

**SUNDAY, APRIL 18, 2010
THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER**

PASTOR'S COLUMN

As we have noted on earlier occasions, the Diocese has inaugurated a self study to provide good data with which she hopes to make reasoned decisions about the needed restructuring that the Church must begin.

This is driven by demographic changes, financial shortfalls and the vocation crisis.

As part of this effort, each parish has been asked to provide good data and reactions to that data by the people of the parish.

A few weeks ago there was a copy of our report given to every parishioner as a bulletin insert. This was a green sheet that we asked you to keep till our scheduled open meeting. **THIS OPEN MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR THIS MONDAY NIGHT, APRIL 19TH AT 7:30 P.M. IN OUR SCHOOL AUDITORIUM.**

WE ASK ALL LEADERS FROM OUR DIFFERENT SOCIETIES AND MINISTRIES TO BE PRESENT. WE ALSO INVITE ALL PARISHIONERS WHO ARE INTERESTED IN THE FUTURE OF OUR PARISH TO ATTEND.

If you still have a copy of the green sheet bring it with you.

I hope that we can all take advantage of this self study to help map out our strategy for the future.

Monsignor Ferrarese

FILM POSTPONED

The showing of the film by Luchino Visconti: "Rocco and His Brothers" scheduled for this Friday has been postponed to a future date. This film is part of our Operation Welcome that is trying to educate and motivate our parishioners toward Comprehensive Immigration Reform.

NEW MINI-COURSE: CHRISTIANITY AND ISLAM

We are pleased to announce our next Theological Mini-Course: Christianity and Islam. The course will be taught by Fr. Patrick Ryan, S.J.

The dates, times and topics are as follows:

Tuesday, April 27th – 7:00 p.m.

"The Call to Worship: Basics of the Islamic Tradition

Tuesday, May 4th – 7:00 p.m.

"The Five Pillars of Islam and their Christian Parallels"

Tuesday, May 11th – 7:00 p.m.
"Jesus and Mary in the Qur'an"

Fr. Patrick Ryan, a Jesuit and native of New York City, became the McGinley Professor of Religion and Society at Fordham University in New York in 2009. Previously he was Fordham's Vice President for University Mission and Ministry (2005-2009). In 1964 he began a long career as a teacher and academic administrator in West Africa, where he has spent 26 years. After ordination in 1968 he completed a doctorate at Harvard University in the comparative history of religion, specializing in Arabic and Islamic studies. For 15 years he taught in this area in Ghanaian universities. He also taught for briefer periods at Fordham and at the Gregorian University in Rome. From 1999 – 2005 he was the first President of Loyola Jesuit College, a high school in Nigeria's federal capital, Abuja. He is the author of three books and numerous articles, scholarly and popular.

Pre-Registration is Necessary. Tuition: \$25.00

Name: _____

Address: _____

Cell #: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Please return to the Rectory as soon as possible

**FILM FESTIVAL
FAITH AND THE IMAGINATION
C.S. Lewis in Film**

Friday, May 7 – "Shadowlands"
Love Breaks Through

Friday, May 14 - "The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe"
The Centrality of Sacrifice

Friday, May 21 - "Prince Caspian"
Courage and the Christian

Short talk by Msgr. Fernando Ferrarese followed by discussion.

All Films at 7:30 p.m.

COLLECTION

Week of: April 10 th & 11 th	\$8,856.14
Attendance:	2,008
Per Capita:	\$4.41

CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS COLLECTION

This year the Catholic Home Missions Appeal turns its focus to youth ministry, an essential component of the life and vibrancy of the Church. In youth ministry programs, young Catholics grow in faith and gain valuable leadership skills. Without this appeal, poorer dioceses in the United States cannot sustain vital youth programs. Next week we will take up a collection for this appeal. Please be as generous as possible and help strengthen the Church at home.

MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY – April 19th

7:00 a.m. Donald Fitzgerald
9:00 a.m. Jose A. Sanchez
12 Noon Pokorny Family

TUESDAY – April 20th

7:00 a.m. Carmela Facciolo
9:00 a.m. Marija & Nikola Franolic
12 Noon Eugene M. Roberts

WEDNESDAY - April 21st

7:00 a.m. Giovanna & Joseph Camenzuli
9:00 a.m. Jozsef & Angela Samu
12 Noon John Nelly

THURSDAY- April 22nd

7:00 a.m. Msgr. George V. Fogarty
9:00 a.m. William Fedorko
12 Noon Peter, Sal & Joseph Gallo

FRIDAY - April 23rd

7:00 a.m. Frank & Carol Vallone
9:00 a.m. Jack Maffei
12 Noon William Guhring

SATURDAY - April 24th

7:00 a.m. Living & Deceased members of the McDougall Family
9:00 a.m. Joseph & Margaret Varcchi
12 Noon Ciaravino Filippo
5:00 p.m. **All those enrolled in the Purgatorial Society**

SUNDAY - April 25th

7:00 a.m. Living & Deceased Parishioners
9:00 a.m. Michael Pasquale

10:30 a.m. Bridget & John McGettigan
11:45 a.m. **Spanish-** Pedro Justinico
1:00 p.m. Richard M. Walsh, Sr. (25th Anniv.)

Lower Church:

9:00 a.m. **Italian** – Anna & Giuseppe Ciccotto

THE BREAD AND WINE are donated this week in loving memory of Rose Marchisella requested by Barbara & Nick Marchisella.

THE CANDLES ON THE ALTAR were donated last week and this week in loving memory of Antonio Carattoni requested by his wife & family.

THE SANCTUARY LAMP is burning this week in loving memory of Daniel Payret requested by his wife Elba Montoya.

PLEASE KEEP THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS



Please pray for the recently deceased:

Antoinette Marano

Grant them eternal rest, O Lord, and may perpetual light shine on them forever. +

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CLOTHING DRIVE

The St. Vincent de Paul Society of our parish will be hosting their annual clothing drive **TODAY - Sunday, April 18th, from 8:00 to 1:00.**

SCHOOL NEWS

We invite the families and friends of Immaculate Conception Parish to participate in Our Lady's Angels Parish Scholarship Program for the students of Immaculate Conception School. Please consider giving the gift of a Catholic Education. Pamphlets explaining the program are available around the Church and in the School Office. If you are interested in becoming an Angel for one of our little angels, please contact the School at 718.728.1969. Thank you!

We congratulate Dylan Christou, a Sixth Grade Student in Immaculate Conception School, who won an essay contest for King Tut: Return of the King. Dylan's prize is a trip for his whole Sixth Grade class and their chaperones to visit the King Tut Exhibit at the Discovery Times Square Exposition in New York City! We are very proud of Dylan.

SCHUMER BILL: A STEP FORWARD

The response to our Ecumenical Service for Immigration Reform was truly astounding. We will continue our monitoring of developments.

One of the elected officials who has been at the forefront of Immigration Reform is our own Senator Schumer. He has introduced a bill that is a giant leap forward. While not answering all of our concerns, it does provide a viable means of substantial change toward a more just and efficient immigration policy. The main points can be summarized in this way:

1. Require biometric Social Security cards to ensure that illegal workers cannot get jobs and hold employers accountable for hiring illegal workers. They would require all U.S. citizens and legal immigrants who want jobs to obtain a high-tech, fraud-proof Social Security card.
2. Zero-tolerance policy for gang members, smugglers, terrorists and those who commit other felonies after coming here illegally. They would increase the Border Patrol's staffing and funding for infrastructure and technology. More personnel would be deployed to the border immediately to fill gaps in apprehension capabilities. Other steps include expanding domestic enforcement to better apprehend and deport those who commit crimes and completing an entry-exit system that tracks people who enter the United States on legal visas and reports those who overstay their visas to law enforcement databases.
3. Develop a rational legal immigration system. The legislation would award green cards to immigrants who receive a PhD or master's degree in science, technology, engineering or math from a U.S. university. The new system would allow employers to hire immigrants if they can show they were unsuccessful in recruiting an American to fill an open position. Permit workers who have succeeded in the workplace, and contributed to their communities over many years, the chance to earn a green card.
4. For the 11 million immigrants already in this country illegally, they would provide a tough but fair path forward. Immigrants would be required to admit they broke the law and to pay their debt to society by performing community service and paying fines and back taxes. They would also be required to pass background checks and be proficient in English before taking their place in the back of the line to get lawful permanent residence.

CHRIST JESUS, OUR HOPE, A DIOCESAN STRATEGIC PLAN FOR RENEWAL

Christ Jesus, Our Hope, A Diocesan Strategic Plan for Renewal, has begun in the Diocese of Brooklyn. Part of this process invites each parish to consider its own future, but to do so in light of the larger diocesan church. As parishioners and parish leaders engage in a critical reflection on the current and future life of their parish, a broader understanding of the challenges faced by the entire Diocese is also needed.

To this end, the Planning Commission for *Christ Jesus our Hope* will issue a **four-part Diocesan Report beginning on Friday, April 16, 2010**. Each week will examine a different aspect of diocesan life. Part One presents the overall pastoral life of the diocese, including an examination of sacramental celebrations, Mass attendance and faith formation. Subsequent reports will look at finances, demographics and parish leadership.

If you wish to read the entire text for *Part One* of the *Diocesan Report*, please visit www.ChristJesusOurHope.com. A summary of *Part One* will also appear in this weekend's edition of *The Tablet*.

IN SEARCH OF PHOTOS

The Holy Union Sisters are going to open a **Heritage House** in 2011 in Groton, MA. This will be a museum displaying various artifacts and historical documents relating to their 125 years in the United States. If you have any pictures or memorabilia that you would be willing to contribute to the museum, the Sisters would be very grateful to receive it. They are especially interested in photos relating to the first years in each of the schools and ministries they staffed. For more information contact their Milton office at 617-696-8765.

NEW YORK MARY FROM DUNGLOE – GALA DANCE

Saturday, April 24th at Most Precious Blood Auditorium (32-52 37 Street, Astoria) – 9 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. - \$40 per person. **Tickets are available at Immaculate Conception Rectory.** For additional tickets or information please call: Anne Marie – 718-361-1847 or Siobhan 646-732-5312.

There are still several baby bottles that weren't returned. Keeping these bottles defeat the purpose of the drive because these bottles cost money to buy and then Bridge to Life needs to prepare them for distribution. **PLEASE RETURN YOUR BOTTLES (EMPTY OR FULL) TO THE SACRISTY OR RECTORY OFFICE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE – BRIDGE TO LIFE WOULD LIKE TO PICK THEM UP. THANK YOU!**

