St. Mary's Church, Cranston

1525 Cranston Street

Very Reverend William J. Ledoux

Pastor

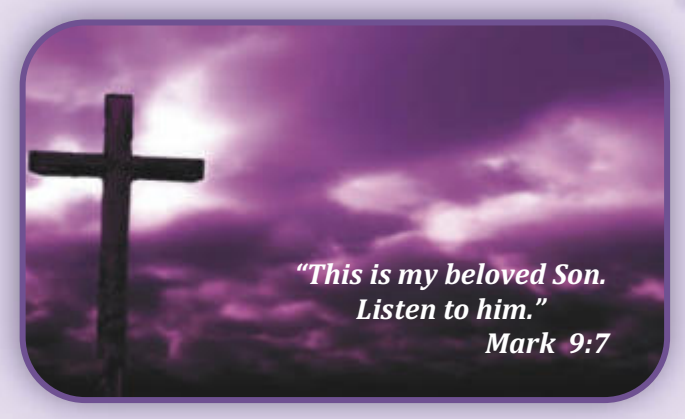
Rev. James R. Collins
In Residence

Rev. James J. Verdelotti
Pastor Emeritus
12/ 28/ 1943 - 11/ 14/ 2019

Dcn. Peter A. Ceprano
Deacon Assistant (Retired)

Dcn. Armand R. Ragosta
Deacon Assistant (Retired)

Second Sunday of Lent



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Cranston, RI 02920
(401) 942-1492
Fax: (401) 946-2531
Office@saintmarycranston.org

Parish Website:
www.saintmarycranston.org

Music Director
Denise Petrucci
(401) 353-1473

Weekday Mass
Monday-Thursday 8:00am
(Lower Church)
(Lower Church)

Saturday Evening:
4:00pm

Sunday Morning
8:00am, 9:30am & 11:00am

St. Mary's School
85 Chester Avenue
(401) 944-4107
Pre-K thru 8

Ms. Lisa Lepore
Principal

Office of Religious Education
(401) 944-1323

Director: Nancy Nasser
nnasser@stmaryschoolri.org

Secretary: Donna English
donnaenglish888@gmail.com

Sacrament of Baptism
Baptisms are scheduled for the First Sunday of the month. Please call the rectory office to schedule an appointment. Families must be registered in the Parish.

Confessions
Saturdays 3:00pm - 3:45pm

Weddings
Parishioners may contact the Rectory Office at least 1 year before.

We are a parish family journeying together in our faith in Jesus Christ, trusting in his love for us, and growing in kindness and charity toward one another.

Dear Friends,

Today marks the beginning of the second week of our Journey with Christ. Today Christ is revealed through his transfiguration as the son of God. The only thing that God demands from us is: "Listen to him!" If we listen to Christ, we shall be successful in our journey with him this season.

Today's gospel from Mark, presents the scene of the transfiguration of Jesus. He manifests his glory to three of his disciples. The transfiguration reflects the divinity of Jesus. Transfiguration is simply a glimpse of the gift and glory of God. Today, Christ reveals his future Glory. However, to attain the fullness of this glory, He must first suffer and be crucified. This is a road that we must also walk to partake in this glory. Like the second reading, todays gospel is a message of hope. This is because God revealed to us the glory which will be ours through Christ. God spoke eloquently and confirms the lordship of Jesus Christ: "This is my beloved…" However, He demands only one thing from us: "Listen to him!" Listening to Christ means transforming our lives and changing our ways. It means living according to the word of God we hear every day. Listening to Jesus means obeying His will and paying attention to what the church teaches us every day.

So, Christ speaks to us through the poor and the marginalized; through the defenseless, through the sick; through the abandoned old people; through the abandoned children in our streets; through the millions of aborted babies all over the world. Christ speaks to us through our lonely neighbors who need some care. Christ speaks to us through families and communities in difficulties. Finally, if we respond to these quickly, rather than being indifferent, then we have listened to Jesus Christ, the beloved son of God. If we do this well, then, "we are walking in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living."

Therefore, my friends, as we begin this second week of our Lenten journey let us be awake in our faith. The conversion of mind and heart, which is so often mentioned in the Scriptures, is what all of us must be willing to do as we strive to become holy. Don't be afraid to rely on the strength of your faith to help you face and conquer the temptations of the world, which serve only to hinder your relationship with God. May your Lenten preparation be fruitful, that your joy may be wondrous at Easter.

This Wednesday, we celebrate the Feast of Saint Katharine Drexel. She was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, U.S.A. on 26 November 1858; Katharine was the second daughter of Francis Anthony Drexel, a wealthy banker, and his wife, Hannah Jane. The latter died a month after Katharine's birth, and two years later her father married Emma Bouvier, who was a devoted mother, not only to her own daughter Louisa (born 1862), but also to her two stepdaughters. Both parents instilled into the children by word and example that their wealth was simply loaned to them and was to be shared with others.

Katharine was educated privately at home; she traveled widely in the United States and in Europe. Early in life she became aware of the plight of the Native Americans and the Blacks; when she inherited a vast fortune from her father and stepmother, she resolved to devote her wealth to helping these disadvantaged people. In 1885 she established a school for Native Americans at Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Later, during an audience with Pope Leo XIII, she asked him to recommend a religious congregation to staff the institutions which she was financing. The Pope suggested that she herself become a missionary, so in 1889 she began her training in religious life with the Sisters of Mercy at Pittsburgh. In 1891, with a few companions, Mother Katharine founded the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament for Indians and Colored People. The title of the community summed up the two great driving forces in her life—devotion to the Blessed Sacrament and love for the most deprived people in her country.

Requests for help reached Mother Katharine from various parts of the United States. During her lifetime, approximately 60 schools were opened by her congregation. The most famous foundation was made in 1915; it was Xavier University, New Orleans, the first such institution for Black people in the United States.

In 1935 Mother Katharine suffered a heart attack, and in 1937 she relinquished the office of superior general. Though gradually becoming more infirm, she was able to devote her last years to Eucharistic adoration, and so fulfill her life's desire. She died at the age of 96 at Cornwell Heights, Pennsylvania, on 3 March 1955. Her cause for beatification was introduced in 1966; she was declared Venerable by Pope John Paul II on 26 January 1987, by whom she was also beatified on 20 November 1988. Because of her lifelong dedication to her faith and her selfless service to the oppressed, Pope John Paul II canonized her on October 1, 2000 to become only the second recognized American-born saint. Elizabeth Ann Seton was the first American born saint to be canonized.

Have a good week!

Fr. Ledoux

WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 28, 2021

SUN **2/28**	Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 [9]/Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10
MON **3/01**	Dn 9:4b-10/Ps 79:8, 9 11 and 13 [cf. 103:10a]/Lk 6:36-38
TUE **3/02**	Is 1:10, 16 20/Ps 50:8 9, 16bc 17, 21 and 23 [23b]/Mt 23:1 12
WED **3/03**	Jer 18:18-20/Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16 [1 /b]/Mt 20:17-28
THR **3/04**	Jer 17:5 10/Ps 1:1 2, 3, 4 and 6 [40:5a]/Lk 16:19 31
FRI **3/05**	Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21 [5a]/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
SAT **3/06**	Mi 7:14 15, 18 20/Ps 103:1 2, 3 4, 9 10, 11 12 [8a]/ Lk 15:1 3, 11 32
SUN **3/07**	Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [Jn 6:68c]/1 Cor 1:22-25/Jn 2:13-25 or Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-8, 8-9 [8]/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

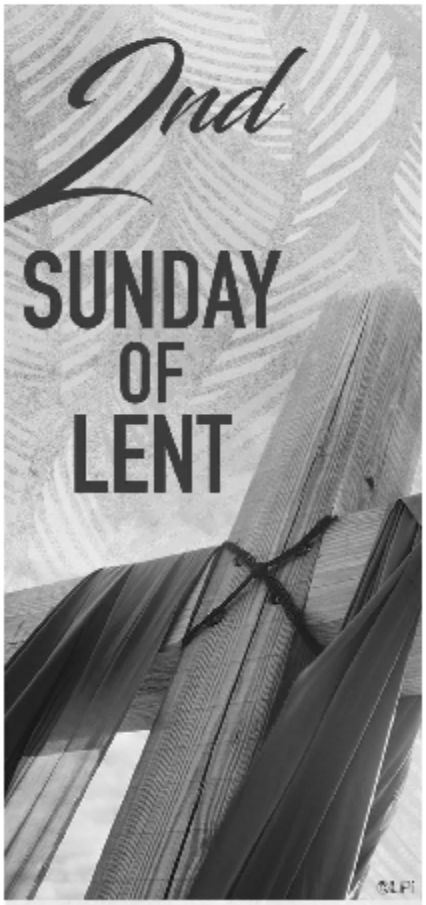
OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 28, 2021

Sunday:	2nd Sunday of Lent
Wednesday:	St. Katharine Drexel, Virgin
Thursday:	St. Casimir
Sunday:	3rd Sunday of Lent

LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration for the week

How is your Lent going so far? In changing the circumstances and order of our lives a bit, perhaps we can hear God's voice more clearly and drink more deeply of graced moments we experience. Having God as a friend always involves several things. First, there is God's call. We become attuned to the echo of God's voice in the depth of our souls calling and beckoning us to listen. Second, there is a request. We begin to see that God asks us to do certain things, to order our lives a particular way, and become more intentional in the choices we make. Third, there is trust. Do we trust this call and request? Trust commits us to the relationship and makes a claim on who we are. Finally, we are asked to act. We find ourselves acting, not in the way we used to, but in a transformed, more enlightened way. Things seem clearer and all that is around us shines with the brilliance of God's presence. God's call came through a cloud. "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." This is the call and the request. Can we give God our trust and do as God asks?



"God is waiting for you."

– POPE FRANCIS

MASS INTENTIONS

We remember in prayer this week….

Feb. 28th	
8:00am	Marita Loffredo
9:30am	Anthony "Butch" Micheletti and The Deceased Members of The DiSanto Family
11:00am	Jose Duarte Mary & John Almagno
March 1st	Thomas Lombardi Louise Lefebvre Mass of the People
March 2nd	Albert & Angelina Barone
March 3rd	Dorothy Moretta
March 4th	Willard A. Ledoux
March 6th	Elvira M. Cardi and The Living and Deceased Members of the Domenic Cardi Family and The Frank Ritacco Family

SANCTUARY CANDLES 3/1 – 3/7

Upper Sanctuary Candle will burn in Loving Memory for **Michael Manzi Birthday**
By: Daughter Linda & Family

Both Sanctuary Candles in the Lower Church will burn in Loving Memory for: **Donald Duarte Birthday**
By: Lou & Linda DiNola

THANK YOU - To All Who Use Online Giving!

Parishioners who use the service are pleased with how easy it is to set up and manage. For your convenience we are now accepting Visa, Mastercard and Discover Card. If you have not yet signed up for Online Giving, please consider this option. This is a perfect tool for anyone who shops online! By using Online Giving you are helping the parish improve our operational efficiency.

Online Giving is a web-based application that allows you to start, stop and change your contributions at any time. Please notice that our offering envelopes now have a check box which indicates "I've given online," which you can use to present during offertory at Mass. Online Giving is very easy to use and requires no special knowledge other than how to access the Internet. If you haven't already signed up, then go to our parish website at www.saintmarycranston.org and select Online Giving.

LET'S CONTINUE TO BE SAFE

Please know that the guidelines enacted to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 have worked. The spread of COVID-19 has not been traced to any Catholic church in the State of Rhode Island. This reflects your willingness to follow safe protocols in order to protect fellow parishioners and our community at large.

(1) Please come to Mass wearing a mask and continue to sanitize your hands.

(2) If you are sick—even with the mildest of symptoms—you must stay home. We continue to live-stream the Masses for this purpose.

(3) This is important: please do not congregate in the church or outside, and always maintain distance of at least six feet between others when you are entering or exiting the church. In some churches, parishioners sometimes exit at the same time and congregate in large groups outside. This is understandable. After all, we all need community. But this unfortunately defeats the purpose of keeping our distance to ensure everyone is safe.

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