

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

Eighteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time August 2, 2020

From Rev. Fr. Anthony Ekanem, MSP

Generosity of Our God

There are two essential elements we look for to live a contented life. There are food and love. These are needs; we hunger, thirst, and yearn for in life, especially when considering our physical and emotional needs. Receiving both elements are blessings from God. They help to nourish our bodies and soul. God provides these for us in our journey through life. The theme uniting the readings this week is that of the boundless generosity of God: God gives freely, and God gives in extreme measure.

Today, we heard Jesus followed by people as he tried to withdraw to a lonely place to grieve over his cousin, John the Baptist. Out of His compassion, He ignored His own needs and turned His attention to feed the hungry crowd. Matthew relates the story of Jesus, feeding the people with only five loaves and two fish to tell us something important about our Lord's mission on earth. According to the Evangelist, "His heart was moved with pity for them, and He cared for them." His empathy extends through His disciples, who had only some loaves and fish at that moment. Matthew Gospel portrays the divinity of Jesus by this very action.

The episode of this Multiplication of the Loaves that forms the Gospel, Matt 14:13-21, looks backward to biblical traditions about God's generous provision of food, such as the

- manna in the wilderness (Exodus 16; Numbers 11) and the
- multiplication miracle of the prophet Elisha (2 Kings 4:42-44);

It looks forward to the Eucharist's gift and, ultimately, to the final banquet in the Kingdom of God, of which the Eucharist is both foretaste and symbol.

Central to the theological significance is how the episode anticipates the institution of the Eucharist. Jesus' gestures – 'taking (the loaves)', 'blessing', 'breaking', 'giving' – foreshadow those at the Last Supper (Matt 26:26). The Evangelist expects that readers will understand that when they participate in the Eucharist, they are experiencing the same divine hospitality that the Galilean crowds in this 'lonely place' experienced from Jesus.

Jesus showed compassion for the people by healing their sick and giving them food to eat. For us today, during this pandemic, we need His abundant help in our physical, emotional, and spiritual struggle to cope with the impact of this COVID 19 virus. And how do we do this?

Like Isaiah, who emerged out of the late exile period, insist that God is bringing an end to the period of judgment and will restore Israel beyond its former glory. So we need to take to heart our First Reading from the prophet Isaiah 55:1-3.

"All you who are thirsty,
come to the water!
You who have no money,
come, without paying and without cost,
drink wine and milk."

These are words of comfort to God's people. The prophet reaches out, especially to those who believe that because they broke the Mosaic covenant (Isaiah 41:17; 58:11), their disobedience and lack of trust in God is annulled and invited to companionship with the Lord. Note that in biblical times, meals of water, wine, milk, and abundant food are metaphors for divinely revealed teachings that the people feast on when they put them into practice. Though Israel was not faithful to the covenant and lost everything, the Lord did not terminate His relationship with them.

We left everything, and have come to Church listen to the Lord's words, nourished by the Eucharist, and be healed by Him. Let us listen attentively to God's message knowing that we are invited to the feast as well.

So, we who are recipients of God's gracious plan knowing that "all things work for good for those who love God," should have nothing to fear. Let no anguish or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or the sword frighten us from Christ's love for us. God's generosity satisfies our greatest needs.

How can you thank God for the generous gifts bestowed on you on this first Sunday of August?

Sundays Readings:

First Reading: *Isaiah 55: 1-3 (112a)*
The Lord invites all who are thirsty to "Come to the water!" God asks the people to take heed, that they may drink wine and milk, eat well, and delight in the rich fare of the everlasting covenant.

Responsorial Psalm: *Psalm 145: 8-9, 15-16, 17-18*
The hand of the Lord feed us; he answers all our needs.

Second Reading: *Romans 8: 35, 37-39*
Nothing, not even death, can separate the faithful from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

Gospel: *Matthew 14: 13-21*
Huge crowds followed Jesus. He felt compassion for them and healed the sick. He saw that they were hungry and, rather

Religious Education Program

Sacrament of Confirmation

Bishop Gerald Walsh will be here on Saturday, September 19, 2020 at 3:00 pm to confirm our Candidates. Remember them in your prayer. Thank you!

New registration forms for 2020 are on the website.

Religious Education office is open for registration.

The following Wednesdays & Thursday from 10:00am - 1:00pm and Saturday 10:00 am - 12:30 pm our application is on the website.

Classes will begin Saturday September 19, 2020 @ 9:30 am - 11:00 am

Registration fee for one child \$125.00 two Children \$225.00, three or four children \$300.00



~ Parish Membership ~

Every family member & single adult to be considered active members of St. Mary's must be properly registered in the parish; receiving & regularly using the parish weekly donation envelopes or using We Share online giving. Only in this way can parish issue documents attesting to parish membership and Catholic practice. Example a letter to be a Godparent or Sponsor. We welcome new members!

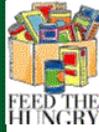
Stewardship

Sat/Sun, July 25 & 26, 2020

Parish Mass Total Collection: \$3,445.00
English Mass Collection was \$2,019.00



* **Today's 2nd collection is for Latin America & Home Missions**



Food Collection: Next week we will have our monthly food collection for the needy in our community and as always thank you for your generosity in helping those less fortunate than

Archdiocesan Appeal

Update of 2020 Appeal Goals

2020 Mandatory Goal **\$37,500**

Pledged: **\$35,717.00**

Paid: **\$30,975.00**



Thank you very much for your contributions towards our Annual Cardinal's Appeal

We still need \$1,733 in pledges to reach parish goal and \$6,525 in cash to reach our parish goal.

June Update of Renew & Rebuild

Pledges: \$420,984.30

Ways To Support

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/>



Please, continue to bring your collection envelopes or any contribution you wish to make to help support our parish, by mailing or dropping your envelope at the Parish Office.

Thank you and God bless!

First Friday, August 7 **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** **In Honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus**

(From 11:00 am -11:45 am)

- ◆ Prayer to the Sacred Heart & Holy Rosary
- ◆ 11:45 am -12:00 pm - Confessions

The Feast of the Assumption, August 15
Is a holy day of obligation. Mass will be celebrated at



Saturday, August 1, 2020

12:05 pm - For everyone suffering from COVID—19
5:00 pm - Rafael & Geraldo Rodriguez + * Julia Diaz
7:30 pm - Legión de Maria * El Grupo Legión de María

Sunday, August 2, 2020

7:30 am - For all Medical Personnel in our Parish
9:00 am - María Eralia Banegas + * Mario Rubio
11:00 am - Deceased Members of the Rodriguez Family +
*Marta Vega

Monday, August 3, 2020

8:15 am - Angus & Memozo & Larry
* Francisco & Claudia Family
12:05 pm - Héctor René Gabriel + * José Gabriel

Tuesday, August 4, 2020

8:15 am - Available/Disponibile
12:05 pm - Linu Patteril + * George Patteril

Wednesday, August 5, 2020

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

Thursday, August 6, 2020

8:15 am - Debbie Dolan Quick Recovery *Idara Ebeute Linus
12:05 pm - Christopher Louts Castellarnos + * Eddy Pino
7:00 pm - Saturnino & Amelia Rodriguez + * Julia Diaz

Friday, August 7, 2020

8:15 am - Available/Disponibile
12:05 pm - Rose D. Api + * Rose Anne Wagner
7:00 pm - Sagrado Corazón De Jesús

Saturday, August 8, 2020

12:05 pm - Available/Disponibile
5:00 pm - Available/Disponibile
7:30 pm - Eulojia Sanchez + * Elvira Esquivel

Sunday, August 9, 2020

7:30 am - Missa Pro Populo
9:00 am - Rita & Rafaela Navarro + * Carmen Navarro
11:00 am - Available/Disponibile

+Indicates deceased

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

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

Yonkers, NY.

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 +

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

To register for this free resource follow these easy steps.

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

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!

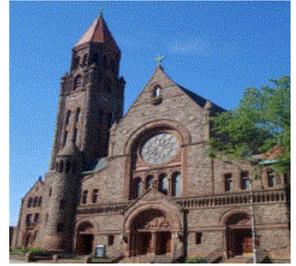
Dear Parishioners,

**Please observe social distancing
and wear a mask while Inside the
Church!**

***Eighteenth Sunday
In Ordinary Time
August 2, 2020***

***The Bells of St. Mary's
The Church of the Im-
maculate Conception***

103 South Broadway, Yonkers, NY 10701
914-963-0156 ~fax~914-963-1803
Email: icmary103@gmail.com



Rev. Anthony Columba Ekanem, MSP: Pastor

Rev. George Nnamdi Okoro, MSP: Parochial Vicar of St. Mary's

**Rev. Fares Hattar: Parochial Vicar of the Arabic Community of
the Good Shepherd of St. Mary's**

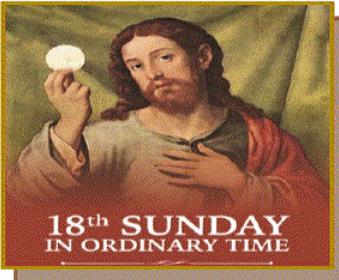
Mrs. Marisa Rivera: Coordinator of Religious Education

James Acevedo: Supervisor of St Mary's Cemetery

114 Sprain Road, Yonkers, NY 10701

914-965-4890 fax 914-965-4289

Email: stmarycemetery@optonline.net



Entrance Antiphon:

O God, come to my assistance; O Lord, make haste to help me!

Mass Schedule

English: Saturday 5:00 pm
Sunday 7:30 am & 11:00 am
Spanish: Saturday 7:30 pm
Sunday 9:00 am
Arabic: Sunday 12:30 pm

Weekdays

English: **8:15 am & 12:05 pm**

Spanish: **(Thursday) 7:00 pm**

First Fridays: Exposition of Blessed Sacrament

English: 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Spanish: 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Holy Days To be announced

Eve of Holy Days 5:00 pm

Confessions

English Monday - Friday 11:45 am - 12 pm
Saturday 11:45 am - 12 pm
4:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Spanish Thursday 6:45 pm - 7:00 pm
Saturday 7:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Church Hours

Monday - Friday 7:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Rectory Hours

Monday - Friday 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Saturday 8:30 - 2:00 PM

Sunday 8:30 - 1:00PM

Sacraments

Please call the Parish Office to make arrangements.

Baptism

In English – the 2nd Sunday of the month at 3:00pm, please call ahead and make an appointment with: Fr. Tony C. Ekanem, MSP.

In Spanish – the 2nd Saturday of the month at 2:30pm please call ahead and make an appointment with: Fr. George N. Okoro, MSP.

Marriage

In order to provide sufficient time for the Marriage Preparation Course, please call the parish office and ask to speak with the pastor at least six months in advance of the Wedding Ceremony.

Sacrament of Anointing

**Let us remember and honor our loved ones
with a Mass Intention.**

To request a Mass visit the Rectory, or send an email to icmary@gmail.com, or call us at (914) 963-0156.