

SUNDAY, AUGUST 12, 2018
19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00PM Margaret & David Hans
8:00AM Claire Yun
10:00AM John Bucco
12:00PM Mario & Assunta Graziano

MONDAY, AUGUST 13

STS. PONTIAN, POPE & HIPPOLYTUS

8:00AM Palmira Skrivanic
11:30AM Nicholas Sertich, Sr.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 14

ST. MAXIMILLIAN KOLBE

8:00AM Palmira Skrivanic
11:30AM Robert Hroncich

5:00PM Martin Matesic

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15

ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

8:00AM Palmira Skrivanic
11:30AM Nicholas & Rosalie Menzella -
Birth.

7:00PM Nicholas Sertich, Sr.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 16

ST. STEPHEN OF HUNGARY

8:00AM Palmira Skrivanic
11:30AM Frank Liccione

FRIDAY, AUGUST 17

8:00AM Dec'd Mbrs. Vecchione Family
11:30AM Maria Monaco

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18

11:30PM Joseph Radelich
Anna Licamelli
Dorothy Tolomeo
Antoinette Racioppi

5:00PM John Rose & Joseph Ferrara

SUNDAY, AUGUST 19

20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00AM Rose Zilocchi
10:00AM Maria Morin
12:00PM Rita Prashker

ALTAR BREAD

In Memory of
Rosalie Menzella

ALTAR WINE

In Memory of
John Picinic

SANCTUARY LAMP

In Memory of
Matthew Mattesich

PREPARING FOR MASS

The readings for next Sunday are:

Prv 9:1-6

Share in this banquet and advance in
understanding

Ps 34

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord

Eph 5:15-20

Time is a gift; live as instruments of the
Lord

Jn 6:51-58

Eat this bread and believe that you will live
forever

PASTOR'S MESSAGE AUGUST 12, 2018

My dear parishioners and friends

How does "community" happen? Forming a community is one of the most difficult challenges we face in today's world because people are people... and you can't force them to be a part of something that just doesn't appeal to them. People like to choose their friends. People like to decide for themselves whether or not to attend an event or to take part in an activity.

This past Sunday I was invited to attend a dinner inaugurating the building of a community center in Teaneck. As I was listening to speaker after speaker, talking about the value of having this community center and saying how important this project was, it struck me how here at Epiphany we already have a community center... but the challenge is, How do we get people to join and participate in the activities that we offer? Can it be that we are not doing the things that pique people's interest? What aren't we doing now that we might do to attract people?

The community center in Teaneck will focus on health issues and self-help educational programs, with an emphasis on meeting the needs of Muslim families (no surprise that the Mayor of Teaneck is Muslim). This is not so different from the traditional role of our Catholic Parishes which is to focus on the spiritual, social and educational needs of our Catholic families. But as our Catholic community has expanded and changed what I think we have lost is that basic sense of what makes a community happen.

Our Muslim brothers and sisters have a strong sense of what it means to be Muslim because they are so "different" from mainstream America in the way that they dress and in their religious beliefs and upbringing. They have a strong sense of cohesion among their members, and they give a great deal of status and respect to their religious leaders, the Imams, because of the depth of their spiritual knowledge and commitment to Islam.

By contrast, we Catholics have become "mainstreamed" in this country (a situation that wasn't always the case). It's hard to tell a Catholic from people of other religious traditions except on Ash Wednesday and on the occasional special Feast Days like the one coming up this week (the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is August 15 is a Holy Day of Obligation). We have lost that sense of cohesion that comes about through having a shared culture or by being an oppressed minority. And certainly our sisters, priests and bishops are no longer looked up to as having the same level of authority as they held in previous generations. The days of the authoritative pastor "running the show" and ruling over his flock are gone!

Where are we to turn today to recover our sense of what makes "community" happen? I would like to direct your attention to our reading from St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians. St. Paul reads human nature so well. He knows that there are forces in the world that want to tear down our sense of community. He knows that there are things in our very nature that present obstacles to our joining together as a community and seeking the common good, fighting the good fight against the Devil. He says, "Don't grieve the Holy Spirit of God..." In other words, we have to choose to build up, rather than tear each other down. "Remove all bitterness, fury, anger, shouting and reviling... along with all malice. And be kind to one another, compassionate, forgiving one another as God has forgiven you in Christ. ... live in love, as Christ loved us and handed himself over for us as a sacrificial offering to God..."

I can't think of a better way to begin to build a sense of community than these words. We ARE a people who like to choose for ourselves. But maybe we don't always make the best choices in life. We let our passions and our opinions rule us rather than choosing to live the virtues of patience and kindness that were given to us on the day of our Baptism. Choosing to make a commitment to build up rather than tear down a community is a golden opportunity for us to exercise those virtues that make us truly Christian.

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

August 5th

Sunday Collection

\$5551.00

"Get up and eat, else the journey will be too long for you!" - 1 Kings 19:7

Jesus knows that our stewardship journey will be difficult; we are not designed to do it on our own. Fortunately, Jesus gave us the greatest gift of all - the gift of the Eucharist; His own body and blood. When we join our sacrifices with the sacrifice of the Mass, we find the strength and courage to be His joyful disciples.

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.

FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION

Wednesday is the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses will be on Tuesday at 5:00PM and on Wednesday at 8:00AM, 11:30AM and 7:00PM.

CCD REGISTRATION

CCD Registration for grades 1 to 8 will be held on the following dates:

Thursday, September 6 – 6:00-7:00PM at the rectory office

Sunday, September 9 – 1:00-2:00PM at the rectory office

All registrations must be accompanied by a Baptism Certificate if the child was not baptized at Epiphany. The fee is \$100 for Communion and Confirmation (grades 2 and 8). All other grades are \$85. The first day of class is Sunday, September 16 at 11:00AM- 12 Noon held at the school on Lafayette Avenue. **NO** registration will be accepted without Baptism Certificate or payment. Any questions contact Donna Murtagh at the rectory office.

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.**

VOLUNTEER SINGERS & MUSICIANS WANTED

We are looking for volunteer singers and musicians (keyboard, guitar, bass, flute, violin, etc. and percussion) who would like to play contemporary Christian music for our Parish Youth masses. Please contact Fr. Bruce at [201-943-7320](tel:201-943-7320).

DID YOU MISS A SACRAMENT?

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults is one way to make up for the grace you may be missing in your life. To learn more about the RCIA process and about the Roman Catholic faith, please call Fr. Bruce at [201-943-7320](tel:201-943-7320). Our RCIA process will begin August 30th.

WANT TO LIVE A MORE GRACE-FILLED LIFE?

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults is one way to enrich and grow in the knowledge and practice of the Catholic faith and to respond more intentionally to God’s call to holiness. To learn more about the RCIA process and about the Roman Catholic faith, please call Fr. Bruce at [201-943-7320](tel:201-943-7320). Our RCIA process will begin August 30th with the Pre-catechumenate.

CLIFFSIDE PARK SENIOR CITIZENS

The following are the activities to be held at the Cliffside Park Senior Citizens: August 16 – PAAD & Senior Gold Application Assistance – 11:00AM; August 8 – Resorts Casino Trip - \$33 due at sign-up – 8:30AM; August 17 – Harness Racing Hall of Fame Museum Tour & Lunch - \$20 – 8:30AM; August 21 – Veterans Hospital Transport (new must make appointment); August 21 – Healthy, Body, Healthy Mind/Dance Party & Meditation - \$5 – 12:30PM; August 22-October 3 – Diabetes Workshop (free 6-week course) – 10:00-11:00AM; August 24th – Son Candelero (Latin). Please call for more information – 201-943-3768.

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. 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.

FAREWELL LUNCH

We will be having a Farewell Luncheon for Fr. Almas and Fr. Pius on Sunday, August 26th following the 12:00 Noon Mass. Tickets are free. However, you must RSVP by August 21st if you plan on attending by calling the rectory at 201-943-7320. A free will love offering will be taken at every Mass on the weekend of August 25th and 26th to defray their traveling expenses.

CALLING ALL TEENS TO DISCIPLESHIP

Our Parish Youth Ministry program is scheduled to begin on Sunday, September 16th with the celebration of a “different-kind-of” mass at 6:00PM, followed by a “different-kind-of” activity from 7:00 to 8:30PM. All young people (8th grade and up) are invited and encouraged to attend the mass and the activity. For more information, and to enroll in the Parish Youth Ministry program (including the Confirmation program) please contact Fr. Bruce at [201-943-7320](tel:201-943-7320).

YOUTH CONFIRMATION PROGRAM

Our Parish Youth Confirmation program is scheduled to begin on Sunday, September 16th with the celebration of a “different-kind-of” mass at 6:00PM, followed by a “different-kind-of” activity from 7:00 to 8:30PM. All young people (8th grade and up) who wish to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation are invited to attend the mass and the activity. For more information, and to enroll in the Parish Youth Confirmation program, please contact Fr. Bruce at [201-943-7320](tel:201-943-7320).

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.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF THE PARISH

Matthew Dickman, Ann Callagher, Peter Bertinato, Anna Tarabokija, Eric Grigsby, Carrie Craven, Felicia Martello, Oscar Benitez, Eloa 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 Kilner, 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

Felicia Arpaia.

**“THREE C’S IN LIFE –
CHOICES, CHANCES, CHANGES -YOU MUST
MAKE A CHOICE TO TAKE A CHANCE OR YOUR
LIFE WILL NEVER CHANGE!”**

