

SUNDAY, JULY 22, 2018

16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- 5:00PM Theresa & Charles Ciniello
- 8:00AM Stephen John Petruzzello
- 10:00AM Marco DeBenedetto
- 12:00PM Dec'd Mbrs. Mosca & Romano Families

MONDAY, JULY 23

ST. BRIDGET

- 8:00AM Anthony P. Major
- 11:30AM Tony Mezzich

TUESDAY, JULY 24

ST. SHARBEL MAKHLUF

- 8:00AM Martino Matesic (Sito)
- 11:30AM Guadenzia & John Piccini

WEDNESDAY, JULY 25

ST. JAMES

- 8:00AM Maria Rici Mattessich
- 11:30AM Janusz Pawlowski

THURSDAY, JULY 26

STS. JOACHIM & ANNE

- 8:00AM Sam Sullivan
- 11:30AM Tommaso Morin – Anniv.

FRIDAY, JULY 27

- 8:00AM Jean Maruska
- 11:30AM Nicholas Sertich, Sr.

SATURDAY, JULY 28

- 11:30PM Bozo Morin – Birth. Nicolina Mirkovich Dorothy Tolomeo Johanna Rea Reynolds
- 5:00PM Charles Hoffer

SUNDAY, JULY 29

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- 8:00AM Christopher Johnson – Birth.
- 10:00AM John Bucco
- 12:00PM Dec'd Mbrs. O'Hare Family

ALTAR BREAD

In Memory of
Joseph Lally

ALTAR WINE

In Memory of
Patrick McDermott

MASS CANDLES

In Memory of
Ernie Marino

ALTAR FLOWERS

In Memory of
Gloria Dellaratta
Gloria Dellaratta

PREPARING FOR MASS

The readings for next Sunday are:

2 Kgs. 4:42-44

Trust that the Lord will provide
Ps 145

The Lord hears our pleas and feeds our souls

Eph 4:1-6

We must live in a manner worthy of our call

Jn 6:1-15

We will be fed by the bread of life

PASTOR'S MESSAGE JULY 22, 2018

My dear parishioners and friends,

In the book of Ecclesiastes we are told that there is a time for everything under heaven. Just as Jesus sent his disciples out into the world to do the work of evangelization, so too, he gathered them together and invited them to have a time to "Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while." So far, I have to confess, this summer has been a wonderful time for me personally, because with Fr. Almas' and Fr. Pius' help, I have been able to get away to rest and reflect on our work here in the parish.

Some of you may be aware that a couple of weeks ago I spent five days in Baltimore at a Convention for church musicians. While that wasn't exactly getting away to rest, it was a great opportunity for me to "recharge" my spiritual batteries and receive some excellent formation.

This week I really am going away on vacation, but I will be taking along a couple of books dealing with parish ministry, books that I haven't had time to finish. Rest assured that you will still be on my mind and in my heart.

The challenge facing many of our churches these days is how to attract people who are "disaffiliated". In a study by the Pew Foundation that was published in 2015 it was reported that the total number of Catholics in the United States dropped by 3 million from 2007 to 2014. Perhaps even more troubling, in the same time frame, for every one Catholic convert more than six Catholics chose to leave the church. It's hard to fathom that, according to this study, almost 13 percent of all Americans in 2014 described themselves as "ex- Catholics." Something that we have learned is that ex-Catholics are very hard to convince; but still, that doesn't exonerate us from trying.

More hopeful is the data on the "nones", that is, people who have no church affiliation at all. The Pew study found that about 23 percent of the total U.S. population in 2014 (about 56 million adults) do not belong to any faith tradition. More than a third of all millennials (the people we need to attract - those born between 1981 and 1996) claimed no affiliation, and just 16 percent of millennials identified themselves as Catholic.

Big demographic shifts within Catholicism continue to change the face of the church. Hispanic Catholics in 2014 comprised 41 percent of the US church, that was up 6 points from 2007. What this tells us is that immigration from Latin American countries has been keeping Catholic numbers stable in recent years, and 39 percent of American immigrants overall are Catholic.

As we consider the work of evangelization in our local area, these are the kind of facts that we need to keep in mind. It tells us a little bit about where to focus our efforts, and about the kind of programs and activities we should be putting our energy and limited resources into. We have so much to do, brothers and sisters.

The Lord is calling us to the work of evangelization, but we have to approach this work prayerfully and intelligently. Let me ask all of you now to accept the challenge and pray for the ongoing work of evangelization in our community. Be open to the Spirit's call to accept that challenge with me as we continue to plan for the coming year.

*Fondly yours in Christ,
Fr. Bruce*

PARISH SUPPORT

Thank you for sharing the gift of your treasure so that we can continue to do God's work here

July 15th

Sunday Collection

\$4,834.50

"...come away by yourselves to a lonely place and rest awhile." – Mark 6:31

Do you spend time, every day, alone and in silence listening to how God is calling you? If not, you are missing out on a wonderful opportunity to develop a more personal relationship with Him. Unless we talk and more importantly, listen to God every day, how else will we know how He is calling us? Consider making a retreat this year, spend some "alone" time with God.

BINGO



THURSDAY BINGO GAMES BEGIN AT 12:15PM. WE NOW OFFER BIGGER JACKPOTS, PROGRESSIVE AND 50/50 GAMES. COME OUT AND ENJOY YOURSELF AND WIN SOME MONEY AND HAVE FUN.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION HIGH SCHOOL

Be Extraordinary! Registration for all grade levels at Immaculate Conception High School in Lodi will continue throughout the summer. Contact Nicole Mineo, Director of Enrollment Management for more information – nmineo@ichslodi.org or call 973-773-2665.

BUS TRIP TO THE SANDS

There will be a bus trip to the Sands, Bethlehem on Sunday, September 30th. Bus leaves at about 9:00AM and returns about 6:00PM. Reservations are \$35 per person. Proceeds will benefit the Epiphany Community Food Pantry. All tickets must be paid by September 20th.

SAVE THE DATE

We will be having a "Welcome to Fall Get-Together" on Saturday, September 15th in our Church Hall from 7:00-11:00PM. Tickets are \$15 per person which includes a hot dog, hamburger, dessert, soda, coffee and tea. Bring your own sides and fixings! Music will be provided by DJ Nick. Tickets are available at the rectory. **NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR.**

SHARING GOD'S BLESSINGS ANNUAL APPEAL

We have received \$34,564 in pledges from 137 families and have met our goal. Epiphany will receive 62% of all funds received when we go 10% over our goal. Please be sure to honor your pledges. If you have yet to give, please pick up a pledge form at the back of the church or visit www.rcan.org/sharing. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

CLIFFSIDE PARK SENIOR CITIZENS

The following are the activities to be held at the Cliffside Park Senior Citizens: August 10th - River Lady River Boat Luncheon – Cruise on Toms River and Barnegat Bay - \$44; August 24th – Son Candelo (Latin); Vacation with the Seniors for 7 days and 6 nights at Mackinac Island, Michigan including Frankenmuth and The Upper Peninsula – September 15-21. Please call for more information – 201-943-3768.

SUMMER BASKETBALL PROGRAM

Rutgers University, Newark will be running its 18th annual Summer Basketball Program for children ages 6-17 from July 30-August 3 from 8:30AM-4:00PM. Offered will be early drop off and late pick up free of charge. The cost is \$160 for the week. If interested, please call Joe Loughran at 973-353-1483.

UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE DEGREES

Dominican College, Orangeburg, NY will offer an Information Session for Undergraduate and Graduate Degrees, including Undergraduate online programs which is scheduled for Wednesday, July 18 and Wednesday, August 8 from 5:30-7:30PM in the Prusmack Center.

DOOLAN'S SHORE CLUB SPRING LAKE

On July 25th & 26th, enjoy the sounds of Dorsey, Miller, Goodman and Ella sponsored by Mike Byrne All Star Productions. August 7th & 8th enjoy Elvis & Patsy give the concert of a lifetime, plus music by the Blue Smoke Dance Band plus all star comedians. They are held at Doolan's Shore Club, 700 US Highway 71, Spring Lake, NJ. For tickets call 732-458-7118.

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL ENTRANCE EXAM PREP CLASS

This program services boys and girls entering the 8th grade this fall. It provides an intensive review of math, reading, and language skills, instruction in quantitative and verbal reasoning, practice with all sections of the examination, and training in the appropriate test taking strategies. Summer classes offered at the end of July and August at Mary Help of Christians Academy and Immaculate Heart Academy. Weekend fall classes will be held at St. John's Academy. For more information and to register, visit them at www.sandtsexcel.com or call 201-666-5956.

TEEN RCIA CLASSES

RCIA Confirmation Classes for Teens will start in September. If interested, please call the rectory and leave your name and phone number.

SAVE THE DATE – TRICKY TRAY EXTRAVAGANZA

We will be having our Annual Tricky Tray Fall Beefsteak Dinner/Dance on Saturday, November 3rd. We are looking for new items to use in our raffle. **If you can donate any new items, please bring them to the rectory. We are also in need of empty baskets (wicker baskets, gift baskets, etc.) that we can use to wrap the prizes for our Tricky Tray. If you wish to make a monetary donation for us to buy a gift, it would be greatly appreciated.** It will be an evening of dinner, dancing, raffles and prizes. Tickets are available at the rectory at a cost of \$45.00 per person. Entertainment will be by the Jumpin Dragons Band.

MASS IN HONOR OF ST. ANNE

A Mass in honor of St. Anne will be celebrated at St. Nicholas Church, Palisades Park on Thursday, July 26 at 8:00AM. A holy relic of the saint will be venerated immediately following the Mass. All are invited to attend. The church is located at 442 E. Brinkerhoff Avenue in Palisades Park. Access for the handicapped is available at the 13th Street side entrance of the church. For additional information, please call the rectory office at 201-944-1154.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP

For our parish to have accurate records, please notify the parish office when there are changes in your address or phone number. Please let us know if you are moving away and will no longer be members of our parish community. All adult Catholics should be registered in a parish. Young adults of working age should register independently of their parents. For Epiphany to testify for you to be a godparent, a confirmation sponsor or witness to a Catholic marriage, it is necessary that you be a registered member of our parish. For additional information about this process, please call the parish office at 201-943-7320.

A GENTLE REMINDER

During the summer months we are in a more relaxed spirit. However, we urge our parishioners to give some consideration as to how to come dressed in the House of God. This is a church, a house of prayer and worship and fortunately it is air-conditioned. We are called to be reverent, respectful and modest in all aspects of our behavior. **Please dress appropriately to come to the House of God!**

Thank You

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF THE PARISH

Matthew Dickman, Ann Callagher, Peter Bertinato, Anna Tarabokija, Eric Grigsby, Carrie Craven, Felicia Martello, Oscar Benitez, Elva Lopes, Marilyn Brenes, Sister Kieran O'Riordan, Riccardo & Delia Mattessich, Frank Mendez, Maria Azucena Mercado, John Reynolds, Arianna Cappola, Doris Levy, Cindy Simeone Reynolds, Tammy Ledden, Baby Kennedy Rose Perkins, Baby Juliette Payne, Brian Hone, Laura Palmieri, Margarita Lopez-Amaro, Helen Gallina DeLuca, Renee Pascarella, Theodore Hoffman, Brother Peter Lyne, Rev. Giordano Belanich, Cora Shaffer, Helen Steinel, Ivan Tarabokija, Ms. Angie, Ms. Denise, Paul Barbara, Kathleen Warren Meserole, Matt Allen, Richie Allen, Jazmin Cruz, Jaime Van Dam, Meaghan Kilmer, Baby Michael, Marie Maraia, Joe Villani, Michael Duddy, Eileen Palazzo, Peter Foglio, Jr., Hilda Borrito, Paul Kiczek, Kenneth Crawford, Clyde Harger, Gloria Bonura, Cesar Valdecantos, Leonarda Zafra Santos, Kay Tak, Michele Spino, Leonard Cappelluti.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DECEASED OF THE PARISH

Antonio Adad, Margaret Coughlin, Maria Scerbo, Carmela Spoleti, Florence Hoffman.

**"WHEN MEN FAIL YOU –
CALL PSALM 27!"**

