

---

# FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

---

FEBRUARY 18, 2024



## THIS WEEKEND'S READINGS

**First:** Genesis 9:8-15

**Second:** 1 Peter 3:18-22

**Gospel:** Mark 1:12-15

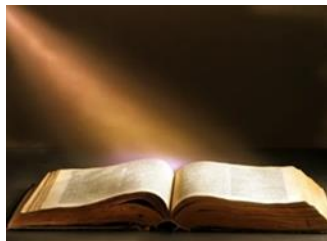
**FOCUS:** *Repent and believe in the Gospel.*

To repent means to feel regret and sorrow and to change, or "turn from," what is evil. Gospel is a word meaning "good news." To "repent and believe in the Gospel" is the twofold call for the Christian, which is brought into profound focus during the Lenten season. This time of prayer and preparation for Easter shows there is indeed cause for regret and sorrow – and a need for change. And yet, what we are turning toward as we turn from sin is always cause for joy and hope.

### LITURGY OF THE WORD:

In the first reading, God makes a covenant with Noah. In the second reading, Peter reflects on how the waters of the flood prefigured baptism. In the Gospel, Jesus is driven into the desert for 40 days before beginning to preach:

*"The kingdom of God is hand. Repent, and believe in the Gospel."*



## MASS INTENTIONS

**5 p.m.:** The Visco Family, Carmela Scorca and Christopher Martini

**10 a.m.:** Frances Hernandez, Lourdes Soler, Rocco Cicero, Jr. and Paul Vallone

## LAST WEEK'S MASS ATTENDANCE

Saturday – 71

Sunday – 171

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY, DEACON JOHN!

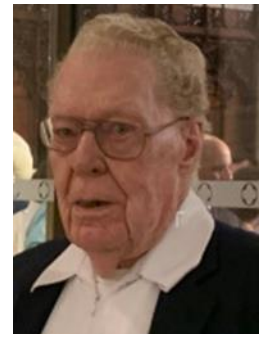
This Friday, February 23,  
**Deacon John turns 99!**

The cycle of good days and not-so-good days continues as he remains at Campbell Hall Rehabilitation Center; however, first and foremost, he is safe!

He and his family are most grateful for all the ways in which you remember him – including prayers.

On those good days, he thoroughly enjoys having cards and notes from St. Paul's parishioners read to him. His sister, Ann Bollmann, says it brings a smile to his face and a moment or two of verbalization of a fond memory shared with that person or family.

Birthday cards can be sent to Campbell Hall Rehabilitation Center, 23 Kiernan Road, Campbell Hall 10916.



## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT: STEWARDSHIP

*"After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God...." - Mark 1:14*

Have you ever thought about how difficult it must have been for Jesus to go to Galilee, knowing that John had just been arrested for teaching the same message that he was proclaiming? It took great love and trust for Jesus to do what the Father had sent him here on earth to do.

In the same way, living a stewardship lifestyle takes great love and trust from us. We must be willing to surrender completely to God, trusting that he will always give us all that we need to fulfill his plan for us.

## CARDINAL'S 2024 APPEAL

There are so many reasons why the Appeal is important. Your support helps countless people and sustains ministries throughout our parishes.

Our parish goal is **\$50,600**, of which **\$11,070** has already been received/pledged as of February 13 from **25 families**. Please prayerfully consider your gift, which you can also make an online at

[www.cardinalsappeal.org](http://www.cardinalsappeal.org).

Thank you for your generosity.



the  
**CARDINAL'S**  
ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL

*Sharing God's Gifts Throughout  
the Archdiocese of New York*

---

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Regular Sunday Collection

February 4-11: \$ 8,703.91

Envelopes: \$ 2,784.00 – Online: \$ 5,919.91

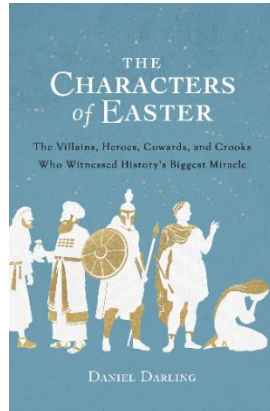
**THANK YOU!**

## **BOOK CLUB'S LENTEN OFFERING**

In "**The Characters of Easter**" by Daniel Darling, the Book Club's selection for Lent, readers have the chance to become acquainted with the unlikely collection of ordinary people who witnessed the miracle of Christ's death and resurrection.

How is it that history's most glorious moment is surrounded by fearful fishermen, despised tax collectors, marginalized women, feeble politicians and traitorous friends? Journey back to first-century Palestine to find out. Walk in the shoes of legendary people such as Simon Peter, Judas, Pilate, John, Mary Magdalene and others – and draw closer to Christ in the process.

The Book Club meets at **10 a.m. Thursdays** via Zoom and will discuss the first two chapters on **February 22**. The book is available through Amazon and other booksellers. Contact Deacon Carl at [carlloc@yahoo.com](mailto:carlloc@yahoo.com) or the office for the Zoom link.



## **MEN'S FAITH SHARING FOR LENT**

The **Men's Faith-Sharing Group** is an ongoing Zoom meeting that begins at **6:45 Monday evenings**. Newcomers are welcome at any time – and this could be something to consider for Lent as the readings of the season will be discussed.

Contact Deacon Carl at [carlloc@yahoo.com](mailto:carlloc@yahoo.com) or the office for info.

---

*“Live with passion and compassion,  
proceed with optimism,  
value disciplined thinking,  
be open to intimacy  
and love the mystery.”*

*— Saint Peter*

---

## **A LITTLE LENTEN HUMOR**

It is February 23, the second Friday of Lent, and a man stumbles through pouring rain until he comes upon a monastery where he requests shelter. He's just in time for dinner and was treated to the best fish and chips he's ever had.

After dinner, he goes into the kitchen. He's met by the chefs, Brother Michael and Brother Francis.

"I'm very pleased to meet you. I want to thank you for a wonderful dinner. The fish and chips were the best I've ever had. Out of curiosity, who cooked what?"

Brother Michael replies, "Well, I'm the fish friar."

The man turns to the other brother and says, "Then you must be ..."

"Yes, I'm afraid I'm the chip monk."

## **WOMEN'S DAY OF REFLECTION**

The mission of the Society of St. Lydia is to honor and empower Catholic women, and to use their unique gifts as women to continue to build the Church. Its members look to St. Lydia as a guide to true femininity.

Lydia Purpuraria was born in the 1<sup>st</sup> century in Thyatira, a town famous for its dye works. She became a merchant of coveted purple textiles, dealing with the elite, wealthy and powerful. She was also a woman of faith – even before she became the Apostle Paul's first convert in Philippi, a business destination for her. She subsequently had her entire household baptized and was inspired to minister to the Apostles and first Christians through hospitality and support.

The Society of St. Lydia will be hosting a **women's only Day of Reflection** from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. on **Saturday, March 9**, at **Our Lady of the Assumption Church** in Bloomingburg. The day begins with Mass followed by reflections, fellowship, Eucharistic Adoration, confession and a guest speaker. Coffee, tea and light snacks will be provided. Bring your own lunch.

All women of faith are welcome; advance registration is not required.

For more information, call or text event coordinators Lisa Dyer at 845-798-7749 or Denise Turner at 845-800-9589.

## **ALSO AT OLA**

The Xavier Company is returning to perform "**Whom Shall I Send?**" at **4 p.m. Sunday, March 3**. This new musical explores the doubts, fears and joys of Peter, Paul, John, Mary Magdalene and Lydia as they respond to the call of the Risen Christ. A freewill offering is requested for the troupe.

A light supper will follow for those who call in a reservation to OLA's office at 845-733-1477.

## **LENTEN SCHEDULE**

**Stations of the Cross with Adoration**

7 p.m. Friday, February 23

**Stations of the Cross with Adoration**

7 p.m. Friday, March 15

**Stations of the Cross with Adoration**

7 p.m. Friday, March 22

**Reconciliation Monday - March 25**

Confessions 2-4 and 6-8 p.m.

at Our Lady of Mount Carmel only

**Holy Thursday**

Mass at 7 p.m., followed by Adoration

**Good Friday Service**

3 p.m.

(This does not include Stations of the Cross)

**Blessing of Easter Food**

Noon on Holy Saturday, March 30

**Easter Vigil**

8 p.m. Mass, Saturday, March 30

**Easter Sunday**

10 a.m. Mass, March 31

