March, 2020

On the Road Again, Our Lenten Journey

We are on the road again. As disciples of Jesus, we are on our Lenten journey, walking in obedience with prayer, fasting and penance to the cross and beyond. I invite you to consider the many suggestions offered by the Parish Pastoral Council through the “90 for 90” initiative. Remember, the journey is as rewarding as the destination.

True, our Lenten observances culminate at Easter, but continuing to be disciples doesn’t end. The parish mission, led by Fr. Corey Brost, will offer us wisdom and insight on how to enrich our lives 12 months a year through prayer, selflessness and generosity. Please join us on March 2, 3 and 4 for an hour each evening beginning at 7:30 pm.

Our United Parish Program is up and running. The UPP is our one and only parish-wide fundraiser. It aims to bring together all our parishioners and our many and varied parish organizations to work as one toward a common goal - to build up the Body of Christ and to care for and support the sacramental, educational and ministerial needs of our parish community. It is therefore vital that every member of our parish community participates in this United endeavor as best they can.

The UPP raffle is our single largest source of funds to help us realize our event goal of $275,000. This year we have made some changes to the raffle. The ticket costs less; and the more tickets we sell, the more prizes will be added. We have also increased our Early Bird prizes from $100 to $500. Think of it this way - in the past, if every family bought $250 worth of tickets they had six chances to win, but this year $300 worth of tickets will get you ten chances to win. There is a lot of money being put in the pot to win, so buy your tickets soon or as we say in Chicago “early and often!”

Blessings!!

Fr. Simon Braganza

Highlights

UPP - #UPP2020 - May 15, 2020 – 6:00 pm to 11:00 pm - New Decade...New Raffle!

- UPP2020 is launching with an all new raffle. The grand prize is $5,000 and two additional prizes of $2,500 each. If our parish hits the goal of selling 3,500 tickets, we will add another $2,500 prize. And if we exceed our goal by 10%, we can add another $2,500. That’s a total of 5 CASH prizes.
- Tickets are $30 each. If you buy a PACK 10, or ten total tickets, you will be entered into a separate raffle to win $1,000.
And on top of all that, we have our first winner from the Early Bird Drawings. Congratulations to Ann Ingles who just won $500 in the UPP Raffle. There are four more drawings: March 27, April 3, April 24 and May 1.

Click here and get your raffle tickets today.

Lenten Mission – March 2, 3 and 4 – 7:30 pm in the basilica - Father Corey Brost, CSV – "Lenten Wisdom: How to Enrich Your Life 12 Months a Year with Prayer, Fasting and Service"

- Please join us for our Lenten Mission, presented by Father Corey Brost, CSV. Father Brost is a Viatorian priest and former president of St Viator High School in Arlington Heights. He is currently executive director of Viator House of Hospitality, a northwest suburban interfaith program, and was a co-founder of the Children of Abraham Coalition, which plans events for all ages that promote interfaith relationships, reverence and literacy.
- Receptions will follow the Monday and Wednesday sessions in the Holy Name Room

St Vincent DePaul Society - Shoe Box & Toiletries Drive – Weekend of March 7/8.

- We will again be sponsoring our annual toiletries collection at Masses this month. This is an extraordinary opportunity to reach out to those less fortunate this Lenten season. We are collecting in two ways this year, scroll down for details!

Family Masses

- **1st Grade – Saturday, March 7 – 5:00 pm in the Basilica**
- **Kindergarten – Sunday, March 22 – 9:30 am in the Basilica - reception following**
- **7th Grade – Saturday, April 4 – 5 pm in the Basilica**

Elizabeth Ministry – Lenten Book Club.

- The Elizabeth Ministry invites women of the parish to our annual Lenten Book Club. This year’s selection is “Rediscover the Saints” by Matthew Kelly. We’ll see you in the Fireplace Room of the Benedict Center on Monday evenings at 7:00 pm on March 9, 16, 23 & 30. Join us for 90 pages, or 90 minutes!

Inclusion Awareness Mass – Saturday, March 14 – 5:00 pm Mass

- Please welcome members of our Special Religious Education (SPRED) Ministry, our Partners in Prayer, our local Misericordia residents, and others, to our Inclusion Awareness Mass. Together we can open our faith community, so everyone feels welcome to participate in worship, ministries and fellowship every day of the year.

Scout Troup 626 – Pancake Breakfast – Sunday, March 15 – 7:00 am until 3:00 pm – AYCE Pancakes!

- Come to the Best Swedish Pancake Breakfast in the Neighborhood! If “all you can eat” pancakes isn’t enough, we will also have sausage, coffee and orange juice.
- Location - QAS Cafeteria
- Adults and children over 12 - $8; Seniors - $6; Children 5 to 12 - $6; Children under 5 - FREE

QAS School Showcase – Wednesday, March 18 – 9:00 to 11:00 am.

- **Group Tour and Informational Coffee.** Join us for a tour of our school and an opportunity to meet the administration, current students, and parents. RSVP to 773.736.0567 (or to arrange for an individual tour on an alternate date). The next showcase date is Wednesday, April 29.

Mother/Son Dance – Saturday, March 7 – 6:00 to 9:00 pm – in the gym (open to all ages, PK to 8, QAS School or RE) – Reservations are still being accepted!

- You’re invited to “**Glow the Night Away!”** in our 1st annual Mother/Son Dance
- Dancing, games, raffles & crafts; pizza, dessert, snacks & refreshments
- Wear your favorite Glow In The Dark attire and accessories
- $35 mother and 1 son, $45 mother and all sons
- Info and entry form here!

Mother/Daughter Event – Saturday, March 21. Mark your calendars now!

Music of The Masters Concert Series – Friday, March 27 – 7:30 pm in the Basilica


Lenten Liturgies and Activities

- **Daily Weekday Mass** – 6:30 am and 8:30 am (8:00 am Saturday)
Our Education Ministries

QAS School

- As we enter the Lenten season, **our students will have many opportunities for reflection, service and penance**. The school began Lent with Mass and the distribution of ashes, as well as the long standing tradition of Rice & Broth lunch. The Rice & Broth lunch reminds students of the sacrifice Jesus made for us and encourages them to think of sacrifices they can make for others. All proceeds from the lunch benefit Catholic Charities. All students in grades 3-8 will have the opportunity for reconciliation and students also participate in Stations of the Cross on Fridays. Additionally, the school will be participating in “90 for 90” with the parish, by finding meaningful ways to reflect on what we say and do in preparation for the celebration of Easter.

- On March 5 our **8th graders will have their third dance of the school year**. The spring dance is a luau theme.

- March 6 marks the end of our 2nd trimester. We are now 2/3 of the way through our school year.

- **Our Schola Singers will participate in VanderCook College of Music’s Choral Fest on March 24**. Good luck to all our 6th, 7th and 8th grade choir members!

- On March 25 & 26 **Queen of All Saints presents Hip-Hop Hamilton**. The country's biggest musical sensation hits the small stage in the QAS Gymnasium for two nights of singing, dancing and American history. To all our thespians, “Break a leg!”

- **We continue to accept applications for Kindergarten - 8th grade for Fall 2020. Please contact the school office at 773-736-0567 for more information.**

Religious Education

- Religious Education is using the **#qas90for90** campaign to drive our Lenten efforts.

- We have created a **custom Lent Calendar**, counting down from Ash Wednesday to Easter that incorporates the Lenten practices of **prayer**, **fasting and almsgiving**, in keeping with 90for90.
  - **Pray**: Some days students are being asked to pray an extra 90 seconds/minutes, or some weeks they are challenged to pray 9 decades of the Rosary, or read 90 verses from the scriptures.
  - **Fast**: Students are being challenged to give up (fast from) complaining each Friday during Lent, on other days they should be fasting from snacking between meals, or limiting their screen time.
  - **Give**: Throughout the calendar, donations in the sum of 90 cents are being asked for each time you accidentally complain on Friday, or for every 30 minutes of screen time used throughout a specific day. These donations are being collected on behalf of **Viator House**, where our Lenten Mission speaker is from.

- The themes of **Pray, Fast, Give** are woven throughout the calendar to help students have a Lent focused on these practices.

- In addition to the calendar, each grade level will have a specific challenge for the season of Lent. Grade challenges will be focused on either the **prayer or giving** aspects of Lent. Grades 6 through 8 are being challenged to read 90 chapters/verses from the Bible throughout Lent. Grades 3 through 4 are collecting different items (diapers, non-perishable food, books, gift cards) for various organizations. Grades 1 and 2 are making cards to distribute to different people during Lent and Easter. Our kindergarteners are trying to pray for 90 people throughout Lent!

- **Our Confirmation students also have an exciting March. On March 3, our 7th and 8th grade students will be participating in a Refugee Simulation presented by QAS Social Justice Ministry and the organization **Exodus World Service**. It will give them a chance to reflect on the situation of refugees around the world, and to think about what our Catholic response to these situations should be.**

- **On Saturday, March 28, our 8th grade Confirmation candidates will come together for a full day of faith, fun and spiritual growth at their Confirmation Retreat. Net Ministries will come and put this day on for our students.**

Opportunities to Reach Out

**St Vincent DePaul Society - Shoe Box & Toiletries Drive – Weekend of March 7/8.**

We will again be sponsoring our annual toiletries collection at Masses this month. This is an extraordinary opportunity to reach out to those less fortunate this Lenten season. We are collecting in two ways this year:
• **Shoebox Collection** – body wash, toothbrushes, toothpaste, mints, granola bars, soap bars, shampoo, floss, sanitizing wipes, etc. to go to The Night Ministry, The Women’s Center, The Harbor and The Well of Mercy

• **Gallon Plastic Bag Collection** – disposable razors, deodorant, toothbrushes, small comb and travel-size toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner and body wash. All should be new and unopened. We are especially in need of items for men. These will go to the Catholic Charities Hot Shower Program.

**Bereavement Support Group** – Sundays, March 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 – 1:30 to 3:30 pm – Benedict Center, Fireplace Room

- When a loved one dies we grieve, and it can feel overwhelming. We all grieve in our own personal way, but we need not grieve alone. Others who are grieving are on a similar journey and we can all be uplifted by journeying together.
- We began with an introductory meeting last month, and continue with follow up sessions March 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29; and April 5.
- For more information, or to register, contact Sheila Morrow at 773.383.4405 or smorrow@qasparish.org.

**Elizabeth Ministry**

- **Meal Train**: The Elizabeth Ministry has a list of generous women ready to drop off hot meals to families who could use a little TLC. Whether dealing with illness or loss, welcoming a baby or facing a family emergency, let us offer the gift of a family meal, for you or someone you know in our community. Contact Lauren Berke at 847-644-8150 or elizabethministry.qas@gmail.com to join the volunteer list or request a meal train.
- **Prayer Tree**: The prayers and petitions of our parish community are important to us. The Elizabeth Ministry has a dedicated group of women who will offer up your intention in their own daily prayer for one week. Let us be partners in prayer with you. Please send your prayer intentions to elizabethministry.qas@gmail.com.
- **Breast Cancer Awareness & Support**: Breast cancer affects more women than you know. Women who have received a diagnosis of breast cancer, are going through treatment or celebrating remission are invited to contact us at elizabethministry.qas@gmail.com. The Elizabeth Ministry offers prayers, support and a care package for women facing breast cancer - because no one should walk alone.
- **Adoptive Family Awareness & Support**: Connecting families and hosting events for families of adopted children, and those who are waiting to bring a child home. Email elizabethministry.qas@gmail.com to be connected or for more info.

**Social Justice Ministry - Peace through Justice**

*The consistent practice of nonviolence has broken barriers, bound wounds, healed nations—and it can heal Chicago.* - Pope Francis. In support of February being Teen Dating Violence Prevention month, the QAS Social Justice Ministry invites you to join us at these events:

**At Queen of All Saints**

- Tuesday March 3 – *Run for Your Life* Simulation of refugee experience for School and Religious Education confirmation classes in partnership with Exodus World Service.
- Sunday April 26 - *Earth Day Climate Change and Laudato Si’.*

**In Our City & Beyond**

- Tuesday, March 3 - 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm. *True Justice: Bryan Stevenson’s Fight for Equality.* HBO documentary on the struggle to create justice in the criminal justice system by Bryan Stevenson, author of Just Mercy. Following will be a presentation by Michael Rabbitt on the Equal Justice Initiative’s Legacy Museum in Montgomery, AL. @ Chicago Public Library Independence branch, 4024 N. Elston Ave., Chicago, IL 60618.
- Saturday, March 28 - *Archdiocese of Chicago Domestic Violence Outreach (ACDVO) Annual Gala* to be held at The Diplomat West Banquet Halls, 681 W North Ave, Elmhurst.

Please email justice@qasparish.org for more info on any of our events. We meet the third Tuesday of each month, from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm, in the Benedict Center Fireplace Room.

**Our Ongoing Ministries**

**Men’s Club**

- **Regular monthly meeting** - Thursday, March 5 - 8:00 pm in the Holy Name Room. The Men’s Club is open to all men of the parish and all are welcome at our monthly meetings. Refreshments will be served.
- **Men’s Club Retreat** – Saturday - March 7 – 8:00 am to 2:00 pm. The day begins with Mass at 8:00 am, followed by the retreat in the Benedict Center Chapel, and concludes with lunch in the Holy Name Room.
- **Dad and Kids Movie Night** – Friday, March 13, at 7:00 pm in the Holy Name Room. Check our emails for details on this fun entertainment night!

**Women’s Auxiliary (WAX)**

- **Our next regular meeting** - Thursday, March 12 – 7:00 pm in the Holy Name Room. Mark your calendars for our upcoming meeting on April 1 (bumped up because of Holy Week)
As always, all women of the parish are invited to attend our meetings and events. The more the merrier!

Moppets & Me

- Come join us for a play date and meet some new friends! We will meet Thursday, March 5, and Thursday, March 19, from 9:30 am to 11:00 am in the parish rectory. Parents and caregivers of children ages 0 - 5 are invited for fellowship, snacks and play time.
- As part of the parish’s 90 for 90 Lent Campaign the Moppets ministry is working to raise $90 for the Catholic Relief Services’ Rice Bowl initiative. If you’d like to contribute please bring your donation to one of our March play dates, or contact me directly to donate at meganncnick@gmail.com.

FACA

- Monthly Meeting – Sunday, March 15 – 1:30 pm, in the Holy Name Room

Widowed Group

- Wednesday, March 11 – Noon lunch at Silvers Grill, at 104 Euclid Ave, Park Ridge. Call Pat at 773.282.3746 by March 6 if you can come.
- Wednesday, March 25 - “Fabulous First Ladies” luncheon at L Woods in Lincolnwood. It’s such a great topic that **RESERVATIONS ARE FULL – SORRY!**
- Sunday, March 29 – Lake Shore Symphony, “Old and New” at Northside College Prep, 5501 N Kedzie, at 3:30 pm. The concert is “a lively fanfare by a living composer and a celebration of Beethoven’s 250th birthday with a beautiful symphony inspired by nature.” Cost is $15. We can go out to dinner after the concert. Call 773.282.3746 by March 25 if you want to join us.

Youth Ministry

- Sunday, March 1 - Guest Speaker, John Rahimi, Seminary Student (Holy Name Room)
- Sunday, March 8 - 4:00 Mass, Meeting
- Sunday, March 15 – Meeting
- Sunday, March 22 – Meeting
- Sunday, March 29 - 4:00 Mass and Reconciliation, Meeting

Please email qasym@qasparish.org for more information

Single Parents Group

- Monthly Meet-up (Family Event): Thursday, March 19, 6:00 pm at City's Edge on Devon. Can't beat the $2 burger special and a break from the kitchen!

To RSVP, for more information about the group, or how the group may be able to support the needs of you or your children, please contact 773-841-0528 or elyse_mitchell@hotmail.com

Update on Our Capital Campaign -

**Entering a New Phase**

- We have now completed Phase II of our campaign:
  - The renovation of the former kindergarten space in the Keene building for use by our larger ministries, including the Men’s Club, Women’s Auxiliary and Partners in Prayer
  - Reconfiguration of Lemont building classrooms, library, music program space, into updated and more appropriate space

Below are pictures of the Preschool room, Science Lab, Music Room, new Holy Name Room, & Benedict Center Fireplace Room
• And look forward to completing Phase III
  ○ Finally, the creation of a flexible parish community hall in the former Rose Room, restoring that space to its original function
  ○ Planning work continues, with an expected start and completion during this summer

We still have a way to go to fully fund our needs for the future. Please consider accelerating payment on your current multi-year pledge so we can meet our cash flow needs and if you can, contact our business office with your increased pledge for our future. See below for Queen of All Saints contact information.

Whatever decision you make, please know that your parish is deeply grateful for your sacrifice and dedication to our church, our school and our many ministries through which we serve each other through all phases of our lives. Thank you again!

Update on Basilica Repairs

• We have reported earlier on the major projects to replace the Basilica ceiling in 2017, as well as significant repairs to the Basilica bell tower beginning in the fall of 2018. With the warmer weather the bell tower repairs restarted in April 2019 with the construction of the scaffold and extended throughout most of last year. Work extended all the way to the top of the steeple, where the cross was repaired off-site and reinstalled in late 2019.
• As we hope you have noticed, the stonework in the bell tower has now been completed and the scaffolding has now been dismantled!
• Repairs to the Basilica east and west transepts began in the spring of 2019, with stonework being performed primarily from the outside. We expect to complete the west side in 2020. Our project was hampered by the discovery of more extensive water damage than expected, which has delayed our work and increased our costs.
• As we have noted, up until this point we have been in the fortunate position to be able to fund these repairs from our long-term savings but are now faced with the necessity to replenish those savings. For that reason we ask all our parishioners to help us achieve a 25% increase in our Sunday giving and to sustain that level of increased giving until we reach our goal of restoring $5 million to our long-term savings (our endowment funds). We owe it to those who came before us, as well as to those who will follow us, to maintain the financial position of our parish strong and vibrant.
• As a new giving option we began distributing a “blue envelope” in our bi-monthly mailing. This can be used for gifts for direct deposit into our parish endowments. A donation to the parish endowment may also be done through GiveCentral.

Please keep our parish in your charitable giving plans

We deeply appreciate all that our parishioners do to keep our parish strong in every way as they contribute their time, their talents and their treasure for the benefit of everyone.

Consider these ways to provide your financial support for all the ministries and activities that touch our lives, and to strengthen our parish for our shared future:

• Electronic giving for Sunday support or for our capital campaign
• Tax-free rollover from your IRA – contact our business office for details
• Gift of appreciated securities – contact our business office for details

Looking Ahead

• Saturday, April 4 – 7th Grade Mass – 5:00 pm
• Sunday, April 5 – Palm Sunday
• Holy Thursday, April 9; Good Friday, April 10; Holy Saturday, April 11
• Sunday, April 12 - Easter
• Saturday, April 25 - Confirmation
• Sunday, April 26 – 5th Grade Family Mass – 9:30 am
• Saturday, May 2 – First Communion
Do we have YOUR full contact information?

- Many households have “cut the cord” and rely only on cell phones. Make sure we have your current phone info by sending it to qasoffice@qasparish.org. Thanks!

Do you have OUR contact information?

- Our rectory business hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 am - 4:00 pm.
- Our phone number is 773-736-6060.
- To reach us by email, email qasoffice@qasparish.org.

“Like” us on Facebook at Queen of All Saints Parish – Chicago

Follow us on Instagram https://www.instagram.com/qasbasilica/

Follow us on Twitter https://twitter.com/QASBasilica

Please remember our parish

We are grateful for the continuing generosity of our parishioners to support the many ministries that serve our spiritual and social needs. For your convenience, consider using Give Central for safe, electronic giving.