

*September 9, 2018*  
*Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time*

**From the Desk of Rev. Anthony Columba Ekanem, MSP:**

**The Healing Activity of Our Lord Jesus**

With the beginning of another school year after our summer vacation, we as a Church community are also encouraged to begin with a renewed spirit our spiritual and temporal activities. Also, as we draw closer to the anniversary of that terrific attack on our country, 17 years ago, there is a great need to reflect and pray as a family on the healing power of Jesus.

In the Gospel today, Mark wants us to see the miracles of Jesus as signs of a hidden reality to come. Jesus is not like the traditional miracle – workers circulating in His day, His miracles are not ends in themselves. Mark brings this out by having Jesus order silence time again after each miracle. Hence, we must meditate on what Mark wants to teach by relating this tradition.

- Are we concerned about those who are deaf to God's word?

Note: Our Church Religious Education has started. It began this past Saturday with Faith Formation Parents Orientation Program, since parents are the first teachers. Please, encourage your children not to miss this opportunity. Or can strangers, people of other races, rich or poor, young and old feel welcome here in our church as the second reading suggest? In Mark's mind Jesus was fulfilling the prophesy of Isaiah, 'The ears of the deaf will be unsealed, and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy.' In other words, Jesus is the one who brings salvation to Israel. We are not to block it rather cooperate and encourage a true faith – response attitude in our family and Church community.

Miracle is the only cure in the Gospel that is described as taking place gradually. Mark saw it as an illustration of growth in faith. It is what happens to every Christian at Baptism. Christ touches our ears so that we can hear His word, and touches out tongues so that we can profess our faith. Hence, we too can say, 'He has done all things well; He makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.'

Join us on Tuesday, September 11, 2018 at any of the Masses and pray for healing for our Country, for the families of all those who are still suffering the effect of that terrorist attack. For end of terrorism and civil strife, for the safety of those who protect us: military personal, police officers, fire fighters and others.

**Donors Plaque for the Renew+ Rebuild Campaign:**

The names on the plaque are currently being engraved and should be completed soon. They have promised us it would be here very soon. Thank you again to all our donors.

Collection: The collection for last Sunday, September 2, 2018 was \$ 4,008.

Second collection: this Sundays 2nd collection is for our Organ Renovation

**Our 2018 Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal Update**

Pledged: \$29,183 (71% of goal)

Goal: \$41,000 (We need \$11,817 to reach our goal!)

Families/Parishioners Participating Today: 107 – Our Goal: 194

Join YOUR Parishioners by Making a Pledge TODAY!

Today's Focus: Using What We Have :

*Divine healing in the scriptures never exists for its own sake, but as an impetus to proclaim God's glory. When we experience healing, our lives must be opened up to be faithful witnesses.*

Living and Praying with the world:

Healing God, you choose to poverty of our lives to make us rich in faith and courage. Touch us. Open our ears to the voices of all our sisters and brothers. Free our mouths to speak words that invite freedom, justice and healing as did your Son, Jesus Christ.

The Archdiocese of New York Catholic Charismatic Renewal Service Team Invites you to our Upper Counties Conference, Saturday, September 29, 2018, 10:00AM - 5:00PM, at Capuchin Youth and Family Ministries, [781 Route 9D, Garrison, NY](#).

Doors open 9:00AM. Fee is \$25 a person (includes continental breakfast, buffet lunch, and conference). Theme: *Lord Deliver Me!*

Speakers: Fr. Vincent Druding, "Deliverance Ministry: The Why And How Of It"; Fr. Chris Argano, "Discernment Of Spirits: To Protect Ourselves"; Ryan Young of Camp Veritas, "How Do We Live In The Spirit In A Hostile World?". Please

visit website for more detail, flyer, and registration: [CatholicCharismaticNY.org](#) or call (845)223-5653, no later than September 16, 2018.

**September 2018:**

15th: Religious Education Classes –9:20-11:00 am

22th: Religious Education Classes –9:20-11:00 am

29th: Religious Education Classes –9:20-11:00 am

**Mass Schedule for the week of**

**September 9, 2018 to September 16, 2018**

**Mass are daily at 8:15 and 12:05 in English and in Spanish on Thursdays at 7:00pm**

**Below are the Special Intentions for this week**

**Sunday, September 9, 2018 :**

7:30 am For the Parishioners

9:00 am-David Estevaniz

11:00am-Richard Duarte

Maria Neto & Family

Esther & Eduardo Rodrigues

**Wednesday, September 12, 2018:**

12:05 pm-Margaret Cruz

Angela Borrelli

**Thursday, September 13, 2018:**

7:00 pm– Wilfredo Maldonado

Elba Luisa & Jose Maldonado

**Saturday, September 15, 2018:**

7:30 pm-Rosa Peralta & Orlando

Guiracocho Rosa Guiracocho

**Sunday, September 16, 2018:**

7:30 am-For the Parishioners

9:00 am– Joaquim Neto

11:00 am– Antonia Leone

Jorge Solórzano & Family

Grace & Salvatore De Luca

**Parish Membership:** All adult Catholics should be registered. We want to know and serve you and hope that you will become an active member of our parish community. Please notify the office of any changes in address, or if you are leaving the Parish. It is necessary to be a registered member of our parish for a minimum of 3 months in order for us to testify to your ability to be a sponsor for Baptism/Confirmation, witness to a Catholic marriage, or provide recommendation for a position at work or character reference.