

# Lord you are good and forgiving.

July 23, 2017

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



**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

**Monday, July 24**

8:45 am For Betty Meyer by Bill Betz

**Tuesday, July 25**

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

**Wednesday, July 26**

8:45 am For The sick of St. Mark's Parish

**Saturday, July 29**

5:30 pm For Mark Andrew Camire by McGrath Family

**Sunday, July 30**

8:00 am For Special Intentions of St. Mark's Parishioners

9:30 am For Parishioner of St. Mark's

11:00 am For Vincent and Mary Conca by Eufrasia Conca

**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 16, 2017: \$1,952.50 Envelopes used: 43	July 17, 2016: \$1,550 Envelopes used: 41
Extended Catholic Obligations: \$438.30 Envelopes used: 20	Extended Catholic Obligations: \$448 Envelopes used: 22
Supermarket Gift Cards: July 16, 2017 Sales: \$3,450 Profit \$172.50 YTD Profit: \$4,054 # of Families: 14	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](http://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!



My dear parishioners,

Today we commemorate the 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time as we gather to celebrate the Lord's Day. In the Gospel parable the Lord tolerates the presence of evil but not its triumph. What will conquer is the Kingdom of God that may first appear as small and unimpressive, but which will explode into an eternal reality for the faithful. We are reminded that small gestures and little deeds, done in the name of Christ, grow to transform the world. Yes, you and I are crucial in sanctifying the world. You may think that you are unimportant in this task but that is far from the truth. That is why we must stay close to the Lord through our prayers, reception of the sacraments and our Christian witness in the world. The Apostle Paul reminds us in his Letter to the Romans that the Holy Spirit is joining with us in praying for the success of God's will. Yes, our spiritual life must remain vibrant and strong against the lure of evil if we are to be gathered in the harvest of eternal life.

Each year the Diocese of Paterson welcomes a number of men and women missionaries who come to speak about the Gospel seeds which their communities are planting throughout the world. On the weekend of August 26-27 our two parishes Our Lady of the Mountain and St. Mark the Evangelist will welcome a priest and a Carmelite Nun of the Holy Trinity who will share with us the evangelization which is taking place thanks to the prayer support and financial support we offer. I will share additional information with you regarding their visit in the coming weeks. Please remember that they will be seeking our support.

I am so grateful to you for the offerings which you are giving to the Lord each week at Holy Mass. Your regular and generous offerings pay our bills and continue the services which our parish provides so that the Kingdom of God may continue to burst forth. I am mindful that the forces of evil are strong in trying to convince us that our offerings would serve us better someplace else. Christ's Church needs your support so that the Kingdom of God may flourish and not be overtaken by the forces of evil. YOU make this a reality!

*Our Lady of the Mountain pray for us...*

*St. Mark pray for us...*

Fr. Marcin

### **BIBLE REFLECTION**

#### **16<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

##### **Mt 13:24-43**

*His slaves said to him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?' He replied, 'No, if you pull up the weeds you might uproot the wheat along with them.'*

*The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all who cause others to sin and all evildoers.*

*Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears ought to hear.*

In this parable Jesus asks us not to play God and judge people but to allow judgment to God. God is much more merciful and patient than we are.

The weeds are some enemy sowed among the wheat in the parable taught by Jesus looked very like the wheat in their

early growth so that it was really impossible to decide properly which was the wheat and which the weed. Aren't we blessed that God has the bigger picture and not our tiny judgments!

Sometimes people ask me about Jesus' teaching, "Stop judging, that you may not be judged." (Matt 7:1) If we are tempted to judge others negatively I would suggest two things:

-Firstly think of the love of God for others. Even if we cannot see the love of God in others right now, can you see Jesus crucified in them?

-If we do find ourselves succumbing to forming negative opinions of others we should not allow those negative opinions to interfere in how we treat others.

In this parable today Jesus advised not to pull up the weeds before the harvest not to let our opinions interfere with how we treat others.

When we are ill we go to doctor who gives us a prescription. When we have some weeds in our life we need a spiritual prescription. The spiritual prescription I give is:

- Pray as much as possible every day.
- Read the Bible every day.
- If at all possible go to daily Mass.
- Receive the sacrament of Reconciliation frequently. In this sacrament we receive not just forgiveness for our sins but grace to live the Christian life.

**GOD IS MUCH MORE MERCIFUL AND PATIENT  
THAN WE ARE.**

Fr. Marcin

### **GET A MASS INTENTION (MASS CARD) FOR LIVING AND DECEASED**

#### **WHY THE HOLY MASS IS SO POWERFUL? WHAT ARE THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH THE MASS IS OFFERED?**

-First, to adore God as our Creator and Lord.

-Second, to thank God for His many favors.

-Third, to ask God to bestow His blessings on all men.

-Fourth, to satisfy the justice of God for the sins committed against Him.

The celebration of the Eucharist is the highest form of worship in the Catholic Church because we unite ourselves with Christ's sacrifice on the cross in worship of his Father.

In our catholic tradition it is a practice to give an offering that the Holy Mass might be celebrated for the living and deceased.

Living masses are offered for those who are sick or thanksgiving to God for special blessing received and any other occasion (birthday, wedding anniversary, graduation).

Deceased masses are offered to assist them in their journey to heaven.

I pray that more of our parishioners will make offers so that a Holy Mass will be offered on Sunday and/or during the week for the living and deceased.

**A MASS CARD MIGHT BE THE BEST GIFT FOR A  
BIRTHDAY, WEDDING ANNIVERSARY, AND GRADUATION  
OR TO PRAY FOR YOUR BELOVED DECEASED AND HELP  
THEM GET TO HEAVEN!!!**

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. Signup sheet is in the Gathering Space

## 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 to the library's website ([www.wtpl.org](http://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!

**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](mailto:academicdean@acs.org) by August 10<sup>th</sup>. Cost: \$510/course



*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 Piloni, Clifford Reynolds, Jim Robinson, Ryan, Jillian Elizabeth Sayer, Jeff Schpiner, Margi Schuelke, Rev. Frank Rodimer, 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.



Rev. Richard Grasso and Megan McQuaide

