

**TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**AUGUST 20, 2017**

***PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW***

**Stewardship Report – Treasury**  
**WEEKLY COLLECTION**

**WEEKLY/MONTHLY PARISH EVENTS**

<b><u>Budgeted Amount:</u></b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>
<b><u>Sunday Collection – 8/6/17</u></b>	<b>\$2,396.10</b>
<b><u>Parish Pay – 8/6/17 –</u></b>	<b>\$ 461.00</b>
<b><u>Total Collection – 8/6/17</u></b>	<b>\$2,857.10</b>
<b><u>Second Collection (air conditioning) – 8/6/17</u></b>	<b>\$1,226.00</b>
<b><u>Sunday Collection – 8/13/17</u></b>	<b>\$3,261.00</b>
<b><u>Parish Pay (not reported yet)</u></b>	<b>\$</b>

**COFFEE & DONUTS** – There will be no coffee and donuts after the 8:00 Mass during the months of July and August. Coffee and donuts will resume on Sunday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

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

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

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

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**The Sanctuary Lamp is given this week:**  
**In memory of: Ann and Chester Mooney**  
**Given by: Mary Del Monico**

**MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK**

8/21	<b>MON:</b>	9:00a	People of the Parish
8/22	<b>TUES:</b>	9:00a	People of the Parish
8/23	<b>WED:</b>	9:00a	No Mass today
8/24	<b>THU:</b>	9:00a	People of the Parish
8/25	<b>FRI:</b>	9:00a	John Natisin, Sr.
8/26	<b>SAT:</b>	5:00p	Mary Ann Hingel Mildred Broyles Karen LaVecchia
8/27	<b>SUN:</b>	8:00a	Salvatore Dorando Philip Kunz
		10:00a	Richard Olsen Susan McGovern Frank Spano Mary Ann Hingel
		11:45a	Edward Losiewicz Joan Adams

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**The Tricky Tray Committee’s** next meeting will take place on Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 in the rectory meeting room. If anyone wants to help, please join us. Those who wish to donate to the Tricky Tray can start by dropping off items to the Tricky Tray box located in the church hall. Any monetary donations can be given to a member of the Tricky Tray Committee or brought to the rectory. Business donation notifications will be available soon. If anyone knows or works for a business which can donate, please start the process of obtaining the donation as soon as possible. Thank you for your continued support.

- The Tricky Tray Committee

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**There will be a special meeting of Helping Hands on Tuesday, August 22 at 7:30 p.m.** in the Rectory Meeting Room to discuss St. Monica’s upcoming Pig Roast in September. All are invited.

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**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.

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**DAILY READINGS FOR THIS WEEK**

**Sunday** - Is 56:1, 6-7; Rom 11:13-15, 29-32; Mt 15:21-28  
**Monday** - Jgs 2:11-19; Mt 19:16-22  
**Tuesday** - Jgs 6:11-24a; Mt 19:23-30  
**Wednesday** - Jgs 9:6-15; Mt 20:1-16  
**Thursday** - Rv 21:9b-14; Jn 1:45-51  
**Friday** - Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22; Mt 22:34-40  
**Saturday** - Ru 2:1-3, 8-11, 4:13-17; Mt 23:1-12

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

**Email: [stmonica@ptd.net](mailto: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](mailto:stmonica@ptd.net)**

The undated **Special Offering** envelope found in your envelope packet for this month, entitled “**Missionary Co-Operative Plan Collection**”, will be collected during the weekend of August 26/27.

# HAPPY RETIREMENT CAROL BEZAK



***“Well done good and faithful servant” (Luke 19:17)***

*For the past 24 years, Carol Bezak has served as our pastoral associate at Saint Monica’s. She had assisted not only our parishioners, but also strangers who came to our office. My predecessor, Father Charles, is appreciative of the help she offered him during his pastorate. I myself am most grateful for the guidance she had offered me when I first came to Saint Monica’s. Carol’s selfless service is the virtue which Christ calls all of us to possess. We wish Carol all the many blessings which come from above. - Father Jan*

**Please join us for a farewell reception for Carol on Sunday, August 20, at 1:00 in the Church Hall. All are invited.**

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## **TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

### **First Reading: Isaiah 56:1, 6-7**

The Lord wants all people to love and honor his name. He says that those who honor him by obeying all of his laws will be “made joyful in my house of prayer.”

### **Second Reading: Romans 11:13-15, 29-32**

Paul describes his hopes that his fellow Jews will follow the example of the Gentiles he has been preaching to. He claims that just as God has mercy for their disobedience, he wishes to show mercy to the Jews as well.

### **Gospel: Matthew 15:21-28**

A Canaanite woman begged Jesus to help her daughter, who was being plagued by a demon. Jesus at first refused her and said that “My mission is only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” The woman was so persistent that Jesus said she had great faith and then he healed her daughter.

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

**“The foreigners who join themselves to the Lord, ministering to him, loving the name of the Lord and becoming his servants, all who keep the Sabbath free from profanation and hold to my covenant, them I will bring to my holy mountain and make joyful in my house of prayer... for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.”**

In this age of xenophobia, anti-Semitism and racial tensions in the world in which we live, Isaiah summons us to think, ask for forgiveness and discover the Christ in the vulnerable, the hurting, and the poor. Pope Francis calls us to discover the Christ and also reflect the love and compassion of the Lord for others.

The words of scripture and the teaching of the Holy Father, are directed to every catholic, every catholic community of faith. The rich history of Catholicism in the United States reflects growth through the gifts brought by every immigrant group. The gospel of Jesus Christ accompanied those who migrated, bringing rich traditions, deep faith and a desire to build the kingdom of God. May we be the welcoming community of faith, learning from others, supporting them in their need and celebrating our unity in diversity.

**ATTENTION RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND YOUTH MINISTRY FAMILIES!**

**Registration forms for the 2017/2018 school year can be found on the table in the church hall and at the rectory office. All former Rel. Ed & YM students need to re-register for this school year. Any new family who has a child entering First Grade in September and would like their child to partake in our Religious Education Program should contact the rectory office.**

**Should you have any questions, please contact Mary Vernacchio at (973)875-4521 or (973)875-2110 after 6pm.**

**The fees are as follows: 1 child - \$75.00, 2 children - \$110.00 and 3 or more - \$150.00**

**Please complete and return the registration form(s) as soon as possible. Thank you!**

**August 26/27 is Mission Weekend at St. Monica's.**

Rev. John Doai Dang, from the Congregation of the Mission in Vietnam, will be with us to share a message from the Vietnamese Vincentian Fathers and Brothers who minister in more than a dozen dioceses in Vietnam. The missionaries provide direct service to the poor and those living in rural areas by building houses, buying new water containers, providing scholarship for students, seeds for planting, food to the hungry, and assisting with basic needs. They also educate younger missionaries and lay missionaries so that they may continue to serve those in need.

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Catholic Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of the Knock and Footsteps of St. Patrick**

Michael Milano from Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish is leading this pilgrimage. It will take place in Ireland over St. Patrick's Day, March 14-22, 2018. The cost is \$2,499.00 per person including air from Newark. Breakfast and dinner daily. Mass every day. For a flyer or more detailed information, please call Cathie or Michael Milano at 1-800-773-2660.

**HEALING MASS**

The monthly Healing Mass at The National Shrine of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel will take place on Thursday evening, August 31st at 7:00pm.

All are invited to attend. Call Carol Bezak, Director, at 845-343-1879 for information.

**"TERESA & THERESE IN ART AND STORY"**

Award-winning Artist and Author Bro. Mickey McGrath will share his paintings and the stories behind them on Saturday, October 14, 2017 from 9:30 - 3:30pm at The National Shrine of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, 70 Carmelite Drive, Middletown, NY 10940. Brother Mickey's work celebrates the deep connections between art, beauty and religious faith. Cost is \$30pp and includes morning refreshments and lunch. Please make your reservation by October 2nd by calling Carol Bezak, Shrine Director at 845-343-1879.



..... *From the Desk of Fr. Jan*

*Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary* is celebrated by Catholic Church in the liturgical calendar on August 22. On October 11, 1954, Pope Pius XII pronounced the new feast in his encyclical *Ad Caeli Reginam* ("To the Queen of Heaven"). This feast is a logical follow-up to the Assumption and is now celebrated on the octave day of that feast. It has been placed eight days after the Solemnity of the Assumption, in order to emphasize the close bond between Mary's Queenship and her glorification in body and soul next to her Son. The Second Vatican Council's Constitution on the Church states that "Mary was taken up body and soul into heavenly glory, and exalted by the Lord as Queen of the universe, that she might be the more fully conformed to her Son" (*Lumen gentium*, 59).

This teaching of Catholic Church derives from ancient fathers of the Church. Origen (died c. 254) gives Mary the title *domina*, the feminine form of Latin *dominus*, Lord. In the fourth century St. Ephrem called Mary "Lady" and "Queen." That same title also appears in many other early writers, e.g., Jerome, and Peter Chrysologus. The first Mariological definition and basis for the title of *Mary Queen of Heaven* developed at the Council of Ephesus (431 A.D.), where Mary was defined to be the Mother of God (*theotokos*). The Council fathers specifically approved this version against the opinion, that Mary is "only" the mother of Jesus. So with complete justice St. John Damascene could write: "When Mary became Mother of the Creator, she truly became Queen of every creature".

Because Mary is the Mother of God, so God would not allow her body to corrupt in the earth but at the end of her earthly life, she was bodily and spiritually assumed into heaven, and honored there as Queen. According to Catholic doctrine, Mary was assumed into heaven and is with Jesus Christ, her divine Son and is represented as *the woman clothed with the sun and on her head there is a crown of twelve stars* (Book of Revelation 12:1-2). The Church accepts Revelation 12 as a reference to Mary.

Pope Pius XII in his encyclical *Ad Caeli Reginam*, states that Mary is called Queen of Heaven because her son, Jesus Christ, is the king of Israel and heavenly king of the universe; indeed, the Davidic tradition of Israel recognized the mother of the king as the Queen Mother of Israel. Pius XII also points out that Mary deserves the title because she is Mother of God, because she is closely associated as the New Eve with Jesus' redemptive work, because of her preeminent perfection and because of her intercessory power. *Ad Caeli Reginam* states that the main principle on which the royal dignity of Mary rests is her Divine Motherhood.

The Catholic faith states, as a dogma, that Mary is assumed into heaven and is with Jesus Christ, her divine son. Mary should be called Queen, not only because of her Divine Motherhood of Jesus Christ, but also because God has willed her to have an exceptional role in the work of eternal salvation. Mary was chosen Mother of Christ so she might help fulfill God's plan in the redemption of humankind. This veneration of Mary as the Queen of heaven and our great intercessor comes from the earliest times of the Church and Pius XII describes it in his encyclical in this way:

*"From the earliest ages of the Catholic Church a Christian people, whether in time of triumph or more especially in time of crisis, has addressed prayers of petition and hymns of praise and veneration to the **Queen of Heaven** and never has that hope wavered which they placed in the Mother of the Divine King, Jesus Christ; nor has that faith ever failed by which we are taught that Mary, the Virgin Mother of God, reigns with a mother's solicitude over the entire world, just as she is crowned in heavenly blessedness with the glory of a Queen."*