

J.M.J.

Dear Parishioners,

Holy Communion was called the Viaticum during the early years of Christianity, drawing an analogy between this sacrament and the viaticum, or provisions of food and money, that Romans took with them on long journeys. Later, this term was reserved for the spiritual assistance (in particular, the Holy Eucharist) that the Church gives to her children during the final and definitive stage of their journey to eternal life. The first Christians had the custom of taking Communion to those imprisoned, especially when their martyrdom drew near. Saint Thomas teaches that this sacrament is called Viaticum because it prefigures the joy of possessing God in our true homeland, and because it makes it possible for us to reach that goal. It is our great help during our life, and especially near the end of the road when the attacks of the enemy may be all the more intense. This is the reason why the Church has always recommended that no Christian should die without it. From the very beginning, the need (and the obligation) to receive this sacrament was evident, even though one might have already received Communion on that day.

We may also recall today the obligation (at times grave) that we have to do everything possible so that no relative, friend or colleague of ours dies without the spiritual assistance that our Mother the Church provides for the final moments of our journey.

This is the best and most effective and perhaps the last possible manifestation of charity and affection towards the persons here on earth. The Lord rewards us with a deep joy when we fulfill this most agreeable though at times difficult duty.

Throughout our life, deeds should express our gratitude to our Lord for many things, but especially for having given us Holy Communion. Our gratitude will be shown in preparing to receive Him better each day, and in receiving Him fully aware that He gives us more than He gave Elias (all the strength we need to travel resolutely down the road of sanctity.)

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Father Newcomb



This Fall's **40 Days for Life** campaign will be held September 23 through November 1. 40 Days for Life is a peaceful, highly focused, non-denominational initiative that focuses on 40 days of prayer and fasting, peaceful vigils at abortion facilities, and educational outreach with the goal of protecting mothers and their children from abortion. Since 2007 at least 10,331 unborn children have been saved from abortion during the 40 Days for Life campaigns and 60 abortion facilities have closed. To learn more visit: www.40daysforlife.com or call Nancy Smith 856-4610.

Our parish has run out of Chapel keys. If you are in possession of one, and not able to visit our Chapel, please return it to the parish office.

The 2016 Mass book will open on August 18th and 19th from 9:30am until 1pm and from 5pm-7pm. As in previous years, only 5 intentions per household allowed the first week.

Parish Fund Raiser— Purchase everyday common products while raising funds for our Church. Think of it as every time you buy necessities, you are helping our Church. For information, stop by the parish office or call 772-0307.

The FIFTH ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC will be on Sunday, September 20th beginning at 1:00pm at the firehouse in Sparrow Bush. As we've done in previous years, the parish will provide hamburgers and hot dogs; those who attend are asked to bring beverages and desserts, snacks, or a salad. There will also be games for the children. Further information is forthcoming.

Little Lambs Now Accepting Preschool Registration for the 2015-16 School Year

St. Mary's Little Lambs Early Childhood Learning Center in Port Jervis offers affordable, quality Catholic preschool education for children of all denominations. Since 2003, Little Lambs has had a commitment to infuse students with the faith, knowledge, morals, and discipline that will help them lead fulfilling lives.

Small class sizes will help focus your child's attention on adjusting to new situations in a warm, loving, safe, and encouraging environment. Children explore, think, pray, and talk through dramatic and free play, story time, and art.

St. Mary's Little Lambs is a New York State licensed Preschool and registered with New York State Office of Child and Family Services. Our license helps to ensure our children's safety by requiring our adherence to the highest public health, safety, and educational standards. We undergo rigorous safety and fire inspections. All adults at our school (teachers, participating parents, etc.) are cleared by the New York State Central Register of child abuse convictions. A further benefit of the licensing program is that to maintain our license, our teachers must actively continue their educational training and participate in professional development programs.

3rd Annual School Supply Drive

Look for the tree of knowledge in the narthex the week of July 25/26. Red apples have a list of supplies needed and green apples are for monetary donations. Please make all donations by August 15/16.

Thank you in advance.

ANNOUNCED MASSES

- Monday, August 10 (Laurence, deacon and martyr)**
9:00am Warren and Helen Stucker, by the family
- Tuesday, August 11 (Clare, virgin)**
9:00am Andrew Witkowski, by Rich and Diane Quick
- Wednesday, August 12 (Jane Frances de Chantal, religious)**
9:00am Rex Horan, by Linda and Peter Kowal
Betty Lynch, by Sally Von Sauers
- Thursday, August 13 (Pontian, pope; Hippolytus, priest, martyrs)**
9:00am Joe Lombardo, by the family
Rex Horan, by the Intranuovo family
- Friday, August 14 (Maximillian Kolbe, priest and martyr)**
7:30pm Emilio Macchiarolo, by Maria Macchiarolo
- Saturday, August 15 (Assumption of the BVM)**
9:00am Elena Bosque and Anthony Capra, by the Capra family
4:00pm Deceased members of the Frank A. Mikulski, by Toni Carroll and family
- Sunday, August 16**
8:30am Eileen Darcy, from her family
11:30am The parishioners of St. Mary's

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Ida Lissner, Joann Wilcox, Jonathan Saletto, Marion Rohner, Nick Moscatiello, Jeff Sauschuck, Anna Onuschak, Jackie Mundy, Theresa Fuller, Kelly Quick, Denise Paz, Sandy Osbourne, Jose Maldonado, Angela Grillo, Amanda Evelech, Anna Jenks, Allan Van Starrex, Donald Wolff, Walter Szpakowicz, Michael Barnes, William Lincoln, Vada Glass, Joe Brennan, Betty Brennan, Owen Brennan, Richard Samek, John McKean, Andrea Fedoruk, Betty Corcoran, Lisa Donahue, Charles Fitz-Randolph, Angela Portella, Pauline Portella, Florence Marino, Angela Lilo, Ana-Lucia Stasilli, Jeremiah Stasilli, Radomski family, Hiegle family, Nick Cirillo, Bobby Kochka, Dominic Fontana, Mary Platania, Nicholas Marinaro, Maureen Hildebrandt, William Quinn, and Mary Ellen Piper.

The collection for:

July 18/19 was \$4,757.

July 25/26 was \$5,035.

August 1/2 was \$5,463.

Thank you for your continued generosity.

Liturgical Ministers for August 15/16

MASS	LECTOR	MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	ALTAR SERVERS
4:00PM	T. WEBB	D. MURO, L. AVELLA, H. ECKES	B. AND A. BIRKENSTOCK, K. CULLENY
8:30AM	M. LATINI	A. AND N. STASILLI, J. TAYLOR	S. PHILLIPS, N. WEBB, A. WEBB
11:30AM	M. ESLING	T. MARION, N. SMITH	R. TORRES, J. ENNIS, S. MASCI