

SEPTEMBER 15, 2019

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

MONDAY – Saints Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs

8:30 Cosmo Cascia req. by Mr. & Mrs. Rocco Sgarlato
Daniel Colfax req. by Doug Vance

TUESDAY – Saint Robert Bellamine

8:30 Stella Maris Hardware req. by the Tabaranza Family
Joy Giordano req. by John & Carole Taormina

WEDNESDAY

8:30 Marianna Dziegielewska req. by Maureen Kershaw

THURSDAY – Saint Janarius, Bishop and Martyr

8:30 Joan Balsamo req. by Mr. & Mrs. Rocco Sgarlato
Adele Uddo req. by John & Carole Taormina

FRIDAY – Saints Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Priest and Paul Chong Ha-sang, and Companions, Martyrs

8:30 Joy Ann Cody req. by Bridget & Tom Manning
Special Intention of Paul Verchot

SATURDAY – Saint Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist

8:30 William Salisbury req. by Brian & Judy Connell
5:30 Virginia Bodo & Deceased members of the Bodo, Tran & Kelly Families req. by Robert Bodo and Family

SEPTEMBER 22, 2019

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:45 Louisa DiBello req. by Jane & Harry Rymaniak
Janice Luby req. by Family

9:00 Patricia Mastroianni req. by Terry Mazzaferre
Bonnie Lepore req. by Dolores & Debbie Redshaw

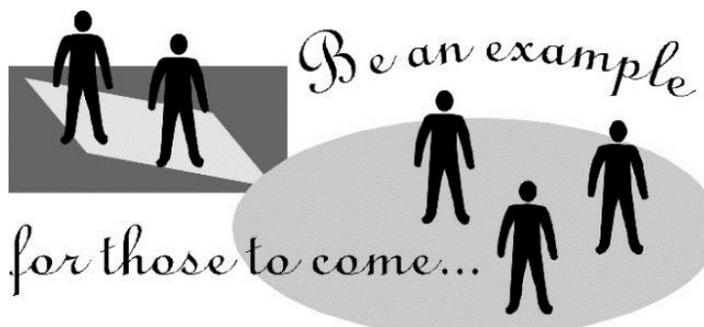
10:30 Monsignor Paul Knauer req. by Gerri Ellis

12:00 People of the Parish
Robert P. Quinn req. by his wife, Janice

PARISH FINANCES

September 8, 2019 \$ 10,052

We Share (August) \$ 8,867



REFLECTION

The Prodigal Son

The parable of the Prodigal Son has two parts. The first we easily identify with, with its familiar motifs of joy, repentance, warm embrace and celebration. What is there not to like about this? Perhaps of all the parables this parable, which could equally be called the parable of the Father's Heart, teaches us most about the nature of God the Father, who is "kind to the ungrateful and the selfish."



The heroes of the parable are clear: the wandering, wastrel son and the kind, compassionate father. The parable could almost have finished at verse 24 with the words, 'So they began to celebrate'. Except it doesn't end there, does it? The remaining eight verses explore the villain of the piece: the crotchety, cantankerous, callous, rigid and self-righteous older brother. Do you recognize any of these qualities in yourself?

Now here is the crunch question: of the three characters, whom do you most relate to: the prodigal, his benevolent father or the complaining elder brother? The truth is, most of us identify with the repentant younger son and the caring father. Few if any identify with the elder brother. This is understandable; he is not very pleasant by any stretch of the imagination. He is moody, self-righteous, indignant, resentful and angry. He is constrained and limited by his own sense of propriety and a festering sense of self-righteousness.

A parable is not an allegory: in other words there doesn't have to be a direct correlation between each character and one single idea or interpretation. Perhaps there is a bit of all three characters – the father, the younger son and the elder brother – in us all. What is striking is how lost the 'righteous' son is, as well as the unrighteous son, and how loving the father is to both his offspring. The father does not rebuke him or treat him harshly, but rather affirms his love for him and reaches out to him with a touching and moving appeal, 'we had to celebrate and be glad.' Today we ask the Holy Spirit to bring us ever closer to the Father's heart, for there we can find rest in the bosom of God.

From: *Bible Alive*

Sun.	Religious Ed classes begin.	
Mon.	7:30 pm Finance	Library
Tues.	9:00 am Bible Study	Library
	7:00 pm Parent Support	St. Francis
	7:00 pm Men's Cornerstone	St. Joseph
Wed.	7:00 pm RB Tricky Tray Meeting	McKenna Hall
Thurs.	6:45 pm BINGO (non-smoking)	McKenna Hall
	7:00 pm Women's Cornerstone	St. Joseph
	7:00 pm RCIA	St. Lucy
Fri.	8:00 pm AA	Cassidy Hall
Sat.	9:00 am Legion of Mary	St. Benedict
	8:00 pm AA	McKenna Hall
Sun.	10:00 am Parent Meeting - 8, 9 & 10 gr	PJ Old Gym

LITURGY

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14

God became very angry with the Israelites for worshipping a molten calf and making sacrifices to it. The people had so quickly violated his commandments that he planned to destroy them. But Moses pleaded with God for mercy and God relented.

Second Reading: 1 Timothy 1:12-17

Paul considered himself a former blasphemer and persecutor, and expressed his gratitude for the mercy Jesus showed him. Paul felt that he was a perfect example of Jesus' patience toward sinners and his desire to reconcile them with God.

Gospel: Luke 15:1-32

The Pharisees grew angry because of the Jesus' compassion toward sinners. In response, Jesus tells of a son who squandered his inheritance, then returned to his father and asked to be treated as a hired hand. The father rejoiced, angering his older and more obedient son. The father explained that everything he owned belonged to his older son; but he had to rejoice for the son who was lost and had been found.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Amos 8:4-7

Second Reading: 1 Timothy 2:1-8

Gospel: Luke 16:1-13



Blood Drive at Saint Kateri Church, Saturday, September 21 from 7:45 am to 1:45 pm. Eligible blood donors are between the ages of 17 to 75, weigh a minimum of 110 pounds and in good health. To schedule an appointment: Tinyurl.com/GiveBloodNJBS Sponsor Code 15978. Walk-ins are always welcome.

SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

Are you someone or do you know someone who...

- † Is interested in becoming a Catholic?
- † Was baptized but never received the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist?

RCIA is for adults 18 years old and over.* We come together weekly in a small group to learn more about our faith. We focus on the teachings and experience of Church and prepare individuals to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist at Easter. We meet each Thursday evening, 7:00 to 8:30 pm in the St. Lucy Room in the Parish Center, 2nd floor. Bring a friend!

**We also offer separate age-appropriate instruction for children and youth age 7 to 17.*

If you have any questions or to register, please call or text Deacon Jim McGovern at (973) 864-7669, or jamesmcgovern34@gmail.com.

WE'VE BEEN ASKED TO ANNOUNCE

Total Consecration to Jesus through Mary

The Legion of Mary Comitium of the Archdiocese of Newark presents a preparation for Total Consecration to Jesus through Mary according to St. Louis Marie de Montfort by Fr. Frederick L. Miller, on Saturday, September 28th 9:00 am to 3:30 pm at St. Thomas More Church, 12 Hollywood Ave., Fairfield, NJ 07004. The day will include Holy Mass, Break-out sessions in English, Spanish, and French, a Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration, Veneration of 1st class relic of St. Louis de Montfort, Continental breakfast & Lunch – Free Admission. Please register at <https://totalconsecration.eventbrite.com>. For information call (862) 684-0984 or email faustinasparta@gmail.com.

Family Promise of Sussex County Open House

Please join us for our annual open house on October 1, 2019 from 4:00 to 6:00 pm at 19 Church Street, Newton, NJ. We will be serving light refreshments and discussing the housing needs of our county and how our agency can help. Come see what we do and how we do it. As always, thank you for all of your support and all you do for our community. RSVP to Nichole Reed at nreed@familypromisesussex.org by September 20th.

Vatican International Exhibition: The Eucharistic Miracles of the World! At St. Francis de Sales Church, 614 Route 517, Vernon, NJ Phone: 973-827-3248, www.stfrancisvernon.org. Come & see the exhibition which presents some of the principal Eucharistic Miracles that took place throughout the ages in various countries of the world and which have been recognized by the Church. By means of the panels, one can "virtually visit" the places where the miracles took place. Sat. Sept 21 after 5 pm Mass, Sun. Sept 22 after 8, 10 & 12 Masses. Sun. Sept. 22, 2 pm – talk on the Eucharist by Fr. Chris and 2 – 6 pm event open for viewing.

Alaska Cruise and Denali National Park Tour July 6-July 17, 2020

Join Father David on an 11-night, 12-day trip of a lifetime to Alaska's Inside Passage and Denali National Park. We will visit Ketchikan, Juneau, Skagway, Glacier Bay, Hubbard Glacier, Seward, Denali National Park, Anchorage and much more.

For more information, call the parish office or Judy and Bill Bosworth, 973-729-4629



October 10, 2019

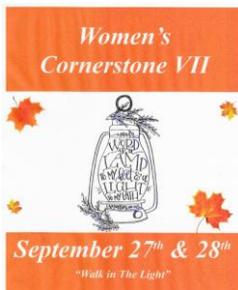
**Sparta Ecumenical Food Pantry
Dinner and Auction
Lake Mohawk Country Club, Sparta
Doors open at 6:00 pm
Dinner served at 7:00 pm
Tickets are \$60 per person and are available at the parish office.**

The Sparta Ecumenical Food Pantry is holding its largest fundraising event. This event provides much needed funds to provide food for those in need in Sparta and Sussex County.

VIVERE CHRISTUS AWARD



On September 8, 2019, Debbie Azzolina received the Vivere Christus Award from Bishop Serratelli at a special prayer service at St. John the Baptist Cathedral in Paterson. Debbie received the award in recognition of all she has done for our parish over the years, such as, Confirmation catechist for 17 years, Eucharistic Minister, Cornerstone sister, Parish Advisory Board member, initiating the Greeting ministry, leading youth to beautify church grounds, and so much more. She is a model parishioner, kind, positive, always willing to help, and truly deserving of this award.



What is Cornerstone?

Cornerstone is a 26-hour retreat that will be held at Our Lady of the Lake Church on September 27th and 28th.

During the retreat, our team will speak about various aspects of our Catholic faith and share personal stories on these topics.

After each talk, there will be opportunity for discussion and questions. **YOU CAN PARTICIPATE AS MUCH OR AS LITTLE AS YOU WISH.** You are not required to speak. This IS your RETREAT – have fun, laugh out loud, and get to know each other better.

Teams are predominantly lay people – your neighbors and fellow parishioners. While Cornerstone is run by the Laity, we have a priest and deacon involved for spiritual guidance.

What is the Goal of Cornerstone?

The goal of Cornerstone is for each participant to develop a stronger connection to God so that we may live the life that God wants us to live.

Who should attend the Women's Cornerstone?

- Women 21 years of age or older who would like to take some time for reflection and prayer,
- Are interested in working on their connection to God,
- Would like to revitalize their spiritual lives,
- Seek a sense of belonging to a vibrant parish community,
- Want to thank God for the blessings bestowed upon them,
- Hope to find...

See our website for Brochure with registration information: www.ourladyofthelake.org.



SILVER & GOLD WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

Couples, were you married in 1969 or 1994? The Diocese of Paterson invites you to celebrate your 25th or 50th wedding anniversary during a special Mass to be offered at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Paterson, NJ. Bishop Serratelli will serve as main celebrant on this joyful occasion to be held:

Sunday, November 3rd, 2019 at 3:30 pm.

Arrangements can be made by contacting the parish office. Deadline to register is Thursday, October 10th, 2019. You will receive additional information from the Office of Family once your registration has been processed.

Congratulations on this joyous occasion!

2019 Bishop's Annual Appeal Diocese of Paterson



"For I Was Hungry..."

The Bishop's Annual Appeal is officially kicking-off this weekend. The theme of this year's Appeal is "For I Was Hungry..." It is a reminder that what we do for our neighbors in need, we do for Christ himself. Please support this important annual cause that helps so many of our brothers and sisters in our Diocese.

The Bishop's Annual Appeal supports the work of our Catholic Charities, priests' extraordinary healthcare needs as well as Nazareth Village, our diocesan priests' retirement residence, urban elementary schools and seminarian education. These are all critically important ministries that touch many lives, and so please make a pledge today. Please know that funds from the Appeal are used only for the causes described in the campaign materials. They are used for no other purpose. Thank you in advance for your generous support.

Message from Bishop Serratelli:

As befitting the mission of outreach to people in need in the Paterson Diocese, the Bishop's Annual Appeal stands ready to help support the rebuilding efforts of Straight and Narrow. With this terrible fire that has further complicated the lives of those already struggling with often crippling personal issues, your generosity to the 2019 Bishop's Annual Appeal is needed now more than ever.

10% of all funds raised in the 2019 Annual Appeal, over and above the usual allocation to Catholic Charities, will go toward the Straight and Narrow rebuilding effort. With your pledge to the Appeal, this could come to hundreds of thousands of dollars to bring new life to Straight and Narrow and the people being served.

Parishioners across the Diocese are being asked to support all the ministries and programs funded by the Appeal, including this special effort for Straight and Narrow, when it kicks-off in the next two weeks. Contributions can also be made on-line now at www.2019appeal.org.