

PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW
Stewardship Report – Treasure

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
SEPTEMBER 6, 2020

<u>Sunday Collection-8/30/20</u>	\$ 1,742.00
<u>Special Collection - Catholic University</u>	\$ 174.00
<u>Special Collection – Missions</u>	\$ 43.00
<u>On-line giving - 8/23/20</u>	\$ 661.00
<u>On-line giving – Maintenance – 8/23/20</u>	\$ 25.00



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!



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

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

9/7	MON:	9:00am	Intentions of the Rosary Society
9/8	TUES:	9:00am	People of our Parish
9/9	WED:	9:00am	NO MASS TODAY
9/10	THU:	9:00am	People of our Parish
9/11	FRI:	9:00am	People of our Parish
9/12	SAT:	5:00pm	Vic DiGerolamo, Jr. Annie Zayacz Betty Trotter
9/13	SUN:	8:30am 10:30am	Justine Lawlor (LIV) Richard Randall Bernard Oesen

Each of us is our brother's (and sister's) keeper. Today we hear God calling us to be responsible for each other. No one should be left on their own to fail; we are called to pick each other up, to help each other out. This Labor Day weekend, when we honor all those who work to do the things that contribute to society, whether in a factory, on a farm, in an office, at home, or wherever it may be, let us resolve to work together in building the kingdom of God.

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WEEKLY/MONTHLY PARISH EVENTS

HELPING HANDS- There will be a meeting on Tuesday, September 8, 2020 at 7:30 pm in the Church Hall. New members are always welcome.

SPECIAL DEVOTIONS AT ST. MONICA'S

Recitation of the Rosary – Come join us every Monday at 7:00 pm in the Church to recite the Rosary for peace in our nation and around the world.

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.

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 10 am on Tuesday of each week for articles to be printed on the following Sunday.

****NOTE:** *The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, 9/7/20 in observance of Labor Day***

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).

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.

UPCOMING PARISH EVENT!

Helping Hands will be hosting a **Fish and Chips Dinner (TAKE OUT ONLY)** on **Friday, October 9, 2020**. Curbside delivery will be available!! Food is prepared by Tastefully British. Tickets will be sold after all masses beginning September 19th, and also at the church office. Prices are \$15 for adults and \$10 for children. Mark the date on your calendar with "No cooking tonight!" and come support this event!!



SILVER WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS



Couples, were you married in 1995? The Diocese of Paterson invites you to celebrate your 25th wedding anniversary during a special Mass to be offered at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Paterson, NJ. Bishop Sweeney will serve as main celebrant on this joyful occasion to be held on **Sunday, November 8th, 2020 at 3:30 pm**. Arrangements can be made by contacting the parish office. **The deadline to register is Thursday, October 1, 2020**. You will receive additional information from the Office of Family Life once your registration has been processed. ***Congratulations on this joyous occasion!***



The Diocese of Paterson Development Office (Clifton) is seeking a part-time data entry applicant for seasonal employment. Hours are flexible and not to exceed 30 hours per week. Responsibilities include accurate data entry of campaign pledges and payments and other pertinent donor information into donor database. Computer skills and advanced typing skills are a plus. Any interested parties should contact the Development Office at (973) 777-8818 ext. 218 for further details.

9-11 MEMORIAL SERVICE & PRAYERS FOR PROTECTION FROM COVID-19

The members of Holy Spirit Orthodox Church, 102 Rt. 284, Wantage, invite you to attend a very special outdoor 9-11 Memorial Service & Prayers for Protection from COVID-19 at 6:00 pm, Friday, September 11, 2020 in honor and remembrance of the firefighters, police, first responders, and all who lost their lives at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and in Pennsylvania on 9-11.

Hi Eminence, Archbishop Michael of NY and NJ, will also offer prayers for all those affected by COVID-19; for the deceased, as well as survivors, all workers, including police, doctors and nurses, emergency personnel, medical professionals, researchers and scientists, as well as prayers for a successful vaccine. There will also be a blessing of area fire engines, ambulances and police cars.

If you plan to attend the service or to include a name of loved ones in the remembrances, please contact Mary Osinski, Parish Council Secretary at mary.osinski@gmail.com.



READINGS FOR THIS WEEK – TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- Sunday: Ez 33:7-9; Rom 13:8-10; Mt 18:15-20**
- Monday: 1 Cor 5:1-8; Lk 6:6-11**
- Tuesday: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30; Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23**
- Wednesday: 1 Cor 7:25-31; Lk 6:20-26**
- Thursday: 1 Cor 8:1b-7, 11-13; Lk 6:27-38**
- Friday: 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22b-27; Lk 6:39-42**
- Saturday: 1 Cor 10:14-22; Lk 6:43-49**



RETREAT AT THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL

Join us at The National Shrine of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel on Wednesday, September 23rd for “Tailored Prayer: Finding the Way of Prayer that is Right for You” with Fr. Time Ennis, O.Carm. Cost is \$10pp. Retreat will be held in the Shrine Church from 9:30-11:15am followed by Mass at 11:30am. Shrine is marked off for social distancing. Please wear a face mask and use hand sanitizer upon entering. Our Picnic area will be available, weather permitting, for those who wish to enjoy the outdoor grounds and bring their own lunch. Gift Shop will be open until 4:00pm. The Shrine is located at 70 Carmelite Drive, Middletown, NY. Call Carol Bezak, Shrine Director for reservations or further information at 845-343-1879.



A SHORT HISTORY OF THE FIRST LABOR DAY

The first Labor Day holiday was celebrated on Tuesday, September 5, 1882, in New York City, in accordance with the plans of the Central Labor Union. In 1884, the first Monday in September was selected as the holiday and the Central Labor Union urged similar organizations in other cities to follow the example of New York and celebrate a “workmen’s holiday” on that day. The idea spread with the growth of labor organizations, and in 1885, Labor Day was celebrated in many industrial centers of the country.

LABOR DAY PRAYER

Spirit of the Living God, bless the work of our hands, our minds, and our hearts. May the work offered be a reflection of all that is good within us. In planning, creating, doing, grant us the courage to patiently listen for the stirring of your Presence. May unity, beauty and truth be the fruit of our labor. Amen.



**A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS
HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly**

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time - September 6, 2020

“Jesus said to his disciples, ‘If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother. If he does not listen take one or two others along with you, so that every fact may be established on the testimony of two or three witnesses... Amen I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father. For where two or three...”

Which seems better, that everyone know about a disagreement with you, or discreetly find a way to address it, with no one else being aware of it? Certainly, there is faster healing resulting in peace and contentment.

One of the greatest powers we possess, is the power to forgive. Unfortunately, it is a power we seem to hold in reserve and often refuse to use.

How often we have heard the phrase ‘forgive and forget’, but an unfair accusation or allegation cannot be easily forgotten. A wise, holy monk taught me to respond to a hurt with ‘forgive and remember without bitterness.’ Try it, it works.



Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Celebrated every year on September 8, the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary commemorates the birth of Mary, Mother of our Savior, Jesus Christ. The Church has celebrated Mary's birth since at least the sixth century.

Sacred Scripture does not record Mary's birth. The earliest known writing regarding Mary's birth is found in the *Protoevangelium of James* (5:2), which is an apocryphal writing (not part of the authentic canon of Scripture) from the late second century, where Saint Anne and Saint Joachim are mentioned as being Mary's parents. According to this account, Saint Anne and Saint Joachim were both advanced in age yet together they prayed and fasted believing that God would grant their desire for a child. As they were praying they received the promise of a child that would advance God's plan of salvation for the world. Such a story (like many biblical counterparts) stresses the special presence of God in Mary's life from the very beginning. This work (apocryphal) has no historical value, but it does reflect the development of Christian piety and fills the gap in the beliefs of the Church.

In the case of Saints, the Church commemorates the day of their passing, the day of their return to the Lord. However, in the case of the Blessed Virgin, the Church also celebrates the day of her birth. The reason for this is found in the singular mission that was hers in the History of Salvation, but traditionally also because she alone was holy in her very birth. The birth of Mary was miraculous. She was conceived without sin as a special grace because God had selected her to become the mother of His Son (the feast of her Immaculate Conception is celebrated on December 8 – nine months prior to her Nativity). The Church dogma of the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary, though generally believed throughout the Church for many centuries, was formally declared by Pope Pius IX in 1854.

The birth of Mary is ordained in particular toward her mission as Mother of the Savior. Her existence is inseparably connected with that of Christ: it partakes of a unique plan of salvation and grace. God's mysterious plan regarding the Incarnation of the Word embraces also the Virgin who is His Mother. In this way, the Birth of Mary is inserted at the very heart of the History of Salvation. (M. Valentini, *Dictionary of Mary*, pp. 36-7.)

In celebrating the Nativity of Mary, Christians anticipate the Incarnation and Birth of her Divine Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Let us honor our Blessed Mother on her birthday by offering the below prayer to her:

**Lord God,
the day of our salvation dawned
when the Blessed Virgin gave birth to your Son.
As we celebrate her nativity
grant us your grace and your peace.
Through Christ our Lord, Amen.**

Fr. Jan