

JMJ

Dear Parishioners,

Since Monday is Reconciliation Monday throughout the Archdiocese. Here is an examination of conscience. The Church will be open from 4pm to 8pm, the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed and Father Csete or I will be in the Confessionals.

**The Ten Commandments**

**First Commandment:** Refused to accept what God has revealed as true, or what the Catholic Church proposes for belief? Denied the existence of God? Nourished and protected my faith? Rejected everything opposed to a sound faith? Deliberately misled others about doctrine or the faith? Rejected the Catholic faith, joined another Christian denomination, or joined or practiced another religion? Joined a group forbidden to Catholics (Masons, communists, etc.)? Despaired about my salvation or the forgiveness of my sins? Presumed on God's mercy? (Committing a sin in expectation of forgiveness, or asking for forgiveness without conversion and practicing virtue.) Loved someone or something more than God (money, power, sex, ambition, etc.)? Engaged in superstitious practices? (Incl. horoscopes, fortune tellers, etc.)

Been involved in the occult? (Seances, ouija board, worship of Satan, etc.) Hidden a serious sin or told a lie in confession?

**Second Commandment:** Used the name of God in cursing or blasphemy? Failed to keep vows or promises that I have made to God? Spoken about the Faith, the Church, the saints, or sacred things with irreverence, hatred or defiance? Used vulgar, suggestive or obscene speech? Belittled others in my speech? Behaved disrespectfully in Church? Blamed God for my failings?

**Third Commandment:** Set time aside each day for personal prayer to God? Missed Mass on Sunday or Holy Days (through own fault w/o sufficient reason)? Committed a sacrilege against the Blessed Sacrament? Received a sacrament while in the state of mortal sin? Habitually come late to and/or leave early from Mass without a good reason? Shop, labor, or do business unnecessarily on Sunday or other Holy Days of Obligation? Not attend to taking my children to Mass? Knowingly eat meat on a forbidden day (or not fasting on a fast day)? Eat or drink within one hour of receiving Communion (other than medical need)?

**Fourth Commandment:** (If still under my parents' care) Obeyed all that my parents reasonably asked of me? Neglected the needs of my parents in their old age or in their time of need? (If still in school) Obeyed the reasonable demands of my teachers? Neglected to give my children proper food, clothing, shelter, education, discipline and care (even after Confirmation)? Provided for the religious education and formation of my children for as long as they are under my care? Ensured that my children still under my care regularly frequent the sacraments of Penance and Holy Communion?

Educated my children in a way that corresponds to my religious convictions? Provided my children with a positive, prudent and personalized education in the Catholic teaching on human sexuality? Been to my children a good example of how to live the Catholic Faith? Prayed with and for my children?

Lived in humble obedience to those who legitimately exercise authority over me? Have I broken the law? Have I supported or voted for a politician whose positions are opposed to the teachings of Christ and the Catholic Church?

**Fifth Commandment:** Unjustly and intentionally killed a human being? Been involved in an abortion, directly or indirectly (through advice, etc.)?

Seriously considered or attempted suicide? Supported, promoted or encouraged the practice of assisted suicide or mercy killing? Deliberately desired to kill an innocent human being? Unjustly inflicted bodily harm another person? Unjustly threatened another person with bodily harm? Verbally or emotionally abused another person? Hated another person, or wished them evil? Been prejudiced, or unjustly discriminated against others because of their race, color, nationality, sex or religion? Joined a hate group? Purposely provoked another by teasing or nagging? Recklessly endangered my life or health, or that of another, by my actions? Driven recklessly or under the influence of alcohol or other drugs? Abused alcohol or other drugs? Sold or given drugs to others to use for non-therapeutic purposes? Over-eaten? Encouraged others to sin by giving scandal? Refused to control my temper? Delighted to see someone else get hurt or suffer? Treated animals cruelly, causing them to suffer or die needlessly?

**Sixth & Ninth Commandments:** Practiced the virtue of chastity? Used an artificial means of birth control? Participated in immoral techniques for in vitro fertilization or artificial insemination? Sterilized my sex organs for contraceptive purposes? Deprived my spouse of the marital right, without just cause? Claimed my own marital right without concern for my spouse? Willfully entertained impure thoughts? Purchased, viewed, or made use of pornography? Committed adultery? (Sexual relations with someone who is married, or with someone other than my spouse.) Committed fornication? (Sexual relations with someone of the opposite sex when neither of us is married.) Engaged in homosexual activity? (Sexual activity with someone of the same sex.) Masturbated? (Deliberate stimulation of one's own sexual organs for sexual pleasure.) Engaged in prostitution, or paid for the services of a prostitute? Seduced someone, or allowed myself to be seduced? Made uninvited and unwelcome sexual advances toward another? Purposely dressed immodestly?

**Seventh & Tenth Commandments:** Stolen? (Take something that doesn't belong to me against the reasonable will of the owner.) Envied others on account of their possessions? Tried to live in a spirit of Gospel poverty and simplicity? Given generously to others in need? Considered that God has provided me with money so that I might use it to benefit others, as well as for my own legitimate needs? Deliberately defaced, destroyed or lost another's property? Cheated on a test, taxes, sports, games, or in business? Squandered money in compulsive gambling? Make a false claim to an insurance company? Paid my employees a living wage, or failed to give a full day's work for a full day's pay? Failed to honor my part of a contract? Failed to make good on a debt? Overcharge someone, especially to take advantage of another's hardship or ignorance?

**Eighth Commandment:** Lied? Gossiped? Committed detraction? (Destroying a person's reputation by telling others about his faults for no good reason.) Committed slander or calumny? (Telling lies about another person in order to destroy his reputation.) Committed libel? (Writing lies about another person in order to destroy his reputation.) Been guilty of rash judgment? (Assuming the worst of another person based on circumstantial evidence.) Failed to make reparation for a lie I told, or for harm done to a person's reputation? Betrayed another's confidence through speech?

**The Precepts of the Church**

**First Precept of the Church:** *You shall attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation.*

**Second Precept of the Church:** *You shall confess your sins at least once a year.*

Purposely omitted telling my mortal sins in my last Confession? Performed the penance I was given? Made reparation for any harm I have done to others?

**Third Precept of the Church:** *You shall humbly receive your Creator in Holy Communion at least during the Easter season.*

Received Holy Communion while in the state of mortal sin? Fasted an hour before receiving Holy Communion?

**Fourth Precept of the Church:** *You shall keep holy the Holy days of Obligation.*

**Fifth Precept of the Church:** *You shall observe the prescribed days of fasting and abstinence.*

Done penance every Friday, if not abstaining from meat, then some other form of penance? Abstained from meat on Ash Wednesday and the Fridays of Lent (if I am 14 years of age or older)? Fasted on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday (if I am between the ages of 18 and 59)? Spent time in prayer, doing spiritual and corporal works of mercy, and practicing self-denial?

**Sixth Precept of the Church:** *You shall contribute to the support of the Church.*

Contributed a just amount of my time, talents and money to support my parish and the work of the Church?

**Seventh Precept of the Church:** *You shall observe the laws of the Church concerning marriage.* Been living in a valid and licit marriage according to the laws of the Catholic Church? Abandoned my spouse and family by separation or divorce? Kept company with someone whom I cannot marry in the Catholic Church? This detailed Catholic examination of conscience should help you reflect on how you are responding to the demands made by the love of God.

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
 Father Newcomb

In the spirit of Christmas, we are continuing our tradition of a “**GIVING TREE.**” A donation of \$10 or more would be greatly appreciated; every \$50 will sponsor one child. Doves are on the Christmas tree in the narthex for your convenience. They may be returned in the attached envelope, in the collection basket or at the parish office, by Monday, December 17. Checks may be made payable to St. Mary’s. Thank you for your support!



We will be collecting hams and turkeys on Monday, December 17th from 4pm to 6pm.



There will not be religious instruction the weekend of December 23rd and December 30th.

The search begins for the longest married couple in the Archdiocese of New York. To enter couples must be sacramentally married for a minimum of 65 years and reside in the Archdiocese of New York.

To register, please call the parish office. The deadline is Thursday, January 24, 2019.

We will once again have a bus to Washington, DC for the March for Life on Friday, January 18, 2019. Pilgrim Mass will be celebrated at 10:30am by Cardinal Dolan.

Donations to defray the cost of the bus would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Nancy Smith to sign-up or any questions 856-4610.

Take advantage of access to **Formed** for another year! You can create your own account **FREE** of charge at: [www. Formed.org](http://www.Formed.org) and use our parish access code **WXXVJT** to gain access to multiple programs, movies, ebooks, and audios.

**Save the Date!** Join us on Sunday, February 10<sup>th</sup> from 1pm to 4pm to celebrate family. There will be crafts, games, and ice cream! **ALL FREE!** Please contact Rose at 845-856-8602 or Gina at 917-733-4307 if you plan on attending **BEFORE** January 28<sup>th</sup>. Sponsored by the Catholic Daughters Ct # 114

## ANNOUNCED MASSES

- Monday, December 17**  
9:00am Deceased members of the Costescu and Nuestro families, by Nenita Costescu
- Tuesday, December 18**  
9:00am Theresa Kavanagh, by Steve and Rosemarie Babey
- Wednesday, December 19**  
9:00am Theresa Kavanagh, by Eleanor Brady  
Intentions of Contessa Ciuffreda, by Paul Brislin
- Thursday, December 20**  
9:00am Gladys Kesterson, by Dr. Jane Brooks
- Saturday, December 22**  
4:00pm Heinrich Haering, by Hannelore Kucher
- Sunday, December 23**  
8:30am The parishioners of St. Mary’s  
11:30am Helen Costic, by Cheryl Lovelace



*The Sanctuary Lamp will burn brightly this week in memory of Carol Conroy, by Catherine Westfall.*

**Please Pray For the Sick:** Angela Portella, Joann Wilcox, Walter Szpakowicz, Elizabeth Brennan, Michael Medaglia, Jackie Mundy, Barbara Straub, Tress Loughrey, Sal Careri, Elizabeth Startup Jones, Louis Harford, William Lincoln, Jeanine Lincoln, Michael Barnes, Donald Wolff, Ramonita Irizarry, Debi Cotugno, Theresa Fuller, Maureen Hildebrandt, Charles Hildebrandt, Aedan Roach, James Roach, Robin Radzikowski, Helen Andreano, Tito Rivera, Neil Stasilli, Josefina Rodriguez, Joseph Hinkley, Toni Sorrentino, Frances Brennan, Andrea Fedoruk, Susan Upton, Chris Marion III, Loretta Olenick, Layla Grace Foster, Roderick T. Esling, James Lincoln, Danielle Devore, Wayne DeMarco, Marge O’Connor, Mindy Walsh, Arieal Walsh, Raquel Maldonado, Tyrell Davis, Eppie Harford, Christine Nowak, Jesivel Abreu, Stacie Holman, Cody Bain, Robert Cinerar, Dominic Loffredo, and Steven Gaesser.



Little Lambs will have their annual Christmas pageant on Friday, December 21st at 10am in the Most Sacred Heart Hall.

The collection for December 8th/9th was \$5,205. Thank you for your continued generosity.

### Liturgical Ministers for December 22nd/23rd, 2018.

MASS	LECTOR	MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	ALTAR SERVERS
4:00PM	J. SMITH	K. BOBISH, H. ECKES	M. FEDRIZZI, J. MARCONE
8:30AM	M. LATINI	S. RIORDAN, J. SNELLINGER, J. TAYLOR	T. LAMOREAUX, K. CASE
11:30AM	H. MARINARO	B. DENNINGTON, T. MARION	S. BHIKARRY, J. ENNIS, A. EPPS