

February 18, 2024

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, February 17, 2024	
<i>Saturday after Ash Wednesday</i>	
8:00 a.m.	† Caterina Mauro
12:00 p.m.	† Aleksandra Bilotti
5:00 p.m.	† Anne & Albert Mancinelli
Sunday, February 18, 2024	
<i>First Sunday of Lent</i>	
10:00 a.m.	† Anna Innequale
12:00 p.m.	† Kathleen & Richard Black
Monday, February 19, 2024	
<i>Monday of the First Week of Lent</i>	
8:00 a.m.	† Theresa DeLeo
12:00 p.m.	† Ronald DeRitis
Tuesday, February 20, 2024	
<i>Tuesday of the First Week of Lent</i>	
8:00 a.m.	† Mark Twardzik
12:00 p.m.	† Tighe & Lacey Families (living & deceased)
Wednesday, February 21, 2024	
<i>Wednesday of the First Week of Lent</i>	
8:00 a.m.	† Louis Fox
12:00 p.m.	† Aleksandra Bilotti
Thursday, February 22, 2024	
<i>Feast of the Chair of Saint Peter, Apostle</i>	
8:00 a.m.	Members & Benefactors of the Shrine
12:00 p.m.	† Richard Romolini
Friday, February 23, 2024	
<i>Friday of the First Week of Lent</i>	
8:00 a.m.	† Carolyn Calabrese Palavage
12:00 p.m.	† Rosemary A. Campopiano
Saturday, February 24, 2024	
<i>Saturday of the First Week of Lent</i>	
8:00 a.m.	Thanksgiving from Marissa Rosales
12:00 p.m.	† Richard Romolini
5:00 p.m.	† Deceased Members of Joseph & Emalene Zaiden Family

Bread & Wine Offering	Sanctuary Candle
Affandy Winarto (†)	
† = Deceased	

THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE:

	1 st Reading	2 nd Reading	Gospel Reading
Sun	Gn 9:8-15	1 Pt 3:18-22	Mk 1:12-15
Mon	Lv 19:1-2, 11-18		Mt 25:31-46
Tues	Is 55:10-11		Mt 6:7-15
Wed	Jon 3:1-10		Lk 11:29-32
Thurs	1 Pt 5:1-4		Mt 16:13-19
Fri	Ez 18:21-28		Mt 5:20-26
Sat	Dt 26:16-19		Mt 5:43-48



Healing Mass: THIS SUNDAY!

12:00 p.m. Mass

11:30 a.m. Confessions

Do you find yourself mentally, physically, spiritually, socially, or emotionally burdened? We invite you to join us for our next Healing Mass! We will gather this Sunday, February 18, 2024 to pray for Saint Rita's healing intercession, and receive a special blessing with Saint Rita oil. All are welcome!

Do you have a desire for living out a deeper, adult relationship with God? Spiritual Direction may help!

The spiritual director is a companion on your journey of life, helping a person explore his or her relationship with God and whatever will enable that relationship to deepen and grow in adult, life-giving faith. Spiritual direction offers a safe space for ongoing discernment, questions, and dialogue about the mystery of God's activity in one's life. As Jesuits William Barry and William Connolly state, the director "tries to help the traveler read the maps, avoid dead-ends, and watch out for potholes" in one's journey. One-on-one spiritual direction meetings typically occur monthly for an agreed-upon period of time. **If you would like to learn more about this type of helping relationship, please call Fr. Jim Paradis, O.S.A., D.Min. at: 215-546-8333, ext. 1400.**

***Saint Rita, persevering in prayer, pray for us.
Saint Rita, help of those in need, pray for us.***

Please pray for our sick:

Anthony Acchione, Steven E. Addeo, JoAnn Allessio, Judy Alonzo, Mia Andrilla, Cecilia Anguera, Carol Antonelli, Alene Avetian, Isaiah Baker, Marissa Biancaniello, Marie Bidy, Sarah Bidy, Bo Botto, Joseph Botto, Lula Bottoms, Samuel A. Bowlen, Elizabeth Boyer, Anna Boyle, Zack Bove, Kevin & Elizabeth Brennan, Deborah Brown, Kay Brown, Pat Bruno, Alice Butterworth, Mikey Calabretta, Frank Cammarata, Rose Campolongo, Katie Cassidy, Aurora Cassidy, Christine Castelli, Sonia Celia, Noah Checchia, Cindy Chen, Anthony Cimini, Lynn Costello, Robert Cox, III, Rosemary Crescitelli, Ralphal Curry, Jr., William D'Amato, April L. DeMatto, Dora Di Costanzo, Raymond DiPalma, Cecilia Dougherty, Ryan J. Dougherty, Madeline Farnese, Anthony Ferrara, Cristina Field, Nova A. Fields, Jeannette Forcina, Patricia Fueschlin, David Gavin, Jeanne Giaccia, Helen Glowacki, John Glowacki, Roger Gronert, Stella Gualtieri, Marie Guan, Eileen Hammel, Dean Hardwick, Gavin Horn, Christina Houser, Sister Mary Joan Huggard, Ray Huxen, Sr., Richard Iezzi, Carolyn Jenkins, Rosalie Jones, Ignation José, Mila José, Kathy Kelly, Sheila Kendall, Brian Kuran, Rose Marie Lattanzio, Dina Levine, Mikey Ludwig, Bill Maffucci, Catherine Mahoney, Alexis Makowiec, Jilian Mariutti, Bernadette Mastromarco, Rocco Mattio, Tara McCabe, Marie McKenna, Blaise Michaels, Greg Michaels, Jeanette Million, Lynn Minko, Robert Monroe, Natalie Deal Mullen, Josephine Neilson, Jack O'Connell, Dennis O'Hara, Elizabeth Paglia, James Papa, Kate Pepper, Courtney Pisano, Rita Pisano, Annamaria Ranieri, Joseph & Maureen Reihl, Michael Reihl, George Richardson, Robin Rosenfeld, Roberta Ruskowski, Joseph Russo, Carolyn Sabatina, Nicholas Salmieri, Maria Socca, Martha Sechuck, Audrey Seebarith, Javon Welch Smith, Nancy Tatum, Connie Weber, Andrea Wells, Sophia Haifa Zedan, Joanne, Phil & Renee.

Thank you for your continued generosity!

February 10 & 11, 2024 | \$2,057

A Few Simple Notes from the Director

Lenten Resources

With the start of Lent this past Wednesday, we are in full swing with countless opportunities and resources to help you grow and deepen your spiritual life over the next forty days. As you decide what you want to give up (or take on as an extra spiritual practice), I invite you to utilize the resources we have compiled and are offering you. I guarantee you won't be disappointed!

In particular, please be sure to pick up a CRS Rice Bowl and a *Little Black Book* by one of the exits after Mass today. In an attempt to help you with your Lenten journey, we are offering these two familiar resources; one for your practice of almsgiving and one for prayer. And as I mentioned last week, we have also created an entire page on our website with a collection of daily reflection opportunities, videos, and information that will certainly be an aid to you should you be interested. You can access this resource page by simply visiting: www.SaintRitaShrine.org/lent. Finally, if you follow us on Facebook or Instagram, I encourage you to check out our weekly reflection videos each Wednesday of Lent. The intention is rather simple: connect patrons from around the country with our Shrine during this Lenten season. Only a couple of minutes long, the videos will offer a short reflection on the Seven Last Words of Christ from the perspective of a few young mothers.

I hope you take advantage of these resources and plan on making this your best Lent ever! Saint Rita, martyr in penitence, keep praying for us!

Director of Sacred Music Position

This past Monday, we reposted our job description for a new Director of Sacred Music. My hope is to have the position filled by the start of summer. In addition to being a competent organist, we are looking for someone who can help us form a choir and coordinate the music at all of our liturgies (Saturday Vigil, 10:00 a.m. Sunday Mass, Healing Mass, Holy Days, Triduum, weddings, funerals and the Novena and Feast Day). It's a full-time position that pays well, and there is room to create and reimagine a comprehensive music ministry program. If you or someone you know is interested in applying, check out our website for more information.



Stations of the Cross

Join us immediately following the **12:00 p.m. Mass in the Upper Shrine each Friday** of Lent for the Stations of the Cross.

Lenten Meal Exchange

Join us for our first Lenten Meal Exchange this **Thursday, February 22, 2024 at 12:30 p.m. in the Cascia Center**. The cost of lunch will be a \$10 donation for Saint John's Hospice, or a (frozen) casserole to be donated in support of their homelessness outreach. For more information, please contact Paul at **215-546-8333, ext. 2600**.

Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

In observance of **Presidents' Day on Monday, February 19, 2024, the Shrine, Shrine Office, and Gift Shop will close after the 12:00 p.m. daily Mass**. We will reopen for our normal hours on Tuesday, February 20, 2024. Please note that there will be no afternoon Confessions on Monday, February 19, 2024. Have a blessed and happy Presidents' Day!

"During this season of conversion, let us renew our faith, draw from the 'living water' of hope, and receive with open hearts the love of God, who makes us brothers and sisters in Christ."

Pope Francis



You're invited to join us **every Thursday between 8:30 a.m. and 4:45 p.m.** for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Whether you stay for a few moments, or you commit to a full hour, please prayerfully consider stopping by the Lower Shrine.

Millions of Monicas

Are you a mom who worries about your children because they have fallen away from their faith? In the Spring, the Shrine will begin hosting a weekly prayer group in collaboration with "Millions of Monicas," a national prayer ministry specifically for moms worried about their kids. There is hope. To learn more, visit: www.millionsofmonicas.com

Man Up Philly 2024

The 16th Annual Man Up Philly Men's Conference will be held on **Saturday, March 2, 2024** at Cardinal O'Hara High School. The day will include great talks, prayer, and Eucharistic Adoration. The conference will conclude with Mass celebrated by Archbishop Nelson Perez. Visit www.ManUpPhilly.com for more information and to register. **NB: The Shrine will have a table at the conference this year, so be sure to stop by and say hello!**

Save the Dates: Triduum 2024

We hope that you will make plans to join the Shrine for our commemoration of the Paschal Triduum this year:

Holy Thursday

Thursday, March 28, 2024 | 7:30 p.m. Mass

Good Friday

Friday, March 29, 2024 | 7:30 p.m. Service

Easter Vigil

Saturday, March 30, 2024 | 8:00 p.m. Mass

Easter Sunday

Sunday, March 31, 2024 | 10:00 a.m. Mass

To learn more about other local events and programs, visit: www.SaintRitaShrine.org/virtual-bulletin

The readings for the First Sunday of Lent (Year B), begin at **number 980 in the hymnal**.

BATHROOM CODE: 1-2-5-6