

**PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW**

**Stewardship Report – Treasure**

**WEEKLY COLLECTION**

Budgeted Amount: \$5,000.00

Regular Collection – 1/17/16: \$3,201.00  
Parish Pay – 1/17/16 (not yet reported) \$ 646.00  
Total Regular Collection – 1/17/16: \$3,847.00

Retirement Fund for Religious – 1/17/16: \$1,485.00  
Parish Pay – Retirement Fund – 1/17/16: (not yet reported)  
Total Retirement Fund for Religious – 1/17/16:

**CORRECTION:**

Solemnity of Mary – 1/1/16: \$1,145.00  
Parish Pay – Solemnity of Mary – 1/1/16: \$ 80.00  
Total - Solemnity of Mary – 1/1/16: \$1,225.00

**ST. MONICA’S ANNUAL COLLECTION**

Parish Goal \$50,000.00  
Total # of Families 461  
Total # Pledged 138  
% of Participation 29.93%  
Total Amount Pledged \$43,060.00  
(Includes 3 matching grants pledged)  
Total Amount Paid \$35,560.00  
(Includes 2 matching grants pd. in full)

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The Sanctuary Lamp is given this week:

In memory of: Juliette Poivan

Given by: Peter & Awatef Constant

**MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK**

1/25 MON: 9:00a Special Intention (LIV)  
1/26 TUES: 9:00a People of the Parish  
1/27 WED: 9:00a No Mass today  
1/28 THU: 9:00a Special Intention (LIV)  
1/29 FRI: 9:00a People of the Parish  
1/30 SAT: 5:00p Robert Hahn  
Charles Kuperus  
1/31 SUN: 8:00a Grace Marino  
10:00a Sarah Healy  
William Kleedorfer  
11:45a Peter Horvath  
Gilberto Delgaddillo Duran

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**WEEKDAY MASSES IN THE AREA:**

St. Jude’s, Hamburg - Mon. - Sat. - 8:45am  
St. Francis de Sales, McAfee - Mon. -Sat - 8:30am  
Our Lady Queen of Peace, Branchville - Mon.-Fri. - 8:00am  
Immac. Concept., Franklin -Tues, Wed, Fri, 7:30am, Sat. 9:00am

**SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THIS WEEK**

**Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Sunday Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10; 1 Cor 12:12-30 or 12:12-14, 27;  
Lk 1:1-4, 4:14-21  
Monday Acts 22:3-16 or 9:1-22; Mk 16:15-18  
Tuesday 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5; Mk 3:31-35  
Wednesday 2 Sm 7:4-17; Mk 4:1-20  
Thursday 2 Sm 7:18-19, 24-29; Mk 4:21-25  
Friday 2 Sm 11:1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17; Mk 4:26-34  
Saturday 2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17; Mk 4:35-41

**THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

January 24, 2016

**NEW PARISHIONERS - WELCOME!!** Have you been attending, but haven’t formally registered yet? Registration forms are located in a large white envelope on the table near the Church Hall exit. Please fill it out, mail it back to the Rectory (address on front of bulletin) or give it to Fr. Charles or an usher on Sunday. Call Carol at 973-875-4521 if you need assistance.

**NEW PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Monday thru Friday, 9:30-12:30pm – please call prior to stopping in.**  
Keep our contact information handy!  
Phone #: 973-875-4521 Fax #: 973-875-7538  
Website: [www.stmonicasussex.org](http://www.stmonicasussex.org) Email: [stmonica@ptd.net](mailto:stmonica@ptd.net)

**PARISH MINISTRIES/ORGANIZATIONS & COORDINATORS**

Altar Servers.....Fr. Charles  
Baptismal Preparation.....Robert & Sharon Misyak, Terry Westdyke, Jeanne McBride  
Bereavement Support.....Carol Bezak  
Book Discussion.....Carol Bezak  
Church Cleaning.....Peter & Ann Kazmierski Marie Fischer  
FOCCUS Marriage Preparation .....Robert & Sharon Misyak  
Family Promise.....Carol Oesen  
Helping Hands.....Terry Westdyke  
Leisure Group.....Grace Casalino  
Lectors/Eucharistic Ministers.....Carol Bezak  
RCIA .....Carol Bezak/Sr. Theresa Losiewicz  
Scripture Reflection.....Carol Bezak  
Sussex Help Center.....Joan Thomas  
Ushers.....Fr. Charles  
Website Administration.....Francisco Perez  
Would you like to become involved in any of the above ministries or groups? Please call the Rectory – we need YOU!!!

**TO RESERVE FOR 2016 MASS INTENTIONS & SANCTUARY LAMP DEVOTIONS CALL THE RECTORY 973-875-4521**

Masses: \$5.00 each; Mass cards: small(\$5.00) & large(\$10.00) sizes. Sanctuary candle devotions - for a one-week period - \$5.00.

**FOR CANCELLATION OF PARISH PROGRAMS/EVENTS DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER, PLEASE VISIT <http://wsus102.3iheart.com> or tune in to WSUS102.3FM**



## YOUTH MINISTRY

**"SOUPER BOWL OF CARING" COLLECTION:** This is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 6th and Sunday, Feb. 7th. Coverage is needed at all Masses. Signup sheet can be found on the bulletin board in the church hall. The money collected this weekend is sent to Harvest House to assist them in feeding the hungry in our area.

**ATTENTION PHASE I STUDENTS AND PARENTS** - The Distribution of the Creed is cancelled for Saturday, February 13th at this time. You will be advised of the new date for this Rite as soon as it is scheduled.

### CALENDAR:

**Saturday/Sunday, Feb. 6/7** - "Souper Bowl of Caring" collection after all Masses this weekend.

**Saturday, Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>** - YM Class beginning with the 5pm Mass, followed by a light dinner than class

Phase I & II Theme: "Holy Week, Resurrection & Ascension"

**Sunday, Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>** - Make up class - no dinner - 6:30pm to 8:30pm

## PARISH EVENTS/MEETINGS

### COMING NEXT WEEK

#### **Lenten Spiritual/Social Opportunities**

for the season of Lent which begins with Ash Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>.

**COFFEE & DONUTS** - the first Sunday of each month at **9:00am** - or come before the 10:00am Mass in the Church Hall. Next date is February 7th - after the 8:00am Mass.

**SCRIPTURE REFLECTION** – Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm in the Rectory Meeting Room. Weekly reading & reflection of the Sunday Scriptures – fellowship time & refreshments follow. Call Carol at 973-875-4521.

**CHOIR REHEARSALS** - Every Sunday morning at 9:15am sharp we practice for the 10:00am Mass. Call Judy at 908-294-0571.

**ST. MONICA'S LEISURE GROUP** - Join us - lunch is served at every meeting along with delicious desserts made by our members. Unless otherwise noted, meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month at 12:00 noon. Leisure Group does not meet during the months of January and February. Dues are \$10 a year. New members are welcome! Call Grace Casalino -973-702-8569.

### HELPING HANDS

St. Monica's Helping Hands meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm in the Rectory Meeting Room. All are invited – call Terry Westdyke at 845-258-8051.

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**FOOD DONATIONS** – can be dropped off in the baskets located under the table in the Church Hall - donations are picked up weekly and brought to food pantries in Sussex. If you are donating a turkey, call the Rectory – 973-875-4521. Thank you!!

### ST. MONICA'S MAGAZINE FUNDRAISER

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For gift ideas, anytime of the year, check our website – [www.stmonicasussex.org](http://www.stmonicasussex.org) for our ongoing Magazine Fundraiser. Follow the link at the bottom to the Magazine Fundraiser page. St. Monica's earns 40% of the total sales!! There is a great selection of materials – something for everyone!!

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### **HOW WILL YOU CELEBRATE THE JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY?**

#### **Dig Deeper**

*When have you experienced God's mercy  
and forgiveness?  
How willing are you to show mercy to others?  
How can you become an agent of God's mercy  
during this jubilee year?*

***"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me...to bring glad tidings to the poor" (Luke 4:18)***

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION – Grades 1-8

### CALENDAR:

**1st & 2<sup>nd</sup> Grades** - **Sunday, January 24th** - 9:00am (please be prompt) in the Meeting Room, followed by 10:00am Mass – this is the first Sunday of the month and will be called up on the altar with Fr. Charles.

**2<sup>ND</sup> GRADE PARENTS** – please plan to stay for a cup of coffee and short meeting in the Church Hall on Sunday, January 24<sup>th</sup> to discuss the upcoming months!! Please RSVP to Carol at 973-875-4521 by next Sunday.

**3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Grades** – **Sunday, January 24<sup>th</sup>** (**PLEASE NOTE CHANGE IN DATE – changed due to Holiday weekend**) – class will begin at 11:15am (join us right after 10:00am Mass) in the Meeting Room. (Please note: Time is changed to 11:15am to allow for a later finish of the 10:00am Mass, which can happen at times due to special ceremonies or announcements – thank you)

**5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grades** – **Saturday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>** – 3:00pm in the Church Hall – attendance at 5:00pm Mass is highly encouraged for those attending class.

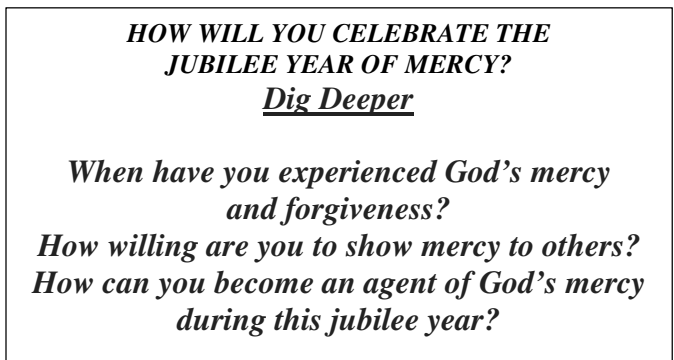
**7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grades** – **Saturday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>** – attend the 5:00pm Mass, dinner and class will follow til 8:15pm.

**Religious Ed Calendars are posted on our website**

**[www.stmonicasussex.org](http://www.stmonicasussex.org) un der Religious Education**

## 2015 WEEKLY CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

Annual contribution statements to those who use our weekly envelopes will be sent directly from DP Murphy, Inc. – our envelope company - they will no longer be prepared in-house from the parish office so there is no need to call the Rectory office this year to request a statement. Statements will be mailed to all who utilize our envelopes.



# **THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

*His Word Today by Rev. William J. Reilly*

***“Rolling up the scroll he gave it to the assistant and sat down. All in the synagogue had their eyes fixed on him. Then he began by saying to them, ‘Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing.’”***

Jesus returns to his hometown, a person of great fame and reputation, surely many went to welcome and receive Him. The prophet Isaiah summarizes His mission to bring glad tidings to the poor, seek freedom for captives, restore sight, and proclaim a year of favor from the Lord.

We have just begun a jubilee year, a Year of Mercy. Pope Francis has taught us that mercy is God’s greatest gift. We are told that ‘Jesus Christ is the face of God’s mercy.’ Mercy has become living and visible in Jesus of Nazareth.

In designating this year for this purpose, Pope Francis is calling people to the path of conversion. As missionary disciples we have the opportunity to invite others to have hope, a fundamental theme of the Holy Father. At a time when refugees and asylees are found on every continent, we are able to assist them. Those blinded by sin and selfishness can open their eyes, when they see true disciples living a vibrant faith.

Like the people of Nazareth we refocus and place our eyes on Jesus. He speaks to us of Himself and our role in His mission.

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## **CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK**

Next weekend, January 31<sup>st</sup> begins “Catholic Schools Week.” Immaculate Conception Regional Elementary School, 65 Church Street, Franklin, will host an **Open House** on Tuesday, February 2, 2016 at 7:00pm. Students from the school will be here at the 10:00am Mass on January 31<sup>st</sup> and information flyers will be available on the table in the hall for anyone interested in finding out more about the school.

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**Immaculate Conception School** will hold its annual "Pot O' Gold" Tricky Tray fundraiser on Saturday, March 12, 2016 at St. Francis Church in Vernon, NJ. Doors open at 6:30 pm. Prizes include American Girl Dolls, lap top computer, TV, Fit Bit, Kitchen Aid Mixer and more. Please come and join us!

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## **Is “Ordinary Time” really that ordinary?**

Ordinary Time is called "ordinary" because the weeks are numbered. The Latin word *ordinalis*, which refers to numbers in a series, stems from the Latin word *ordo*, from which we get the English word *order*. Thus, Ordinary Time is in fact the ordered life of the Church—the period in which we live our lives neither in feasting (as in the Christmas and Easter seasons) or in more severe penance (as in Advent and Lent), but in watchfulness and expectation of the Second Coming of Christ.

### **CONSIDER A GIFT TO YOUR PARISH.....**

So often when a loved one dies the family requests that in lieu of flowers donations be made to organizations that were of special significance in the life of that person – like a VFW organization or sometimes it is in thanksgiving to organizations that assisted the person during their illness – American Cancer Society, The Red Cross, St. Jude’s Hospital, Karen Ann Quinlan Hospice, etc. Why not consider your parish where you and your family grew in faith – where so many special moments, in times of joy and sorrow, were celebrated – Baptisms, Weddings, First Communions, Funerals - the place where your relationship to God was especially meaningful. Generations to come may yet be grateful for your generous gift.

## **THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

### **First Reading: Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10**

Ezra gathered the people and read to them from the book of the Law of God. He interpreted the law clearly, so that everyone understood what he had read. He then told them to go and rejoice in the Lord.

### **Second Reading: I Corinthians 12:12-30**

Paul explains that a body is composed of many different parts, and that each part has its own purpose and is important. He compares this to the Church, describing how we are one body composed of many members. All members should show concern for each other and understand that we are all vital to the body as a whole.

### **Gospel: Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21**

Luke discusses his decision to write about the events he and the other disciples had witnessed. He begins by telling of Jesus reading a passage from the book of Isaiah, where the anointed one is portrayed. Jesus finished by telling the people that they had seen that passage fulfilled in their hearing.

# NEW YEAR – NEW BEGINNINGS.....

A new year is already a few weeks old, and for me, this brings with it some new and exciting opportunities that I wanted to share with all of you. After much discernment and personal reflection, I have accepted a position offered to me recently as the new Director of The National Shrine of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel in Middletown, NY. Yes, there is a National Shrine there and it is administered by the Carmelite Order – one of 68 National Shrines throughout the United States! And they are seeking to spread the word and become more known by those in the surrounding area! Some of you accompanied me on a one-day pilgrimage there for the feast day of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel last July, and really didn't even know it existed!

The opportunity to spread the good news of this place of prayer and solitude presented itself to me quite by surprise some months later. The main focus of this new ministry will be to offer organized days of reflection, pilgrimage or just quiet days of prayer and reflection to all who wish to come and experience God's presence in a beautiful, pastoral setting. In addition to this, it was designated by Cardinal Timothy Dolan as a place to visit for a plenary indulgence for the Year of Mercy.

While offering one daily and one Sunday Mass, the shrine is not a parish but also offers indoor space for retreats, personal prayer and a great Catholic gift shop. The outdoor setting is conducive to peaceful reflection, with a Monastic cloister walk with Stations of the Cross, meditative gardens and a beautiful lake and picnic grounds to be enjoyed by all in warmer weather months. And all of this is just 20 minutes from Sussex!

That being said, the parish office will now have some new faces and shorter hours. I plan to continue my ministry here at St. Monica's but more concentrated on offering ongoing opportunities for Adult Faith Formation and Religious Education, as well as assisting Fr. Charles as Pastoral Associate as I have in the past.

These new beginnings are also connected closely with many parish programs throughout the Diocese and beyond, and I hope to bridge many of them and those I have worked with from these parishes to the National Shrine of our Lady of Mt. Carmel! I see this as a very reciprocal endeavor that will enhance the spiritual journeys of many that I have come to know over the years.

I ask for your prayers and support at this time as I move through this transition.

-----Carol Bezak

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## < KID'S > KORNER


*Cycle C*

**Gospel Today**  
**Third Sunday in Ordinary Time | Luke 1: 1-4; 4:14-21**  
 Jesus is teaching in the synagogue in Nazareth, his home town, and the people were amazed at what they heard.

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**"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because He has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord."**

Luke 4:18-19



- 1) Luke was one of the original 12 disciples. T / F

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- 2) Luke's narrative of events in the life of Jesus came from eyewitnesses. T / F

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- 3) Luke is one of the four Gospel writers along with Matthew, Mark and John. T / F

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- 4) According to Luke, "Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit and news of Him spread." T / F

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- 5) Jesus went to the synagogue on Sabbath in Nazareth where He grew up and did not speak. T / F

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- 6) Jesus read from the scroll of the Prophet Isaiah. T / F

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- 7) Jesus chose the passage He read from the scroll and the people thought He too was a prophet. T / F

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- 8) People in the synagogue ignored Jesus. T / F

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- 9) Jesus said to the people looking intently at Him, "Today this scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing." *Luke 4: 21* T / F

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- 10) Jesus is the fulfillment of the scriptures. T / F

11F 21T 31T 41T 51F 61T 71T 81F 91T 10T