

PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

Stewardship Report – Treasury
WEEKLY COLLECTION

Budgeted Amount: \$5,000.00

Sunday Collection – 9/10/17 \$3,310.00

Parish Pay – 9/10/17 - \$ 561.00

Total Sunday Collection – 9/10/17 \$3,871.00

Sunday Collection – 9/17/17 \$2,923.00

Parish Pay – 9/17/17 (not reported yet)

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

The Sanctuary Lamp is given this week:

In Memory of: Martin Finn

Given by: Phyllis Finn

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

| | | | |
|------|-------|--------|----------------------|
| 9/25 | MON: | 9:00a | Mary H. Staco |
| 9/26 | TUES: | 9:00a | People of the Parish |
| 9/27 | WED: | 9:00a | No Mass today |
| 9/28 | THU: | 9:00a | People of the Parish |
| 9/29 | FRI: | 9:00a | People of the Parish |
| 9/30 | SAT: | 5:00p | Connie Mooney |
| 10/1 | SUN: | 8:00a | Paul Sydow |
| | | 10:00a | George Fluhr |
| | | | Arthur Randall |
| | | | Francisco Alegre |
| | | | John McGovern |
| | | | Richard Olsen |
| | | 11:45a | Stephen Swentzel |

MASS CARDS: Small - \$10.00. Large - \$15.00

Mass intentions are excellent means to remember not only our deceased loved ones, but also those who are living. Anniversaries and birthdays can be remembered by offering Masses. A Mass can make a wonderful gift for a special person in your life. Please visit the rectory office to reserve a Mass this week.

DAILY READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

Sunday - Is 55:6-9; Phil 1:20c-24, 27a; Mt 20:1-16a
Monday - Ezr 1:1-6; Lk 8:16-18
Tuesday - Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20; Lk 8:19-21
Wednesday - Ezr 9:5-9; Lk 9:1-6
Thursday - Hg 1:1-8; Lk 9:7-9
Friday - Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a; Jn 1:47-51
Saturday - Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a; Lk 9:43b-45

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

Email: 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

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME
SEPTEMBER 24, 2017

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.

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

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. A box is also available in the Church Hall for small, individual items to be donated.

The next tricky tray meeting will be held on Sunday, October 1st at 12:00 noon in the Rectory Meeting Room.
- The Tricky Tray Committee

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

The vital work of our Church supported by the Bishop's Annual Appeal is only as successful as the number of faithful parishioners who participate in making a gift. Your support helps bring hope to those who come to our Catholic Charities agencies. It supports seminarian education, our diocesan priests' residence and our inner-city area schools.

Every gift counts! St. Teresa once wrote that "we feel what we are doing is a drop in the ocean, but that ocean would be less without that drop." Our Bishop's Annual Appeal is able to do that much more with whatever you are able to give. Please help make 2017 the year that our Bishop's Annual Appeal does even more for people in profound need.

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.

The second collection this weekend is to help those who suffered many losses due to Hurricane Harvey. The diocese will then send these funds directly to Catholic Charities, USA. Thank you for your generosity.



Please welcome Anika Veronica Frankowski as she received the Sacrament of Baptism at St. Monica's last Sunday, September 17.

If you have an infant or young child, or you are expecting, and would like to have your child baptized, please call the rectory office to register for a Baptism Preparation session.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND YOUTH
MINISTRY FAMILIES

It is **imperative** that you return your son's/daughter's registration form as soon as possible. Forms are located at the church hall exit and at the rectory office. Calendars and start dates are being finalized and should be available by next week.

FAMILY PROMISE

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

Wednesday, October 4th
Thursday, October 5th
Monday, October 9th

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



Helping Hands of St. Monica's is hosting a fundraiser at Lorenzo's Pizzeria and Restaurant on Main Street in Sussex on Wednesday, October 11th. Eat in or take out, all day long. Ten percent of their proceeds that day will go to St. Monica's Church. Please consider stopping in for a bite and supporting our church!

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, or call 1-888-653-6441. Pre-registration is required. Sacred Heart Spirituality Center, 20 Old Swartwood Road, Newton, NJ 07860



**TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

First Reading: Isaiah 55:6-9

Isaiah expresses an urgent plea that all should seek the Lord and turn to him for mercy.

Second Reading: Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a

In a strongly personal message from Paul while in prison, he says that he wishes “to be freed from this life and to be with Christ,” but he realizes that he still has much important work to do.

Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16a

Jesus tells the parable of the owner of an estate who hires workmen for his vineyard. When, at the end of the day, he pays a full day’s wage to those who worked only one hour, those who worked all day complained bitterly. But the owner says, “I am free to do as I please, am I not?” Jesus reminds us through this parable that “the last shall be first and the first shall be last.”

HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly

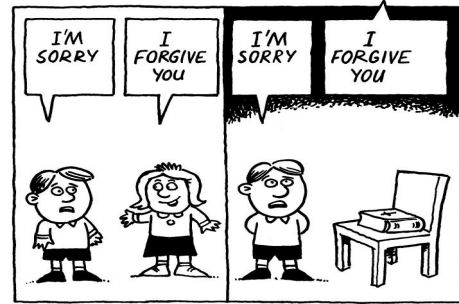
**Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 24, 2017**

“Seek the Lord while He may be found, call Him while He is near. Let the scoundrel forsake his way and the wicked his thoughts, let him turn to the Lord for mercy, to our God who is generous in forgiving. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord.”

The scripture readings at mass these past few weeks have put great emphasis on forgiveness. We are invited to reflect on our ability to forgive others and ourselves. We are reminded to seek forgiveness from God and from others.

Sometimes we tend to pass quickly over one or another of these three. How important that I seek the forgiveness of God. Our act of contrition or acts of penance direct us to God’s mercy. Our willingness, not to bear a grudge or get even, but to understand someone else and say ‘that’s o.k.’ is life giving. I admit my own shortcomings and realize that I am not always right and need to say ‘I’m sorry’. Finally, I must learn to forgive myself and not dwell on my wrongs, but get up and move on as a forgiven and forgiving person.

Yes, forgiveness is the power I have in my hand and heart.



Cycle A

KID'S KORNER

Gospel Today
Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time | Matthew 20:1-16a

Jesus compares the Kingdom of Heaven to the vineyard - the rewards are equal for all regardless of when the workers begin, or the faithful respond to the call of Jesus.

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The landowner went out at dawn to hire workers. The first workers agreed on a daily wage. Later in the day the next workers agreed to a just, or fair wage. The last workers only worked 1 hour. Though all the workers started at different times, the landowner paid them the same. Upon receiving the same daily wage, the workers who were in the vineyard all day were envious. The landowner said, "Take what I promised and go. I am free to be generous with my money."

God is generous... His gifts are free.

1 Today's reading is from the book of ____

5 Word meaning "fair"

6 Kingdom of ____

8 Heaven ____ like...

9 People ready to do a job

11 God's ____ are free.

12 The workers ____ to the usual daily wage.

13 The ____ hired the workers

14 The ____ workers were hired at dawn.

15 The first workers were ____ of the wage paid to the last workers hired.

16 The first workers thought they would be ____ more money.

DOWN

2 The workers all started at different ____ of day.

3 The same, or ____

4 In Heaven, the ____ are equal for all.

7 A place to grow grapes

10 The landowner was ____ with his money.

11 Our Heavenly Father

13 The workers hired ____ were paid first.

14 No charge

All answers are underlined on this page.

On September 29, we celebrate the feast day of Saints Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, the Archangels
An archangel is an angel of high rank and comes from a Greek word meaning “chief angel.”

Saint Michael the Archangel is the leader of all angels and of the army of God.

St. Michael has four main responsibilities of offices, as we know from scripture and Christian tradition.

- The first is to combat Satan.
- The second is to escort the faithful to heaven at their hour of death.
- The third is to be a champion of all Christians, and the Church itself.
- And the fourth is to call men from life on Earth to their heavenly judgment.

Very little is known about St. Michael other than what we know from scriptures, which themselves are sparse.

In Daniel, St. Michael is mentioned twice. The first time is the one who helped Daniel, and the second time he is mentioned with regard to the end times of the world when he will stand for the “children of thy people.”

His next mention comes from the Epistle of St. Jude, where St. Michael is said to guard the tombs of Moses and Eve and has contended with Satan over the body of Moses.

The final mention is in Revelation, where St. Michael and his angels do battle with the dragon.

Today, Michael is invoked for protection, especially from lethal enemies. He is also the patron of soldiers, police and doctors.

St. Gabriel the Archangel is the angel who serves as a messenger for God to certain people.

Gabriel is mentioned in both the Old and the New Testaments of the Bible. First, in the Old Testament, Gabriel appears to the prophet Daniel to explain his visions and is described as “one who looked like man”. In the New Testament, Gabriel, described as “an angel of the Lord,” first appears to Zacharias, the father of John the Baptist. He tells him, “Fear not, Zacharias: for thy prayer is heard; and thy wife Elizabeth shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John. And thou shalt have joy and gladness; and many shall rejoice at his birth.” Luke 1:13.

After Elizabeth conceived and was six months pregnant, Gabriel appears again. The Gospel according to Luke states he was sent from God to Nazareth to visit the virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph. Gabriel said to Mary, “Hail, thou that art highly favored, the Lord is with thee; blessed are thou among women.” Luke 1:28.

Gabriel is recognized as the patron of messengers, telecommunication workers, and postal workers.

St. Raphael is one of the seven Archangels who stand before the throne of the Lord, and is mentioned by name in the Bible only in the Book of Tobit. Raphael’s name means “God heals.”

Disguised as a human in the Book of Tobit, he travels alongside Tobit’s son, Tobiah. Once Raphael returns from his journey with Tobiah, he declares to Tobit that he was sent by the Lord to heal his blindness and deliver Sarah, Tobiah’s wife, from the demon Asmodeus. It is then that his true healing powers are revealed and he makes himself known as “the angel Raphael, one of the seven, who stand before the Lord.” Tobit 12:15.

The demon Asmodeus killed every man Sara married on the night of the wedding, before the marriage could be consummated. Raphael guided Tobiah and taught him how to be free of the demon.

St. Raphael is the patron of travelers, the blind, bodily ills, nurses, physicians and medical workers.