

PASTOR'S MESSAGE FEBRUARY 17, 2019

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2019

6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00PM Zdenko Matesic
8:00AM John Elisano
10:00AM Frank Liccione
12:00PM Barbara Miele & Dec'd Mbrs.
Dooley Family

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18

8:00AM Ivan Tarabokia
11:30AM Nedjeljko Pantalon

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

8:00AM Mary & John Wahrenberger
11:30AM Giacomo & Antonia Scrivanich

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

8:00AM Ivan Tarabokia
11:30AM Antonio Picinich

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21

ST. PETER DAMIAN

8:00AM Branko Sango
11:30AM Rocco & Giovanni Durso

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22

CHAIR OF ST. PETER THE APOSTLE

8:00AM Ivan Tarabokia
11:30AM Cav Ivan

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23

ST. POLYCARP

11:30AM Virgilio Urbancic
5:00PM Stanley & Rita Osmanski

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00AM Ivan Tarabokia
10:00AM Krystyna Caruso
12:00PM Giacomina Scrivanich



ALTAR BREAD

In Memory of

Lottie Skowron

MASS CANDLES

In Memory of

Dorothy Lombardo

PREPARING FOR MASS

The readings for next Sunday are:

1 Sm 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23

David spares his enemy

Ps 103

The Lord is kind and merciful

1 Cor 15:45-49

Live as spiritual, not natural
beings

Lk 6:27-38

Jesus' challenge about loving and
forgiving

My dear parishioners and friends,

Our gospel this Sunday is Jesus' "Sermon on the Plain" from Luke's gospel in which he describes the qualities that make someone blessed in the Father's Kingdom. Luke's version of Jesus' teaching of the beatitudes goes further than Matthew's account of the "Sermon on the Mount" by condemning those whose values which are the antithetical to kingdom values. It's all about priorities. If wealth is terribly important to people, then they don't have the poverty of spirit that is needed to live in the kingdom. If all you're looking for in life is to be entertained and to avoid dealing with the pain and suffering of the people around you, you don't have what it takes to live in the kingdom. And if all you want is to be popular, never controversial, and you're unwilling to stand up for your beliefs, then you don't deserve to live in the kingdom.

In Luke's sermon on the plain, Jesus makes it clear that by committing ourselves to follow him we must turn our backs on worldly values. However; Jesus assures us, the reward of being blessed in God's eyes is far greater and enduring than the transitory rewards that the world has to offer.

Brothers and sisters, if you want to follow Jesus, you can't "sell out" to conform yourself to the world's values. We Christians are called to be different from the people around us. And by living the gospel values Jesus teaches we will be that light in the darkness and the leaven in the dough that Jesus intends for us to be.

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

February 10th

Sunday Collection

\$4,727.00

"Blessed are you when people hate you...exclude and insult you, and denounce your name...on account of the Son of Man." – Luke 6:22

All of us have been in situations when someone has made a negative comment, or joke about God or our Catholic faith. How did you respond? Did you stay silent or pretend to go along with the crowd because you didn't want to cause waves and then, later, on felt bad? Know that God is with you all the time, the Holy Spirit will put the right words in your mouth. Pray for the strength and courage to proclaim our faith to others, especially during uncomfortable situations.

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.

ALTAR BREAD & WINE, SANCTUARY LAMPS, MASS CANDLES & ALTAR FLOWERS

We have Altar Bread & Wine, Sanctuary Lamps, Mass Candles and Altar Flowers available for the year 2019. Please come into the rectory to book one of these items in memory of or in honor of your loved ones.

CHRISTMAS & FLOWER COLLECTIONS

We wish to thank everyone who contributed to our Christmas Flower Donations and Christmas Collection. Our Christmas Flower donations amounted to \$5,499.00 and our Christmas Collection amounted to \$29,095.00. God bless you for your continued generosity.

BUS TRIP TO THE SANDS

Only two weeks left to purchase tickets for our bus trip to the Sands, Bethlehem, PA, on Sunday, March 3rd. The bus will leave at 8:45AM and will be returning approximately 6:00PM. Tickets are \$35.00 per person (\$20.00 back for play & \$5.00 back for food). Tickets must be paid by February 25th. Proceeds will benefit the Epiphany Heritage Fund for the new front doors.

PRESIDENTS' DAY

In observance of Presidents' Day on Monday, February 18th, the Rectory Office will be closed. We will have the 8:00AM and 11:30AM Masses as usual.

CONFRATERNITY OF CHRISTIAN WOMEN

The Confraternity of Christian Women will have its monthly meeting on Thursday, February 21st at 4:30PM in the Church Hall. Please note change of time for the winter months.

SAINT PATRICK/SAINT JOSEPH'S DINNER-DANCE

ONLY ABOUT THREE WEEKS LEFT TO PURCHASE TICKETS for our St. Patrick/St Joseph's Dinner Dance - Saturday, March 16th. There will be a family-style sit-down corned beef and cabbage dinner with all the trimmings & zeppole. Music will be by DJ Nick. Tickets are \$35 per person and can be purchased at the Rectory. Proceeds will benefit our Heritage Fund for the renovation of the Rectory Basement. **NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR.**

WILLIAM H. CRON SCHOLARSHIP FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

We have a scholarship for a beginning or current college student who is an active parishioner of Epiphany Church who will be an entering freshman in the fall of 2019 or is currently enrolled in a four-year college as a sophomore or junior. One \$2,500 scholarship will be awarded annually. New applications will have to be submitted yearly. Applications for the scholarship can be obtained from the parish office. The deadline for applications is May 15th. Scholarship will be awarded June 9th at the Parish Picnic.

GOLDEN, SILVER & FIFTH WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

April 28th – 3:00PM – 50 years – (all counties)

June 2nd – 3:00PM – 5 & 25 years (all counties)

The Archdiocese will honor all couples married 50, 25 and 5 years at the Cathedral Basilica. You must come to the rectory to fill out a form for any of these anniversaries. All reservations must be made two weeks before the Mass is scheduled. Cardinal Tobin will be the main celebrant at all Masses. Deadline for 50 years is April 17th and deadline for 25 and 5 years is May 22nd. Please call the Family Life Office at 973-497-4323 if you have any questions.

SHARING GOD'S BLESSINGS ANNUAL APPEAL

The Annual Appeal directly supports various ministries and programs throughout the Archdiocese of Newark, such as our evangelization efforts, Catholic education, Catholic Charities, youth and young adult ministry, and many other ministries. **Your participation in this campaign is vitally important.** Our parish goal this year is \$33,029.00. **Thus far we have received \$5,750 from 30 donors.** If you have not yet made a pledge to the 2019 *Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal*, there is still time. Just complete a pledge envelope and drop it in the collection basket, or bring it to the parish office. If you have already made a contribution, thank you for your generous gift.



CHRIST THE TEACHER SCHOOL A 2018 National Blue Ribbon School

Open House and Registration for the 2019-2020 school year is on-going. Please note that being a parishioner offers you the opportunity of a discounted tuition rate. From February 4th going forward, we will continue to have open registrations from Monday – Friday, 9:00am – 2:00pm, and invite you to make an appointment. Please contact the school at (201) 944-0421 or email us at info@christtheteacherschool.org for a tour.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord. Trust the Lord to strengthen and enrich your marriage. Sign up today to attend one of the upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends at www.wwme.org or call Mike & Janet Turco at 973-427-7016. The next one is from March 22nd-24th.

PILGRIMAGE TO SICILY

Take advantage of a special offer to join a pilgrimage to Sicily departing May 5-14, 2019. Be mesmerized by the Shrine of Our Lady of Tears, La Madonna delle Lacrime, in Syracuse – the small statue that wept incessantly for three days in 1953. Soak in the ambience and spectacular views of the beautiful seaside resort of Taormina and explore the rich history of the Valley of the Temples in Agrigento. Call Go Ever Happy Tours - 702-901-0993 or info@goeverhappytours.com

HEALING MASS

There will be a Mass of Healing on Saturday, February 23rd at 11:30AM. This will be for all our parishioners who may be suffering from any form of illness or distress. We will offer those who wish the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

THE PIVOTAL PLAYERS

On Thursday, February 28th, our parish adult faith formation program will continue with Bishop Robert Barron's series, The Pivotal Players. This is Bishop Barron's follow-up series to Catholicism. The "Pivotal Players" series illumines the lives of a handful of saints, artists, mystics and scholars who shaped the life of the Church and changed the course of civilization. Our second installment will feature St. Augustine whose narrative of personal transformation provides a design for life in Christ that still captivates Christians today. Our monthly program is held at 1:00 PM on Thursday in the daily mass chapel.

SAVE UP FOR THE EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME!

Join Fr. Bruce on a journey to Oberammergau, Germany for the 2020 Passion Play, Rome and the Vatican. Our tour is set for July 16-23, 2020. We will fly from JFK airport to Munich. Then on to Oberammergau where, since 1624 the town has performed the Passion Play recounting the last few days of Jesus' life before his death and resurrection. "The last time I saw the Passion Play was in 1960 and I have never forgotten it." (Fr. Bruce) After spending a day in Innsbruck, Austria, it's on to Rome for three days, including the Papal audience in St. Peter's square on Wednesday! The price for the trip begins at \$4,298 for double occupancy and it includes airfare from New York, admission fees for museums, First Class Hotel accommodations and gratuities, program fees, daily breakfast and dinner, deluxe motor-coach transportation, and the Passion Play tickets for the full 6-hour long performance. Don't miss the opportunity for this experience of a lifetime! For more information, brochures are available in the Rectory Office.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF THE PARISH

Ann Callagher, Peter Bertinato, Anna Tarabokija, Eric Grigsby, Caroline Craven, Felicia Martello, Oscar Benitez, Elva Lopes, Marilyn Brenes, Frank Mendez, Maria Azucena Mercado, John Reynolds, Arianna Cappola, Doris Levy, Cindy Simeone Reynolds, Tammy Ledden, Baby Juliette Payne, Brian Hone, Laura Palmieri, Margarita Lopez-Amaro, Helen Gallina DeLuca, Renee Pascarella, Brother Peter Lyne, Cora Shaffer, Kathleen Warren Meserole, Matt Allen, Richie Allen, Jazmin Cruz, Jaime Van Dam, Meaghan Kilner, Baby Michael, Joe Villani, Michael Duddy, Kenneth Crawford, Clyde Harger, Cesar Valdecantos, Kay Tak, Michele Spino, Evelyn Rodriguez, Ruth Behsman, Barbara Snow, Mary Iannaccone, Doris Portillo, Elizabeth Magliato Loughlin, Teresita Zafra-Santos, Ann Marie Applegate, Geraldine Fox, Norma Brown, Tatiana Flores, Rosalie Connors, Christopher Nash, Pat Romano, Donna Carrajat, Angelina Cozzitorto, Roberto Tarabocchia, Frank Gaetani, Little Gabriel, Rachel Rocks, Dottie Rossi, Mike Hromin, Timmy Cappola, Sean O'Connor.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DECEASED OF THE PARISH

Concetta Fedele, Isabel Gomez, Roberta Caruso Blaszczynk, Elizabeth Pfeuffer, Joseph Zarro.

**"IN OUR SOCIETY, HUMAN LIFE IS
ESPECIALLY UNDER ATTACK FROM
ABORTION, WHICH SOME POLITICAL
ACTORS MISCHARACTERIZE AS AN
ISSUE OF WOMEN'S HEALTH!"**