

FIRST SUNDAY OF  
**LENT**



**Our Lady  
Star of the Sea**  
Roman Catholic Community  
in the Diocese of Bridgeport



*This week the Sanctuary Candle  
burns in memory of  
Anna LaDuca & Mary Bolatti  
requested with love by Maureen.*



**1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY  
OF LENT**

After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." - Mk 1:14-15



**Mass Intentions**

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20

4:30pm Marion Frances Ayles (20 years passed)  
(req. by family)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21

9:00am Katherine Creag Gafner (req. by Witczak Family)  
11:00am Irena & Frank Bajor

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22

8:00am Douglas Kane (req. by Family)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

8:00am Missy Ogera Childakos  
(req. by Kolenberg/Cross Families)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

8:00am Szczepan, Henryk & Zozislawa Darczuk  
(req. by Family)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25

8:00am Elizabeth Schermerhorn  
(req. by McCambley Family)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26

8:00am Special Intention

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27

4:30pm Special Intention

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28

9:00am **Eileen O'Sullivan** (req. by Maureen & Charlie)  
11:00am Stefan & Lucyna Smolik

St. Oscar Romero said, "Aspire not to have more, but to be more." These powerful words provide the perfect framework for a conversion oriented Lenten experience. God is giving us this Lenten sign to stop being concerned about what you have and focus on who you are. This requires that we create a desert space and listen more attentively for God to reveal His presence. It is all so wonderfully simple on the one hand and so incredibly challenging on the other. The message is simple: love God, neighbor, and self. Those simple words make great sense, but we struggle translating them into reality. Our attachments, compulsions, obsessions, addictions, routines, and busyness all anchor us to the "idol of the self," keeping us mired in our compulsive need for self-aggrandizement. It's not about us!

God vowed, long ago, to nurture, sustain and protect the relationship He has with His people. He called us into being, nurtures us in being, and sustains us in being. Without the Loving Divine Presence, all life would cease. Once we slow down a bit and clear away some of the clutter, we can see how the journey of our life is unfolding. We can see what brings us in and out of tune with God's love and how we can better imitate God's loving fidelity in our relationship with Him. In short, we will see our myopic short sightedness and figure out how we can better share the Divine Fire within with others. Lent isn't just about giving stuff up for forty days and indulging again at Easter. We need to push things much farther and wrestle with the question of how we can be more. "Being more" means becoming more fully alive and in touch with the holiness of life and the divinity that lives in and empowers all beings and things. It is realizing that the "quality" of our presence is crucial to being an effective witness and herald of God's unconditional love.

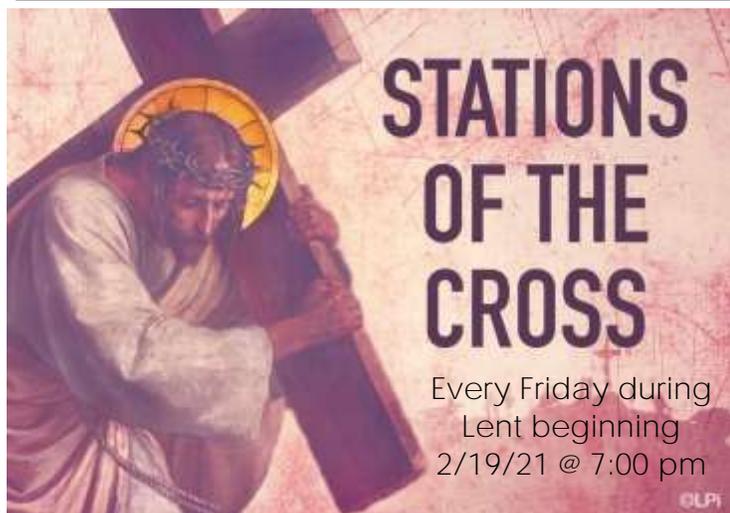
The illusion we have bought into causes us to believe that the wrong things and systems matter. We tirelessly fight to keep things the way they are, to return to the former ways of doing things or restore some nostalgic fantasy memory of "life in the good old days." Lent isn't about maintaining what we have or returning to something that is gone. It's about becoming something new. It's about being more focused, centered, convicted, and grounded so that we can be a person who truly loves and treasures being made in the image of God. The secret to Gospel living is not found in accumulating anything for ourselves, even merit points for heaven. Gospel living means learning how to live with less so that others can live with more. The thought of permanently giving something up makes us feel uncomfortable. Truth often does.

**WEEKLY COLLECTION:**



**This Year (02/14/21)**  
**\$2,649;**  
**Last Year (02/16/20)**  
**\$3,131;**

As COVID-19 continues to impact everyday life, we want to say thank you for your continued support and wish you health and peace. Our Lady Star of the Sea will continue to serve our parishioners as best we can. We hope that you will continue to serve your Parish as best as you can.



# STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Friday during Lent beginning 2/19/21 @ 7:00 pm

The Parish Bulletin is one of our main tools of communication to our parish members. Weekly it provides inspiration, Mass Intentions, news and events for the week ahead. It is provided to our Parish at no cost due to the generous advertising support of our parishioners and community minded businesses. Call Robin to reserve your advertising space today.

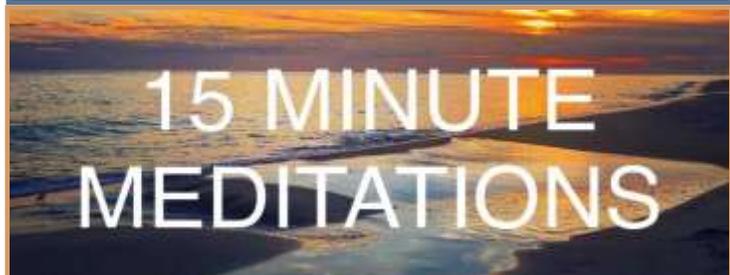
**AVAILABLE NOW!**  
**PRINT & DIGITAL AD SPACES**

Build your business and help us grow a vibrant faith community!

Robin Ungaro from LPI, our bulletin printer, is working to secure new ads for our church. As a valuable member of the business community, we invite you to expand your reach and grow your business with a print ad in our parish bulletin and/or a digital ad featured on ParishesOnline.com

**LPI** Robin Ungaro  
 203-747-8671 cell  
 ranguaro@lpi.com

Join fellow OLSS Parishioners via ZOOM for a daily Rosary.  
 M-F @ 4:30pm  
 S-S @ 4:00pm  
 Meeting ID: 724 106 329  
 Passcode: 5jZxtq



Open up to the opportunity to simply be...

*Fridays 5:15 - 5:30pm  
 Live on ZOOM*

*For more information contact:*

*Scott Heekin-Canedy: scotthc@outlook.com*

## DEEPEN YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS THIS LENT. WATCH "CHOSEN"!

Each Thursday there will be a ZOOM Reflection on the episode of the week. Join us for the second virtual Reflection this Thursday, February 25 as we pray, share and discuss:

Sabbat (episode 2)



&

Jesus Loves the Little Children (episode 3)



Mark your calendar to attend the ZOOM Reflection Thursday, Feb. 25th 6:00-6:45pm

Opening Prayer  
 Shared insights from Chosen TV episodes  
 Reflection & Question/Answer Time  
 Closing Prayer

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zEc2zgJtp-4&feature=youtu.be&t=733>

&

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GvOpl1sxx8Q>

Or download TheChosen.tv/app for commercial free enjoyment.

## Lent is a time for change of heart...

Throughout the season of Lent OLSS will be collecting spare change to help provide clean drinking water to those in need. All money donated will be sent to Catholic Relief Services to assist in their work to bring clean drinking water to areas affected by drought, war and the absence of clean water.



Please deposit your coins in the water bottle located in the lobby of the Church. Your spare change will change the lives of many!

### EVERY "DROP" IN THE BOTTLE COUNTS!

#### WHAT DOES "WATER SECURE" MEAN?

"Water security" is when water is effectively and holistically managed to support human well-being, socio-economic development and the environment with an emphasis on ensuring equitable access to safe water and sanitation for the very poor, the vulnerable, and disaster-affected populations. Thank you.