



✠ MASS INTENTIONS ✠			
Sat.	3/24	4:00 PM	Deceased Members of the Batcha & Ceriani Families by JoAnne and Barbara
Sun.	3/25	7:30 AM	Helen and John Kasarda by Bernadine and Robert Kisatsky
		10:30 AM	For the People
Mon.	3/26	7:00 PM	Andrew Bereznak by His Wife Carol and His Sons
Tue.	3/27	7:00 AM	Margie Serock by Her Sisters Anna and Helen and Their Families
Wed.	3/28	7:00 AM	NO MASS
Thur.	3/29	7:00 PM	Holy Thursday
Fri.	3/20	1:00 PM	Good Friday
Sat.	3/31	8:00 PM	Easter Vigil For the People
Sun.	4/1	7:30 AM	Easter Sunday Kenneth Kopczynskie by His Mother, Sisters, and Brothers
		10:30 AM	Easter Sunday Walter O. Allen by His Wife Ellen



Last Weekend:

Sunday \$3,707.00; Dues \$571.00; Care and Education of Priests \$25.00;
 Rice Bowl \$807.00; Easter Flowers \$775.00; Feast of the Ascension \$3.21;
 Catholic Home Mission \$3.00; Catholic Communications \$3.22; Catholic Relief
 \$43.00; Poor Box \$206.34

GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION will be for the Holy Land

CANDLES ON THE ALTAR are in Memory of the Deceased Members of the Batcha and Ceriani Families by JoAnne and Barbara



THE PASCHAL CANDLE AND SIDE ALTAR CANDLES have been donated in Memory of Stephen G. Korol and the Deceased Members of the Batcha and Ceriani Families by JoAnn and Barbara and in Memory of Robert, Jean, and John Iorio and Arthur and Dorothy Croshaw by Janet and Stephen Croshaw

FORGET-ME-NOT GIFT BAGS are due on the altar or in the Parish Office no later than **Sunday, April 15th.**



FAITH FORMATION NEWS: Classes will resume on Sunday, April 8th. Please have your children bring their Mass Attendance Cards with them on April 8th.

Sunday, April 15th, the 10:30 AM mass will be the First Grade/Kindergarten Mass

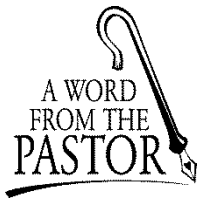


There will be a **YOUTH TEEN MEETING** this Sunday from 12:00 to 1:30 PM in St. Patrick's.



LIVING STATIONS will be performed this Sunday, March 25th, at 7:00 PM at St. Patrick's and on Good Friday, March 30th, at 7:00 PM at Immaculate Conception.





Palm Sunday! It has begun. The end of the Lenten season is near and the joy of the Resurrection is just about upon us. But wait! Don't look too far into Easter Sunday just yet! As important as Easter is to our salvation, this week is paramount, too. Where will you be Holy Thursday and Good Friday? Will you skip the Easter Vigil on Saturday night

because "it's too long?" I encourage you to take part in these special events of Holy Week. There is no Sunday Mass without Holy Thursday. There is no Resurrection without Good Friday. There is no Easter without you!



A VIEW FROM THE PEW, SYMBOLS OF LENT AND PRETZELS.

I read an interesting article about Lenten symbols from the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis called Rediscover. The article listed the obvious, but here are a few I found interesting.

FISH, this symbol is an obvious one which we are familiar with; the Lenten symbol of fasting on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday and no meat on Fridays. The symbol of a fish was also used as a means of identification during the Roman persecution. The fish was also used in pagan religions, so it did not cause suspicion among the Roman authorities. One would draw half of the fish when people would meet and if the other person completed the fish they knew they were Christians. **MONEY BAGS** symbolize the Lenten penitential practice of almsgiving. "Prayer and fasting are good, but better than either is almsgiving accompanied by righteousness. It is better to give alms than to store up gold, for almsgiving saves one from death and expiates every sin. Those who give alms shall enjoy a full life." (Tob 12:8,9) **PRETZELS** had their origin in early Christian Lenten practice. Fat, eggs and milk were forbidden during Lent so a special dough was made with just flour, salt, and water. The little breads were shaped in the form of arms crossed in prayer and were called "bracellae" (Latin, 'little arms'). Among the Germans the Latin word became 'bretzel'. This was a common Lenten food in the Middle Ages in Europe and didn't become a year-round snack, the pretzel, until the 19th Century. Stones, bread, fish and pretzels are just a few things to contemplate on our journey through Lent as we soften our hearts!



FREELAND COMMUNITY CHOIR EASTER CANTATA - The Freeland Community Choir will be presenting the Easter Cantata, "Hallelujah, What a Savior" on April 15th at 3:00 PM at St. John's Reformed United Church of Christ, 829 Washington St. Freeland, and 7:00 PM at Conyngham United Methodist Church, 401 Main St. Conyngham. Encore performance

will be April 22nd at 3:00 PM at the Faith United Church of Christ, 21 Faith Drive, Hazleton. All performances are free. Refreshments will be served after the concerts.

REMINDER: GOOD FRIDAY IS A DAY OF FASTING AND ABSTINENCE.

Everyone ages 18-59 should fast by eating only one full meal, and everyone ages 14 and older should abstain from eating meat.



LOTTERY SPONSOR is needed for May. Cost is \$100.00. Contact Mary Lloyd at 570-578-6720 if you are able to help.

PARISH HAPPENINGS!



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Holy Thursday - Mass at 7:00 PM followed by a two-hour (8:00 - 10:00 PM) opportunity to keep the Lord company before His passion.

Good Friday - Passion of the Lord at 1:00 PM

Living Stations will be performed Good Friday at 7:00 PM

Easter Vigil - Holy Saturday Mass at 8:00 PM

All Extraordinary Ministers and Lectors are encouraged to attend the Holy Thursday and Good Friday services.

YOUR LAST OPPORTUNITY TO RECEIVE THE SACRAMENT OF

RECONCILIATION will be: Immaculate Conception: Monday evening at 6:00 PM and Tuesday morning at 6:00 AM; St. Patrick: Monday morning at 7:00 AM and Wednesday evening at 5:00 PM



PARISH BUS TRIP to see the play "Steel Magnolias" at the Hunterdon Hills Playhouse, Hampton, NJ on Thursday, April 19th. Cost is \$76 and includes lunch. Lunch includes a choice of Yankee Pot Roast, Fried Jumbo Shrimp Platter, Lemon Pepper Cod, Stuffed Chicken Breast, Roast Turkey with Stuffing, Eggplant Rollatini, or Roasted Vegetable Kabob. Call Mary Lloyd 570-578-6720 for reservations. Money is due with reservation.



PARISH CRUISE: Come Aboard! We will be having a parish cruise to the Bahamas and Florida from January 26th to February 3, 2019. The cost varies depending on the type of room you choose. The cost will include transportation from the parish to and from Bayonne, NJ and a \$50.00 ship credit.



We will have an informational meeting on Wednesday, April 4th, in the Immaculate Conception parish center at 6:00 PM. If you can't make the meeting, contact the office at 570-636-3035, and we will send you information. Looking forward to a nice winter get-away.

REFRESH YOUR FAITH - The First Annual Catholic Women's Conference of the Diocese of Scranton will take place on Saturday, June 23rd, from 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM at the Byron Complex at the University of Scranton. For more information or to register for the conference, go to www.diocesofscranton.org/catholic-womens-conference