

JMJ

Dear Parishioners,

In this Sunday's Gospel we find two invitations from Jesus: on the one hand to "have no fear" of human beings, and on the other, to "fear" God. We are thus encouraged to reflect on the difference that exists between human fears and the fear of God. Fear is a natural dimension of life. In childhood we experience forms of fear that subsequently are revealed to be imaginary and disappear; other fears emerge later which are indeed founded in reality: these must be faced and overcome with human determination and trust in God. However, especially today, there is a deeper form of fear of an existential type and which sometimes borders on anguish: it is born from a sense of emptiness, linked to a certain culture permeated with widespread theoretical and practical nihilism.

In the face of the broad and diversified panorama of human fears, the Word of God is clear: those who "fear" God "are not afraid". Fear of God, which the Scriptures define as "the beginning of knowledge" coincides with faith in him, with sacred respect for his authority over life and the world.

To be without "fear of God" is equivalent to putting ourselves in his place, to feeling we ourselves are lords of good and evil, of life and death. Instead, those who fear God feel within them the safety that an infant in his mother's arms feels. Those who fear God are tranquil even in the midst of storms for, as Jesus revealed to us, God is a Father full of mercy and goodness. Those who love him are not afraid: "There is no fear in love", the Apostle John wrote, "but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and he who fears is not perfected in love". Believers, therefore, are not afraid of anything because they know they are in the hands of God, they know that it is not evil and the irrational which have the last word, but rather that the one Lord of the world and of love is Christ, the Word of God Incarnate, who loved us to the point of sacrificing himself for us, dying on the Cross for our salvation.

The more we grow in this intimacy with God, imbued with love, the more easily we overcome any form of fear. In the passage of today's Gospel, Jesus repeats several times the exhortation to have no fear. Jesus reassures us, as he reassured the Apostles and as he did Saint Paul by appearing to him one night in a vision at a particularly difficult moment in his preaching: "Do not be afraid", he said, "for I am with you". Strong in the presence of Christ and comforted by his love, the Apostle to the Gentiles, did not even fear martyrdom. May this great spiritual and pastoral event inspire in us too a renewed trust in Jesus Christ who calls us to proclaim and witness to his Gospel without being afraid of anything.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Father Newcomb



This year we will be participating in the baby bottle fundraiser to benefit the Tri State Pregnancy Center. Please take a bottle from the Narthex, fill it with change, and return it no later July 19th.



St. Mary's Little Lambs is now accepting applications for their 3 and 4 year old programs for the Fall registration. Limited full-time and half day programs are available. Contact Mary Carver, director (845) 858-4208 or email: littlelambs@stmarysportjervis.com to set up an appointment to tour the school.

During these trying times we are still trying to keep our Church doors open after this pandemic is over. Contributions can be mailed to PO Box 712, dropped off in the mail slot at the rectory (46 Ball Street) or follow the link below to do online giving. We appreciate your generosity to our parish.

<https://stmarysportjervis.churchgiving.com/>

St. Mary's Food Pantry is still available to all in our local and area communities. The next date will be Friday, June 26th from 10am until noon. If you or anyone you know needs help, please have them come during those times.

We have various Mass Intentions available. If you would like a Mass Intention for a loved one, living or deceased, email or call in your request to st-marys-rectory@hvc.rr.com

A few reminders about St. Mary's Cemetery:

Personal belongings including but not limited to plaster images/figurines, photographs, and solar lights are not permitted.

Cut flowers may be placed in proper metal container. Artificial flowers are not allowed.

Kindly clean up after your dog which must be kept on a leash at all times.

For an entire list of the bylaws please stop by the parish office or request one via email.

All Masses will be in the Church

As we begin public Masses, here are some changes:

1. No sign of peace.
2. No holy water in the fonts.
3. No presentation of the gifts.
4. No collection baskets, kindly place your donation in the boxes in the narthex so designated.
5. Very limited congregational singing.
6. No clergy greeting at the end of Mass.
7. Please socially distance when you come enter the Church, if you come up for Communion, and when you leave.
8. Confessions will still be held in the vesting sacristy.
9. Families kindly sit together, others please keep a safe distance from others in each pew.

ICSM has enrolled with Reflective Energy Solutions (RES) for gas electric supply. All church members, friends & family are also offered the opportunity to save money on energy costs and support our church & the environment all at the same time! ICSM will receive a 1 time upfront payment for ALL Community Solar enrollments & ongoing monthly payments for all gas and/or electric supplier sign-ups based on monthly usage as well as for enrollments in any RES energy programs.

Nexamp, a leading community solar provider, is committed to helping residents save money while being good stewards to the earth. Community solar is an extremely easy way to support local clean energy & save up to 10% on your electricity costs, without installing rooftop solar panels. No catch. No hidden fees. Just a smart way to reduce your electric bills & do right by your home and your community. Please review the attached brochure and contact Miriam Stiefel via phone (201)638-3032 or email: MiriamS@reflectediveES.com if you would like to sign up or have any questions about all the available energy saving products.

Announced Masses

- Monday, June 22 (Paulinus of Nola, Bishop; John Fisher, bishop and Thomas More, martyrs)**
9:00am Tom Sexton, by the Foster family
- Tuesday, June 23**
9:00am Tom Sexton, by Rich and Diane Quick
- Wednesday, June 24 (Nativity of John the Baptist)**
9:00am Tom Sexton, by Joyce Senkiew
- Thursday, June 25**
9:00am Tom Sexton, by Deacon Rich and Joanne Marino
- Saturday, June 27**
4:00pm The parishioners of St. Mary's
- Sunday, June 28**
8:30am Skip Halstead, by Betty Hartmann
11:30am Guiseppe Fiorillo, by his wife
1:00pm Mr. & Mrs. David Jacobs, Sr., 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, Nico Nicolette, Jaryd Viserta, Steven Gaesser, Kacey Warner, Sandra Ramsey, Lorraine Mannarino, 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, Jan Kaminski, Ana Anaya, Glenn Lagatol, Ellen Pentland, Shirley Simeone, Belinda Vazquez, Leticia Nuestro, Christina Nuestro, and Vini Tankasali.

The Cardinal's Appeal is still ongoing. Our goal is \$34,500. We have received pledges totaling \$15,835 from 83 donors. You can visit Cardinalsappeal.org. All Donations can be mailed directly to : The Cardinal's Appeal PO Box 4020 NY, NY 10261.

Our Parish number is **518**.

The collection for June 13/14 was \$7,188.
Thank you for your continued generosity.