

PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

Stewardship Report – Treasure

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Budgeted Amount: \$5,000.00

Sunday Collection – 1/29/17: \$4,014.00

Parish Pay – 1/29/17: \$ 526.00

Total – Sunday Collection - 1/29/17: \$4,540.00

Parish Pay ---is a convenient way for you to set up your weekly contributions - **online – visit ParishPay.com**

2016 ANNUAL CAMPAIGN STATISTICS – AS OF 1/30/17

Total # of Families: 442

Total # Pledged: 129

% of Participation 29.19%

Total Amount Pledged: \$38,015.00

Total Amount paid: \$32,385.00

Average Pledge: \$ 294.69

% of Pledges Collected: 85.19%

The Sanctuary Lamp is given this week:

In memory of: Joan Yocamelli

Given by: Mary Del Monaco

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

- 2/6 **MON: 9:00a** Virginia Ephrussi
- 2/7 **TUES: 9:00a** Dec. members of Lange family
- 2/8 **WED: 9:00a** No Mass today
- 2/9 **THU: 9:00a** People of the Parish
- 2/10 **FRI: 9:00a** Dec. members of Cochrane family
- 2/11 **SAT: 5:00p** Madelyn Jansky
Hilary Battaglia
Jessie Hughes
Neal Stebal
- 2/12 **SUN: 8:00a** Frank Rankl
Shannon Kent (LIV)
- 10:00a** John McGovern
Susan McGovern
- 11:45a** Margie Stubbs
Edward Losiewicz

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

National Shrine of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Middletown, NY

Mon.-Fri. 11:30am

SCRIPTURE READINGS THIS WEEK

Sunday Is 58:7-10; 1 Cor 2:1-5; Mt 5:13-16

Monday Gn 1:1-19; Mk 6:53-56

Tuesday Gn 1:20—2:4a; Mk 7:1-13

Wednesday Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17; Mk 7:14-23

Thursday Gn 2:18-25; Mk 7:24-30

Friday Gn 3:1-8; Mk 7:31-37

Saturday Gn 3:9-24; Mk 8:1-10

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

February 5, 2017

*Welcome to St. Monica's parish,
Fr. Jan!*

*Prayers are with you as you begin
your ministry here in Sussex!*

COFFEE & DONUTS – first Sunday of each month after the 8:00am Mass in the Church Hall. Next Coffee and Donuts is TODAY, February 5th – plan to join us.

HELPING HANDS – will be meet on Tuesday, Feb 14, at 7:30 PM in the rectory meeting room. Why not come and become a part of the group and help your parish? Helping Hands meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM in the rectory meeting room. Contact Terry Westdyke at 845-258-8051.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION – every Wednesday at 6:30pm in the Rectory Meeting Room. Weekly reading/ reflection of the Sunday Scriptures – fellowship time & refreshments follow. Call Carol at 973-875-4521 for further information.

ST. MONICA'S LEISURE GROUP - There will be no meetings of St. Monica's Leisure Group during the months of January and February. Meetings will resume beginning Wednesday, March 8, 2017 in the Church Hall. I take this opportunity to thank our members for helping to make the Leisure Group a success during the past year, and look forward to getting together again in March.

---Grace Casalino

ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

All those who use collection envelopes on a weekly basis will be receiving a contribution statement from our envelope company, DP Murphy Co., Inc. If you do not receive this statement by the end of January, please let us know by calling the Rectory. Also, all those who gave a contribution of \$250 or above to the 2016 Annual Campaign will receive a Gift Acknowledgment letter from the parish office.

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND.....the second collection next weekend will be the annual collection to Support the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. Please be generous in this collection. A flyer with further information can be found in this bulletin.

ST. MONICA'S CHURCH – Contact info

Phone # 973-875-4521

Fax # 973-875-7538

Parish office hours: 9:30– 1:30pm Mon-Fri

Website: www.stmonicasussex.org

Email: stmonica@ptd.net

Deadline for bulletin submissions: Tuesday of each week for information to be printed on the following Sunday. Email to stmonica@ptd.net

YOUTH MINISTRY

DEPARTMENT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITY

visit is scheduled for Saturday, March 18th. The sign up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board in the church hall. Please consider giving of your time to bring some cheer to these young adults. We guarantee that you will come away feeling very uplifted and rewarded.

CALENDAR

Saturday/Sunday - Feb. 11th - Youth Ministry Class beginning with 5pm Mass, followed by a light dinner, then class. Phase I - Theme: "The Bible", Phase II - Theme: "Made for Mission"

Sunday, Feb. 12th - Make up class - 6:30pm to 8:30pm

Saturday, Mar. 4th - Phase I Candidates - "Dist of Creed" 5pm Mass - attendance is required. YM Class beginning with Mass, followed by dinner then Class Phase I and Phase II - Theme: "Holy Week"

Saturday, Mar. 18th - Visit to Dept. of Persons with Disabilities in Jefferson - leaving at 11am and returning by 2pm. More info to follow

FATIMA CENTENNIAL

Pope Francis has granted an indulgence opportunity from November 27, 2016 through November 26, 2017 in celebration of the 100th Anniversary Year of the Fatima apparitions. He will be visiting Fatima on May 13, 2017 joining in the 100th Anniversary of the Fatima apparitions to the three young children, Lucia Santos, Jacinta and Francisco Marto in 1917.

The Carmelites have a special link to this popular Catholic Devotion.

During the last vision of our Lady to the shepherd children on October 13th, Mary appeared as our Lady of Mount Carmel.

At The National Shrine of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel in Middletown, NY, we have the historic statue from Portugal acquired by the Province of Saint Elias, created by the famous sculptor, Jose Ferreira Thedim which is based on Sr. Lucia's description of how our Lady looked during the last vision at Fatima.

A statue of Our Lady of Fatima will also be placed in the church and will remain there as well for the duration of the Centennial year.

Make a visit to the National Shrine of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel soon! For further information, call Carol Bezak, Director at 845-343-1879.

Help People with Disabilities - Support the Murray House Dinner Dance! www.dpd.org/murray

Please help support the Department for Persons with Disabilities (DPD), a Catholic Charities Agency, as they host their 47th Annual Murray House Dinner Dance at the Brownstone in Paterson. DPD provides care for over 100 adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities throughout the Diocese of Paterson.

The Annual Gala will be held on February 19th at 6:00 PM. This year, DPD will be honoring Joe Duffy, past Catholic Charities President as their Person of the Year, as well as several service recipients, volunteers and employees.

Help support the event by attending, taking out an ad, or by sponsoring a DPD resident to attend. Last year over 60 individuals were sponsored to attend this event!

For more information visit: www.dpd.org/Murray or contact DPD's Development Office at 973-406-1104 or at Chrisb@dpd.org.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - Grades 1-8

CALENDAR FOR 2017

FIRST AND SECOND GRADE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SESSION/GRADE(S)</u>
2/5	9th session
2/12	10th session
3/5	11th session
3/19	12th session
4/2	13 th session
4/23	14 th session

THIRD AND FOURTH GRADE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SESSION/GRADE(S)</u>
2/5	9th session
2/12	10th session
3/5	11th session
3/19	12th session
4/2	13 th session
4/23	14 th session

FIFTH, SIXTH, SEVENTH & EIGHTH GRADE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SESSION/GRADE(S)</u>
2/4	9th session
2/25	10th session
3/11	11th session
3/25	12th session
4/8	13th session
4/29	14th session

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD - this program is open to children in Grades 1-4 at the 10:00am Mass each week. The children are dismissed to listen to the Sunday readings with volunteer Catechists who read and reflect with the children. Please consider having your child participate each week.

-----Carol Bezak, Coordinator of ReligiousFormation

AN INVITATION TO ALL CATECHISTS.....A short meeting followed by an Afternoon of Reflection "*God's Call to Speak about our Faith*" is planned for Saturday, February 25th in the church hall from 1:30 - 3:30pm - lunch will be served. Call Carol at 862-266-6626 to RSVP.

WORLD DAY OF THE SICK

Saturday, February 11th is **World Day of the Sick**, and the **Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes**. This feast day of the Roman Catholic Church was instituted on May 13, 1992 by Pope John Paul II.

Beginning on February 11, 1993, it is celebrated every year on the commemoration of Our Lady of Lourdes, for all believers seeks to be "a special time of prayer and sharing, of offering one's suffering".

Pope John Paul II had been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease as early as 1991, an illness which was only disclosed later, and it is significant that he decided to create a World Day of the Sick only one year after his diagnosis. The Pope had written a great deal on the topic of suffering and believed that it was very much a salvific and redeeming process through Christ, as he indicated in his apostolic letter *Salvifici Doloris*.

The feast of Lourdes was chosen because many pilgrims and visitors to Lourdes have reportedly been healed by intercessions of the Blessed Virgin. The pontiff was also fond of the sanctuary of Harissa in Lebanon. In 2005, the World Day of the Sick had a special significance since it was the year John Paul died from a sepsis. Many people had gathered around him as he lay dying. In 2013, Pope Benedict XVI announced his resignation during this feast day, and he cited his declining health as his reason for retiring. **A Mass will be celebrated at 12:00noon at The National Shrine of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, 70 Carmelite Drive, Middletown, NY for anyone wishing to come & pray with us.**

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

His Word Today by Rev. William J. Reilly

“Thus says the Lord: Share your bread with the hungry, shelter the oppressed and the homeless; clothe the naked when you see them, and do not turn your back on your own... you are the salt of the earth... you are the light of the world.”

It is hard for us to escape the direct teaching of Jesus and the prophet Isaiah. A familiar biblical question ‘what are we to do?’ finds a ready answer in these two scripture sources.

What Christian cannot be moved when we see images of the millions of refugees fleeing the wars in Iraq and Syria, drowning in the Mediterranean. How few Christians respond with compassion and empathy, afraid to take the risk to care for suffering humanity. Do I forget that they too are made in the image and likeness of God? Even if some have less than noble intentions, do we let all suffer?

How is it I live as salt of the earth? How can I be light of the world? Agencies do incredible work aiding those in need. Our church is at the forefront. Consider Jesuit Refugee Services, Catholic Relief Services, Doctors Without Borders, CNEWA and Aid to the Church in Need and countless others responding generously. Why do I sit back as others need the salt and light that we are?

More than the financial aid you might give is the attitude of grave concern in these moments of crisis.

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Isaiah 58:7-10

This reading is a vigorous exhortation from the prophet Isaiah to lead lives of active charity and generosity. He promises that the Lord will be our “dawn,” our “rear guard,” our “light” if we share our bread, shelter the homeless, and clothe the naked.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

Paul tells the Corinthians that he and they must not rely on the so-called “wisdom” of secular teaching and philosophy but on the power of the Spirit.

Gospel: Matthew 5:13-16

Jesus reminds the disciples and all Christians that they carry special responsibilities to be “the salt of the earth.” They must not hide their light but show their goodness to all.

A NIGHT AT THE RACES

The Knights of Columbus, Blessed Titus Brandsma Council, Middletown, NY #16519 presents “A Night at the Races – Saturday, February 11, 2017 (Snow date: February 18th) **Post Time: 7:30pm. Admission Price: \$25pp Location: Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish Center, Wayayanda Ave., Middletown, NY.** Come join us for a winter break – your donation includes admission, food, beverages, coffee and dessert. Besides the races (cash donation to pick a horse with cash payout to the winning players) there will also be raffles, door prizes, giveaways, 50/50 and much more. All money raised will be donated to Mt. Carmel Parish. Mail your \$25/person donation admission to: P.O. Box 965, Middletown, NY 10940. For further information, call Marty Sillen between 6pm and 8pm at 646-315-8120. Admission tickets will be mailed to you.

INTERESTED IN TRAVEL FOR 2017?

If you like to travel or if you wish to begin some new travel adventures, come and share the company of others who do!! The “Cruise Café” may offer an interesting and exciting opportunity to meet new people and possibly travel together. This group meets once a month for dinner at a local venue in and around the Sussex/Newton/Lafayette area and welcomes anyone. The next “Cruise Café” gathering will be held on Sunday, February 5th at 2:00pm at Bella Italia Restaurant, Rt. 206 in Andover, NJ. Upcoming travel/cruise opportunities include: Halifax, Nova Scotia and Boston (with 4th of July fireworks in Boston harbor) on the Queen Mary 2 departing July 1st from NY and returns on July 6thBermuda.....New England and Canada..... Caribbean..... and possibly Fatima, Portugal & Spain (still in planning stages) Call Carol at 862-266-6626 if interested.

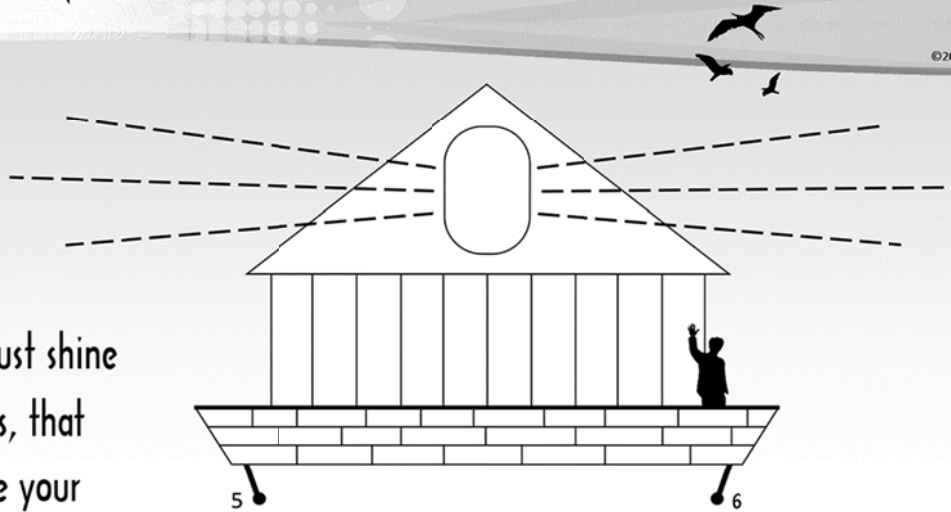
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Gospel Today

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time | Matthew 5:13-16

Jesus says let your good deeds shine on others like a light shining out in the darkness.

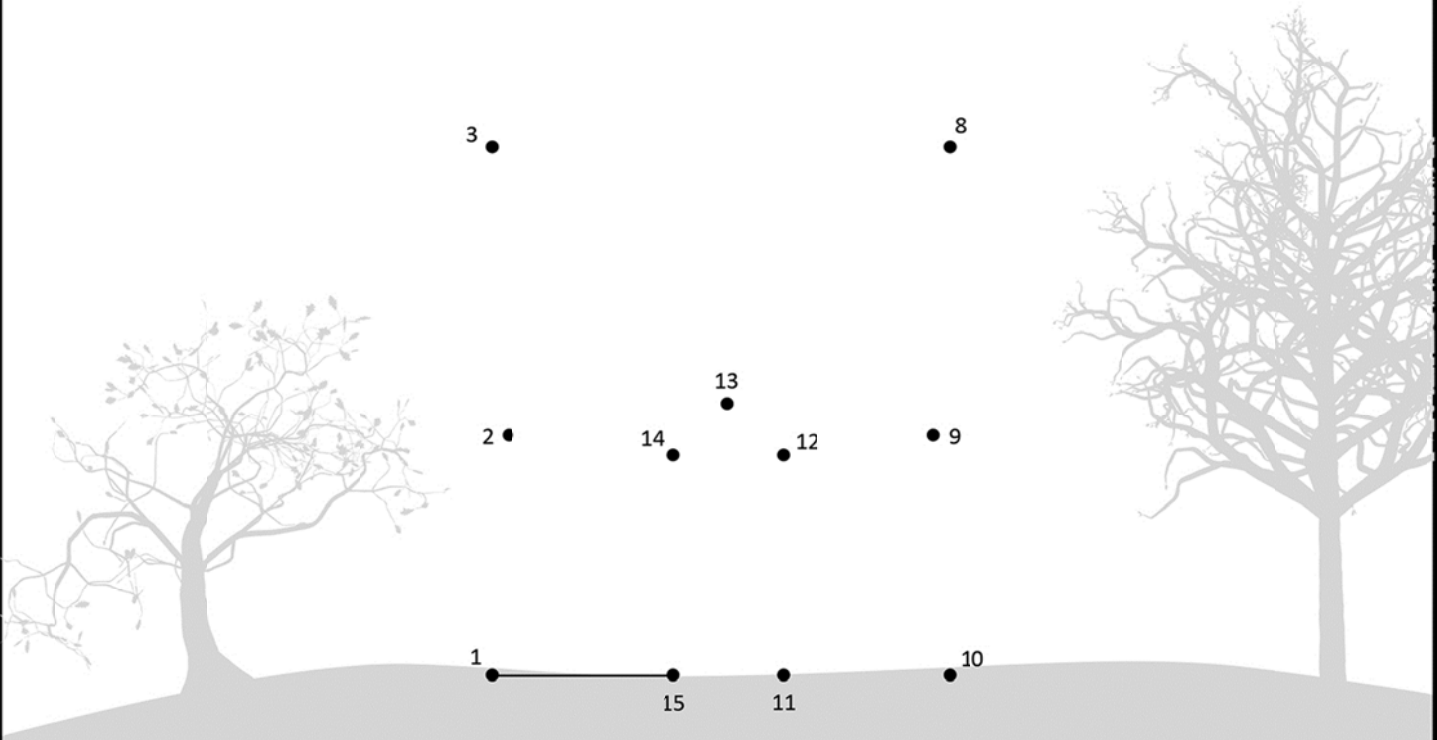
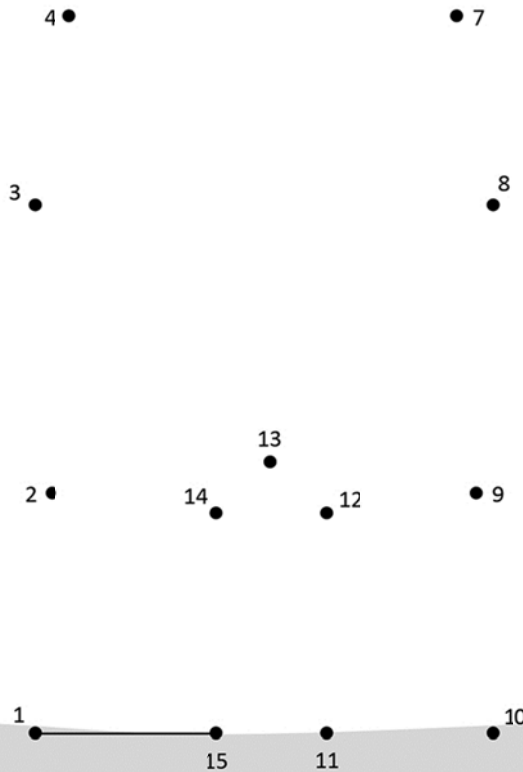
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LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

Your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.

Matthew 5:16



Follow the dots 1-15. What do you see? Do you have a favorite lighthouse? They shine every day to aid sailors, even during cold winter nights. Color the lighthouse shining bright. What good work can you do to help others, while "shining bright" and glorifying Jesus?