

TWENTYSEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME October 4, 2020

Dear Parishioners,

The reading from the Prophet Isaiah and today's Gospel set before our eyes one of the great images of Sacred Scripture: the image of the vine. In Sacred Scripture, bread represents all that human beings need for their daily life. Water makes the earth fertile: it is the fundamental gift that makes life possible. Wine, on the other hand, expresses the excellence of creation and gives us the feast in which we go beyond the limits of our daily routine: wine, the Psalm says, "gladdens the heart". So it is that wine and with it the vine have also become images of the gift of love in which we can taste the savor of the Divine. Thus, the reading from the Prophet that we have just heard begins like a canticle of love: God created a vineyard for himself - this is an image of the history of love for humanity, of his love for Israel which he chose. This is therefore the first thought in today's readings: God instilled in men and women, created in his image, the capacity for love, hence also the capacity for loving him, their Creator. With the Prophet Isaiah's canticle of love God wants to speak to the hearts of his people - and to each one of us. "I have created you in my image and likeness", he says to us. "I myself am love and you are my image to the extent that the splendor of love shines out in you, to the extent that you respond lovingly to me". God is waiting for us. He wants us to love Him: should not our hearts be moved by this appeal? At this very moment when we are celebrating the Eucharist, He comes to meet us, He comes to meet me. Will He find a response? Or will what happened to the vine of which God says in Isaiah: "He waited for it to produce grapes but it yielded wild grapes", also happen to us? Is not our Christian life often far more like vinegar than wine? Self-pity, conflict, indifference?

We men and women, to whom creation is as it were entrusted for its management, have usurped it. We ourselves want to dominate it in the first person and by ourselves. We want unlimited possession of the world and of our own lives. God is in our way. Either He is reduced merely to a few devout words, or He is denied in everything and banned from public life so as to lose all meaning. The tolerance that admits God as it were as a private opinion but refuses him the public domain, the reality of the world and of our lives, is not tolerance but hypocrisy. But nowhere that the human being makes himself the one lord of the world and owner of himself can justice exist. There, it is only the desire for power and private interests that can prevail. Of course, one can chase the Son out of the vineyard and kill him, in order selfishly to taste the fruits of the earth alone. However, in no time at all the vineyard then reverts to being an uncultivated piece of land, trampled by wild boar as the Responsorial Psalm tells us.

These parables thus lead at the end to the mystery of the Eucharist, in which the Lord gives us the bread of life and the wine of His love and invites us to the banquet of His eternal love. We celebrate the Eucharist in the awareness that its price was the death of the Son - the sacrifice of His life that remains present in it. Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the death of the Lord until He comes, Saint Paul says. But we also know that from this death springs life, because Jesus transformed it into a sacrificial gesture, an act of love, thereby profoundly changing it: love has overcome death. In the Holy Eucharist, from the Cross, He draws us all to Himself and makes us branches of the Vine that is Christ himself. If we abide in Him, we will also bear fruit, and then from us will no longer come the vinegar of self-sufficiency, of dissatisfaction with God and His creation, but the good wine of joy in God and of love for our neighbor.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Father Newcomb



The Blessing of the Animals will be today, Sunday, October 4th at 1pm in the Church parking lot.

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 has commenced on Mondays in the Chapel.
Confessions will be heard from 5:30pm until 6:15pm. **Adoration** will be from 5:30 pm until 6:30pm.



The Fall campaign for the 40 days for Life is a little less than three weeks away. For the first time in ten years, we will not have a 40 Days for Life Campaign at Goshen

Planned Parenthood because since spring, Goshen Planned Parenthood has been closed! Praise God! As of now we do not know if this temporary or permanent. Please pray that their doors stay shut forever! If anyone would like to join Nancy in Newburgh, NY.

Anyone interested in helping with the Rosary Rally on Saturday, October 10th call Nancy-845-856-4610. I will need 5 people to say a Decade of the Rosary, 2 people to carry banner (must be able to walk up hill on Sussex St.), a Pick up truck with driver to pick up and take back the cart from Mt. Carmel Society in Port Jervis, one person to take attendance at the rally and one person to push the cart with the statue of Our Lady of Fatima up the hill to Orange Square/ Veterans Memorial Park.

Masks and Social Distancing is required.

The annual *Port Jervis Life Chain* will take place on Sunday, October 11th from 1 to 2:30. You may park on the road at St. Mary's Cemetery. You may contact Stephanie Rubinow at pjlifechain@gmail.com or call Nancy Smith.

Our Avon fundraiser will begin 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.

St. Joseph's Table will be serving a Baked Ziti dinner on October 9th from 5pm-7pm. All are welcome!

St. Mary's Food Pantry is still available to all in our local and area communities. The next date will be Friday, October 16th from 10am until noon. If you or anyone you know needs help, please have them come during those times.

Save the Date! Court Madonna #114 is hosting their annual appraisal day on Saturday, October 17th. For more information contact Kim Witkowski 856-2327.



JCDA will be celebrating **SOCKTOBER.** More information coming soon.

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 September 26th/27th was \$5,043

Announced Masses

- Monday, October 5 (Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, priest)**
9:00am Joseph Cox, by Erika and family
- Tuesday, October 6 (Bruno, priest; Blessed Marie Rose Durocher Virgin)**
9:00am Mary Scales Holley & Beatrice Jacobus McCreery, by Marsha & Billy
- Wednesday, October 7 (Our Lady of the Rosary)**
9:00am Carol Froehlich, by James Froehlich
- Thursday, October 8**
9:00am Willard Dixon Morrison, by Patrick Leap
- Saturday, October 10**
4:00pm The parishioners of St. Mary's
- Sunday, October 11**
8:30am Elizabeth Corcoran, by the Lissner fam.
11:30am Alois Klostermeier, by Erika and fam.



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn brightly this week in memory of Michael Mineau, by Catherine Westfall and family.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Debi Cotugno, Michael Bello, Michael Barnes, William Lincoln, Jeannine Lincoln, James Lincoln, Charles Hildebrandt, Maureen Hildebrandt, Walter Szpakowicz, Aedan Roach, Robin Radzikowski, James Roach, John F Flynn, Jr., Catherine Simons, Jose Ramos, Michael Medaglia, Robert Witherow, Theresa Fuller, Allen Lynch, Enid Decker, Jackie Mundy, Chris Marion, III, Allan Garcia, Eric Hildebrandt, Stephen A. Odrechowski, Scott Robertson, Eva Scopino, Jan Kaminiski, Ellen Pentland, Leticia Nuestro, Christina Nuestro, Alice Drew, Catherine Scopino, Amelia Quinn, Tonya Addy, Jackie Hamilton, Brandon Ulrichs, Helen Eckes, Gloria Hicks, Stephanie Gaide, Elizabeth Startup Jones, MaryLynn Beam, Nancy Crumley, Carol Gomillion, & David Lisker.

World Mission Sunday 2020/Propagation of the Faith will be celebrated the weekend of **October 17th/18th**. We are called through of Baptism to be part of the Church's missionary efforts, through prayer, self sacrifice, and support of the Mission Church through material aid.

This year, Pope Francis asks us to respond to that call, saying **"Here I Am, Send Me!"**. To "send" ourselves we can:

Pray for the Church's worldwide missionary work.

Offer financial help and charity through the collection for vulnerable communities throughout Asia, Africa, Latin America, and the Pacific Islands.

\$25 helps support a catechist for a month in remote Latin America

\$75 provides for the work of Religious Sisters caring for orphaned children in Africa

\$100 assists families in sending their children to school in Asia
As always, your prayers are your most treasured gift to the Missions. Your prayers and financial help for World Mission Sunday, support mission priests, religious Sisters and Brothers, and lay catechists who are Christ's witnesses to a world so in need of His healing, love, and peace.