

PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

Stewardship Report – Treasure

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Budgeted Amount: \$5,000.00

Sunday Collection – 7/17/16: \$2,621.00
Parish Pay – 7/17/16: \$ 551.00
Total Sunday Collection – 7/17/16: \$3,172.00

Sunday Collection – 7/24/16: \$3,241.00
Parish Pay – 7/24/16:
Total Sunday Collection – 7/24/16:

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
(Includes 3 matching grants pledged)
Total Amount Paid \$43,415.00
(Includes 2 matching grants pd. in full)

The Sanctuary Lamp is given this week:

In memory of: Luisa Constant

Given by: Peter & Awatef Constant

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

8/1 MON: 9:00a People of the Parish
8/2 TUES: 9:00a Michael J. Lawlor
8/3 WED: 9:00a No Mass today
8/4 THU: 9:00a No Mass today
8/5 FRI: 9:00a Richard Szot
8/6 SAT: 5:00p Lawrence Worth Hatch, Jr.
Michael Accetta
8/7 SUN: 8:00a Gregory Frankowski
10:00a John & Eleanor Murray
Rita & Edwin Puzio
Mary Eckert
Florence DiStasi
11:45a Peter Horvath
Mary Losiewicz
Ronald Bobiak

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.

CONGRATULATIONS...to the following parishioners who were trained this month and installed as new Eucharistic Ministers for St. Monica’s on Sunday, July 24th:

—Emmy Dudzinski —Isabell Sly

—Carol Nelson —Ryan Weiss —Priscilla Zawacki

God Bless you as you begin this special ministry!!!

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 31, 2016

PARISH EVENTS/MEETINGS

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 16th 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 generosity and support towards this very important fundraiser.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL... August 15 & 16th - 9:00am

– 12:00noon – if your child is interested in attending VBS this year, please let us know – 973-875-4521. Respond to stmonica@ptd.net .

Once again VBS will be coordinated by Anne Chirico.

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 30th. 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 - 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!!!

Fees are as follows: 1 student - \$75.00, 2 students - \$110.00 and 3 or more is \$150.00.

PARENTS: Have you ever thought about being a Religious Ed Catechist? Maybe your children's journey has inspired you to think about it? Don't be afraid to say "yes" – and serve as a Catechist!!

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! Service doesn't end after Confirmation – it just begins.

Vacation Bible School..... Monday, August 15 & Tuesday, August 16th – 9:00am – 12:00noon – if your child is interested in attending VBS this year, please let us know – 973-875-4521. Respond to stmonica@ptd.net and let us know. We will start to plan for VBS!! The session will most likely run in August!!!

SCRIPTURE READINGS THIS WEEK

Sunday Eccl 1:2, 2:21-23; Col 3:1-5, 9-11; Lk 12:13-21

Monday Jer 28:1-17; Mt 14:13-21

Tuesday Jer 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22; Mt 14:22-36
or 15:1-2, 10-14

Wednesday Jer 31:1-7; Mt 15:21-28

Thursday Jer 31:31-34; Mt 16:13-23

First Friday Na 2:1, 3, 3:1-3, 6-7; Mt 16:24-28

First Saturday Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; 2 Pt 1:16-19; Lk 9:28b-36

FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY - Monday, August 15th is the feast of the Assumption which is normally a Holy Day of Obligation – but since it falls on a Monday, it is not celebrated as a Holy day this year. As we have done in the past here at St. Monica's, we will celebrate the feast day with one Mass at 9:00am on Monday, August 15th.

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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

“Friend, who appointed me as your judge and arbitrator? Then he said to the crowd, ‘Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich, one’s life does not consist of possessions... This will be for all who store up treasure for themselves but are not rich in what matters to God.’”

A well known teacher reported that the early explorers of our land came, driven by four things – glory, gold, greed and God. Their exploits have been celebrated facing difficult times and adverse conditions. If there was a lack of balance they can be forgiven.

In our time we struggle to make ends meet, and never have enough. We know the importance of our good reputation, but are ready to put down another person. We speak of our faith and religious values, but are caught in a consumer society which taints our way of thinking, translating wants into needs.

May we learn from the child who delights in the wrapping on a gift, rather than what is in the box. May we deny ourselves of one necessity, like sugar, in the coffee or a second beer, aware that someone else is in need. Greed is sneaky, it is easy to see it in the capital sins.

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
Registration is limited.

SUMMER IS HERE!!

If you plan to travel this summer and will need to look for a church why not visit - 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 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.**

FOR SALE: 2004 Chevy Malibu Classic - 140,000 miles. Very good running condition, well-maintained. Good car for student or new driver. Asking \$1,000. Call Ann or Peter at 973-875-2268.



EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Ecclesiastes 1:2, 2:21-23

"Vanity of vanities." Sometimes we may work for wealth, wisdom and knowledge only to discover that it has been left for someone who did not toil for it. The offering of our work, fatigue and pain, if not for God, can also be a kind of vanity.

Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11

Paul urges us to seek what is good and from God, encouraging us to put our minds on the spiritual. He reminds us that, as Christians, we have died with Christ and are hidden with Christ until his glory is once again revealed. We are all one in Christ.

Gospel: Luke 12:13-21

On being requested to settle a question of inheritance, Jesus heeds us to beware of all covetousness because our life does not consist on the wealth of possessions. Through the lesson of a parable Jesus reinforces this teaching, explaining that those who store up the treasures of wealth and possessions are not the richest in God's eyes.

REFLECTIONS ON THE YEAR OF MERCY



"God's mercy can make even the driest land become a garden, can restore life to dry bones (cf. Ez 37:1-14). ... Let us be renewed by God's mercy, let us be loved by Jesus, let us enable the power of his love to transform our lives too; and let us become agents of this mercy, channels through which God can water the earth, protect all creation and make justice and peace flourish."

— Pope Francis, Easter Urbi et Orbi message on March 31, 2013

"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

DO SOME SPIRITUAL READING FOR THE YEAR OF MERCY Copies of Matthew Kelly's book **Beautiful Mercy** are still available for \$3 a copy!! Please call the Rectory to reserve your copy and arrange to pick it up – 973-875-4521.

THE YEAR OF MERCY WILL BE ENDING ON NOVEMBER 20TH - 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

