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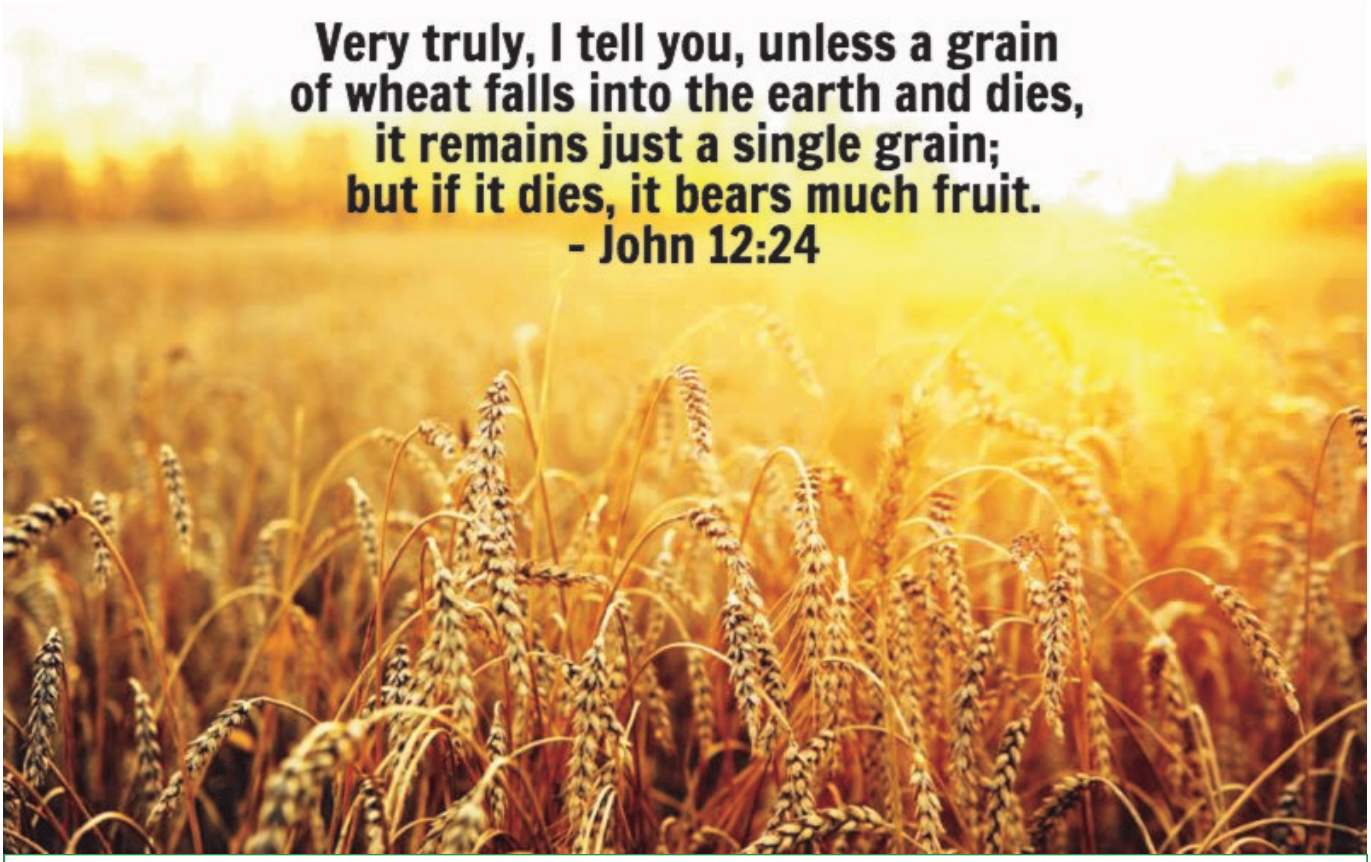

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MASS SCHEDULE
Sunday Vigil: Saturday 5:00 PM
Sunday: 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 & 12:00
Daily: 7:00 & 8:30 AM - Saturday - 8:30 AM only
Holy Days: Schedule Varies, please check website prior to Holy Day

CONFESSIONS: Saturdays: 4:00 to 4:45 PM
Confessions on Wednesdays after the 8:30 AM Mass.

PARISH REGISTRATION: A new parishioner may register in the parish by speaking with one of the priests in the lobby of the church after one of the Sunday Masses or by calling a priest for an appointment. (215-245-1698)

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Msgr. Kenneth P McAteer, Pastor
Rev. Stephen F. Katziner, Parochial Vicar
Rev. Joseph W. Dragon, Parochial Vicar
Deacon James P. DeBow, Permanent Deacon
Deacon Edward J. Dymek, Permanent Deacon
Sister Dorothy Thomas, I.H.M., Superior

Sister Shaun Thomas Callahan, I.H.M., Principal
Sister Mary Jane Bransfield I.H.M., 215-639-4332
Pastoral Minister to the Sick & Elderly
Mrs. Christianne Quinn, 215-639-4895,
C.R.E., P.R.E.P.
Mr. Chuck Burgy, 215-245-1698, Business Manager
Mr. Ronald Chancler, 215-639-4228
Liturgy and Music Coordinator

Saint Ephrem Church

Bensalem, Pennsylvania

March 18, 2018

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday, March 18~ 5th Sunday of Lent
7:30 Charles Haviland
req. by Eileen Finegan
9:00 Stan Krzyzanowski
req. by Ron & Agnes Schuman
10:30 For the St. Ephrem Parish Family
12:00 Joseph W. Dragon, Jr., 36th Anniversary
req. by The Dragon Family

Monday, March 19
7:00 Theresa Johnson
req. by The McKenna Family
8:30 Hilary Czaplicki
req. by Eileen & Mary Kelley Finegan

Tuesday, March 20
7:00 For the Benefactors of the Sanctuary Endowment Fund
8:30 Kathleen and George Maag
req. by Kathy & Jim Serfass

Wednesday, March 21
7:00 Barbara Dutkiewicz
req. by Sr. Marian Gregory & Sr. Marian Vincent
8:30 Barbara Durkiewicz
req. by Maryann Gibbons

Thursday, March 22
7:00 Joanne Kilian
req. by The Kilian Family
8:30 Paul and Rose Solenski
req. by Reds & Rose Boyle

Friday, March 23
7:00 Tom McGovern
req. by The O'Neil Family
8:30 Dorothy Dragon, 1st Anniversary
req. by Her Family
7:00pm Colleen Jaibur
req. by The Jaibur Family

Saturday, March 24
8:30am Joanne Kilian
req. by Her Family
5:00pm Dorothy Dragon
req. by Ann Krajewski

Sunday, March 25~ Palm Sunday
7:30 For the St. Ephrem Parish Family
9:00 Betty Guild
req. by The Guild Family
10:30 Walter Wojcik
req. by The Gull Family
12:00 Joseph and Josie Caravan
req. by Alberta Werner

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS, FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

Norine Pastore	Pat Powell	Jay Shipton
Baby Joel Heim	Julia Furey– Bastian	Trudy Gryniewicz
Terry Downs	Michael Aquaviva	Robert Liberatore
Jack Donnelly	Joseph Otto	Dawn Marie Rogers
Baby Bridget Murphy	Marcia McCullough	A.J. Mattia
Genevieve Rynkiewick	John Roley	Justin Hennessy
Donna McCarthy	Ed and Hannah Baranoski	Patrick Collins
John Henry	Casey Lang	Bill Richmond
Kevin Goodwin	E.J. Connell, Jr.	Bill Storms
Anne Junod	Baby Nicholas	Mr. Provenzano
Ronald Schuman	Gene Heasley	Patrick Manning
Mary Jane Finley	Mike Souders	Elizabeth Bourne
Elizabeth DiPasquale	Kevin Jaibur	Tony Canu
Barbara Stretch	Andrew & Nancy Blaney	Dolores Reithmeier
Baby Steven Infante	Jim Sinclair	Joanne DeLeo
Bill Butz	Helen Allred	Mary DiGirolamo
John O'Donnell	Ruth Donnelly	Diane Zilinski
Paula Pietrofotta	Anna Simon	Carol Anderson
Baby Beatrice Finegan	Margaret Grone	James Moore

Baptisms

Baptisms are held on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month at 1:30pm.
Please see a priest to make the arrangements.

Texts for Sunday, March 25

1st Reading: Isaiah 50:4-7
Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 22:8-9, 17-18a, 19-20, 23-24
2nd Reading: Philippians 2:6-11
Gospel: Mark 14:1-15:47 or 15:1-39

The 03/11/18 collection was $17,628.23.

The 03/12/17 collection was $22,253.57.

Thank you for your goodness and generosity to St. Ephrem Parish.

Bingo this Sunday and Monday at 7pm.

Sunday March 18	**L'il Angel's** 8:00am-2:00pm **Teen Café** **Bingo** 7:00pm
Monday March 19	**Bible Study** 12:00-1:30pm **Adoration** 2:30 to 7:00pm **Flame of Love Rosary** said in church at 2:30pm **Bingo** 7:00pm
Tuesday March 20	**Prayer Meeting** 12:00pm **Accompanying Mary** 1:30pm **Girl Scouts** 7-9pm **Adult Enrichment** 7-8:30pm **Home & School Meeting** 7pm
Wednesday March 21	**Bereavement Group** 1:00pm or 7:00pm **Brownies** 6:00-8:00pm **Bible Study** 7:00-8:30pm
Thursday March 22	**Adult Enrichment** 1-2:30pm **RCIA** 7:00pm **Scouts**
Friday March 23	**Senior Citizens Meeting** 12:30pm **Mass** 7:00pm **Stations of the Cross** 7:30pm
Saturday March 24	**Brunch w/ the Easter Bunny** 11:00am

Altar Server Schedule

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday (March 12,13,14)
7:00am Sarah Wright, Annie Conner
8:30am Eva Borkowski, Alyssa Dockery

Thursday, Friday, Saturday (March 15,16,17)
There is NO 7am Mass on Saturday
7:00am Kellyanne Castagna, Emily Kraus
8:30am Regan Keeley, Sean Keeley
7:00pm Fri. Giuliana Gausz, Laura Jeffers

Saturday (March 17)
5:00pm Ivo Braganza, Anthony Marrero, Dylan McManus

Sunday (March 18)
7:30am Sarah Wright, Keira Long, Annie Conner
9:00am PREP SERVERS TO SERVE THIS MASS
10:30am Alexa DiGirolamo, Kellyanne Castagna, Katie Rose Stella
12 Noon Gabriella Hamann, Kayla Gleisner, Lily Seda

ST. EPHREM SCHOOL NEWS

School Calendar

March 19-23, 2018
- Terra Nova Testing Grades 3-7

March 24, 2018
- Youth Group's "Brunch with the Easter Bunny" 11:00-1:00pm in the Cafeteria

March 27, 2018
- Living Stations 1:30pm in Church

March 28-April 2, 2018
- NO SCHOOL

Upcoming Home & School Events!!!

CHANCE & AUCTION
Saturday, April 7, 2018 - "A Night of Superheroes"
Preview Night, April 6th. Tickets on sale NOW!!

2019 MASS BOOK

THE 2019 MASS BOOK WILL OPEN
TUESDAY, MARCH 27TH, 2018
AT 9:00 A.M.

ST. EPHREM SENIOR GROUP TRIPS FOR 2018 - 2019

"The Hills Are Alive" in Vermont -- Sept. 9-12, 2018

New England / Canada Cruise -- May 18-25, 2019

For pricing, flyers, additional information, please contact Ray at 215-757-3473.

All ages welcome. You do not have to be a member of the Senior Group to participate in our trips.

RCIA

The RCIA (Catechumenate) is a process by which adults and young adults are initiated into the Roman Catholic community, i.e. St. Ephrem Parish Family. The letters R C I A refer to the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults.

THE UPCOMING MARCH TOPICS ARE:

03/22/18 Untie him and let him go free… (Jn. 11:1-45)

03/29/18 The Paschal Triduum— No Session

03/31/18 Practice at St. Ephrem Church 10:30am

All are most welcome. Instructions are on Thursday nights at 7pm in the Marian Parish Center.

For information contact:
Gerry Donnelly (215-638-7184) or
Msgr. McAteer (215-245-1698).

Plug into Individual Sessions of *Catholicism*

(The 10 part video series by Bishop Barron)

See what it is like—- NO COST—- Marian Parish Center

This Week: March 20th at 7:00pm
March 22nd at 1:00pm

Lesson Ten: WORLDWITHOUT END - THE LAST THINGS
Explore the Church's conviction that life here and now is preparation for an extraordinary world that is yet to come - a supernatural destiny. Bishop Barron presents the Catholic vision of death, judgment, heaven, hell and purgatory.

Baby Bottle Project Update

Earlier this month St. Ephrem sent the Legacy of Life Foundation, the sponsors of our Baby Bottle Project, a total of $12,488.92! Thanks to all of you who sacrificed and contributed to this local Pro Life initiative

The Legacy of Life Foundation funds two crisis pregnancy centers in Bristol and Philadelphia PA, that serve hundreds of women each year who feel they have no choice but abortion. They support women throughout pregnancy, and for at least 3 years after their babies are born.

To watch a video about this life saving work or to learn about volunteer opportunities visit www.legacyoflifefoundation.org.

For information or to RSVP for our monthly tours, please call 215-788-4051.

MEETING ~ Saints & Legends of Ireland ~ Sept. 5-15, 2018

Join Fr. David Fernandes & Helen Holroyd for a "Meet & Greet" at St. Thomas Aquinas parish on Thursday, March 22nd at 7pm. Meeting will be held in the Fr. Crehan Hall. We will be discussing & taking reservations for our Saints & Legends of Ireland Pilgrimage Tour. Cost: $3849. If you plan on signing up, please bring a copy of your Passport and $500 deposit for Registration. If you plan on attending, kindly give us a heads up by calling 610-213-4141.

Archbishop Wood Class of 2023 7th Grade Practice Exam

Saturday, March 24, 2018, 8:30am. $45 nonrefundable fee. Register online at www.archwood.org.

Local Area Catholic Young Adult Group Information

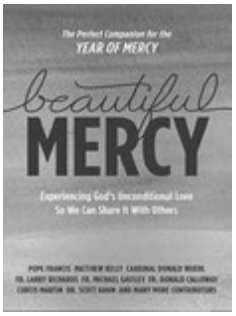
Regular Monday meetings are held at 7:30pm at Olde St. Andrew's Church 135 S. Sycamore St. in Newtown.

The schedule for upcoming meetings is as follows:

03/19/18 March Psalms Part 3
03/26/18 The Annunciation

Matthew Kelly Free Book/ CD Giveaway

The Dynamic Catholic parish resource for the month of March is a book titled "Beautiful Mercy".



This free book will be given out on Sunday, March 25th at the 7:30am mass.

Please stop by and check out our table in the vestibule of the church. We have other books and CD's by Matthew Kelly also available.

Please enjoy this free gift from Dynamic Catholic and feel free to share it with family or friends. You may also return it to our monthly booth so we can pass it on for other parishioners to enjoy.

Medical Mission Sisters Thrift Shop

Serving the local community for over 30 year, the Medical Mission Sisters Thrift Shop features quality new & gently used merchandise. All proceeds from the thrift shop sales support the work of the Medical Mission Sisters, a non-profit organization. Come visit us as 8400 Pine Rd., Philadelphia PA 19111 or www.mmsthriftshop.com.

Romauction 2018

Join us Saturday, March 24, 2018 at 6pm at Roman Catholic High School a premier gala and fundraising event featuring a lavish buffet, raffle items, games of chance as well as a silent & live auction. For more info. please visit romauction@romancatholichs.com or call 215-627-1270 ext. 221.

The Mount Practice Exam

The Mount invites all interested 7th grade girls to The Pre-HSPT to be given on Saturday, March 24, 2018 from 8:00 – 11:30 a.m. Registration is available online only at: www.msjacad.org/practicetest

St. Ephrem Parish will be hosting a clothing drive to benefit The Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Sunday, April 8th from 7:00 am to 1:00 pm.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be using the services of GreenDrop to support their clothing drive. Look for the GreenDrop truck in the parish parking lot where an attendant will be available to assist you with your donations. Please place your donations of usable men's, women's and children's clothing in plastic bags or boxes. Household items such as: kitchenware, games/toys, small appliances under 50 pounds, electronics, sporting goods, books, CDs & videos are also accepted. Unfortunately, furniture, large appliances, TVs or computer monitors cannot be accepted. For a full list of acceptable items visit www.gogreendrop.com

St. Ephrem Men's Faith Sharing Group Update

The Parish Men's Faith Sharing Group is now in its third year and going strong. New members are always welcome. At this time, the group is considering meeting sometime during the week. Currently we meet on Saturdays at 7AM in the Marian Center. Yes, 7AM on Saturday mornings. Talk about dedication! However, we realize this day and time may not be convenient for some. Therefore, as of April 10th, we plan on meeting once weekly, either on Saturday mornings from 7:00am-8:00am, or Tuesday evenings from 7:30pm-8:30pm.

For those not familiar with us, we are a group of fifteen or so parish men of various ages and professions. You see us in Church on Sundays attending Mass, and sometimes participating in various ministries such as Lector, Eucharistic Minister, Folk Group, Pro-Life, Bereavement, Coaching on the soccer field, etc.

Our meetings generally last about an hour to an hours and a quarter and start with a reflection of the past week. We begin by asking ourselves silently if we have given of ourselves to others, talked about others, been respectful of those we have come in contact with, been respectful to the Lord and thanked Him for all His blessings in our lives. Then we go around the room taking turns reading a paragraph or two from our prayer books. Following the prayers, we read the scripture readings for that weekend's Masses and talk about what ties them together. We give our own interpretation of them, or find commonalities between them and things that may have happened during the week in the world or in our own lives.

What this group is NOT is a Bible Study Group. Rather, it is exactly what the title claims- a Men's Faith Sharing Group. We enjoy talking about what our faith stands for. There is NO singing or holding hands, but a hug and handshake are always welcome. We don't discuss politics, but when we have strayed in that direction a few times, we have quickly pulled back and refocused on why we are there.

On occasion some of our reflections on the readings have become very personal. At times our emotions get the best of us. We have a saying in our group: "What's said in Marian, stays in Marian". We have a deep respect for each other and understand the importance of privacy and confidentiality.

Our meetings end with "A Prayer for a Peaceful Spirit" and other prayers that are said for any special intentions or for those who are sick, hospitalized, are in need of prayers or have died.

I am personally very honored to be part of this group of men, and even more privileged to call them my friends. Gentlemen, if this sounds like something you would like to be a part of, consider coming to a Saturday meeting once or twice just to check us out. As it is written in the Bible 366 times, "Be Not Afraid".

This & That

(Fr. S. Katziner)

"Bring all your suffering to His feet"

Jesus wants me to tell you how much love he has for each one of your— beyond all you can imagine.

We may spend time in chapel—but have you seen with the eyes of your soul how he looks at you with love? Do you really know the living Jesus—not from books but from being with him in your heart? Have you heard the loving words he speaks to you? Ask for the grace; he is longing to give it.

Be careful of all that can block that personal contact with the living Jesus. The devil may try to use the hurts of life, and sometimes our own mistakes—to make you feel it is impossible that Jesus really loves you, is really cleaving to you. Not only does Jesus love you, but even more— he longs for your. He misses you when you don't come close. He thirsts for you. He loves you always, even when you don't feel worthy.

When not accepted by others, even by yourself sometimes— he is the one who always accepts you. My children, you don't have to be different for Jesus to love you. Only believe—you are precious to him. Bring all you are suffering to his feet—only open your heart to be loved by him as you are. He will do the rest.

-St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta

From *Mother Teresa's "Varanasi Letter"*, March 25, 1993. All rights reserved.

The Church Raffle

Several years ago a church raffle was held in Ireland on the weekend of March 17th. The two top winners, however, were never announced. Upset, Paddy O'Driscoll decided to ask his priest what was going on. He said, "Father, do you know who won first prize in the church raffle?" "The Bishop did, Paddy, isn't he lucky?", said the priest. Paddy then asked, "Father, do you know who won the 2nd prize?" He responded, "I did, Paddy, aren't I lucky?"

The priest then said, "Paddy, did you buy a chance on the raffle?" Paddy replied, "No, I didn't Father, aren't I lucky?"

099 St. Ephrem

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