

## CHRISTIAN SELF DENIAL

In an essay entitled "Christian Self Denial", Thomas Merton writes:

"Self-denial is useless unless it opens the ears of our heart to obey the will of God commanding us to take our place in time, in history and in the work of building His Kingdom of Love and Truth. An asceticism that fails in this may actually strengthen our opposition to God by making us concentrate on our own autonomy and moral perfection instead of on the concrete obligation to love God and our fellow man.

St. Gregory Nazianzen speaks of the Christian as "an instrument played by the Holy Spirit." The aim of asceticism is to keep this instrument in tune. Mortification is not simply the progressive control of instinct by deadening the appetites of the heart. That is too crude a view. It is rather like the tightening of a violin string. We do not just go on twisting and twisting until the string breaks. That would not be sanctity, but insanity. No: what we must do is bring the strings of this delicate instrument, which is our whole being, to the exact pitch which the Holy Spirit desires of us, in order that He may produce in us the exquisite melody of divine love that we were created to sing before the face of our heavenly Father."

*Have a blessed first week of Lent,  
Father Ceriello  
Frjoe21@gmail.com*

### **Stations of the Cross – The Fridays of Lent**

7:30 PM

February 16, 23, March 2, 9, 16, 23

### **Lenten Mini-Retreat ~ Saturday, February 24**

A morning of prayer and reflection led by Sister Ave Clark, O.P.  
Begins with Mass at 8:30 AM followed by light refreshments and Sister's presentation.



Did you know that New York City is called the "Abortion Capital of the World"? From February 14 through March 25, you're invited to join other Christians for 40 Days for Life – 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. You're also invited to stand and peacefully pray during a 40-day vigil in the public right-of-way outside **Planned Parenthood on Margaret Sanger Way at 26 Bleecker Street in Manhattan** and also to help spread the word about this important community outreach. Whether you can join the public vigil or not, please consider adding the intention of the campaign to your Lenten fast. If you'd like more information – and especially if you'd like to volunteer to help, please contact **40days.manhattan@gmail.com**. Also follow us on Facebook at **www.facebook.com/40DaysManhattan**. In addition, Mary Dobson will be in the Great Hall after the Holy Mass at 10:30am on Sunday, February 18th, with flyers and to answer any questions you might have.

**PARISH OFFERING**

**The offering to the parish last week was: \$5885**  
**Thank you for your generosity and support of**  
**Queen of All Saints!**

**PARISH WEEKLY GOAL**

Thank you for your sacrificial giving each week. Please remember that in order for us to meet our ordinary expenses, we need a minimum of \$7500 in each Sunday's offering. Please continue to be as generous as you can. If you miss a week for any reason, please try to make up for it the following week or when you return. This is especially true on holiday weekends and during the summer months. Thank you again for your understanding.



**PRAYER LIST FOR DECEASED OF THE PARISH**

Jose Torres sr, Jacqueline Jones, Syble Iantha Deshong,  
Renee Wolf Calvin.

**THE PRAYER LIST FOR THE SICK**

Marlene McIntosh, Mirlande Guerrier, Danielle Prout,  
Faith Prout, Marie Henry, Deborah Khudan. Joseph  
Aitken, Sylvia Baker, Stacy McGhie.

*(Please call the rectory to add the names of your family members.)*

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION**

**THANK YOU!**

Thank you to all who helped to make our parish Black History Month celebration such a great success...

The celebration planning Committee, the Rosary Society, the Choir, students of Queen of All Saints Catholic Academy, those who donated food, those who helped with ticket sales, set up and clean up, those who performed, our honorees, guest speaker, master of ceremonies and so many who helped in small and unseen, but still important ways. We thank the elected officials from our borough and beyond for their presence and support.

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**

AA Meets every Monday at 6:30 pm and every Wednesday at 7:15 pm in St Joseph Hall.

**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

**Sunday, February 18**  
8:30am Marie Laurence Pierre (Birthday)  
10:30am Pro Populo  
**Monday, February 19**  
10:30 am Open  
**Tuesday, February 20**  
8:30 am Open  
**Wednesday, February 21**  
8:30 am Open  
**Thursday, February 22**  
8:30 am Open  
**Friday, February 23**  
8:30 am Open  
7:30pm Stations of the Cross  
**Saturday, February 24**  
5pm Open  
**Sunday, February 25**  
8:30am George Desdunes (In Memorium)  
10:30am Pro Populo



**REGISTRATION FOR 2018-2019 IS NOW OPEN AT**  
**QUEEN OF ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC ACADEMY**

**Don't miss out on scholarship opportunities!**  
*Received a scholarship last year? Re-apply*  
*by March 30, 2018*

**First time scholarship applicant? Apply by**  
**April 30, 2018**

**www.futuresineducation.org**

To learn about the benefits of a Catholic  
education,

Please contact **Principal Manuela**  
**Adsuar-Pizzi**

at 718 857 3114.

**WE'RE SAVING A SEAT FOR YOU!**

**300 Vanderbilt Avenue Brooklyn NY 11205**  
**QASCA.ORG**

**2018 MASS INTENTION BOOK.**

*The 2018 mass intention book is open.*  
*(Please call the rectory to schedule your visitor*  
*Mass Intentions)*