speak to Father Jim Ferry.

You may also wish to contact the Archdiocese for more information  
about either priesthood (973.313.6190, [NEWARKPRIEST.COM](http://NEWARKPRIEST.COM))  
or religious life (973.497.4368).



**Tricky Tray**

**April 17, 2020**

**6:00 p.m.**

**Cost: \$25.00**

**School Cafeteria**

**Registration -**

**Ann - 973-325-2212 or  
Annette - 973-325-3545**



SPREADING GOD’S WORD

**Improving Language Skills to Better Spread God’s Word!**

**Do you have a strong background in Spanish or are you  
Spanish/English bilingual?**

Volunteers, preferably having past experience in teaching or training,  
are needed to teach Spanish to local seminarians at Immaculate  
Conception Seminary located on the campus of Seton Hall University.

If you are interested and have one hour a week to volunteer, please  
contact Chandler S. Cohen as soon as possible at Immaculate  
Conception Seminary School of Theology for further details and/or  
application procedures for the upcoming spring semester!  
[chandler.cohen@shu.edu](mailto:chandler.cohen@shu.edu) OR 973.761.9226.

**PARISH GIVING**

**FISCAL YEAR STARTING JULY 2019**

WEEKLY GOAL	\$ 6800
Collection*: Feb 29-Mar 1	\$ 4733
Deficit:	\$ 2067

\* Includes Online Giving Weekly Average Deposit



**For Your Stewardship of Time, Talent and Treasure**

***Our Lady of Lourdes Parish***  
***1 Eagle Rock Avenue, West Orange***

***973-325-0110***

***[www.lourdeswestorange.org](http://www.lourdeswestorange.org)***

***2020 Saint Joseph's Novena***  
***Wednesday, March 11 - Thursday, March 19***

**Scheduled Guest Speakers**

<p>Wednesday, March 11 7:00 pm Rev. Msgr. Edward G. Bradley Archdiocese of Newark Minister to Retired Priests</p>	<p>Thursday, March 12 7:00 pm Rev. Frederick Miller, S.T.D. Immaculate Conception Seminary Seton Hall University</p>
<p>Friday, March 13 7:00 pm Rev. Christopher M. Ciccarino, S.S.L., S.T.D. Immaculate Conception Seminary Seton Hall University</p>	<p>Saturday, March 14 5:30 pm Mass Rev. Robert Suszko, M.B.A, M.Div. Immaculate Conception Seminary Seton Hall University</p>
<p>Sunday, March 15 9:30 am Mass Rev. James Ferry Our Lady of Lourdes West Orange</p>	<p>Monday, March 16 7:00 pm Rev. Msgr. Robert Harahan, S.T.D. St. Rose of Lima Short Hills</p>
<p>Tuesday, March 17 7:00 pm Rev. Juan José Esteban St. Aloysius Caldwell</p>	<p>Wednesday, March 18 7:00 pm Rev. Thomas Blind St. Aloysius Caldwell</p>
<p>Thursday, March 19 7:00 pm Rev. James Ferry Pastor, Our Lady of Lourdes St. Joseph Table and Blessing after 7:00 pm Novena All are welcome!</p>	

We invite you to join us for an evening of Lenten devotion of Prayer, Eucharistic Adoration and Reflection. Join us any evening – or every evening – as we celebrate our salvation in Christ and prepare for Holy Week and Easter.