Parish Bulletin. FEBRUARY 15, 2015, Vol. 11, Issue 07
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WEEKLY SCHEDULE

MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY

HOLY MASS AT 7:00 PM

THURSDAY

ST. JUDE NOVENA AFTER MASS AT 7:00 PM

SATURDAY

HOLY MASS AND MOTHER OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR AT 10:00 AM.

SUNDAY

HOLY MASS AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASS AT 10:00 AM.

ENGLISH MASS AT 11:40 AM.

HOLY MASS AT 5:30 PM.

മുൻ കൈക്കാരന്മാരായ ജിനോ കക്കാട്ടിൽ, ബിജു കണ്ണച്ചാപറമ്പിൽ, തോമസ് ഐക്കരപറമ്പിൽ, ടോമി ഇടത്തിൽ P.R.O സാജു കണ്ണമ്പള്ളി എന്നിവർക്ക് സെന്റ് മേരീസ് ഇടവകയുടെ നന്ദിയും പ്രാർത്ഥനയും.

RIGHT : NEW TRUSTEES TAKING THE OATH.
LEFT : VINCENT DE PAUL FUND RAISING INAUGURATION.

BLESSING OF NEW PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS.

NEW PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS WITH PRIESTS.

UP COMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY 14: HEALTH AWARENESS CLASS AND SCREENING FOR BLOOD SUGAR AND BLOOD PRESSURE AT 11:00 AM.

FEBRUARY 16: ASH MONDAY.(MASS AT 10:00 AM & 7:00 PM)

First Holy Communion

The First Holy Communion of this year is on Sunday, May 17 in the afternoon. There will be Holy Communion special classes every other Saturday from 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM. If there are any students older than 3rd grade who would like to receive their First Holy Communion or Confirmation this year, please contact the DREs or Teachers.

OFFERINGS	FEB. 08
St Jude & Annual Contribution	3285.00
Sunday Morning Mass	1665.00
Sunday English Mass	59.00
Sunday Evening Mass	234.00
Purathu Namaskaram Sponsors	1400.00
Knanaya Region Manthra	156.00
TOTAL COLLECTION	**6799.00**

AGAPE MOVEMENT	
Sacred Heart	45.00
St. Mary's	101.00
Sponsor Seminarian	250.00
Donation Box	200.00
TOTAL AGAPE	**596.00**

നോമ്പുകാലം / **First Sunday of Lent**			
February 15	READING	10:00 A.M.	11:40 A.M
1st Reading	EX 34:27-35	Salykutty Kulangara	Lukas Cheriyathil
2nd Reading	Eph 4:17-24	Ancy Aikkaraparambil	Brittney Choottuvelil
Gospel	Mathew 4:1-11	*Jesus overcomes temptation through fasting.*	

നോമ്പുകാലം / **Second Sunday of Lent**			
February 22	READING	10:00 A.M.	11:40 A.M
1st Reading	Gen 5:19-31	Bijly Kandarappallil	Derik Valiamattathil
2nd Reading	Rom 6:15-23	Ginu Nediyakalayil	Michelle Kanjiraparayil
Gospel	Mathew 7:21-27	*The true disciple.*	

KOODARA YOGAM

St. Xavior Koodara yogam will be at Kocheril Cyriac & Ancy's home, at 8422 Johanna DR, Niles, IL 60714 on Sunday February 15 at 7:00 PM. Phone 847 674 2982

St. Joseph koodara yogam will be at Korattiyil Jose & Julie's home, at 4475 Estes , Lincolnwood IL 60712 on Saturday February 21, 201 at 7:00 PM.
Phone 847 933 9509

Pilgrimage to Guadalupe

May 22-25 (Memorial day weekend)

Rate $ 950 (Includes Airfare, accommodation, traveling in Mexico, food and entrance fees)

Register ASAP

Cont # Joy 847 824 2054, Biju 847 414 5576 Fr. Thomas 310 709 5111, Raju 847 809 0681, , Jose 847 226 9069

Ash Monday Feb. 16, 2015
A day of obligation, fasting - starting of Lent
Holy Masses and ash distribution
at St. Mary's Church: 10 am and 7 pm

Why we receive the ashes

Ashes are a symbol of penance made sacramental by the blessing of the Church, and they help us develop a spirit of humility and sacrifice.

The distribution of ashes comes from a ceremony of ages past. The ashes are made from the blessed palms used in the Palm Sunday celebration of the previous year. The ashes are christened with Holy Water and are scented by exposure to incense. While the ashes symbolize penance and contrition, they are also a reminder that God is gracious and merciful to those who call on Him with repentant hearts. His Divine mercy is of utmost importance during the season of Lent, and the Church calls on us to seek that mercy during the entire Lenten season with reflection, prayer and penance.

What Can I Do Before Lent Begins?

Anything worth doing is worth preparing for.

Just imagine that this Lent is going to be different from every other Lent we've experienced. Imagine that there will be many graces offered me this year. Let's even imagine that God is going to help transform our lives, with greater freedom, greater joy, deeper desires for love and service.

If we want it, we will choose it.

Lent will be this wonderful season of grace for us if we give ourselves to it. So, in these days before Lent, we need to prepare our hearts. We need to prepare by realizing how much we want to grow in freedom, how much we need to lighten our spirits and experience some real joy, and how much some parts of our lives really need changing.

These days before Lent are a time to start anticipating something wonderful that is about to happen.

Our Focus: On what God wants to give us.

Our sense of excitement and anticipation will grow more easily if we begin to imagine what God wants to give us. There is really something coming that we can truly look forward to. If we get too focused on ourselves, and what we are going to do or not do, we could risk missing the gift God wants to give us. We have to keep aware of the fact that grace comes from God. This is about God's great desire to bless us.
about Lent on that day.

Before we get to Ash Monday, we should start asking ourselves some questions and we should start with some preparations. "What does God want to give me this year?" This question may require that I slow down a bit and *listen* to my inner spirit. "What am I going to be doing on Ash Monday?" Too often, Ash Monday is like every other day, except that I manage to get to church and get ashes on my forehead. Is there anything else I can do on Ash Monday? How will fasting and abstaining happen for me, for my family on that special day?

Lent is not something I need to do alone.

If I have a spouse, or children, or some close friends, or distant e-mail companions, I can begin now to talk about how we will support each other in this Lenten journey. The anticipation and the preparation is transformed with the companionship of family and close friends. We shouldn't be deterred by the fear that our spouse or children or friends "won't be into it." Jesus said, "Fear is useless; what's needed is trust." Let's begin now to tell others about our desires. Let's help support others' expectations. Let's help others see that Lent doesn't have to be something I avoid, and certainly can't be reduced to "giving up candy." We can help our loved ones to begin to imagine what they could receive from God in these days.

Ash Monday is a great place to start with our planning. "What are we going to eat?" We shouldn't be embarrassed if we really haven't fasted in a long time, or perhaps ever before. We can plan to *intentionally* have only one full meal on Ash Monday. We can make that meal very meaningful and symbolic.

Getting ready, means getting my house ready, too. And, it can mean lots of choices. And, it doesn't take much time.

It doesn't take a lot of time to prepare for the beginning of Lent. It just takes desire and focus. God can do so much with that. Every morning and evening we can stir our spirits to look forward to and prepare for Lent, as a season of grace.
May our Lord bless us all on this journey ahead.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Season of Lent. It is a season of penance, reflection, and fasting which prepares us for Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday, through which we attain redemption.

WAY OF THE CROSS on Friday 20th after 7 PM HOLY MASS
ST. THOMAS KOODA-RAYOGAM
On Sunday 22nd at 9.30 AM
LITTLE FLOWER KOODA-RAYOGAM

PRE-MARRIAGE COURSES OF KNANAYA CATHOLIC REGION

From Friday, March 6, 2015, 4:00 P.M. to Sunday March 8th 1:00 P.M. at Sacred Heart Knanaya Catholic Church, Chicago

From Friday, June 5, 2015, 4:00 P.M. to Sunday June 7th 1:00 P.M. at St. Mary's Knanaya Catholic Church, Chicago

Call Tony Pullappally for registration: 630 205 5078