SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2020

5:30 P.M. Rita Destito
Ralph Cortellessa
Intentions of Ava Sofia Johnson

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2020

7:30 A.M. Parishioners
Ann & Carl Hivish
Francisco & Albina Tindoc
Veveñcio & Leonor Umiten
Benito Tindoc
Venancio & Alejandra Tindoc

10:00 A.M. Benjamin Glorioso
Roy & Shirley Parian
Frank & Dorothy Orofino
Rocco Tarulli

12 NOON Charlene Barbagallo
Fiore Maria Nardulli

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2020

8:00 A.M. Deceased Members of Emmaus Group

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2020

8:00 A.M. Sr. Marie Louise du Bon Pasteur
Mary Morando

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2020

8:00 A.M. Charlene Barbagallo

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2020

8:00 A.M. PARISH PURGATORIAL
Benita R. Tindoc
Intentions of Elsie Rodriguez

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2020

11:00 A.M. John Fitzpatrick
5:30 P.M. Florence Korkuch
Jane Borawski
Katherine Briggs

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2020

7:30 A.M. Parishioners
Joseph Gardella

10:00 A.M. Joseph Negrini, Sr.
Andrew John Nazzaretto
Florence Korkuch

12 NOON Carmela “Babe” DiMarco

Pray daily for our servicemen and women serving their country.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:
Mary Carton Jacob Hicks Judy Moran Gary Ragusa
Ava Rae Nebbia Matthew Polifonte Lois Maskley
Evelyn Means Bob Delventhhal Patrick Keegan
George Link Michael Soojian Valentina Manuele
Susan Nichols-Boggio Ryder Sasso Lydia Rivera
Mike Tidaback Robert Moreno Jessica Skorubska
Jerome Foray Loretta LaSala Infant Ronan Suatoni

Manuel Esguerra Michael Gotti Marianne Dorn
Robert Nebbia Christopher Berry Frank Polglaze
Sharon Acquaire Noah Lorenovitz Florence Grim
Josephine Venezia Alex Coronel Geraldine Kearns
Alice Roslund Alejandro Salcedo Bernie Shushan
Jean’na Wojik Post Jacqueline Altamore

DECEASED: Carmela “Babe” DiMarco

WEEKLY COLLECTION
Sunday, September 20, 2020 - $2,652.00
Thank you for your continued support.

WEEKLY REFLECTION

Dear Friends in Christ,

Today, we are given to contemplate the father and vineyard owner asking his two sons: «Son, today go and work in my vineyard» (Mt 21:29). One says “yes”, but he does not go. The other one says “no”, but he does go.

Today’s Gospel parable is clearly directed at the religious and civil leaders of the people in Jesus’ time. They spoke much about God and, in particular, how God was to be served by a strict observance of the Law. But it is clear they did not have the spirit that Jesus was communicating through his life and teaching, namely, the spirit of love, compassion, caring and forgiveness for the weak and vulnerable. They also heard the teaching of Jesus but made no effort to carry it out. They excused themselves by challenging Jesus’ legal authority to do what he was doing. Because Jesus did not fit into the parameters of their legal world, they could not classify Him and they rejected him.

On the other hand, Jesus tells them that the tax collectors and the prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before they do. These certainly were not keeping God’s Law. They even had said No to his commandments many times. But then they encountered Jesus and they experienced a radical transformation in their lives. They listened to him and they responded. The chief priests and the elders are like the second son in the story. They say ‘Yes’ to obey God but they do not listen to Jesus, the Son of God, or follow his instructions.
The sinners, the outcasts of both Jewish and Gentile society, are like the first son. They do not obey God’s commands, they commit many sins, but later they accept the teaching of Jesus and become his followers.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

The 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Have you ever held to a belief in spite of its being contrary to the truth? Or perhaps you or someone you know has said, "I don't believe that; the Church says one thing, but I don't accept that; I believe differently." Holding onto a belief or practice, which is contrary to what legitimate authority teaches or declares is an indication of stubbornness or lack of humility. This is brought out clearly in the Readings for today where the theme is humility of the will and spirit. Let us see how this is played out as we read:

The First Reading is from the Prophet Ezekiel (18:25-28). In this passage, the Prophet is restating what he has been told by God to tell the Israelites of the 6th century BC. At that time, the Jewish monarchy was disintegrating because it refused to be faithful and obedient to God. They worshipped false gods and followed all kinds of practices that were contrary to the Commandments. Yet, God was willing to forgive them if they turned away from their evil ways.

The Responsorial Psalm (25:4-14) is a prayer in which the psalmist and all of us ask God to guide us in His ways so that we might not fall into the trap of sin.

The Second Reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Philippians (2:1-11). In this week's passage, Paul is asking each of his followers (and us) to be humble enough to "look out for the health and welfare of others before ourselves." He then goes on to give us Jesus as the supreme example of humility.

The Gospel Reading is from Matthew (21:28-32). In this passage, Jesus is giving us a lesson on “change of heart.” This story is somewhat like the story of the "Prodigal Son." Here we have two sons being asked by their father to do something for him that was within their capability and responsibility (maybe like cleaning up their bedroom). The first son refuses but then changes his mind and obeys. The other agrees to fulfill the command, but doesn't. Fidelity and obedience to the Father is at stake here, and Jesus is accusing the Chief Priests and Elders of being worse than prostitutes and tax collectors who will be forgiven because they have given up their sinful ways. The Chief Priest and Elders, however, will not be forgiven because they were stubborn and lacking in humility in refusing to accept the teachings of Jesus even though they knew better.

DIOCESAN MINISTRIES APPEAL

“Love Thy Neighbor”

NEW FOR 2020! In addition to its new name, the Diocesan Ministries Appeal (formerly the Bishop's Annual Appeal) also is offering a new giving option for the 2020 Appeal. In addition to considering a one-time gift or a pledge payable over five months, parishioner now have the option of making a continuous monthly gift where your gift would repeat each month and continue from year-to-year. This is a wonderful way to continue your support year-round. You are also able to easily adjust or discontinue your continuous monthly gift at any time you choose. For more information, please call the diocesan Development Office at 973-777-8818, ext.218. However you choose to make your gift to the 2020 Diocesan Ministries Appeal, know that your generosity is a blessing to the people we serve. May God bless you for your support!

For your convenience, you can support the Diocesan Ministries Appeal by making an on-line gift. Simply go to www.2020appeal.org and follow the user-friendly instructions.

Beacon Subscription

If you do not currently receive the Beacon in the mail and would like to get on our subscription list, call the rectory or check the box on the Beacon envelope the next time we have that collection. This catholic newspaper keeps you informed about current happenings in our diocese and is sent to your home every week.
SILVER WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS
Couples, were you married in 1995? The Diocese of Paterson invites you to celebrate your 25th wedding anniversary during a special Mass to be offered at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Paterson, NJ. Bishop Sweeny will serve as main celebrant on this joyful occasion to be held: Sunday, November 8th, 2020 at 3:30pm. Arrangements can be made by contacting the parish office. The deadline to register is Thursday, October 1st, 2020. You will receive additional information from the Office of Family Life once your registration has been processed. Congratulations on this joyous occasion!

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH
FIRST HOLY COMMUNICANTS
September 19, 2020

Anellia (Ellie) Alaya
Maya Niebrzydowski
Johnna Bellante
Brooklyn Otis
Kayleigh Bellante
Madelyn Otis
Alexis Casale
Dylan Paraskevas
Noelle Ann Dunham
Adrien Salcedo
Therese Gomez
Blake Sensale
Derek Letterese
Tristan Summers
Lilliana Macys
Kyle Swiderski
Brianna McLaughlin

GOD BLESS
and
CONGRATULATIONS!

PARISH HAPPENINGS
Fri., 10/2 - Sat. 10/3 Overnight Adoration
7 PM - 8 AM
Sat., 10/3 - 1st Saturday Novena Mass to
Our Lady of Fatima – 11 AM
Sat., 10/10 – America Needs Fatima Public Square
Rosary at 11:45 AM in front
of the church.
Sat., 10/10 & 10/11 – Ladies’ Guild Soup Sale after
all Masses.

FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS
BLESSING OF ANIMALS
October 4th at 1:30 PM
Fr. Greg will bless your pets on this special feast
day of our patron saint. Doesn’t matter what it is,
you love it – he’ll bless it!

Diapers for Babies
Anyone who has had a child knows how expensive
diapers, wipes, and formula have become. The
Knights of Columbus would like to remove this
obstacle to the choice for life by providing much
needed economic assistance.
St. Francis Council K of C will hold a “Diaper
Drop” at St. Francis parish to collect diapers, wipes,
baby food and formula. We plan on giving these
items to The Lighthouse, a pregnancy care center,
located on Hamburg Turnpike in Wayne, NJ.
We will start collecting items on October 3rd and
finish on November 1st. The month of October
being Pro-Life Month.
We would like St. Francis parish to be the surrogate
parents to children saved from abortion.
Drop off will be in the church narthex. If you are
not attending Church services in-person, call Frank
La Sala, FDD-PGK at 973-839-8399 or
franklasala@earthlink.net for a pick up.

Just a reminder that there is a box in the narthex
for ‘EYES FOR THE NEEDY’. We collect not
only old or broken glasses, but also will accept
watches, jewelry and hearing aids.
Remember: The eye is the most precious and useful
organ of the human body. It is indeed a masterpiece
of God’s handywork; let’s help those who need
glasses to aid their eyesight.

Thinking of being a member, log in on:
www.kofc.org/joinus

LECTORS
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2020
5:30 P.M. Pat Demarest
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2020
7:30 A.M. Jason Velante
10:00 A.M. Debbie Griffin
12 NOON Henry Mendoza
Reading for 26 Sunday
**EZ 18:25-28**
Thus says the LORD: You say, "The LORD's way is not fair!" Hear now, house of Israel: Is it my way that is unfair, or rather, are not your ways unfair? When someone virtuous turns away from virtue to commit iniquity, and dies, it is because of the iniquity he committed that he must die. But if he turns from the wickedness he has committed, he does what is right and just, he shall preserve his life; since he has turned away from all the sins that he has committed, he shall surely live, he shall not die.

**Responsorial Psalm:**
Remember your mercies, O Lord.

**PHIL 2:1-11 OR 2:1-5**
Brothers and sisters: If there is any encouragement in Christ, any solace in love, any participation in the Spirit, any compassion and mercy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, with the same love, united in heart, thinking one thing. Do nothing out of selfishness or out of vainglory; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves, each looking out not for his own interests, but also for those of others. Have in you the same attitude that is also in Christ Jesus, Who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Rather, he emptied himself, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

**Alleluia, alleluia.**
My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me.
R. Alleluia, alleluia.

**Gospel** **MT 21:28-32**
Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: "What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He came to the first and said, 'Son, go out and work in the vineyard today.' He said in reply, 'I will not,' but afterwards changed his mind and went. The man came to the other son and gave the same order. He said in reply, 'Yes, sir, 'but did not go. Which of the two did his father's will?" They answered, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Amen, I say to you, tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you. When John came to you in the way of righteousness, you did not believe him; but tax collectors and prostitutes did. Yet even when you saw that, you did not later change your minds and believe him."