

JMJ

Dear Parishioners,

In this Sunday’s Liturgy we continue to read Jesus’ “Sermon on the Mount”. After the Beatitudes, which are the programme of His life, Jesus proclaims the new Law, His Torah, as our Jewish brothers and sisters call it. In fact, on His coming, the Messiah was also to bring the definitive revelation of the Law and this is precisely what Jesus declares: “Think not that I have come to abolish the Law and the Prophets; I have come not to abolish them but to fulfill them”. And addressing His disciples, He adds: “unless your righteousness exceeds that of the Scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the Kingdom of Heaven”. But what do this “fullness” of Christ’s Law and this “superior” justice that he demands consist in?

Jesus explains it with a series of antitheses between the Old Commandments and His new way of propounding them. He begins each time: “You have heard that it was said to the men of old...”, and then He asserts: “but I say to you”.... For example, “You have heard that it was said to the men of old, ‘you shall not kill; and whoever kills shall be liable to judgment’ .But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be liable to judgment”. And he does this six times. This manner of speaking made a great impression on the people, who were shocked, because those words: “I say to you” were equivalent to claiming the actual authority of God, the source of the Law. The newness of Jesus consists essentially in the fact that He Himself “fulfills” the commandments with the love of God, with the power of the Holy Spirit who dwells within Him. And we, through faith in Christ, can open ourselves to the action of the Holy Spirit who makes us capable of living divine love. So it is that every precept becomes true as a requirement of love, and all join in a single commandment: love God with all your heart and love your neighbor as yourself. “Love is the fulfilling of the Law”, Saint Paul writes.

Dear friends, perhaps it is not by chance that Jesus’ first great preaching is called the “Sermon on the Mount”! Moses went up Mount Sinai to receive the Law of God and bring it to the Chosen People. Jesus is the Son of God Himself who came down from Heaven to lead us to Heaven, to God’s height, on the way of love. Indeed, He Himself is this way; all we have to do in order to put into practice God’s will and to enter his Kingdom, eternal life, is to follow Him.

Only one creature has already scaled the mountain peak: the Virgin Mary. Through her union with Jesus, her righteousness was perfect: for this reason we invoke her as Speculum iustitiae. Let us entrust ourselves to her so that she may guide our steps in fidelity to Christ’s Law.

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
*Father Newcomb*

**Altar Servers:** There will be a sign up sheet in the vesting sacristy to serve at Stations of the Cross. Stations will begin on Friday, February 28th at 7pm.

Starting on the 24th of February we will start our next Formed Lectio Bible Studies Series: from 6:30pm to 8pm in the Saint Peter and Saint Paul Meeting Room.

The Topic is: Lectio: Salvation with Dr. Michael Barber

- 24 Feb:** Session 1: Not Self-Help
- 9 March:** Session 3: Not Without Cost
- 30 March:** Session 5: Not Just a Legal Transaction
- 27 April:** Session 7: Not Simply a Moment
- 1 June:** Session 9: Not Just for Other People

- 2 March:** Session 2: Not Just Fire Insurance
- 23 March:** Session 4: Not Just Personal
- 20 April:** Session 6: Not a Spectator Sport
- 4 May:** Session 8: Not Inevitable
- 8 June:** Session 10: Not Only About the Future

*Liturgical Ministers for February 22nd/23rd, 2020*

Mass	Lector	Ministers of Holy Communion	Altar Servers
4:00pm	B. HECKMAN	W. PONDS, A. WITKOWSKI	E. AND A. WITKOWSKI
8:30am	M. LATINI	J. SNELLINGER, J. TAYLOR, S. RIORDAN	D. & E. GERARDO, S. GOTTLIEB
11:30am	M. ESLING	B. DENNINGTON, H. MARINARO	DJ PERRIN, S. BHIKARRY, G. TORRES

Court Madonna # 114 will have their Annual Tricky Tray **TODAY Sun., Feb. 16th.** Doors open at 12 noon, drawing begins at 2pm. Tickets 25 for \$1!

Fr. Newcomb would like all Ushers, and anyone who would like to become an Usher, to meet in the Church, on Sunday, February 23rd after the 11:30 Mass.

***There will be an All You Can Eat Breakfast next Sunday, February 23rd. Bring a friend!***

**Bringing Jesus To Planned Parenthood Through Mary**

Come and pray the rosary for the end to abortion every 2nd & 4th Fridays, at 1:00 PM, outside Planned Parenthood, 14 Prince St., Monticello, NY. Gathering at Church of St. Peter, 10 Liberty St., Monticello following 12:15 Mass. For more information call Jane (845) 292-4647

**Soap Box Derby-**

Any child interested in driving the St. Mary's car for the Soap Box Derby is asked to contact Gina at the parish office. All names will be put in a "hat" to be picked. Child must be at least 10 years old. **Must reply before March 5th.**



**S.M.A.R.T. will be selling Palm Crosses for \$10 in the Narthex the weekend of March 28th/29th and if any are left the weekend of April 4th/5th (Palm Sunday)**

St. Mary's Church 2020 Annual Fish and Chips Dinner Friday, March 6th Dinner available from 4:30 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. In Most Sacred Heart Hall (Eat-In or Take-Out) **Fish and Chips Dinner Pricing** \$14.00 per adult - \$7.00 per child\* Dinner consists of breaded pieces of fish, french fries, coleslaw and refreshments (\*Child is considered 12 years old and under)

Join us for Stations of the Cross at 7:00 p.m. Please make checks payable to St. Mary's Church. Kindly return the bottom portion of this form, with payment to the parish office or in the offering basket at Mass By February 28th. We must confirm a count with Tastefully British by this date. Dinners are non-refundable.

✂

.....

**Fish and Chips Dinner Ticket Orders 2020**

#of Adult Tickets \_\_\_ x \$14.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# of Child Tickets \_\_\_ x \$7.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Total = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**# of Eat-In Dinners \_\_\_\_\_ # of Take-Out Dinners \_\_\_\_\_**

**Pick-up your tickets at the door the night of the dinner.**

**Office Use Only: Paid: Cash \_\_\_\_\_ Check# \_\_\_\_\_**

.....

✂

**Announced Masses**

- Monday, February 17 (Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order)**
- 9:00am Michael McCarthy, by Linda and Kevin Birmingham
- Tuesday, February 18**
- 9:00am Michael McCarthy, by Ron and Doreen Semerano
- Healing Intentions of Jan Kaminski, by his wife
- Wednesday, February 19**
- 9:00am Elizabeth and Andrew Beirne, by Sheila Connelly Volker
- Thursday, February 20**
- 9:00am Michael McCarthy, by Dave and Bette Wilcox and family
- Saturday, February 22**
- 4:00pm The parishioners of St. Mary's
- Sunday, February 23**
- 8:30am Deceased members of the Darcy and Carmody families, by Walt and Eileen Carmody
- 11:30am Oronzo and Giacinta Casamassima, by the Collins and Casamassina families
- 1:00pm Florence and Paul Brislin, by Paul and Rosemary Brislin

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:** Donald Wolff, Carol Gomillion, David Lisker, Nancy Parsons, Debi Cotugno, Michael Bello, Michael Barnes, William Lincoln, Jeannine Lincoln, James Lincoln, Charles Hildebrandt, Maureen Hildebrandt, Walter Szpakowicz, Carmella Balsamello, Aedan Roach, Robin Radzikowski, James Roach, Catherine Simons, Brendan Carmody, Joe Formisano, Nico Nicolette, Jaryd Viserta, Steven Gaesser, Kacey Warner, Sandra Ramsey, Lorraine Mannarino, Antonino Mazzara, Elizabeth Startup Jones, Mary Lynn Beam, Jose Ramos, Carmen Ramos, Mercedes Rodriguez, Jose Brito, Michael Medaglia, Barbara Straub, Tress Loughrey, Sal Careri, Cody Bain, Robert Witherow, Susan Upton, Theresa Fuller, Allen Lynch, Enid Decker, Jackie Mundy, Chris Marion, III, Barbara Lindsay, Robert Ackerman, Wayne DeMarco, Ryan O'Connor, Elizabeth Brennan, Jerri Kavanaugh, Allan Garcia, Christine Haberzettl, Eric Hildebrandt, Rose Gotthardt, Georgia Gotthardt, John Olenick, John Hendrix, Stephen A. Odrechowski and fam., Scott Robertson, Eva Scopino, and Jan Kaminski.

***We have various announced Mass Intentions available for the 2020 year. Cost is \$15. Stop by the parish office. Everyone loves the gift of prayer.***

The collection for February 8th/9th was \$5,458.50. Thank you for your continued generosity.