

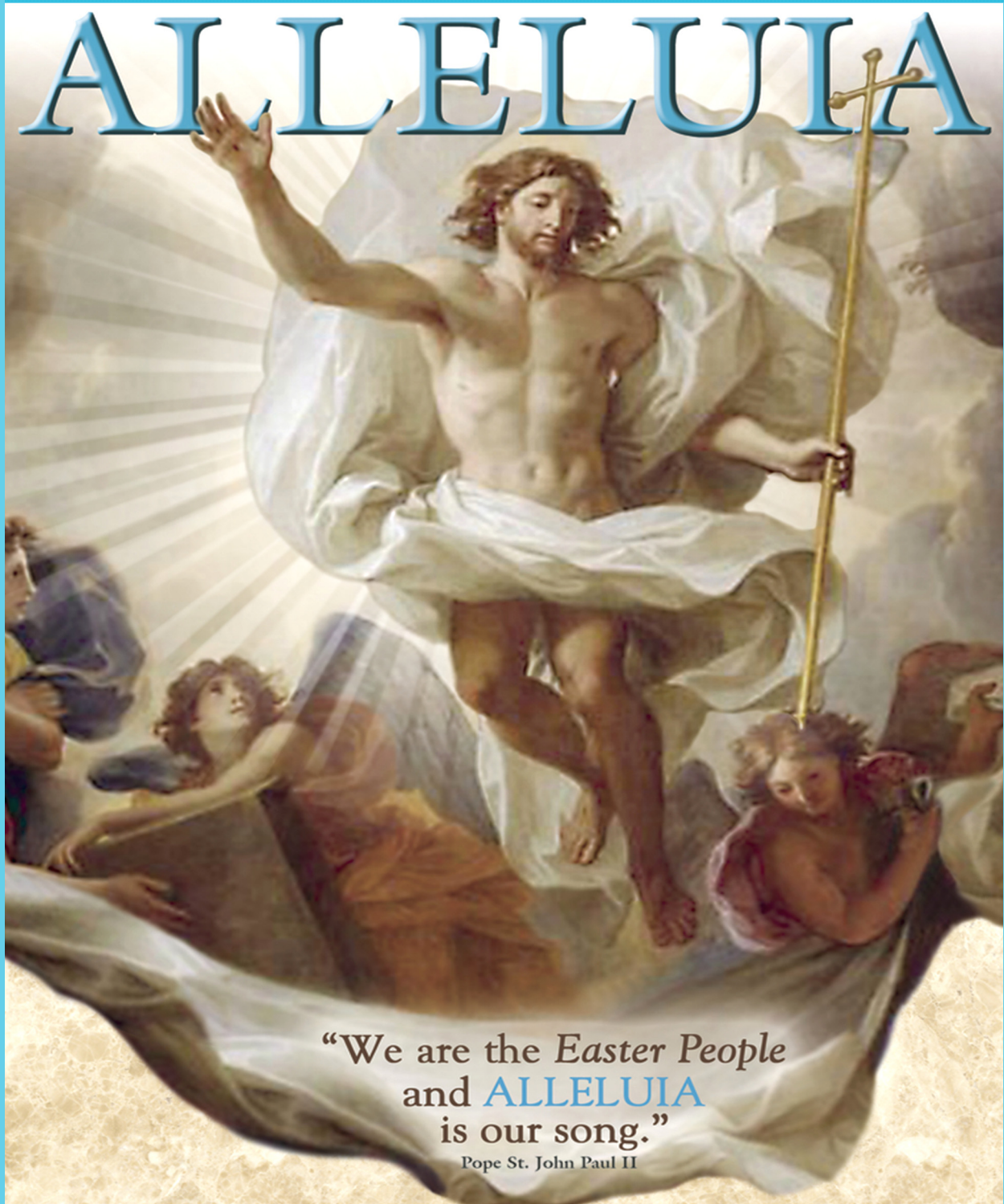


ST. CATHARINE'S PARISH

523 Western Highway
Blauvelt, New York 10913

Rev. Msgr. Francis J. McAree, S.T.D.

ALLELUIA



“We are the Easter People
and ALLELUIA
is our song.”

Pope St. John Paul II

St. Catharine's Church
523 Western Highway Blauvelt, N.Y. 10913
845-359-0542/Fax 845-365-2387
<http://www.saintcatharines.org>
Rev. Msgr. Francis J. McAree, S.T.D., Pastor
Rev. Abraham Vallayil, C.M.I., Associate Pastor
Rev. Mr. John Jurasek, Deacon

*The link for St. Catharine's Live-Stream
 Weekday and Weekend Masses is on our website,
www.saintcatharines.org. Please find the link at
 the very top of the Home Page.*

Sunday 5:00 PM Saturday evening Vigil
 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:00 AM, 12:30 PM,
 and 4:30 PM
Weekday 6:45 AM and 8:30 AM
Saturday 8:30 AM
First Fridays 6:45 AM and 8:30 AM

Baptism
 First and third Sundays of the month at 2:00 PM.
 Parents should call Deacon John Jurasek at (845)
 365-3618 for an appointment and Baptismal preparation.

Sacrament of Reconciliation
 Saturdays from 4:00 to 4:45 PM, and by appointment.

Marriage
 Couples should call the Rectory a minimum of six months
 prior to their marriage date to receive necessary
 information and preparation.

Anointing of the Sick
 Call the Rectory anytime for this request.

Parish Registration
 Every family living in our Parish is kindly requested to
 register at the Rectory.

Parish Devotions
Miraculous Medal held after the 8:30 AM Mass
 every Monday morning.
Rosary following 8:30 AM Mass (Mon.-Fri.); Sundays,
 12:00 PM in the Grotto or School Library depending on
 the weather.
Scriptural Rosary following 8:30 AM Mass on
 Saturdays.
Eucharistic Adoration
 Every Friday during Lent from 9-7 PM, followed by
 Stations of the Cross at 7:30 PM.

Parish Religious Education Program – PREP
Mrs. Bernadette Kowalchuk
(845) 359-4014

St. Catharine's Early Childhood Center
Mrs. Lorraine Hubert
(845) 359-4330

PARISH MINISTRY & SERVICE CONTACTS

Adult Religious Education: Deacon John Jurasek,
 (845) 365-3618
Altar Servers: Deacon John Jurasek, (845) 365-3618 or
 Mary Anne Pagnani, (845) 358-0739
Altar Society: Anna Stellwag, (845) 359-0769
Baptisms: Deacon John Jurasek, (845) 365-3618
Bible Study: Bernadette Kowalchuk, (845) 359-4014
Birthright of Rockland: Call (845) 623-9098
Bulletin: Patricia McKenna, (845) 359-0542
Choirs: Dr. Rene Dalandan, (917) 770-2468
CYO Basketball: Mary Anne Pagnani, (845) 358-0739
CYO Basketball Website: www.ourcyo.org
Early Childhood Center: Lorraine Hubert,
 (845) 359-4330
Eucharistic Ministry at Mass: Kerry Beckmann,
 (845) 359-3986
Eucharistic Ministry, Home: Eileen McCaffrey,
 (845) 359-9315
Homebound Ministry: Ken Lee, (201) 297-7016
Knights of Columbus: Grand Knight Bob Vyskocil,
 Email to grandknight@stdominic5343.com
Lectors: Veronica Rogers, (845) 624-1427
Parish Council: Kerry Beckmann, (845) 359-3986
Parish Nurse Program: Maureen Fallon, (845) 398-3806
Parish Office: Patricia McKenna, M-F, 9-5 PM,
 (845) 359-0542; Judith Scandiffio, Sat. 9-3 PM
Prayer Shawl Ministry: Louise Langan, (845) 359-5648
PREP, Religious Education: Bernadette Kowalchuk,
 (845) 359-4014
St. Ambrose Society: Parish Office, (845) 359-0542
Social Activities: Joseph Onativia, (845) 365-1151
TASC, Teen Association: Richard & Rita Sarubbi,
 (845) 641-3172
Ushers: Ken Lee, (201) 297-7016
Website: Patricia McKenna, (845) 359-0542

**EASTER SUNDAY
OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD**

ALLELUIA!

For the 40 days of Lent, the word “*Alleluia*” has been gone from the liturgy of the Church. It is never said – not even once!

Then, during the Easter Vigil, the Priest intones the great *Alleluia* and it seems like the Church can’t stop repeating this word over and over again. Why is that?

Easter is a period of great joy and exultation, and singing *Alleluia* is the Church’s way to highlight this reality, continually giving praise and honor to God.

Alleluia (sometimes written “*Hallelujah*”) is rooted in a Hebrew expression that means “*Praise the Lord.*” It is found most often as a type of antiphon that is repeated at the end of the Psalms. It is also found in the Book of Tobit, where it is referenced as a hymn of praise to be sung in the new Jerusalem. “*The gates of Jerusalem shall be built of sapphire, and of emerald, and all the walls thereof round about of precious stones. All its streets shall be paved with white and clean stones: and Alleluia shall be sung in its streets.*”

It is also found in the Book of Revelation ... “*and as the voice of great thunders, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord our God the Almighty hath reigned. Let us be glad and rejoice, and give glory to Him; for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and His wife hath prepared herself.*”

It is, and always has been, an expression of praise, glorifying God for His goodness.

Alleluia!

TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading

Peter is an eyewitness: The Lord is risen (Acts 10:34a, 37-43).

Psalm

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad (Psalm 118).

(1) Second Reading

All who are baptized, set your hearts in heaven (Colossians 3:1-4) or

(2) Second Reading

Christ our Passover is sacrificed; therefore let us celebrate (1 Corinthians 5:6b-8).

Gospel

Three witnesses, Mary, Peter, and John; each responds to the empty tomb (John 20:1-9) or Mark 16:1-7 (or, at an afternoon or evening Mass, Luke 24:13-35).

PETITION OF THE WEEK

*May the glory of this Easter Day be in our hearts forever.
Have a joyous and blessed Easter ...
Lord, hear our prayer.*



+EASTER MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR+

*“Jesus Christ is Risen Today,
Alleluia!”*

On this golden Easter Sunday morning everything – the Spring weather, the flowers, birds – everything seems to bear witness that *Jesus Christ is Risen Today, Alleluia!!*

Outside our Church, surrounded by beautiful flowers, and with its white shroud gently blowing in the breeze, the triumphant cross will stand throughout the entire Easter season. It will be our constant reminder of Christ’s great love for us, and of His total victory over sin and death.

May the cross always be a sign of life and hope and a reminder to us of His everlasting love.

Today, as an Easter People, we do not focus on the empty tomb, but rather, we celebrate our Christian belief in a Risen Jesus who is Lord and Savior, the conqueror of both sin and death.

Because we have been blessed with the vision of faith, we not only believe, but are able to boldly proclaim to our parish community and to the whole world our Easter proclamation,

*“Jesus Christ is Risen Today,
Alleluia!”*

*On this Day
of our Lord’s Glorious Resurrection,
may the Spirit of the Risen Christ
always live within you.*

*And may you always have the gift of love,
the blessing of hope,
and the promise of peace.*

*We wish all of you and your loved ones
a truly grace-filled and joyous Easter.*

Monsignor Francis McAree

Father Abraham Vallayil

Father Ravi Dasari

Deacon John Jurasek

& the Staff of St. Catharine’s Parish

**WE ARE THE EASTER PEOPLE
AND ALLELUIA IS OUR SONG!**

Pope John Paul II

It is often said that Christians are an “Easter People.” We walk in the sure and certain hope that just as Jesus rose from the dead to sit at the Father’s right hand, we, too, have Jesus’ promise that all who believe in Him will have everlasting life.

Our response to this promise – this gift – is to worship God with praise and thanks for what He has already done for us through Jesus Christ.

But, there is more to it than that.

Beyond our thanks and praise, Jesus calls us to a different kind of life – a different way of living.

As an “Easter People,” our response to the gift of forgiveness and eternal life compels us to try to live lives that reflect our new status. We are a people forgiven, healed, and renewed by Jesus’ Body and Blood, and we are called to share that Good News with the whole world.

Our response can and should be rooted in love. As Jesus Himself has told us, love for God and love for our neighbor is the foundation of Christian living. Because God first loved us, loved us so much that we were given His Only Son for our salvation, our response to this love is not only to love God as deeply and fully as we are able, but also to love everyone else as deeply and fully as we love ourselves.

If we could begin to respect one another as equally loved, equally forgiven, equally saved by God through Christ Jesus, we could begin to live the second of Jesus’ Great Commandments, “to love thy neighbor as thyself” with greater success. This is what it truly means to be an “Easter People.”

This Easter, amidst the joy and celebration of our new lives in Christ, let us all strive to become an “Easter People” and celebrate the joy of new life with others.



*Only God could have created
all the loveliness of Spring.
Made the bough to bud and blossom,
taught the robin how to sing.*

*Only God could have remembered
through the winter, cold and gray,
how to renew the earth with beauty
and give us this Easter Day.*

*Joy to the world!
The Lord is come!*

Did you know that one of our beloved Christmas carols, was not written as a Christmas carol?

The song is so familiar to us, and its words are so well known, that you probably have never noticed that it does not include a single detail about Jesus’ birth. There’s no mention of a stable, no shepherds, no wise men, no Mary or Joseph, no little town of Bethlehem or choirs of angels or silent nights. That’s because it’s not based on the Christmas stories in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke.

Instead, it was written based on three verses from one of King David’s most meaningful psalms, Psalm 98.

The author, Isaac Watts, was one of the greatest hymn writers in Church history. In 1719, he wrote a book of poems in which each poem was based on a psalm in his quest to point all of the psalms specifically to Jesus. One of those poems was an adaptation of Psalm 98. Watts interpreted this psalm as a celebration of Jesus’ role as King.

Psalm 98:4-6 reads:

“Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth: make a loud noise, and rejoice, and sing praise. Sing praise to the Lord with the harp, with the harp and melodious song. With trumpets and the sound of the horn, sing joyfully before the King, the Lord.”

As you can see, the theme of the above verse is “joy.” The words “joy” and “rejoice” appear three times. King David and Watts had the same idea – that all of the earth should make a joyful noise unto the Lord.

If there were ever a day for us to celebrate the arrival of Jesus as King, it is Easter Sunday. After all hope seemed to have been lost on Good Friday, and after a quiet day of somber reflection on Holy Saturday, Christians around the world will celebrate with great wonder – the Resurrection of Jesus from the dead. Who else would we claim as our King?

Joy to the world! The Lord is come.

Let earth receive her King.

Let every heart prepare Him room,

And Heaven and nature sing,

And Heaven and nature sing,

And Heaven, and Heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! The Savior reigns.

Let us our songs employ.

While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains

Repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace.

And makes the nations prove

The glories of His righteousness

And wonders of His love,

And wonders of His love,

And wonders, and wonders of His love.



THE EASTER LILY

On Easter Sunday morning, Churches will be filled with floral arrangements of these beautiful white flowers *Lilium Longiflorum*, also known as White Heaven, the Trumpet Lily, or the Easter Lily. For many, the beautiful white flowers of the Easter Lily symbolize purity, virtue, innocence, hope and life – the spiritual essence of Easter.

It is hard to deny the beauty and majesty of these elegant flowers with their fragrant, pure white, trumpet-shaped blossoms. The shape of the Easter Lily does indeed resemble a trumpet that could be sounding the message that Jesus has risen, commemorating the Resurrection of Jesus Christ and our hope of life everlasting.

The Easter Lily Poem

Louise Lewin Matthews

*Easter morn with lilies fair
fill the Church with perfumes rare.
As their clouds of incense rise,
sweetest offerings to the skies.*

*Stately lilies pure and white
flooding darkness with their light.
Bloom and sorrow drifts away
on this holy hallow'd day.*

*Easter Lilies bending low
in the golden afterglow
bear a message from the sod
to the heavenly towers of God.*

**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY SERVICE
NEXT SUNDAY, APRIL 7th, 3:00 PM**

St. Maria Faustina Kowalska, a Polish Nun, was gifted with mystical visions of our Lord Jesus. Her diary records her dialogue with Jesus as He proclaimed His message of mercy.

To her, He requested the Feast of Divine Mercy to be celebrated the Sunday after Easter as a time of mercy for all people. It is celebrated with an emphasis on the merciful forgiveness of God and the Sacrament of the Eucharist.

"Then I heard the words, 'I am glad you behaved like My true daughter. Be always merciful as I am merciful. Love everyone out of love for Me, even your greatest enemies, so that My mercy may be fully reflected in your heart.'"

*The Tabernacle Candle will burn before the
Blessed Sacrament the week of March 31
In Loving Memory of*

Joseph and Grace Dennerlein

*From
The Dennerlein Family*



*"For everything there is a season
and a time for every purpose under Heaven."*

"A time to heal"

We pray for God's tender mercy and loving kindness upon all of our loved ones who have experienced serious health issues. We also pray for all those who assist and care for the sick that God may continue to give them patience, compassion, strength, and courage.

*Walter Cahill, Helen O'Brien, Matthew Mencher,
Lucy Decilla, Rory Tinston, Gary Baisley, Geraldine Moloney,
Jim Grimm, Brandon Hernandez, Billy Keenan, Diana Colon,
Colleen Kusy, Amanda Lynch, Brian Domitrovits, Il,
Christian Perez, Nicholas Guiliano, Matilda Quinn,
Nicholas Corbi, Liam Frawley, Noreen Larsen, Molly McGovern,
Danny Newkirk, Cali Jhené Pritchard, Emmet Horvath,
Darianna DeLise, David O'Hanlon, James Cunningham,
Liam McLaughlin, Tom Collins, Rob Incognoli, Rose Cahill,
Teresita Dural, Keira Cunningham, Gary Haley,
Heather Mekkinosson, Jude DePalma, Gerald Spagnolo,
Gabriella Larsen, Anne Marie Herman, Patricia Duffy,
Justin Duffy, Fiona Moran, Carol Crane, Carol McGrath,
Lisa Morehead, Vincent Fyfe, June Hudson, Colton Martin,
Ed Walsh, Jacqueline Tracey, Christopher O'Brien,
Andrew Padilla, Paulette Maurice, Jack Bermingham,
Margaret Brosnan, Jim Deremeik, Sr. Maureen Bradshaw,
Peggy Finn, Ann Donohue, Heather Hovorka Plunkett,
Edward Fitzpatrick, James Racca, Dr. Jose and Celia Botet,
Mary Jane Knapp, Corona Balin, Judy Donohue, Frank Parisi,
Colleen Scarry, Marion O'Leary, Judith Ferrara,
Patrick Armstrong, Patty Neier, Anna Stellwag, Janet Kopac,
Marjorie Tobin, Michael McManamon, Joan Armus,
Kevin Kearney, Neil McDermott, Brigid Kivlehan,
Edward Monks*

"A time to mourn"

*Well done, good and faithful servant.
Come and share your Master's joy.*

*Rosemarie Higgins, Brian Duffy, Farida Brillantes,
Philip Benincasa, Sr., Sister Michaela Connolly, O.P.,
Fernando Pangilinan, Jr., Charles "Chuck" Malanaphy,
Audrey Mullin*

"A time for war and a time for peace"

O Prince of Peace, we humbly ask your protection for all our men and women in military service. Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Be their rock, their shield, and their stronghold and let them draw their strength from You. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need, and bring them home safely. We ask this in the name of Jesus, Our Lord and Savior. *Amen.*



**EASTER SUNDAY MORNING, MARCH 31st
OUR ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT**

Please join us on the grounds of St. Catharine's Church for our Annual Easter Egg Hunt, this Easter Sunday morning, following the 9:30 AM Family Mass.

YOUR EASTER GIFT TO OUR PARISH

Your Easter contribution to St. Catharine's should be something which truly reflects your love of God and our Parish. Special Easter envelopes may be found on the Ushers tables in the lobby of the Church.

Thank you and may God bless you and your loved ones with a truly Blessed Easter.

**PREP ONLINE REGISTRATION FOR 2024-2025
BEGINS APRIL 11th**

PREP Online Registration for the 2024-2025 School Year will begin April 11th. Anyone who is already enrolled in our Parish Religious Education Program will shortly receive a hard copy and email from "Parish Giving" with information on how to register your child(ren). If you do not receive an email, please contact the PREP Office to be sure we have the correct email address for you. If you have any questions, please contact The PREP Office at (845) 359-4014 or email to stcatharineprepoffice@gmail.com.

NEW FAMILY REGISTRATION

If you are new to our Parish and registering your child(ren) for the first time, please contact the PREP Office at (845) 359-4014 for more information and instructions to register.

ANNUAL BOOSTER CLUB

Tickets cost \$100 each and only 300 tickets will be sold. The Grand Prize is \$8,000. The Drawing and Reception will take place in the Gym on Sunday, May 19th, following the 12:30 PM Mass.

To purchase tickets, you may contact our Booster Club Chairwoman, Judy Scandiffio at (845) 359-1023.

**THE 2024 CARDINAL'S ANNUAL
STEWARDSHIP APPEAL**

This year, our goal, set by the Archdiocese is \$153,600. At this time, we have pledges in the amount of \$48,915. We are asking every family to participate and make a *sacrificial* pledge to the *2024 Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal*. The success – helping those less fortunate, spiritually nurturing our youth, caring for our retired priests and religious, growing the many ministry programs that serve our communities – depends on us.

Please join your fellow parishioners, prayerfully consider your contribution, and make your gift to the *Cardinal's Appeal* today. Remember, you can pledge your gift now, and make payments in the coming months. You may also choose to make your donation online at www.cardinalsappeal.org.

To all who have already made your commitment, we truly thank you.

MASS INTENTIONS

+EASTER SUNDAY, MARCH 31 +

8:00

9:30

Blessed Easter Wishes

11:00

12:30

MONDAY, APRIL 1

6:45 Margaret Lamneck

8:30 John DelGatto

TUESDAY, APRIL 2

6:45 *The People of St. Catharine's Church*

8:30 Patricia Gatens

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3

6:45 Joseph Dennerlein

8:30 Mr. & Mrs. Michael R. Racca & Daughter

THURSDAY, APRIL 4

6:45 The McCarthy Family

8:30 Gail Sullivan

FIRST FRIDAY, APRIL 5

6:45 Rocco Parisi

8:30 Eric Sawchak

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

8:30 Kathy O'Hara

5:00 Joe Coulter

SUNDAY, APRIL 7

8:00 Edward McLaughlin

9:30 Eileen Collier

11:00 Ruben Rivera

12:30 Peggy Regan

4:30 Margaret and Jim Phelan