

PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

Stewardship Report – Treasure
WEEKLY COLLECTION

Budgeted Amount: \$5,000.00

Sunday Collection – 6/17/18 \$3,119.00

Sunday Collection – online giving – 6/10/18 \$ 506.00

Seminarian Education Collection – 6/17/18 \$ 539.00

The Sanctuary Lamp is given this week:
In Memory of: The People of the Parish

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

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|------|-------|--------|---|
| 6/25 | MON: | 9:00a | People of the Parish |
| 6/26 | TUES: | 9:00a | People of the Parish |
| 6/27 | WED: | 9:00a | No Mass Today |
| 6/28 | THU: | 9:00a | People of the Parish |
| 6/29 | FRI: | 9:00a | People of the Parish |
| 6/30 | SAT: | 5:00p | Mary Ann Hingel Frank Beeres George Hansen Joseph McGovern James Wilson |
| 7/1 | SUN: | 8:00a | Special Intention for a Special Soul |
| | | 10:00a | Annie & Arthur Randall Sonia & Greg Frankowski James Murray Ernestine Gratzl |
| | | 11:45a | John Killian Peter P. Horvath |

ST. MONICA’S CHURCH – Contact information

Phone: 973-875-4521 **Fax:** 973-875-7538

Parish Office Hours: 9:30am – 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

READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

Sunday - Is 49:1-6; Acts 13:22-26; Lk 1:57-66, 80

Monday - 2 Kgs 17:5-8, 13-15a, 18; Mt 7:1-5

Tuesday - 2 Kgs 19:9b-11, 14-21, 31-35a, 36; Mt 7:6, 12-14

Wednesday - 2 Kgs 22:8-13, 23:1-3; Mt 7:15-20

Thursday - 2 Kgs 24:8-17; Mt 7:21-29

Friday - Acts 12:1-11; 2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18; Mt 16:13-19

Saturday - Lam 2:2, 10-14, 18-19; Mt 8:5-17

THE NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

JUNE 24, 2018



We take a short break from Sundays in Ordinary time this weekend for a solemnity that is celebrated on June 24th every year, no matter the day of the week: The Nativity of Saint John the Baptist. Before he was born, John was chosen by God to prepare the word for the Son of God. Today, as we remember the birth of Saint John the Baptist, let us recall our own baptism and our initiation into the Christian faith.

WEEKLY/MONTHLY PARISH EVENTS

COFFEE & DONUTS – will resume in September.

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 – The next meeting will be on **Wednesday, July 11 (second Wednesday) at 12:00 noon** in the Church Hall. Annual dues are \$10.00. For more information, please call Grace or Mike Casalino at 973-702-8569.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP will not be meeting during the summer months. The next meeting will take place on **Monday, September 17th at 7:30 p.m.** in the rectory meeting room. Mark your calendar – all are invited.

HELPING HANDS meets the second Tuesday of each month in the Rectory Meeting Room at 7:30 p.m. New members are always welcome! There is no meeting in July. **The next meeting is Tuesday, August 14.**

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.

PARISH REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Are you new to our parish? If so, welcome! Do you wish to register? If you are attending Mass and using our blue “blank” visitor envelopes and wish to receive our weekly envelopes in the mail, please register with us. If you wish to become a registered member and placed on our parish mailing list, there are blank registration forms on the table near the Church Hall exit. Please fill it out and give it to Fr. Jan after Mass, or either drop it in the collection basket or visit the rectory during the week between the hours of 9:30am and 1:30pm.



To Our Graduating Altar Servers!

This Sunday, June 24, awards are being presented to the following for their generous service in the ministry of Altar Server:

- Morgan Castro
- Louis DeLaOsa
- Daniel Nasca
- William Szwartz
- Kristen Vera

The staff and parishioners of St. Monica's Church thank you for your dedication. May you move into the future with God's blessings and with eager and open hearts.

"Well done, good and faithful servant."
(Mt. 25:24)

CHRISTMAS IN JULY WORKSHOP
HOSTED BY HOLY SPIRIT ORTHODOX CHURCH, WANTAGE, NEW JERSEY

In the spirit of CHRISTMAS IN JULY and community outreach and fellowship, Holy Spirit invites you to join us for an afternoon of fun, fellowship and Christmas card making! There will be two Christmas card designs and you will reproduce them and make five cards of each design. You'll go home with ten beautiful Christmas cards that you have personally created. The only supplies you will need to bring with you will be coloring pencils or water color pencils. All other supplies will be provided. This workshop will be under the direction of renowned artists and instructors, Anna Seniw and Sue Speck.

The event will be held at Holy Spirit Orthodox Church, 102 Route 284, Wantage NJ 07461 on Saturday, July 14, 1-3pm. Fee: Adult \$20. Children \$12 and must be accompanied by an adult. To make a reservation or for more information, email stampingbear@yahoo.com or call 845-856-4147.

Please see the flyers at the church and hall exits.

If you have questions, contact Mary Osinski at mary.osinski@gmail.com or 973-838-0590.



Dear Parishioners of St. Monica's Church:
Thank you for your generous donations to St. Monica's for the repair of our church roof. We have obtained a few estimates for the work to be done and the repair work will commence soon.

Again, thank you for your generous support and may God bless you!

Fr. Jan

**Solemn Commemoration of
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel
Sunday, July 15, 2018**

- 11:30 am Mass with Scapular Enrollment at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, 90 Euclid Avenue, Middletown, NY 10940.
- Procession to follow to the National Shrine of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel for Benediction, 70 Carmelite Drive, Middletown, NY 10940.
- Refreshments will be available for purchase: hamburgers, hot dogs & salads, chips, soda/water in the picnic grove on the Shrine grounds.

For further information, call Carol Bezak, Shrine Director, 845-343-1879 or Dottie Lanos, Mt. Carmel Church, 845-342-3347. www.ourladyofmtcarmelshrine.com

If you can't come to the Sunday Celebration, join us for Mass on the Feast Day, Monday, July 16th at 11:30 am and spend the day at the Shrine!

THE NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

First Reading: Isaiah 49:1-6

Isaiah tells how the Lord called to him from birth and gave him his name. He explains that although he thought he toiled in vain, his strength is in the Lord in Whose sight he has been made glorious. God made him a light to the nations so that salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.

Second Reading: Acts 13:22-26

John heralds the coming of Jesus by proclaiming a baptism of repentance. He says, "Behold, one is coming after me; I am not worthy to unfasten the sandals of his feet." The children of the family of Abraham and those who are God-fearing have received the word of salvation.

Gospel: Luke 1:57-66, 80

Elizabeth gave birth to a son whom she named John. On the eighth day, when her neighbors and relatives came to circumcise the child, they wanted to call him Zechariah, after her father, but Elizabeth's husband wrote on a tablet, "His name is John." Immediately he spoke blessing God and the people became afraid. All who heard of the incident knew that the hand of the Lord was with John.

HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly The Nativity of St. John the Baptist

"From this man's descendants God, according to his promise, has brought to Israel a savior, Jesus. John heralded His coming by proclaiming a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel; and as John was completing his course, he would say, 'What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. Behold, one is coming after me; I am not worthy to unfasten the sandals on His feet. My brothers, children of the family of Abraham, and those others among you who are God-fearing, to us this word of salvation has been sent.'"

The church celebrates the birth of three persons – Mary, Jesus and John the Baptist. We spend time with John, especially during advent, recalling his conception, the meeting of his mother with Mary, and his ministry in the desert, preparing the way of the Lord. St. Paul today, in the reading from the Acts of the Apostles, helps us focus on the role of John.

He was a 'herald' announcing the coming of the Messiah, an arrow pointing out the One he would call the 'Lamb of God.' The church today is the herald of the Good News. In the 'Joy of the Gospel', Pope Francis points out that the kerygma, the announcement or proclamation of the Good News is vital for us today. We are to be like John the Baptist, announcing, being the herald that we have salvation in the person of Jesus Christ. 'Hear ye, hear ye.'

**Solemnity of
the Birth of
St. John
the Baptist
June 24**

Obedient to his Mission
Prepared the people for
the coming of the
Messiah
Baptism of Jesus Christ
at Jordan River





From the Desk of Fr. Jan.....

We all know that time does not stand still but during vacation it seems to fly by even quicker. However, we should not take a vacation from God. God does not take a vacation from us. We also should do the same and think not only about rest, relaxation and entertainment but also leave time for God. Many of you are probably already in vacation mode but to those who are planning your vacation trip, I would like to remind you that a vacation from work does not mean a vacation from our spiritual life or our spiritual duties. Going to church, praying and meditating when we are on vacation and not being pulled in all different directions is a perfect time to pause and reflect.

Vacation is a wonderful opportunity to turn our souls to God. Some of you may be visiting nature sights, enjoying it and admiring the beauty of God's creation. It is precisely this time that we can discover the greatness of our Lord. Let our souls and minds admire the power of God in his creation. Let us spiritually come closer to God and let this time be the time of our spiritual growth.

We, as Christians, have an obligation to attend Sunday Mass. Though we may be away from our home parish, it has never been easier to locate a church. With today's technology, it is easy to check on the internet the closest location of a Catholic Church and Mass schedule in the area we will be staying. It is a practical way to plan our vacation with God. We actually know that if we carelessly omit Sunday Mass it offends God and we commit a mortal sin (third commandment).

As we participate in the holy Mass, we are united in faith with God which, in turn, will bring us happiness from Jesus Christ. The Eucharist is a prelude to our heavenly banquet, in which we will feast with the angels and saints at God's table. So, whoever will participate in the holy Mass and will feed on the body of Christ here on earth, will also carry in him life everlasting. Jesus said: *"I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats this bread, he will live forever. The bread that I will give him is my flesh, which I give so that the world may live."* The holy Mass is a great gift and a blessing for all of us and we should take advantage of it and use this opportunity of being united with Jesus Christ.

Vacation is a time of relaxation and restfulness and is the perfect time away from our daily harried lives to be able to think about God. So please take this opportunity to relax and rest with God.

God Bless You!

