

Sunday

May 20, 2018



Mass Intentions

Monday, 5/21

7:00 a.m. Timothy J. Mack by
Mary Ellen Mack

Tuesday, 5/22

7:00 a.m. Andrew Chmielewski by
the Quinn family

Wednesday, 5/23

7:00 a.m. Rev. Justin Herbest by
Betty Lockwood

Thursday, 5/24

7:00 a.m. Maura Walsh by
Susie Chapleski

Friday, 5/25

7:00 a.m. Larry & Betty Engel by family

Saturday, 5/26

5:00 p.m. Barbara Zionkowski by
husband Ed

Sunday, 5/27

8:30 a.m. Parishioners of St. John's &
Edward Wascavage by
Dianne Applegate

10:30 a.m. Catherine Jaworski by
Lou & Eileen Capozzi

*This week our Sanctuary lamp is lit in memory of
William Drumgoold by Barbara.*

Sacrificial Offerings 2018

Sunday, May 13

Average needed from weekly offerings to
cover expenses **\$7,000.00**

Regular Collection: \$5,694.50

Children's: \$ 11.78

Under: \$1,305.50

Ascension Thursday \$1,083.32

Poor Box Collection

Monies collected in the poor boxes located in the
Church entryway are used for the needy in our parish.
Your generosity is greatly appreciated. **Please be as
generous as your means allow.**



Memorial Day
Honoring All Who Served

Memorial Day Mass

Mass on Memorial Day, **Monday 5/28**, will
take place at **9 a.m.** in the **Church.**

Calendar Raffle



The winner of \$100
for Week Seven, ticket #1769
is: **The Kolakowski family.**

*This week our Chapel candle is lit in memory of Bob
Price by his wife.*

St. John Food Pantry

Our Food Pantry for those less fortunate is in need of the following food products: Dry pasta, cereals, tomato sauce, canned soups, canned meats, canned fruit and juice. Please note that all foods that are donated to St. John's will be brought to the FISH Food Pantry located on New Market Rd., Piscataway. Thank you in advance for your continued generosity.

Social Concerns

Do you know a needy person or family? Could one of your neighbors benefit from assistance with food and/or other essentials? Please call the Pastoral Center, 732-968-2621, in confidence, and we will do whatever we can to help. Please continue to bring men's toiletries, tooth brushes, and large and medium thongs or slippers for the Ozanam Men's Shelter. Articles may be left in the vestibule. Thanks for not forgetting the "guys"

Time, Talent and Treasure



Fostering stewardship is a way of life. Everyone benefits from the sacrificial gift one makes of his/her time, talent and treasure. We gratefully acknowledge and salute:

The Altar Rosary Prayer Group

Thank you for your participation!

Thank You!

The American Legion would like to thank everyone for their generous donations for the poppies which helps to assist the Veterans programs.

Please help us celebrate Memorial Day on **May 28th**. The parade starts at 10 at the Dunellen library, and ends at Washington Park where we will honor the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice.



**Pray
for the
Military**

Prayers for Our Service Members

Please pray for the following parishioners who are currently serving in the Military:

U.S. Navy Lt. Michael Bartilotti
U.S. Army Pvt. Luke Harshaney
U.S. Army Pvt. Raymond C. Pizzigoni
U.S. Coast Guard Lt. Ed Sella
U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Paul Frabizzio
U.S. Marine Lnc. Cpl. Thomas Tyler Lizak
U.S. Army Pfc Sean Parente
U.S. Marine Pvt. Dante Parente
U.S. Army Off. Candidate Casey Patrick Wenzel

If there are any other military members you would like to be included in our prayers, please contact the Parish Office.

Holy Hour For Religious Freedom & Persecuted Christians

A Holy Hour for Religious Freedom will be held **every Sunday at 7:00 p.m.** in the Eucharistic Adoration chapel in the Our Lady of Fatima Parish Center at 50 Van Winkle Place in Piscataway. Participants are invited to silently pray the rosary and other special prayers for the intentions of Christians world-wide who are being persecuted for their faith.

2018 Bishop's Annual Appeal

Lighting a Fire in the Heart of Our World

To date, the Development Office has received pledges totaling \$30,272.42 and payments totaling \$27,799.27 from 161 parishioners. This represents 94.6% of your \$32,000.00 goal. Thank you for your efforts!

Mount Saint Mary House of Prayer

UPCOMING PROGRAMS: Registration required; call 908-753-2091 or email: msmhope@msmhope.org.

POETRY AS SACRAMENT OF ATTENTION AND PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

Bring a poem that woke you and made you grateful. Participants will be given an opportunity to write one to add to the Universe's abundance!

Wed, Jun 6, 7-9 p.m. (\$20-30 As You Are Able)

Presenter: Mary Bilderback, RSM

Sister Mary, a Mercy Sister, is a member of the GCU Biology Department who loves and writes poetry.

Our Lady Of Czestochowa

Feast Of St. Anthony

Our Lady of Czestochowa parish, 909 Hamilton Blvd. South Plainfield, is holding their annual Feast of St. Anthony celebration from **June 5-9, Tuesday - Thursday 6-10PM, Friday 6-11PM, Saturday 1-11PM.** Homemade Polish, Italian and Vietnamese foods, plus American Classics. Great Rides & Games. For information call 908-756-1333.



Bishop Ahr HS

Summer Camp Program

Bishop George Ahr High School Summer Camp Program information is now available. Please check the Bishop Ahr High School website, www.bgahs.org, for complete information. You may also call the school at 732-549-1108, ext. 620 for information or with any questions. Bishop Ahr High School is very excited about offering students a unique opportunity to explore a wide range of interesting and innovative summer classes.

"There's Always More..."

A course in Christian Maturity, "There's Always More ...," is being offered by The Body of Christ Prayer Group at **St. Francis Cathedral, 528 Main Street, Metuchen, NJ**, in the **Community Room, located below the Cathedral.** Enter from Cathedral parking lot on Library Place. **8 pm to 9:30 pm - Thursday evenings.** More Love: May 17, 24 & 31, 2018; More Power: June 14, 21 & 28, 2018. Join us & experience more love of God & more power of the Holy Spirit in your life. For information - contact Tom 732-549-4740; mockofam@optonline.net.



St. Ann's Italian Festa

The Catholic Church of St. Ann, 45 Anderson St., **Raritan**, will be holding their Italian Festa from **June 13-16, Wednesday-Thursday 6-10 pm, Friday 5:30-10:30 pm, Saturday 5-11 pm.** All food prepared fresh daily in our own kitchen. Free admission, free parking, local DJ nightly, rides and games, delicious food and drink! Many Italian specialties and much, much more! For additional information please call Jim Wilson, 917-488-9835.



THE DEACON BEACON

Symbols

I thought we might take a leisurely stroll this week and talk about symbols of faith. So let's relax and let the Holy Spirit walk along shall we?

Symbols are wonderful and can be very, very powerful. As a community we need to understand that all of us are not on the same spiritual level. Many of us need visuals to help us along in our faith journey, having something tangible that can be seen, felt and smelt helps us. These symbols offer comfort, joy, healing, and spiritual insight. All through the Bible in both Testaments symbols are used. One thing of great importance that needs to be understood, and I'm not backing down from this my peeps, is that there is **NO** power in the symbol. The power is from God. He alone gives power to whomever and "whatever" he chooses. In the Old Testament this is what got Moses into trouble. His staff was a symbol of God's power, but God wanted Israel to realize that the power was actually in Moses and not the staff. That he was God's agent and that God himself might as well have been talking to them. God wanted Moses to speak to the rock at Meribah in order for water to gush forth. This would have proved once and for all that Moses was the true instrument of God's power and not the staff. But in Moses' anger at the people he struck the rock with the staff, negating what God wished to prove to the people (Numbers 20: 1-13). So as I mentioned last week the 1st symbol at Baptism is the cross. Now we all know what the cross signifies don't we? Not a crucifix, a cross. I mean we all know that it represents death conquered right? Um, that's why Jesus is no longer hanging on it. Where the crucifix reminds us of what Christ suffered for us, the cross shows us what he conquered. Did I mention I enjoy horror stories? Oh yes, I do. Like I've mentioned before every now and then there's some truth in these too. Ever read Stephen King's "Salem's Lot"? There's a part in the book where the local priest is confronting the vampire with a cross. The vampire grabs the cross and leans close to the priest and whispers, "It only

works for those who have faith, Father. " Oh that still gives me the willies! So what's the significance of crossing at Baptism? The celebrant is "claiming" the child for Christ, marking the child with **the** symbol of Christian faith. The parents and godparents do the same signifying their participation in the community. In spiritual "speak" this actually is the second. I love telling the children that the 1st symbol is when God pushed his thumb through mommy's womb and left his imprint so that we would always wonder about him. So marking the child tells the "Evil" one, "hands off buster, this one is taken!"

Next week... Oil

Until next time... may Jesus keep you smiling, may God's grace shine on you and always pray for our pastor! Love ya!

Deacon Phil

Whole Community Catechesis

WELCOME A New Addition to our Religious Ed Program!!!!



**We will now be offering
KINDERGARTEN beginning this
September!**

**If you are interested in registering
your child, please email
stjohnpcl@gmail.com prior to June
15th.**