

**PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW**

**Stewardship Report – Treasure**

**WEEKLY COLLECTION**

Budgeted Amount: \$5,000.00

**Regular Collection – 1/17/16:** \$3,201.00  
**Parish Pay – 1/17/16** \$ 646.00  
**Total Regular Collection – 1/17/16:** \$3,847.00

**Retirement Fund for Religious – 1/17/16:** \$1,485.00  
**Parish Pay – Retirement Fund – 1/17/16:**  
**Total Retirement Fund for Religious – 1/17/16:**

**Regular Collection – 1/24/16:** \$1,297.00  
**Parish Pay – 1/24/16:**  
**Total Regular Collection – 1/24/16:**

**ST. MONICA’S ANNUAL COLLECTION**

Parish Goal \$50,000.00  
Total # of Families 461  
Total # Pledged 138  
% of Participation 29.93%  
Total Amount Pledged \$43,060.00  
(Includes 3 matching grants pledged)  
Total Amount Paid \$35,560.00  
(Includes 2 matching grants pd. in full)

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The Sanctuary Lamp is given this week:

In memory of: John Skehan

Given by: Phyllis Esposito

**MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK**

2/1 MON: 9:00a John Skehan  
2/2 TUES: 9:00a No Mass today  
2/2 WED: 9:00a No Mass today  
2/3 THU: 9:00a No Mass today  
2/4 FRI: 9:00a No Mass today  
2/5 SAT: 5:00p Joan Yocamelli  
Vi Grabowski  
2/6 SUN: 8:00a Vincent Futia  
10:00a Tom Golding  
Joseph McGrady  
Susan McGovern  
11:45a Peter Horvath  
Mary Losiewicz  
Geraldine Durning

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**WEEKDAY MASSES IN THE AREA:**

St. Jude’s, Hamburg – Mon. – Sat. – 8:45am  
St. Francis de Sales, McAfee – Mon. – Sat – 8:30am  
Our Lady Queen of Peace, Branchville – Mon.-Fri. – 8:00am  
Immac. Concept., Franklin – Tues, Wed, Fri, 7:30am, Sat. 9:00am

**SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THIS WEEK**

**Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Sunday Jer 1:4-5, 17-19; 1 Cor 12:31—13:13 or 13:4-13; Lk 4:21-30  
Monday 2 Sm 15:13-14, 30, 16:5-13; Mk 5:1-20  
Tuesday Mal 3:1-4; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32  
Wednesday 2 Sm 24:2, 9-17; Mk 6:1-6  
Thursday 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12; Mk 6:7-13  
First Friday Sir 47:2-11; Mk 6:14-29  
First Saturday 1 Kgs 3:4-13; Mk 6:30-34

**FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

January 31, 2016

**NEW PARISHIONERS - WELCOME!!** Have you been attending, but haven’t formally registered yet? Registration forms are located in a large white envelope on the table near the Church Hall exit. Please fill it out, mail it back to the Rectory (address on front of bulletin) or give it to Fr. Charles or an usher on Sunday. Call Carol at 973-875-4521 if you need assistance.

**PARISH MINISTRIES/ORGANIZATIONS & COORDINATORS**

Altar Servers.....Fr. Charles  
Baptismal Preparation.....Robert & Sharon Misyak, Terry Westdyke, Jeanne McBride  
Bereavement Support.....Carol Bezak  
Book Discussion.....Carol Bezak  
Church Cleaning.....Peter & Ann Kazmierski Marie Fischer  
FOCCUS Marriage Preparation .....Robert & Sharon Misyak  
Family Promise.....Carol Oesen  
Helping Hands.....Terry Westdyke  
Leisure Group.....Grace Casalino  
Lectors/Eucharistic Ministers.....Carol Bezak  
RCIA .....Carol Bezak/Sr. Theresa Losiewicz  
Scripture Reflection.....Carol Bezak  
Sussex Help Center.....Joan Thomas  
Ushers.....Fr. Charles  
Website Administration.....Francisco Perez  
*Would you like to become involved in any of the above ministries or groups? Please call the Rectory – we need YOU!!!*

**FOR CANCELLATION OF PARISH PROGRAMS/EVENTS DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER, PLEASE VISIT**

<http://wsus102.3iheart.com> or tune in to WSUS102.3FM  
During last weekend’s snowstorm, all updates were posted on this website – as well as our parish website  
[www.stmonicasussex.org](http://www.stmonicasussex.org)  
and the same message was also recorded on our phone  
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**TO RESERVE FOR 2016 MASS INTENTIONS & SANCTUARY LAMP DEVOTIONS CALL THE RECTORY 973-875-4521**

*Masses: \$5.00 each; Mass cards: small(\$5.00) & large(\$10.00) sizes. Sanctuary candle devotions - for a one-week period - \$5.00.*

**NEW PARISH OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday thru Friday, 9:30-1:30pm – please call prior to stopping in.  
Keep our contact information handy!

Phone #: 973-875-4521 Fax #: 973-875-7538  
Website: [www.stmonicasussex.org](http://www.stmonicasussex.org) Email: [stmonica@ptd.net](mailto:stmonica@ptd.net)

## YOUTH MINISTRY

**PHASE I** - Please note that the Distribution of the Creed has been moved to Saturday, March 5th at the 5pm Mass. Your attendance at this rite is required.

### CALENDAR:

**Saturday, Feb. 6/7** - "Souper Bowl of Caring" Collection after each Mass

**Saturday, Feb. 13th** - M Class beginning with the 5pm Mass, followed by a light dinner the class

Phase I & Phase II - Theme: "Holy Week, Resurrection & Ascension

**Sunday, Feb. 14th** - Make up class - class 6:30 to 8:30pm (no dinner)

**Saturday, Mar. 5th** - Phase I - Distribution of the Creed at the 5pm Mass attendance is required YM Class beginning with the 5pm Mass, followed by a light dinner than class

Phase I - Theme: Scripture" Phase II - Theme: "Social Justice"

**Sunday, Mar. 6th** - Make up class - 6:30pm to 8:30pm (no dinner)

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION – Grades 1-8

### CALENDAR:

**1st & 2nd Grades** - **Sunday, February 7th** - 9:00am (please be prompt) in the Meeting Room, followed by 10:00am Mass – this is the first Sunday of the month and will be called up on the altar with Fr. Charles.

**2ND GRADE PARENTS** – a date will be rescheduled to review the upcoming important dates/times for Reconciliation and First Communion – we cancelled the original date due to the snow. I will be in touch with you soon. You will receive a newsletter today regarding these special dates. Call Carol at 973-875-4521 if you have any questions.

**3rd & 4th Grades** – **Sunday, February 7th & 21st** – class will begin at 11:15am (join us right after 10:00am Mass) in the Meeting Room. (Please note: Time is changed to 11:15am to allow for a later finish of the 10:00am Mass, which can happen at times due to special ceremonies or announcements – thank you)

**5th & 6th Grades** – **Saturday, February 6th & 20th** – 3:00pm in the Church Hall – attendance at 5:00pm Mass is highly encouraged for those attending class.

**7th & 8th Grades** – **Saturday, February 6th & 20th** – attend the 5:00pm Mass, dinner and class will follow til 8:15pm.

Religious Ed Calendars are posted on our website

[www.stmonicasussex.org](http://www.stmonicasussex.org) under Religious Education

## **HOW WILL YOU CELEBRATE THE JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY?**

### **Dig Deeper**

***When have you experienced God's mercy  
and forgiveness?***

***How willing are you to show mercy to others?  
How can you become an agent of God's mercy  
during this jubilee year?***

## PARISH EVENTS/MEETINGS

### ~~~~Lenten Spiritual/Social Opportunities~~~~

**ASH WEDNESDAY** – begins the season of Lent! Masses with the distribution of Ashes will be celebrated at 9:00am & 7:30pm. A prayer service with the distribution of Ashes will be held at 4:15pm.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS & MASS** – every Friday at 9:00am

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** – every Friday evening at 7:30pm

**"Best Lent Ever"** – Dynamic Catholic is once again offering this great spiritual addition to your Lenten journey – sign up today at

[www.dynamiccatholic.com](http://www.dynamiccatholic.com)

**Rediscovering Jesus** – Matthew Kelly's newest book will be available during the season of Lent for purchase at the great price of only \$3 each! This book parallels the "Best Lent Ever" program. Do something worthwhile this Lent and join us on this powerful journey.

A discussion session will be scheduled soon – date TBA!

**This list of Spiritual/Social events will be updated weekly.**

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**COFFEE & DONUTS** - the first Sunday of each month at **9:00am** - or come before the 10:00am Mass in the Church Hall. Next date is February 7th - after the 8:00am Mass.

**SCRIPTURE REFLECTION** – Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm in the Rectory Meeting Room. Weekly reading & reflection of the Sunday Scriptures – fellowship time & refreshments follow. Call Carol at 973-875-4521.

**CHOIR REHEARSALS** - Every Sunday morning at 9:15am sharp we practice for the 10:00am Mass. Call Judy at 908-294-0571.

**ST. MONICA'S LEISURE GROUP** - Join us - lunch is served at every meeting along with delicious desserts made by our members. Unless otherwise noted, meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month at 12:00 noon. Leisure Group does not meet during the months of January and February. Dues are \$10 a year. New members are welcome! Call Grace Casalino -973-702-8569.

### HELPING HANDS

St. Monica's Helping Hands meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm in the Rectory Meeting Room. All are invited – call Terry Westdyke at 845-258-8051.

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**FOOD DONATIONS** – can be dropped off in the baskets located under the table in the Church Hall - donations are picked up weekly and brought to food pantries in Sussex. If you are donating a turkey, call the Rectory – 973-875-4521. Thank you!!

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### ST. MONICA'S MAGAZINE FUNDRAISER

For gift ideas, anytime of the year, check our website – [www.stmonicasussex.org](http://www.stmonicasussex.org) for our ongoing Magazine Fundraiser.

Follow the link at the bottom to the Magazine Fundraiser page.

St. Monica's earns 40% of the total sales!! There is a great selection of materials – something for everyone!!

### GUITAR LESSONS

"Anyone interested in taking free guitar lessons at St. Monica's can call me, Peter Kazmierski at 973-875-2268. All ages are welcome. The lessons will be in a group setting and location to be determined. Thank You."

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# **FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

*His Word Today by Rev. William J. Reilly*

*“Jesus began speaking in the synagogue: ‘Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing.’ All who were present spoke favorably of him; they marveled at the appealing discourse which came from his lips. They also asked, ‘Is this not Joseph’s son?’...At these words the whole audience in the synagogue was filled with indignation. They rose up and expelled him from the town...”*

It didn't take many verses in the gospel of St. Luke to find a conversion, not to but away from Jesus. The person, admired and respected, became the challenger. He knew their hearts and was found to be too much for them. He told it like it was.

We are called to turn constantly to the Lord. We hear His word proclaimed and a teaching on a weekly basis. God's word is 'like a two edged sword' which can cut deeply, inform and reform our lives. Sometimes we do not care for what we hear, because it challenges our way of life, our pattern of thinking, or our relationship with others. But remember, what is important is our relationship with God.

As I recreate the scene in the Nazareth synagogue, I ask myself if I marvel at what I hear and how I respond.

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## **CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK**

This weekend, January 31<sup>st</sup> begins "Catholic Schools Week." Immaculate Conception Regional Elementary School, 65 Church Street, Franklin, will host an **Open House** on Tuesday, February 2, 2016 at 7:00pm. Students from the school will be here at the 10:00am Mass on January 31<sup>st</sup> and information flyers will be available on the table in the hall for anyone interested in finding out more about the school.

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**Immaculate Conception School** will hold its annual "Pot O' Gold" Tricky Tray fundraiser on Saturday, March 12, 2016 at St. Francis Church in Vernon, NJ. Doors open at 6:30 pm. Prizes include American Girl Dolls, lap top computer, TV, Fit Bit, Kitchen Aid Mixer and more. Please come and join us!

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## **2015 WEEKLY CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS**

Annual contribution statements to those who use our weekly envelopes will be sent directly from DP Murphy, Inc. – our envelope company - they will no longer be prepared in-house from the parish office so there is no need to call the Rectory office this year to request a statement. Statements will be mailed to all who utilize our envelopes.

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### **CONSIDER A GIFT TO YOUR PARISH.....**

So often when a loved one dies the family requests that in lieu of flowers donations be made to organizations that were of special significance in the life of that person – like a VFW organization or sometimes it is in thanksgiving to organizations that assisted the person during their illness – American Cancer Society, The Red Cross, St. Jude's Hospital, Karen Ann Quinlan Hospice, etc. Why not consider your parish where you and your family grew in faith – where so many special moments, in times of joy and sorrow, were celebrated – Baptisms, Weddings, First Communion, Funerals - the place where your relationship to God was especially meaningful. Generations to come may yet be grateful for your generous gift.

## **FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

### **First Reading: Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19**

God tells Jeremiah that he was chosen to be a prophet to the nations before he had even been born. He also promises him strength and protection, providing Jeremiah does as God asks.

### **Second Reading: I Corinthians 12:31—13:13**

Paul discusses the importance of love and claims that one who possesses any gift, but lacks love, has nothing. He explains that true love never fails, although knowledge or other talents can fail to endure in the same manner. Paul says that three things last: "faith, hope, and love, the greatest of these being love."

### **Gospel: Luke 4:21-30**

Jesus spoke in the synagogue at Nazareth, at first appealing to all who were present. But he knew that they would be expecting him to do the things he had already done in other towns. He reminded them of other prophets who had preached and gained acceptance in foreign places instead of their home towns. This angered the people, who expelled him from town.

