

JMJ

Dear Parishioners,

Happy Mother's Day! I hope we sons and daughters do not just say we love and care for our mothers one day a year. As everyone knows, motherhood is about sacrifice. Mothers sacrifice their time, wants, desires and even sometimes their health for their children. Saint John Paul II wrote a beautiful Apostolic Letter in 1988 called *Mulieris Dignitatem*. Here are some sections from it for us to ponder this Mother's Day.

A woman is to be found at the centre of this salvific event. The self-revelation of God, who is the inscrutable unity of the Trinity, is outlined in the Annunciation at Nazareth. "Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High" - "How shall this be, since I have no husband?" - "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God... For with God nothing will be impossible" (cf. Lk 1: 31-37).

Christ speaks to women about the things of God, and they understand them; there is a true resonance of mind and heart, a response of faith. Jesus expresses appreciation and admiration for this distinctly "feminine" response, as in the case of the Canaanite woman (cf. Mt 15:28). Sometimes he presents this lively faith, filled with love, as an example. He teaches, therefore, taking as his starting-point this feminine response of mind and heart. This is the case with the "sinful" woman in the Pharisee's house, whose way of acting is taken by Jesus as the starting-point for explaining the truth about the forgiveness of sins: "Her sins, which are many, are forgiven, for she loved much; but he who is forgiven little, loves little" (Lk 7:47). On the occasion of another anointing, Jesus defends the woman and her action before the disciples, Judas in particular: "Why do you trouble this woman? For she has done a beautiful thing to me... In pouring this ointment on my body she has done it to prepare me for burial. Truly, I say to you, wherever this gospel is preached in the whole world, what she has done will be told in memory of her" (Mt 26: 6-13).

Motherhood involves a special communion with the mystery of life, as it develops in the woman's womb. The mother is filled with wonder at this mystery of life, and "understands" with unique intuition what is happening inside her. In the light of the "beginning", the mother accepts and loves as a person the child she is carrying in her womb. This unique contact with the new human being developing within her gives rise to an attitude towards human beings - not only towards her own child, but every human being - which profoundly marks the woman's personality. It is commonly thought that women are more capable than men of paying attention to another person, and that motherhood develops this predisposition even more. The man - even with all his sharing in parenthood - always remains "outside" the process of pregnancy and the baby's birth; in many ways he has to learn his own "fatherhood" from the mother. One can say that this is part of the normal human dimension of parenthood, including the stages that follow the birth of the baby, especially the initial period. The child's upbringing, taken as a whole, should include the contribution of both parents: the maternal and paternal contribution. In any event, the mother's contribution is decisive in laying the foundation for a new human personality.

Motherhood has been introduced into the order of the Covenant that God made with humanity in Jesus Christ. Each and every time that motherhood is repeated in human history, it is always related to the Covenant which God established with the human race through the motherhood of the Mother of God.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Father Newcomb

The Port Jervis & Milford K of C councils will be hosting a charity golf outing on Weds, May 25, 2016 at the High Point Country Club. The price is \$100 per golfer which includes green fees, lunch on the course, prizes and dinner at the Erie Trackside Manor. Contact Steve Riordan at 629-3642.



Thank you for praying for me. I'm between 14 and 17 inches long and weigh 4 and a half pounds. I move around a lot, but it's getting crowded in here! Sometimes I even get the hiccups!

Baby bottles are available in the Narthex for the Tri-State pregnancy Center. Fill it with change and return it by Father's Day.

The second collection this weekend is for the Mother's Day Novena.

St Mary's will be offering 4 Monday night talks on the "*Celebration of the Christian Mysteries*" on May 9th, 16th, 23rd and June 6th from 6:30pm to 8:30pm in the St. Mary's School building. *All are welcome*. If you attend all 4 sessions it can be counted towards catechist formation. For more info call the religious education office at 858-4208.

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court #114 will meet on Tuesday, May 10th at 6:45pm in the church hall.

Children receiving First Holy Communion will be practicing on Friday, May 13th at 7pm in the church.

The Ladies Social Night meets every 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month in the church hall from 6pm-8pm. The next meeting will be May 16th. For more information call Ann Ponds 856-5691.

Deacon Jon Tveit, who has spent time here at St. Mary's, will be ordained on Saturday, May 28th by His Eminence, Timothy Michael Cardinal Dolan. He will be celebrating his first Mass on Sunday, May 29th at 3pm at St. Joseph's Church in Middletown, NY.

On Sunday, May 22, St. Mary's Church (in Port Jervis, NY) will be hosting a special choral concert. Featuring our own Junior and Adult Choirs and Choirs from around the area. The concert will start at 3 PM. A free will offering will be taken in place of admission to allow all our families to attend.

St. Mary's Little Lambs "*Sightseeing with Jesus*" Summer Day Camp will run June 20-24, June 27-July 1, July 5-8, and July 11-15. **Bible stories, songs, games, crafts, and water play!** Full and half days available. Registrations being accepted 5/1 through 5/31 only. Call Eileen for more information 858-4208.



Save the Date! Vacation Bible School will run the week of July 18th-22nd. Cost is \$10 per family. Children 4-12 are invited to join us for some **Barnyard Fun!** Visit the parish office to register. **Deadline is June 20th for all registrations.**



To date our parish has received **\$30,775.58** in pledges/gifts toward the **2016 Cardinal's Appeal**, from **98 families**. **It is not too late to make a gift.**

The Pastoral Council comprises nine parishioners who meet bi-monthly with the pastor to discuss the general direction of the parish. A term is 3 years long; 3 parishioners are selected each year at Mass. Please call the parish office if you're interested.

F.A.I.T.H. would like to thank everyone who has participated and volunteered in this year's events. There will not be a planning meeting in June. More to come in the Fall!

ANNOUNCED MASSES

Monday, May 9
9:00am Alfred Andreano, by Ann Cali

Tuesday, May 10 (Damien de Veuster, priest)
9:00am William Quinn, by Ruth Schnut
Chris Corwin, by the Staff of St. Mary's Little Lambs

Wednesday, May 11
9:00am John Onuschak, by Dorean and Jack Reilly
Ronald Long, by Sally Von Sauers and Sheila Connelly Volker

Thursday, May 12
9:00am Marion Rohner, by Helen Latini

Saturday, May 14 (Matthias, apostle)
4:00pm *First Communicants*

Sunday, May 15 (Pentecost Sunday)
8:30am The parishioners of St. Mary's
11:30am Mary Ann Rohner, by Jim and family



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn brightly this week in the church in memory of Raymond Gansarski, by Dorothy Gansarski

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Ida Lissner, Joann Wilcox, Jonathan Saletto, Nick Moscatiello, Jackie Mundy, Theresa Fuller, Allan Van Starrex, Donald Wolff, Walter Szpakowicz, Michael Barnes, William Lincoln, Joe Brennan, Betty Brennan, Richard Samek, Andrea Fedoruk, Sandy Osbourne, John McKean, Lisa Donahue, Angela Portella, Pauline Portella, Florence Marino, Maureen Hildebrandt, Vada Glass, Mary Ellen Piper, Jeannine Lincoln, Mary Platania, Tonya Addy, Gloria Hicks, Ashley Avella, Amelia Quinn, Leon Logan, Angela Grillo, Grace Maillet, Aedan Roach, Robin Radzikowski, Mary E. Smith, Fontano family, Sally Hanstine, Diana Kuhn, Dennis Simmons, Rachael Gaesser, Anthony Medaglia, Bob Ritchie, Jose Maldonado, Raquel Maldonado, James Roach, Scott Baker, Frances Brennan, Lincoln Trimble, Pat Christer, Joseph Carter, Maureen Cadena, John Little, Jr., Michael Ellet, Joseph Cox, Gladys Wells, Ruth Lewis, and Steve Wilkinson.

The collection for April 30/May 1 was \$6,340.50.
Thank you for your continued generosity.

Liturgical Ministers for May 14/15

MASS	LECTOR	MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	ALTAR SERVERS
4:00PM	T. WEBB	H. ECKES, K. FLYNN, J. FLYNN	N. AND, A. WEBB, S. PHILLIPS, E. WITKOWSKI
8:30AM	J. HENDRICK	T. CALVARIO, R. BABEY, W. CARMODY, J. TAYLOR	J. KLOTZ, S. KLOTZ, D. KLOTZ
11:30AM	D. COTUGNO	E. DECKER, D. LIVINGSTON	K. EPPS, J. MALDONADO, S. MASCI