

BY THE WAY . . .

- **Waiting for the Lord** . . . Congratulations to all of our younger parishioners who are *finally* receiving their First Holy Communion over these two weekends. They and their families have been patiently waiting since last April for the arrival of this day. Some of the First Communion dresses may be a little tight fit six months later. But we pray that Holy Communion will be a perfect fit for their lives as Christians for all the days to come!

- On Wednesday, September 23, Bishop Kevin J. Sweeney made his first clergy appointment, accepting the retirement of Monsignor James T. Mahoney, Ph.D. as Vicar General of the Diocese, and appointing in his place, **Rev. Msgr. T. Mark Condon** of Our Lady of the Holy Angels Parish, Little Falls. Monsignor Condon is a 1977 graduate of Saint Anthony's School, and a 1981 graduate of Hawthorne High School. He celebrated his First Mass here at Saint Anthony's in 1989. Needless to say, we are very proud of our native son, and assure him of our prayers in his important new position.

- This Tuesday, October 6, the Eve of the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary will be the opportunity for our next **Monthly Eucharistic Holy Hour**. This time of prayer and adoration before Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament will take place in church beginning at 7:30 P.M. The intention will be for the Missions. Come out and join your fellow parishioners in spending some time with Our Lord in prayer and adoration. The Holy Hour will also be live streamed.

- Today in addition to being the Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, is also the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of the environment. The traditional **Blessing of Pets** will take place at 1:30 P.M. this afternoon in the parking lot behind the rectory.

- Many people are still lamenting the fact that we were not able to have our annual **Saint Anthony's Feast** this summer. It would have been the 40th anniversary of the Feast. A few people have actually said to me, "couldn't you just have a drive-up zeppole window?"

Most of all we have all missed the camaraderie of the Feast. In order to offset that loss in some way, the Feast Committee will host an outdoor, socially distanced, **Parish Coffee and Donuts** after the three later Masses on Sunday, October 17. See the flyer elsewhere in this bulletin for details.

- As the weather begins to change, we may have to also change the venue for the **Sacrament of Penance**. If the weather is nice on Saturday afternoon, we will continue to use the Jubilee Garden. If not, you can find the priest at the Sacred Heart Shrine in the church.

- Wednesday, October 14 will mark the **Opening of the 2021 Book for Mass Intentions**. All requests for intentions **must be mailed in** using the form in this bulletin. No intentions will be accepted in person or over the phone.

- For your convenience you can support the **2020 Diocesan Ministries Appeal** by making an on-line gift. Simply go to www.2020appeal.org and follow the instructions. You can either make a one-time gift or a pledge with five monthly payments made automatically for your convenience, or a continuous monthly gift that repeats each month from year to year,.

- I have had some interesting comments and questions lately based on **general misinformation**. The first question was “When are we going to be able to reopen the church? Answer: the church has been completely reopened since June. Our regular schedule of weekend and daily Masses is in full swing. Last week we had two funerals, one wedding and two First Communion celebrations. The church is open! albeit with a limited capacity.

The second question referred to the reception of Holy Communion. Someone presumed that because on the live stream Mass we show a “spiritual communion prayer,” on the screen, that we were not actually distributing Holy Communion. Answer: Holy Communion is offered at every Mass each day in our church.

- **Regis High School**, an all-scholarship Jesuit secondary school for talented and gifted Catholic boys, announces its **virtual open house** for students and their parents on Monday, October 12, from 1:00 to 2:30 P.M. To register, simply click on this link: www.regis.org/section/?id=21. For more information please contact Eric DiMichele, Director of Admissions, Regis High school, 55 East 84th St., New York, NY 10028, 212-288-1100, ext. 2057, edimichele@regis.org.

- In your prayers, please remember the late **Archbishop John Joseph Myers** who died last Thursday at the age of 79 in his native Ottawa, Illinois. Archbishop Myers served as Archbishop of Newark and Metropolitan of the five dioceses of New Jersey from 2001 to 2016.

- **The prayer of Pope Francis to “Mary, Undoer of Knots”**

*Mary, Undoer of Knots
by remaining forever Our Mother,
you put in order and make clearer
the ties that link us to the Lord.
Through your grace, your intercession, and your example
deliver us from all evil, Our Lady,
and untie the knots that prevent us from being united with God.
so that we, free from sin and error
may find God in all things,
may have our hearts placed in God,
and may serve God always in our brothers and sisters.
Amen.*

God bless you all,

Father Ray

