Remember your mercies, O Lord.

October 1, 2017

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

FAITH DIRECT…

Fall into eGiving through Faith Direct, which is the most convenient and secure way for you to make your weekly offering to St. Mark the Evangelist. Your automatic contributions through Faith Direct will save valuable time for both you and our parish staff. Visit www.faithdirect.net and use our church code: NJ484.

Thank you for your continued support of our parish family!
God Bless,
Fr. Marcin

Mass Intentions

Saturday, September 30
5:30 pm For Megan McQuaide by Kathy Woeste

Sunday, October 1
8:00 am For Jack Crowley by Nugent Family
9:30 am For Pasquale Clemente by Silver Family
11:00 am For Betty Meyer by Long Valley Knights of Columbus

Monday, October 2
8:45 am For

Tuesday, October 3
8:45 am For James Sullivan by Nancy Sullivan

Wednesday, October 4
8:45 am For

Saturday, October 7
10:45 am Mass at Heath Village
5:30 pm For Tom Mackie by Dondero Family

Sunday, October 8
8:00 am For Elaine Gebbia by Gebbia Family
9:30 am For Marion Wilson by Nyman Family
11:00 am for Pat De Rogatis by Fania Family

REMEMBRANCE MEMORIALS
FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

Altar Breads & Wine – In loving memory of Patsy & Philip Marchese by Marchese family.

Sanctuary Lamp – In loving memory of Vito and Marie Benardone by Corry and Benardone families

Mass Candles: For Harmony in the World by Skoczylas Family

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Current Year | Last Year 2016
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September 24, 2017: $1,910 | September 25, 2016: $2,562
Envelopes used: 39 | Envelopes used: 62
Online for September $8,920 | Online for September: $8,014

Supermarket Gift Cards: September 24, 2017
Sales: $3,250
Profit $162.50
YTD Profit: $5,658.50
2016 YTD Profit: $4,848
# of Families: 17
St. Mark’s Faith Direct
Church Code is NJ484

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK’S

Mon, Oct. 2 8:45 am Daily Mass
7:30 pm Boy Scout Meeting

Tues., Oct. 3 8:45 am Daily Mass
7:30 pm Choir
7:30 pm Fundraising Meeting
8:00 pm Knights of Columbus

Wed., Oct. 4 8:45 am Daily Mass
9:30 am Women’s Bible Study

Thurs., Oct. 5 Office Closed

Fri., Oct. 6 No events scheduled

Sat. Oct. 7 8:00 am Men’s Bible Study
5:30 pm Mass
Pledge Commitment Weekend
K of C Membership Drive

Sun., Oct. 8 8, 9:30, 11 am Mass
Pledge Commitment Weekend
K of C Membership Drive

All-powerful and ever-living God the lasting health of all who believe in you, hear us as we ask your loving help for the sick; restore their health, that they may again offer joyful thanks in your church.

FROM FR. MARCIN... My dear parishioners,

We are celebrating Respect Life Sunday today. We pray for Culture of life in our Country. Our modern society is in danger from the culture of death. Crime of Abortion, euthanasia, violence, war, the death penalty. As adopted daughters and sons of God, we ask for God’s mercy to stop the abuse of life. This year’s theme is “Be not afraid”.

Pope Francis, who has captivated the world with his humility and compassion, shows through his actions that “even the weakest and most needy, the sick, the old, the unborn and the poor, are masterpieces of God’s creation, made in his own image, designed to live forever, and deserving of the highest reverence and respect”.

The Catholic Church teaches that every human being has a right to a full human life from the moment of conception to the moment of natural death.

The Catholic Church teaches that abortion is sinful because it is the destruction of human life. The Catholic Church also teaches that the “right to life” embraces the right to, food and a basic quality of human life and dignity of death.

We must give witness to the Gospel of Life and evangelize through our lives. We must personally engage others and share the truth about human life. We must continue to show love and mercy, especially with those who have been involved in abortion. All members of the Church can bring healing to the world by upholding the beauty of human life and God’s unfailing mercy.

The question in abortion is not only, When does life begin? But more deeply, what does life mean? What is the truth about humanity?

Abortion not only takes a life; it makes a statement about life. Abortion says we are disposable. Abortion says our value is determined by others. Abortion says there is no dignity in human life that requires its absolute protection. Don’t be fooled by that slogan, “pro-choice.” It sounds great, except that we don’t talk about what the choice is. Is a particular choice right or wrong, is it good or bad, should it be allowed or prohibited? Doesn’t that depend on what we are choosing? Do I have the right to choose to walk outside and destroy your car? Of course not. And therefore the law protects your car against anyone’s choice to destroy it, but laws do not protect life in the mother’s womb.

When we talk about abortion, we are not talking about children who might come into the world; we are talking about children who are already in the world. The question is not: Should I bring a child into the world? The question is: May I throw a child out of the world? If we let a mother kill the fruit of her womb, what is left to us? There is no true peace without respect for life.

We entrust all these efforts to the intercession of Mary, the Mother of God, and her husband St. Joseph. They are models of virtue and holiness who gave everything to welcome Jesus into their lives despite the hardships. With their assistance, may each of us have the courage to open our hearts to life.

We have to protect life from conception to natural death. Life is the greatest gift from God. Human beings are made in the image and likeness of God. That image cannot be destroyed.

OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAIN PRAY FOR US...

ST. MARK PRAY FOR US...

RESPECT LIFE SUNDAY

The whole month of October is designated as RESPECT LIFE MONTH

Respect Life Sunday is commemorated today, October 1st. Parishes across the country will be hearing a pro-life homily, and many parishioners will be participating in a “Life Chain” event on the streets outside their parishes. The closest “Life Chain” will take place today 2:00 – 3:30pm in Washington at Planned Parenthood, 66 East Washington Ave. Great Meadows at St. Peter & Paul Church, 360 US Highway 46 and in Phillipsburg at St. Philip & St. James Church, 430 South Main Street.

Life Chain is a prayerful public expression of support for unborn children. With God’s help, we can change hearts and minds. Life chain is not picketing or a demonstration, it is a prayerful presence, expands Pro-Life awareness in the community.

The American Catholic bishops initiated Respect Life Sunday in 1972, the year before the Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision legalized abortion in the U.S.A.

Each year on the first Sunday of October, Catholics across the country observe Respect Life Sunday with special devotions and pro-life prayers and activities in order to advance the culture of life in our nation.

Incidentally, the month of October is also the month of the rosary! And it is only through the Blessed Virgin Mary’s help that our culture will renew its recognition of the sanctity of all human life.

“It is impossible to further the common good without acknowledging and defending the right to life, upon which all the other inalienable rights of individuals are founded and from which they develop.” Pope John Paul II, The Gospel of Life

PRAYER FOR RESPECT LIFE

Heavenly Father, the beauty and dignity of human life was the crowning of your creation. You further ennobled that life when your Son became one with us in his incarnation. Help us to realize the sacredness of human life and to respect it from the moment of conception until the last moment at death. Give us courage to speak with truth and love and with conviction in defense of life. Help us to extend the gentle hand of mercy and forgiveness to those who do not reverence your gift of life. To all, grant pardon for the times we have failed to be grateful for your precious gift of life or to respect it in others. We ask this in Jesus’ Name. Amen.

THE ANNULMENT PROCESS

ST. PAUL INSIDE THE WALL IN MADISON

OCTOBER 11, 2017 – 7:30-9:00PM (MSS AT 7PM)

If you or someone you know is seeking an annulment, you are not alone in this Journey. The Church seeks to help, guide and support you. Come to have your questions about the annulment process answered and receive step-by-step support. “In the world you will have trouble, but take courage, I have conquered the world.” - John 16:33

2017 BISHOP’S ANNUAL APPEAL

In Giving, We Receive

The services provided by our Catholic Charities agencies are too long to list in our bulletin – but here are just a few: emergency housing for people in extreme poverty, out-patient and residential substance abuse treatment, group homes for disabled adults, outreach to veterans who are homeless, family counseling, etc. Your gift to the Bishop’s Annual Appeal helps bring this important work to life. In fact, Catholic Charities receives the largest percentage of Appeal funding. Your help is needed to continue providing this urgent care.
BISHOP’S ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION FOR COUPLES MARRIED 25 OR 50 YEARS…

Were you married in 1992 or 1967? The Silver & Gold Anniversary mass will be on Sunday, Nov. 5 at 4 pm at St. John’s Cathedral 381 Grand Street, Paterson, NJ 07505. Arrangements can be made by contacting the parish office. Deadline for registrations is Oct. 16th.

FROM FR. SLAWEK

MEmorial of Saint Faustina Kowalska – October 5TH

St. Mary Faustina, who was born to a large family in rural Poland, entered a convent of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy in Warsaw. Although outwardly there was little to distinguish her from her sisters, privately she enjoyed an extraordinary series of conversations with Jesus, recorded in a diary known only to her confessor. In one vision, she saw Jesus pointing to two bright rays that emanated from his heart – one white and one red. He told her: “These beams signify water and blood. The water that purifies souls; the blood that is the life of the soul. They spring from My heart which was opened on the Cross.”

Devotion to God’s mercy became the central theme of her spirituality, her central mission, to remind Christians of this mercy. Her superiors, however, doubted her visions, believing she was delusional. Only after her death from tuberculosis did they discover her diary and submit it for examination in Rome. There it was viewed with suspicion and eventually placed on the Index of Forbidden Books. Restoration of her reputation began when Karol Wojtyla became archbishop of Krakow. He initiated an investigation of her holiness and later, as Pope John Paul II, presided over her canonization. At the same time, he proclaimed that the Second Sunday of Easter would be celebrated as “Divine Mercy Sunday.”

“Jesus loves hidden souls. A hidden flower is the most fragrant. I must strive to make the interior of my soul a resting place for the Heart of Jesus.” St. Mary Faustina Kowalska

LONG VALLEY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OPEN HOUSE…

The Long Valley K of C will be holding an open house after all masses, October 8th, at Our Lady of the Mountain. The entire family is welcome to enjoy pastries and beverages, as you learn about the many Knights of Columbus programs that benefit our community, and how you can join our ranks. We hope to see you there!”

ATTENTION GARDENERS…

Please join us for St. Mark’s Garden Clean-up Day… SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14 STARTING AT 8 AM. We will be cutting down the grasses and removing some weeds so that the church looks great and is ready for winter. Please bring gardening tools. If you would like to donate financially there is a bucket in the gathering space for your donations. I appreciate your support. Thank you. Kim Dunn 908-813-2495

FUNDRAISING HELP NEEDED…

Want to help St. Mark’s with some improvements and financial obligations? Have a great idea for some fund-raising? Please join us on TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3 AT 7 PM at St. Marks. Fr. Marcin would like to get a group together to institute some long term and short term fundraising plans. We are looking for thinkers and doers. All are welcome. Thank you for your support. Kim Dunn

OLM ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY …

All women of OLM & St. Mark are invited Tuesday, October 3rd, at 7:15 P.M. The evening starts with praying the Rosary, attending Mass, then refreshments and meeting. But most of all fellowship with other women of all generations. Come reconnect with friends, come make new friends, just come and see what the society is all about. No commitment. Dues are $15 and can be paid at the meeting. For more info. Call Linda Richartz, President 908-876-9601.

THANK YOU….

A big thank you to everyone who donated school supplies in support of my Bronze Award project. I collected over 1,000 school supplies that were given to the Interfaith Food pantry of Morris County. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Meghan Hammer

SCHOOLEY’S MTN. FIRE CO. PANCAKE BREAKFAST…

TODAY…SUNDAY OCT. 1ST, 8:00 am to 12 pm, 231 Schooley’s Mountain Rd. (state Highway 24/C.R. 517) Schooley’s Mountain.