

Go out to all the world and tell the Good News.

August 25, 2019

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time



Saturday, August 24

5:30 pm For David Schoonover by Skoczylas Family

Sunday, August 25

9:00 am For Carol Ann Albers by Dilizia Family

11:00 am For Dan Salarno by Maureen DelGuercio & Family
For Antonio DiBartolomeo by Kopelman Family

Monday, August 26

8:45 am For special intention for a parishioner of St. Mark's

Tuesday, August 27

8:45 am For the health of Bill Betz

Wednesday, August 28

8:45 am For deceased priests of the Paterson Diocese

Thursday, August 29

8:45 am For

Saturday, August 31

5:30 pm For Parishioners of St. Marks

Sunday, September 1

9:00 am For Amparo Vega by Her Family

11:00 am For Santina Flynn by Solecki Family

**REMEMBRANCE MEMORIALS
FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST**

Sanctuary Lamp: In loving memory of Vito and Marie Benardone and Aeneas and Genevieve Corry by Corry/Benardone family

Mass Candles: In loving memory of extended members of Grieve & Stokes family

Altar Breads & Wine: In loving memory of Jan and Amelia Krzywosz, and Wladyslaw and Anna Skoczylas by Skoczylas Family

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

**August 31, September 1, 2019
Saturday 5:30 pm**

Celebrant: TBD

Lector: Joanne Lee

Eucharistic Ministers: Joanne Lee

Altar Servers: Help needed

Sunday, 9:00 am

Celebrant: TBD

Lector: Jim Scott

Eucharistic Ministers: Help needed

Altar Servers: Help needed

Sunday, 11:00 am

Celebrant: TBD

Lector: Gabriella Nowak

Eucharistic Ministers: Angel Nowak

Altar Servers: Help needed

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

Monday, August 26

8:45 am Mass

7:00 pm Boy Scout Meeting

Tuesday, August 27

8:45 am Mass

Wednesday, August 28

8:45 am Mass

Thursday, August 29

8:45 am Mass

7:00 pm Fundraising Meeting

Friday, August 30

Parish Office Closed

Saturday, August 31

8:00 am Men's Bible Study

5:30 pm Mass

Sunday, September 1

9:00 am & 11:00 am Mass

Monday, September 2

Parish office closed in observance of Labor Day

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Current Year	Last Year 2018
August 18, 2019: \$1,239 Second Collection: \$637	August 19, 2018: Figures were not available
Supermarket Gift Cards August 18, 2019 Sales: \$1,800 Profit: \$90 YTD Profit \$3,854.50 Number of families: 8	St. Mark's Faith Direct Church Code is NJ484

FAITH DIRECT...

Did you miss a weekly offering while on summer vacation? eGiving through Faith Direct is the easiest and most convenient way for St. Mark's to receive your weekly offering and other Church support. eGiving through Faith Direct will also save you time while helping St. Mark's reduce our expenses. You can go online to faith.direct/NJ484 or text the word ENROLL to (Text-To-Give Phone Number). Thank you for your prayerful support of St. Mark the Evangelist.

God Bless You, Fr. Marcin

ENJOYING YOUR SUMMER?

Want to make it even better? You can, and it's easy. Just donate some non-perishable food items to the Long Valley Food Pantry. A few of the items they are most in need of are coffee/tea, apple sauce/healthy snacks, cold cereal, and pasta sauce. Do this and **everyone** will have a nicer summer!

MY DEAR PARISHIONERS,

Today in the liturgy of the Church we celebrate 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time. Unfortunately summer vacation is coming to the end. Some children will be going back to school on Monday. Time goes very fast but I hope you had a good summer. Next weekend marks Labor Day Weekend and many of us will be coming back to our daily routine. Let us give thanks to God for all good gifts he has given us. May he bless us and protect us always.

In today's Gospel Jesus warns us that we can be excluded from the Kingdom of Heaven if we do not strive to enter by the narrow door. What did Jesus mean by this expression? The door which Jesus had in mind was himself. I am the door; if any one enters by me, he will be saved. God sent his only begotten Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to open the way for us to have full access to the throne of God's grace (favor and blessing) and mercy (pardon for our sins). Through Jesus' victory on the cross he has freed us from slavery to sin and hurtful desires and addictions, and he has made us sons and daughters of God and citizens of his heavenly kingdom. We are free now to choose which kingdom we will serve - the kingdom of truth and light ruled by God's wisdom or the kingdom of falsehood and darkness ruled by Satan and the world system or society of people who are opposed to God and his laws.

Giving every corner of our lives and every part of ourselves to God is what Jesus asked on many occasions. For example Jesus said: Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven.

If we choose the wide gate of self-indulgence and sin and the pleasures of the moment we will never be really happy. The second reading today from the Letter to the Hebrews reminds us of who we are, God's children. **The only way to achieve real happiness and fulfillment in life is to remember who we are, sons and daughters of God, and live as sons and daughters of God choosing the narrow gate that leads to life.**

If we choose the narrow gate, which is choosing Jesus and all he stands for, we are choosing life and happiness and peace. Otherwise we are bringing disaster on ourselves. Let us follow the invitation of Jesus in our Gospel today: "Strive to enter through the narrow gate..."

God is with us and his grace is sufficient! As we strive side by side for the faith of the Gospel Jesus assures us of complete victory! Do we trust in God's grace and help, especially in times of testing and temptation? DO NOT BE AFRAID AND OPEN THE DOOR OF YOUR HEART TO CHRIST!!!

FORMING CONSCIENCES FOR FAITHFUL CITIZENSHIP

Conscience is a judgment of practical reason that helps us to recognize and seek what is good, and to reject what is evil (Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 1778, 1796). Conscience is not something that allows us to justify doing whatever we want, nor is it a mere "feeling" about what we should or should not do. Rather, conscience is the voice of God resounding in the human heart, revealing the truth to us and calling us to do what is good while shunning what is evil. Conscience does not simply "come to us"!

Throughout our lives, we have to spend time forming our consciences so that we can make well-reasoned judgments about particular situations.

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church:

1784 The education of the conscience is a lifelong task. From the earliest years, it awakens the child to the knowledge and practice of the interior law recognized by conscience. Prudent education teaches virtue; it prevents or cures fear, selfishness and pride, resentment arising from guilt, and feelings of complacency, born of human weakness and faults. The education of the conscience guarantees freedom and engenders peace of heart.

1785 In the formation of conscience the Word of God is the light for our path, we must assimilate it in faith and prayer and put it into practice. We must also examine our conscience before the Lord's Cross. We are assisted by the gifts of the Holy Spirit, aided by the witness or advice of others and guided by the authoritative teaching of the Church.

HOW DO WE DO THIS?

- 1) When examining any issue or situation, we must begin by being open to the truth and what is right.
- 2) We must study Sacred Scripture and the teaching of the Church.
- 3) We must examine the facts and background information about various choices.
- 4) We must prayerfully reflect to discern the will of God

MISSION APPEAL

Thank you for your generous support of last week's Catholic Home Missions Appeal. If you missed the appeal, it's not too late to give! Just visit www.usccb.org/nationalcollections and click on the "How to Give" link on the left.

IMPORTANT

A growing number of parishes are reporting that they, their parishioners, and parish staff have been receiving a request to buy gift cards for their pastor and get them to a particular address. If you get such an email, you can be rather sure that this is a scam.

*Have a good week, St. Mark's - pray for us...
Fr. Marcin*

Distribution of the Precious Blood is available at all weekend masses we just need to have enough Eucharistic ministers to do it. Eucharistic ministers are asked to come to church **10 min. before mass begins** and let the presider of the liturgy know that they are here so priest does not have to do anything on the last minute. **THANK YOU!**

God bless you, Fr. Marcin

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAIN

Bishop Casey formally established Our Lady of the Mountain parish in June 24, 1969.

If you would like to join OLM Parish for this great celebration please mark your calendar **SEPTEMBER 29TH 2019** - 10:45am Holy Mass with our Bishop. 12:30 pm Brunch at Minebrook Golf Club in Hackettstown.

Cost per person - \$35. Registration forms are on the table in gathering room.

FROM FR. SLAWOMIR...

St. Margaret Ward – August 30 Martyr (d. 1588)

Little is known of the life of this English martyr under Queen Elizabeth. A gentlewoman of London, she was arrested in 1588 for her part in aiding the escape of an imprisoned priest, William Watson, whom she was in the habit of visiting. Taking advantage of lax security, she managed to smuggle a rope into the prison, which Watson used to lower himself from a tower. Once outside, he escaped with the help of Ward's servant, John Roche, with whom he also exchanged clothing.

The rope was easily traced back to Ward. She and Roche were both arrested and subjected to terrible tortures. They were promised their freedom if they would ask the queen's pardon and attend the established Church. When they refused this offer, they were hanged at Tyburn on August 30, 1588.

FROM FR. JAVIER...

TEACHING FROM THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH - THE SACRAMENTS OF THE CHURCH

The Anointing Of The Sick

My dear brothers and sisters, according with the Catechism of the Catholic Church the man of the Old Testament lives his sickness in the presence of God. It is before God that he laments his illness, and it is of God, Master of life and death, that he implores healing. Illness becomes a way to conversion; God's forgiveness initiates the healing. It is the experience of Israel that illness is mysteriously linked to sin and evil, and that faithfulness to God according to his law restores life: *"For I am the Lord, your healer."* The prophet intuitively that suffering can also have a redemptive meaning for the sins of others. Finally Isaiah announces that God will usher in a time for Zion when he will pardon every offense and heal every illness.

Also we see Christ the physician, Christ's compassion toward the sick and his many healings of every kind of infirmity are a resplendent sign that *"God has visited his people" and that the Kingdom of God is close at hand. Jesus has the power not only to heal, but also to forgive sins; he has come to heal the whole man, soul and body; he is the physician the sick have need of. His compassion toward all who suffer goes so far that he identifies himself with them: "I was sick and you visited me."* His preferential love for the sick has not ceased through the centuries to draw the very special attention of Christians toward all those who suffer in body and soul. It is the source of tireless efforts to comfort them. God bless you.

FUNDRAISING MEETING...

Please join us for a Fundraising Meeting on **Thursday, August 29th at 7:00 pm.** Agenda will include, New Members and Recruitment, Fall Craft Show, New Year's Day 5K Run. All are welcome to attend.



SAVE THE DATE....

For St. Mark's Fall Craft Fair featuring Homemade/Handmade Items Saturday, November 16, 2019 9:00 am to 4:00 pm **VENDORS WANTED:** \$35.00 per space – contact mariannek.stm@gmail.com

PRAY FOR THE SICK... Richard Alvarez, Daria Cremonini, Tony Atkins, Ann Geary, Sue Geary, Kathleen Goodman, Thomas Kenny, Mary McArdle, Anna McFarland, Denise Niessing, Girard Nolte, Jr., Georgette Petromelis, Christopher Popp, George and Ann Senftinger, Fredrick Senftinger, Special Intention, Tracy Tobin, Christopher Zelif

PRAY FOR THE DECEASED: Marie Simeus



Since its founding, the Knights of Columbus has been involved in evangelization. In 1948, the Knights started the Catholic Information Service (CIS) to provide low-cost Catholic publications for the general public as well as for parishes, schools, retreat houses, military installations, correctional facilities, legislatures, the medical community, and for individuals who request them. For 70 years, CIS has printed and distributed millions of booklets, and thousands of people have enrolled in its catechetical courses.

Reflection for the Week

Dost thou love Life? Then do not squander Time; for that's the stuff Life is made of.

If you would like to be a part of an international organization of nearly 2 million Catholic men whose principal work involves helping others in need, we'd like to meet you. **Become a Knight!**

www.lvkofo.org

NEW EYES FOR THE NEEDY...

The Knights of Columbus will be having an eyeglass recycling basket in St. Mark's gathering space beginning September 1, 2019 through September 30, 2019. Please donate your used eyeglasses which will be given to the needy and be sincerely appreciated.

OLM BIBLE STUDY...

This fall, the OLM evening Bible Study program will study Bishop Barron's Word on Fire CATHOLICISM. This faith enhancing 10-session program explains not only what Catholic's believe and why, but also displays in breathtaking, visual detail the richness of the Church's culture. The program will begin Thursday September 12 at 7:30 pm in the lower classroom at OLM. Please contact Renny Hodgskin 908-832-2965 or email renny.hodgskin@gmail.com to register or request additional details. Study materials will cost \$25 per person.

SILVER AND GOLD WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS...

Couples, were you married in 1969 or 1994? The Diocese of Paterson invites you to celebrate your 25th or 50th wedding anniversary during a special Mass to be offered at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Paterson, NJ. Bishop Serratelli will serve as main celebrant on this joyful occasion to be held: **Sunday, November 3rd, 2019 at 3:30 pm.** Arrangements can be made by contacting the parish office. **The deadline to register is Friday, October 11th, 2019.**

MERCY HOUSE NEEDS...

Mercy House supplies woman who chose life with baby items and assistance to help them raise their babies. A playpen is set up in gathering space for donations. Larger baby items can be made directly to Mercy House thru Cheryl Riley respect life office in Newark 973-497-4350, Cheryl.riley@rcan.org. Or you may contact Lela Callaremi at 973-479-6139.

