

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time August 11, 2019

From the Desk of Rev. Fr. Anthony C. Ekanem, MSP:

~ *CARDINAL'S STEWARDSHIP APPEAL 2019* ~

I wish to begin this reflection first of all, by sincerely saying a big 'thank you' to the 120 families who participated in the Cardinal Stewardship Appeal this year, not minding the hard and difficult time we are facing in our society and in our Church. This response truly expresses the commitment towards the spirit of stewardship that we are called upon to practice with faith. Though our goal is \$39,500, we have been able to make a total pledge of \$38,563.00 which is 98% of our parish goal. For those who are still prayerfully considering, it is not too late. Please make your pledge today so that we may reach our goal and even go beyond it. The rebate that will come back to us will help to support our parish activities. Can we count on you!

WATCHFUL AND FAITHFUL STEWARDS

Today's Gospel reading emphasizes the need for us to be ready for the return of the Lord. The Gospel uses words like "servant" and "little flock" to refer to His disciples. We are also His disciples in a hostile world and we are encouraged to look with confidence to the Father who has chosen us for His kingdom. The disciples are like bridesmaids waiting for the bridegroom (Jesus) to return from the wedding feast. Since they do not know the exact hour of His return, they must maintain a constant and faithful watchfulness.

Though these words have great relevance for Christians especially in the midst of the senseless mass killing recently in El Paso, Texas and Dayton, Ohio and the crisis in our Church, there is a need or a call to selfless service of the Lord and of our fellow Christian. The simple question when He returns is: how faithful were we? There is always a tendency for us to fall into the sin of sloth, (carelessness) or even greed like we heard in our last Sunday's Gospel reading (Luke 12: 13-21); about the greedy rich man who planned to store his great harvest in his barns rather than share it. The background of the Gospel today is on Jesus's instruction on how to be ready for the coming judgment. The anxiety brought on by the coming judgment is to relinquish our possession and provide for the needs of others. To be faithful and not just be successful is what we read about St. Teresa of Calcutta.

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Thursday, August 15 is a holy day of obligation. We shall celebrate Vigil Mass on Wednesday, August 14 at 5:00 pm and on Thursday at 8:15 am, 12:05 pm 5:00 pm, 7:30 pm in Spanish.

WHAT IS THE DOCTRINE ALL ABOUT?

DOES THE ASSUMPTION OF MARY HAVE ANY MEANING FOR US PERSONALLY?

It is a source of hope for us because it foreshadows what will one day happen to each faithful Christian. It anticipates what will happen at the final judgment to all who are to be saved: that we, too, will possess glorified bodies like Christ's and Mary's Son on the last day."

Source: Your Catholic Faith: A Question – and - Answer

The doctrine of this assumption, formally defined in 1950 (though believed from earliest of Church times), affirms that Mary experienced the resurrection of the body that is promised to all faithful followers of Jesus immediately at the end of her time on earth. Tradition does not authoritatively assert whether Mary died or was bodily assumed into Heaven while still alive. In the Old Testament, we have accounts of both Enoch and Elijah being taken up into Heaven by God while still alive (Gen. 5:24 and 2 Kgs 2:11). The assumption of Mary into Heaven flows from and completes the conception of her Immaculate Conception. Since Mary was preserved from sin by a unique gifts and grace of Christ, she was able to experience the immediate union of her while being with God at the end of earthly life."

Let us learn to have a sense of duty and faith in God like it is defined for us today in the second reading, (HEBREWS 11:1-2, 8-12). For greatness lies in the sense of our responsibility, faith and persistence as we struggle to find favor with the Lord.

Stewardship

Tithing - God's Plan for Giving on Sunday For 08/4/19 our Offering was \$3,923.00

Last Sunday second collection we collected \$1,398.00 for the Latin America & Home Missions. Thank you for your generosity.

OUR CATHOLIC FAITH AND EDUCATION

The Director of Latino Outreach Program, Maria Zamorano left fliers on Catholic Education and financial assistance for those interested. You can call 646 794 2885 or visit CatholicSchoolsNY.org for more information.

Do you feel call to serve in any of the following role at the Mass?

Extra Ordinary Minister the Holy Eucharist

Altar Servers, Sacristan, Lector, Choir, Usher etc.

Call our Parish Office

Requirements to be a Godparents or a Sponsor for Sacrament of Confirmation

- A Catholic over 18 years of age
- Possess a mature catholic faith and knows, understands and participates in the Catholic Church Community
- Not the parents or Step—parents
- Fully—interested Baptized and Confirmed in the Catholic Church and celebrates the Eucharist at least weekly.
- He or She must be in good standing with the Church. If married, marriage is recognized by the Church.

HELP KEEP OUR CHURCH CLEAN AT ALL TIME

Use of our Parish Hall

We are working on the Guidelines for the use / renting of our Hall. Please, call our Parish Office for more information.

Changing Station

Check out our newest addition, a Baby changing station, located in the Bathroom.

Sundays Readings:

First Reading: Wisdom 18:2, 6-9 p. 17

"The people of God awaited the salvation of the just with strong faith. They constantly offered sacrifice according to divine laws and carried out God's word with one accord.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 33: 1, 12, 18-19, 20-22 p. 17 Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

Second Reading: Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19, 20-22 p. 18 God approves people because of their faith. Abraham obeyed God out of faith. As a result, God assured that Abraham's descendants would be "numerous as the stars in the sky."

Gospel: Luke 12:32-48 p. 18

Jesus encouraged the disciples to place their trust in God's reign and live less anxiously about things that don't really matter. He warned them to be prepared for the return of the master who would come when least expected.

All are welcome to our Up Coming Events

- Religious Education Registration 2019-2020 If you have not registered your children you will have an opportunity (Wednesday & Thursday, & Saturdays) August 14 & 15, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 pm). We are offering Adult classes for those who would like to become Catholics and those that still need a sacrament.
- Bible Sharing: Do you want to learn more about the Word of God during the week, in English. Call and let us know whether Wednesday beginning in the month of September is convenient for you.

**Mass Schedule for the week of
August 10, 2019 to August 17, 2019
Special Intentions for this week**

Saturday, August 10, 2019:

12:05pm— Joanne & Robert O'leary * Catherine Omran

5:00pm - Natevida Santana + * Castro Family

7:30pm - Maria Lopez Hernandez + * Walter Alexander

Sunday, August 11, 2019:

7:30 am – For the Parishioners

9:00 am – Rita & Rafaela Navarro * Josefa Navarro

11:00 am - In Thanksgiving * Mr. & Mrs. Duggan

Monday, August 12, 2019:

8:15am - Available/Disponibile

12:05pm Pearl Young Blessings * John Evans

Tuesday August 13, 2019

8:15am - Domini Pisculli Birthday Blessing

12:05pm – Baby Rory Rodden (Health) * Wini Fred & John O'Flaherty

Wednesday, August 14, 2019

8:15am - Available/Disponibile

12:05 pm – Hector Rene Gabriel + * Jose Gabriel

5:00 pm—For the Parish

Thursday, August 15, 2019:

8:15am - Anthony & Margaret Mary Felicissimo * Tony Felicissimo

12:05 pm– Patricia Zamborsky * William Zamborsky

5:00 pm— For the Parish

7:00 pm - Gabriela Pereira + * Family of St. Denis

Friday, August 16, 2019:

8:15am - Available/Disponibile

12:05 pm – Annamma Mathew *Anna K.

Saturday, August 17, 2019:

12:05pm— Mathai & Annamma Chacko Baby + * Family & Friend

5:00pm - Christina De La Cruz * Magaly Pichardo

7:30pm - Ivonne Alexander Lopez + * Walter Alexander

+Indicates deceased * Indicates the person (s) who requested the Mass.

The security cameras are now in place inside and outside our the Church. 24 Hour Surveillance Both Video & Audio