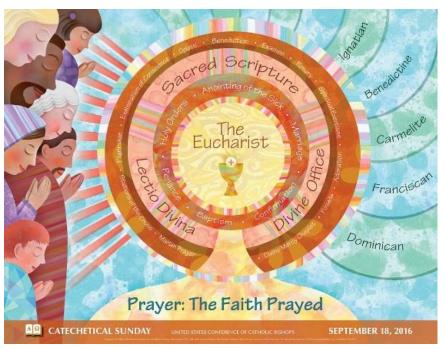
THANK YOU

to our Volunteer Catechists and helpers!



Last Sunday, we began our first week of the 2016-2017 Catechetical year here at St Mary Parish for the children and their parents, with the Commissioning and Blessing of our Catechists, Coordinators, and Peer Witnesses. Parents of the children also received a blessing as they are the first Catechists and Evangelizers of their families in sharing the Word of the Lord in their homes and instilling and sharing their Catholic faith as a family!

The **Year of Mercy** established by Pope Francis from December 8, 2015 to November 20, 2016 has called us to love, kindness, and unbounded generosity. Pope Francis is inviting us 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.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has designated this Catechetical year, "Prayer: the Faith Prayed." All the baptized are invited to devote themselves to a deeper study and practice of prayer, for their own spiritual good and for the good of those we serve. Part Four of the Catechism of the Catholic Church provides an excellent overview of prayer. Another very helpful resource can be found in chapters 35 and 36 of the United States Catholic Catechism for Adults (USCCA). The Catechism often refers to what the saints have said about prayer. For example, St. Thérèse of Lisieux, for whom "…prayer is a surge of the heart; it is a simple look turned toward heaven, it is a cry of recognition and of love, embracing both trial and joy." Or St. Francis de Sales, who says that "every one of us needs half an hour of prayer each day except when we're busy —then we need an hour." (USCCB)

We take the opportunity to THANK all our volunteers who give of their time, talent and gifts of the Holy Spirit to gather and share our Catholic faith as disciples of the Lord.

Catechists

Matt Chojnacki Freddy Quinchia Maria Raduazzo Ann Margaret Archer Ruth van den Nieuwenhuizen **Bill Bellion** Sarah Sorgie Kaitlyn Vezos **Christine Cherico** Colleen Fallon Trish Gracia Kathleen Harris Kelly Burgoon Kerri Ungaro Kirsten Salley Susan Vezos Pam Jones Peter Bonfiglio **Bruce Ranck** Donna Flayhan

Mary Ann Furfaro Colleen Glavin-Beiner Susan Price

Witold Ortonowski

Mary Morrisroe

Bernard Nneji Anissa DeMatteo Ruth Coyman Brenda Chapman Deborah Haughney

Laura Beyrer Lisa DeNoia Andrea Filgueira Dina Chelednik **Christine Anderson** Fran Walton

David Johnston Kristen Hoban Joe Scharr Kevin Burke Michael Donnelly Steve Fugazy Vickie Williams Peter White Jeanette Campo Molly Cropsey Sue Fernandez **Brian Kelley** Kim Carone

Dina Rutig **Catherine Desmarais** Debra Lehaney Grace Ann McGrath Virginia Merold **Thomas Pesce** Danielle Constantine

Brian Kelly Candace Plechavicius Laura Donnelly Scott Ventrella Sean Fallon

Richard Hanel Meaghan Luhman Nicole Sherry Jacqueline Just Patrick Coakley Andrius Dapkus Lisa DelGiudice Ada Vargas Gabby Alindogan Susan Surette

Sylvanna Serravezza Kathleen Nevin Nicole Genna Vince Boscia Kristie Donovan Lisa Sacchi Sharon D'Orso Bill Whelan Sherry Anandappa Ralph Giordano

Betsy Afragola Stephen Masi Marie Niki Laura White

Coordinators

Chris Molyneaux

Michelle Giorno

Elizabeth Gmelin

Josephine Bove Ralph Giordano Colleen Suozzi

Nancy Cofone Jacqueline Just Kerri Ungaro

Catherine Desmarais **Brian Martin**

Colleen Fallon **Bruce Ranck**

Annabel Briody

Kristen Savino

Peer Witnesses

Natalie Whitton Lucy Briody Caroline Boyle Schyler van den Nieuwenhuizen Anna Fernandez Ryan Lescinkas Allie Gonley Sophia Carnicelli Megan Weis **Emma Hawkes** Elizabeth Sacchi

Sara Furfaro Ryan Pratt Allison Catizone Kylie Walsh Sydney D'Orso Julia Sorgie Julia Wilson Elizabeth Spahn Kyra McGoey

Charlie DeMatteo

Nicole Alindogan **Emily Furfaro** Aras Dapkus Michael DelGiudice Carol Livolsi **Dylan Desmarais** Amanda Castellucio Sophia Smith

Elena Dapkus **Gunner Thuss** Lauren Alvern Caroline Lanzarone Lily Carnicelli Andrew Dec Amina Flayhan Fiona Kerrigan Georgia Mraz Christopher Sacchi