

WHO DO YOU SAY GOD IS?

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 2020

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00PM Rose, John & Joseph Ferrara
10:00AM Ray Martinotti
12:00PM Ernestine Ricelli
Dec'd Mbrs. Lembo Family

MONDAY, AUGUST 24

ST. BARTHOLOMEW

11:00AM Martin Picinic
Thomas Lennon

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25

STS. LOUIS & JOSEPH CALESANZ

11:00AM Maria & Mirko Marusic
Domenico Matessich

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26

11:00AM John Piccinich
Nicholas Busanic

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27

ST. MONICA

11:00AM Mary Corrado
Carmelo Bruzzesi

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28

ST. AUGUSTINE

11:00AM John Piccinich
Nicholas Busanic

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29

PASSION OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

11:00AM Anna Picinic
Veronica Perez

5:00PM Josephine Sariti

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30

22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

10:00AM Bryan David Segarra
12:00PM Ann Judith Santiago
Antoinette Foglio

ALTAR BREAD

In Memory of
David Baszkowski

MASS CANDLES

In Memory of
Anna Picinic



PREPARING FOR MASS

The readings for this Sunday are:

Is 22:19-23

This reading refers to the use of authority and indicates the Key as the symbol of authority.

Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8

Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hand.

Rom 11:33-36

Paul writes praise-filled words about God's plan for his people.

Matt 16:13-20

Christ declares that Peter is the "Rock" upon which he will build his Church.

Our world runs on "who is who." Put in another way, identity thrives so much in human society and that discloses why individuals, corporate bodies, organizations, governments, and nations expend resources and time to build, maintain and rebrand their identities to gain appraisal from people. Only a few of us can deny the fact that we leverage "good name" as we make efforts to have people say good things about us.

In our day and age, employers carry out background checks and ask employees to get recommendations as preconditions for employment. Most intending couples ask questions about each other's past before they agree to tie the nuptial knots. Most people now look at customer's reviews on products and services before they let go of their hard-earned money. All these checks and balances ball down to the search for identity, "who is who?" put in another way, "who people say you are."

In the Gospel Reading (Matt. 16:13-20), our Lord Jesus Christ attempts a survey with his disciples on his identity with two interrelated questions: "Who do people say I am?" and "Who do you say I am?"

The popular opinion about our Lord Jesus Christ describes him as John the Baptist (the new testament prophet who was killed by Herod), Elijah (a great Old Testament prophet), or any of the prophets. The blind area identity shows half-truth about our Lord; yes, he is a prophet, but that is not the whole story.

The next question goes directly to the disciples, "You, who do you say I am?" Peter's answer goes this way: "You are Christ, the Son of the living God." For this answer, Peter gets a high commendation from the Lord for the profound answer which came through the prompting of the Holy Spirit:

"Blessed are you, Simon, son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father. And so, I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock, I will build my church, and the gates of neither world shall not prevail against it."

Moving forward, there would be a need for us to give our answers to the question our Lord asked. "Who is God in your life?" Your answers would show the kind of value you attach to God. For some people, God is a healer when they are sick; for others God is a provider when they are in need. God is beyond all these. He is our creator, and our Father can do all things for us.

As we march into a new week, may we try to adopt a more profound identity of God that would help us to receive more blessings and a new platform like Peter. Have a blessed Sunday, and may God bless you.

*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.

August 16, 2020

Sunday Collection

\$4,155.00

Assumption Collection

\$ 915.00

"Or who has given the Lord anything that he may be repaid?" – Romans 11:35

St. Paul reminds us of a central fact of stewardship. We cannot give the Lord anything – God already owns it all. God made everything. All we can do is return a portion of God's many gifts back to Him. Sincere gratitude for our gifts opens our hearts to joyful generosity! Through your generous sharing, you just may be the answer to someone's prayer.

"IF WE CAN ACCEPT THAT A MOTHER CAN KILL EVEN HER OWN, HOW CAN WE TELL PEOPLE NOT TO KILL ONE ANOTHER!" *Mother Teresa*

SUNDAY MASSES

Sunday Masses will be at 5:00PM on Saturday and on Sunday at 10:00AM and 12 Noon. We can now accommodate up to 100 persons at each mass. When you attend mass, you must wear a mask before you enter the Church and leave it on for the whole mass. Also, please sanitize your hands when entering the Church with the hand sanitizers found at the elevator entrance. The mass is streamed daily on our website at epiphanyrchurch.org at 11:00AM and on Sundays at 12:00 Noon.

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.

COVID-19 TESTING

Cliffside Park will have a Covid-19 Testing Site on August 27th and 28th in a Mobile Clinic at 525 Palisade Avenue. This is open to Cliffside Park residents only. You must make an appointment by calling 973-506-8550 or book online at prestigeCOVID19mobile.us

SANCTUARY LAMPS AND ALTAR CANDLES

Sanctuary Lamps and Altar Candles are available for the year 2020. Please come into the rectory to book any of these items in memory of or in honor of a loved one.

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 \$31,027.00 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 \$1,192.00 short of our goal. This is an excellent fundraiser for our parish. Only 102 families have contributed.**

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.

Give understanding to scientists and doctors.
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 celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving **this Thursday, August 27th at 7:00PM. All are invited to attend.**

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

A CCD Registration Form is available on our Church website. Please fill it out and return it to the rectory with the proper fee. Registration will also be held on the weekends of August 22nd & 23rd and 29th & 30th.

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 could use Progresso Soups.** 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

TIME: During Covid-19 you may feel you have more free time or the opposite, “I don't have enough time.” Either way, we all have 24 hours in a day. It's a matter of prioritizing. What's the most important thing you can do for your beloved today?

PARENTING POINTERS

Who are my enemies (or at least people I don't like)? If your child is old enough, pose this question to them also. Then...try to think of at least one positive quality of the person you don't like. Try to understand what might have led him or her to act the way you dislike.

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, 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, Brother Peter Lyne, Conrado Trinidad, Joanne Kaiser, Patricia Warren, Ramon Villavicencio, Danilo Bonifacio, Daniel Johnson, Ryan Cariddi, Laura Cipullo, Frances Marino, Richard Allen, Anthony Martello, Jr., Miguel Madera, 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, Roy Regaspi, Gloria Marquez, David Barmore, Drew Johnson, John Reynolds, Kunaim Emelyanesko, Kathy Santiago, Vinny Franco, Baby Grayson DiNatale, Kathie Gumb, Michael O'Connor, Patrick Shanley, Perry Bonaguaro, Maria Caruso, DeMarco, Rev. John Renard, Louise O'Connor, Barbara Curran.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DECEASED OF THE PARISH

Evelyn Bivone, Deacon Dan O'Neill, Edward H. Szwedra, Theodore Tufano, Rev. Edito Gamallo.

