

**PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW**  
**Stewardship Report – Treasure**

**WEEKLY COLLECTION**

Budgeted Amount:	\$5,000.00
Sunday Collection – 7/10/16:	\$2,979.00
Parish Pay – 7/10/16:	\$ 641.00
<b>Total Sunday Collection – 7/10/16:</b>	<b>\$3,620.00</b>

Sunday Collection – 7/17/16:	\$2,621.00
Parish Pay – 7/17/16:	
<b>Total Sunday Collection – 7/17/16:</b>	

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

**ST. MONICA’S ANNUAL COLLECTION**

Parish Goal	\$50,000.00
Total # of Families	463
Total # Pledged	145
% of Participation	31.10%
Total Amount Pledged	\$44,190.00
<i>(Includes 3 matching grants pledged)</i>	
Total Amount Paid	\$43,415.00
<i>(Includes 2 matching grants pd. in full)</i>	

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The Sanctuary Lamp is given this week:

In memory of: Vince Dalena

Given by: Mary DelMonico

**MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK**

7/25	MON:	9:00a	Special Intention (LIV)
7/26	TUES:	9:00a	People of the Parish
7/27	WED:	9:00a	No Mass today
7/28	THU:	9:00a	No Mass today
7/29	FRI:	9:00a	Celso Espejo
7/30	SAT:	5:00p	Mikchael Accetta Susan Ferrandino
7/31	SUN:	8:00a	Florence Mitchell Ron Bobiak
		10:00a	Melissa Morfeld Michael Sharkey Susan McGovern Jeanette Loughery
		11:45a	William Dobbins

**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 (Holy Door for Year of Mercy)

**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 - \$5.00. for one-week.*

**Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**July 24, 2016**

**PARISH EVENTS/MEETINGS**

[www.stmonicasussex.org](http://www.stmonicasussex.org)

**COFFEE & DONUTS** –will resume in September.

**HELPING HANDS** – meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm in the Rectory Meeting room. There are no meetings in July or August. Call Terry at 845-258-8051.

**Helping Hands at Skyland Ball Game**

Because of the rain, anyone that was at the game on Saturday evening, July 9, may use your ticket stub to attend a game of your choice. Whenever you go, you must present your ticket stub to the box office. Some of us are planning on attending a game on Saturday evening, July 30th when fireworks are on the schedule (weather permitting).

**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.

**BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP** – will resume the third Monday of the month schedule at 7:30pm in the Rectory Meeting Room on August 15th. If you like to read books that will enhance your faith journey and keep you spiritually nourished, plan to join us. Members gave input and suggestions and the following three books will be covered in the next several months: **Beautiful Mercy** by Matthew Kelly and **Learning to Walk in the Dark** by Barbara Brown Taylor. **Short stories of Flannery O’Connor** will also be read and shared by all. Call Carol for information - 973-875-4521.

**SUMMER MOVIE NIGHTS** will continue on Tuesday, August 16<sup>th</sup> with **The Way** - a story about a father and son journey centered around **The Camino de Santiago** in Spain - stars Martin Sheen- at 7:00pm in the meeting room. Hope you will join us for these special presentations.

**ST. MONICA’S LEISURE GROUP** - below are dates and themes for 2016. Each month we enjoy lunch, good company and delicious desserts made by our members. We meet at 12:00 noon in the church hall on the first Wednesday of the month, unless otherwise noted. Dues are \$10 a year. New members are welcome. For further information please contact Grace Casalino at 973-702-8569. August 3 – “Be Cool” Summer Lunch; September 7 – Labor Day Celebration; October 5 – Oktoberfest; November 2 – Halloween Party; December 8(Thursday) –Christmas Party at Lampost Rest.

**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS**

**OR R.C.I.A PROGRAM** is offered for anyone over the age of 18 who was never baptized and may wish to become Catholic; or for anyone who is already baptized Catholic but never received the sacraments of initiation (Reconciliation, First Communion or Confirmation) or for those who wish to be received into the Catholic Church from another Christian denomination. If you are interested in learning more, please call Carol at 973-875-4521.

**ST. MONICA’S TRICKY TRAY FUNDRAISER**

We are once again bringing back our Tricky Tray Theme List which we hope you will find helpful in choosing an idea for your tray. There are 3 copies, but they are all the same and located on the table in the Church Hall. Please take a moment to browse through and choose an idea that best suits you.

In addition, we are introducing something new on the same table. It is our Tricky Tray Donation Box. The purpose of this box is to receive any additional items you may wish to donate that the Tricky Tray Committee will put together to achieve a greater number of trays at our event. Thank you for your anticipated generosity and support towards this very important fundraiser.

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## YOUTH MINISTRY

**MASS ATTENDANCE** – Even though classes are over, Mass attendance is still important. Please make Mass a weekly attendance and a priority during your summer vacation.

**REGISTRATION:** We are making an effort to get everyone registered/re-registered for the new school year. Please pick up a registration form on the table in the church hall and return it to us by June 30<sup>th</sup>. Fees are as follows: 1 student - \$75.00, 2 students - \$110.00 and 3 or more is \$150.00. Your cooperation in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION – Grades 1-8

**REGISTRATION for the 2016/2017** - registration forms will be available on the table in the hall or can be downloaded from our website [www.stmonicasussex.org](http://www.stmonicasussex.org). - go to "Faith Formation" and go to "Forms." We appreciate your cooperation in registering as early as possible as we are in the process of deciding on class days/times for the coming year. Payment can be made at the time you send it in or if necessary later on, but we do need the registration forms returned in order to plan the upcoming Religious Ed year. Thanks to all who have sent in registrations so far!!!

**PARENTS:** Have you ever thought about being a Religious Ed Catechist? Maybe your children's journey has inspired you to think about it?

**TEENS AND THOSE RECENTLY CONFIRMED** are also invited to team-teach and share their faith with our young students. Please call Carol at 973-875-4521 and we can explore the possibilities!!!

**Vacation Bible School.....** further information is coming soon – if your child is interested in attending VBS this year, please let us know! Respond to [stmonica@ptd.net](mailto:stmonica@ptd.net) and let us know. We will start to plan for VBS!! The session will most likely run in August!!!

## **BOOK SALE – next weekend after all Masses!!!**

In addition to Matthew Kelly's book *Beautiful Mercy*, we will offer various books that were duplicates or over-stocked books that we have saved in our Religious Ed resource room. They will be available for only \$2 each – sale will be held next weekend after Masses.

**LIVING WITH GRIEF** – a four part lecture will be held Wednesday Evenings, September 7, 14, 21 & 28 at the Joseph T. Quinlan Bereavement Center, 61 Spring Street, Suite 100, Newton, NJ – 6:30 to 8:30pm. Guest Presenter is Cecelia T. Clayton, MPG, Executive Director, Karen Ann Quinlan Hospice. This series is an opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of the effects grief has on our lives, our loved ones, our relationships. It is offered to anyone who has experienced a loss, who is helping another cope with loss, or who would like to learn more about the grieving process. Contact info – 973-383-0115 or [cclayton@karenannquinlanhospice.org](mailto:cclayton@karenannquinlanhospice.org)  
**Registration is limited.**

## SCRIPTURE READINGS THIS WEEK

**Sunday** Gn 18:20-32; Col 2:12-14; Lk 11:1-13

**Monday** 2 Cor 4:7-15; Mt 20:20-28

**Tuesday** Jer 14:17-22; Mt 13:36-43

**Wednesday** Jer 15:10, 16-21; Mt 13:44-46

**Thursday** Jer 18:1-6; Mt 13:47-53

**Friday** Jer 26:1-9; Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42

**Saturday** Jer 26:11-16, 24; Mt 14:1-12

## **SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

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

*"And he said to them, 'Suppose one of you has a friend to whom he goes at midnight and says 'Friend lend me three loaves of bread...' 'I tell you if he does not get up to give the visitor the loaves because of his friendship, he will get up to give him whatever he needs because of his persistence...' 'Lord teach us to pray as John taught his disciples.'"*

From our earliest days, we were taught to pray. We learned prayers, recited them with faith and devotion, and often used formulas which we did not really understand. The word today offers a remedy.

The apostles observed Jesus at prayer. Something special was portrayed before their eyes. This led them to ask for a prayer lesson. The petitions, the praise, the expression of remorse provide a summary for prayer 101. Perhaps they saw a special peace and intimacy reflected in Jesus.

The passage continues with the conversation and the request of one friend develops. The lesson is clear 'don't give up' or 'hang in there', especially if you think that the Lord is too busy listening to others. Or 'help me help the one in need.' We don't have to wait on line or jump through hoops to get God's attention. He knows our needs, but only wants us to acknowledge our dependence and His generosity.

Perseverance in prayer is a gift from God. May I make it my first request.

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## **SUMMER IS HERE!!**

*If you plan to travel this summer and will need to look for a church why not visit - [www.masstimes.com](http://www.masstimes.com)*

"The purpose of the Mass Times ministry is to **help Catholics get to Mass by helping them find churches and worship times worldwide.** We do this by hosting and sharing the most comprehensive database of Catholic churches and worship times in existence. Dioceses, parishes, and many volunteers help us keep the database current. We also host the [masstimes.org](http://masstimes.org) website that our visitors use to search for Mass times. It can be difficult for Catholics to find a Mass when traveling or when it is not practical to attend their regular parishes. It is not always easy to find the right diocesan or parish websites. Mass Times makes it much easier to search for a Mass by presenting all the possibilities in a geographical area on one page. **We provide worship times, church locations, contact information, website links and maps. There are 117,000 churches in 201 countries/territories.**

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## SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### First Reading: Genesis 18:20-32

Abraham pleads with the Lord, who planned to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah because of the evil and sin in those cities. Abraham asks him if he would spare the city if fifty, forty, thirty, twenty or even only ten innocent people were found there. God says that he would spare the cities even for the sake of only ten.

### Second Reading: Colossians 2:12-14

Paul explains to the Colossians that through baptism, they are raised to life with Christ because they believed in the power of the God who raised him from the dead. Even though they once lived in sin, their sins have been pardoned through Jesus.

### Gospel: Luke 11:1-13

Jesus' disciples asked him how they should pray. He gave them some phrases similar to those now used in the Lord's prayer. Jesus also reminds the disciples how even men with sins are able to give good things to their children, and explains how much more the heavenly Father wants to give to us.

## REFLECTIONS ON THE YEAR OF MERCY



**The Year of Mercy is an invitation—an invitation to love, kindness, and unbounded generosity. Pope Francis is offering you the opportunity to encounter the incredible mercy of God. Encountering mercy means encountering God. It can transform your life, your relationships, your work, and your ability to embrace and experience all of life.**

***“Finally, all of you, have unity of spirit, sympathy, love of the brethren, a tender heart and a humble mind. Do not return evil for evil or reviling for reviling; but on the contrary bless, for to this you have been called, that you may obtain a blessing.” 1 Peter 3:8-9***

**-----Copies of Matthew Kelly’s book Beautiful Mercy will be available for \$3 a copy!! Please call the Rectory to reserve and pick up your copy or pick one up in the hall after any Mass.**

**THE YEAR OF MERCY WILL BE ENDING ON NOVEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup> - WHY NOT MAKE A PERSONAL PILGRIMAGE AND PASS THROUGH A DESIGNATED HOLY DOOR?** Passing through a Holy Door is part of the pilgrimage that all Catholics are encouraged to make, whether during a trip to Rome, or a trip to the cathedrals or specially designated churches in and around their own dioceses. These pilgrimages come with special graces, and they allow each of us to share in the many blessings of the Holy Year. Passing through the Holy Door symbolizes our leaving the world outside and entering into the realm of salvation. As Pope St. John Paul II said, the Holy Door “evokes the passage from sin to grace which every Christian is called to accomplish” (**There are several designated Holy Doors in the surrounding area – St. Patrick’s Cathedral in NYC, Sacred Heart Basilica in Newark, The National Shrine of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel in Middletown, NY**)

### DIOCESE OF PATERSON – Safe Environment Program

“If any person may have been abused by any priest, they should immediately contact their local County Prosecutor’s Office and the Diocese’s Victims Assistance Coordinator: Peggy Zanello at 973-879-1489. You may also be in touch with either of the Diocesan Response Officers: Rev. Msgr. James T. Mahoney, Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia, 973-777-8818 Ext. 205 or Sister Joan Daniel Healy, S.C.C., Chancellor/Delegate for Religious, 973-777-8818 Ext. 248. The entire text of the Policy of the Diocese of Paterson in Response to Complaints of Sexual Abuse is available on the diocesan Web site: [www.patersondiocese.org](http://www.patersondiocese.org)

# < KID'S > KORNER

## Gospel Today

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time | Luke 11:1-13

Jesus told his disciples "When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name, and your Kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread and forgive us our sins for we ourselves forgive everyone in debt to us, and do not subject us to the final test." Luke 11:2-4

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### The answer to prayer, by Jesus

Color, cut and hang up this reminder from Jesus, how to receive answer to prayer.

“ ASK

and you will receive;

SEEK

and you will find;

KNOCK

and the door  
will be opened  
to you.”

Luke 11:9

In today's reading (above)...

**JESUS HIMSELF  
GAVE US THE  
WORDS FOR  
OUR LORD'S  
PRAYER, THE  
OUR FATHER.**



Our Father who art in Heaven,  
Hallowed be thy name;

Thy kingdom come  
Thy will be done  
On earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;  
And forgive us our trespasses  
As we forgive those who trespass against us;

And lead us not into temptation,  
But deliver us from evil.

Amen

**Jesus tells us "be persistent."**

Think of a time when you prayed, asking God for help. Never forget to thank God for all He gives us.