THE TRANSFIGURATION OF JESUS
St. Barnabas the Apostle
Second Week of Lent

Monday, February 26
Fr. Charles 6:30 AM    Charlie and Ann Klika
Fr. Kevin 9:00 AM    Frank Steinheimer

Tuesday, February 27
Fr. Kevin 6:30 AM    Carmela Millie Palmenteri
Fr. Adrian 9:00 AM    Brian Dione

Wednesday, February 28
Fr. Adrian 6:30 AM    Deceased Members of the Schiebel Family
Fr. Charles 9:00 AM    Charles Frank Hefner

Thursday, March 1
Fr. Kevin 6:30 AM    Robert Chavanne
Visitor 9:00 AM    SEAS Mass

Friday, March 2
Fr. Charles 6:30 AM    Expedito Casimiro
Fr. Kevin 9:00 AM    Mary and Rosario D’Amico

Saturday, March 3
Fr. Charles 8:00 AM    Roy Mistretta
Fr. Kevin 4:30 PM    Thomas J. Mulvey
Bart Collins and Joseph Previto
Patrick Tobin
John Ruggiero
Edward McCartney
Raffaella Balogh
Fr. Adrian 7:00 PM    Joe Georgione

Sunday, March 4    Third Sunday of Lent
Fr. Kevin 7:00 AM    Ralph Attonito
Fr. Charles 9:00 AM    Albert Wildemann
Fr. Kevin 10:15 AM    Jess Casco
Fr. Adrian 10:30 AM    Adeline and Peter Villella, Jr.
Fr. Charles 12:00 AM    Walter and Marie Paluch
Fr. Adrian 5:00 PM    For the People of Our Parish

Office Open Monday - Friday: 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM; (Closed Weekdays: 12:30 - 1:30 PM)
Saturday & Sunday: 9 AM to 1 PM

MASS TIMES
Monday to Friday: 6:30 and 9 AM
Saturday: 8:00 AM
Vigil: 4:30 & 7 PM
Sunday: 7, 9, 10:15, 10:30 AM; 12 & 5 PM.

Confessions Saturday 12:30 PM
Baptisms are celebrated on Saturday at 11:30 AM and Sunday at 1:30 PM when the Church is available

The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is celebrated on the fourth Saturday after 8:00 AM Mass

Contact the Rectory for information on the Sacrament of Matrimony

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School
Principal, Ms. Leeann Graziose  516-785-5709

St. Barnabas Christian Formation
Mrs. Marjorie Lampert  516-785-0130

St. Barnabas Youth Ministry & Confirmation Preparation
Mr. Kieran Maelia

Social Ministry
Mrs. Alice Witt  516-785-6243

Music Ministry
Mr. William R. Dione

Business & Personnel
Mr. John G. Nappi

www.stbapostle@gmail.com.
www.Facebook.com/St-Barnabas
“Be at your best every day” and “Happiness is just a thought away” describe Jim’s core message. Jim’s unique ability to take profound, life changing concepts and relate them in a way that they are easily understood is what reaches the heart of people. A visionary, a leading edge thinker, his own sense of self and his happiness quotient serve to open up the minds and hearts of his listeners. Jim is an accomplished guitarist and singer. His musical interludes serve to solidify the concepts presented.

SEE YOU AT ST. BARNABAS !!
What's Pastor Thinking

In the Transfiguration, we are presented with an intensely private moment between Jesus and the Father, so private that much of it happened on a mountain, in a cloud, away from everyone. Three disciples were witnesses, but in spite of the fantastic goings on, what they did see they misunderstood. They were terrified by it, which may be why they kept silent, and ‘in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.’

In the same respect, people come to Mass hoping to soak up as much of God as we can to last us for the week. When we leave here, are we any different? Perhaps, at first glance, our life is not noticeably different. We are wearing the same clothes as we arrived in, have the same ailments that we did when we came in, and return to the same problems that we had when we last left them. So it is very tempting to believe that nothing has changed during our hour together and like the disciples, we miss the point.

Yet for Jesus, something very significant happened that day many years ago. It was this event alone that honed His focus towards Jerusalem, towards an unavoidable confrontation with the religious and civil authorities, and finally, towards the cross.

For us, something very significant happens as well. Perhaps it doesn’t happen every week. Perhaps it only happens a handful of times when there is something that moves us, touches us, impacts us at Mass with a presence of the divine. What seemingly began as just another Mass, as just another step on the journey, suddenly becomes a moment when everything connects and is made clear. Who knows why it happens? Who knows how it happens? It just happens.

Such moments as these when they happen are indispensable to our faith, whether it is because of something we have said, something that happens during Mass, or something that happens later in the week that finally makes life look a little clearer, a little better, or a little easier to live. Then, in some stunning moment of prayer, we see who Jesus is. We heed the voice as it was spoken in the past, in the present and in the future, saying, ‘This is my Son, listen to Him!’ And so we listen. And so we see. And so we believe!
We Pray for Our Deceased
Lillian Musumeci
Frank Zirilli

We Pray for Our Sick

The Week at a Glance

Sunday:
12:00 PM  Rite of Continuing
1:30 PM  Baptisms
7:30 PM  Al-Anon, Cafeteria

Monday:
9:00 AM  Parish Mission, Church
7:30 PM  Charismatics, HFC
7:00 PM  Parish Mission, Church

Tuesday:
9:00 AM  Parish Mission, Church
7:00 PM  Parish Mission, Church

Wednesday:
9:00 AM  Parish Mission, Church
7:00 PM  Parish Mission, Church
7:00 PM  Chosen L8, HFC
7:30 PM  RCIA
7:30 PM  Al-Anon, Rectory

Thursday:
8:30 AM  SEAS Retreat, after Mass
7:00 PM  Bible Study, Rectory
7:00 PM  Chosen L8, HFC

Friday:
1:30 PM  Stations of the Cross, Church
1:30 PM  Lectio Divina, Rectory
7:00 PM  Lectio Divina, Rectory
8:00 PM  Adoration, Church

Saturday:
9:00 AM  Christ Life Training, HFC
11:30 AM  Baptisms
12:30 PM  Confession

Our Finances
2/18/18: $ 15,208
2/19/17: $ 15,166
Parish Families Registered:  4,997
Envelopes Mailed: 1,303
Used          2/18/18:  585
                2/19/17:  556

Catholic Ministries Appeal
Goal: $108,900  Donors: 105
Pledged: $23,295  Received: $13,870

Special Collections
This Weekend Support our Parish Mission
March 4th  St. Vincent de Paul
PARISH MISSION
Monday, February 26th, Tuesday, 27th and Wednesday, 28th. The speaker is Mr. Jim Ryan. Mass at 9:00 AM and Evening Talk at 7:00 PM. Bring a friend.

ST. BARNABAS PARENTS
Tuesday March 6th, Holy Family Chapel at 7:00 PM. The speakers are Bryan Finn & James O’Brien. The theme is ‘Family and the New Evangelization.’ All are welcome.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION
On Monday, March 5th at 7:00 PM in the Church, Fr. Sean Davidson of the Missionaries of the Most Holy Eucharist will lead us in an evening of prayer with Exposition, Procession, Benediction and Confession.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS
Every Friday at 1:30 PM in the Church.
Wednesday, March 21st at 8:00 PM, Creative Ministries present ‘JOURNEY, CROSS & CRUCIFIXION’
Good Friday, March 30th Outdoor Stations at 12 noon.

CONFESSION
Every Saturday at 12:30 PM.
Wednesday, March 7th from 7:30 PM to 8:30 PM.
Thursday, March 8th from 7:30 PM to 8:30 PM.
Monday, March 26th from 3:00 PM to 9:00 PM.

GIVING NOT GIVING UP
During the five weeks of Lent every household is encouraged to bring donations of food to the rectory or Church to help our Social Ministry outreach to the needy in our community.
Liturgical Ministers Meeting
There will be a meeting for all Liturgical Ministers to update the celebration of the Liturgy here at St. Barnabas. Since it will involve changes in the way we celebrate, it is important to attend one of the meetings. They will be held on Monday, March 12th at 7:00 PM and Saturday, March 17th at 9:00 AM in the church. In case there is a funeral we will begin in the Holy Family Chapel. Please call the rectory to let us know which meeting you will be attending.

Flu Season Recommendations
Due to severe flu outbreaks at this time in our diocese, priests, deacons, and Eucharistic ministers are reminded of the need to practice good hygiene prior to and after the distribution of Holy Communion. This involves cleansing one’s hands before Mass and when visiting people in their homes or in institutions, such as hospitals and nursing homes. It is also recommended that this be done prior to and after the celebration of other sacraments and religious and parish functions. This may be done by washing with hot water and soap or by means of an alcohol-based antibacterial hand sanitizer. Eucharistic ministers should not serve when they are sick. Due to this particularly bad flu season pastors have the option of offering Holy Communion only under one species, until health conditions improve. Priests and parishioners may also opt not to shake hands at the sign of peace, but express peace through another gesture or verbal greeting.

Eucharistic Retreat Day
Join the Missionaries of The Most Holy Eucharist on Sunday, March 11th from 8:00 AM - 5:30 PM at the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception, 4400 West Neck Road, Huntington for a day set aside to adore and love Christ in the Most Holy Eucharist. Come abide with Him on this day which includes hot breakfast and lunch, spiritual mediations, confession, rosary, Eucharist adoration and benediction. To register, please email MostHolyEucharist@gmail.com or call (631) 629-6514. Include your name, email address, home address, parish and phone number. Advance registration is required and by email is preferred. $35 donation of cash or check made out to The Seminary of the Immaculate Conception is suggested for the day and will be collected at the door.

Divorced or Separated Catholics
Divorced or Separated Catholics of Long Island including Widows, Widowers and Singles are invited to a New Member Orientation meeting on Wednesday, February 28th at 7:30 PM and Wednesday, March 21st at 7:30 PM at St. Frances de Chantal School, 1309 Wantagh Avenue, Wantagh. This is a non-denominational meeting and all are welcome. Bring proof of single status to join. Refreshments will be served after the meeting. For further information, please call Carol at 794-4933 or Barbara at 798-2858.

Pre Cana Schedule - Winter 2018
In Home Sessions: February 11th - March 16th
Closing: 5:00 PM Mass - Sunday, March 18th followed by refreshments.

Rice Bowls
Lent is our time to cultivate a spirit of global
solidarity. The Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl is a vehicle through which the stories of communities around the world can be shared. It is an invitation to change lives through our prayers and Lenten sacrifices. Through the CRS Rice Bowl we hear stories from our brothers and sisters in need worldwide, and devote our Lenten prayers, fasting and gifts to change the lives of the poor. Each day of Lent, individuals are invited to use the Lenten Calendar - included with every CRS Rice Bowl - to guide their Lenten almsgiving. These daily almsgiving activities - for example, give 25 cents for every faucet found in your home - help families reflect on the realities of our brothers and sisters around the world and how they can be in solidarity during the Lenten season.

**St. Vincent de Paul**

In the Gospel, we see the transfigured glory then allusion to Jesus’ dying. In our daily lives we see the “dying and rising” between our work and leisure, between times with loved ones and times away, between success and failure, between doing something we would enjoy and doing something someone else would enjoy more. Lent is a call not just to “give up something” but more importantly to “give something for the poor.” Through your almsgiving you are performing a good work; far greater than you think. Please continue to support St. Vincent de Paul Society so that we can bring Christ’s love and compassion to the poor and needy in the parish.

**MOMMAS House**

Casino Night Fundraiser to benefit MOMMAS House (mother-child residence) at The Bellmore Exempt Fireman’s Benevolent Association, 228 Petit Ave., Bellmore (directly across from the train station) on Friday, March 9th from 7:00 PM - 11:00 PM. $50 per person includes $50 MOMMAS Money, 1 drink and food ticket. Come take a chance on the young mothers and babies living at MOMMAS House. Enjoy a wonderful evening of luck; win a trip to Las Vegas, an RCA 4K TV, plus many more amazing raffle prizes!

**Charismatic Prayer Group**

As we come into the Season of Lent, we look for ways to rediscover Jesus in our lives. Daily Scripture readings and quiet moments set aside to draw near to Jesus can be the beginning of a wonderful journey. Next Monday, February 26th is our Parish Mission. The following Monday, March 5th, Fr. Sean Davidson will lead us in Eucharistic Adoration. Prayer group WILL NOT be meeting these evenings so that we may be a part of these sessions for Lent. Join us again on Monday, March 12th in the Holy Family Chapel from 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM. Psalm 95 tells us: “Come, let us sing joyfully to the Lord: let us acclaim the Rock of our Salvation.” We gather together as a community to Praise the Lord in song, scripture and sharing. Coffee, cake and fellowship after the meeting. For more information, call Ellen O’Malley at 221-0574.

**Tabor Retreat Center**

Lenten Retreat Journey. Sunday, March 18th from 2:00 PM - 4:30 PM, at 60 Anchor Avenue, Oceanside. Discover what it means to be a pilgrim on a wonderful holy journey. Donation is $20. Please call 536-3004 to register or go online at www.taborretreatcenter.net.

**Girl Scout Sunday**

Our Annual Girl Scout Sunday Mass will be held on Sunday, March 11th at 9:00 AM. First grade Daisies
who have earned the *Jesus Loves Me* Award and Brownies who have earned the *Ave Maria* and *Family of God* Awards will receive their medals at the Mass. Immediately following the Mass will be a Communion Breakfast in the school cafeteria. Tickets are $6 ($3 for children age 4 and under) and must be purchased no later than March 3rd. For reservation and tickets please contact Judy Hughes at 781-8040 or Joan Monastero at 783-8567 or monasteroj@verizon.net.

**The Men of the Way of Light**

In today’s first reading, God test Abraham’s faith. Because of Abraham’s obedience, God promises abundant blessings on his family and all his descendants. In the second reading, we are reminded that, “…God is for us…He did not spare His own Son, but handed Him over for us all…will He not also give us everything else?” God blesses our lives in so many ways! We often take these blessings for granted. Every once in a while, God tests our faith. Do we act trustingly as did Abraham? God’s love for us is unending! How do we love Him back? 1John5:3 says, “…this is love for God: to keep His commands, and they are not burdensome.” It is only by loving God that we are transformed into the people He wants us to be! Please join us at our next meeting on Saturday, March 3rd, as we discuss the many blessings God has given us and how we can help each other become our best selves, the people that God wants us to be. We meet bi-monthly on Saturdays in the Nazareth Room of the Holy Family Chapel (lower Church) immediately after the 8:00 AM Mass. Meetings typically go from 8:30 AM - 10:30 AM. Bagels and coffee provided. If you can’t attend, please pray for our group and for our parish. For more information contact Fred Kreuder at 987-5350 or email stbampg@aol.com and visit our FaceBook page: “Men of the Way of Light - St. Barnabas Men’s Faith Discussion Group.”

**Training of Volunteers in the Ministry to the Sick**

Saturday, March 3rd at 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Saint Catherine of Siena Medical Center, Smithtown. Visit our website www.drvc-faith.org

**A Retreat Day for the Elect**

St. Elizabeth of Hungary Parish, Melville. Sunday, March 11th from 2:30 PM to 7:00 PM. Visit our website www.drvc-faith.org

**Bereavement Ministry Facilitator Training**

St James Parish, Pastoral Center, Room 104. Saturday, March 3rd and 17th from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM and Saturday, March 24th from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM Visit our website www.drvc-faith.org

**RCIA**

Having been presented to the bishop as nearing completion of preparation for the Easter Sacraments, our RCIA Elect and Candidates continue the Period of Purification and Enlightenment. All of us are called to continuing conversion throughout our lives, so we will join with the Elect in scrutinizing our own lives and praying to God for the grace to overcome the power of sin that still infects our hearts. The Scrutinies are celebrated throughout the world on the 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays of Lent. Here at St. Barnabas, the masses will be March 4th at 10:30 AM, March 11th at 12:00 PM and March 18th at 9:00 AM. Please continue to pray for our RCIA Candidates and Elect.

**Catholics for Freedom of Religion**

Freedom of Speech and Freedom of Thought Wins -
for now: Bakersfield, CA: In what has become a familiar story, cake-artist, Cathy Miller, was sued by a same-sex couple when she declined to create a cake for their wedding because her faith “will not allow me to participate in things that I feel are wrong.” In his court ruling, Superior Court Judge David Lampe rejected the argument that personal offense trumps conscience. “The State asks this court to compel (Cathy) Miller to use her talents to design and create cake she has not yet conceived with the knowledge that her work will be displayed to celebrate a marital union her religion forbids...Such an order would be the stuff of tyranny.” This ruling by Judge Lampe is only temporary. The full case comes to trial in June. “Whoever would overthrow the liberty of a nation must begin by subduing the freedom of speech.” ~ Ben Franklin

Estate Planning
When preparing your estate plan, please consider a bequest to The Parish of St. Barnabas, Bellmore. You can make a contribution to support ongoing operations of the Church or contribute to a particular project. Your legal counsel can help you refine the bequest language to suit your specific wishes for The Parish of St. Barnabas. Thank you.

To place a notice in our Bulletin
email stbapostle@gmail.com.

To place an advertisement on our cover
call
The Church Bulletin at (631) 249-4994.

Please support our bulletin.

Saint Barnabas Parish
We are a Catholic Parish in Bellmore since 1912. Our mission is to encourage, evangelize and educate. Jesus Christ is vital to our everyday living. With the time, talents, and treasures of the members of our parish community we serve our brothers and sisters in Christ through the traditions and teachings of our Catholic faith.

Regular Sacrificial Giving
You can contribute to St. Barnabas with on-line banking and bill paying services. Call the rectory to request the service. Send a check to St. Barnabas with your weekly collection donation indicated. Include your Name, Address & Envelope Number.
Lent is often thought of as a time of sacrifice ... a time to “give up” things such as candy, bad habits and maybe even the internet. Although these challenges help us prepare for larger sacrifices in life, Lent does not have to be a time of “giving up.” Rather, we can make it a time to “give” alms and add something positive to our daily lives and the lives of others. When it comes to almsgiving or helping the poor, the Church makes it easy for us through our Lenten program, ‘Giving, Not Giving Up.’ During the five Sundays of Lent, every household is encouraged to bring their alms to Mass each weekend or leave at the rectory during the week.

February 25th - spaghetti sauce (jars), canned pasta (ravioli, spaghetti-os), canned fruit, shampoo/conditioner

March 4th - flour, oil, mayonnaise (small jars), deodorant, toothpaste

March 11th - pudding, jell-o, crackers, pancake mix/syrup, soap

March 18th - toilet paper, paper towels, tissues, laundry detergent, dishwashing liquid
Liturgical Ministry Training
ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE OF WORSHIP 516-678-5800 x504

1. Training for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: required for all those
who are beginning as Ministers. Session “A” is required of ALL Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.
Those who minister in hospitals, nursing homes and to homebound persons are required to attend
Session “B” in addition to Session “A”. SESSION “A” MUST BE ATTENDED PRIOR TO SESSION “B”.

CONTACT FR. ADRIAN
IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SERVING AS
A EUCHARISTIC MINISTER OR LECTOR

TIMES AND PLACES FOR MINISTRY TRAINING:
In Nassau: EM "A" Session and Lectors
April 14, 2018; 9 AM – 1 PM
St. Agnes Parish Center, Rockville Centre

In Suffolk: EM "A" Session and Lectors
May 12, 2018; 9 AM – 1 PM
St. Rosalie, Hampton Bays

“B” session for Extraordinary Ministers
April 21, 2018; 9 AM – 1 PM
St. Agnes Parish Center, Rockville Centre

“How fit are your finances?
Let Ocean Financial whip your finances into shape to save you money in 2018.

Stop into an Ocean Financial branch to speak with a Member Contact Representative or Loan Officer to review your credit report and accounts to see where you can start saving more today!

Start your 2018 Financial Fitness Program:
616.620.8100
www.oceanfinancial.org
visit your local branch

**In order to provide an account review, Ocean Financial will run a soft inquiry of a member’s credit report. This inquiry will not affect their credit. It is determined that a loan from Ocean Financial can benefit the member, a hard inquiry of the credit report will need to run for the loan to be processed. Membership conditions may apply.**

DON’T GIVE UP chocolate FOR LENT

This year, do something different. Join our parish for BEST LENT EVER, a free email program from Dynamic Catholic that will help you have a life-changing Lent. Each day, you’ll receive an email with . . .

• Inspirational Videos
• Practical Tips
• Encouraging Stories

SIGN UP AT DynamicCatholic.com/40Days

Rockville Centre
Diocesan Pilgrimage to
IRELAND

SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR:
HIS EXCELLENCY, BISHOP JOHN BARRES AND AUXILIARY BISHOP ROBERT BRENNAN

AUGUST 20 - 27, 2018
$3,999 FROM NEW YORK

Optional Post Tour: Knock and Galway Additional $999 per person

www.pilgrimages.com/drvc

Dublin, Ireland
WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES
21-26 August 2018
Life is Changed, Not Ended

Bereavement Conference 2018

For the Bereaved and those Ministering to Them

Saturday, March 10, 2018
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
St. Frances de Chantal Parish
1309 Wantagh Ave, Wantagh, New York 11793

Keynote Speaker
Bishop Andrzej Zgliczynski
Auxiliary Bishop, Diocese of Rockville Centre
Vicar for the Western Vicariate

Bishop Andrzej Zgliczynski was born and raised in Poland where he studied philosophy and theology before coming to the United States in 1987. He completed his studies for the priesthood at the Immaculate Conception Seminary in Huntington and was ordained by Bishop John R. McGann, for the Diocese of Rockville Centre in 1990.

DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE YOUTH RALLY

BE AMAZED
AT THE HEIGHTS TO WHICH YOU ARE CALLED

FEATURING

MARCH 3, 2018
10 AM - 3 PM
GRADES 8-12
$20 PER PERSON
ST. ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY
175 WOLF HILL RD, MELVILLE, NY 11747
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
FR. JOE FITZGERALD - 516-676-9300 x 214
YOUTHMINISTRY@DRVC.ORG

Register online at: conta.cc/2DLWT8v

Coming again by Popular Demand!
An independent documentary film
starring Donna Camilleri from St. Barnabas Parish, Bellmore
for the benefit of the ADRC (501(c)3) (Alzheimer’s Disease Resource Center)

Title: “Bella: Portrait of a Prayer”
Showtime: Thursday, March 22 - 8:00 pm
Where: Columbus Club
101 Frederick Ave., Bellmore
home of Knights of Columbus,
Council #3869
Ticket sales: In advance at Dear Little Dollies
doll shop, 418 Bedford Ave.
(516) 679-0164 (leave message)
or at event
Limited seating!

Cost: $20/ticket. No credit cards please.
Cash or Checks made out to the ADRC.
Price includes the film, light refreshments and a raffle ticket for the
grand door prize. Tickets for other raffle
items will be available at event.

Lenten Day of Prayer at the Seminary

“A Lenten Tale Told to God”

“So then, each of us shall give account of himself to God.”
Romans 14:12

Rev. Patrick J. Griffin, CM
Executive Director, Vincentian Center for Church & Society
St. John's University

Sunday
March 4
2018
9:30 am
to
3:30 pm

Conferences • Lunch • Confession • Mass
Sponsored by The Friends of the Seminary Spirituality Committee
$30 per Guest

Reservations & Information (rsvp requested by February 25th)
kmalone@seminary.edu • (631) 423-0483 x 102

Seminary of the Immaculate Conception • 440 West Neck Road • Huntington, NY
MINISTRY OF CONSOLATION

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

You may have experienced the gift of our Ministry of Consolation. These are volunteers who assist families in preparation for a funeral of a loved one. We meet with the family to help choose readings, hymns and gather other information for the funeral Mass. At the funeral Mass we welcome, help with seating and are there with the boxes of tissues where needed. We are in great need of new volunteers. If you are interested, phone the Rectory Office, 785-0054. Thank you.
MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS
LENT 2018

“Because of the increase of iniquity, the love of many will grow cold”
(Mt 24:12)

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Once again, the Pasch of the Lord draws near! In our preparation for Easter, God in his providence offers us each year the season of Lent as a “sacramental sign of our conversion”.[1] Lent summons us, and enables us, to come back to the Lord wholeheartedly and in every aspect of our life.

With this message, I would like again this year to help the entire Church experience this time of grace anew, with joy and in truth. I will take my cue from the words of Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew: “Because of the increase of iniquity, the love of many will grow cold” (24:12).

These words appear in Christ’s preaching about the end of time. They were spoken in Jerusalem, on the Mount of Olives, where the Lord’s passion would begin. In reply to a question of the disciples, Jesus foretells a great tribulation and describes a situation in which the community of believers might well find itself: amid great trials, false prophets would lead people astray and the love that is the core of the Gospel would grow cold in the hearts of many.

False prophets

Let us listen to the Gospel passage and try to understand the guise such false prophets can assume.

They can appear as “snake charmers”, who manipulate human emotions in order to enslave others and lead them where they would have them go. How many of God’s children are mesmerized by momentary pleasures, mistaking them for true happiness! How many men and women live entranced by the dream of wealth, which only makes them slaves to profit and petty interests! How many go through life believing that they are sufficient unto themselves, and end up entrapped by loneliness!

False prophets can also be “charlatans”, who offer easy and immediate solutions to suffering that soon prove utterly useless. How many young people are taken in by the panacea of drugs, of disposable relationships, of easy but dishonest gains! How many more are ensnared in a thoroughly “virtual” existence, in which relationships appear quick and straightforward, only to prove meaningless! These swindlers, in peddling things that have no real value, rob people of all that is most precious: dignity, freedom and the ability to love. They appeal to our vanity, our trust in appearances, but in the end they only make fools of us. Nor should we be surprised. In order to confound the human heart, the devil, who is “a liar and the father of lies” (Jn 8:44), has always
presented evil as good, falsehood as truth. That is why each of us is called to peer into our heart to see if we are falling prey to the lies of these false prophets. We must learn to look closely, beneath the surface, and to recognize what leaves a good and lasting mark on our hearts, because it comes from God and is truly for our benefit.

A cold heart

In his description of hell, Dante Alighieri pictures the devil seated on a throne of ice,[2] in frozen and loveless isolation. We might well ask ourselves how it happens that charity can turn cold within us. What are the signs that indicate that our love is beginning to cool?

More than anything else, what destroys charity is greed for money, “the root of all evil” (1 Tim 6:10). The rejection of God and his peace soon follows; we prefer our own desolation rather than the comfort found in his word and the sacraments.[3] All this leads to violence against anyone we think is a threat to our own “certainties”: the unborn child, the elderly and infirm, the migrant, the alien among us, or our neighbour who does not live up to our expectations.

Creation itself becomes a silent witness to this cooling of charity. The earth is poisoned by refuse, discarded out of carelessness or for self-interest. The seas, themselves polluted, engulf the remains of countless shipwrecked victims of forced migration. The heavens, which in God’s plan, were created to sing his praises, are rent by engines raining down implements of death.

Love can also grow cold in our own communities. In the Apostolic Exhortation Evangelii Gaudium, I sought to describe the most evident signs of this lack of love: selfishness and spiritual sloth, sterile pessimism, the temptation to self-absorption, constant warring among ourselves, and the worldly mentality that makes us concerned only for appearances, and thus lessens our missionary zeal.[4]

What are we to do?

Perhaps we see, deep within ourselves and all about us, the signs I have just described. But the Church, our Mother and Teacher, along with the often bitter medicine of the truth, offers us in the Lenten season the soothing remedy of prayer, almsgiving and fasting.

By devoting more time to prayer, we enable our hearts to root out our secret lies and forms of self-deception,[5] and then to find the consolation God offers. He is our Father and he wants us to live life well.

Almsgiving sets us free from greed and helps us to regard our neighbour as a brother or sister. What I possess is never mine alone. How I would like almsgiving to become a genuine style of life for each of us! How I would like us, as Christians, to follow the example of the Apostles and see in the sharing of our possessions a tangible witness of the communion that is ours in the Church! For this reason, I echo Saint Paul’s exhortation to the Corinthians to take up a collection for the community of Jerusalem as something from which they themselves would benefit (cf. 2 Cor 8:10). This is all the more fitting during the Lenten season, when many groups take up collections to assist Churches and peoples in need. Yet I would also hope that, even in our daily encounters with those who beg for our
assistance, we would see such requests as coming from God himself. When we give alms, we share in God’s providential care for each of his children. If through me God helps someone today, will he not tomorrow provide for my own needs? For no one is more generous than God.[6]

Fasting weakens our tendency to violence; it disarms us and becomes an important opportunity for growth. On the one hand, it allows us to experience what the destitute and the starving have to endure. On the other hand, it expresses our own spiritual hunger and thirst for life in God. Fasting wakes us up. It makes us more attentive to God and our neighbour. It revives our desire to obey God, who alone is capable of satisfying our hunger.

I would also like my invitation to extend beyond the bounds of the Catholic Church, and to reach all of you, men and women of good will, who are open to hearing God’s voice. Perhaps, like ourselves, you are disturbed by the spread of iniquity in the world, you are concerned about the chill that paralyzes hearts and actions, and you see a weakening in our sense of being members of the one human family. Join us, then, in raising our plea to God, in fasting, and in offering whatever you can to our brothers and sisters in need!

The fire of Easter

Above all, I urge the members of the Church to take up the Lenten journey with enthusiasm, sustained by almsgiving, fasting and prayer. If, at times, the flame of charity seems to die in our own hearts, know that this is never the case in the heart of God! He constantly gives us a chance to begin loving anew.

One such moment of grace will be, again this year, the “24 Hours for the Lord” initiative, which invites the entire Church community to celebrate the sacrament of Reconciliation in the context of Eucharistic adoration. In 2018, inspired by the words of Psalm 130:4, “With you is forgiveness”, this will take place from Friday, 9 March to Saturday, 10 March. In each diocese, at least one church will remain open for twenty-four consecutive hours, offering an opportunity for both Eucharistic adoration and sacramental confession.

During the Easter Vigil, we will celebrate once more the moving rite of the lighting of the Easter candle. Drawn from the “new fire”, this light will slowly overcome the darkness and illuminate the liturgical assembly. “May the light of Christ rising in glory dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds”,[7] and enable all of us to relive the experience of the disciples on the way to Emmaus. By listening to God’s word and drawing nourishment from the table of the Eucharist, may our hearts be ever more ardent in faith, hope and love.

With affection and the promise of my prayers for all of you, I send you my blessing. Please do not forget to pray for me.

From the Vatican,

Francis.
**Discovering Christ**
A seven-week experience that invites guests to hear the Good News and personally encounter Jesus Christ.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What Is the Meaning of Life?</th>
<th>Holy Spirit Retreat:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Why Does Jesus Matter?</td>
<td>Who Is the Holy Spirit? (retreat)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What Does Jesus Want Us To Know?</td>
<td>The Holy Spirit and You (retreat)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Why Do We Need a Savior?</td>
<td>New Life in the Spirit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Why Is the Resurrection Important?</td>
<td>Our Need for the Church</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Each session includes four components:

1. Dinner  
2. Welcome and Prayer  
3. Video Teaching  
4. Small Group Discussion

The high point of the course is a Day Retreat where participants have the opportunity to make a personal commitment to Jesus Christ and be renewed in the Holy Spirit.

**SEVEN TUESDAYS FROM MAY 15 TO JUNE 26, 2018**

**Holy Family Chapel**
6:30pm-9:00pm

Day Retreat: Saturday June 16, 2018

For More Information:
Email: DiscoveringChrist2018@gmail.com
Call/Text: 516-330-3685

Join our Facebook Group: Discovering Christ Saint Barnabas

No Cost to Participate!
Saint Barnabas the Apostle

Only 300 tickets to be Sold
Great odds>>> 1 in 300 chance to win the big prize!
Last ticket pulled is the BIG WINNER

GRAND PRIZE OF $5,000

TEN - $500 PRIZES TWO - $1,000 PRIZES

Each ticket costs $100 and entitles you to admission for two to the Drawing/Cocktail Party
(must be 18 or older to purchase and/or attend)

All proceeds will support renovations to St. Barnabas Convent Building

Saturday, April 21st  8:00pm
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School cafeteria     Doors open at 7:30
Drawing starts at 8:00pm     Beer, wine, soda and hors d’oeuvres
Winner need not be present to win

In the event that less than 300 tickets are sold, the prizes will be prorated accordingly
(the prize amounts will be decreased relative to the total dollars collected).

Tickets will be available for purchase at the rectory beginning the week of December 11, 2017.
Cash or checks made payable to “Saint Barnabas” will be accepted.

REVERSE RAFFLE TICKET REQUEST

Name: __________________________ Telephone #:_________________ Number of tickets: ____
Address: ____________________________________________________________

Number of adults attending the party on Saturday, April 21st _____0 _____1 _____2
Religious Education

Reminder: With the winter weather upon us we want to remind you that if the Bellmore Schools are closed we will not have religion classes. Please check Cablevision, FIOS and the radio stations listed in the Parent Handbook for Religion Class Closings.

We have a few students that need either a one-on-one learning environment or a small group environment that need someone to work with them. Please call the Office of Christian Formation (516) 785-0130 to volunteer or to receive more information.

We are also in need of Adult Volunteers to be Substitutes, Hall Monitors and Attendance/Lobby Aides for our Religious Education program. Please call the office to get more information.

PARISH MISSION

Monday, February 26th, Tuesday, 27th and Wednesday, 28th. The speaker is Mr. Jim Ryan. Mass at 9:00 AM and Evening Talk at 7:00 PM. Bring a friend.
Who Is Mary? (Chapter 19)
Meeting the Mother of God and your Heavenly Family

The purpose of this lesson is to inspire a deeper appreciation of Mary as Jesus’ mother as well as the Queen of Heaven ... and of our hearts. We will also take a closer look at the “communion of saints” in order to understand why Catholics are so devoted to our heavenly brothers and sisters and why that is an important part of being a member of the family of God.

As Catholics, we are in constant contact with the whole Church, visible and invisible, those in heaven and those on earth—including those in purgatory. In good times and bad, we are never truly alone in our joy or our grief, for we have an invisible “cloud of witnesses” interceding on our behalf (Hebrews 12:1). The one who is closest to Jesus, constantly praying for us, is the Blessed Mother, Mary.

Conversation After Class

- Why do Catholics pray to Mary? How is the devotion we give her different from the worship or adoration we give to God?
- Why does the Church encourage us to ask the saints to pray for us? Why not just ask a friend?
- Do you have a favorite saint you like to pray to?
The Kindergarten had an exciting week! They celebrated their 100th Day of School with an exciting presentation, party, and service project. The student’s hard work was on display as they sang songs, displayed their “100 Things” collections, and even spoke on stage! Students also collected over 100 items which they donated to the food pantry which feeds local families in need. Keep your light shining bright Kindergarten!

Thank you Father Adrian for leading our Ash Wednesday Prayer Service. He spoke of how relieving stress can help us strengthen our relationship with God. As well as choosing a Lenten Promise.
May the Lord preserve the members of our Army, National Guard, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Merchant Marine, Coast Guard and Peace Corps from all harm.

US ARMY:

NATIONAL GUARD:

US NAVY:

US MARINES:

US AIR FORCE:

US MERCHANT MARINE:
Lt. Robert M. Scaduto, Jr.

US COAST GUARD:

US PEACE CORPS:
Patrick Coons

If you wish to arrange a baptism, please contact the rectory at 785-0054. Once your request is received you will be invited to meet one of the priests. This meeting offers parents an opportunity to review the baptism ceremony and set the date. The meeting is more conversational than instructional. Forms need to be completed giving information on the parents, child’s date and place of birth, as well as the names and religious affiliation of the sponsors. At least one sponsor must be a practicing Catholic.

Baptisms are held on Saturday at 11:30 AM, and Sunday at 1:30 PM, when the Church is available.

If you wish to hold a private baptism you must bring a visiting priest to perform the baptism service. Private baptisms may be held on Saturday at 1:30 PM and 3:00 PM and on Sunday at 3:00 PM, if these times are available.

First time parents are required to attend a Baptism Class. Classes are held in the Holy Family Chapel on Agape Sunday, the second Sunday of the month. Crying babies and noisy children are welcome. We begin with Mass at 10:15 AM, when your baby will be welcomed to St. Barnabas, followed by refreshments and the class.

The dates for class are March 11, April 8, May 13, June 10, (10:30 Mass for July 8, August 12 and September 9), October 14, November 11, December 9.
Parent & Child Program

For children ages 2-3 years old.

Register and start attending now!

Our Time is the perfect way for you and your child to become familiar with the classroom environment while singing songs, doing crafts, reading books, and celebrating God’s love together.

Our Time

Class sessions are offered on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday from 10am to 11am from September thru June at Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Regional School.

For more information or to enroll contact:
Sabina Lamb (516) 781-9834
Or the School Office.

The Transfiguration

Jesus took Peter, James and John with Him up a mountain.

Help the men get up the mountain.

Suddenly Jesus was changed. His clothes appeared very white.

Circle 5 differences in the 2nd picture.
ACROSS
1. Ready to go to bed or take a nap
6. Things such as a dress or trousers that you wear to cover
   your body
7. The opposite of being asleep
8. A raised part of the Earth’s surface, much larger than a hill

DOWN
2. A flash of bright light in the sky produced by electricity
3. The front of the head, where the eyes, nose and mouth are
4. A grey or white mass floating in the sky, made of very small
   drops of water
5. To speak to God

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MOUNTAIN</th>
<th>FACE</th>
<th>LIGHTNING</th>
<th>AWAKE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PRAY</td>
<td>CLOTHES</td>
<td>SLEEPY</td>
<td>CLOUD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

D Y G M S T A L K I N G I M J
L E N U O E U S G S F P E F O
A T S C S U E M E D T C P A H
B E K E H M N L L W A G M P N
J R S J A A P T G F C U J P I
K O I J I I N A R G O T E I
M V N G C Z I G J K P G A B
P X M S H N Q B E Y N Q V R Y
R I I W T T I Y T D J F U E C
A D D H D V R M K P E L G D H
Y E G U H X A F N E K A V E O
W I O D E P X Q B T W S O J S
L L R V E T R F E E H I Z E
C C L O T H E S H R E C X N
C D H N P Y E L I J A H E J F

A voice came from a cloud and said, “This is My Son.”

Use the code below to fill in the missing letters.

\[ \begin{align*}
\text{\texttt{\_\_\_\_\_\_\_}} & = t \\
\text{\texttt{\_\_\_\_\_\_\_}} & = i \\
\text{\texttt{\_\_\_\_\_\_\_}} & = n \\
\text{\texttt{\_\_\_\_\_\_\_}} & = H
\end{align*} \]

“L_ s_ e_ _ o_ m!”
Jesus took Peter, James and John up a high mountain. They were alone.

Something awesome happened on the mountain!

Connect the dots.

Cross out all the letters in the even-numbered boxes. The remaining letters will be the words they heard.

Find these words from the story in the puzzle. They are \textbf{leftrightarrow}. Circle them.

Jesus Peter James John
mountain high alone Elijah
white dazzling transfigured listen
Moses cloud voice love
led appeared Son

\textbf{J C L O U D P A J T}
\textbf{H E B M O S E S O R}
\textbf{I C S O D J T O H A}
\textbf{G E F U G A E N N N}
\textbf{H H I N S M R J G S}
\textbf{W H I T E E H K N F}
\textbf{L M N A O S A L I I}
\textbf{P V O I C E E J E L G}
\textbf{A L O N E Q I D Z U}
\textbf{R N E T S I L S Z R}
\textbf{T U V L O V E W A E}
\textbf{A P P E A R E D D D D}