

SUNDAY, JULY 19, 2020

16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00PM Johanna Rea-Reynolds
11:00AM Marie Macaluso
Marco DeBenedetto
Grace Siccardi

MONDAY, JULY 20

ST. APOLLINARIS

11:00AM Anna & Dino Gellussich
Tony Hroncich

TUESDAY, JULY 21

ST. LAWRENCE OF BRINDISI

11:00AM Michael Ippolitto
Karmela Bussanich

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22

ST. MARY MAGDALENE

11:00AM Antonio & Domenica Hroncich
Cecilia Gaspertich

THURSDAY, JULY 23

ST. BRIDGET

11:00AM Vitomir Juric
Nicholas Busanic

FRIDAY, JULY 24

ST. SHARBEL MAHLUF

11:00AM Nives Carcich
Guadenzia & John Piccini

SATURDAY, JULY 25

ST. JAMES

11:00AM Salvatore Mandara
5:00PM Ottavio Martire &
Francesco Michienzi

SUNDAY, JULY 26

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

11:00AM Christopher Johnson
Mosca & Romano Families
Tommaso Morin

ALTAR BREAD

In Memory of
Fred Barbato

ALTAR WINE

In Memory of
Cecilia Gaspertich

SANCTUARY LAMP

In Memory of
Rose & John Ferrara

PREPARING FOR MASS

The readings for this Sunday are-

Wis 12-13, 16-19

Give praise and thanksgiving to God
for his mercy.

Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16

Lord you are good and forgiving.

Rom 8:26-27

Pray and the Holy Spirit will intercede for
you.

Matt 13:24-43

Once the "reign of God" had been
established, it grew and spread.



AN ENEMY HAS DONE THIS!

The Gospel Reading of the Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Matt. 13:24-43) is part of the seven kingdom parables our Lord Jesus Christ gives in Chapter thirteen of the Gospel of Matthew. It is also one of the two parables in all the Gospels that our Lord accords an interpretation, the first being the parable of the Sower.

In the parable, he tells us that a man sowed good seeds (wheat) in his field, and while everyone was asleep, his enemy sows bad seeds (weed) among the good seeds (wheat)

As time progresses, his servants notice that there are weeds among the wheat and suggest the uprooting of the weeds. The householder discloses that an enemy has done that but tells them to leave them to grow until the time of the harvest when the weeds would be taken away for burning, and the wheat would go for storage in the barn.

Our Lord Jesus Christ tells us in the interpretation that he is the householder. The field is the world; the good seeds are the children of the kingdom, while the bad seeds are children of the evil one (Satan). Furthermore, the harvest is the end of time, while the harvesters are angels of God.

The Enemy Factor

The highlight of the parable is the activity of the enemy. We already know that the enemy is the evil one. In the first place, he is an intruder, a thief, and a destroyer (John 10:10a). Furthermore, he enters by leveraging some conditions and materials that support his plan.

While the parable identifies the evil one as the enemy, it is vital that we also identify two other enemies that are at work in agreement with the devil. They are the human enemies that represent men and women of evil will, who are always looking out for an opportunity to sow bad seeds.

Another enemy which we should take very seriously is the enemy within us, namely, ourselves. Yes, we could become dangerous enemies to ourselves when we continually sow negative seeds into our lives through our thoughts, words, and actions. We cannot live positive lives while operating with negative minds.

Moving Forward!

There is a need for us to pause and ask ourselves some pertinent questions. "Are we among the good or among the bad?" The word of God says that by their fruits, you shall know them (Matt. 7:20). The question above is necessary as it is essential. Most significantly, there is a need for us to take a stand. There is nothing like being here and there at the same time. Our stand or position would determine the kind of harvest that we will make.

May the grace of God continue to abide with us so that we remain untouched and unaffected by the corrosive schemes of the bad seeds, and may we continue to grow and enlarge till the time of harvest. Have a glorious Sunday and a lovely week ahead.

*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 12, 2020

Sunday Collection

\$ 3,306.00

Retired Priests Collection (thus far)

\$ 478.00

"The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field...He who sows good seed is the Son of Man, the field is the world, the good seed the children of the kingdom." - Matthew 13:24, 37-38

As children of God, we are all "good seeds". We are blessed by God with the potential to accomplish much good in the world. We fulfill God's plan when we spend time in prayer every day, use our skills to help others and share our financial gifts to help build God's kingdom on earth. Through our example of gratitude and generosity we sow "good seeds" on earth and ultimately help each other get to Heaven!

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.

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.

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.

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.

MASS OF THANKSGIVING

Rev. Nicholas Sertich will offer a Mass of Thanksgiving on Saturday, August 22nd at 5:00PM. Everyone is invited to attend this mass and receive his priestly blessing.

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.**

MARRIAGE MOMENTS

An elderly man had just lost his wife, when a 4-year-old neighbor child saw him crying. The little boy went to the man’s yard, climbed on his lap, and just sat there. When the boy’s mother asked him what he’d said to the neighbor, the boy answered, “Nothing, I just helped him cry.” When was the last time one of you cried?

PARENTING POINTERS

The 4th Sunday in July is Parents Day. No parent is perfect but I bet you keep trying to be a good parent. Ask your child what they think is the hardest part of being a parent? Maybe they could draw a cartoon showing you in typical parent mode.

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, Peter Barbato, Roy Regaspi, Gloria Marquez, David Barmore, Drew Johnson, John Reynolds, Kunaim Emelyanesko, Kathy Santiago, Vinny Franco, Baby Grayson DiNatale, Norma Warren, Lois Sekula, Kathie Gumb, Michael O’Connor, Patrick Shanley, Mary Corrado, Perry Bonaguaro.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DECEASED OF THE PARISH

Jeanette Ciccolella, Lena Molito.

**“YOUR PRESENCE IN THIS PRESENT
MOMENT IS THE MOST PRECIOUS
PRESENT YOU WILL EVER RECEIVE!”**

