

## Sunday

August 4, 2019



Mass Intentions

## Monday, 8/5

7:00 a.m. Rose Marsjanik by  
Peggy Ulmes

## Tuesday, 8/6

7:00 a.m. Beth Manahan by Fran Maurer

## Wednesday, 8/7

7:00 a.m. Rose Marsjanik by  
Fran Maurer

## Thursday, 8/8

7:00 a.m. Paul Maurer by Peggy Ulmes

## Friday, 8/9

7:00 a.m. Catherine & James Shimko by  
the McDowell family

## Saturday, 8/10

5:00 p.m. Catherine DiSpirito by Loretta  
& Gordon Harmon & family

## Sunday, 8/11

8:30 a.m. Pat Nagel by  
Dianne Applegate

10:30 a.m. Parishioners of St. John's &  
Clotilda D'Souza by Sharon  
Sweeney

This week our Sanctuary lamp is lit in  
memory of Michael Duggan by Joe

Cowan & Lourdes Luis.

This week our Chapel candle is lit in

memory of William & Kathryn Kelly by  
Sue.

### **Sacrificial Offerings 2019**

**Sunday, July 28**

Regular Collection: \$4,171.00

**AUGUST 4, 2019**

### **EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

HOW CAN YOU RESIST A BARGAIN?

If we were to evaluate the principles governing our culture, we would likely concur that they are overtly materialistic. We are a people with a passion for things. The primary agenda for many of us is to be a consumer. The real "spiritual problem" is not that we are consumers, but that we have learned to identify with our possessions; our self-esteem is associated with what we own. We buy more and more in hopes of elevating our status in our own eyes and in the eyes of others. We compare what we have with what others have. Jesus teaches that effective living means living authentically. He tells us that an enriched life is living up, as best we can, to our God-given potential. If you, or anyone you know, would like to hear more about how Jesus helps us to come to terms with our true essence as human beings, we invite you to join us at an Inquiry Session. Inquiry sessions DO NOT assume a commitment to join the Catholic Faith family. Inquiry sessions are opportunities to ask questions about God, Jesus, the Catholic Faith. All who are unbaptized, baptized into another faith denomination, or baptized Catholic but have not received Eucharist or Confirmation, are invited. Inquiry sessions are for those who wish to inquire, explore,

and search for ways to grow in relationship with God. For more information, please contact the parish office at 732-968-2621.

Thank you for your participation!

### **St. John Food Pantry**

#### **Summer Needs**

Our Food Pantry is in need of the following: dry pasta, rice, cereal, canned tuna and chicken, low/no sugar canned fruit, no/low sodium canned vegetables and soups, tomato sauce and fruit juice. Food donations support our parish food pantry, for our neighbors in need as well as FISH Food Pantry on New Market Road in Piscataway. Thank you for your continuous 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:



#### **From The Parish Office**

The recent offertory envelope mailing contains a special offering for the Missionary Co-Operative Plan Collection. Since this collection took place in June, please disregard the envelope. Thank you.

A reminder that the Church doors off of the First Street driveway will be locked for security purposes.



#### **Prayers for Our Service Members**

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

U.S. Navy Reserve 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 Mer. Cpl. Thomas Tyler Lizak  
U.S. Army Pfc. Sean Parente  
U.S. Marine Pvt. Dante Parente  
U.S. Army 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Casey Wenzel  
U.S. Army Spec. 4 Timothy Francisco  
US Marine LCpl. Stephen Wright  
U.S. Marine Pvt. José Citron

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

invited to silently pray the rosary and other special prayers for the intentions of Christians world-wide who are being persecuted for their faith.

### **Bishop's Appeal**

To date, the Development Office has received pledges totaling **\$30,018.16** and payments totaling **\$29,427.45** from **158** parishioners. This represents **93.8%** of your \$32,000.00 goal. Thank you for your efforts!

### **One Day 9-Mile Walking Pilgrimage: The Way of St. Juan Diego**

In preparation for the Consecration of the Diocese of Metuchen to Our Lady of Guadalupe, the youth, families and all peoples of faith in our parish are invited to participate in a Walking Pilgrimage on **Saturday, 9/23** from **10 am** to **8 pm**. The walk will begin and end at **Immaculate Conception Parish, 316 Old Allerton Road in Annandale, Mass** will be celebrated by Bishop James Checchio. The cost of the walk is \$20 per person, if paid by August 30 and includes lunch and dinner; the cost after August 30 is \$25 per person. The walk will take place rain or shine! Registration forms are available at the Church entrances. You can register online and obtain additional information by visiting [www.LightingHeartsOnFire.org/walking-pilgrimage](http://www.LightingHeartsOnFire.org/walking-pilgrimage). Registration deadline is September 13. If you are interested in walking, please call and leave your name with the parish office (732-968-2621) or email ([stjev@verizon.net](mailto:stjev@verizon.net)) so we know how many from our parish will be participating.

### **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

### **Retrouvaille Weekend**

Stress in Your Marriage! Do you feel lost, alone or bored in your marriage? Are you frustrated, hurt or angry with your spouse? Are you constantly fighting? Or, do you simply shut down? Have you thought about separation or divorce? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille is a lifeline to help couples heal and renew their marriages. The program consists of a weekend experience for married couples (no group discussions) with six follow-up sessions.

UPCOMING WEEKEND: **August 23-25, 2019**

For more information call the Family Life Office at 732-562-1990 ext. 1543

TO REGISTER: Call Rich & Annette Colasuonno 732-236-0671 or email [3024@retrouvaille.org](mailto:3024@retrouvaille.org)

**Mount Saint Mary House of Prayer**  
**UPCOMING PROGRAMS: Registration required;** call 908-753-2091 or email: [mshhope@mshhope.org](mailto:mshhope@mshhope.org).

### **MY EYES ADORE YOU**

The Four Seasons' song of that title is a perfect description for Visio Divina. Come for an evening of sacred gazing. We'll look at praying with the gift of sight and noticing how God reveals beauty and wonder in works of art and nature--and everything which we see if we look through God's eyes. Weather permitting, some of the program will take place outside. **Wednesday, August 21 from 7-9pm**  
\$20-\$30 as you are able  
Presenter: Laura M. Arvin, OP

### **MAN TO MAN**

Men have unique roles in life...husbands, fathers, grandfathers, the single life and the religious life...We're pushed and pulled in a thousand directions by responsibilities...by stress...by loss...but also by joys. Where can we find time to reflect on the loss and gain of our lives? As St.

Augustine discovered, "Our hearts are restless, until they rest in you." Join us in a group setting over coffee (or tea) for life-affirming discussions and prayer to find God in our lives, to make a difference in our own worlds. **Tuesday, August 27 from 7:00-9:00pm**

have given a donation of gratitude to the Church in memory of this special occasion. Donations of Gratitude may be made online or by calling 732-562-1543.

## **Religious Education News**

### **Religious Education Program Calendar**

The Religious Education program calendar will be available for distribution and publication the **week of August 26**. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause our parents. Thank you.

### **Pilgrimage To Italy & Sicily**

**Nov. 2-13, 2020; \$3479** (including air/land tour price is \$1999 plus gov't taxes/airline surcharge from both gateways). Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Padre Pio, San Giovanni Rotondo, including Sicily (Palermo, Agrigento, Siracusa, Mt. Etna, Taormina, Massina) and Rome with a papal audience. Includes, superior hotels, most meals, professional guides and tour escort and daily Mass. Call St. Andrew Church, Avenel rectory for full color brochure, 732-634-4355



### **Silver & Gold**

### **Wedding Anniversary Celebration**

You are cordially invited to celebrate your 25<sup>th</sup> or 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary with the Church of Metuchen and renew your marriage vows with Bishop James F. Checchio at a special Evening Prayer Service at the **Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi in Metuchen on Sunday, 10/27 at 4:00 PM**. Registration is required. Please register online at: [diometuchen.org/silver-and-gold](http://diometuchen.org/silver-and-gold). If you are unable to access, please contact your parish secretary or the Family Life Office at 732-562-1543 or [amarshall@diometuchen.org](mailto:amarshall@diometuchen.org). Registration will close on October 11, 2019. Although no fee is required, in the past many Jubilarian couples

## **POSSESSIONS ARE NOT EVERYTHING**



### **A Reflection on the Sunday Gospel Reading for August 4, 2019** *Courtesy of Sunday Connection, Loyola Press*

In Chapter 12 of Luke's Gospel, Jesus instructs his disciples and the crowd on how to be ready for the coming judgment. A crowd of many thousands has gathered to hear Jesus. At first he speaks only to the disciples, reminding them that it is not persecution they should fear but the judgment that is coming for all who do not acknowledge the Son of Man. Suddenly a man in the crowd shouts out to Jesus, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." He seems to have grown tired of Jesus speaking only to the disciples. Jesus offers the man no help. Instead he uses the question to teach what, in light of the coming judgment, life really consist of.

Jesus tells the crowd a parable. A rich man's lands have yielded more crops than expected. His response is not to consider how he might share all the extra food with others but to wonder how he can possibly store it all. He has what he thinks is a brilliant idea: to tear down his present barns and build larger ones. Then he will have many things stored up for years of eating, drinking, and making merry.

"You fool" is God's response to this man because that very night his life will be taken away. To whom will everything belong then, God asks. The rich man's world is small, just him and his possessions, and now he learns that he is to lose his life. What good are his possessions now? Jesus states the moral of the story. This is how it will be for everyone who stores up treasure for himself or herself but is not rich in what matters to God.

Centuries later St. Gregory the Great taught that when we care for the needs of the poor, we are giving them what is theirs, not ours. We are not just performing works of mercy; we are paying a debt of justice. Life does not consist of possessions but in sharing what we possess with others. The goods of the earth have been given to everyone.