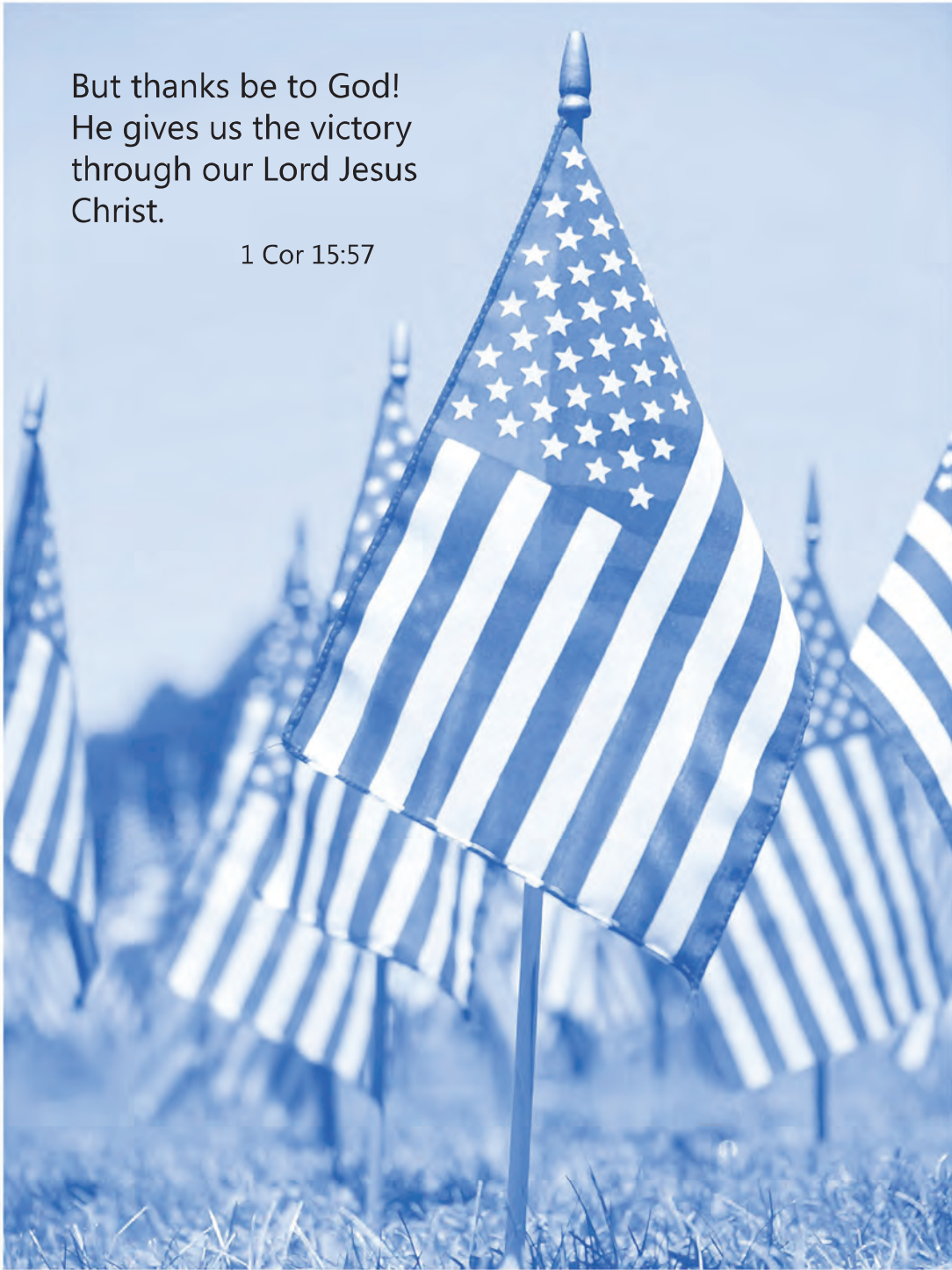


HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

But thanks be to God!
He gives us the victory
through our Lord Jesus
Christ.

1 Cor 15:57



OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA CHURCH • LAKE HOPATCONG, NEW JERSEY

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REMEMBERING THE GREAT WAR

Henry Ford is reputed to have said that "history is bunk". This came from a man who was a great innovator and who gave us the automobile. I believe that a sense of history is needed in order to appreciate the past and to evaluate the present. This weekend there are special ceremonies to be held in London and Paris to remember the armistice signed 100 years ago on November 11, 1918, which ended the Great War. To imply it was "great" refers to its magnitude and consequences, which are still in evidence today.

Not many now remember what brought this war about in 1914. Germany, under Kaiser Wilhelm II, had built up their military might and seemed intent on challenging Britain for supremacy in the Western world. France resented Germany for the loss of two provinces, Alsace and Lorraine, in 1871. Austria wished to keep Serbia--later Yugoslavia--from expanding. Russia, prior to the Revolution in 1917, feared Austria and Germany which had a strong presence in the Balkans. When Austrian Archduke Ferdinand was assassinated in Sarajevo in June 1914, the stage was set for conflict.

Within a few weeks Austria declared war on Serbia. Russia then intervened on Serbia's behalf and declared war on Austria. Germany then entered the conflict on the side of Austria. Shortly after that France and Britain declared war on Germany and Austria. By the middle of August 1914 much of Europe was at war. Germany invaded France but was stopped close to its own border at the Maginot Line. At first many thought it would not last six months. How wrong the pundits were! The war lasted for over four years. The United States entered the war shortly after the Lusitania was sunk by a German submarine in January 1917.

The war was devastating. Trench warfare went on for months with each side unable to make significant gains. Some 600,000 died in the battle of Verdun, which lasted for six months. The use of nerve gas brought a new and horrible dimension to the war and caused great suffering, blindness, and long-term injuries to thousands. More than 10 million soldiers died and about 7 million civilians. Finally in the fall of 1918 Germany recognized that it could no longer prosecute the war and sought peace from the Western Allies.

The armistice was signed on the 11th hour, the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918. The Western Powers--including Italy, a late entry into the war--met from January to June 1919 in Paris with President Woodrow Wilson chairing the negotiations. The Treaty of Versailles was signed that summer. It imposed harsh penalties on Germany, dismantled the Austro-Hungarian Empire and bestowed a major part of the Middle East to Britain. The Middle East remains a source of conflict even today in 2018. Poland and Czechoslovakia emerged as sovereign states.

The Ottoman Empire ceased to exist, but Turkey then entered the world stage and sought recognition. A new world order had emerged. Germany was crippled by its war debt. A new leader named Adolph Hitler would emerge and bring catastrophe in the coming years. After the Great War many thought war had ended for all time. Not so. War is used today to solve conflicts. Pope Paul VI said "war never again" at the United Nations in 1965. Still it continues. Peace remains a fragile goal. We must pray constantly for a lasting peace in our world. Amen.

*Sincerely in Christ,
Fr. Chris*



Religious Education has Advent Wreath sets available. Advent begins November 28th. This practice is a good way to spiritually celebrate this tradition as a family. Please call the Rel. Ed. Office-- 973-663-0124 to purchase a set, or speak with Mrs. Hedrick. \$16 each.

FOOD PANTRY

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS 11-12PM, 1:30-3:30PM.

Please call 973-663-0211 for an appointment time.

Coordinator is Toni Tarighi.

We are in need of: Oatmeal packets, Yogurt, Pasta SAUCE (only), COFFEE, peanut butter, Raisin Bran, Rice Krispies, Cinnamon Toast Crunch, crackers, cookies, canned fruits, jell-o & pudding, SPAM, mayo, ketchup, Chef Boy-ar-dee pastas, milk, butter, orange juice, TP, paper towels & Hair conditioner. **NO expired items accepted.** **NOTE:** Monetary donations for Shoprite cards are still being accepted. **Thank you to those who have been supporting our food pantry, especially the Bolcars, the Kimbles, the Mary Ann Buglino, and Terry DeMasi.**



THANKSGIVING BASKETS --Religious Education students are requested to bring food to class for our Thanksgiving Baskets on November 14th and 21st.

ITEMS NEEDED: stuffing, fresh and instant potatoes, yams, vegetables (green beans, corn, carrots, spinach, beets, etc.) rice, gravy, cranberry sauce, peanut butter, jelly, cereal, coffee, tea, fruit juices, apples, fruit, dessert mixes.

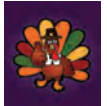
Adults -Monetary donations are needed for our gift certificates that go into each basket. Thank you.

THANKSGIVING DONATIONS:

Due to the generosity of 2 local businesses we will NOT need turkeys, but are asking for Kosher chickens, lasagna, ziti, & turkey breasts allowed by Shoprite in their \$400 purchase program.

(check the flyer).

If you intend on donating to us please call ahead- 973-663-0211-- to see what we still need.. We will be distributing about 40 baskets Tuesday, November 23rd. As always, your support is greatly appreciated. Thank you, Father Chris.



REMEMBERING OUR VETERANS

*Heavenly Father, thank you
for America's heroes
who have served our country so faithfully.
We honor our veterans for their sacrifice to our country
and for their courage and integrity.
May every citizen realize that our country is better and
safer because of their valiant duty.
We praise you for all veterans who have gone before us
in eternal rest.
We especially pray for those veterans who made the ultimate
sacrifice while defending our country.
Bless their families and comfort them with the thankful
prayers of a grateful nation.
Almighty God, You gave us Your only Son, Jesus.
Allow us to follow in His example,
and work to create a more loving world.
Let us not perpetuate war but safeguard peace
and preserve Your gifts of equality and freedom.
Through the efforts of our veterans,
help us to promote justice in all nations.
We thank You for our veterans, past and present,
and for the knowledge
that You are with us in all things. AMEN.*



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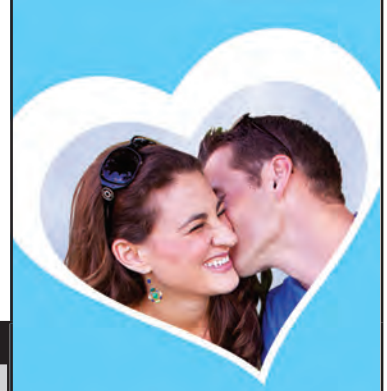


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