

**PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW**

**Stewardship Report – Treasure**

**WEEKLY COLLECTION**

Budgeted Amount: \$5,000.00

**Regular Collection – 1/3/16:** \$3,260.00  
**Parish Pay – 1/3/16:** \$ 531.00  
**Total Regular Collection – 1/3/16:** \$3,791.00

**Solemnity of Mary – 1/1/16:** \$3,260.00  
**Parish Pay – Solemnity of Mary – 1/1/16:** \$ 80.00  
**Total - Solemnity of Mary – 1/1/16:** \$3,340.00

**Capital Improvements/Repairs – 1/3/16:** \$1,394.00  
**Parish Pay – CIR:** \$ 133.00  
**Total CIR:** \$1,527.00

**Regular Collection – 1/10/16:** \$3,628.00  
**Parish Pay – 1/10/16:** \$ 636.00  
**Total Regular Collection – 1/10/16:** \$4,264.00

**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)

The Sanctuary Lamp is given this week:

In memory of: Anna Dalena

Given by: Mary DelMonico

**MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK**

1/18 MON: 9:00a Special Intention (LIV)  
 1/19 TUES: 9:00a John Skehan  
 1/20 WED: 9:00a No Mass today  
 1/21 THU: 9:00a Special Intention (LIV)  
 1/22 FRI: 9:00a People of the Parish  
 1/23 SAT: 5:00p Daniel Loughery  
 Ann Dalena  
 Marie Monzo  
 1/24 SUN: 8:00a Juliette Poivan  
 10:00a Alessandro Forte  
 Catherine M. Konderock  
 11:45a Peter Horvath  
 Robert Claffey

**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

**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.*



**PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS:** If you are having a Mass offered for someone special and would like to carry the gifts of Bread and Wine to the altar, please let an usher know.

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)

**SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

January 17, 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.

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**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  
 FOCUS 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  
 Suxsex 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!!!*

**SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THIS WEEK**

**Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Sunday Is 62:1-5; 1 Cor 12:4-11; Jn 2:1-11  
 Monday 1 Sm 15:16-23; Mk 2:18-22  
 Tuesday 1 Sm 16:1-13; Mk 2:23-28  
 Wednesday 1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51; Mk 3:1-6  
 Thursday 1 Sm 18:6-9, 19:1-7; Mk 3:7-12  
 Friday 1 Sm 24:3-21; Mk 3:13-19  
 Saturday 2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27; Mk 3:20-21

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

**The Priority of Mercy**

Pope Francis is driven by a pressing desire to bring God’s mercy to “the outermost fringes of society.” Like Christ, whose public ministry was marked by his constant search for the weak, suffering, and lost souls in his day, Pope Francis says that the Church should be continually going out to touch as many people as possible with God’s mercy. “How much I desire that the year to come will be steeped in mercy, so that we can go out to every man and woman, bringing the goodness and tenderness of God! May the balm of mercy reach everyone, both believers and those far away, as a sign that the Kingdom of God is already present in our midst!”

How effective are we as witnesses to God’s mercy? We might hold to the right doctrines, right liturgical practices, and right moral principles, but how much do people encounter God’s loving mercy in us and in our parishes, apostolates, or individual lives? ---Catechetical Review

**YOUTH MINISTRY**

**ATTENTION ALL CANDIDATES:** Confirmation Retreat is set for Saturday, January 23rd from 10am to 3pm at the Sacred Heart Center in Newton. Your attendance is required at this retreat. Please be prompt in arriving. Lunch will be served. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mrs. Vernacchio.

**"SOUPER BOWL OF CARING" COLLECTION:** This is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 6th and Sunday, Feb. 7th. Coverage is needed at all Masses. Signup sheet can be found on the bulletin board in the church hall. The money collected this weekend is sent to Harvest House to assist them in feeding the hungry in our area.

**PHASE I CANDIDATES:** The Distribution of the Creed is scheduled for Saturday, February 13th at the 5pm Mass. Your attendance is required.

**CALENDAR:**

**Saturday/Sunday, February 6/7** - "Souper Bowl of Caring" collection after all Masses this weekend.

Saturday, February 13th - Phase I Candidates - Dist. of the Creed at the 5pm Mass, YM class follows after a light dinner  
Phase I & Phase II - Theme- "Holy Week, Resurrection & Ascension"

**Sunday, February 14th** - Make up class - no dinner - 6:30 to 8:30pm

*"Take the first step in faith. You don't have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step." — Martin Luther King*

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION – Grades 1-8**

**CALENDAR:**

**1st & 2nd Grades** - Sunday, January 24th - 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** – please plan to stay for a cup of coffee and short meeting in the Church Hall on Sunday, January 24th to discuss the upcoming months!! Please RSVP to Carol at 973-875-4521 by next Sunday.

**3rd & 4th Grades** – Sunday, January 24th (PLEASE NOTE CHANGE IN DATE – changed due to Holiday weekend) – 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, January 9th & 23rd – 3:00pm in the Church Hall – attendance at 5:00pm Mass is highly encouraged for those attending class.

**7th & 8th Grades** – Saturday, January 16th & 23rd – 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

**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.

**FOR CANCELLATION OF PARISH PROGRAMS/EVENTS DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER, PLEASE VISIT <http://wsus102.3iheart.com> or tune in to WSUS102.3FM**

**PARISH EVENTS/MEETINGS**

**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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**MOVIE NIGHTS**

In his address to Congress while in the US, Pope Francis mentioned **Dorothy Day** and **Thomas Merton**, along with Abraham Lincoln and Martin Luther King, as Americans who have inspired us by their lives. All who attended the first Movie Night enjoyed the movie and were amazed at the details surrounding Dorothy Day's life and ministry. Would you like to know more about Thomas Merton? If so, the second Movie night will be held on January 21st "**The Many Storeys and Last Days of Thomas Merton**" will be shown at 7:00pm in the Church Hall. There is no cost to attend - a free-will offering will be taken for refreshments. Call 973-875-4521.

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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!!

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## SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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

**“There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had likewise been invited to the celebration... His mother instructed those waiting on tables, ‘Do whatever he tells you.’ They did as he instructed them... Thus did he reveal his glory, and his disciples believed in him.”**

The wedding which made Cana famous captures our attention today. How frequently Jesus used the image of a wedding and marriage in His teaching.

Parables concerning brides and bridegrooms, wedding banquets fill the scriptures. Old Testament readings reflect on covenants using the image of spouses, but today we find the Lord at a wedding. We have been robbed! The union of man and woman in the never-ending bond of love has been coopted. Legal opinions and legislation have stolen what has been God’s plan from the beginning. No problem.

Jesus gave His church a great gift. It is a living sign of His presence in our world today. It is called the Sacrament of Matrimony. It is a gift offered to assist and sustain a loving couple in God’s grace, to bind them together in a free, permanent exclusive relationship that is open to life.

It is the sacrament of holy matrimony that couples live out daily in our parishes, for which people are anxiously preparing. Just as at Cana, Jesus and his disciples, the church, are there. May God bless all married couples.

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### **Is “Ordinary Time” really that ordinary?**

Ordinary Time is called "ordinary" because the weeks are numbered. The Latin word *ordinalis*, which refers to numbers in a series, stems from the Latin word *ordo*, from which we get the English word *order*. Thus, Ordinary Time is in fact the ordered life of the Church—the period in which we live our lives neither in feasting (as in the Christmas and Easter seasons) or in more severe penance (as in Advent and Lent), but in watchfulness and expectation of the Second Coming of Christ.

#### **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 Communions, Funerals - the place where your relationship to God was especially meaningful. Generations to come may yet be grateful for your generous gift.

#### **SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

##### **First Reading: Isaiah 62:1-5**

Isaiah prophesizes that Jerusalem will again be held in high esteem by God. He states that all nations will witness its glory. He compares a groom's joy toward his bride to the joy that God will feel toward Jerusalem.

##### **Second Reading: I Corinthians 12:4-11**

Paul discusses the different gifts and talents bestowed upon different individuals. He explains that each individual receives various talents so that everyone can contribute something to society.

##### **Gospel: John 2:1-11**

Jesus and Mary attended a wedding where Mary informed Jesus that there was no more wine. At first he said it did not concern him, but then he turned **several jugs of**

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**ANNUAL “MARCH FOR LIFE”** – Do you know what the Annual March for Life is? “The **March for Life** is an annual pro-life rally protesting abortion, held in Washington, D.C., on or around the anniversary of the United States Supreme Court's decision legalizing abortion in the case *Roe v. Wade*. The march is organized by the March for Life Education and Defense Fund. The overall goal of the march is to overturn the *Roe v. Wade* decision and reduce access to the procedure.” ----Wikipedia

A bus to the March for Life in Washington DC will be leaving from Our Lady of the Lake Church on January 22, 2016 at 6 AM and will return around 10 PM. The cost per person is \$25. They can reserve their seat by calling the parish office at (973) 729-6107 and sending in a check for \$25 made out to Our Lady of the Lake. Deadline to sign up is January 19th.