

FROM FATHER BILL: Two terrific Feasts this week – Tuesday, March 17, the FEAST of ST. PATRICK; and Thursday, March 19th, the FEAST of ST. JOSEPH. Won't you come to Mass those days and pray, through the intercession of these Saints, for God's blessings on ALL of US? Then, Spring begins on March 21st. However, in my book, Spring never begins until Jesus rises from the dead! You wait and see. In fact, DON'T WAIT!! Lent is moving along very quickly and I hope we are ALL doing penance, almsgiving, coming to Mass, going to confession and filling up our Rice Bowls with plenty of dollar bills! Take up your cross and walk the road of Lent with Jesus who carries His cross and then you will know "More Than Spring" on Holy Saturday/Easter Sunday. *Happy St. Patrick's Day!*

LENT AT OUR PARISHES

Sunday and Daily Mass
Friday Stations of the Cross
Rice Bowl

Daily Spiritual Activities
Sacrifice, Fasting and Praying

Dedication to the "Implementation Phase" of Called to be Church
Sacrament of Reconciliation, every Saturday, 3:00 pm at St. Paul's

Sunday Latin Confessions at St. Peters

Joint Parish Lenten Communal Penance Service, St. Peters, Thursday, April 2, 6:30 pm

Making a WEEKLY Silent Holy Hour at St. Paul's Adoration Chapel

Loving One Another as Jesus Loves Us

STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

ST. PETER (LATIN) – following the NOON Mass each Friday except Good Friday.

ST. PAUL (ENGLISH) – 3:00 PM each Friday except Good Friday.

*NEXT WEEKEND – SPECIAL SECOND CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES ANNUAL COLLECTION.
PLEASE BE GENEROUS.*

EASTER FLOWER ENVELOPES are to be found in your envelope packet or at the entrances of our Churches. Write, on the envelope, the names of those you wish to be remembered at Easter-time. Please write as clearly as possible. AN EASTER FLOWER MEMORIAL LIST WILL BE FOUND IN THE BULLETIN ON EASTER SUNDAY. YOUR ENVELOPE MUST BE IN THE BASKET BY PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 5, SO THAT WE CAN PRINT ALL THE NAMES AT ONCE. We will not be able to print names submitted after Palm Sunday. Remember your loved one's at EASTER.

MASS INTENTIONS: Father Bill is accepting multiple Mass intentions for Masses celebrated on weekdays and weekends so that people can have a choice as to the date preferred for their Masses. Many wish to have Masses said before our Parishes close. No intentions will be accepted for Mother's Day weekend. The Mother's Day Masses will be offered for "Our Living and Deceased Mothers". Also no Intentions will be accepted for our closing Masses at St. Peter's and St. Paul's. The Intention for those Masses at St. Paul's and St. Peter's, on the weekend of May 30/31, 2009 will read as follows – "IN THANKSGIVING TO GOD FOR THE GRACES BESTOWED ON OUR PARISHIONERS FOR THE LAST ----- YEARS/FOR ALL LIVING AND DECEASED and FORMER PARISHIONERS/FOR ALL PRIESTS AND RELIGIOUS, LIVING AND DECEASED, WHO SERVED AT OUR CHURCHES/ AND FOR ALL WHO ENTERED OUR BEAUTIFUL CHURCHES, CELEBRATED SACRAMENTS HERE, ATTENDED MASS HERE OR SIMPLY PRAYED HERE TO ALMIGHTY GOD".

ST. PAUL the APOSTLE PASTORAL COUNCIL met on MARCH 1, 2009 to make plans for our JOINT ST. PETER and ST. PAUL HOLY THURSDAY MASS & COVERED DISH SUPPER, and to plan for the CLOSING MASS at St. Paul's. Balloons will be released after the Easter Sunday 9:00 am Mass. St. Paul's Parishioners will meet on Thursday, March 26, 2009 (5:30 pm at the Hall) to finalize plans for the Holy Thursday Joint St. Paul and St. Peter Parishes Mass and supper at St. Paul's. St. Paul's Pastoral Council will meet again on Tuesday, March 31, 6:30 pm .

ST. PETER'S PASTORAL COUNCIL will meet at the LYCEUM this Thursday, March 19, 2009 at 6:30 pm. Holy Week plans at St. Peter's are already in place. Father Bill will discuss the English St. Peter's CLOSING MASS at this meeting. The St. Peter's 185th Anniversary Mass set for Sunday, April 26 has already been planned by the 185th Anniversary Committee. God bless their wonderful work.

PRAY for the soul of PEG LOZANO, sister of Father Jack Cairns. God grant her ETERNAL LIFE.

CLOSING (FINAL) MASSES AT OUR PARISHES

St. Peter's - Sunday, May 17 - LAST TRIDENTINE MASS AT ST. PETER'S - NOON

St. Paul's - Saturday, May 30 - 4:00 pm Mass for all parishioners and former parishioners.

NO MASS at St. Paul's on Sunday, May 31, 2009.

St. Peter's 10:30 AM English Mass for all parishioners and former parishioners, Sunday, May 31.

The Public may attend any or all of these Masses.

CALLED TO BE CHURCH - IMPLEMENTATION PHASE PRAYER: Loving God, you who are present with us in all of life's moments, make yourself known in these challenging times of parish closure, merger and linkage. Comfort those who mourn. Receive and transform the anger of those who feel powerless. Ease the minds of the fearful. Give wisdom to our leaders and patience and insight to your people. Help us to appreciate the way you are re-creating your Church. Make us partners with you in this effort. We pray this in the name of Jesus, who is Lord and brother through the grace of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Serenity Prayer

God grant me the serenity
to accept the things I cannot change;
courage to change the things I can;
and wisdom to know the difference.

ST. PETER'S CEMETERY - The extensive December 2008 Ice Storm damage (broken tree limbs, fallen trees, etc.) is being tended to, at present, by our own Albany Diocese Cemetery Office. The Cemetery should be clean and clear by Easter. Cost - \$3,000.00.

A LENTEN PRAYER

Oh loving Lord, during this Season of Lent, I lift up my voice to you.
Instill in my heart the desire to hear your voice in the voices of the poor, your people.
May I find in their example the path to my conversion.
Bless my Prayer, Fasting, Learning, and Giving in this season of grace.
May these actions answer the call to transform our world. AMEN.

LENTEN MEALTIME PRAYER - Lord Jesus, may your holy word and the bounty of this table feed our hearts and bodies and bring us through Lent to Easter joy. AMEN!!!

ST. MARY'S CHURCH OF TROY WILL BE HOLDING THEIR ANNUAL ROAST BEEF DINNER,
SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2009 - 5:00PM-7:30 PM
in the DONAGHY CENTER (Washington Street side entrance of the Church).
Tickets: \$8 for adults; \$4.00 Children under 12 - Take-outs are also available.
FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CALL THE PARISH OFFICE at 518-272-5820.

ZITI DINNER - SAVE THIS DATE - MARCH 28, 2009

SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH PROVINCIAL HOUSE
385 Watervliet-Shaker Road, Latham, NEW YORK
ADVANCE SALE TICKETS FOR SERVINGS AT

1:30PM 3:00PM 4:30PM

Tickets: ADULTS \$8.00

CHILDREN (6-12) \$4.00

UNDER 6 FREE but must have ticket

TAKE-OUTS AVAILABLE \$8.00

TO PURCHASE DINNER AND RAFFLE TICKETS CALL 518-783-3614

To benefit The Mission & Ministry of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet.

THROUGH OUR RICE BOWL DONATIONS, GOD REACHES OUT to people like Sophia Nyoni who, at 16, lost both her parents to AIDS. RICE BOWL offered Sophia new life, and not only her but also countless other orphans and vulnerable children who have lost parents and care givers to HIV and AIDS. These little ones are provided food, educational opportunities, counseling, life skills training, housing and healthcare. RICE BOWL is only able to offer this hope through our generosity. We are dwelling places of the Holy Spirit, and because we are, we dare not offer anything less than the very gift of ourselves. Rich and poor alike, through Rice Bowl, we offer the very gift of God to one another.

EVANGELIZATION: "O Loving Lord.....Mi Amado Senior."