



St. Boniface Martyr
Roman Catholic Church

Established 1898

Serving the people of God
in the communities of Sea Cliff ~ Glenwood Landing ~ Glen Head ~ Glen Cove
"We are a pilgrim people on a journey toward the Kingdom of God."
Fr. Robert A. Romeo, Pastor



Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion
March 29, 2015

Mass Schedule

Daily Mass: 8am (in the chapel except on Sundays)
Sundays: Saturdays 5pm; Sundays: 8am, 10:15am
Holy Day Masses: 5pm Vigil; 8am & 7pm
Special Intentions: 5pm first Saturday of the month

Palm Sunday: March 29 (in gym)

Mark 11:1-10 or John 12:12-16

Saturday 5pm Mass Intentions: Mary Anne Lynch

8am Mass Intention: Mary Swift

10:15am Mass Intention: Parishioners

Monday, March 30 (Alba Altschuler)

Isaiah 42:1-7; John 12:1-11

8am Mass Celebrant: Fr. Azubuike

3pm-9pm Penance Day (Diocesan Day of Reconciliation); Individual Confessions in Church

Fr. Bob: 3pm-4:30pm; 6pm-9pm

Fr. Azubuike: 4:30pm-6pm; 7:30pm-9pm

Tuesday, March 31 (Jean Feuingham)

Isaiah 49:1-6; John 13:21-33, 36-38

8am Mass Celebrant: Fr. Azubuike

Wednesday, April 1 (Gisele Louis)

Isaiah 50:4-9a; Matthew 26:14-25

8am Mass Celebrant: Fr. Bob

Holy Thursday, April 2

Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14; 1 Cor 11:23-26; John 13:1-15

9am Morning Prayer (in Chapel)

7:30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper (*in Church*)

Intentions: Fr. Peter McKenna, Fr. Doug Dower and Msgr. Thomas Grinwold

Chapel open-11:30pm to visit the Blessed Sacrament

Good Friday, April 3 (in Church)

Is 52:13—53:12; Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9; Jn 18:19-42

9am Morning Prayer

3pm Solemn Commemoration of the Lord's Passion

7:30pm Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday, April 4 (in Church)

Vigil: Genesis 1:1—2:2; Genesis 22:1-18; Exodus 14:15—15:1; Exodus 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18; Isaiah 54:5-14; Isaiah 55:1-11; Baruch 3:9-15, 32—4:4; Ezekiel 36:16-17a, 18-28; Romans 6:3-11; Mark 16:1-7

9am Morning Prayer

11am Confession

12 noon Blessing of Easter Food

7:30pm The Easter Vigil; Celebrant: Fr. Bob

Easter Sunday Masses, April 5 (in Church)

8am, 10:15am & 12 noon

Minister's Schedule

Palm Sunday: March 29

5pm **Celebrant: Fr. Bob**
 Lectors: Blanche & Eric Tyrkko
 Ministers: Debbie Mink, Eileen Bowersock
 Irma & Bill Berkley

8am **Celebrant: Fr. Azubuike**
 Lector: Carole Kelly
 Ministers: Marie Agosta, Ana Arellano
 Ralph Casey, Peggy Cullen

10:15am **Celebrant: Fr. Bob**
 Lector: Laureen Feehan
 Ministers: Loretta Zahner, Donna Calamis
 Susan Castelli, Camille Miritello
 Mary Ann & Paul McDermott

Please use the sign-up sheets to volunteer for any Holy Week or Easter celebrations!

Capital Campaign

Renew & Restore the House of God

"Lord, I love the House in which You dwell" Ps. 1⁰:2

On behalf of Fr Bob and the Capital Campaign Committee we would like to thank you for your generous contribution to our "Renewing and Restoration the House of God" Capital Campaign.

As we reopen the doors to our House of God, we celebrate what we embraced three years ago as the Family of St. Boniface Martyr Parish.

As a reminder, you recently received a letter in the mail regarding your contribution to the campaign. If you pledged \$3000 or more, kindly select the item you wish to memorialize and return the form with your signature to the office or place it in the weekly basket.

Total Pledges to date : \$1,248,642
Balance ending payments \$79,650.
(Pending payments due last day of each month.)

Please contact the office 676-0676 or email stbonfinance@gmail.com with any questions or concerns. Thank you.

The Capital Campaign Committee

Read *Take Five for Faith* at www.saintboniface.org



Golden Wedding Jubilee

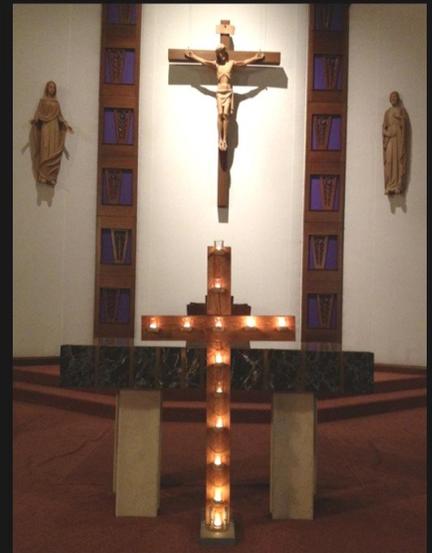
This Spring, couples who have been married fifty years or more will be honored at liturgies on Sunday, April 19 at the Church of St. Lawrence the Martyr, in Sayville and on Sunday, April 26 at the Church of Maria Regina in Seaford. Both liturgies will begin at 2:30pm. Couples may register for one liturgy. Registration forms and instructions are available in the parish center. Registrations must be received by the Office of Worship in Rockville Centre by **April 6** for the April 19 liturgy and April 13 for the April 26 liturgy. There will be additional celebrations in the Fall. Please call 516-678-5800 x 207 with questions.



Presents:
The Good Friday
Stations of the Cross

A night of reflection,
song, and prayer

April 3rd
7:00pm



Save the Dates!

SAVE THE DATE

All Saints Regional Catholic School
HEADMASTER'S BALL

The Golden Age Comes to the Gold Coast

Saturday, April 25, 2015
Nassau Country Club
30 St. Andrews Lane, Glen Cove

Join the fabulous evening to celebrate our school and toast our honorees!

Tickets \$195 each
Evening includes:

COCKTAILS ALL EVENING

PASSED HORS D'OEUVRES * MANSION STYLE BUFFET

HONOREE PROGRAM * VIP GUESTS AND DIGNITARIES

VINTAGE ERA ENTERTAINMENT with ORCHESTRA & DANCING
SPECIAL RAFFLE FOR DINNER AT CANONRY

4 weeks Complimentary BALLROOM DANCE LESSONS beginning March 11th

Contact Mary Haff at deeganhaff@aol.com for further information

St. Boniface Martyr Parish

Feast by the Shore



at Tappen Beach

Save the Dates!

THURSDAY, MAY 14
TO
SUNDAY, MAY 17

Enjoy the *First Feast* of the Season
Great Food, Great Rides.
Great Entertainment!

Save \$\$\$
online tickets on sale NOW in advance
www.saintboniface.org/feast

Dear Parishioners,

“He humbled Himself, obediently accepting even death, death on a cross.” Ph 2:8

As a Christian people, we are entering the holiest and most solemn week of our year. During these days we celebrate what we call the “Paschal Mystery.” The paschal mystery is the fulfillment of the promises first revealed in the Old Testament and now brought to perfection and completion in the actions of Jesus. Beginning in Genesis and the fall of humanity through the sin of Adam and Eve, God has prepared the human race for the acts that would restore our relationship to God. The Church calls, us in a special way, to enter into the mystery and joy of these days. I invite and encourage you to join with the community and participate in these days of our salvation.

Palm (Passion) Sunday

Today is the beginning of Holy Week. The readings begin with the triumphant entrance of Jesus into the holy city of Jerusalem. He is acclaimed as the Son of David, king and Messiah. Jerusalem is filled with Jews from all over the world who have come to celebrate the Passover Feast. Many have heard of Jesus and because of the heightened feelings against Rome they see in Jesus the one who will free them. They cut branches from palm and olive trees and lay them on the ground for Jesus to pass through. The tone of the Scriptures change quickly and the Religious leaders, fearful of Jesus, plot to destroy Him. Our Gospel reflects the “Passion” (the betrayal, suffering, and death) of Jesus. We receive palms today so remind ourselves that Jesus is our king and we, like the people of Jerusalem, sometimes turn from Jesus. By the way, the palms from today will be used as the burnt ashes on Ash Wednesday.

Sacred Triduum - Holy Thursday: Begins our Sacred or Easter Triduum. These are the three days that focus more deeply on the days of salvation and the Pascal Mystery. Daily Mass or Funeral Masses are not celebrated during the Triduum so that we are able to focus more deeply on the meaning and solemnity of these days. The Church gathers to celebrate Morning Prayer. Morning Prayer is, after the Mass, the most important prayer form in the life of the Church. We pray the Psalms and read the scriptures. In the morning the priests and faithful of the Diocese gather at the Cathedral to celebrate the “Chrism Mass.” At this Eucharist, the bishop blesses the oils that will be used in the parishes throughout the year. The Oil of the Catechumens is used for those who will enter the Church at Baptism to strengthen them in their journey as a Christian. The Oil of the Sick is used by the priests to anoint those who are sick or near death. The bishop consecrates The Sacred Chrism and the power of the Holy Spirit is infused into the oil. Chrism is used at Baptism and Confirmation as well as the Ordination of a priest to anoint in the power of the Holy Spirit. The oils are then solemnly received into the parish church. In the evening, the Church gathers to celebrate the Mass of the Lord’s Supper. The Last Supper is the first Mass that Jesus celebrated. He commanded the disciples, as he does to us today, to do this in remembrance of Him. The Eucharist/Mass/Liturgy celebrates the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus. It also makes real the fact that Jesus will be present to us, through this saving action, for all time. We are invited at each Mass to enter into the days of salvation and allow it to touch the very depths of our beings. At the Last Supper Jesus also creates the ministerial or ordained priesthood. The Apostles were the first priests of the New Covenant so that just as the priests of the Old Testament were able to offer sacrifice to God for the people, so the priests of the New Covenant are called to do the same. This celebration also contains a “new commandment.” Jesus washes the feet of the disciples. In this action, called the “mandatum” or command Jesus teaches His followers that in order to be His disciples we have to be willing to be “servants of all.”

At the end of the Mass, the Blessed Sacrament is removed from the tabernacle and brought to another place. This offers the faithful time to pray before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. In our parish we will process to the Chapel in the Parish Center, which will be open until 11:30 pm. I invite you to sign the

sheet in the vestibule of the Church so that we can be sure that the Blessed Sacrament is never left unattended. At the end of the Liturgy the church is stripped and left bare, and the Holy Water is removed as we enter into the days of silence. The tabernacle of our church will be empty until the Easter Vigil. In a sense as Jesus was hidden in the tomb we also await the resurrection.

Good Friday

This is truly the most solemn and profound of all our holy days. The great sacrifice of the life of Jesus for the forgiveness of our sins reminds us of His obedience to the Father. The death of Jesus on the cross is His body broken for our sins and His blood that washes us clean. The sadness of His death is always seen in light of the glory of His resurrection. As we venerate the wood of the cross during our Liturgy, we are called to give thanks for that great altar of sacrifice. This is the last blood sacrifice that is offered to the Father as prescribed in the Old Testament. Now the forgiveness of our sins are remembered in the unbloody sacrifice of the Mass. On the cross we hear the cry of Jesus to the Father, "**Why have You abandoned me?**" A plea that will be answered in the most profound way on Easter. We enter and leave the church in silence as we stand in awe of all that Jesus willing gave for us. As He is laid in the tomb, the Bridegroom, as described in Scripture, is taken from our midst. The Church begins her period of waiting. May that crucifixion inspire us to act in love and obedience to the will of God in our own lives. Mass is not celebrated today, but so that the faithful are not deprived of the Eucharist Holy Communion consecrated on Holy Thursday will be disturbed. We gather at 9am to prayer Morning Prayer and at 7:30pm to walk the Stations of the Cross.

Holy Saturday/ Easter Vigil

After 9am Morning Prayer, the Church continues her silent vigil awaiting the great news of resurrection. At the Easter Vigil at 7:30pm, the Church competes the days of waiting and this culminated the Great and Holy Triduum. The days of waiting are about to end. God will redeem humankind in the silent hours of the night .God shakes the world from its slumber and the power of resurrection touches the world from that darkened tomb. This night we enter the Church in darkness that will be lit by the fire of the watchman who awaits the dawn of resurrection. The **Pascal /Christ/ Easter Candle** is blessed and consecrated and gives light to the darken church. As the candle is solemnly processed to the altar, the faithful are invited to light their Baptismal candles. The church is filled with the light of Christ and those who have, through Baptism, dedicated themselves to continue the work of Jesus. The great Easter Proclamation or **Exsultet** is sung announcing the great and wondrous work of Jesus. The readings that are read are a highlighting of the history of our salvation, beginning with the creation of the world. The Holy Water is blest and the faithful renew the promises made at Baptism. Any adults seeking entrance into the Church are baptized at the Easter Vigil. At the Gospel acclamation we hear the great "**Alleluia**" heard for the first time since Lent began. It is the great story of the empty tomb, which we have waited these 40 days to hear. To distinguish the glorious celebration of Easter and the joy in hearing the Alleluia again, we shall sing it before and **after** the Gospel. At the end of Communion the Blessed Sacrament will again be solemnly placed in the Tabernacle.

As you can see, these days are filled with ritual, symbolism and joy. They tell the story in a profound way the work of our redemption and salvation. I encourage you to participate as much as you can in these days of prayer and joy.

May your Holy Week fill you with the presence of God's love and a deep sense of prayer and thanksgiving.

In Jesus the suffering Messiah,
Fr. Bob

6 Please Pray for our Deceased

Please pray for those who have entered into eternal life, especially *Thomas Daughn, James Kinney.*



William Anderson
Michelle Martone
Maria Santoli
Michael Serpico
Rhonda Speranza
Mary Toto
Marilyn Walthers

Placement of names on the sick list must be requested by an immediate family member through Fr. Bob.

PRAY FOR OUR

MILITARY

Lieutenant Melissa Buffa & Lieutenant Travis Buffa
Lance CPL Matthew B. Christman
Second Lieutenant Mario Coronel, US Army
Flight Lieutenant Joseph Doyle
Jake A. Hojnowski, Sailor E-3, US Navy
Lance CPL Gregory Knox
Captain Brett Korade, USN
Private Vincent S. LaManna, Jr., US Army
Lieutenant Brian McMenamin
Lieutenant Ian McMenamin
Private First Class Joshua McMillan
Lieutenant Junior Grade Michael R. Ragusa, USN
Private First Class Cole N. Muttee, USMC
Lieutenant Commander Drew Whitting, US Navy
Private Luke Whitting, US Army
Captain Christina Merrick-Wright
Captain Bradley Wright, US Army.



5% Donation

"Your plenty at the present time should supply their needs so that their surplus may in turn one day supply your need." (II Cor 2:58)

If you have any "plenty" left over, please place it in an envelope marked "**For Special Assistance**" and Fr. Bob will make sure it is given to those "to supply their need." **PLEASE PRAY** about this and see what Jesus is calling you to do.

Stewardship . . . a Way of Life

Thank you for your stewardship of \$7799 last week. On Good Friday there will be a **Pontifical Collection**, which helps the Franciscans keep Christianity alive in the Holy Land. Thank you for your generosity!



Catholic Daughters of the Americas

We meet the first Monday of the month at 11am in the Parish Center. All women 18 years old and older welcome. Contact Regent Eileen Stanton: 521-9418 or email emtanton@optonline.net

Prayer Group

Mondays at 7:30pm in the Chapel. All are welcome. Come, and bring a friend! Call John & Rosemary Murello at 676-2767 for details.

Holy Hour and Benediction

Wednesdays at 2pm in the chapel.

Prayer Vigil for the Sick

Thursdays 7pm -7:30pm in the chapel.

Bible Study

Thursdays 7:30pm-9pm in the Parish Center. Bring your bible and join us! Call Rosemary and John Murello at 676-2767 for more information.

Bingo

Fridays 7pm. Knights of Columbus Hall, 83 Sea Cliff Avenue. All proceeds go to charity, including our St. Boniface Outreach Ministry.

Miraculous Medal Novena

Saturdays after 8am Mass in the Chapel with the veneration of the relic of St. Catherine Labore.

Lay Carmelites of Blessed Titus Brandsma

Third Saturdays 9am in the Parish Center. Call Flora at 656-9375 or Pat at 887-7265 for details.

Men's Ministry

Fourth Saturdays beginning with 8am Mass in the chapel and subsequent fellowship. Contact Rich at qbalwily@optonline.net for more information.

Outreach Volunteers: There will be a meeting for all current Outreach Volunteers at 12pm in the Parish Center. Please join us on Sunday, **March 29** if you did not attend last Sunday's meeting. The topics will include, but are not limited to: food supplies, distribution, stocking, scheduling, recent problems and other areas of interest. Also, an opportunity for Q & A about our program. Refreshments provided.



ST. BONIFACE MARTYR YOUTH GROUP

The Youth Group will be having their annual Good Friday Lock In on **April 3rd** after the **Stations of the Cross** (see page 3). This is a great night of activities, community and reflection on our faith. If you are interested in joining please email Chris, the Youth Minister, for a permission slip. The youth group meets on Sundays from 6pm-8pm in the Parish Center. All 8th-12th graders are invited! Follow us on our **NEW INSTAGRAM, username: stbonyg**. Join our facebook page 'St. Boniface Martyr Youth Group'. Email Youth Minister, Chris, at stbonym@gmail.com for meeting dates and events.

St. Vincent de Paul Society: Today is Palm Sunday and the beginning of the holiest of Christian weeks. Let us pray for the grace to take up our own cross and to follow Jesus through death to new life. Please support the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that together we can help the poor as they carry their cross of suffering and pain.

Lenten Fast & Abstinence: All Catholics who have reached their 14th year are bound to abstain from meat on all the Fridays of Lent. All Catholics between 18 and 59 are also bound to observe the law of fast on Good Friday. This means limiting oneself to a single full meal and avoiding food between meals. Two other light meals, which together do not equal a full meal, may be taken during the day.

Lucky Boni Buck\$ Raffle

TERRY SCARANGELLA of Sea Cliff is the winner of the \$500 St. Patrick's Day LUCKY BONI BUCK\$ Raffle. The next \$500 drawing will be on April 1st.

Don't forget to participate in the Lucky Boni Buck\$ Raffle. Only one \$25 ticket (or 5 for \$100) gives you 14 chances to win \$500. The drawing is the first day of each month with 2 bonus drawings: St. Patrick's Day, March 17th and the Feast of St. Boniface, June 5th. All proceeds go to support St. Boniface Martyr Parish. Winners will be posted at www.saintboniface.org and in the bulletin. **Tickets are in the church vestibule & parish office.**

Pastoral Team

7

Pastor: Fr. Robert A. Romeo
E-mail: stbonpastor@gmail.com

Parish Center: 145 Glen Avenue, Sea Cliff, NY 11579
(516) 676-0676 / Fax: (516) 674-6742

E-mail: stbonchurch@gmail.com / www.saintboniface.org

Office Hours: 9am-12:30pm & 1:30pm-4:30pm, Monday-Friday

In Residence: Fr. Azubuike

Deacon Tom Fox: stbondcntom@gmail.com

Religious Education: Karen Croce

Phone: (516) 671-0418; E-mail: stbonccd@gmail.com

Youth Ministry: Chris Mandato

Email: stbonym@gmail.com

All Saints Regional Catholic School (ASR)

Headmaster: The Very Reverend Dom Elias Carr, Can. Reg.

Joanne Fitzgerald, Dean

12 Pearsall Avenue, Glen Cove, NY 11542

(516) 676-0762. Website: www.asrcatholic.org

Parish Outreach: Jerry Moran & Kevin O'Shea

Parish Center. Wednesdays & Saturdays. 10 am-1pm

Phone: (516) 676-0676. Email: stbonchurch@gmail.com

Music: Jeffrey Schneider

E-mail: stbonmusic@gmail.com

Business & Finance: Eileen Krieb

E-mail: stbonfinance@gmail.com

Administration: Joan Schiller & Margaret Evans

E-mail: stbonchurch@gmail.com

Bulletin Editor: Julie Byrne. Deadline: Noon Monday. Please email

entries to stbonbulletin@gmail.com after approval from Fr. Bob.

Please include your name and contact information. Thank you.

Webmaster: Robert Lynch. Website: www.saintboniface.org

Parish Registration: We welcome all new members of our parish family. We ask all parishioners to welcome and invite new neighbors and their families to become a part of St. Boniface Martyr Parish. Parish registration (census) forms available by the main doors of the church and in the parish office for new members. Please return completed forms to the parish office.

Baptism: Parents wishing to present a child for Baptism should be registered members of St. Boniface Martyr Parish. Parents are required to have a Baptism Preparation Interview and attend a Baptism class. Baptisms are celebrated on the last Sunday of the month. Godparents must be fully initiated members of the Catholic Church (having received the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist), and provide a sponsor certificate. Please call 676-0676 to pre-arrange.

Marriage: Couples wishing to be married should call the parish office before any other arrangements are made. A minimum of six months is needed for marriage preparations.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA): An ongoing process of formation for those who ever wonder if they should become "Catholic". If interested, call Fr. Bob at 676-0676.

Reconciliation (Confession): Saturdays 4pm-4:45pm in church.

All Saints Regional Catholic School

Founded in 1990

Supported by the Parishes of:

St. Boniface ~ St. Hyacinth ~ St. Mary ~ St. Patrick ~ St. Rocco

Accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools

Phone: 516 676-0762 www.asrcatholic.org



- Faith
- Foundation
- Future

Congratulations to the Winners of the Chaminade Science Fair held on Saturday, March 14th

First Place Ribbon:
Kaitlyn Maleady - 8th grade

Second Place Ribbon:
Johnny Blazich - 7th grade
Rita Evangelista - 8th grade

Congratulations to Ava DeVita

Ava is a finalist in the Respect Life Poetry Contest. She will receive an award on March 26th at Kellenberg Memorial High School

All Saints celebrates St. Patrick's Day

The students and faculty of All Saints attended 9:00am Mass on Tuesday, March 17th in celebration of St. Patrick's Day. In addition, students wore green accessories with their school uniforms and had small celebrations in the classrooms.

First and Second grade made leprechaun traps to catch the leprechauns who have been visiting their classroom and leaving little treats.



SAVE THE DATE

All Saints Regional Catholic School

HEADMASTER'S BALL

The Golden Age Comes to the Gold Coast

Saturday, April 25, 2015

Nassau Country Club

30 St. Andrews Lane, Glen Cove

Join the fabulous evening to celebrate our school and toast our honorees!

Tickets \$195 each

Evening includes:

COCKTAILS ALL EVENING

PASSED HORS D'OEUVRES * MANSION STYLE BUFFET

HONOREE PROGRAM * VIP GUESTS AND DIGNITARIES

VINTAGE ERA ENTERTAINMENT with ORCHESTRA & DANCING

SPECIAL RAFFLE FOR DINNER AT CANONRY

4 weeks Complimentary BALLROOM DANCE LESSONS beginning March 11th

Contact Mary Haff at deeganhaff@aol.com for further information

To Register for the 2015-2016 School Year

Contact Carol Filippone in our
Registration Office.

Mon. - Fri. 7:30 am to 11:00 am
516 676-0762 ext. 202

For financial assistance, click on the link to Tomorrow's
Hope Foundation found on the ASR Website.

www.asrcatholic.org

Save the date
All Saints Catholic School
HEADMASTER'S BALL

The Golden Age Comes to the Gold Coast

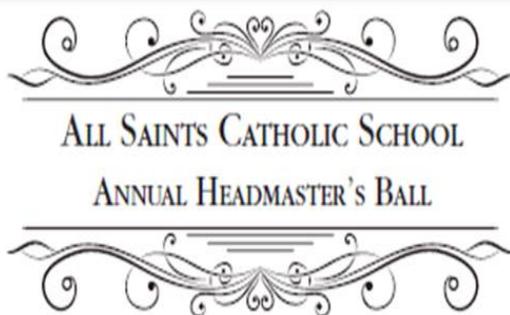
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Nassau Country Club

30 St. Andrews Lane, Glen Cove

*Join this fabulous evening to celebrate our school and
toast our honorees!*

Tickets \$195



ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC SCHOOL
ANNUAL HEADMASTER'S BALL

SPECIAL HONOREE ANNOUNCEMENT

THE VERY REVEREND ROBERT ROMEO

FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO OUR
SCHOOL AS PASTOR AND REGIONAL DEAN
BEST WISHES IN HIS NEW ROLE AS PASTOR OF
ST. MARY'S OF MANHASSET

**St. Boniface
Honorees
to the
Headmaster's Ball**

**Ray and Bobbie
McDonald**

Take Five for Faith

Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow - a day at a time.

Palm Sunday, March 29, 2015

What would happen if, in contemplating this overwhelming day, we set aside the images of cruelty, betrayal, denial, whips, thorns, and nails and consider *passion* as the expression of the deepest emotions of the heart, that which drives a person to hand her or himself over to another without reservation: “Do with me what you will. I am yours.” Jesus’ Passion is not only his agony, but the handing over of his whole self—even to violence and death—in order to be faithful to the beloved. You. How loved you are!

Monday, March 30

For young Catholics in the early 1970s, the release of the rock album *Jesus Christ Superstar* was a game changer. The Passion set to contemporary lyrics highlighting the political and philosophical differences between Jesus and Judas made the gospel relevant to a generation awash in social turmoil. Some found the very human portrayal of Jesus offensive—it took the Vatican until 1999 to endorse the musical. But it is good for us hurting humans to be reminded every now and then that Jesus “gets us”—the pain, confusion, and betrayals we face. He’s been there and lived to tell the tale, as have his disciples in new ways with each generation. It’s your turn now.

Tuesday, March 31

Why is a story of betrayal central to our Holy Week experience? Was it really necessary? Is Judas the villain of the story, or perhaps simply a convenient scapegoat? Truth be told, we are all “the betrayer” in one way or another, in that even having heard the Good News, we forget it, neglect it, ignore it, overlook it, more often than we care to admit. Oh well. That is why we indeed need a savior. And though it may seem our betrayals kill him, the story of salvation has a different ending. Stay tuned this week.

Wednesday, April 1

The character Faust, of German legend, sold his soul to the devil in return for unlimited

knowledge and worldly pleasures. No one in real life (or in their right mind) would agree to such a stark trade, but no one is ever offered that much and at so high a price either. Temptation is much more subtle, as are the small ways you rationalize choices that compromise your values, and therefore it is that much harder to guard against. Remember that your integrity, your character, your self-worth—your soul—is priceless.

Holy Thursday, April 2 **Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper**

The Triduum—beginning with the liturgy on the evening of Holy Thursday and ending with evening prayer on Easter Sunday—is the church’s most sacred trifacta, after the Trinity of course! These moments are part of the one paschal celebration in which we, along with all of creation, journey with Christ through passion, death, burial, and resurrection. As you move from the joyous beginning of Holy Thursday into the quiet stillness of evening, take time to gather your own joys and struggles—and those of the rest of the world—and walk closely with Christ.

Good Friday, April 3

Solemnity, prayer . . . and delicious baked goods? It must be Good Friday. There are many ways that people throughout the world honor this sacred day of remembering the death of Jesus. A custom in England, Ireland, and in many countries is to bake hot cross buns. These sweet pastries are typically scored or iced with a cross. Whatever you do this day—bake, work, pray, fast, care, smile, mourn—remember that you and all of creation are blessed with the sign of the cross.

Holy Saturday, April 4

Many consider the Easter Vigil the most beautiful liturgy of the year. And for good reason—we celebrate not only the Resurrection of the Lord (as if that were not enough!) but our own arriving, our own awakening from the slumber of half-faith into the full light of Easter. Perhaps the words of the great poet T.S. Eliot express it best: “*We shall not cease from exploration / And the end of all our exploring / Will be to arrive where we started / And know the place for the first time.*” Happy Easter!