

# West Side Deanery Parishes Peace & Justice & Related Faith Formation Events / Initiatives

**March, 2017**

Here below is a tentative summary of events organized in March in the West Side Deanery Parishes.

We have a rich proposition of Lenten Series: Spiritual reflection, Bible studies, Book studies and Music series!

**Don't hesitate to send me missing P&J / Adult Faith Formation events or let me know if there are some themes not covered yet, you would like to read about ([westsidedeanery@gmail.com](mailto:westsidedeanery@gmail.com))**

## Lenten Series

### Peace & Justice / Catholic Social Teachings

- Catholic Social Teachings
- Contemplation & Action
- Care for Creation
- Dignity of Life
- Homeless
- Interfaith dialogue
- LGBT
- Migration
- Racism
- Women

## Faith through Art

### West Side Deanery Parishes (btw 125<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> street)

Corpus Christi (121th St)	<a href="http://corpus-christi-nyc.org">corpus-christi-nyc.org</a>
Notre Dame (114th St)	<a href="http://ndparish.org">ndparish.org</a>
Ascension (107th St)	<a href="http://ascensionchurchnyc.org">ascensionchurchnyc.org</a>
Holy Name of Jesus / St Gregory the Great (96th St & 90th St)	<a href="http://holynamenyc.org">holynamenyc.org</a>
Holy Trinity (82nd St)	<a href="http://htcny.org">htcny.org</a>
Blessed Sacrament (71st St)	<a href="http://blessedsacramentnyc.org">blessedsacramentnyc.org</a>
St Paul the Apostle (59th St)	<a href="http://stpaultheapostle.org">stpaultheapostle.org</a>
Sacred Heart of Jesus (51st St)	<a href="http://shjnycparish.org">shjnycparish.org</a>
St Malachy - Actor's Chapel (49th St)	<a href="http://actorschapel.org">actorschapel.org</a>
Holy Cross / St John the Baptist (42nd St & 30th St)	<a href="http://christinthecity.nyc">christinthecity.nyc</a>
Holy Innocents (37th St)	<a href="http://innocents.com">innocents.com</a>
St Michael (34th St)	<a href="http://stmichaelnyc.com">stmichaelnyc.com</a>
St Francis of Assisi (31st St)	<a href="http://stfrancisnyc.org">stfrancisnyc.org</a>
St Columba / Guardian Angel (25rd St)	<a href="http://guardianangelstcolumba.org">guardianangelstcolumba.org</a>
St Francis Xavier (15th St)	<a href="http://sfxavier.org">sfxavier.org</a>

*Are also listed events from Theological Universities on the West Side: Fordham University, Union Theological Seminary, Jewish Theological Seminary and the Cordoba House. And organization where many on the WSD are involved: Faith in NY, Metro NY-CCM (part of GCCM), Migrant Center (St Francis of Assisi), St Francis Breadline, Franciscan Action Network (FAN)*

## Lenten Series

- **The Prophets, “Few are guilty, but all are responsible” – Corpus Christi**  
**Every Sun of Lent btw March 5, 12, 19, 26, April 2, 4pm**  
Spiritual Reflections & Music
- **A Journey with the Gospel of John - Stories for our Lenten Pilgrimage – Corpus Christi**  
**Sat, April 1, 2-4:30 pm, A light lunch at 1:30, in the rectory**  
Joseph S. Pecorella, M.A., retreat master, Information: 212-666-9350
- **Listen! What is Jesus asking you? - Holy Name, St Mary of the Angels Chapel**  
**Every Tues. of Lent btw March 7 – April 4, btw 6:30pm & 8pm** (Vespers, Simple Supper, Reflection)  
March 7 “Why are you afraid?” (Mk 4:40) Carmen Mendez  
March 14 “What do you want Me to do for you?” (Mk 10: 51) Vaughn Buffalo  
March 21 “Will you also leave?” (Jn 6:67) Kelly Evans  
March 28 “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” (Jn 9:35) .John Moody  
April 4 “Do you want to be well?” (Jn 5:6) Fr. Matthew Pravetz, O.F.M.
- **Lenten Series - Saint Francis of Assisi**
  - **The Book of Exodus: Pattern of our Lenten Pilgrimage**  
Thurs, Mar 2 – 30, 6:15pm – 7:15pm; \$40; Clare Room
  - **A Lenten Journey with Edith Stein: Her life and works**  
Fri Mar 10, 9am – 12pm; \$30 Francis Room
- **Spiritual events – Holy Trinity**  
**Sun March 5, 12, 19, 4 pm - 5:15pm, in the Murphy Center**  
Spiritual Reflection on Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving, chaired by retreat leaders, Mar 5th Fr. Richard Smith Mar 12th Fr. Andrew Andreassi, CO Mar 19th Fr. Patrick Ryan, SJ
- **Women’s power in the Bible – St Francis Xavier**  
**Every of Lent btw Wed Mar 8 – April 5**  
Dr. Elizabeth Berne DeGear, BCC will lead this lecture, discussion and faith-sharing as we encounter women’s power in the Bible and see where it takes us. All women and men are welcome.  
To register: XavierBibleStudy@gmail.com, or call 212-627-2100.
- **“The World's Religions, Our Great Wisdom Traditions” – Church of Notre Dame**  
**Based on Huston Smith book “The World’s Religions”.**  
**Every Sat btw March 11 – April 8, 10am to 12pm** (10am: Coffee/Tea, 10:30am: workshop)  
Reading of the chapters before the workshop strongly recommended!
  - Mar 11 Hinduism - Ch 1 & 2
  - Mar 18 Buddhism Ch 3
  - Mar 25 Judaism Ch 7
  - April 1 Christianity Ch 8
  - April 8 Islam Ch 6
- **Taizé Prayer for the Unity of Christian & Humanity - St. John the Baptist**  
**Every Thurs of Lent btw March 2 and April 6, 7:30 pm, in the church.**  
A simple, contemplative prayer service. Inspired by the Taizé Community in France. Sing, meditate, and be still. Come and pray for the unity of Christians and the unity of humanity.

- **40 days for life – Sacred Heart of Jesus**

- **March 1 – April 9, Planned Parenthood, 26 Bleeker St.**

- Help protect mothers and children by taking part in this groundbreaking worldwide mobilization. Join in Prayer, Fasting and Peaceful Vigil at Planned Parenthood, 26 Bleeker St. For more information: [40daysforlife.com/manhattan](http://40daysforlife.com/manhattan) or contact Ingrid [40days.manhattan@gmail.com](mailto:40days.manhattan@gmail.com)  
40 days to respect life.

- **Lenten Simple Suppers – Blessed Sacrament**

- **Tues of Lent: Mar. 7, 14, 21, 28 and April, 7pm in the rectory**

- Prayers and meditation begin at 7PM in the rectory, followed by a meal of soup and salad...and fellowship. The suppers are a wonderful way to not only deepen one's Lenten experience, but also to be able to reflect in a very comfortable and quiet setting with fellow parishioners. For more information, please call John Gasdaska at 646-345-7350. We look forward to seeing you then.

- **Lenten CRS Rice Bowl project – Blessed Sacrament, St Paul the Apostle**

- Nearly 14,000 Catholic communities across the United States — in a life-changing Lenten journey with CRS Rice Bowl. CRS Rice Bowl is a faith-in-action Lenten program for families, individuals and faith communities with family activities, meatless meals, prayers and reflections. Rice Bowl invites Catholics to live in solidarity with our most vulnerable brother. For more information: [crsricebowl.org](http://crsricebowl.org)

- **Lenten Mercy project - Ascension**

- During Lent, we will be collecting donations of Metrocards which have a round-trip ride minimum (\$5.50) or cash that we will use to buy round trip rides on "empty" Metro cards. These cards will be taken and combined with information/business cards from Camba, the homeless drop off shelter we work with in hosting the homeless on Saturday nights. Cards will be distributed to homeless people on the streets and subways, in hopes that they will travel to the Camba Center to find the help they need. For more information: [rklueber@ascensionchurchnyc.org](mailto:rklueber@ascensionchurchnyc.org)/[212-749-5938](tel:212-749-5938). Supported by the Ascension Church Youth Group ("Spirit Squad"), and the Ascension Adults in Action (AAA). Thank you for your support!



### Catholic Social Teaching

- **Gatherings to exchange ideas following Women’s March in DC – St Francis Xavier**  
**March 7, 16, 21, 30 – 6:30pm St Francis Xavier, Hurtado Hall**  
Following the Women’s March in DC and the subsequent meetings at SFX, and in response to requests for ongoing conversation, we’ve reserved Hurtado Hall (our large church basement) once a week for the next several weeks so that people have a space to drop in -- whether it be for solidarity and spiritual refreshment, or for organized action.  
**What happens during those evenings depends on you! Who facilitates these gatherings depends on you! We hope you can join us!**
- **Play: “9 Circles” written by Bill Cain, directed by Kent Nicholson – St Francis Xavier**  
**Sat March 4<sup>th</sup>, matinée, Sheen Center Black Box Theater – St FX Peace & Justice** will be joining  
In the New York premiere of Bill Cain’s dramatic, compelling, and visceral thriller, Daniel Reeves is arrested and prosecuted for acts that he may have committed while serving in the U.S. Army during the Iraq War. Thrown into a labyrinth of military bureaucracy, the confused and troubled teenager tries to navigate through layers of commanding officers, public defenders, pastors, lawyers and army psychiatrists. Inspired by actual events, the play received rave reviews at several of America’s regional theaters. Based on the 9 Circles of Hell in Dante’s Inferno, this powerful drama barrels unflinchingly forward in its descent into one man’s hell.  
**Talkbacks after the Saturday Matinees:** March 4, March 11 and March 18.  
**Tickets** \$35 Sheen Center Black Box Theater, 18 Bleecker St - sheencenter.org  
**Let St FX Peace & Justice know you’re coming:** [xavierpeaceandjustice@gmail.com](mailto:xavierpeaceandjustice@gmail.com)
- **Talk, Book signing: “Fulton Sheen: Friend and Mentor” by Msgr Hilary Franco – Holy Trinity**  
**Sun March 26, 7pm – Holy Trinity – Murphy Center**  
Monsignor Hilary Franco is a Senior Advisor to the pope’s “ambassador” to the United Nations, and retired Archdiocesan pastor. Bishop Fulton J. Sheen (1895-1979) is known for his preaching and especially his work on television and radio. His cause for canonization as a saint was officially opened in 2002.

### Contemplation & Action

- **St Francis of Assisi Adult Faith Formation (see program)**
  - **Clarity in all things: looking and loving with St Clare of Assisi**  
Thurs Mar 2 – 16, 5:45pm-7pm; \$30; San Damiano Hall
  - **A Lenten Journey with Edith Stein: Her life and works**  
Fri Mar 10, 9am – 12pm; \$30 Francis Room
  - **A day of Contemplative prayer**  
The same workshop will be offered on the following three Saturdays: March 11, 2017; April 1, 2017; and May 6, 2017; 10:30 am – 4:30 am, \$40; Clare Room
  - **We and the Ways of two mystics: Thomas Merton and Julian of Norwich**  
Tues, Mar 14 – Apr 18, 6pm-8pm; \$40; Classroom 4
  - **Zen Meditation : Dragon’s Eye Zendo**  
Thurs Ongoing 6pm – 7:45pm; San Damiano Hall

- **Centering prayer – Notre Dame**  
**Monday, Ongoing 7:30pm – 8:45pm**
- **Catholic Meditation, Contemplation, Centering Prayer and Chant – St Paul the Apostle**  
**Wednesday, On-going, 6:00pm, Parish Center**  
RSVP to [meditativeprayer@aol.com](mailto:meditativeprayer@aol.com)
- **Redeeming the Rhinoceros: Thomas Merton’s Monastic Option – Corpus Christi**  
**Sat April 22, 2pm – 4pm**  
Organized by the Thomas Merton Society, NY Chapter [thomasmertonnyc.org](http://thomasmertonnyc.org)  
Dr. Paul M. Pearson, Director and Archivist of The Thomas Merton Center at Bellarmine University, Louisville, Kentucky, will speak on “Redeeming the Rhinoceros: Thomas Merton’s Monastic Option.” He will explore Merton’s roots of social action.

#### Care for Creation

- **NYC Multi-faith Gathering for Climate Justice – Metro NY CCM**  
**Tues March 7, 6:30pm, St Peter’s Church, 619 Lexington Ave (at 54<sup>th</sup> St)**
- **Climate Change Film Series - Holy Name, Blessed Sacrament, & Metro NY CCM**  
**March 8, 18, April 7, 19**
  - **The Wisdom to Survive, (screening & discussion with filmmaker J. Ankele)**  
Wed March 8, 7pm at Blessed Sacrament, Lower Church
  - **The Last Mountain**  
Sat March 18, 6:30 at Holy Name, St Mary of the Angel’s Chapel
  - **Blue Gold**  
Fri April 7, 7pm at Blessed Sacrament, Lower Church
  - **Time to Choose**  
Wed April 19, 7pm at Holy Name, St Mary of the Angel’s Chapel
- **Msgr. Kevin Irwin on Laudato Si’ - Sheen Center**  
**Mon March 13, 7pm, free but RSVP necessary**  
Msgr. Kevin Irwin shares his new book, A Commentary on Laudato Si’: Examining the Background, Contributions, Implementation, and Future of Pope Francis’ Encyclical, followed by an audience Q&A and book signing. Msgr. Irwin, a priest of the Archdiocese of New York, serves as Ordinary Research Professor at the Catholic University of America.
- **Harmony Farm 2017 CSA Program – Blessed Sacrament, Dominican Sisters of Blavelt**  
**Sign up now to be a member of the Dominican Sisters' Harmony Farm 2017 CSA Program and receive organic vegetables for 22 weeks, btw June – November 2017**  
**Contact:** [harmonyfarmcsa@gmail.com](mailto:harmonyfarmcsa@gmail.com) or call 845-657-3098. Visit: [www.harmonyfarmny.com](http://www.harmonyfarmny.com)
  - Cost \$600 for the season (one family- sized share),
  - Include 9 to 11 different organic vegetables each week!
  - Distribution every Wednesday from 4pm - 7pm, in front of Benincasa Community / Convent belonging to the Church of the Blessed Sacrament (133 W 70th St).
  - Members are invited to participate in two retreats at Harmony Farm on June 3rd & Sept. 9th.
- **Climate March, Washington DC – April 29 – SAVE THE DATE**

## Dignity of Life

- **40 days for life – Sacred Heart of Jesus**  
**March 1 – April 9, Planned Parenthood, 26 Bleeker St.**  
See Lenten Series above

## Homeless

- **Homeless & Addiction – Learn about the Ignatian Spirituality project – St FX**  
**Sun March 12, 1:00-2:30pmn Kennan-Commons Auditoriumn Xavier High School**  
Introduction to the project (informal meeting)
- **Lenten Mercy project - Ascension**  
Metro Card collection and distribution for Homeless. In partnership with the Camba Homeless Shelter. See Lenten series at the top.
- **Family Volunteer Day with JoyJ – Blessed Sacrament**  
**Sat, March 11, 9am**  
Help JoyJ pack bags for their homeless outreach. This is a great opportunity for parents and children to put into action some of the the Corporal Works of Mercy. While parents with children of all ages are invited to help pack bags, please consider the age and maturity of your children when deciding whether to participate in the outreach - i.e. actually handing out bags. You **MUST RSVP** on Meetup to participate in this event, as JoyJ has requested a list of volunteers in advance of the event. [www.meetup.com/NYC-Catholic-Families](http://www.meetup.com/NYC-Catholic-Families)
- **Banquet for the Hungry (Youth ministry- Apostolist.com) – St Paul the Apostle**  
**Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, Parish Center**  
Help serve a warm meal and spend an afternoon with our brothers and sisters in need. RSVP Required.

## Inter-Faith dialogue

- **Taizé Prayer**
  - **Lenten Taizé Prayer for the Unity of Christian & Humanity - St. John the Baptist**  
**Every Thurs btw March 2 and April 6, 7:30 pm, in the church.**  
A simple, contemplative prayer service. Inspired by the Taizé Community in France. Sing, meditate, and be still. Come and pray for the unity of Christians and the unity of humanity.
  - **Taizé Prayer – St FX**  
**Ongoing, every 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month, next: Fri April 10, 6-7pm**
- **Lenten Series: “The World's Religions, Our Great Wisdom Traditions” – Notre Dame**  
**Based on Huston Smith book “The World’s Religions”.** Workshops led by Fr. Michael K. Holleran  
**Every Sat btw March 11 – April 8, from 10am to 12pm** (10am: Coffee & Tea, 10:30am: workshop)  
**Curriculum:** Hinduism (Ch1 & 2), Buddhism (Ch3), Judaism (Ch7), Christianity (Ch8), Islam (Ch6)  
Reading of the chapters before the workshop strongly recommended! (see Lenten series above)
- **The Sultan and the Saint - Film – FAN, Fresh Meadows, Queens**  
**Thurs. March 30 - St. Francis Preparatory School in Queens**

- **Interfaith Passover Seder, led by Rabbis Perry and Leah Berkovitz – St Francis Xavier**  
**Sun April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6:30pm – 9:30pm – Hurtado Hall; Price: \$30**

People of all ages, from all religions and without religion are invited to celebrate diversity through food, music, song, prayer and conversation. Rabbi Perry and Rabbi Leah Berkovitz are founders of East Side Synagogue that stresses a contemporary, creative and spiritual Judaism. They are known for their interfaith and intergroup work which they have engaged in for over three decades. Rabbi Berkovitz also lead the American Jewish Heritage Organization, a national organization that combats hatred, antisemitism, and bigotry of all kinds; promotes Jewish pride and spirituality, and addresses moral and social issues that lead to a better world for all.

#### LGBT

- **GMHC Dinner Service (Out @ St Paul ministry) – St Paul the Apostle**  
**Fri, March 10th at 5:00-8:00pm**

Join us as we serve dinner at GMHC, our city's largest community center providing care for our brothers and sisters living with HIV. Please RSVP if you would like to volunteer as space is usually limited at the center.

#### Migrants

- **Global Refugee Crisis: Time for New Thinking – Jewish Theological Seminary**

**Thurs. March 16, 7:30pm, RSVP required** - <http://www.jtsa.edu/events-calendar?spr=2384>

David Milliband, president of the International Rescue Committee and former UK Foreign Secretary, discusses ways to address one of the most pressing political and moral issues of our time.

#### Racism

- **Dr. Su'ad Abdul Khabeer, "Muslims, #BlackLivesMatter, and Race in America" - Union Theological Seminary**

**Thurs. Mar 30 @ 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm - Social Hall, RSVP**

Join Dr. Su'ad Abdul Khabeer for a conversation on Muslims, #BlackLivesMatter, and Race in America. Su'ad Abdul Khabeer is a scholar-artist-activist who uses anthropology and performance to explore the intersections of race and popular culture. Her latest work, *Muslim Cool: Race, Religion and Hip Hop in the United States* (NYU Press 2016), is an ethnography on Islam and hip hop that examines how intersecting ideas of Muslimness and Blackness challenge and reproduce the meanings of race in the US. Su'ad has written for *The Root*, *The Washington Post*, *The Atlantic*, *Ebony Magazine*, the *Huffington Post*, and *Religious Dispatches* and has appeared on *Al Jazeera English*. She received her Ph.D. from Princeton University and is currently an assistant professor of anthropology and African American studies at Purdue University.

#### Women

- **Women Saints and Holy Women in Film and Art – St Francis of Assisi**  
**Tues Feb 21 – Mar 21, 1pm to 3pm, \$60, Clare Room**

- **Lenten Series: Women's power in the Bible – St Francis Xavier**  
**Wed Mar 8 – April 5**

To register: [XavierBibleStudy@gmail.com](mailto:XavierBibleStudy@gmail.com), or call 212-627-2100.

## Faith through Art

- **Sacred Sounds - David Ball, Organist – St Paul the Apostle**  
**Tues, Mar. 7 7:00 pm**  
Christ Cathedral Organist David performs another exciting concert on our mighty Möller pipe organ! The program will feature the world premiere of a new work by our own Organ Scholar at St. Paul the Apostle, Daniel Ficarra. This event is free, no tickets required. Donations benefit St. Paul's programs for emerging artists.
- **Voice Recital: Nicholas Simpson, tenor – Musica Trinitatis Series - Holy Trinity**  
**Sunday, March 19, 2017, 7:30 PM**
- **Talk: Roses for Mary: Boxwood Rosary Beads and Medieval Devotion – St Francis of A. / Cloisters**  
**Sun April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 12pm – 2pm, by Fr. Xavier Scheubert, OFM at the Cloisters**