

Lord, your love is eternal do not forsake the work of your hands.

August 27, 2017

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time



Saturday, August 26

5:30 pm For Stephen Polc Jr. by Fania Family

Sunday, August 27

8:00 am For Dr. David Rygielski by Sue Reilly & Family

9:30 am For Megan McQuaide by Long Valley K of C

11:00 am For Betty Meyer by McGrath Family

Monday, August 28

8:45 am For

Tuesday August 29

8:45 am For

Wednesday, August 30

8:45 am For Lorraine Armando by Draghi Family

Saturday, September 2

5:30 pm For Megan McQuaide by Morley Family

Sunday, September 3

8:00 am For Joseph DeGregorio by Gebbia Family

9:30 am For Tom Mackie by Kitchen Angels

11:00 am For Jan & Amelia Krzywosz by Skoczylas Family

**REMEMBRANCE MEMORIALS
FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST**

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
August 20, 2017: \$1,850 Envelopes used: 42	August 21, 2016: \$2,059 Envelopes used: 46
Extended Catholic Obligations: \$557.81 Envelopes used: 19	Extended Catholic Obligations: \$357 Envelopes used: 21
Supermarket Gift Cards: August 20, 2017 Sales: \$2,420 Profit \$121.00 YTD Profit: \$4,810.50 2016 YTD Profit: \$4,280.50 # 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. As you prepare for the end of summer and the start of a busy fall, consider enrolling in eGiving through Faith Direct so that your gift can reach us even when you cannot.

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

Thank you for your continued support of our parish family!

God Bless You,
Fr. Marcin

ENJOYING YOUR SUMMER?

Want to make it even better? You can, and it's easy. Just donate some non-perishable food items to the Long Valley Food Pantry. A few of the items they are most in need of are coffee/tea, laundry detergent, peanut butter/jelly, and plastic sandwich bags. Do this and **everyone** will have a nicer summer!

DIOCESE OF PATERSON...

MARIAN PILGRIMAGE

NATIONAL SHRINE TO THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Seeking a spiritual awakening or journey? The Diocese of Paterson will be hosting the 2017 Pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC on October 21, 2017. Join us for a truly wonderful experience. One-Day Pilgrimage includes:

- Transportation and Gratuity - \$49/person
- Prayer filled day at Shrine – Mass, confession, rosary, divine mercy and presentations
- Rest Stop - going - Meal stop - return
- Depart Washington 4:15pm

For more information please call parish office or Lorraine Fleming (908) 813-0152. Signup sheet is in the Gathering Space.



It is almost time for us to begin our Christian Education Classes. As you will notice, the board in the Gathering Space shows where Catechists are still needed for our program. Catechist training is provided, as well as support throughout the year. Please pray on this decision to help us...you will find this a truly rewarding experience! Please call the parish office if you have questions,

Thank you, Sue Reilly

FROM FR. MARCIN...

My dear parishioners,

Today we celebrate the 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time. In the Gospel of this Sunday, Jesus questions concerning who people think he is: "Who do people say that I am?" After knowing the opinion of the people, he wants to know the opinion of his disciples. Peter, in the name of all makes his profession of faith. Peter receives three attributions from Jesus: (1) To be a rock of support, (2) to receive the keys of the Kingdom, and (3) to be foundation of the Church.

Jesus asks the opinion of the people and of his disciples concerning himself. The answers are quite varied. John the Baptist, Elijah, Jeremiah, or one of the Prophets. When Jesus questions about the opinion of his own disciples, Peter becomes the spokesman and says: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God!". Peter's answer signifies that he recognizes in Jesus the fulfilment of the prophecy of the Old Testament and that in Jesus we have the definitive revelation of the Father for us. This confession of Peter is not new. First, after having walked on the water, the other disciples had already made the same profession of faith: "Truly You are the Son of God!" (Mt 14, 33). In the Gospel of John, Martha makes this same profession of Peter: "You are the Christ, the Son of God who has come into the world" (Jn 11, 27).

"Who do people say that I am?" The same question is being asked of us today. Who is Jesus Christ for us? Can we give an answer right away? How much do we know Jesus? How faithful are we to him? The answers of course will vary. It will depend on how much we know him and how faithful we are to him. We know many things about Jesus. We know that he is the Son of Mary and Joseph. We know that he is the Son of God. We know that he suffered, died on the cross, was buried, and rose again. We know about his teachings because we read the scriptures. However, do we know him on a very personal basis? Do we communicate with him in prayer? Do we put into action his teachings? Can we give our life for him like what the saints did? If we can say YES to these questions, then probably we know him but not yet completely. So let us continue spending more time with him in prayer to listen to him and know his will. Let us make our relationship with him stronger by following his examples of love and compassion to others. Like Peter, let us be faithful to him until death.

In this Sunday's liturgy we thank God that we are numbered among the blessed to whom is revealed the true identity and presence of Jesus in our midst. We also pray for a deeper, more complete faith so that we may recognize the divine presence even when it does not make sense to our human understanding, and will cost us something to respond. Lord, I believe, help my unbelief.

OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAIN PRAY FOR US...

ST. MARK PRAY FOR US...

BIBLE REFLECTION 21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Mt 16:13-20

"Who do people say that the Son of Man is?"

"But who do you say that I am?"

"Simon Peter said in reply, You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

WHY POPE...?

- Today's readings remind us why we honor the Vicar of Christ, the Pope. We do not honor him for the individual he is. We honor the Pope, a man who has been entrusted with the Keys of the Kingdom. In the recent centuries we have been blessed with popes who were certainly holy men. Blessed Pius IX, St. Pius X, St. John XXIII and St. John Paul II all gave us examples of how to live our Christianity. These men were very much spiritual throughout their lives, not just as popes. They were beatified and canonized for the way they lived their Christianity, not for the way they exercised their authority. Other popes may not be candidates for canonization, but they all were holy fathers, entrusted with the keys to the Kingdom.

- Jesus knew the Church needed a Pope to strengthen its faith and to feed it spiritually. We have lost our sense of right and wrong because we are drifting away from God. When we drift away from God we drift away from the only source of truth and so we lose our sense of right and wrong. Then we think we can do what we like, that anything goes. When Jesus was on trial before Pilate he said he had come to bear witness to the truth and all who are on the side of truth listen to him (John 18:37). Pilate replied, "Truth? What is that?" (John 18:38). Pilate's reply could well describe these times. To guide the Church in the way of Truth God gives the Church a Pope. We also believe that the Pope has the charism of truth which we sometimes call infallibility to prevent him from error when teaching on faith and morals. We need both the Bible and the teaching of the Church to guide us on our journey through life because not everything we believe is explicit in the Bible. That is why the teaching of the Church is also so important.

- Jesus is the foundation stone on which the Church is founded but Our Holy Father, the Pope, is the visible human head of the Church on earth, an office and vocation founded by Jesus to guide the Church.

PRAYER

Lord Jesus, we thank you for the word that has enabled us to understand better the will of the Father. May your Spirit enlighten our actions and grant us the strength to practice that which your Word has revealed to us. May we, like Mary, your mother, not only listen to but also practice the Word.

You have chosen me to follow you, Lord Jesus. May I prove to be strong and steadfast, like Peter, a rock upon which your Church may continue to grow. You who live and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit forever and ever. Amen.

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTION

September 8, 2017 at 3pm at Our Lady of the Mountain



JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU.

What is Divine Mercy?

The message of The Divine Mercy is simple. It is that God loves us – all of us. And, he wants us to recognize that His mercy is greater than our sins, so that we will call upon Him with trust, receive His mercy, and let it flow through us to others. Thus, all will come to share His joy.

The Divine Mercy message is one we can call to mind simply by remembering **ABC**:

A - Ask for His Mercy. God wants us to approach Him in prayer constantly, repenting of our sins and asking Him to pour His mercy out upon us and upon the whole world.

B - Be merciful. God wants us to receive His mercy and let it flow through us to others. He wants us to extend love and forgiveness to others just as He does to us.

C - Completely trust in Jesus. God wants us to know that the graces of His mercy are dependent upon our trust. The more we trust in Jesus, the more we will receive.

Trust in Jesus is the essence of the message of mercy.

As Jesus said: "I have opened My Heart as a living fountain of mercy. Let all souls draw life from it. Let them approach this sea of mercy with great trust." (Diary, 1520).

We will have Divine Mercy Devotion and pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet on **Friday September 8th at 3 o'clock in Our Lady of the Mountain Church**. Please join us at the "hour of mercy". Our Lord would like you to be with him.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS (RCIA)...

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults better known as the RCIA Program is the process for those who want to become Catholic.

This process is for:

- Adults who have never been baptized.
- Adults baptized in a non-Catholic church and now have a desire to become a Catholic.
- Adults who were baptized Catholic but who have not received the Sacraments of First Eucharist or Confirmation.
- Or Catholics who want to know more about a specific topic discussed in an RCIA program.

The Our Lady of the Mountain/Saint Mark's RCIA program will start Wednesday evening September 20, 2017 from 7 to 9 PM and is conducted in the Basement Classroom of the OLM Parish Center.

Participants who complete the program will come into full communion with the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil celebrated Holy Saturday March 31, 2018.

RCIA candidates will have a sponsor who will support them through this journey. Sponsors are welcomed and encouraged to attend all classes.

This program is a commitment on the part of the candidate but our RCIA Instructors (TEAM) are here to assist you at any time.

For additional information, please contact the OLM Parish Office, the St. Marks Parish Office or Deacon Nicholas Ardito at 908-343-8094

GET MASS INTENTION (MASS CARD) FOR LIVING AND DECEASED....

I pray that more of our parishioners will make offers so that Holy Mass will be offered on Sunday and during the week for living and deceased. **MASS CARDS MIGHT BE THE BEST GIFT FOR A BIRTHDAY, WEDDING ANNIVERSARY, AND GRADUATION OR PRAY FOR YOUR BELOVED DECEASED AND HELP THEM GET TO HEAVEN!!!**

VANDALISM AT ST. MARK'S...

The St. Francis statue and pergola in the front of the church were knocked down and damaged. If you would like to contribute toward the cost of repairing or replacing the shrine please contact the parish office. Thank you to the Petersen family for their generous donation.



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, Anthony Marino, Norman Milz, Marie Molloy, Irene, Madelyn S. Maruggi, Raymond McCarthy Jr., Jonathon McClelland, Harold & Mary McKay, Edward Michonski, Sr., 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, Rev. Frank Rodimer, Rhonda Soto, Special Intention, Judy Stone, William Thompson, Mary Travisano, Debbie Trepkau, Rev. Zbigniew Tyburski, Linda Van Hoorebeke, Anne Walsh, Robert Ron Werner, Marie Zimbile

COMMUNITY NEWS

LIVING WITH GRIEF SERIES...

A free support program sponsored by Hackettstown Medical Center and Karen Ann Quinlan Hospice, starting on Sept. 5th and through every Tuesday, (12,19,26) during September from 6:30 – 8:00 pm in the conference Dining Room. For registration/info: Karen Ann Quinlan Hospice 973-383-0115, www.karenannquinlanhospice.org, cclayton@karenannquinlanhospice.org.

