

The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

July 16, 2017

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Saturday, July 15

5:30 pm For Anna Pascale by McGrath Family

Sunday, July 16

8:00 am For Parishioners of St. Mark's
 9:30 am For Pete Smalley by Woelfel Family
 11:00 am For Anthony Picarelli by Picarelli Family

Monday, July 17

8:45 am For Parishioners of St. Mark's

Tuesday, July 18

8:45 am For the sick

Wednesday, July 19

8:45am For Persecuted Christians

Saturday, July 22

5:30 pm For Sandra Moreland by McGrath Family

Sunday, July 23

8:00 am For Our Parishioners
 9:30 am For Our Sick Parishioners
 11:00 am For Joseph Thomas by Solecki Family

FOR THE MONTH OF JULY

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

ST. MARK'S NEEDS \$5,280 PER WEEK TO MEET OUR FINANCIAL OBLIGATION

Current Year	Last Year 2016
July 9, 2017: \$3,074 Envelopes used: 45	July 10, 2016: \$2,290 Envelopes used: 54
Supermarket Gift Cards: July 9, 2017 Sales: \$2,600 Profit \$130 YTD Profit: \$3,882 # of Families: 13	St. Mark's Faith Direct Church Code is NJ484

FAITH DIRECT...

Thank you for being a part of our St. Mark the Evangelist family. I appreciate all that you do for our parish and community by sharing your God-given gifts of time, talent, and treasure. Your active participation in the life of our parish helps us to fulfill our vision and mission.

This summer, I pray that you will have some quiet and restful time that includes the love, joy, and peace of being with family and friends. Please consider that St. Mark the Evangelist continues to be open for Mass, numerous activities, and the Sacraments. During these summer months, your generosity through *Faith Direct* can help provide the consistent resources we need to operate our parish ministries.

Visit www.faithdirect.net and use our church code: **NJ484**.

Thank you for your continued support of our parish family!
 God Bless!

SUMMERTIME...

... and the livin' is easy!

Unfortunately, that's not true for everyone. Livin' can be easy when you know where your next meal is coming from. Not so much when you have to worry about feeding yourself and your family. And yes, there are people in that position right here in Long Valley.

So while you're planning your vacation, why not plan to make life a little easier for someone else – donate to the Long Valley Food Pantry.

Any non-perishable items you donate will be appreciated, but this month the Food Pantry could especially use canned meat or tuna, oil/vinegar, shampoo/toothpaste, and pasta/sauce.

Enjoy a safe and pleasant summer!



BIBLE REFLECTION

15TH Sunday in Ordinary Time

MT13:1-23

What is the state of our heart? Is our heart open to receiving the words of Jesus or are we hard of heart and a source of grief to Jesus? We like to think of ourselves as good people and in that sense we are the fertile soil that received the seed and produced much fruit. But since none of us is yet a saint we each have areas in our heart that are in need of spiritual cardiac surgery. Let's compare ourselves to the people in the parable to see where we stand.

The first type of person is this one:

"The seed sown on the path is the one who hears the word of the kingdom without understanding it, and the evil one comes and steals away what was sown in his heart."

- This seed unfortunately doesn't even get a chance to sprout because it didn't land on soil. There was a lack of understanding and the evil one stole away the word of God. Do we ever reject part of the message of the Gospel because we do not understand it? Whenever we reject part of the message of the Gospel, to use the words of Jesus today, the evil one has stolen the word from our heart.

The second type of person is this one:

"The seed sown on rocky ground is the one who hears the word and receives it at once with joy. But he has no root and lasts only for a time. When some tribulation or persecution comes because of the word, he immediately falls away."

-Have we ever been moved in our heart by God through a good experience in Confession or at Mass or in private prayer but we quickly went back to our old way of life because we could not see beyond some temporary difficulty or disappointment?

The third type of person is this one:

"The seed sown among thorns is the one who hears the word, but then worldly anxiety and the lure of riches choke the word and it bears no fruit."

-Are there times when we are too busy to pray? Have we missed Mass because we were too busy or made up some other excuse? Are we too busy to read the Bible?

Finally the fourth type of person is this one:

"...the seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold."

Thanks be to God that we each in many ways hear the word, understand it and bear fruit. There is some of each of these four types of person in us. We could be all four of these persons at once, or predominantly one of these types of person for a certain time of life. Let us do some cardiac surgery on our spiritual hearts so that misunderstanding and prejudice, or disappointment and the cross, or worldly anxiety and the lure of riches will not render our hearts unfertile soil for the Jesus' words, so that we do not grieve Jesus.

Fr. Marcin

My dear parishioners:

Today is the 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time. We assemble together to observe the Lord's Day as we celebrate the Eucharist in which Jesus' suffering, death and resurrection are recalled. The Scriptures for this day speak of the seed which the Lord sows upon the earth. This seed is the word of God. In the Gospel Acclamation we sing, *"The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower. All who come to him will have life forever."*

Prayer is also the willingness to listen; it is the suitable time for meeting with God. Today, the Sunday of the 'sower', we would like to open our hearts to listen to the word of Jesus using the words of St. John Chrysostom that we too may become docile and willing listeners of the saving Word: *"Grant, Lord, that I may listen attentively and remember constantly your teaching, that I may put it into practice forcefully and courageously, despising riches and avoiding the worries of a worldly life... Grant me your strength and that I may meditate on your words putting down deep roots and purifying me of all worldly perils"* (St. John Chrysostom, A Commentary on the Gospel according to Matthew 44:3-4).

Let us listen to our Lord Jesus because he can show us the right direction and he is the one who will never leave us alone. His commandments and teaching will lead us to true happiness and one day to the eternal life in heaven. In our busy way of acting, which leads to exterior concerns, we feel the need to stop and calm down in silence... at such a time we become receptive of the fire of the Word...

PRAY MORE WORRY LESS!!!

Fr. Javier Bareno is our new parochial vicar. He was born and raised in Colombia. Fr. Javier will begin his assignment on August 1st. Fr. Javier was ordained only two weeks ago (brand new priest). I believe he will work hard and successfully for the good of our parishioners and greater glory of God. Please keep him in our prayers. WELCOME FATHER JAVIER! Thank you for your prayers and offerings. May God bless you and protect you always.

Our Lady of the Mountain pray for us...

St. Mark pray for us...

Fr. Marcin

THANK YOU!!!

TOGETHER WE ARE FAMILY; TOGETHER WE SERVE GOD BY BEING SERVANT TO ONE ANOTHER. I LOOK FORWARD FOR THE TIME THAT ALMIGHTY GOD WILL GIVE US TOGETHER.

I THANK YOU FOR THE WONDERFUL WELCOME I RECEIVED LAST SUNDAY. ONCE AGAIN I ASSURE YOU OF MY PRAYERS AND PASTORAL LOVE. TOGETHER MAY WE CONTINUE THE RICH AND HONORED HERITAGE OF SAINT MARK THE EVANGELIST PARISH.

FR. MARCIN

DIOCESE OF PATERSON...

MARIAN PILGRIMAGE

NATIONAL SHRINE TO THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Does your life need a spiritual jumpstart? Set aside Saturday, October 21, 2017 as the day to give new meaning to your spiritual life by attending the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Washington.

One-Day Pilgrimage includes:

- Transportation and Gratuity
- All Day activities at Shrine
- Rest Stop - going - Meal stop - return
- depart Washington 4:15pm

Price - \$49/person

For more information please call parish office or Lorraine Fleming (908) 813-0152



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.

Randi Alloway, Richard Alvarez, Tony Atkins, Charlie, Natalie Rose Bassett, Kenneth Bernisky, Luz Bracero, Paul Buckley, John Callaghan, Bernie Cho, Arlene Cichlar, Hannah Clark, Emily Condit, Kaitlin Cross, Natalia Danilczuk, Krish Dharia, Catherine DiPasquale, Connie Elliott, Larry Fine, Tracey F, Elaina Grace Gaffin, Ann Geary, Jerry Green, Barbara Gotterdam, Louie Gutierrez, Helen Greenly, Harper Lynn Granito, Regina Hague, Claudia Harrington, William Heimsly, Heather Henry, Bob Hodiern, Maria Dougherty Jante, Donna Jennings, Laurel Jilek, Claudia Kallmeyer, Jim Karpinski, Kevin Kay, Russell H. Keller, Mary Koenig, Jean Koenig, Mara Lak, Christina Lanaris,, Margaret Leon, Maryann Litori, Ann Loughney, Wayne Marks, Tom Mackie, Anthony Marino, Norman Milz, Marie Molloy, Irene, Madelyn S. Maruggi, Raymond McCarthy Jr., Jonathon McClelland, Harold & Mary McKay, Kathy Minichini, Robert Neilson, Sr., Maryanne & Jack Newell, Girard Nolte, Jr., Marilyn O'Connor, Jim Owens, Arlene Parikh, Nicky Pilosi, Clifford Reynolds, Jim Robinson, Ryan, Jillian Elizabeth Sayer, Jeff Schpiner, Margi Schuelke, Rhonda Soto, Special Intention, Judy Stone, William Thompson, Mary Travisano, Debbie Trepkau, Rev. Zbigniew Tyburski, Anne Walsh, Robert Ron Werner, Marie Zimbile

Every now and then we try to update our prayer list of names of the sick and special intentions. We have alphabetized the names in the hopes of making them easier to read. There are some names that we in the parish office cannot associate with a person who made the request to pray for them. Please look over the list and if you requested prayers for a person please call the office to let us know if you wish to continue to be on this prayer list.

COMMUNITY NEWS

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP LIBRARY SURVEY...

The Washington Township Public Library is currently working on a three-year strategic plan and we invite you to be part of the process by filling out a short survey. Please go the library's website (www.wtpl.org) or follow this link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PersonalComputersWTPL>. Your feedback is very important to us and will help us improve the quality of our services. Thank you!

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP RECREATION...

The "Past in the Park" on July 29 at Rock Spring Park. Day kicks off with an old fashioned baseball game with the Flemington Neshanock vs. Elizabeth Resolutes who will be using 1864 or 1873 rules. Game is at 11 am. We also will have NJ Civil War re-enactors, Vintage cars in the parking lot and food and drinks available for purchase.

Groovy Girls for Grades 1-6 will be held August 7-August 10 from 9 am-12 pm at Schooley's Mountain Firehouse. Jewelry making, creative art projects and much more. Non-refundable fee of \$150 is due before July 21. A late fee will apply after deadline.

Smartycat Junior Scientist Camp. Bring science to life and show campers how exciting science exploration can be. For grades 1-6 from August 7-August 10, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm Schooley's Mountain firehouse, Non-refundable fee of \$150 is due before July 21. Late fee will apply after deadline date.

Summer Evening Development Tennis Clinic. Participants will work towards refining fundamental skills of tennis. Groups will be formed based on age and ability. August 7- August 10th from 5 pm-6:30 pm for ages 8-14 at Rock Spring Park Tennis Courts. A non-refundable fee of \$115 is due before August 3. Late fee will apply after deadline.

For more information on any of these events please feel free to call the recreation office at (908) 876-5941, email us at recreation@wtmorris.net or visit the township website at www.wtmorris.org.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH IN DENVILLE... On September 18, at 7:00 pm at St. Mary's, Denville Assumption College for Sisters is sponsoring a presentation by Chris Lowney on Leadership, featuring his latest work, Everyone Leads: How to Revitalize the Catholic Church. During his talk, Chris will explore some of the profound challenges now facing the Church and will invite each of us to step up and help lead the Church's revitalization. There is no charge for admission, a free will offering can be made for Lowney's foundation, Pilgrimage For Our Children's Future.

ASSUMPTION COLLEGE FOR SISTERS...

Announces Ps101 General Psychology course will be offered online for fall 2017 semester, Aug. 23-Dec. 15. It is offered by our current Psychology faculty member who teaches this course online at both Centenary University and Caldwell University. To register call (973) 957-0188 Ext. 106 or academicdean@acs.org by August 10th. Cost: \$510/course

