

## Lenten Penance Service/Sacrament of Reconciliation

Monday, April 3 at 7:30 pm

In his 2017 Lenten Message, Pope Francis wrote: *“Jesus is the faithful friend who never abandons us. Even when we sin, he patiently awaits our return; by that patient expectation, he shows us his readiness to forgive.”* Our Lord’s embrace awaits us in the confessional; here’s how to confess your sins:

**CONTRITION.** Use the various ways below to examine your conscience, to unearth the sins and failings for which you are sorry, regretful and repentant.

**CONFESSION.** Say *“Bless me, Father, for I have sinned”* or *“Please help me,”* give your state in life [*‘m married, single, ordained, a parent, etc.]* and approximate last confession date; then list all mortal sins by number and kind and a general admission of lesser, venial sins. The Act of Contrition, prayed together during the Service, is not repeated.

**ABSOLUTION.** Listen as the Priest prays; make the Sign of the Cross on yourself as he imparts it on you at the end of the beautiful Prayer of Absolution.

**PENANCE.** Perform the prescribed penance offered to give evidence to your repentance.

## THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

1. I am the LORD your God. You shall worship the Lord your God and Him only shall you serve.
2. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.
3. Remember to keep holy the Sabbath day.
4. Honor your father and your mother.
5. You shall not kill.
6. You shall not commit adultery.
7. You shall not steal.
8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
9. You shall not covet your neighbor's spouse.
10. You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.

## THE CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY

Have I FED the HUNGRY?  
Have I GIVEN DRINK to the THIRSTY?  
Have I CLOTHED the NAKED?  
Have I SHELTERED the HOMELESS?  
Have I VISITED the SICK or INFIRM?  
Have I VISITED the IMPRISONED?  
Have I BURIED and PRAYED FOR the DEAD  
and REVERENCED their final resting place?

## THE SPIRITUAL WORKS OF MERCY

Have I INSTRUCTED the IGNORANT?  
Have I COUNSELED the DOUBTFUL?  
Have I ADMONISHED the SINNER?  
Have I BORNE wrongs PATIENTLY?  
Have I FORGIVEN offenses WILLINGLY?  
Have I COMFORTED the SORROWFUL?  
Have I PRAYED for the LIVING and the DEAD?

## THE GOSPEL VALUES: THE TEACHING OF JESUS

Do I RESPECT EVERYONE’S LIFE and DIGNITY?  
Do I always TRUST in GOD?  
Do I act with HONESTY and COMPASSION?  
Am I FORGIVING and MERCIFUL?  
Do I foster COMMUNITY?  
Do I EXEMPLIFY SERVANT LEADERSHIP?  
Do I strive to establish a JUST EQUALITY?  
Do I live SIMPLY and with MODERATION?  
Do I seek and work for God’s JUSTICE and PEACE?

## A LITANY OF FORGIVENESS & EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

*For those who have betrayed me ... for those who have let me down ... for those who have been indifferent to me ... for those who have crippled my life ... for those who have doubted me ... for those who have accused me ... for those who have preferred others to me ... for family members who have hurt me ... for those who have denied me ... for those who have walked away from me ... Dear Lord, help me to FORGIVE THEM as YOU FORGIVE ME!*

*For my own self-pity ... for my being lukewarm ... for my times of despair and distrust ... for my refusals to be loved and appreciated ... for my disbelief in your love ... for my searching everywhere but in your heart ... for apologies frozen on my lips. Dear Lord, FORGIVE ME and help others to FORGIVE ME!*

*For words of love unspoken ... for greetings and embraces not given or returned ... for compliments never offered ... for hearts closed in self-centeredness ... for unforgiving postures ... for not believing in your forgiveness ... for not accepting and using your many gifts and graces. Dear Lord, FORGIVE US, for we KNOW NOT WHAT WE DO!*

***If you still can’t come up with any sins, ask your family or friends what sins you have committed!***

**" I WISH WE HAD SPENT  
MORE TIME TOGETHER!"**

In ministering to the dying and their loved ones, I have often heard many regrets expressed, mainly for not making the time to spend more time to be with each other. In this week of weeks, Holy Mother Church urges her children to MAKE time to be with one another - and with Jesus - for the special celebrations of the crux of our Catholic Faith. Through the Rites of the Sacred Paschal Triduum we can receive the grace and guidance, hope and help, support and sacramental strength we need to face life's many challenges. So come to one; come to all! PLEASE make Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter, these once-a-year great holy Three Days, your top priority this Holy Week!

*Very Rev. Michael J. Kreder, VF, KHS, Pastor*

***Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion  
April 9 - regular Mass schedule:***

***Saturday: 5:00 pm***

***Sunday: 7:30 am - 9:00 am  
10:30 am - 12:00 noon***

***All children are invited to our special Children's  
Liturgy of the Word at ALL Masses this weekend.***

***Monday of Holy Week - April 10***

regular daily Mass at 7:00 am

*Chrism Mass - 8:00 pm at The Basilica Cathedral  
of the Sacred Heart, Newark - all are invited.*

***Tuesday of Holy Week - April 11***

Mass at 8:30 am

Midday Prayer with Holy Communion at 12:00 noon

Tenebrae - 7:30 pm

***Wednesday of Holy Week - April 12***

Mass at 7:00 am

Midday Prayer with Holy Communion at 12:00 noon

***Holy Thursday Services***

**Morning Prayer/Breakfast 8:30 am**

**Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:30 pm**

**Night Prayer 11:00 pm**

***Good Friday Services***

**Morning Prayer 8:30 am**

**Children's Stations  
of the Cross 12:00 noon**

**The Passion of the Lord 3:00 pm**

**Stations of the Cross 7:30 pm**

***Holy Saturday Services***

**Morning Prayer  
with RCIA Rites 8:30 am**

**Midday Prayer with  
Easter Food Blessing 12:00 noon**

**Easter Vigil Mass 7:30 pm**

***Easter Sunday - April 16  
Easter Masses***

**Saturday Easter Vigil: 7:30 pm**

**Easter Sunday:**

**7:30 am - 9:00 am**

**10:30 am - 12:00 pm**

***[Note the different Easter Mass schedule!]***

***For more information about these or any other  
Parish events contact us via:***

**Parish Office Phone: 201 - 438 - 2200**

**Parish website: [stmaryrutherford.org](http://stmaryrutherford.org)**

**Parish email: [rcan\\_smr@aol.com](mailto:rcan_smr@aol.com)**

**Deanery 7 of the Archdiocese of Newark  
Joyfully Welcomed**

***His Eminence  
Joseph W. Cardinal Tobin, C.Ss.R.  
Archbishop of Newark***

**to the Church of Saint Mary, on Friday of  
the 3<sup>rd</sup> Week of Lent + March 24, 2017**

What a joy and honor to welcome our new Archbishop and serve as host Parish for his visit to our Deanery. As I explained in the worship guide for that Mass, a Deanery is like a civic county; as the State of New Jersey is divided into cities, towns, townships or something similar, united into 21 counties, the Archdiocese of Newark's 215 Parishes are grouped into 26 Deaneries. Our Deanery, Deanery 7, is comprised of 10 Parishes: *Saint Joseph, East Rutherford; Corpus Christi, Hasbrouck Heights; Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Sacred Heart and Saint Michael the Archangel, Lyndhurst; Queen of Peace, North Arlington; Saint Mary, Rutherford; Immaculate Conception, Secaucus; Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Wallington; and Assumption of the Blessed Lady, Wood-Ridge.*

And as I explained in the bulletin last year, last Fall, now-Archbishop Emeritus Myers appointed me as Dean for a 5-year term. A Dean who is not a Monsignor is given the honorary title, 'Very Reverend.' Canon [Church] Law, which calls a 'Dean' a 'Vicar Forane' (V.F.) or the Bishop's representative to a group of parishes, convenes occasional meetings of the Priests in his Deanery to glean and gather area concerns, and to report back to the Diocese any local issues. He is responsible to make sure sacramental record books are up-to-date, and that liturgical norms and other matters are being properly carried out in his Deanery. His opinion may be sought by the Archbishop or other Archdiocesan bodies [i.e., Priest Personnel Board, Catholic School's Office, etc.] before decisions, transfers, or other changes are made. Deans have a role in the Installation of a new Archbishop, and serve the Archdiocesan family in many other minor ways; in our Archdiocese, our 26 Deans usually sit up in the sanctuary at major Cathedral events.



The Cardinal began the day with a very casual, informative and enjoyable meeting with just the Priests, after which we had a festive dinner. Among my brother Pastors in attendance at Mass were: Rev. Edward Michael Donovan, Rev. Victor Kennedy, Rev. Stanley Kostrzomb, Very Rev. Canon Felix R. Marciniak, Rev. Richard Mucowski, Rev. Patrick Mulewski and Rev. James Starasinich. Also present were: Revs. Scott Attanasio, Steven D'Andrea, Ray Holmes, Peter Koziolkiewicz, Marcin Kuperski, Philip Latronico, Archibald Mabini, Juan Camilo Restrepo, and Thomas Roberts.

At Mass we were joined by Rev. Msgr. Michael Andreano, Vicar General, Chancellor, Secretary to the Cardinal, who served as Master of Ceremonies, and Rev. Msgr. Thomas Nydegger, Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia. Rev. Stanley Gomes ... also joined us from the St. John Vianney Retirement Home.



The Deacons were our own Jim Guida, and Paul Carris [*Corpus Christi*]. Earle Connelly [*Immaculate Conception*], Dominick DiBernardo [*Most Sacred Heart of Jesus*], and Frank Materia [*Assumption*] as well as Joe Ziaya our Master of Ceremonies, who coordinated the Altar Servers from St. Mary, Most Sacred Heart, Assumption and Sacred Heart.



After Mass, the Cardinal held a most impressive **'Open Forum'** during which he took questions from anyone and everyone who wished to ask him anything. Not all Bishops are as brave and daring! Everyone was most respectful and quite positive; and the Cardinal seemed very much at ease as he explained and even joked with the people. At the end of the **'Open Forum,'** after asking if anyone else had any other questions, I quoted the last line of that day's Gospel: **"And no one dared to ask him any more questions."** Even the Cardinal chuckled.

Soon after the Deanery festivities I received some verbal - and even a few emailed - comments about the Cardinal's visit. While I cannot recall the exact words of what was said to me verbally, I can share with you four quotes that were emailed to me. One parishioner wrote: "[The Cardinal is] a breath of fresh air, made me rethink a few things. Nice night. He is going to do wonders for the diocese. Thanks for having him come to our Church." Three priests wrote: "Everything was perfect and well-organized (no surprise there)"; "Cardinal Tobin is impressive and will effectively lead our Archdiocese as he serves the needs of God's holy people. Once again, well done and thanks"; "Again, great job on Friday night. It was really spectacular."



As you can imagine, it takes many people to pull off an event of this importance and scope. Special thanks to Father Peter, my coworker in the Lord's Vineyard, for all his help in pulling it all together and making it happen; Gerry DeMan, our director of Sacred Music, who composed a beautiful song for Cardinal Tobin, 'We Welcome New Beginnings,' and directing the combined choirs from St. Mary, St. Joseph, Assumption and Corpus Christi; Larry Boland, usher and all around 'go-to' person.

Thanks to Debbie Moran, Linda Verdino, Meghan Moran, Caitlin Kalish, Betty Teresavage and Mikaela Scanlon for cooking and serving at the dinner; and to Fran and Carol Waples for cutting all the cheese and also serving; and to the many people who baked and served the refreshments for the Open Forum.



As we continue through these last days of Lent, and prepare to enter the Sacred Triduum or Great Three Days and the 50 days of Easter joy, may we heed the Cardinal's words to be more active in our faith, more eager to learn about our faith and share it with others, more aware of the many graces God offers to us through His Church and her Sacraments.

I ask your prayers for me, for our Deanery 7, for the health of Archbishop Emeritus Myers who appointed me Dean, and for our new shepherd, Cardinal Tobin, whose next visit we await. Remember to also pray for all the Priests and People of the Archdiocese of Newark, for those who will be joining the Church through the Easter Sacraments, and for all who will come to be reconciled at Monday night's Penance Service.

*With God's love and my prayers,*

*Father Mike*

*Very Rev. Michael J. Kreder, KHS*