

*I love you, Lord, my strength.*

**October 31, 2021 – Thirty First Sunday in Ordinary Time**



**Saturday, October 30**

5:30 pm For Johanna Mayo by *Monteverde Family*

**Sunday, October 31**

9:00 am For William Petrina by *Bermeo Family*  
10:30 am For Babies in the Womb & their families

**Saturday, November 6**

5:30 pm For Dr. Christopher Muenzen by *Lennon Family*

**Sunday, November 7**

9:00 am For Richard Nyman by *His Family*  
10:30 am For Frank Kavanaugh by *Lance Family*  
For deceased members of the Carruba  
and Kopelman Families by *Kopelman Family*



**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

**MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER**

**Saturday, November 6**

5:30 pm Eucharistic Minister: Joanne Lee  
Lector: Joanne Lee

**Sunday, November 7**

9:00 am Eucharistic Minister: Amy Bandel  
Lector: Suzanne VanHoorebeke

10:30 am Eucharistic Minister: Ed Michonski  
Lector: Maryann Hobbie



**For the Month of October**

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

**Altar Breads & Wine:** In loving memory of John & Claire Grieve by *Stokes Family*

**Mass Candles:** In loving memory of Bob & Marge Stokes by *Stokes Family*

**WEEKLY COLLECTION**

October 24, 2021...\$2,125.30  
Online for Oct.....\$8,235.00

St. Mark's Faith Direct  
Church Code is **NJ484**

**Supermarket Gift Cards  
October, 2021**  
Sales:.....\$2,100  
Profit:..... \$105  
YTD Profit: .....\$3,032.50

SHOPRITE and WEIS Gift Cards are sold after all weekend masses and in the parish office during the week.



Please remember that you can drop off your donation as you enter or leave mass each weekend. On the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend of the month we have a second collection. A separate basket will be available for these appeals. Thank you for support

If you attend Mass at either Our Lady of the Mountain or St. Luke's you can drop your St. Mark's envelope in the collection basket and it will be credited as your donation to St. Mark's. If you do not have a St. Mark's parish envelope you can put your donation in a plain envelope with your name and "For St. Mark's"

You can now text your gift to St. Mark's. We've made it easier than ever to make a gift with our new text-to-give option. To securely make a gift to St. Mark's, text a dollar amount to 908-857-4699 and click the link that pops up seconds later. Enter your credit card information, email, name and address and complete the process. St. Mark's has now been blessed with your gift.

**FAITH DIRECT...**

Looking for a great stewardship habit? Try eGiving. It stream lines your generosity and lets you do even more to help St. Marks grow our ministries that share the Good News of God's love. Recurring gifts have been a lifeline through the upheaval of the pandemic. They sustain our parish throughout the year, and provide consistent support that helps us always be at the ready with programs, services, and ministries for church families and for those in need in our community. Visit Faith.Direct/NJ484. Thank you for your continued support



Richard Alvarez, Tony Atkins, James Barone, Chrissy Carty, Bob & Jeff Cheripka, Louise Chiusano, Daria Cremonini, Brittany Cicchino,, Hugh Divine, Trisha Drechsel, , Ed Franke, Ann Geary, Sue Geary, Heidi L., Dorothy Hogan, Daniel Huntz, Sarah Jones, Vincent Lai, Mary McArdle, Denise Niessing, Bob & Nancy Noll, Girard Nolte, Jr., Don & Joyce Schmitt, George and Ann Senftinger, Fredrick Senftinger Georgette Petromelis, Rosemarie Picarelli, Christopher Popp, Tim Popp, John, Special Intention, Josh Winneker, Ervin Winters, Christopher Zeliff



## !!!POPE FRANCIS AND HALLOWEEN!!!

**VATICAN CITY** — As millions of revelers around the world dress in ghoulish costumes to mark Halloween

and the darker side of life, Pope Francis warned that the devil is no myth and must be fought strenuously with "God's armor." Francis described Christian life as a continuous battle against Satan during his homily at morning Mass at the Vatican on Thursday.

"This generation, and many others, have been led to believe that the devil is a myth, a figure, an idea, the idea of evil," the pope told the faithful during Mass at the St. Martha guesthouse where he lives inside the walls of the Vatican. "But the devil exists and we must fight against him."

Basing his reflections on the Apostle Paul's admonition that Christians must "put on the full armor of God" in order to resist Satan's temptations, Francis likened life to a "military endeavor" and urged people against being carried away by passions and temptations.

"No spiritual life, no Christian life is possible without resisting temptations, without putting on God's armor which gives us strength and protects us. ... The truth is God's armor."

Meanwhile, an Italian exorcist, the Rev. Aldo Buonaiuto, suggested that Halloween should be replaced by a celebration of Christian saints and renamed "Holyween."

He said too many people wrongly believe Halloween is a "simple carnival"; instead, he said, it masks "a subterranean world" based on the occult.

"For followers of the occult, Oct. 31 is the satanic new year," he told the Italian daily La Nazione. "It's a time for attracting new converts. And it's also a time when exorcists have to work more."

Buonaiuto is director of the Pope John XXIII Community Association, a Catholic organization fighting black magic sects and satanic cults, and is involved in Catholic training programs for exorcists.

**With Halloween, he said, there is an increase in black magic rites, cemetery desecrations, thefts of sacred bones and the adoration of Satan, as well as demonic possessions. Pope Francis**



**ELECTION DAY. (Tuesday, November 2nd).** As Catholics, we are part of a community with profound teachings that help us consider challenges in public life, contribute to greater justice and peace for all people, and evaluate policy positions, party platforms, and candidates' promises and actions in light of the Gospel in order to help build a better world.

Catholic voters should use Catholic teaching to examine candidates' positions on issues and should consider candidates' integrity, philosophy, and performance. It is important for all citizens "to see beyond party politics, to analyze campaign rhetoric critically, and to

choose their political leaders according to principle, not party affiliation or mere self-interest". As Catholics, we should be guided more by our moral convictions than by our attachment to any political party or interest group. In today's environment, Catholics may feel politically excluded, sensing that no party and few candidates fully share our comprehensive commitment to human life and dignity. This should not discourage us.

**Church does not tell Catholics how to vote; the responsibility to make political choices rests with each person and his or her properly formed conscience, aided by prudence. This exercise of conscience begins with always opposing policies that violate human life or weaken its protection.**

At this time, we the Christians must unite to pray for our country. We all know that Christianity is what this country was founded upon. **"Good Catholics immerse themselves in politics by offering the best of themselves so that the leader can govern."** - Pope Francis, 9/16/13.

**Fr. Fr. Michal.**

### On the Use of Black Vestments

When the priest comes to a funeral Mass, what vestments will he wear?

Most priests today celebrate funeral Masses in white vestments. However, many people do not know that the priest also can wear purple or black.

The General Introduction to the Roman Missal (2011) says: "The color violet or purple is used in Advent and Lent. It may also be worn in Offices and Masses for the Dead. Besides the color violet, the colors white or black may be used at funeral services and at other Offices and Masses for the Dead in the Dioceses of the United States of America" (n. 346).

Violet (or purple) is the color of Advent, the season of preparation (not only for Christmas, but also for the second coming of Jesus at the end of time), and of Lent, the season of repentance. Purple is the color of kings, and it reminds us of salvation history.

White was most likely the very first color used for vestments in the church. Later, red, green, and black were added, and violet was finally introduced. White is the color of Christ in glory, as well as his saints (not martyrs). This is why we use white vestments for Easter and for All Saints Day, among other occasions, especially feast days of Christ. White at funerals came into use after Vatican II. Before that, only black was used for funerals.

We have to remember that the funeral masses are not memorials for the living but are the most powerful prayers for the repose of our dearly beloved. Black represents repentance and mourning and helps us to pray for the dead. Many historians note that ancient Romans wore black togas as a sign of mourning. And today, at most funerals, people will wear black.

The same is about the vestments for All Souls Day (Nov. 2). Often vestments are white, but black is also appropriate since we pray for the faithful departed on that day – and throughout November.

So now we will remember that black vestments are also appropriate to be used at the Funeral Mass.



**SIGN UP TO FLOCKNOTE**

This is all totally free for you to use, you don't even have to download anything or create a password in order to participate. Your info is kept totally private. If you would like to receive emails or text messages from our church please sign up! **To register simply text SM1988 to 84576. Or you may go to our website and there you will find other ways to register for this important communication tool**



**SAVE THE DATE...**

**St. Mark's Annual Craft Fair**

**Saturday, November 13<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am - 4:00 pm**

**Featuring Handmade Items Crafters interested in participating contact [mariannek.stm@gmail.com](mailto:mariannek.stm@gmail.com)**



Join us for a Fundraiser for St. Mark's at Panera Bread (Route 57, Hackettstown) on **Wednesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>** for dine in or take out! Please bring a copy of the flyer when you place your order or if ordering online enter the code PFUND at checkout.



We are in need of Supermarket Gift Card sellers after our 3 weekend masses. It only takes a few minutes of your time. Please call the parish office if you are able to help out. Thank you. Cards are also available in the parish office during regular office hours.



**THANKSGIVING...**

**You're right - it's too early to be thinking about Thanksgiving!**

But some people are already worried that they won't have a Thanksgiving. So, if you have something to be thankful for (and don't we all - even this year?) here's a great way to show your appreciation. Go to the supermarket gift card table in the Gathering Space and donate gift cards (or cash) for the Thanksgiving Baskets to be distributed by the Long Valley Food Pantry. These donations will be collected after all weekend masses from October 17<sup>th</sup> through November 14<sup>th</sup> (or in the office anytime during normal office hours). Even though it seems early, the Food Pantry volunteers need time to do the shopping and to distribute the baskets in time for holiday cooking. Non-perishable items can also be placed in the Food Pantry wagon as usual (canned yams, pie filling, flour, sugar, stuffing mix - or other traditional items). With the holidays coming up, you know you need supermarket gift cards for yourself, so as long as you are there anyway... As always, thank you for your continued generosity.

**COMPUTER HELP NEEDED! JUST A BIT!**

Do you know the difference between web hosting, a domain, and a website? We need you! We have a couple of changes to be made by December. It would be awesome to have someone who knows what they are doing to HELP! Please call the office 908-850-0652 and say you will help with this small project!



**WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA**

On Saturday Dec. 18, Wreaths Across America will be laying wreaths on the graves of all Washington Township Veterans at the 5 Township cemeteries following a ceremony at St. Marks at 12 noon. On the weekend of Nov. 6-7 after all Masses, volunteers will be available to answer your questions and accept donations to help cover the cost of the wreaths. If you have any questions, you may email Mike Lennon at [mike.lennon@comcast.net](mailto:mike.lennon@comcast.net) or call 908-852-9362

**SOCK DRIVE**

Please donate new packages of men's, women's, and children's socks to benefit the needy. Socks will be distributed to Lyon's Veterans Hospital and local women's shelters in the area. A bin is located in the gathering space. Thank you for your thoughtfulness.

**SAVE THE DATE**

Community Auction - St. Luke's - Dec. 4, 2021. The Knights of Columbus will be holding their 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Community Benefit Auction starting at 6PM in St. Luke's Parish Hall. BE PART OF THE ACTION - help those in need! Dinner and fun!

**Reflection for the Week.**

*I cried for shoes until I saw a man with no feet  
Helen Keller*

We are an active council and have a lot to offer.

**Become a Knight!** [www.lvkofc.org](http://www.lvkofc.org)



**DRIVER NEEDED...**

Looking for a kind, reliable, confident driver for my lovely adult daughter, three mornings a week, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday to Shop Rite in Chester, nine miles from our Long Valley home, door to door. Offering \$23.00 per day, cash. Please call Nancy at 908-752-2158

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP ANNUAL SENIOR HOLIDAY PARTY...**

Monday, October 6 from 11am-3pm at the Chandelier at Flanders Valley, 80 Pleasant Hill Road, Flanders, NJ 07836. Please arrive before 10:45 am. Entertainment by Pamm & Steve Positivity Duo. Non-refundable fee of \$33 for residents and \$40 for non-residents. Due before November 30<sup>th</sup>. **No WALK-INS** will be accepted. Payments can be made online [www.wtmorris.org](http://www.wtmorris.org). For more information call 908-876-5941 or email [recreation@wtmorris.net](mailto:recreation@wtmorris.net)

**PART-TIME HELP WANTED:** Bon Venture Services, our church bulletin company, is seeking part-time help in their Shipping Department. Tuesday and Wednesday, 16 to 20 hours per week. May require lifting 40 pound packages occasionally. Anyone interested in applying please email [tim@bonventure.net](mailto:tim@bonventure.net).