

J.M.J.

Dear Parishioners,

There are many questions in this life which we can safely ignore without consequence. There are other questions which have a more important relation to ourselves and to our society. One thinks of the dignity of the human person, the ultimate impermanence of temporal goods, the fleeting nature of our life on earth. There is still a more momentous question which touches upon the meaning of our existence. It is the question which Christ posed to the Apostles at Caesarea Philippi almost twenty centuries ago: But who do you say that I am? There is only one valid answer. You are the Christ, the Anointed One, the Messiah, the Only Begotten One of God. He is the person who is of greatest importance to my destiny, my happiness, my successes and failures in this life and hereafter.

Our happiness is not in our health, our worldly successes or our ability to get what we want. Our life will have been worth something if and when we fall in love with Christ. All our problems can be resolved if we are close to Him. There is no satisfaction solution to any of these problems of ours without reference to the Lord.

Through the testimony of Peter, the Apostles give Jesus their summary of what the two years of being next to Him have meant. Saint John Paul II stated, In our case also, in order to make a more conscious profession of faith in Jesus Christ, we must, like Peter, listen attentively and carefully. We must follow in the school of the first disciples, who had become His witnesses and our teachers. At the same time we must accept the experience and testimony of no less than twenty centuries of history marked by the Master's question and enriched by the immense chorus of responses of the faithful of all times and places. We should seriously ask ourselves whether Christ has an important place in our hearts. Let us pray with Saint Paul: But whatever gain I had, I counted as a loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For His sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as refuse, in order that I may gain Christ...

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Father Newcomb

The second collection this week is for St. Joseph's Seminary. Please give it your prayerful consideration.

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (R.C.I.A.) classes will begin this Wednesday, September 16th at 7pm in the parish office meeting room.

St. Mary's parish picnic is Sunday, September 20th at 1pm. Please remember to bring your own non-alcoholic beverage.

F.A.I.T.H. will be meeting on Monday, September 28th at 6:30pm in the Little Lambs building.

St. Mary's will be participating in the **Spiritual Adoption program** starting the weekend on October 3rd and 4th. More information forthcoming.

Vendors Wanted!! St. Mary's Little Lambs is looking for vendors for their 3rd annual St. Nicholas Fair on Sunday, December 6th. Independent consultants, small businesses, and crafters are welcome.

The Tri-State Pregnancy Center is having their annual banquet on Sunday, September 20th at the Best Western Inn, Matamoras, PA. Guest speaker is Fr. Denis G. Wilde, Associate Director, Priests for Life. Please contact Maria Moffa 570-491-5151 or email info@tristatepregnancycenter.org for more information.

Sacred Heart School in Newburgh is having their 17th annual golf outing on Monday, Septemeber 28th. The tournament is a scramble with a BBQ lunch and sit down dinner. Cost \$150 per player. Please contact Gina Cook 569-8900 or email golfshs@gmail.com.

Save the Date— Annual antique appraisal day and holiday fall craft fair Saturday, October 17th at St. Mary’s church hall. Doors open at 9am until 3pm. Appraisals will be from 10am until 1pm by Flannery’s Auction and Estate Services and Sales. Donation is \$4 per item.

This year’s annual **C.R.O.P.** walk will be Sunday, October 18th at 2pm. If you are interested in being a walker to help support our food pantry and other local food pantries, please call the parish office.

Need help caring for yourself or someone else, but not sure where to turn with questions? Call **Arch-care**. They can assist with caregiver support groups, food and nutrition, housing for seniors and disabled, access to healthcare, dementia care, etc. They are available 7 days a week from 8am until 8pm. Call 855-951-CARE.

Anyone who needs to report an alleged incident of sexual abuse of a minor by priest, deacon, religious, or lay person serving in the Archdiocese of New York is asked to contact Sr. Eileen Clifford 212-371-1000x 2949 or Deacon George Coppola 917-861-1762. Both may also be reached via email at victimassistance@archny.org. In keeping with the Archdiocesan policy regarding sexual abuse of minors, this information is provided to ensure that our children remain safe and secure.

ANNOUNCED MASSES

- Monday, September 14 (Exaltation of the Cross)**
 9:00am Helen Stucker and Jo Anne Viserta–Galinis, by Sheila Connelly Volker
- Tuesday, September 15 (Our Lady of Sorrows)**
 9:00am Rex Horan, by Shari Hendrick and Claire Dillon
 Regis Foster, by Bill and Catherine Simons
- Wednesday, September 16 (Cornelius, pope; Cyprian, bishop, martyrs)**
 9:00am Marie Purcell, by Rayola McLaughlin
 Betty Lynch, by Kristen and Regina Stafford
- Thursday, September 17 (Robert Bellarmine, bishop and doctor of the Church)**
 9:00am John May, by Debby May
- Saturday, September 19**
 4:00pm Jean A. Stinard, by Mary Wohlscheid
- Sunday, September 20**
 8:30am The parishioners of St. Mary’s
 11:30am Louis and Josephine Peloso, by Joseph and Angela Portella

The Sanctuary Lamp will burn brightly in the Chapel this week in memory of Betty Corcoran.

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, Sandy Osbourne, Jose Maldonado, Allan Van Starrex, Donald Wolff, Walter Szpakowicz, Michael Barnes, William Lincoln, Vada Glass, Joe Brennan, Betty Brennan, Richard Samek, John McKean, Andrea Fedoruk, Lisa Donahue, Angela Portella, Pauline Portella, Florence Marino, Maureen Hildebrandt, William Quinn, Mary Ellen Piper, Jeannine Lincoln, Mary Platanina, Tonya Addy, Gloria Hicks, and Jules Diez.

The collection for September 5/6 was \$5,992.
 Thank you for your continued generosity.

Liturgical Ministers for September 19/20

MASS	LECTOR	MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	ALTAR SERVERS
4:00PM	P. CAL	W. PONDS, M. REEVES, J. SENKIEW	A. AND R. COLLADO, J. MARCONE
8:30AM	M. LATINI	E. DECKER, B. DENNINGTON, A. AND N. STASILLI	J. KLOTZ, S. KLOTZ, D. KLOTZ
11:30AM	H. MARINARO	N. SMITH, J. SNELLINGER	J. EDWARDS, J. ENNIS, S. MASCI