

The Bells of St. Mary's The Church of the Immaculate Conception

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time June 28, 2020

From Rev. Fr. Anthony Ekanem, MSP

HOSPITALITY

This last Sunday of the month, the Church presents us with a beautiful reflection on who God is; as the host, and we are the guests. We should feel welcome and at home in God's house. He accepts us; therefore, we should express that hospitality towards one another.

Traveling in the biblical world was a dangerous undertaking. Water was not as available as in the modern world. Inns for food lodging were sparse; sojourners depended on the hospitality of people they met along their way. We are all on a journey of faith leaning on Jesus. When we hear about the parable of the man who fell among robbers in Luke Gospel, what comes to mind? Especially since the story has it that he was found on a lonely road from Jericho to Jerusalem.

The First Reading today (2 Kgs 4:8 - 11. 14 - 24) stresses why the wealthy and influential woman received Elisha into her house: "I know that he is a holy man of God." That means in the Bible, this man was "a bearer of God's word." The woman from Shunem offers Elisha a meal when he passes by on the Lord's business. After hosting the prophet several times, she sees that he is a "holy man of God" and prepares him to lodge when in the area. The reward for her generous gesture brought about a promise, "this time next year, you will be fondling a baby son." In the reading, we see the gratitude of the prophet expressed through the promise of a child for an elderly couple. It also echoes what the Gospel says about the importance of showing hospitality towards the envoy of God.

The Gospel (Mt. 10:37 - 42) tells us, on the one hand, the sacrifices involved in being missionaries of Jesus, what we have been listening to the last two Sundays. Here again, Jesus instructs his apostles on the sacrifices involved and the priorities they must embrace in their mission. He tells them that they must be ready, if need be, to sacrifice the dearest things in life. In certain circumstances, they might have to choose between Him and their relatives. "Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; whoever does not take up his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of me." The Gospel also stresses the profound dignity and implications over even the smallest act of hospitality as we journey along with life.

Notice the references to our dying with Christ in baptism, which implies one man's sacrifice. St Paul takes time to explain to the Roman how the death of Christ has saved humanity from death and sin. How does it work? When one is in bondage to someone, Paul says, that bondage naturally ends when we die (6:7). In the same way, if we die with Christ in baptism, we are freed from bondage to sin, free from the power of sin and death. Paul's more significant point here is ethical: because Christians have died to sin, we are no longer under its influence, we must stop acting as if we were. We must start living for God, not continuing to serve sin.

What can we do today to be more generous? What sacrifice are you willing to make for your commitment to our Lord?

Stewardship

Tithing - God's Plan for Giving on Sunday, June 21, 2020 our Offering was \$2,759

Food Collection:

Next week we will have our monthly food collection for the needy in our Community. Thank you for your generosity in helping those less fortunate. God bless!

In observance of the Independence Day the Rectory will be closed on July 4, 2020

St Mary's Garden

Plants Donor Cash Donations

Estela Jaquez Loretta Skrobola

Maria Neto Jenny Brown

Guadalupe Cuadra Beverly E. Brown

Marta Salazar John J Donaghy

Miguel Herrera Dianne O' Rourke

Norah Estevez Kevin R Walsh

Ramona Nuñez Julius Rodriquez

Ana Medina Francisca Fugah

Silvia Stevez

Ines Jaquez

Thank you to all for your generous support towards our special project!

Graduates of 2020

Our Parish Community is planning to celebrate your academic achievement on Sunday, July 19, 2020 at 11:00 am Mass. Please call the Parish Office to give your name.

Sacrament of Confirmation

Bishop Walsh will be here on Sat., Sept 19, at 3:00 pm to confirm our Candidates.

Continued Financial Support: We urge all who can to please consider joining the online We Share automated giving program by going to: <https://icmary.churchgiving.com/>

Sundays Readings:

First Reading: 2 Kings 4: 8-11, 14-16a (97A)

A woman of influence provided a room for Elisha. In a gratitude, he promised the woman, who had no child, that within a year she would bear a baby boy.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 89: 2-3, 16-17, 18-19 For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

Second Reading: Romans 6: 3-4, 8-11 As Jesus conquered sin through death and resurrection, so his faithful have died to sin and come alive in God through baptism.

Gospel: Matthew 10: 37-42 Jesus told his apostles that people who seek only themselves come to ruin. Those who deny themselves for his sake discover themselves. Those who welcome prophets receive great rewards; those who welcome holy persons welcome the Lord.

Religious Education

We have a new registration form of our Religious Education program on the website.

First Holy Communion Celebration Sat., July 25, at 10:00 am - 3rd Graders 3:00 pm - other Grades

The 3rd Grade Confession on Sat., July 11, at 9:00 am. All children from Group 4, 5 & 6 Sat., July 18, at 9:00 am

Please, wear your mask!

Archdiocesan Appeal

Update of 2020 Appeal Goals Goal: \$37,500.00 Pledged: \$31,502.00 Paid: \$24,950.00

Thank you very much for your contributions towards our Annual Cardinal's Appeal and Re - new and Re - build Campaign. We still need more pledges to reach our goal with the Annual Cardinal's Appeal. Please, help!

May Update of Renew & Rebuild

Goal \$409,000.00 Pledged: \$420,984.30 Paid: \$230,321.50 Left: (\$190,662.80) Thank you for all your generosity!

**Mass Intention for the week of
June 27 to July 5, 2020**

Saturday, June 27, 2020

12:05 - pm - Available/Disponibile
5:00 pm - Joanne Kunny + Bob & Marge Esposito
7:30 pm - Anita Martinez + * Sus Hijos

Sunday, June 28, 2020

7:30 am - Missa Pro Populo
9:00 am - Jacóbo Tovar + * Torivio Tovar
11:00 am - George J. Russ + * Jenny Brown

Monday, June 29, 2020

8:15 am - Available/Disponibile
12:05 pm - Available/Disponibile

Tuesday June 30, 2020

8:15 am - Available/Disponibile
12:05 pm - Available/Disponibile

Wednesday, July 1, 2020

8:15 am - Available/Disponibile
12:05 pm - Available/Disponibile

Thursday, July 2, 2020

8:15 am - Available/Disponibile
12:05 pm - Available/Disponibile
7:00 pm - -Available/Disponibile

Friday, July 3, 2020

8:15 am - Available/Disponibile
12:05 pm - Available/Disponibile
7:00 pm - Sagrado Corazón De Jesus * Marta Vega

Saturday, July 4, 2020

12:05 - pm - Available/Disponibile
5:00 pm - Saturnino Rodriguez + * Marta Vega
7:30 pm - Legion De Maria

Sunday, July 5, 2020

7:30 am - Available/Disponibile
9:00 am - Alfredo Blanco Carbajal + * Esposa e Hijos
11:00 am - Rachel Garcia + * From the Family

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

We still have days open for you to book Masses for your dear ones.

We still have some days open for you to book for Masses for special intention

Congratulations!
Rev. George Okoro, MSP
as you celebrate your 11th Year of your Priestly Anniversary Ordination today.
God bless!

PRAYER

A PRAYER TO HELP US ALL THROUGH THIS COVID-19 CRISIS:

Prayer to the Virgin Mary for Protection

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick.

At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain,
with steadfast faith.

You, Our Lady of New York, know what we need.

We are certain that you will provide, so that,
as you did at Cana of Galilee,

joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love,

to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us:

He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us,

through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.

We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God.

Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test –
and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

Formed.org

Our parish has a free subscription to www.formed.org which gives you 24/7 access to over 300 quality Catholic on line programs, 99 + E-Books

Go to formed.org .

Click on “sign up”,

Click on “I belong to a parish or organization”.

Start typing name—Immaculate Conception St. Mary's Church Yonkers NY. You will see a number of parishes with this name).

Scroll to Immaculate Conception St Mary's Church Yonkers, NY.

Hit Next, - create account with your name and email.

After creating your account the next time you want to go on simply type in your web browser formed.org and it will bring you to the website. In the upper right corner you will then see sign in. Click that and you are set to enjoy all the wonderful resources. I would highly suggest during this time you sample some of the movies that they offer. Enjoy !