

**SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**JULY 30, 2017**

***PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW***

**Stewardship Report – Treasury**  
**WEEKLY COLLECTION**

**Budgeted Amount:** \$5,000.00

**Sunday Collection – 7/16/17** \$3,102.40

**Parish Pay – 7/16/17** \$ 471.00

**Total Collection – 7/16/17** \$3,573.40

**Sunday Collection – 7/23/17** \$3,033.00

**Parish Pay – (not reported yet)**

**Parish Pay** ---is a convenient way for you to set up your weekly contributions - **online – visit ParishPay.com**

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**The Sanctuary Lamp is given this week:**

**In memory of:** Sally Claffey

**Given by:** Regina Congialosi

**MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK**

- 7/31 **MON:** 9:00a People of the Parish
- 8/1 **TUES:** 9:00a People of the Parish
- 8/2 **WED:** 9:00a No Mass today
- 8/3 **THU:** 9:00a No Mass today
- 8/4 **FRI:** 9:00a People of the Parish
- 8/5 **SAT:** 5:00p Peggy Johnson  
Mary Piscopo
- 8/6 **SUN:** 8:00a Henry Hosbach  
In honor of the Father  
of all mankind
- 10:00a Richard Olsen  
Sonia Frankowski
- 11:45a Mary Losiewicz  
Robert and Pat Abraczinskas (LIV)  
Joan Adams

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**WEEKLY/MONTHLY PARISH EVENTS**

**COFFEE & DONUTS** – There will be no coffee and donuts after the 8:00 Mass during the months of July and August.

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**SCRIPTURE REFLECTION** –Wednesdays at 6:30pm in the Rectory Meeting Room. Weekly reading/ reflection of the Sunday Scriptures – fellowship time & refreshments follow.

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**ST. MONICA’S LEISURE GROUP** - St. Monica's Leisure Group meets in the Church Hall at 12:00 noon on the first Wednesday of the month unless otherwise noted. Dues are \$10.00 a year. Listed below is a schedule of meetings for 2017. Please call Grace Casalino at 973-702-8569 if you would like further information.

August 2 - Remember When; September 6 - Labor Day Pizza  
October 4 – Oktoberfest; November 1 - Halloween Party  
December 7 (Thursday) - Christmas Party at Lamp Post Rest.

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**THE TRICKY TRAY COMMITTEE** will have a donation box in the Church Hall for anyone who wants to donate items for this year’s Tricky Tray. We want to start early, so if there are any sales, especially back-to-school specials which can be purchased, the committee can start making baskets.

**The Tricky Tray Committee** would like to know if there are any parishioners who may work for a large company (like Costco) and would be willing ask the corporate office if a donation could be made. Small companies will be visited by the committee to get donations. Any donations can be given to the rectory to be used for the Tricky Tray.

**The next meeting of the Tricky Tray will be Sunday, August 13 at 12:00 in the rectory meeting room.** Those interested in helping with the Tricky Tray are invited to attend. Thank you for your support - The Tricky Tray Committee

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**SPECIAL DEVOTIONS AT ST. MONICA’S**

**Novena to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal** – every Tuesday after the 9:00 A.M. Mass.

**Chaplet of the Divine Mercy** - Every Friday after the 9:00 A.M. Mass.

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** – First Friday of the month after the 9:00 A.M. Mass until 10:00 A.M.

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**We wish to thank Fr. Pawel Szurek from St. Catherine of Bologna Parish, Ringwood, New Jersey for substituting for Fr. Jan while he is on vacation.**

**DAILY READINGS FOR THIS WEEK**

**Sunday** 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12; Rom 8:28-30; Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46

**Monday** Ex 32:15-24, 30-34; Mt 13:31-35

**Tuesday** Ex 33:7-11, 34:5b-9, 28; Mt 13:36-43

**Wednesday** Ex 34:29-35; Mt 13:44-46

**Thursday** Ex 40:16-21, 34-38; Mt 13:47-53

**First Friday** Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37; Mt 13:54-58

**First Saturday** Lv 25:1, 8-17; Mt 14:1-12

**ST. MONICA’S CHURCH – Contact info**

Phone # 973-875-4521 Fax # 973-875-7538

**Parish office hours:** 9:30– 1:30pm Mon-Fri

**Website:** [www.stmonicasussex.org](http://www.stmonicasussex.org)

**Email:** [stmonica@ptd.net](mailto:stmonica@ptd.net)

**Deadline for bulletin submissions:** Tuesday of each week for information to be printed on the following Sunday. Email to [stmonica@ptd.net](mailto:stmonica@ptd.net)

**SUMMER WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE**

Weekday Masses will be celebrated on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays. There will be no Masses on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Regular weekday Mass schedule will resume the week of August 7<sup>th</sup>.

## SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### **First Reading: 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12**

Solomon, realizing that he will succeed his father David as King of Israel and Judah, begs the Lord to give him wisdom and understanding in order to rule his people well. The Lord grants his request saying, "...there will come no one to equal you."

### **Second Reading: Romans 8:28-30**

As heirs of God and heirs with Christ, we suffer in order to be glorified with Christ.

### **Gospel: Matthew 13:44-52**

Jesus speaks again about the "reign of God," telling the parables of the buried treasure and the merchant's search for pearls. In each parable, Jesus emphasizes that the "reign of God" is more precious and valuable than any treasure.

### **HIS WORD TODAY** *by Rev. William J. Reilly* **Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**"Jesus said to his disciples 'The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of great price he goes and sells all that he has and buys it.'"**

Jesus, the teacher, offers three parables today for our reflection. The two the treasure and the pearl, followed by the net, ask us to consider what the kingdom is really like. Do I find it in my church?

What is the treasure I am looking for, His kingdom? It is His grace, the Sacraments, the life of the church. The pearl is the Christian life which I sometimes fail to appreciate.

I am the one searching for a treasure, the pearl and I live in a community where the net has been thrown and collects all, bad and good. I am asked to sit down and sort out what is good for me and what is not. I resolve to continue my search, discover the treasure offered to me, and work hard to preserve and persevere in my quest. The kingdom is now.

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### *A Summer Prayer*

Long warm days...  
The pace of life slows...  
A time for picnics and  
Rest in the shade...  
Lord, help me to rest awhile  
in the cooling shade of your presence.  
Slow down my restless heart  
and fill me with  
gentle compassion for all your people.  
Amen.

- Author unknown



# < KID'S > KORNER

## Gospel Today | 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time | Mt 13:44-52

Jesus tells us nothing we could ever own on earth is more valuable than the Kingdom of Heaven. Just as the Apostles gave up their earthly possessions and followed Jesus, we can share our earthly possessions with others.

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### The Grace of God is a Great Treasure.

Grace is a gift God gives us! With His love, protection and blessing we can help others, and share ourselves and our talents.

Our parents/guardians show us God's love and grace every day when they take care of us. What can you do for your family & friends today, to show them your love?

Pretend you are the treasure chest and your talents are your treasure. What does God want you to share with others?



Don't forget you are one of God's great treasures on earth!



Cut out treasure chest, fold in half and tape tabs to back of chest. Cut out & put in treasure strips, share with someone.



SHARE SOMETHING YOU LEARNED AT SCHOOL

HELP A FAMILY MEMBER OR FRIEND

SHARE YOUR ART OR MUSIC TALENTS

PUT AWAY YOUR THINGS / HOUSEWORK / CLEAN UP

HELP PREPARE / CLEAN UP A MEAL

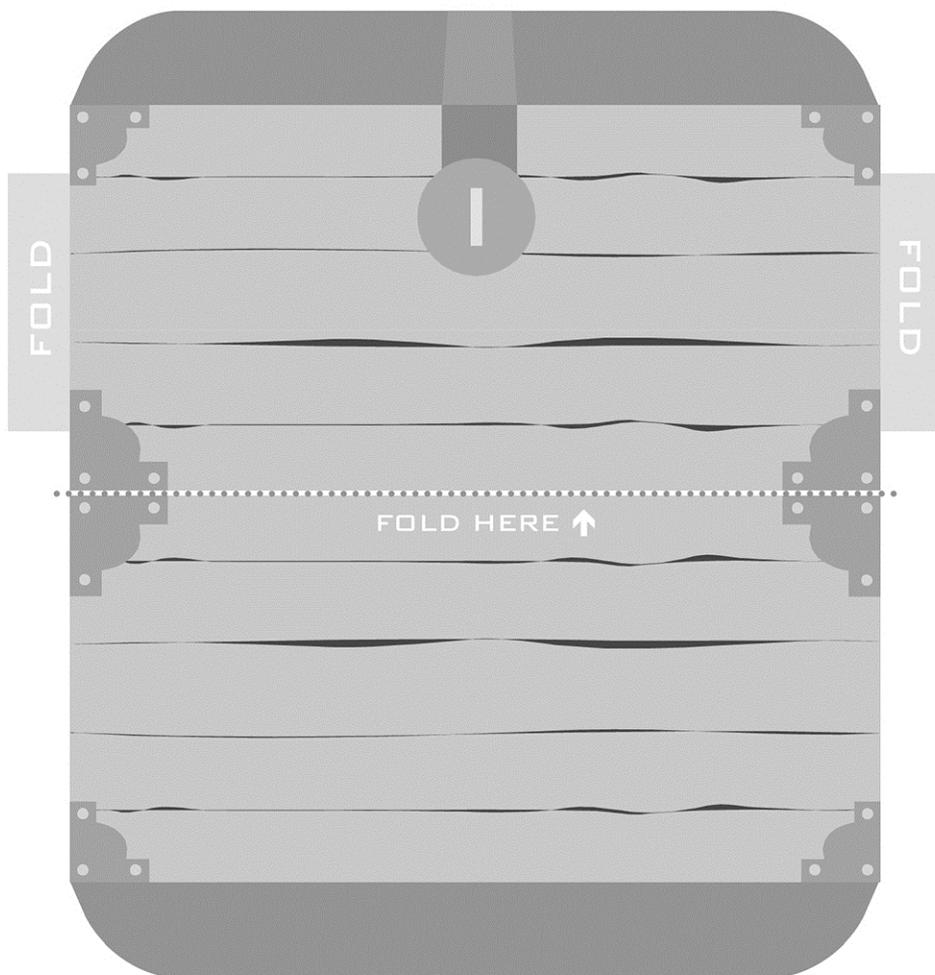
WORK IN THE GARDEN / YARD

PRAY FOR SOMEONE YOU KNOW WHO IS SICK OR TROUBLED

↓ Fill in your own talents ↓

Empty dashed box for writing.

Empty dashed box for writing.



## **THE SAINTS – PART THREE**

Honoring the saints was part of Christianity from the very beginning. This practice came from a long-standing tradition in the Jewish faith of honoring prophets and holy people with shrines. The first saints were martyrs, people who had given up their lives for the Faith in the persecution of Christians. By the year 100 A.D., Christians were honoring other Christians who had died, and asking for their intercession. For hundreds of years, starting with the first martyrs of the early Church, saints were named by public acclaim. Though this was more a more democratic way to recognize saints, some saints' stories were distorted by legend and some never existed. Gradually, the bishops and finally the Vatican took over the authority for approving saints. (Boston Catholic. Org. – Archdiocese of Boston)

### **Following are three saints whose feast days we celebrate this week.**

#### **July 31 – St. Ignatius of Loyola, priest (1491-1556). Patron saint of soldiers and spiritual retreats.**

Raised as a Basque gentleman and soldier, he was wounded in battle and, during his convalescence, was inspired by the lives of Christ and the saints to serve God. When well, he wandered, prayed, ministered to the poor and sick, and had mystical experiences that form the basis of his book of Spiritual Exercises. Returning to school, he earned a master's degree from the University of Paris. There he gathered other students for service to Jesus. After ordination, the group went to Rome, where they became the Society of Jesus, or Jesuits. Like him, may we learn "to find God in all things" and do everything "for the greater glory of God."

#### **St. Alphonsus Liguori, bishop and doctor of the Church (1696-1787). Patron saint of moral theologians, confessors and of those suffering from arthritis.**

Born in Naples, he became a lawyer at the age seventeen. After losing an important case by overlooking a piece of evidence, he decided to become a priest and later became a bishop. He founded an order of missionary priests that became the Redemptorists. He was widely sought as a preacher and confessor, and his famous book, *Moral Theology* linked his keen legal mind with his kindness and concern for others. Like him, may we learn that "all holiness and perfection of soul lies in our love for Jesus Christ."

#### **St. John Vianney, priest (1786-1859). Patron saint of parish priests.**

John was born near Lyons, France. He became the parish priest of the village of Ars-en-Dombes, where he spent the rest of his life. He was so renowned as a confessor that hundreds visited daily. He heard confessions for twelve to sixteen hours a day and gave a short lesson each morning. Three times he tried to join a monastery, but each time was persuaded to return. May we follow his advice to "open your heart so that the word of God may enter it, take root in it, and bear fruit there for eternal life."

