

**PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW**  
**Stewardship Report – Treasure**

**TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**JUNE 21, 2020**

Regular Sunday Collection – 6/14/20 \$ 4,372.00  
 Regular On-line giving – 6/7/20 \$ 796.00  
 Maintenance – On-line giving 6/7/20 \$ 61.00

**Many thanks to those who continued to support St. Monica's Church by sending in weekly collection envelopes.**

If you are unable to attend Mass, weekly collection envelopes may be mailed directly to the Rectory office at 33 Unionville Avenue, Sussex, NJ 07461.

Collection envelopes may also be dropped in the metal milk box located to the left of the front door of the rectory.

Thank you for your generosity!

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The Sanctuary Lamp is given this week:

In Memory of: Giorgio Gallara

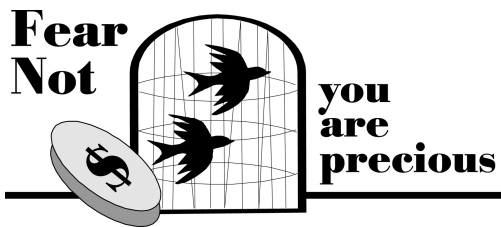
Given by: The Gallara Family

**MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK**

6/22	MON:	9:00am	People of our Parish
6/23	TUES:	9:00am	People of our Parish
6/24	WED:	9:00am	NO MASS TODAY
6/25	THU:	9:00am	People of our Parish
6/26	FRI:	9:00am	People of our Parish
6/27	SAT:	5:00pm	CONFIRMATION
6/28	SUN:	8:30am	Eugene Sabyan
		10:30am	People of our Parish

**SUMMER SCHEDULE MASS TIMES:**  
**SATURDAY: 5:00 PM**  
**SUNDAY: 8:30 AND 10:30AM (NO 12:00PM MASS)**  
**WEEKDAY MASSES: MON., TUES, THURS, FRI.**  
**AT 9:00AM (NO MASS ON WEDNESDAYS)**

**Deadline for bulletin submissions:** Please contact the Rectory Office by 12 noon on Tuesday of each week for articles to be printed on the following Sunday.



*As we honor our fathers today, we hear Jesus reassure his disciples by reminding them of the tender care of his heavenly Father. Our heavenly Father watches over us assiduously, faithfully, lovingly; every hair on our heads is accounted for. Let us recall all the times our own fathers, grandfathers, uncles and father figures—living and deceased—made us feel safe and secure with their vigilant care.*

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**WEEKLY/MONTHLY PARISH EVENTS**  
**COFFEE & DONUTS** – Discontinued for the summer.

**SCRIPTURE REFLECTION:** Information to follow.

**ST. MONICA'S LEISURE GROUP** – Cancelled until further notice.

**ST. MONICA'S ROSARY SOCIETY** – Will meet to recite the Rosary in the Church at 7:00pm on Monday, July 6.  
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**SPECIAL DEVOTIONS AT ST. MONICA'S**

**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 9:00A.M. Mass until 10:00A.M.

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**THIS YEAR'S SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION WILL TAKE PLACE AT ST. MONICA'S ON SATURDAY, JUNE 27 AT THE 5:00 PM MASS. THEREFORE, DUE TO LIMITED ACCESS, THE CHURCH WILL BE OPEN TO THE CONFIRMATION STUDENTS, THEIR SPONSORS, AND A LIMITED NUMBER OF FAMILY MEMBERS ONLY. CONSEQUENTLY, FOR THOSE OF US WHO NORMALLY ATTEND THE 5:00 PM MASS, PLEASE ATTEND ANOTHER MASS OR FOLLOW MASS FROM HOME THAT WEEKEND. WE APOLOGIZE FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE. THANK YOU.**

**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. THERE ARE BLANK REGISTRATION FORMS ON THE TABLE NEAR THE CHURCH EXITS. PLEASE FILL IT OUT AND GIVE IT TO FR. JAN AFTER MASS, OR DROP IT IN THE COLLECTION BASKET.**

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**READINGS FOR THIS WEEK**

- Sunday - Jer 20:10-13; Rom 5:12-15; Mt 10:26-33**
- 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 - Is 49:1-6; Acts 13:22-26; Lk 1:57-66, 80**
- Thursday - 2 Kgs 24:8-17; Mt 7:21-29**
- Friday - 2 Kgs 25:1-12; Mt 8:1-4**
- Saturday - Lam 2:2, 10-14, 18-19; Mt 8:5-17**

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**TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**First Reading: Jeremiah 20:10-13**

Because the prophet Jeremiah foretold disaster for Jerusalem, he was denounced. But Jeremiah trusted in the Lord and overcame his persecutors.

**Second Reading: Romans 5:12-15**

Paul explains to the Romans that Adam's sin brought death to all, but Christ's gift of himself brought grace and life.

**Gospel: Matthew 10:26-33**

In authoritative and encouraging words, Jesus urges the apostles to fear nothing -- only him who can destroy the soul. Telling them "every hair of your head has been counted," he promises that "Whoever acknowledges me before men I will acknowledge before my Father in heaven."

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**A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS**

**HIS WORD TODAY** by Rev. William J. Reilly

**Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**June 21, 2020**

**"But the gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one, all died, how much more did the grace of God and the gracious gift of the one man Jesus Christ overflow for the many."**

It is easy for us to point out the cause of our restless world. Sin, death, war, hate all flow from the fall as recorded in Genesis. At that time, God made His promise to us. That promise was carried out in the person of Jesus Christ.

Paul tells us of the greatest of gifts, God's grace, bringing His life to us, and renewed as we celebrate the Sacraments. What is grace? It is the life of Jesus Christ, our God, communicated to us, as a gift. That's God's part. Our role is to accept that gift, hungering for His life in us. As I recall this great teaching, may I ask for the grace to overflow in my heart. Today I want to reach out and accept that gift in my heart.



## ST. MONICA'S PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Please feel free to submit prayer requests for those who are ill or hospitalized. You may either submit them to our email address: [stmonica@ptd.net](mailto:stmonica@ptd.net) or by calling the rectory office at 973-875-4521 and leave a message. The names will be placed on our "Prayers for the Sick List" each week. Please pray for the following:  
Muriel Card, Dorothy Ogrinz, Pat Roberts, and Bernhard Oesen, Diane Siegler, Thomas Siegler, Sr.

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## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Now that churches are open, please go to the home page of St. Monica's website, and read the letter from the Bishop which contains the mandatory restrictions that have been imposed by the Diocese of Paterson under the guidelines of the CDC.

To clarify some of the guidelines: As you can see, we must restrict attendance at each Mass to 25% of capacity. Parishioners will be admitted by the side door only. **Face masks are required.** Hand disinfectant will be provided at the door. Attendance will be on a first-come, first-served basis until 25% capacity is reached for each Mass. Alternate pews will be marked and kept vacant in order to observe social distancing. Ushers will be available to assist you at weekend Masses.

Mass times (Summer schedule) will be as follows:

Saturdays 5:00 pm  
Sundays 8:30 am and 10:30 am (no 12 noon Mass)  
Weekdays (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday): 9:00 am

Confessions will be heard on Saturdays between 4:30 and 5:00pm or by appointment.

We thank you for your anticipated adherence to the restrictions and we understand that they will place many constraints on our Mass participation, but we must be compliant to the guidelines. We have greatly missed each and every one of you and we are happy to be able to celebrate Mass with you again.

May God bless you and keep you healthy and safe.

*Fr. Jan*

**DUE TO RESTRICTIONS THAT ALLOW FOR ONLY 25% CAPACITY AT EACH MASS, THOSE ARRIVING AFTER CAPACITY IS REACHED MAY, REGRETABLELY, HAVE TO BE TURNED AWAY. IN THIS CASE, PARISHIONERS MAY ATTEND A WEEKDAY MASS OR JOIN US ON-LINE EACH SUNDAY TO CELEBRATE MASS.**

**The Link for the video Mass will be available each weekend on our homepage.  
([stmonicasussex.org](http://stmonicasussex.org)).**

## The Nativity of St. John the Baptist



Wednesday, June 24, we celebrate the Nativity of St. John the Baptist. The birth of St. John the Baptist is one of only three births celebrated on the liturgical calendar. The birth of Jesus is celebrated on December 25; the birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the mother of Jesus, is September 8; and the birth of St. John the Baptist, the prophet who announced the arrival of Jesus, the Messiah, is June 24. It ranks as a solemnity.

The birth of St. John the Baptist was a momentous occasion. He was no ordinary child. Jesus said of John, “Amen, I say to you, among those born of women there has been none greater than John the Baptist” (Mt 11:11).

John the Baptist ranks first among the prophets. All of the prophets that went before him announced that the Messiah was coming. The Baptist was blessed with the singular privilege to announce that the Messiah had come. He was the only prophet who pointed to Jesus and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world” (Jn 1:29). He “ranks ahead of me because he existed before me” (Jn 1:30). “He is the Son of God” (Jn 1:34b).

The date for the feast is based on Luke’s Infancy Narrative. At the Annunciation the angel Gabriel told Mary that Elizabeth had conceived and that she was in her sixth month (Lk 1:36), after which Mary visited Elizabeth and “remained with her about three months” (Lk 1:56a), presumably until John was born. June 24 is six months before the birth of Jesus.

St. Augustine saw a connection between June 24 and December 24, John and Jesus, the light, the summer and winter solstices, and their relative importance. Jesus said that John “was a burning and shining lamp, and for a while you were content to rejoice in his light” (Jn 5:35). Later Jesus said of himself, “I am the light of the world” (Jn 8:12). John is the lesser light. Jesus is the greater light. St. Augustine observed that John was born after the summer solstice when light begins to decrease, Jesus was born after the winter solstice when light begins to increase, which correlates to John’s statement, “He must increase and I must decrease” (Jn 3:30).

The Preface for the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist is a prayer of thanksgiving to God for the blessings of the Precursor’s life. “For you consecrated him for a singular honor among those born among women. His birth brought great rejoicing; even in the womb he leapt for joy at the coming of human salvation. He alone of all the prophets pointed out the Lamb of redemption. And to make holy the flowing waters, he baptized the very author of Baptism and was privileged to bear him supreme witness by the shedding of his blood” (Roman Missal, 732).

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