

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

<b><u>Budgeted Amount:</u></b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>
<b><u>Sunday Collection – 9/3/17 -</u></b>	<b>\$2,580.00</b>
<b><u>Parish Pay – 9/3/17 –</u></b>	<b>\$ 461.00</b>
<b><u>Total Sunday Collection 9/3/17 -</u></b>	<b>\$3,041.00</b>
<b><u>Maintenance Collection – 9/3/17</u></b>	<b>\$1,283.00</b>
<b><u>Parish Pay – 9/3/17</u></b>	<b>\$ 276.00</b>
<b><u>Total Maintenance Collection – 9/3/17</u></b>	<b>\$1,559.00</b>
<b><u>Sunday Collection – 9/10/17</u></b>	<b>\$3,310.00</b>
<b><u>Parish Pay – 9/10/17 – (not reported yet)</u></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:** Albert Yocamelli  
**Given by:** Mary Del Monico

**MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK**

9/18	MON:	9:00a	People of the Parish
9/19	TUES:	9:00a	Frank Rankl
9/20	WED:	9:00a	No Mass today
9/21	THU:	9:00a	Charles Burke
			Michael Wyssenski
9/22	FRI:	9:00a	People of the Parish
9/23	SAT:	5:00p	Maria Lawrence
9/24	SUN:	8:00a	Paul Sydow
			Sameer Michael
		10:00a	Dorothy Sweeney
			Richard Olsen
			Maureen McGovern Nisler
			Mary Ann Hingel
		11:45a	People of the Parish

**DAILY READINGS FOR THIS WEEK**

**Sunday** - Sir 27:30—28:7; Rom 14:7-9; Mt 18:21-35  
**Monday** - 1 Tm 2:1-8; Lk 7:1-10  
**Tuesday** - 1 Tm 3:1-13; Lk 7:11-17  
**Wednesday** - 1 Tm 3:14-16; Lk 7:31-35  
**Thursday** - Eph 4:1-7, 11-13; Mt 9:9-13  
**Friday** - 1 Tm 6:2c-12; Lk 8:1-3  
**Saturday** - 1 Tm 6:13-16; Lk 8:4-15

**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)

**TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN**  
**ORDINARY TIME**  
**SEPTEMBER 17, 2017**  
**Catechetical Sunday**

This year, the Church celebrates Catechetical Sunday on September 17, 2017 and will focus on the theme "**Prayer: The Faith Prayed.**" Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of faith.

**WEEKLY/MONTHLY PARISH EVENTS**

**COFFEE & DONUTS** – are served after 8:00 a.m. Mass on the first Sunday of each month in the Church Hall. All are invited to join us.  
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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.  
 October 4 – Oktoberfest;  
 November 1 - Halloween Party  
 December 7 (Thursday) - Christmas Party at Lamp Post Rest.

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**TRICKY TRAY** - The business letters have been mailed to those who have helped with our tricky tray in the past. Please stop by the table in the Church Hall and pick up a follow-up index card which will have the names of the businesses on them. It is very important that each business gets signed off in the space provided on the Business Contact List on the table. If you are able to visit any business that is not listed, please take one of the blank extra letters and sign for it on the blank list. Thank you for your support during this very important fundraiser.

**The next tricky tray meeting will be held on Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> at 12:00 noon in the Rectory Meeting Room.**  
 - 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.

**Memorial Mass for Barbara Karre:** Barbara was loved by all who knew her and will forever be missed. There will be a receiving line to pay your respects to Barbara’s family on Saturday, September 30, at St. Monica’s Church, from 9 to 10 a.m., followed by a 10 a.m. funeral liturgy.

**BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL**  
**IN GIVING, WE RECEIVE**

For your convenience, you are able to make an on-line gift to the 2017 Bishop's Annual Appeal by going to [www.2017appeal.org](http://www.2017appeal.org) and following the instructions. You can either make a one-time gift or a pledge with monthly payments made automatically for your convenience. More and more parishioners are taking advantage of this option, so please consider using this method today. Whether it is a pledge, a one-time gift, or an on-line donation, your support is greatly needed. Every gift counts! Please participate in the 2017 Appeal.

The devastation caused in the Texas/Louisiana region by Hurricane Harvey is staggering. It will take months and even years for people to recover from the storm, and we want to help where our donations will do the most good.

Bishop Serratelli is asking every parish to take up a second collection to help the hundreds of thousands suffering from the storm. This collection will be taken at St. Monica's on the weekend of September 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. The diocese will then send these funds directly to Catholic Charities, USA. Thank you for your generosity.

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*"For to me, to live is Christ....."*  
*(Philippians 1:21)*

**VIVERE CHRISTUS AWARD**

For the past nine years the Diocese of Paterson recognizes the contributions of those faithful individuals to the mission of Christ, to His universal Church and to the local Church of Paterson. With the recommendation from our parish, this year's recipient is **Marie Fischer** who received this award last weekend at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist. Please take the opportunity to congratulate Marie on this very deserving award.



Helping hands is sponsoring a pig roast in the church hall on Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup> from 3-6 p.m. Ticket prices are \$15 for adults and \$7 for children age 10 and under. Representatives will be selling tickets in the hall after all masses this weekend ONLY. Please join us for a delicious meal and fellowship! Please see the flyer for more information.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND YOUTH**  
**MINISTRY FAMILIES**

It is **imperative** that you return your son's/daughter's registration form as soon as possible. We are trying to plan for this school year and the registrations are few and far between. Forms are located at the church hall exit and at the rectory office. Also, each family currently with children in either Religious Ed or YM was sent forms in the mail. Your anticipated cooperation is greatly appreciated.

**FAMILY PROMISE**

Family Promise guests will be arriving at the Presbyterian Church on Tuesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> and staying until Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup>. We at St. Monica's, a support congregation, will be helping the following days:

Wednesday, October 4<sup>th</sup>

Thursday, October 5<sup>th</sup>

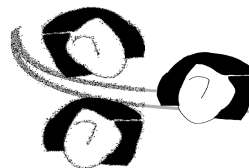
Monday, October 9<sup>th</sup>

We are responsible on Wednesday and Thursday for the following shifts: 5-7 p.m. dinner shift; 7-9 p.m. evening shift; 9 p.m. - 7 a.m. sleepover shift. On Monday, we are responsible from 5-7 p.m. dinner shift.

A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Church Hall. If it's your first time and you have any questions about the program and how you can help, please don't hesitate to call me at 973-875-6053. Thank you very much for your continued interest and help. May God bless you! -- Carol Oesen

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**Sacred Heart Center is hosting Life Line Screening,** on Wednesday, September 27, 2017. The screenings provide focus on vascular disease, including atrial fibrillation and peripheral arterial disease. Screenings are fast, painless and affordable. Screening packages start at \$139. Single tests cost around \$70. For more information or to schedule an appointment, go to [www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle](http://www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle), or call 1-888-653-6441. Pre-registration is required. Sacred Heart Spirituality Center, 20 Old Swartswood Road, Newton, NJ 07860



**Be true  
to God's Laws**

**Love one another**



## Living As Missionary Disciples

### CATECHIST'S PRAYER

Father of all families, you have called me to serve the family in truth and love as a catechist. May I be faithful to this call, rooted in your Word, and open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit. May I use these gifts, especially the gifts of faith, hope, and love, to serve the family as a witness to you, who are love and life and the source and destiny of all families. Let your Spirit enlighten my mind and strengthen my heart so that I can be a path of Christ's love to families, especially those in need, the homebound and aged, the disabled and disheartened. Through the intercession of Mary and Joseph, I pray for the Church, the Bride of Christ, whose mission to build a civilization of love passes through the family. Amen.

### **HIS WORD TODAY** by Rev. William J. Reilly Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**“Forgive your neighbor’s injustices, then when you pray, your own sins will be forgiven. Could anyone nourish anger against another and expect healing from the Lord? Could anyone refuse mercy to another like himself can he seek pardon for his own sins?... Remember your last days, set enmity aside, remember death and decay, and cease from sin. Think of the commandments hate not your neighbor, remember the Most High’s covenant and overlook faults.”**

When we consider the word power, we might think of electricity, strength, or brute force. The greatest power available is not material, physical or even emotional. The greatest power resides in every person, yet often goes unused.

The scriptures today reflect that power and it is found in the word forgiveness. Every person has the power to forgive. In our world beset with hatred, war, and discrimination rarely do we resort to the use of this power. We are set on dominating, getting even, putting others in their place. We judge, presume intentions and motivation, yet fail to see the splinter in our own eye. The power to forgive is a gift for use, for my own well-being and for others.

I recall a wise old priest who directed others to ‘look the other way’.

## TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### **First Reading: Sirach 27:30—28:7**

Sirach advises all to forgive the faults of their neighbor. Only by forgiving the sins of others, can a person expect to be forgiven his sins.

### **Second Reading: Romans 14:7-9**

Paul stresses that no one is his own master; we are responsible to the Lord, and we belong to him in both life and death.

### **Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35**

This narrative points out the difference between mercy and justice. When Peter asks how often he should forgive someone who wrongs him, Jesus answers, “...not seven times: I say seventy times seven times.” Jesus then narrates the story of the king who was merciful to his official by forgiving him all his debts, but this same official showed no mercy to his own servant.

**KID'S KORNER**

Gospel Today  
Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time | Matthew 18:21-35

Jesus says there should be no limit to the times we forgive, from our hearts, those who treat us unfairly.

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**JESUS REMINDS US TO BE FORGIVING**

Think of someone you need to forgive.

What symbol would best show what you are feeling?

Love, peace, hugs & kisses or prayer; or are you just proud to be in America.

Design and color your own **FORGIVENESS FLAG**. With the symbols below, or your own ideas, design a larger flag on a separate piece of paper and hang it in a window.

**SAMPLE FLAGS**

Forgive from the heart flag

American flag

Peace flag

Praying hands flag

**This week, we celebrate the feast days of two important saints: St. Matthew from the first century, and St. Padre Pio from the twentieth century.**

**St. Matthew – Apostle, Evangelist. September 21**

*“As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax office; and he said to him, ‘Follow me.’ And he rose and followed him.” -- Matthew 9:9*

This brief verse supplies the extent of our knowledge of the disciple traditionally identified as Matthew the Evangelist. Was he a tax collector, as the parallel texts in Mark and Luke indicate? If so he would have been despised by his fellow Jews and a collaborator with the Roman occupation. It was for consorting with such public sinners that Jesus himself earned certain disapproval. But whatever Matthew’s former life, he apparently recognized that in order to follow Jesus, he must leave the past behind.

In Gospel according to Matthew, it is likely that Matthew wrote for a community accustomed to affluence. His Gospel extols an attitude of spiritual poverty and counsels his readers that their salvation depends on the quality of their mercy toward the poor. All this is certainly consistent with the attitude of a reformed tax collector.

Called in his own life to follow Jesus, he closes his Gospel with Jesus’ Great Commission to his followers, “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations,” and concludes with the words that speak to our time and every time: “And lo, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

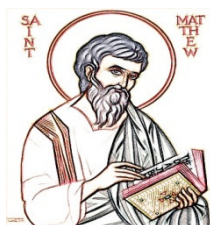
**St. Padre Pio – Capuchin Friar and Mystic (1887-1968). September 23**

Padre Pio was forced to carry a double cross. He bore the painful, bleeding wounds that marked his body with the passion of Christ, and at the same time, he endured the burden that came from being popularly acclaimed a living saint.

Like his spiritual father St. Francis, Padre Pio was a stigmatic. He bore on his hands, feet, and side the wounds of Christ’s sufferings. These mysterious open wounds, for which no natural explanation could be determined, appeared on his body in 1910. They remained until some months before his death, over fifty years later, continuously bleeding and causing great suffering. He was credited with literally thousands of miracles, including such feats as restoring sight to a man born with no pupils. As a confessor, he was said to have the gift of “reading hearts,” knowing the secrets of penitents whom he had not previously met.

Padre Pio was capable of extraordinary prophecies. In 1947, when he heard the confession of a young Polish priest, Karol Wojtyla, he made the astonishing declaration that this priest would one day be Pope. Padre Pio was declared a saint on June 16, 2002 by Pope John Paul II, the very same priest he predicted would be Pope!

*“I need to love You more and more, but I don’t have any more love in my heart. I have given all my love to You. If You want more, fill my heart with Your love, and then oblige me to love You more and I will not refuse You.”*



St. Matthew



St. Padre Pio