

JMJ

Dear Parishioners,

The Gospel parables are brief accounts that Jesus uses to proclaim the mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven. Using imagery from situations of daily life, the Lord “wants to show us the real ground of all things.... He shows us... the God who acts, who intervenes in our lives, and wants to take us by the hand”. With this kind of discourse the divine Teacher invites us to recognize first of all the primacy of God the Father: Wherever he is absent, nothing can be good. He is a crucial priority for all things. Kingdom of Heaven means, in fact, lordship of God and this means that his will must be adopted as the guiding criterion of our existence.

The subject of this Sunday’s Gospel is, precisely, the Kingdom of Heaven. “Heaven” should not be understood only in the sense that it towers above us, because this infinite space also takes the form of human interiority. Jesus compares the Kingdom of Heaven to a field of wheat to enable us to understand that something small and hidden has been sown within us which, nevertheless, has an irrepressible vital force. In spite of all obstacles, the seed will develop and the fruit will ripen. This fruit will only be good if the terrain of life is cultivated in accordance with the divine will.

For this reason in the Parable of the Weeds among the good Wheat. Jesus warns us that, after the owner had scattered the seed, “while men were sleeping, his enemy” intervened and sowed weeds among the wheat. This means that we must be ready to preserve the grace received from the day of our Baptism, continuing to nourish faith in the Lord that prevents evil from taking root. Saint Augustine commenting on the parable noted “many are at first tares but then become good grain”, and he added: “if these, when they are wicked, are not endured with patience they would not attain their praiseworthy transformation”.

Dear friends, the Book of Wisdom — from which today’s First Reading is taken — emphasizes this dimension of the divine Being and states: “Neither is there any god besides you, whose care is for all men.... For your strength is the source of righteousness, and your sovereignty over all causes you to spare all”. And Psalm 86 confirms it: “You, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call on you”.

Hence if we are children of such a great and good Father, let us seek to be like him! This was the aim Jesus set himself with his preaching; indeed, he said to those who were listening to him: “You... must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect”. Let us turn with trust to Mary, whom we invoked yesterday with the title of Our Lady of Mount Carmel so that she may help us to follow Jesus faithfully, and so live as true children of God.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Father Newcomb

As Mass attendance continues to increase, please keep in mind that social distancing protocol is still in effect.

When going up to receive, please be sure to provide the person in front of you a proper amount of distance.

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.



This weekend 9 children will receive First Holy Communion.

Joshua Adamcik, Tazialynn Brito, Gemma Burns, Alexander Calderon, Mitchel Conklin, Amaya Daw, Julia DeSimone, Henry Lehn, and Ryan Robertson.

May their love for God and their Faith continue to grow.

The 2nd collection this weekend is for the Catholic Missions among Black and Indian People. Please give it your prayerful consideration.



If anyone interested in getting Pro-Life "Action Alerts" or interested in joining St. Mary's Respect Life Committee please call Nancy 856-4610.

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 Food Pantry is still available to all in our local and area communities. The next date will be Friday, July 24th 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, please contact the parish office.

Congratulations to the June Lottery ticket winners. We are currently selling tickets for the month of August. They are \$10 each and gives you a chance to win multiple times every month. All proceeds go towards Church improvements.

The Cardinal's Appeal is still ongoing. Our goal is \$34,500. We have received pledges totaling \$18,605 from 93 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**.

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, July 13 (Henry)**
9:00am John Morgiewicz and Bobby Horan, by Ann Dilger
- Tuesday, July 14 (Kateri Tekakwitha, virgin)**
9:00am Liza Rodriguez, by the Brito family
- Wednesday, July 15 (Bonaventure, bishop and doctor)**
9:00am Sean Riordan, by mom and dad
- Thursday, July 16 (Our Lady of Mt. Carmel)**
9:00am Living and deceased members of the Corrado family, by Agnes and Mary Denise Di Toto McKay, by mom and brothers
- Saturday, July 18**
4:00pm The parishioners of St. Mary's
- Sunday, July 19**
8:30am Joseph Hartmann, by Betty Hartmann
11:30am Guiseppe Fiorillo, by wife Rosa

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, 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, Vini Tankasali, Alice Drew, and Catherine Scopino.

***Next weekend at the 11:30 Mass
10 adults will complete their sacrament
initiation and welcomed into the Church.***

The collection for July 4/5 was \$5,897.
Thank you for your continued generosity.