

JMJ

Dear Parishioners,

The biblical Readings of Mass this Sunday converge on the theme of brotherly love in the community of believers whose source lies in the communion of the Trinity. The Apostle Paul says that the whole Law of God finds fullness in love, so that in our relationships with others the Ten Commandments and every other precept are summed up in these words: “Love your neighbor as yourself”.

The Gospel text from chapter 18 of Matthew on the life of the Christian community tells us that brotherly love also involves a sense of mutual responsibility. For this reason if my brother commits a sin against me I must treat him charitably and first of all, speak to him privately, pointing out that what he has said or done is wrong. This approach is known as “fraternal correction”: it is not a reaction to the offense suffered but is motivated by love for one’s brethren.

St Augustine comments: “Whoever has offended you, in offending you, has inflicted a serious injury upon himself; and would you not care for a brother’s injury?... You must forget the offense you have received but not the injury of one of your brethren.

And what if my brother does not listen to me? In today’s Gospel Jesus points to a gradual approach: first, speak to him again with two or three others, the better to help him realize what he has done; if, in spite of this, he still refuses to listen, it is necessary to tell the community; and if he refuses to listen even to the community, he must be made to perceive that he has cut himself off by separating himself from the communion of the Church.

All this demonstrates that we are responsible for each other in the journey of Christian life; each person, aware of his own limitations and shortcomings, is called to accept fraternal correction and to help others with this specific service.

Another fruit of love in the community is unanimous prayer. Jesus said: “If two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in Heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them”. Personal prayer is of course important, indeed indispensable, but the Lord guarantees his presence to the community — even if it is very small — which is united and in agreement, because this reflects the very reality of the Triune God, perfect communion of love. Origen says “we should practice this symphony”, in other words this harmony within the Christian community. We should practice both fraternal correction — which demands deep humility and simplicity of heart — and prayer so that it may rise to God from a community truly united in Christ.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Father Newcomb

In observance of Labor Day, the parish office will be closed on Monday, September 7th.

We have various Mass Intentions available for 2020. If you would like a Mass Intention for a loved one, living or deceased, please contact the parish office.

You may still drop off Religious Education registration forms at the parish office Monday-Friday from 9:30 until 3 or during Religious Education office hours Tuesday and Thursday from 4pm-6pm. The 1st day of Religious Instruction will be Sunday, October 4th.

We will be opening the 2021 Mass Book during the following hours:
Tuesday, October 13th from 9:30 until noon and from 5pm to 6pm
and on Wednesday, October 14th from 1pm to 3pm.

Holy Hour will commence on Monday, September 14th.
Confessions will be heard from 5:30pm until 6:15pm.
Adoration will be from 5:30 pm until 6:30pm.
All in the Church.

The 2nd collection next weekend is the Good Friday collection that was unable to be collected during the Pandemic.

St. Mary's Food Pantry is still available to all in our local and area communities. The next date will be Friday, September 18th from 10am until noon. If you or anyone you know needs help, please have them come during those times.

St. Joseph's Table will resume on Friday, September 11th from 5pm until 7pm. Proper protocol and precautions including temperature scanning, and no more than four (4) people per table unless it is a family sitting together, will be in effect. If you would like to continue to volunteer please contact Deacon Rich at the parish office (845) 856-8212/ email: deacon@stmarysportjervis.com.

Save the Date! We will have an Avon fundraiser beginning October 14 to raise funds for the bus to Washington , DC in January for the March for Life. If you would like see a catalog, please stop by the parish office.

Boy Scout Troop # 173 will have their annual Clothing Drive and Car Wash on Saturday, September 26th from 9am until 3pm. They are accepting clothing, shoes, belts, and stuffed animals. Please bag like items alike. Clean out and help their Troop.

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. 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.

Join us at **The National Shrine of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel** on Wednesday, September 23rd for "Tailored Prayer: Finding the Way of Prayer that is Right for You" with Fr. Tim Ennis, O.Carm. Cost is \$10pp. Retreat will be held in the Shrine Church from 9:30 -11:15am followed by Mass at 11:30am. Shrine is marked off for social distancing. Please wear a face mask and use hand sanitizer upon entering. Our picnic area will be available, weather permitting, for those who wish to enjoy the outdoor grounds and bring their own lunch. Gift Shop will be open until 4:00pm. The Shrine is located at 70 Carmelite Drive, Middletown, NY. Call Carol Bezak, Shrine Director for reservations or further information at 845-343-1879.

Mount Carmel Society of Port Jervis NY will be having our famous Sausage and Pepper Curbside take-out Saturday September 19th 2020. Starting at 4:30 PM to 7:00 PM location will be at 21 First Street Port Jervis, NY at our Hall. I Thank you for your support

Announced Masses

- Monday, September 7**
9:00am Intentions of Our Lady, by Mary Connelly
- Tuesday, September 8 (Nativity of the BVM)**
9:00am Jean & Dick VanSickle, by Mary Williams
- Wednesday, September 9 (Peter Claver, priest)**
9:00am Peggy Klotz, by Debbie and Rob Krents
Int. of Helen & Ed Eckes, by Klotz family
- Thursday, September 10**
9:00am Kevin Cooper, by Diane & Paul Hartmann
- Saturday, September 12**
4:00pm Michael McCarthy, by Dick & Barbara Drew
- Sunday, September 13**
8:30am Luann McCarthy, by Mom and Dad
11:30am The parishioners of St. Mary's

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 Nostro, Christina Nostro, Vini Tankasali, Alice Drew, Catherine Scopino, Amelia Quinn, Tonya Addy, Jackie Hamilton, Brandon Ulrichs, Ed Eckes, and Helen Eckes.

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Please Add/Remove from prayer list:

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Return no later than September 20, 2020.

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The Cardinal's Appeal is still ongoing. Our goal is \$34,500. We have received pledges totaling \$18,905 from 95 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 August 29th/30th was \$6, 710.
Thank you for your continued generosity.