

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY

AUGUST 23, 2020

From the priests' desks:

Dear Brothers and Sisters of Sacred Heart:

"Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" That was the question Jesus asked his disciples in today's Gospel. We know that the title "Son of Man" was one that Jesus used exclusively in referring to himself, so that what he was really asking was: "Who do people say that I am.: And the question may have caught the disciples off guard; maybe they weren't too sure what answer to give. There were, after all, many opinions circulating about Jesus in his day, and not all of them were complimentary. Some people thought Jesus was an imposter who deceived people; others thought that he was a magician who played clever tricks; some thought he was a blasphemer who denied his Jewish faith; and some even thought that he was a crazy person, who was possessed by a demon. But the disciples didn't report any of these unfavorable opinions to Jesus. Perhaps because they were his followers and even his friends, they wanted to speak only about the positive opinions that people had. And so they told Jesus, that the people were saying that he was like John the Baptist, who called sinners to repentance; that he was like Elijah, who worked amazing miracles and cured people of their illnesses; or that he was similar to one of the ancient prophets, like Jeremiah, who preached the Word of God and challenged people to be more faithful to the Covenant. And certainly, they were correct in what they said . . . But Jesus wanted something more from the disciples than just to report the opinions of others, and so he went on to ask: "But who do you say that I am?"

In an age in which there are many contrary opinions, Jesus asks us who we think he is. And unless we are solidly anchored in our faith, we may find ourselves pulled in different directions, back and forth, depending on the prevailing opinion of Jesus in popular culture: a culture that tries to make Jesus as relevant or controversial as possible, the better to try to control him and cut him down to size to fit our own expectations and needs. The fact is that the real Jesus is a mystery who escapes our categories and descriptions; he can make us uncomfortable because he challenges us with his notions of taking up our cross, telling us to love our enemies, or stating that the last will be first. After Peter responds to Jesus' question by stating that he is "the Christ, the Son of the Living God," Jesus addressed Peter as Simon, a name which means "to hear, or to listen". So it is the one who hears God's word and listens to his voice who is able to discern Jesus' true identity through the

din of false and deceptive voices, and in knowing who Jesus really is, to follow his path with assurance, with peace of soul, and with hope in our hearts.

Fr. Michael Rafferty, OAR

Fr. John Gruben, OAR

Psalm: *O God let all the nations praise you!
May God have pity on us and bless us;
may He let His face shine upon us.
So may your way be known upon earth;
among all nations, your salvation.*



RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

If you or someone you know have not been baptized or have not received the Sacraments of Holy Communion or Confirmation, and would like to, the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) is meant for you. The RCIA is the process by which the Church receives new members into our Catholic community through the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist). It consists of instruction sessions and liturgical celebrations meant to inform individuals of the teachings of the Catholic faith, to help them discern whether they wish to become Catholic and to prepare them to be received into the Church at Easter. **These classes are also open to adult parishioners who would like to be more informed about their faith.**

If you are interested in participating, please call the Rectory (357-0035). The first session will start late in September. Sessions will be held once a week from 7:00 - 8:30pm this may be handled via an online service this year. Those interested will be contacted with the exact starting date.

PRAYER SERVICE FOR LEBANON
OUR LADY OF LEBANON MARONITE
CATHEDRAL
AUGUST 25TH, 7:00PM

Join us for a prayer service (with masks and social distancing) and online at OLOLC.org *Sponsored by Christian Arab and Middle Eastern Churches. For mor info cathrectory@verizon.net 718-624-7228

AUGUST 2020

PARISH CALENDAR

Dearest Parishioners,

I pray this note reaches you in good health and spirits. I know we are all in agreement that 2020 has been a year of trial and turmoil thus far. Although things are slowly returning to normal, nothing seems quite the same. As you are probably aware our beloved Catholic School has closed its doors, after 110 years. Heartbreaking news for sure. As Christians and Catholics, we know that trials and tribulations are a part of life and that no matter what, our Lord is with us. That being said, He also wants us to move forward.

At Sacred Heart we typically post our weekly donations in our parish bulletin, doing so in the worst of the pandemic proved difficult. Two weeks ago, we posted a monthly comparison for the months that donations were not posted weekly against last year's figures; this was done on a monthly basis to show the total of the losses. Understandably, the parish revenue is down. Adding, to the loss is our Easter Collection which was less than half of our normal donation amounts. In addition to that and due to the pandemic, we felt it prudent to cancel our yearly \$10,000 Raffle, which is currently our largest fundraising event of the year.

After considerable thought we are reinstating the \$10,000 Raffle beginning this September. The drawing will be held on the First Sunday of Advent, November 29th at 3:00pm in our gymnasium. With your help and support which we greatly need, we pray, this will be a financial boon to the potential winners and to the parish.

I hope we can count on your support! The tickets will be on sale beginning September 1! Please drop by the rectory to purchase one (or more!) and we will also be sure to have them available after Masses on a few weekends.

Please know that the parish priests and staff have you all in our prayers daily and are here for you if you are in need. God Bless us all!

Yours in Christ,



Fr. J. Michael Rafferty, OAR

Monday, August 24

Mass at 9am

Tuesday, August 25

Mass at 9am

Wednesday, August 26

Mass at 9:00am

Thursday, August 27

Mass at 9:00am

Friday, August 28

Mass at 9:00am

Saturday, August 29- Holy Rosary-12pm

Sunday, August 30

CARDINAL'S APPEAL 2020

Parishes are only as strong as its parishioners.

As you are aware a church's resources come only through the generosity of its parish family. Please consider donating today. Bless you all and pray for an end to this virus. To date we have raised \$88,737.00 towards our goal of \$122,500.

SACRED HEART RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

REGISTRATION

2020-2021

Registration

*****All In Person Registrations Are By
APPOINTMENT ONLY*****

Please call **357-6044**

If you are uncomfortable about registering under the current pandemic, we do understand and want to make you aware that we will be providing an online course that will mimic in-class work until the current health issue is resolved. A program for children with Special Needs is also available. Please supply us with a copy of your child's baptismal certificate for registration. Thank you.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD PANTRY

The pantry needs several food products. If you can donate, we need your assistance. The following items are most needed: Peanut Butter, Tuna Fish, Dried Milk, Cereal, Oatmeal. **Monetary donations welcomed. Thank you! For food emergencies call the Rectory. 845-357-0035**

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

We welcome into the Roman Catholic Church and our Parish Community the following children who were recently baptized at Sacred Heart:

JESSY NALLELY DUTAN-CHAFLA
JHOSTIN GABRIEL DUTAN CHAFLA
ANDERSON PAUL YUPA CHAFLA
Children of Maria and Segundo

DELANNY JULIET LOJA-PILCA
Daughter of Gabriel and Cristina

ESTEBAN VALENTIN GUAMAN PESANTEZ
Son of Beatriz and Wilfrido



Please pray for those who are ill and have asked us to pray for them: Keith Alanis, Jenna

Applebaum, Theresa Anselmi, Michael Brady, Angie Clifford, Robert Conly, Comerford Family, Teresa & Tom Consolo, Mirella Cosentino, The Cosentino Family, Joe Davey, Anthony DeFrancesco III, Matthew DeMayo, Cledha Desir, Mary Discini, John Duffy, David Eckert, Sr., Ginny Figula, Stefanie Gaudelli, Arlene Gentile, Joseph Gilson, Mark Goldman, Debra Gravina, Senan Halpin, Clement Hayes, Mr. Harris, Domenic & Anthony Iannaccone, Rob Incognoli, Bob Janson, Fran Janson, Anna Kasperska, Eileen Kennedy, Fred Lemoine, Elizabeth Lempka, Vasily Lockhart, Roberta Lynch, Laura Mack, Matthew Luludis, Rosemarie Manthey, Kathy Masserano, Thomas Mathai, Jeanne Matera, Richard McCarthy, Rosemary McCormick, Debra McGovern, Catherine McMenamin, John McLoughlin, Jacob Mendelsohn, Ken Meyer, Florence Mohan, Mary Lou Oldfield Napolitano, Barbara Neilson, Robert Nunes, Thomas O'Connor, Jennifer O'Hara, Pat O'Neill, Nancy Overend, Daryl Pack, Shace Paljusevic, Noreen Pidgeon, Peter Princi, Etta Rooney, Claudia Spallanzani, Joseph Pasculli, (Baby Ty) Reilly, Michael Shumway, Jean Simons, Roberto Sorgo, Maureen Starke, Shaun Stein, Patricia Steiper, Janet Tamburro, Richard Vanadio, Barbara Veraldo Strano, Phyllis Varacalli, Kali Villela, Robert Vogt, Fr. Wing, and Vladimir Zaslavsky.

FOR OUR ARMED FORCES & FIRST RESPONDERS

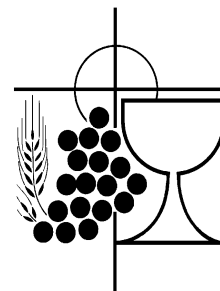
OF ALL KINDS, AND OUR DOCTORS & NURSES

We pray for all the men and women serving our country AND especially the sons and daughters, grandchildren and loved ones of our parishioners.

ALTAR MEMORIALS

AUGUST 23, 2020

Sanctuary Lamp In Memory of
"EDDIE" MILLER



9:00AM DAILY – (MONDAY – FRIDAY)
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
SUNDAYS
8:30AM, 11:30AM AND 5:30PM
10:00AM – (SPANISH)

LIVE STREAMED ON OUR WEBSITE:
WWW.SACREDHEARTPARISH.ORG

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22

12:00pm – Holy Rosary

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22 VIGIL MASS

5:30pm – Barbara Sandberg / Annemarie Nappo

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23

8:30am – Frances Finnegan /
Andrew & Steve Statham

10:00am – Spanish Mass

11:30am – Ramona Zuño / Marge Gladkowski

5:30pm – Parish Memorial / All Parishioners

MONDAY, AUGUST 24

9:00am – John & Aline Hendrickson

7:15pm – NO Novena

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25

9:00am- "Eddie" Miller/Mary & Luciano Antonucci

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26

9:00am – Stephen Wu

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27

9:00am – Catherine Howard / Francis McAdams
/ Willard B. Foster

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28

9:00am – Barbara Woods Bodnar

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29

12:00pm – Holy Rosary

5:30pm – **Vigil Mass** - Ramona Zuño /
Special Intention of Rose A. Cassagnol

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30

8:30am – Richard J. Lynch, Jr. & Marie Marasuilo /
Ann Cummings

10:00am – Spanish

11:30am – Robert G. Holodak / Dave "Red" Clifford

5:30pm – Parish Memorial / All Parishioners



Let us pray for our deceased parishioners,
and family members and loved ones:
Especially: **Nancy Spano**