

The Lord is kind and merciful, slow to anger, and rich in compassion..

September 13, 2020 ~ Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time



MASS INTENTIONS
OF THE WEEK

Saturday, September 12

5:30 pm For Laura Konopczynski by Lennon Family

Sunday, September 13

9:00 am For Ed Milazzo by Monteverde Family

Saturday, September 19

5:30 pm For Amelia Stukes by Madaras Family

Sunday, September 20

9:00am For Raymond VanHooebeke by Stephen & Sharon
Liska



MASS CARDS...

Mass cards are available in the parish office. Remember that giving a mass intention is not only for a deceased person. A mass intention can be for a special occasion such as an anniversary or birthday. Donation is \$15.

LECTOR SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER

Saturday, Sept. 12	5:30 pm	Joanne, Lee
Sunday, Sept. 13	9:00 am	Holly Branco
Saturday, Sept. 19	5:30 pm	Maria Green
Sunday, Sept. 20	9:00 am	Suzanne Van Hooebeke
Saturday, Sept. 26	5:30 pm	Al Escudero
Sunday, Sept. 27	9:00 am	Tom Hanifin



For the Month of September

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 Totin and Stokes by Stokes family

Altar Breads & Wine:

WEEKLY COLLECTION

September 6 2020: \$1,517

St. Mark's Faith Direct
Church Code is NJ484

Supermarket Gift Cards

September 6, 2020

Sales: \$1,400

Profit: \$70

YTD Profit: \$1,883.75

of families: 7

FAITH DIRECT...

Summer is wrapping up and unfortunately COVID-19 cases are increasing in some areas. During this challenging time people are turning to us for help. St. Mark the Evangelist wants to answer that call but we still depend on online donations to continue our ministry.

We prayerfully invite you to sign up for giving from your computer, smartphone or tablet and set up a recurring donation or make a one-time gift.

Sign up today by visiting faith.direct/NJ484,

God Bless You, Fr. Marcin



All- powerful and ever-living God the lasting health of all who believe in you, hear us as we ask your loving help for the sick; restore their health, that they may again offer joyful thanks in your church.

Richard Alvarez, Tony Atkins, James Barone, Bob & Jeff Cheripka, Daria Cremonini, Brittany Cicchino, Carol DeAlvandres, Trisha Drechsel. Ann Geary, Sue Geary, Heidi L., Daniel Huntz, Suzy Ladlee, Vincent Lai, Mary McArdle, Denise Niessing, Girard Nolte, Jr., Georgette Petromelis, Rosemarie Picarelli, Christopher Popp, Tim Popp, John S, Don & Joyce Schmitt, George and Ann Senftinger, Fredrick Senftinger, Special Intention, Josh Winnker, Christopher Zeliff



My Dear Parishioners,



In the Gospel of the 24th Sunday of ordinary time, Jesus tells us of the need to forgive our brothers and sisters. It is not easy to forgive. The bigger the hurt the more difficult it is to forgive and for many people also the longer it takes to forgive.

There are some offences and insults that go on hurting us. Some say: "I forgive, but not forget." I cannot forget! Why it is that forgiving is so difficult? Do I create a space in my family, my community, my work and my relationships for reconciliation and forgiveness? Is there anything that can help us to forgive those who have hurt us?

Forgiveness is a decision. Decide today to forgive.

Another thought that should help us to forgive is to remember that Jesus died to save the other person just as he died to save you. Try to visualize the person beneath Jesus on the cross. Can you see Jesus dying for that person?

When someone offends us Jesus asks us to forgive, not just seven times, but seventy seven times, to forgive always. The point of Jesus' parable is that the debt of our sin is beyond what we can humanly pay back to our heavenly Father. Jesus paid that price for us on Calvary.

As long as we do not forgive we are not free. Forgiveness is freedom. If we do not choose the freedom of forgiveness in this life, I believe that in Purgatory we will want to choose the freedom of forgiveness in order to enjoy heaven.

If God has shown mercy to us in granting us pardon for our sins, then we, in turn, must show mercy and forgiveness towards every person who has offended us. The willingness to forgive those who offend us is a sacred duty. If we expect God to pardon us and show us his mercy when we sin and disobey his commandments, then we must be willing to let go of any resentment, grievance, or ill-will we feel towards our neighbor. Jesus teaches us to pray daily for the grace and strength to forgive others in the same measure in which God has forgiven us. If we do not show mercy and forgiveness to our fellow human beings, how can we expect God to forgive us in turn? The Apostle James says that "judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy" (James 2:13).

If we want mercy shown to us we must be ready to forgive others from the heart as God has forgiven us. Do you hold any grudge or resentment towards anyone? Ask the Lord to purify your heart that you may show mercy and loving-kindness to all - and especially to those who cause you grief and ill-will.

WE NEED TO COME BACK TO THE CHURCH!!!

No doubt the pandemic has brought great concern for some members of our community, especially the elderly and those with underlying health conditions. Their caution in resuming pre-pandemic activities is wise. However, there are those of us who can resume our normal activities. It is to you that I encourage to cautiously return to active worship and sacramental life. Five months of little to no worship or sacramental life has brought devastation to the Universal Church. It seems that months of "worship free Sundays" has conditioned the majority of our parishioners to distant themselves from Holy Mass. Just about all of our parishioners go out for shopping, outdoor eating, now even indoor eating and other activities without fear of contamination. Our church, enforcing all health protocols, continues to see only 40% of our parishioners attending Holy Mass (from pre-pandemic attendance numbers). **WITH LOVE FOR CHRIST AND ONE ANOTHER LET US NOT BE FEARFUL OF COMING TOGETHER IN JESUS' NAME.**

...GRANDPARENTS DAY... SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13th...



Grandparents are a family's greatest treasure, the founders of a loving legacy, the

greatest storytellers, and the keepers of traditions that linger on in cherished memory. Grandparents are the family's strong foundation. Their very special love sets them apart. Through happiness and sorrow, through their special love and caring, Grandparents keep a family close at heart.

Lord God almighty, bless our grandparents with long life, happiness, and health. May they remain constant in your love, and be living signs of your presence to their children and grandchildren. We ask this through Christ our Lord. AMEN!!!



Special thanks to all those who help us clean and sanitize our church after masses, especially Fred McQuaide, Carol Guedez

& John Larkin (OLM parishioners) and Michale Leyden for organizing this help. These wonderful parishioners do this task with joy for the love of our church and I thank God for the labor they perform with great humility. **GOD BLESS YOU!!!**

FROM FATHER JAYKE,

My dear brothers and sisters, on December of 2018, I was assigned to work in a new parish assignment. The Bishop Emeritus Arthur Serratelli sent me that time to Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish in Branchville, New Jersey, for my deacon ministry. It is a beautiful small country parish located near the borders of Pennsylvania and upstate New York. What I like most about OLQP parish is that the parishioners are very devoted to the Blessed Virgin Mary, particularly to her title as Our Lady Queen of Peace. Every day after morning Mass, the parishioners pray the Holy Rosary to show their devotion to the Blessed Mother. However, some of them who are really devoted to the Lady of Peace, even went to Medjugorje for a pilgrimage. I was able to talk to some, of them and they said that visiting Medjugorje really strengthened their faith and brought them closer to Mary. One question that I asked them was about the apparitions of Mary. I asked them if they believe that the apparitions are authentic, and they answered yes. I asked them this question not because I wanted to condemn them for believing these apparitions existed, but I asked them this question because I was curious about the apparitions. Before I was assigned in OLQP Parish, I did not have any idea about the apparitions of our Lady in Medjugorje. I just learned about it when I was assigned in OLQP parish.

Because of my curiosity, I asked more questions and did some research about it. Based on my research and the videos that I watched about the apparitions of Our Lady in Medjugorje, it all started in the small village of Medjugorje, wherein, there was a claim that a Marian apparition occurred in 1981. This apparition was first witnessed on June 24, 1981 by two visionaries named Mirjana Dragicević and Ivanka Ivanković. The next day, four more people witnessed this apparition, which includes Vicka Ivanković, Ivan Dragicević, Marija Pavlović, and Jakov Čolo. According to these visionaries, a beautiful young woman who identified herself as the Blessed Virgin Mary, said she came to visit Medjugorje as the "Queen of Peace." At present, three of these six visionaries continue to report receiving apparitions from the Blessed Virgin Mary and more than 40 million pilgrims from all over the world have gone to Medjugorje to see for themselves the apparition of the Lady Queen of Peace. Some people do not believe that the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Medjugorje were authentic; however, others said they were authentic because miracles have been reported as a result of visiting the village, particularly the site where Mary used to show herself to the visionaries. Because of this, many pilgrims have started their devotion to our Lady Queen of Peace. Therefore, for these coming weeks, we will examine whether the apparitions of Mary in Medjugorje were authentic or not. To do this, we will discuss the following: 1) Public and private revelations; 2) visions and apparitions; 2) the fundamental criteria for discerning apparitions; and 4) the official position of the Catholic Church regarding the authenticity of the apparition in Medjugorje. So, please stay tuned for these coming weeks my dear brothers and sisters. Take care always and God bless! 1-3



The four principles of the Knights of Columbus are: Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism.

Charity – Love thy neighbor as thyself.

Unity – together we can accomplish far more than any of us could individually.

Fraternity – the good works of individual Knights illustrate how Catholics serve each other.

Patriotism – we are proud of our devotion to God and country, and believe in standing up for both.

Reflection for the Week

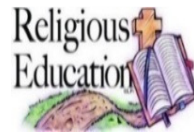
You can fool some of the people all the time,

All the people some of the time.

But you can't fool all the people all the time

Abraham Lincoln

The Knights of Columbus, Long Valley Council 10419 welcomes all Catholic Men age 18 and older. We are an active council and have a lot to offer – **Become a Knight!** www.lvkofo.org



Online CEC Registration is available. Please go to www.stmarksnj.org to register. If you have any questions please call Sue Reilly at the Parish Office 850-0652

40 DAYS FOR LIFE™

"You are called to stand up for life! To respect and defend the mystery of life always and everywhere, including the lives of unborn babies, giving real help and encouragement to mothers in difficult situations. You are called to work and pray against abortion." –St. John Paul I. Please join the record number of Christians who have signed up not to erase history, but to make history. The Sept. 23-Nov. 1 "40 Days for Life" campaign will be the largest global effort of 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion forever. Make a stand for God and our country proclaiming the value of life at this critical time in our nation. Offer time to peacefully pray during a 40-day vigil in the public right of-way outside Planned Parenthood, 66 East Washington Ave. Washington. There will be an opening rally on Sept. 20th from 2:30-4 outside the Planned Parenthood. Please pledge to lift the local 40 Days for Life campaign up in prayer, as well as asking for God's protection on all human life from conception until natural death. For more information contact: Jennifer English, amjadopt@comcast.net 973 525-6692. or visit <https://40daysforlife.com/Be Strong and Courageous>. Do not be Afraid; do not be discouraged, for The Lord Your God Will be with You Wherever You go. Joshua 1:9