

PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

Stewardship Report – Treasure

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Budgeted Amount: \$5,000.00

Sunday Collection – 2/5/17: \$3,793.00

Parish Pay – 2/5/17: (not yet reported) \$

Total – Sunday Collection - 2/5/17: \$

“Souper Bowl of Caring” collection \$ 417.00

(Donated to Harvest House in Sussex)

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: Hilary Battaglia

Given by: Jane Battaglia

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

2/13 MON: 9:00a Special Intention (LIV)

2/14 TUES: 9:00a Kathy Shaw (LIV)

Eliseo Lettieri

2/15 WED: 9:00a No Mass today

2/16 THU: 9:00a People of the Parish

2/17 FRI: 9:00a Special Intention (LIV)

2/18 SAT: 5:00p Adam Trela

George J. Broyles

Bobbie Anne Brandau

Stephen Trauger

2/19 SUN: 8:00a Frank Rankl

10:00a Eliseo Lettieri

11:45a Edward Losiewicz

John Hoch Jr.

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 Sir 15:15-20; 1 Cor 2:6-10; Mt 5:17-37 or 5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37

Monday Gn 4:1-15, 25; Mk 8:11-13

Tuesday Gn 6:5-8, 7:1-5, 10; Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday Gn 8:6-13, 20-22; Mk 8:22-26

Thursday Gn 9:1-13; Mk 8:27-33

Friday Gn 11:1-9; Mk 8:34—9:1

Saturday Heb 11:1-7; Mk 9:2-13

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

February 12, 2017

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.

Helping Hands will be hosting our 4th Mardi gras on Tuesday, February 28th, 2017. There will be fun & food with a covered – dish dinner beginning at 5:30 P.M. Please sign up on the form in the church hall. For further information please contact Mary Eileen Schoen at 862 – 266 - 0573



Laissez les bon temp rouler!!

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

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT SESSION

A Bereavement Support session will be held on Thursday, February 23rd (snow date is March 2nd) in the Rectory Meeting Room. Anyone wishing to attend should call Carol at 862-266-6626.

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.

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.

PHASE I CANDIDATES - The Distribution of the Creed is scheduled for Saturday, March 4th at the 5pm Mass. Your attendance is required at this special rite.

PHASE II CANDIDATES - If you have not sent in your Confirmation Information Sheet or your completed Sponsor certificate please do so. I will check my records to see what I have and will forward another set to those of you who have not turned anything in yet. You should be receiving a letter within the next week or so.

CALENDAR -

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

Saturday, Apr. 1st - YM Class - beginning with the 5pm Mass, Phase I- Theme: "Relationships"
Phase II - Theme: "Holiness is Possible"

Saturday, Apr. 8th - Ice Cream Social at Bristol Glen w/residents - Time: 1:30pm to 3:00pm
Saturday, Apr. 15th - Spring Roadside Clean Up - more info to follow

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - Grades 1-8

CALENDAR FOR 2017

FIRST AND SECOND GRADE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SESSION/GRADE(S)</u>
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>
2/12	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>
2/25	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.

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.

EXPOSITION OF SACRED RELICS - "Treasures of the Church" will be held at St. Francis de Sales Parish in McAfee on Sunday, February 19th at 3:00pm. This will be presented by Father Carlos Martins of the Companions of the Cross. For further information see www.treasuresofthechurch.com



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.

PIZZA NIGHT WITH BISHOP!

If you are a young man in high school or college, or even older, come join Bishop Serratelli and priests from the Diocese of Paterson for adoration, reflection, fellowship....and of course, pizza on Tuesday, March 7, 2017 at Pope John XXIII High School in Sparta from 7:00 - 9:00pm. For more information, please contact the Vocation Office at 973-777-8818 ext. 711.

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

His Word Today by Rev. William J. Reilly

“What we utter is God’s wisdom: a mysterious hidden wisdom. God planned it before all ages for our glory. Yet God has revealed this wisdom to us through the Spirit... Jesus said to his disciples: ‘I tell you unless your holiness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees you shall not enter the kingdom of God.’”

The ‘professional’ religious people of Jesus’ time knew the bible, practiced in detail the requirements of their faith, and most were holy people. They knew the word, lived the word and incorporated it into the daily living.

Fast forward: How does the wisdom of God play out in my life? I know many things from the bible. I can speak about the four gospel writers and enjoy the life of the primitive church as I find it in the Acts of the Apostles. Some passages especially from the letters of Saint Paul, as the hymn of charity or the fruits of the Holy Spirit in Corinthians and Galatians move me.

The wisdom found in the scriptures is to direct my life and focus on just one thing, that is my holiness. Knowledge in the head must move down a few inches and become the life giving pump for my heart. Holiness too is a gift of God for me to seek, discover and accept. We call Jesus ‘the holy one of God’ and we are to be as well.

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Sirach 15:15-20

This passage from Sirach gives strong, unequivocal emphasis to free will in every person. Before each of us is set, sin or virtue, life or death, and each of us are free to choose the one or the other.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:6-10

Paul explains to the Corinthians that there are two different kinds of wisdom — the wisdom of God and the wisdom of the world. The wisdom of God is mysterious, but this wisdom has been revealed “to those who love him” through the Spirit.

Gospel: Matthew 5:17-37

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus tells the people he has come to fulfill the law. He speaks strongly against murder and anger, against adultery and lust, and against false oaths and lies. He warns the people that unless their virtue exceeds that of the Pharisees, they “will not enter the kingdom of God.”

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” travel group may offer an interesting and exciting opportunity to meet new people and possibly travel together. We continue to meet once a month for dinner at a local venue in and around the Sussex/Newton/Lafayette area and welcomes anyone. Upcoming travel/cruise opportunities include: BUS TRIP: One World Observatory/September 11th Memorial – Sunday, May 7th; CRUISES: 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 for further information.

Saint Valentine (Italian: *San Valentino*, Latin: *Valentinus*), officially Saint Valentine of Terni, is a widely recognized third-century Roman saint commemorated on February 14 and since the High Middle Ages is associated with a tradition of courtly love.



All that is reliably known of the saint commemorated on February 14 is his name and that he was martyred and buried at a cemetery on the Via Flaminia close to the Ponte Milvio to the north of Rome on that day. It is uncertain whether St. Valentine is to be identified as one saint or the conflation of two saints of the same name. Several different martyrologies have been added to later hagiographies that are unreliable.

Because so little is reliably known of him, in 1969 the Catholic Church removed his name from the General Roman Calendar, leaving his liturgical celebration to local calendars. The Roman Catholic Church continues to recognize him as a saint, listing him as such in the February 14 entry in the Roman Martyrology and authorizing liturgical veneration of him on February 14 in any place where that day is not devoted to some other obligatory celebration in accordance with the rule that on such a day the Mass may be that of any saint listed in the Martyrology for that day. Use of the pre-1970 liturgical calendar is also authorized under the conditions indicated in the motu proprio *Summorum Pontificum* of 2007. Saint Valentine’s Church in Rome, built in 1960 for the needs of the Olympic Village, continues as a modern, well-visited parish church.

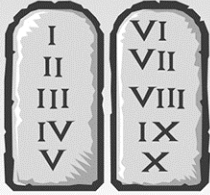
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Gospel Today

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time | Matthew 5:17-37

In the Sermon on the Mount, following the Beatitudes, Jesus reminds us of the ten commandments. Love God and all He created.

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Whoever obeys and teaches these commandments will be called greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven.

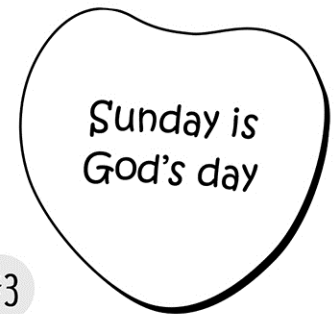
MATTHEW 5:19



#1



#2



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#4



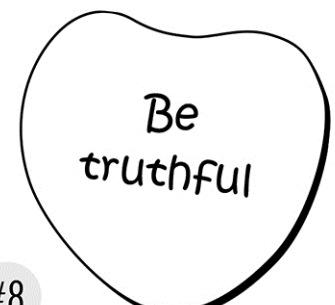
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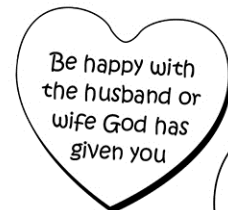
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#9



#10

The Ten Commandments are written on these sweet candy hearts just in time for Valentine's Day! Color the hearts, then cut them out - keep them for yourself or share them with the people you love.