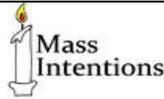


The Lord upholds my life.

September 23, 2018

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Saturday, September 22

5:30 pm For Eva Calestini Bates by Nyman Family

Sunday, September 23

9:00 am For Sarah Freholt

11:00 am For Paul Minetti by Woelfel Family

Monday, September 24

8:45 am For

Tuesday, September 25

8:45 am For

Wednesday, September 26

8:45 am For

Thursday, September 27

8:45 am For

Saturday, September 29

5:30 pm For Edward Masterson by Mike & Kim Tedesco

Sunday, September 30

9:00 am For Dorothy Barnoski by Dave Donlon

11:00 am For Colin O'Connor by Reilly Family

**REMEMBRANCE MEMORIALS
FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER**

Altar Breads & Wine: In loving memory of Aeneas and Genevieve Corry by Corry/Benardone family

Sanctuary Lamp: In loving memory of Vito and Marie Benardone by Corry/Benardone family

Mass Candles:

**MINISTRY SCHEDULE
September 29, 30, 2018**

Saturday, 5:30 pm

Celebrant: Fr. Slawomir Tomaszewski

Lector: Joanne Lee

Eucharistic Ministers: Mike and Nancy Lennon, Barbara Burke

Altar Servers: Shane & Shaeleigh Fleidner-Book

Sunday, 9:00 am

Celebrant: Fr. Slawomir Tomaszewski

Lector: Kevin O'Shea

Eucharistic Ministers: Carmen Veras

Altar Servers: Help Needed

11:00 am

Celebrant: Fr. Slawomir Tomaszewski

Lector: Dina Carmelengo, David Escudero

Eucharistic Ministers: Eileen Labue, Diane Herzog, Lorraine Fleming

Altar Server: Giuliana Rolli, Maura O'Shea

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

Monday, September 24

8:45 am Mass

4:30- 5:45 pm CEC Grades K-5

7:30 pm Boy Scout Meeting

Tuesday, September 25

8:45 am Mass

6:15-7:30 pm Family Faith Formation Class

7:45 pm Finance Meeting

8:00 pm K of C Meeting

Wednesday, September 26

8:45 am Mass

7:00-9:00 pm Peer Ministry Meeting

Thursday, September 27

8:45 am Mass

Friday, September 28

Parish Office Closed

Saturday, September 29

8:00 am Men's Bible Study

5:30 pm Mass

Sunday, September 30

Senior Youth Ministry- Grade 9 9:30 am –end of 11 am mass

Senior Youth Ministry: Grade 10 Attends 11 am mass-1:30 pm

9:00, 11:00 am Mass

1:30 pm Blessing of the Animals

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Current Year	Last Year 2017
September 16, 2018: \$2,700 Extended Catholic Obligation: \$411.75	September 17, 2017: \$2,150 Extended Catholic Obligation: \$755
Supermarket Gift Cards: September 16, 2018 Sales: \$2,275 Profit: \$113.75 YTD Profit: \$4,588.75 # of families: 11	St. Mark's Faith Direct Church Code is NJ484

FAITH DIRECT...

With the arrival of autumn, I'd like to invite you to join Faith Direct, our parish's electronic giving program. Our to-do lists can get lengthy during this season, but Faith Direct's eGiving program will give you one less thing to remember each week—no more envelopes to find before you go to Mass. Visit www.faithdirect.net and use our church code: NJ484. Thank you for your continued support. God Bless You, Fr. Marcia

BACK TO SCHOOL REMINDER...

Every morning, you undoubtedly remember that your children need a good breakfast before going off to school.

But do you also remember that *all* children need a good breakfast before going off to school? What can *you* do about that? One way to help (and it's probably easier than making breakfast for your own kids) is to donate breakfast foods to the Long Valley Food Pantry. Some suggestions are hot or cold cereals, pancake mix, syrup, juices, pop tarts, etc. Of course lunch and dinner are also important, so anything you can donate will be put to good use. The children thank you!

My dear parishioners,

In the liturgy of the Church we celebrate 25th Sunday in the Ordinary Time today. In today's Gospel Jesus says:

**"If anyone wishes to be first,
he shall be the last of all and the servant of all."**

Whose glory do you seek? There can be no share in God's glory without the cross. When Jesus prophesied his own betrayal and crucifixion, it did not make any sense to his disciples because it did not fit their understanding of what the Messiah came to do. And they were afraid to ask further questions! Like a person who might receive a bad verdict from the doctor and then refuse to ask further questions, they, too, didn't want to know any more. How often do we reject what we do not wish to see? We have heard the good news of God's word and we know the consequences of accepting it or rejecting it. But do we give it our full allegiance and mold our lives according to it? Ask the Lord to fill you with his Holy Spirit and to inspire within you a reverence for his word and a readiness to obey it.

Do you compare yourself with others?

How ashamed the disciples must have been when Jesus overheard them arguing about who among them was the greatest! But aren't we like the disciples? We compare ourselves with others and desire their praise. The appetite for glory and greatness seems to be inbred in us. Who doesn't cherish the ambition to be "somebody" whom others admire rather than a "nobody"?

Jesus made a dramatic gesture by embracing a child to show his disciples who really is the greatest in the kingdom of God. What can a little child possibly teach us about greatness? Children in the ancient world had no rights, position, or privileges of their own. They were socially at the "bottom of the rung" and at the service of their parents, much like the household staff and domestic servants.

Who is the greatest in God's kingdom?

What is the significance of Jesus' gesture? Jesus elevated a little child in the presence of his disciples by placing the child in a privileged position of honor. It is customary, even today, to seat the guest of honor at the right side of the host. Who is the greatest in God's kingdom? The one who is humble and lowly of heart - who instead of asserting their rights willingly empty themselves of pride and self-seeking glory by taking the lowly position of a servant or child.

Jesus, himself, is our model. He came not to be served, but to serve. Paul the Apostle states that Jesus emptied himself and took the form of a servant. Jesus lowered himself and took on our lowly nature that he might raise us up and clothe us in his divine nature.

God wants to fill us with his own glory?

God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble. If we want to be filled with God's life and power, then we need to empty ourselves of everything which stands in the way - pride, self-seeking glory, vanity, etc. God wants empty vessels so he can fill them with his own glory, power, and love.

Are we ready to humble ourselves and to serve as Jesus did?

What is our attitude to others? Do we always consider others worth approaching? We should treat other people with kindness, compassion, and consideration.

"Lord Jesus, by your cross you have redeemed the world and revealed your glory and triumph over sin and death. May I never fail to see your glory and victory in the cross. Help me to

conform my life to your will and to follow in your way of holiness."

St. Mark's pray for us...

Our Lady of the Mountain pray for us...

Thank you for all you do for our parish!!! God bless you!!!

Fr. Marcin

FROM FR. SLAWOMIR...

St. Jerome – September 30

Monk and Doctor of the Church (331 – 420)

St. Jerome was one of the great scholars of the Christian Church. Learning indeed, was first passion, as later it would be his path to sanctity. In his youth he cared far more for classical poetry than he did for the vulgar Greek of the Gospels. However after a powerful dream in which God accused him of being more Ciceronian than Christian, he resolved to make a break with the world and devote himself strictly to God's books. He retreated to the wilderness and with the aid of a rabbi undertook the study of Hebrew. With this knowledge, along with his mastery of Greek, he undertook to translate the entire Bible into Latin, the common language of the time. It was an overwhelming project, which occupied most of his life. Disgusted with the luxury of Rome, and the enemies he had incurred through his sarcastic tongue, Jerome embarked for the Holy Land, where he established a monastery in Bethlehem and free hospice for pilgrims (so that it might never again be said that the Mother of God had to sleep in a stable). For himself he preferred to live in a cave, in which he continued his work of translation and engaged in theological disputation until his death in 420.

His great work, the Vulgate Bible, was the official text of the Church for over 1,500 years.

"Ignorance of scripture is ignorance of Christ"

- St. Jerome

FROM FR. JAVIER...

TEACHING FROM THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH - THE SACRAMENTS OF THE CHURCH

The Sacrament of Confirmation

Who can Receive This Sacrament?

My dear brothers and sisters, every baptized person not yet confirmed can and should receive the sacrament of Confirmation. Since Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist form a unity, it follows *that "the faithful are obliged to receive this sacrament at the appropriate time,"* for without Confirmation and Eucharist, Baptism is certainly valid and efficacious, but Christian initiation remains incomplete.

The Latin tradition gives *"the age of discretion"* as the reference point for receiving Confirmation. But in danger of death children should be confirmed even if they have not yet attained the age of discretion.

Although Confirmation is sometimes called the "sacrament of Christian maturity," we must not confuse adult faith with the adult age of natural growth, nor forget that the baptismal grace is a grace of free, unmerited election and does not need "ratification" to become effective. St. Thomas reminds us of this:

Age of body does not determine age of soul. Even in childhood man can attain spiritual maturity: as the book of Wisdom says: "For old age is not honored for length of time, or measured by number of years. "Many children, through the strength of the Holy Spirit they have received, have bravely fought for Christ even to the shedding of their blood.

God bless you.

CALLING ALL CHILDREN GRADES 3 AND UP? LEARN ABOUT OUR ALTAR SERVER MINISTRY...

Are you interested in serving at St. Mark's? Want to know more? Please join us for an informational meeting/luncheon on Sunday, October 7 following the 11 am Mass. All children grades 3 and up, including current servers, and their parents are invited to learn more about this very important ministry. Many children find it a wonderful way to participate fully in our liturgies and deepen their faith. Pizza and ice cream will be served. Please sign up in the gathering space so that food can be planned accordingly. If you have any questions, please see Fr. Marcin or Melissa Heike or call the parish office.

POSITION AVAILABLE AT ST. MARKS...

Custodian/Maintenance Person...

Perform custodial duties and minor repairs. Sanitation control and checks safety hazards. Set-up/break down for CEC classes. Approximately 10 hours per week. If interested please contact Fr. Marcin or the parish office.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS...

If you are interested in becoming a Catholic or know of anyone interested in becoming Catholic, please contact Our Lady of The Mountain parish office 876-4395. RCIA is open to all unbaptized adults who are interested in preparing for Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. It is also open to baptized Christians, Catholic and non-Catholic who have not received the sacraments of Eucharist and/or Confirmation.

NEW EYES FOR THE NEEDY...

The Knights of Columbus will be having an eyeglass recycling container in St. Mark's gathering space concluding Sept. 30th. Please donate your unwanted eyeglasses which will go to the needy and be sincerely appreciated.

SILVER AND GOLD WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

Couples, were you married in 1968 or 1993? The Diocese of Paterson invites you to celebrate your 25th or 50th wedding anniversary during a special Mass to be offered at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Paterson, NJ. Bishop Serratelli will serve as main celebrant **Sunday, November 4, 2018 at 3:30pm**. Arrangements can be made by contacting the parish office. **The deadline to register is Monday, October 15.** *Congratulations on this joyous occasion!*

Community News

ADULT FAITH FORMATION COMMITTEE INVITES YOU TO JOIN THE CONVERSATION AT ASSUMPTION PARISH IN HACKETTSTOWN...

Every Monday at the parish hall from 7-8:30 PM to discuss spiritual life. . We will be watching and discussing a video "The Fulfillment of all Desire, a guidebook for the Journey to God based on the Wisdom of the Saints" by Ralph Martin.

ATTENTION 6TH GRADE BOYS...

Long Valley Hawkeyes a professional Basketball Team with focus on kids and their proper basketball and character development. We play very competitive AAU tournaments. Practice sessions in LV Middle School Mon. @ 6pm (main gym) & Thurs. at 6 pm (cafeteria gym) For information contact Armand Czapkowski 917-304-6728, email armandczny@gmail.com

VILLA PAULINE RETREAT AND SPIRITUAL CENTER...

350 Bernardsville Rd., Mendham, NJ is sponsoring two upcoming programs: **SLIP SLIDING AWAY**-As we journey through life sometimes our spiritual energy wanes. Come for a day of reflecting and listening. Presenter: Judith Schiavo. October 13/\$40; and **SPIRITUAL SPA DAY**-Learn how to truly nurture your own soul and body as you tend to our responsibilities of caring for our world through work, family, and relationships. Presenter: Chris Koellhoffer, IHM. November 10/\$45. Both programs run from 10 AM-3 PM and include lunch.

WOMEN'S CANCER SURVIVOR PRAYER GROUP-Meets every 2nd Tuesday beginning October 2018. Facilitator: Sr. Marie Pauline Demek begins October 9,2018 from 9:30 -11:30 AM Free Will Offering; and **ENJOYING LIFE WITH THE "COMMUNION OF SAINTS"**-Come and hear where we fit in with the "communion of saints", the "cloud of witnesses" that surrounds us! Presenter: Sr. Marie Pauline Demek. October 30/\$20 from 10 AM-Noon.



All- powerful and ever-living God the lasting health of all who believe in you, hear us as we ask your loving help for the sick; restore their health, that they may again offer joyful thanks in your church.

Randi Alloway, Richard Alvarez, Tony Atkins, Kenneth Bernisky, Paul Buckley, John Callaghan, Emily Condit, Naalia Danilczuk, Jerry Devine, Krish Dharia, Catherine DiPasquale, Neil Donohue, Elizabeth, Connie Elliott, Larry Fine, Tracey F, Elaina Grace Gaffin, Ann Geary, Jerry Green, Barbara Gotterdam, David Guemond, Louie Gutierrez, Helen Greenly, Harper Lynn Granito, Regina Hague, William Heimsly, Bob Hodiern, Maria Dougherty Jante, Donna Jennings, Laurel Jilek, Joey, Jim Karpinski, Dana Karpinski, John, Kevin Kay, Russell H. Keller, Mary Koenig, Jean Koenig, Rocky Labato, Mara Lak, Christina Lanaris, Maryann Litori, Anthony Marino, Norman Milz, Marie Molloy, Madelyn Maruggi, Raymond McCarthy Jr, Jonathon McClelland, Harold & Mary McKay, Edward Michonski Sr., Kathy Minichini, Faith Morelli, Robert Neilson, Sr., Maryanne & Jack Newell, Girard Nolte, Jr., Marilyn O'Connor, Josh Olsen, Jim Owens, Arlene Parikh, Nicky Pilosi, Laurie Pitcock, Clifford Reynolds, Jim Robinson, Ryan, Jillian Elizabeth Sayer, Donald Schmitt, Jeff Schpiner, Ann Senftinger, Bill Siegrist, Rhonda Soto, Special Intention, Judy Stone, Cindy Sullivan, William Thompson, Mary Travisano, Debbie Trepkau,, Patricia Villano, Anne Walsh

