

PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW
Stewardship Report – Treasury
WEEKLY COLLECTION

<u>Budgeted Amount:</u>	\$5,000.00
<u>Sunday collection – 7/9/17</u>	\$2,637.00
<u>Parish Pay – 7/9/17</u>	\$ 561.00
<u>Total collection – 7/9/17</u>	\$3,198.00
<u>Sunday collection – 7/16/17</u>	\$3,102.40
<u>Parish Pay – 7/16/17 (not reported yet)</u>	

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

The Sanctuary Lamp is given this week:
In memory of: Vince Dalena
Given by: Mary Del Monico

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

7/24	MON:	9:00a	People of the Parish
7/25	TUES:	9:00a	Jakub and Anna Wodziak
7/26	WED:	9:00a	No Mass today
7/27	THU:	9:00a	No Mass today
7/28	FRI:	9:00a	People of the Parish
7/29	SAT:	5:00p	William J. Sheehan
7/30	SUN:	8:00a	Florence S. Mitchell
		10:00a	Richard Olsen Carol Nelson (LIV)
		11:45a	Anne Naused (LIV) Marilyn Tobin

DAILY READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

Sunday - Wis 12:13, 16-19; Rom 8:26-27; Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30
Monday - Ex 14:5-18; Mt 12:38-42
Tuesday - 2 Cor 4:7-15; Mt 20:20-28
Wednesday Memorial - Ex 16:1-5, 9-15; Mt 13:1-9
Thursday - Ex 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20b; Mt 13:10-17
Friday - Ex 20:1-17; Mt 13:18-23
Saturday - Ex 24:3-8; Mt 13:24-30

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

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
JULY 23, 2017
WEEKLY/MONTHLY PARISH EVENTS

COFFEE & DONUTS – There will be no coffee and donuts after the 8:00 Mass during the months of July and August.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION –Wednesdays at 6:30pm in the Rectory Meeting Room. Weekly reading/ reflection of the Sunday Scriptures – fellowship time & refreshments follow.

ST. MONICA’S LEISURE GROUP - St. Monica's Leisure Group meets in the Church Hall at 12:00 noon on the first Wednesday of the month unless otherwise noted. Dues are \$10.00 a year. Listed below is a schedule of meetings for 2017. Please call Grace Casalino at 973-702-8569 if you would like further information.

August 2 - Remember When; September 6 - Labor Day Pizza
 October 4 – Oktoberfest; November 1 - Halloween Party
 December 7 (Thursday) - Christmas Party at Lamp Post Rest.

SPECIAL DEVOTIONS AT ST. MONICA’S

Novena to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal – every Tuesday after the 9:00 A.M. Mass.

Chaplet of the Divine Mercy - Every Friday after the 9:00 A.M. Mass.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament – First Friday of the month after the 9:00 A.M. Mass until 10:00 A.M.

ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED

Any student in the fifth grade or older, who would be interested in becoming an altar server at St. Monica’s, please either call the Rectory or see Fr. Jan. We currently have five altar servers who are graduating this year, and we need to fill their positions.

We wish to thank Fr. Pawel Szurek from St. Catherine of Bologna Parish, Ringwood, New Jersey for substituting for Fr. Jan while he is on vacation. Please extend a warm welcome to Fr. Pawel.

SUMMER WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday Masses will be celebrated on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays. There will be no Masses on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Regular weekday Mass schedule will resume the week of August 7th.

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Wisdom 12:13, 16-19

For though you are the master of might, you judge with clemency. This passage from the Book of Wisdom addresses itself to God, giving praise and thanksgiving for his mercy.

Second Reading: Romans 8:26-27

For we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes with inexpressible groanings. Paul indicates that since people are, in general, unaccustomed to the manner of praying, of speaking directly to God, the Holy Spirit will intercede for them.

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-43

The Kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed ...

According to Matthew, Jesus speaks of the “reign of God” in three parables: the man who soweth good seed, the mustard seed, and the yeast. In each parable, Jesus demonstrates that once the “reign of God” had been established, it grew and spread.

HIS WORD TODAY *by Rev. William J. Reilly* **Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

“The Spirit comes to the aid of our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes with inexpressible groaning. And the one who searches hearts knows what is the intention of the Spirit. But though you are master of might you judge with great clemency and with much lenience you govern us...and you taught that those who are just must be kind.”

Do I understand that when I decide ‘I am going to pray’ that this is a response to the movement of the Spirit? When I pause to pray or plea, to thank or speak my words do I recognize the aid of that same Spirit? Paul helps us understand what sparks our prayer. Remember the prayer poem ‘Lovely lady dressed in blue, teach me how to pray.’

I might also find strength knowing that my intentions are good and positive as I pause and pray for others. I am concerned about their well being, their peace and happiness. I want to be free of judging others, as God judges me with clemency and wants me as a just person to be kind.

There are many helps for our prayer life in the readings of scripture today.

PRAYER FOR SUMMER

*DEAR GOD,
YOU MADE THE FOUR SEASONS.
EACH SUMMER ARRIVES AS PART OF YOUR PERFECT PATTERN AND WILL,
YET IS UNIQUE UNTO ITSELF.
THIS SUMMER, HELP ME TO SEE NOT ONLY THE ENJOYMENT OF VACATIONS,
BUT THE JOY OF YOUR WILL.
HELP ME TO FEEL NOT ONLY THE PLEASURE OF A WARM SUN,
BUT THE CONTENTMENT OF A LIFE GUIDED BY YOU.
HELP ME TO KNOW, NOT ONLY THE SATISFACTION OF A PROJECT COMPLETED,
BUT THE FULFILLMENT OF A HEART FILLED BY YOU.
HELP ME TO SEE YOU IN ALL THINGS, LORD,
IN ALL THE SEASONS OF LIFE YOU GIVE US.
AMEN.*

< KID'S > KORNER

Gospel Today

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time | Matthew 13:24-43

Jesus continues to teach the people with parables, or stories. He shows how tiny seeds or yeast cells are like the Word of God. When planted they sprout and grow great in size. As The Word is spread, the believers become many.

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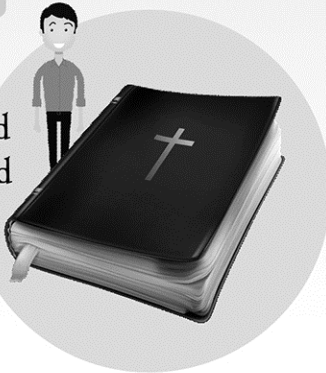
Jesus' parables show

Small beginnings become marvelous expansions

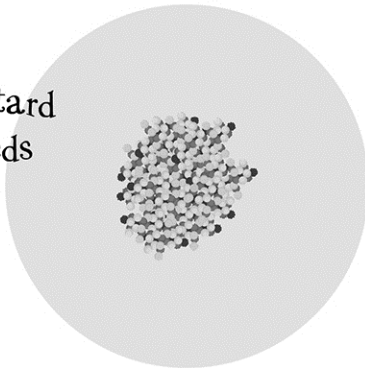
Draw a line from Column A to Column B to match the "Seeds of Faith" to the "Expanded Kingdom."

Column A

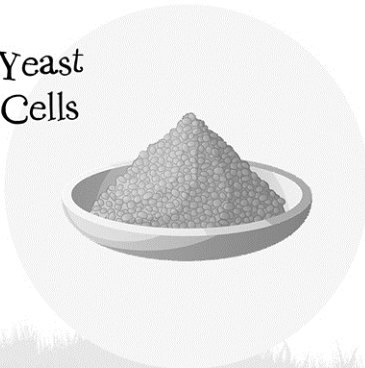
The Good Word



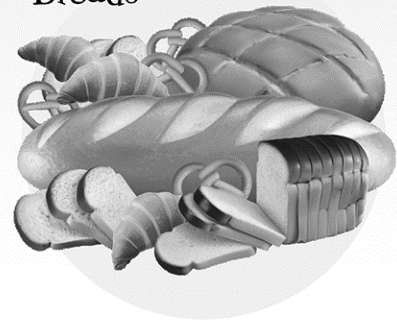
Mustard Seeds



Yeast Cells



Risen Breads



Column B

Mustard Tree



Many Believers



Parent / Child Activity

Watch a seed sprout - Take a clear cup and line it with a wet paper towel. Put a dried, uncooked seed between the paper and cup. Keep wet and in the sun. **Watch what happens!** (try watermelon seeds dried for one week)

THE SAINTS – PART TWO

According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, “the witnesses who have preceded us into the kingdom, especially those whom the Church recognizes as saints, share in the living tradition of prayer by the example of their lives, the transmission of their writings, and their prayer today. They contemplate God, praise him and constantly care for those whom they have left on earth. When they entered into the joy of their Master, they were ‘put in charge of many things.’ Their intercession is their most exalted service to God’s plan. We can and should ask them to intercede for us and the whole world.” CCC 2683.

“...So by their fraternal concern is our weakness greatly helped.

Do not weep, for I shall be more useful to you after my death and I shall help you then more effectively than during my life. I want to spend my heaven in doing good on earth.” CCC 956.

Following are saints whose feast days we celebrate this week.

July 25 – St. James, apostle, martyr (first century). Patron saint of Spain and of pilgrims. James, son of Zebedee, was a fisherman with his brother John. The brothers must have shared a fiery temperament, since Jesus calls them “sons of thunder.” The brothers were close to the Lord, being present at the raising of Jairus’ daughter, at the transfiguration, and in the Garden of Gethsemane. As with most of the other apostles, there is no account of his activities after the resurrection. He is known as James the Greater, to distinguish him from the other apostle of the same name. May we imitate his eagerness to follow Jesus and change our lives in order to make this happen.

July 26 – Sts. Joachim and Ann (parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary). St. Ann is the patroness of homemakers, housewives, mothers and children. St. Joachim is the patron of fathers and grandfathers.

The gospels tell us nothing about Mary’s parents, not even their names. What we know from Christian tradition is found in non-scriptural writings such as the Protogospel of James. Devotion to St. Anne existed in sixth-century Constantinople and eighth-century Rome. By the sixteenth century this feast day was universal. Joachim has been honored in the East from the earliest days, but in the West only since the sixteenth century. May we imitate their examples as loving parents and do all we can so that children might flourish as Mary did.

July 29 – St. Martha (first century). Patroness of housewives and of waiters and waitresses.

Martha, the sister of Mary and Lazarus, lived in Bethany. Martha is a model of hospitality as well as of fidelity in her discipleship. When Jesus came to raise Lazarus from the dead, it was Martha who went out to meet him and confess her belief that he was the Christ, the Son of God. May we imitate her care for others’ needs and her trust in Jesus’ power to give new life.