

SUNDAY, JULY 12, 2020

15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00PM Norman Knebel

11:00AM Rose Bellobuono

Norman Knebel

Jose & Maria Henriquez

MONDAY, JULY 13

ST. HENRY

11:00AM Marino & Maria Lister

Nicolina Piccinich

TUESDAY, JULY 14

11:00AM Carmella DiBlasi

Martin Picinic

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15

ST. BONAVENTURE

11:00AM Anthony Rizzi

Talsu Lee

THURSDAY, JULY 16

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

11:00AM Rosemary Kovacs

Lucia Bucovaz

FRIDAY, JULY 17

11:00AM John & Gaudencia Mircovich

Anton Kirincich

SATURDAY, JULY 18

ST. CAMILLUS DE LELLIS

11:00AM Nicholas Busanich

5:00PM Johanna Rea-Reynolds

SUNDAY, JULY 19

16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

11:00AM Marie Macaluso

Marco DeBenedetto

Grace Siccardi

ALTAR BREAD

In Memory of

Fred Barbato

ALTAR WINE

In Memory of

Cecilia Gaspertich

PREPARING FOR MASS

The readings for next Sunday are-

Is 55:10-11

The word of God brings forth good seed.

Ps 65:10, 11, 12-13, 14

The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

Rom 8:18-23

The trials and sufferings of this life are as nothing for the glory we shall receive will overshadow all things.

Matt 13:1-23

Jesus tells us of the parable of the sower and the seed.

WHAT TYPE OF "SEED-SOIL" ARE YOU?

From the gospel Reading today (Matthew 13:1-23), we see a great crowd coming to our Lord Jesus Christ after the drama that accompanied the healing of the man with a withered hand in the Synagogue on a Sabbath day and the consequent plot against him by the Pharisees (Matt.12:9-15). Notably, our Lord was running an "open-air ministry," as no house could contain his teeming audience. Our Lord uses a boat as a rostrum while the crowd gathers by the bank of the sea. Seating like an ideal teacher, our Lord began to teach them many things in parables. The principal teaching is about the sower who goes out to sow seeds using the known method of the time, which is manual broadcasting of the seeds over a given area.

Our Lord shows from the parable that four types of soil are open to receive the seed from the sower:

1. **The Pathway (Roadside) Soil:** As the name suggests, the roadside soil does not have support seedling due to constant human and animal traffic. The condition of the ground in turn makes it difficult for seeds to germinate. Hence as the seeds get to the earth, they remained on the surface only to be kicked about by unsuspecting road users or be carried off by hungry birds. From here, we get the "pathway (roadside) Hearts."
2. **The Rocky Soil:** Some of the seeds landed on rocky landscapes. Here one can find surface soil, and that is all. There is no depth on account of the presence of rock. The seeds here begin to germinate, but because they cannot go more in-depth to advance their roots on account of the rock, they wither when the heat of the sun intensifies. From here, we get the "rocky Hearts."
3. **The Thorny Soil:** These germinate more than the ones on the rocky soil, as they find some depth—however, their environment, namely the thorns around hinder their growth. The thorns prevent them from gaining full maturity as they choke to extinction. From here, we have people with "thorny hearts."

The Good Soil: This soil, as the name implies, is not on a pathway, and it is neither rocky nor thorny. The description "good" means that it has all the climatic and environmentally befitting frameworks to bring about fruitfulness. From this, we can derive those with "good hearts." What is your Soil-Type?

Now, it becomes essential for us to apply this parable to ourselves. What soil-type do you represent? Do you hear God's message in the Church and drop it at the door as you leave the Church? That would be a wayside mentality. Do you have a surface encounter with the word of God without depths? That would be a rocky heart disposition. Do so much worldly cares besiege you that the power of the word of God dwindles and fades from you? That is the thorny heart. Do you allow the word of God to bear lasting fruits in your life? The good heart is what God expects from us.

*God bless you,
Fr. Bonnie Anusiem*



PARISH SUPPORT

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

July 5, 2020

\$ 4,812.00

Sunday Collection

"The seed sown among thorns is the one who hears the word but then the cares of the world and the lure of riches choke the word and it bears no fruit." – Matthew 13:22

Does the lure of riches and material goods choke God out of your life? Are you so caught up in earthly activities that you have no time for God? Gratitude and generosity are virtues that we should strive to do on a daily basis. Every decision we make either takes us one step closer to God or one step further away. What we receive at Mass every Sunday should be shared with others all the other days of the week as well.

SUNDAY MASSES

We now have a 5:00 PM mass on Saturday and the 11:00 AM mass on Sunday. As the state guidelines have changed, we will be able to accommodate up to 100 persons at each mass. The situation has improved but we are still not “out of the woods” with COVID-19. Once again, please consider whether you are “at risk” and make a good choice about whether or not to attend mass. I remind you that the Archbishop has indefinitely dispensed all Catholics from their “Sunday obligation” so do NOT feel compelled to attend mass out of fear. If any of you is feeling “under the weather” or running a fever, we ask you please DO NOT come to the church. You may be jeopardizing the life and health of others. We take this seriously and we ask you all to take this situation seriously. We are not acting out of irrational fear, but making good decisions based on the best advice we have available at this time.

SHARING GOD’S BLESSINGS APPEAL

This year’s goal for Sharing God’s Blessings Appeal is \$32,219.00. We are happy to report that we have \$30,127.00 in pledges. If we go over our goal, we will get 100% returned to our parish for every dollar over \$32,219.00. We are only \$2,092.00 short of our goal. This is an excellent fundraiser for our parish.

EASTER FLOWER ADDENDUM

The following donations were received too late to be included on our Easter Donation List: Mrs. Lucy D’Ambrosio – in Memory of Vincent D’Ambrosio; M/M Bozo Picinic.

ESTATE SALE

There is a huge estate sale in Leonia. If interested in browsing or purchasing, please call 757-645-6868 for an appointment or you may email tradetalks@aol.com Items to be sold include: sports equipment, hummels, dinnerware, furniture, furs, women’s clothing, garden tools, lawn mower, tools, a 2010 Lexus, costume jewelry and much more. A percentage of the proceeds from the estate sale will be donated to Epiphany Church.

CORONA VIRUS PRAYER

Most Merciful and Triune God,
We come to You in our weakness.
We come to You in our fear.
We come to You with trust.

For You alone are our hope. We place before You the disease present in our world.

We turn to You in our time of need. Bring wisdom to doctors.

Give understanding to scientists.

Endow caregivers with compassion and generosity.

Bring healing to those who are ill.

Protect those who are most at risk.

Give comfort to those who have lost a loved one.

Welcome those who have died into Your Eternal Home.

Stabilize our communities.

Unite us in our compassion. Remove all fear from our hearts.

Fill us with confidence in Your care. Jesus, I trust in You. Amen.

FOOD PANTRY

We are in dire need of food for our Community Food Pantry which is now opened. Please bring food to the church from 1:00-5:00PM or bring it to the rectory vestibule. We are also available on Friday mornings from 10:00AM-12 Noon. **We especially need all non-perishable foods. Our supplies are very, very low.** We appreciate all your help to feed our clients. May God bless you for your generosity. **Please do not bring any pasta at this time.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

We are waiting to see if the Archdiocese and the Governor will allow any affairs between September and December. If we are able to do so, we will be having an affair which will replace our St. Patrick/St. Joseph’s Dinner Dance. Watch the bulletin for more details.

MARRIAGE MOMENTS

“All Creation is groaning in labor pains...we also groan within ourselves as we wait for...the redemption of our bodies.” (Romans 8:18, 22-23) As we humans continue to groan about Covid-19, we wait. We wait for a vaccine, for return to normal, or even an improvement on the normalcy of the past. We groan, and we pray that our labor pains may bring to birth a better world.

PARENTING POINTERS

“The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed.” (Mt. 13:31) That’s a pretty strange statement on face value. No wonder the disciples had trouble understanding it. Your kids probably have a notion of what heaven is like. Ask them to describe heaven in their own words – not the bible’s.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF THE PARISH

Ann Callagher, Caroline Craven, Felicia Martello, Arianna Cappola, Doris Levy, Cindy Simeone Reynolds, Baby Juliette Payne, Brian Hone, Cora Shaffer, Baby Michael, Clyde Harger, Cesar Valdecantos, Kay Tak, Michele Spino, Evelyn Rodriguez, Barbara Snow, Mary Iannaccone, Doris Portillo, Teresita Zafra-Santos, Ann Marie Applegate Tatiana Flores, Rosalie Connors, Christopher Nash, Pat Romano, Donna Carrajat, Tony Martello, Little Gabriel, Rachel Rocks, Sean O’Connor, Vladimir Drobikov, Louanne Mitchell, Kathy Lennon, Colleen Meyers, Domenick Deodino, Rosemarie Liversidge, Christine Caruso, Patrick Bove, Camille Moglia, John Keegan, Kay O’Connor, Anthony Martini, Pantaleon Domingo, Patricia Citro, Brother Peter Lyne, Conrado Trinidad, Joanne Kaiser, Patricia Warren, Ramon Villavicencio, Danilo Bonifacio, Angie Vigna, Daniel Johnson, Ryan Cariddi, Laura Cipullo, Frances Marino, Robert Donato, Richard Allen, Anthony Martello, Jr., Miguel Madera, Natalie Dente, Joe Villani, Lisa Mutchler, Elizabeth Chan, Benjamin Yap, Henry Yap, Archbishop Emeritus John Joseph Myers, Rose & Anthony McCluskey, Jane Kim Estantino, Mike Hromin, Nancy Manto, Giuseppe Totaro, Peter Barbato, Roy Regaspi, Gloria Marquez, David Barmore, Drew Johnson, John Reynolds, Kunaim Emelyanesko, Kathy Santiago, Vinny Franco, Evelyn Leone, Baby Grayson DiNatale, Norma Warren, Lois Sekula, Kathie Gumb, Michael O’Connor, Jeanette Ciccolella.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DECEASED OF THE PARISH

“POPE JOHN PAUL II CALLED ABORTION AN UNSPEAKABLE CRIME AND AN ‘ATTACK AGAINST GOD HIMSELF!’”.

