

JANUARY 29, 2017
FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MONDAY

8:30 Claire Schiemer req. by Renee Ferguson

TUESDAY – Saint John Bosco

8:30 Claire Schiemer req. by Mr. & Mrs. Furfero

WEDNESDAY

8:30 Sylvia Graifer req. by Anna & Simon

9:30 Michael Morelli req. by Rev. Brown Faculty and Staff

THURSDAY – The Presentation of the Lord

8:30 Jerzy Bradtke req. by Rita & John Scanlon

FRIDAY – Saint Blaise and Saint Ansgar

8:30 Elizabeth Heldak (10th Anniv.) req. by her children

9:30 Annabelle Welch req. by Janice Quinn & Family

SATURDAY

8:30 Special Intention for Fr. Marcin Bradtke and his family req. by Rita & John Scanlon

5:30 Rose & Joseph Castello req. by Family
Joe Pietrucha req. by Ann Smela

FEBRUARY 5, 2017
FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:45 People of the Parish

9:00 Milton Kozdron req. by family
Helene Bell req. by Jon Bober

10:30 Members of the Purgatorial Society
Helen Morris Gregory and Colleen Helen McBride req. by Family

12:00 Jerzy Bradtke req. by the Mattos Family
Thomas J. Ricco req. by Josephine O'Rourke

5:00 Grace Carberry req. by Geoff and Judy Zoeller

PARISH FINANCES

January 22, 2017

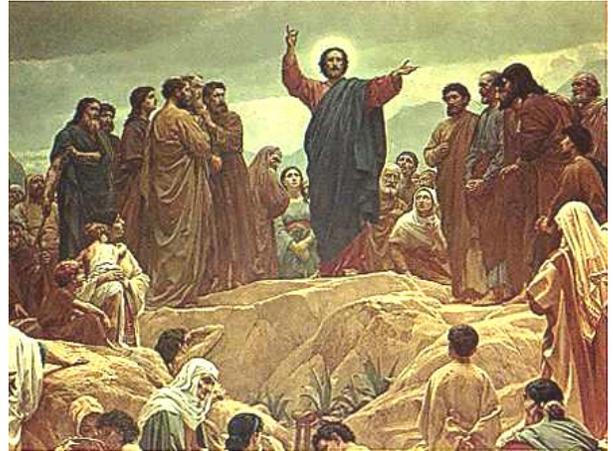
\$ 10,162

Next week's second collection is for our Parish Maintenance.



REFLECTION

Rejoice and be Glad!



Jesus' Sermon on the Mount has been referred to by some commentators as his "manifesto" – a set of observations about the way things are and the way they could be. But have you ever read a manifesto? Many are political and can sound almost funny. Eager to win popular support, candidates or leaders often exaggerate. They promise health, happiness, and prosperity too. Opponents are quick to point out that all this is impossible to guarantee – yet they make similar claims!

Of course, Jesus isn't campaigning for our vote. We know that when he says that something "will" happen, it's completely different from the exaggerated promises of politicians. So in the Beatitudes, he is saying, with certainty, "This is how it will be. Do you want to be a part of it?"

Take a minute to reread the Beatitudes now, and substitute the word "might" each time you see the word "will." "They might be comforted.

...They might inherit the land." Not so inspiring, is it? Now read them as they are written. In these words, the almighty Son of God is assuring you beyond doubt that you, who are merciful, *will* receive mercy; that even though insults are hurled at you, you *will* have a great reward in heaven. Let that assurance deepen your faith in him.

We all know what it feels like when someone breaks their promise to us. In fact, we can become so accustomed to disappointment that we look skeptically at anyone who makes grand promises. That makes it hard for us to trust in Jesus' words here.

Do it anyway! Remind yourself that God's promises are true because he is trustworthy. Remind yourself that he loves you and wants nothing more than to lift you up into his presence. Today and every day, remind yourself that your faith and hope are in God, and he will never abandon you!

***"Thank you, Jesus, that your kingdom will come.
I place my hope in you."***

THE WEEK IN THE PARISH 1/29/17 TO 2/5/17

Sun.	1:30 PM Women's Social	Cassidy Hall
Tues.	9:00 AM Scripture Sharing	Library
	9:15 AM Special Altar Server Training	Church
	7:00 PM Women's Cornerstone	St. Lucy
	7:00 PM Bible Study	Cassidy Hall
Wed.	7:00 PM RB OPEN HOUSE	
	7:30 PM Baptism Class	Library
Thurs.	6:45 PM BINGO (non-smoking)	McKenna Hall
	7:30 PM Wm's Cornerstone Team 3	Cassidy Hall
Fri.	Filipino Mass	Church
	8:30 PM AA	Cassidy Hall
Sat.	10:30 AM Altar Server Training	Church
	8:00 PM AA	McKenna Hall

LITURGY

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Zephaniah 2:3, 3:12-13

Zephaniah prophesies that the Lord will punish wicked nations along with Jerusalem, but he will shelter from his anger those who practice justice and humility and do no wrong.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:26-31

Paul tells the Corinthians that God prefers the humble, the weak, the lowly of station — people like themselves. In Christ Jesus they will find wisdom, honor and justice.

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12a

Jesus teaches the Beatitudes in his Sermon on the Mount. He extols those who are merciful, peaceful, lowly, poor in spirit and promises them that "the reign of God is theirs."

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Isaiah 58:7-10

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

Gospel: Matthew 5:13-16

RAINBOWS FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

The Sparta United Methodist Church will sponsor the winter/spring session of *Rainbows for All God's Children*. This program supports children (kindergarten through 8th grade) who are grieving as a result of loss. This may be a result of death of a parent/grandparent, divorce, separation, or incarceration. *Rainbows* offers peer support along with the guidance from trained, caring adults who will listen and give youngsters a safe place to express their feelings about the changes in their family's dynamics. The winter/spring session begins February 28, 2017, and concludes April 4, 2017, (Tuesday evening meetings - first session begins at 6:15 — all other sessions begin at 6:30 until 7:15 PM, at the Sparta United Methodist Church). If you would like to register your child for this program, please call Pat Johnson, (973) 729-3233

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

Attention Boys and Girls in the 4th Grade and above:

Training for new altar servers begins soon! Training will be held on Saturday mornings from 10:30 to Noon on February 4th, 11th 18th, 25th; and on Monday evenings on February 6th, 13th, 20th, and 27th. Registration forms will be given out in the coming weeks to Rev. Brown, Pope John Middle School and CCD students in grades 4 thru 7. Please fill them out, and return them with a parent's signature to your teachers or to the Parish office.



FILIPINO MASS

The Bilingual Filipino Mass will be celebrated in Church on First Friday, February 3rd. All are welcome.

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Those serving in the military especially: Richard Fox, John Garlasco, Brian McCarthy, Lt. Daniel Faherty, Joseph Venutolo, Cpl. Marc Vero, Sgt. Jeremy Overstreet, Kevin Michael Kiefer, Michael Krapels, Robert Stumpe, USMC, Staff Sgt. Jeremy Curcio, Staff Sgt. Lena Webb, Spc. Samuel Nolan, US Army, Lt. Jamie Curcio, Navy Reserve, 1ST Lt. Christopher Tantillo; Cpl. Conor J. Brady, USMC, LCpl. Marc Stanziale, USMC. 1st Lt. Joseph Brunone, US Nat'l Guard, Brandon Adams, USAF. Please continue to pray for all our servicemen and women.

· SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT

DOGMA TEAM/YOUTH GROUP

Dogma Team meets every Monday at 6:30 PM. to 8:00 PM in the Youth Room.

BIBLE STUDY

We take "A Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother, Mary", Tuesday Nights at 7:00 PM in Cassidy Hall. All are invited to join us for this Seven Session DVD series, with follow-up discussion and refreshments.

**Get that super feeling at
CORNERSTONE
April 2017**

WE'VE BEEN ASKED TO ANNOUNCE

It's Snowing Money

Turn the misery of winter into some extra cash (and do a good turn) by helping seniors clear their cars after a snowstorm. Either plowing or hand-shoveling welcome. Call Knoll Heights Senior Village in Sparta at (973) 729-4311 and have your name and telephone number registered. Residents will get in touch with you, and you can agree on the terms.

Annual Caring Basket Gala

Assumption College for Sisters, Denville is proud to honor Father Brian Plate, Eileen and Les Quick and Terry and Prudence Pigott for their service to Church, family and community. Assumption College for Sisters, sponsored by the Sisters of Christian Charity, exists primarily to educate women called to consecrated life. The Gala raises scholarship money for the Sisters' education which equips them with the necessary pastoral and professional skills for ministry. For more information, contact Patricia McGrady (973) 957-0188 Ext. 101, or email: gala@acs350.org.

Annual Murray House Dinner Dance

Please help support the Department for Persons with Disabilities (DPD), a Catholic Charities Agency, as they host their 47th Annual Murray House Dinner Dance at the Brownstone in Paterson. DPD provides care for over 100 adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities throughout the Diocese of Paterson. The Annual Gala will be held on February 19th at 6:00 PM. This year, DPD will be honoring Joe Duffy, past Catholic Charities President as their Person of the Year, as well as several service recipients, volunteers and employees. Help support the event by attending, taking out an ad, or by sponsoring a DPD resident to attend. Last year over 60 individuals were sponsored to attend this event! For more information visit: www.dpd.org/Murray or contact DPD'S Development Office at (973) 406-1104 or at Christb@dpd.org.

Part-time Caregivers needed!

The Auxilium School is looking for part-time caregivers with flexible hours to work in our Infant/Toddler program. We are looking for responsible, nurturing, committed individuals to join our staff. CPR/FA certified preferred. Some additional training may be required. Please fax your resume to us at (973) 383-3214 or email us at Schooloffice@campauxilium.org.



POPE JOHN XXIII
MIDDLE SCHOOL

Pope John XXIII Middle School offers a vigorous academic program, offering both the arts and the latest in engineering design. PJMS fosters strong Catholic values, and nurtures personal growth by providing service opportunities and developing global awareness.

**YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND AN
INFORMATION SESSION AND OPEN HOUSE**

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2017
7:00 PM**

**AT POPE JOHN XXIII HIGH SCHOOL
28 ANDOVER ROAD, SPARTA**

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 973-729-1967

REVEREND BROWN OPEN HOUSE

Reverend George A. Brown Memorial School is a thriving National Blue Ribbon School committed to academic excellence. We invite you to visit our school to learn more about our community.



REVEREND
GEORGE A. BROWN
MEMORIAL SCHOOL

Open House

**9:00 am Tuesday, January 31st
7:00 pm Tuesday, January 31st**

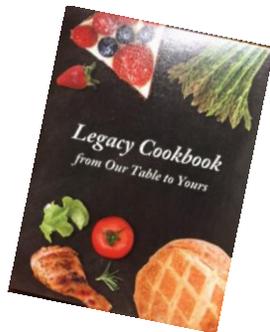
**For more information please visit our website at:
www.revbrownschool.org
To make an appointment please call
973-729-9174**

PLEASE HELP SUPPORT THREE CHILDREN WITHOUT PARENTS

In July 2016, three Bergen County children witnessed a horrific scene as their mother was shot and killed by their father on their front lawn. He then went on to kill himself leaving them without parents. It is a heartbreaking situation and one can only imagine how much the children suffered emotionally and financially. Deborah Bode, a parishioner of Our Lady of the Lake, was a longtime best friend of the mother and family. She has written a children's book in her friend's honor as well as to help the children. The book is available for purchase online at Amazon.com under the title "The Best Friend Interview." It is a beautifully illustrated short story about a child dealing with a loss of a best friend. Perhaps it can help a child you know. Please consider purchasing the book. Deborah is donating **ALL PROCEEDS directly to the children**. Your purchase, support, and especially prayers for the children is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

ALL LEGACY COOKBOOKS ON SALE

Our Lady of the Lake Legacy Cookbooks have been published and are available for purchase at the parish office. They are \$25 each and make great gifts for Easter or Mother's Day. They may also be purchased at the Sparta Book Store. Please support this important fundraiser. Thank you.



BAPTISM CLASS FOR NEW PARENTS



The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on the first and third Sundays of each month following the Noon Mass, or baptisms may take place during the celebration of any Sunday Mass. A preparation class for parents of the children to be baptized is held the first Wednesday every other month at 7:30 PM in the

parish library. The next class will be on February 1st. Please call the parish office if you plan to attend the class, or if you would like to schedule your child's Baptism.

ST. PATRICK'S DINNER DANCE 2017



MARCH 18 IN MCKENNA HALL – 6:30 PM

Please mark your calendars for our annual St. Patrick's gathering. In keeping with parish family tradition, our own top of the line Irish step dancers and traditional musicians will be there. As always, a fine corned beef and cabbage dinner will be served to you at your table, and the DJ will also be there to play your favorite dance tunes.

Tickets will be available in the vestibule after all Masses the weekend of January 28th/29th and in the parish office beginning January 30th. You may purchase tickets either for a table of 10 or individually for open seating. Happily, the ticket price remains \$35. This is a BYOB event, so - 21 and over only, please. Ticket sales will close on March 5, 2016. Please purchase your tickets early; thanks to your support and enthusiasm they sell out quickly.

We've got all the makings of another lovely evening for our parish family. Please join us and make it even better. ☺

WHAT IS TRIVIA NIGHT?

Join us in Cassidy Hall for this first time event on **February 17 at 7:00 PM**. All parishioners are welcome. A special invitation goes out to those who donated their favorite recipes to help make the Legacy Cookbook fundraiser a success. Won't you please make that favorite dish and bring it with you so everyone gets a taste of the great things to be found in our Legacy cookbook? Some light dinner fare will also be available, but it's bringing your favorite recipe that will make it special. Beverages are BYOB.

Several rounds of trivia questions in different categories will help round out the evening; lots of good laughs to go along with good food. Cassidy Hall has limited seating, so please be sure to RSVP with the parish office no later than February 3rd. If you're one of our cookbook contributors, please let us know what you're bringing. See you then.