

**PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW**  
**Stewardship Report – Treasury**  
**WEEKLY COLLECTION**

**NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**AUGUST 13, 2017**

**WEEKLY/MONTHLY PARISH EVENTS**

<b><u>Budgeted Amount:</u></b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>
<b><u>Sunday Collection – 7/30/17</u></b>	<b>\$2,549.50</b>
<b><u>Parish Pay – 7/30/17</u></b>	<b>\$ 461.00</b>
<b><u>Total Collection -</u></b>	<b>\$3,010.50</b>
<b><u>Sunday Collection – 8/6/17</u></b>	<b>\$2,396.10</b>
<b><u>Parish Pay – 8/6/17 – (not reported yet)</u></b>	
<b><u>Second Collection (air conditioning) – 8/6/17</u></b>	<b>\$1,226.00</b>

**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: James Fischer**  
**Given by: All Family Members**

**MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK**

8/14	MON:	9:00a	People of the Parish
8/15	TUES:	9:00a	Eleanor Remo
		7:30p	Julie Ricciardi
			Mary Ann Hingel
8/16	WED:	9:00a	No Mass today
8/17	THU:	9:00a	People of the Parish
8/18	FRI:	9:00a	Elinor Lees
8/19	SAT:	5:00p	Ann and Chester Mooney
			Mary Ann Hingel
8/20	SUN:	8:00a	Mary Ann Hingel
		10:00a	Austin Randall
			Richard Olsen
			Susan McGovern
			Mary Ann Hingel
		11:45a	People of the Parish

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<p><b><u>DAILY READINGS FOR THIS WEEK</u></b>  <b>Sunday</b> - 1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a; Rom 9:1-5; Mt 14:22-33  <b>Monday</b> - Dt 10:12-2; Mt 17:22-27  <b>Tuesday</b> - Vigil: 1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16, 16:1-2; 1 Cor 15:54b-57; Lk 11:27-28          Day: Rv 11:19a, 12:1-6a, 10ab; 1 Cor 15:20-27; Lk 1:39-56  <b>Wednesday</b> - Dt 34:1-12; Mt 18:15-20  <b>Thursday</b> - Jos 3:7-10a, 11, 13-17; Mt 18:21—19:1  <b>Friday</b> - Jos 24:1-13; Mt 19:3-12  <b>Saturday</b> - Jos 24:14-29; Mt 19:13-15</p>
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The undated **Special Offering** envelope found in your envelope packet for this month, entitled “**Missionary Co-Operative Plan Collection**”, will be collected during the weekend of August 26/27.

**COFFEE & DONUTS** – There will be no coffee and donuts after the 8:00 Mass during the months of July and August. Coffee and donuts will resume on Sunday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> .

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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.  
 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** 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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**There will be a special meeting of Helping Hands on Tuesday, August 22 at 7:30 p.m.** in the Rectory Meeting Room to discuss St. Monica’s upcoming Pig Roast in September. All are invited.

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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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<p><b><u>ST. MONICA’S CHURCH – Contact info</u></b>  <b>Phone # 973-875-4521 Fax # 973-875-7538</b>  <b><u>Parish office hours:</u> 9:30– 1:30pm Mon-Fri</b>  <b><u>Website:</u> <a href="http://www.stmonicasussex.org">www.stmonicasussex.org</a></b>  <b><u>Email:</u> <a href="mailto:stmonica@ptd.net">stmonica@ptd.net</a></b>  <b><u>Deadline for bulletin submissions:</u> Tuesday of each week for information to be printed on the following Sunday. Email to <a href="mailto:stmonica@ptd.net">stmonica@ptd.net</a></b></p>
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**ATTENTION RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND YOUTH MINISTRY FAMILIES!**

**Registration forms for the 2017/2018 school year can be found on the table in the church hall and at the rectory office. All former Rel. Ed & YM students need to re-register for this school year. Any new family who has a child entering First Grade in September and would like their child to partake in our Religious Education Program should contact the rectory office.**

**Should you have any questions, please contact Mary Vernacchio at (973)875-4521 or (973)875-2110 after 6pm.**

**The fees are as follows: 1 child - \$75.00, 2 children - \$110.00 and 3 or more - \$150.00**

**Please complete and return the registration form(s) as soon as possible. Thank you!**

**There is a time for everything, and everything has it's time.**

My time as Parish Secretary, Pastoral Associate, Coordinator of Ministries and Faith Formation..etc. etc. has moved from an active role to an advisory role...one of guiding and mentoring those who wish to learn and execute the tasks of daily, weekly and monthly parish life. Recently, my time has been spent doing parish training - something that unfortunately was not done when I began working in the parish office at St. Monica's back in 1993 - but something that is an absolute necessity in order to have a full working knowledge of all it takes to help run a parish. The scope is broader than anyone can imagine!

So if you are wondering where I have been, or still aren't aware that I took on another full time job a year and a half ago, I also share my joyous anticipation of moving into retirement years sooner than later; ready to broaden my spirituality in new and exciting ways; perhaps taking on a writing project or two; creating and offering Faith Formation sessions, retreats and workshops for parishes...these things come to mind right now, just to name a few.

I can rest in the sure knowledge that I have touched many lives, healed many hearts and opened many doors for my fellow parishioners.

The words of St. Teresa of Avila, mystic and Carmelite saint, speak perfectly of my wishes for all of you:

" Let nothing disturb you, nothing frighten you.

All things are possible. God never changes.

Patience obtains all things.

Whoever has God lacks nothing.

God is enough."

God Bless you, Carol Bezak

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**SAVE THE DATE**

**There will be a farewell reception for Carol Bezak on Sunday, August 20<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. in the Church Hall. Please join us in thanking Carol for her many years of service to the parishioners of St. Monica's and to wish her well in her future endeavors. All are invited.**



..... *From the desk of Fr. Jan*

## **Assumption of Mary**

Celebrated every year on August 15, the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary commemorates the death of Mary and her bodily assumption into Heaven. Because it signifies the Blessed Virgin's passing into eternal life, it is the most important of all Marian feasts.

Scripture does not give an account of Mary's Assumption into Heaven. Nevertheless, Revelation 12 speaks of a woman who is caught up in the battle between good and evil. Belief that Mary, without dying or shortly after death, has been taken up into Heaven body and soul, has been part of the teaching of the Catholic Church since the earliest centuries of Christianity. That early Christians believed in Mary's Assumption is proven in lack of her relics, empty tomb, the existence of *Transitus Mariae* stories, and quotes from early Christians.

The Feast of the Assumption is the effect of these beliefs and is a very old feast of the Church, celebrated universally by the sixth century. The feast was originally celebrated in the East, where it is known as the Feast of the Dormition, a word which means "the falling asleep." The earliest printed reference to the belief that Mary's body was assumed into Heaven dates from the fourth century, in a document entitled "The Falling Asleep of the Holy Mother of God." The document is written in the voice of the Apostle John, to whom Christ on the Cross had entrusted the care of His mother, and recounts the death, laying in the tomb, and assumption of the Blessed Virgin. Tradition variously places Mary's death at Jerusalem or at Ephesus, where John was living.

The doctrine of the Assumption says that at the end of her life on earth, Mary was assumed, body and soul, into heaven (just as Enoch or Elijah). It is also necessary to keep in mind what the Assumption is not. Some people think Catholics believe Mary "ascended" into heaven. That is not correct. Christ, by his own power, ascended into heaven. Mary was assumed or taken up into heaven by Jesus. She did not do it under her own power. The Church has never formally defined whether she died or not, and the integrity of the doctrine of the Assumption would not be impaired if she did not in fact die, but the almost universal consensus is that she did die. The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into Heaven at the end of her earthly life is a defined dogma of the Catholic Church. On November 1, 1950, Pope Pius XII, exercising papal infallibility,

declared in *Munificentissimus Deus* that it is a dogma of the Church "that the Immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory."

The Assumption of Mary has two purposes. The first is that we celebrate the happy departure of Mary from this physical life on Earth. The second purpose is the assumption of her body into heaven. We firmly believe that from the first moment of her conception Mary was free of all sin, including Original Sin, by a special favor of Almighty God. The Archangel Gabriel recognized her as "full of grace", "blessed among women" and "one with the Lord"(Luke 1:26-28). Mary always freely and actively cooperated in a unique way with God's plan of salvation (Luke 1:38; Gal. 4:4). Like any mother, she was never separated from the suffering of her Son (Luke 2:35), and Scripture promises that those who share in the sufferings of Christ will share in his glory (Rom. 8:17). Since she suffered a unique interior martyrdom, it is appropriate that Jesus would honor her with a unique glory. We Christians believe that one day we will be raised in a glorious form and then caught up and rendered immaculate to be with Jesus forever (1 Thess. 4:17; Rev. 21:27). Mary is in a sense the prototypical Christian, and received early the blessings we will all one day be given.

By contemplating Mary in heavenly glory, we understand that the earth is not the definitive homeland for us either, and that if we live with our gaze fixed on eternal goods, we will one day share in this same glory. Supported by awareness of this, let us continue confidently on our path of Christian commitment wherever Providence may lead us. Let us forge ahead in our lives under Mary's guidance.

God bless you

