

PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW
Stewardship Report – Treasure
WEEKLY COLLECTION

Budgeted Amount: \$5,000.00
Online Giving – 7/29/18 \$ 506.00
Sunday Collection – 8/5/18 \$2,973.00
Second Collection (Maintenance) – 8/5/18 \$1,532.00

The Sanctuary Lamp is given this week:
In Memory of: Robert Drew
Given by: John and Alice Stebal

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

8/13 MON: 9:00a NO MASS TODAY
 8/14 TUES: 9:00a People of our Parish
 8/15 WED: 9:00a Jerry Bond
 7:30p People of our Parish
 8/16 THU: 9:00a People of our Parish
 8/17 FRI: 9:00a People of the Parish
 8/18 SAT: 5:00p Eleanor Remo
 Anthony Remo
 Julia Ricciardi
 John Ricciardi
 8/19 SUN: 8:30a Florence M. Swiss
 Special Intention for a Special Soul
 10:30a Austin Randall
 Rita & Edwin Puzio
 Maria Pawlica & Family (LIV)

ST. MONICA'S CHURCH – Contact information
Phone: 973-875-4521 Fax: 973-875-7538
Parish Office Hours: 9:30am – 1:30pm Mon., Tues, Thurs. and Fri.
THE PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED ON WEDNESDAYS.
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.

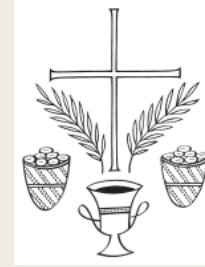
SUMMER MASS SCHEDULE
SATURDAY: 5:00 P.M.
SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. AND 10:30 A.M.
REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE WILL RESUME ON THE WEEKEND OF SEPTEMBER 8/9.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15th IS THE FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY AND IS A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION. MASSES ARE AT 9:00 AM AND 7:30 PM.

PARISH REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Are you new to our parish? If so, welcome! Do you wish to register? If you are attending Mass and using our blue “blank” visitor envelopes and wish to receive our weekly envelopes in the mail, please register with us. If you wish to become a registered member and placed on our parish mailing list, there are blank registration forms on the table near the Church Hall exit. Please fill it out and give it to Fr. Jan after Mass, or either drop it in the collection basket or visit the rectory during the week between the hours of 9:30am and 1:30pm.

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
AUGUST 12, 2018



At this time of year, we may grow weary from the heat of summer, eager for any respite from our discomfort. Like Elijah despairing in the desert in the first reading, we become thirsty and hungry. We need food and drink to sustain us. Gathering this Sunday around the table of the Lord, we find sustenance from the One who reveals himself in today's Gospel.

WEEKLY/MONTHLY PARISH EVENTS

COFFEE & DONUTS – will resume in September.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION – Thursdays at 6:00pm in the Rectory Meeting Room. Weekly reading/reflection of the Sunday Scriptures – fellowship time & refreshments follow.

ST. MONICA'S LEISURE GROUP – The next meeting will be on **Wednesday, September 5th at 12:00 noon** in the Church Hall. Annual dues are \$10.00. For more information, please call Grace or Mike Casalino at 973-702-8569.

TRICKY TRAY COMMITTEE will meet in the rectory meeting room on **Sunday, August 19th, after the 10:30 am Mass**. All are welcome. The Tricky Tray is our biggest fundraiser and many hands make light work.

HELPING HANDS meets the second Tuesday of each month in the Rectory Meeting Room at 7:30 p.m. New members are always welcome! There is no meeting in July.
The next meeting is Tuesday, August 14th.

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.



BARBEQUE!!!!

Please join us for a St. Monica Feast Day

Celebration BBQ on Sunday, August 26th, from 2-5 pm, here in the Church Hall. Hamburgers (\$2) and hot dogs (\$1) will be available for purchase. Water, iced tea, condiments, plastic ware, and paper products will be provided. Please sign-up in the Church Hall and indicate the type of side dish, salad, or dessert you can bring to share. It's sure to be a fun afternoon to be enjoyed by all! Questions? Call Marianne at 973-271-9520.



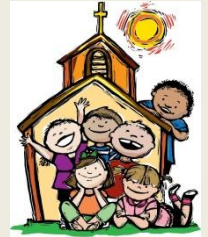
HAPPY RETIREMENT

MARIE FISCHER!

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

For the past many years, Marie Fischer has served as a parish secretary at St. Monica's. She has assisted not only our parishioners, but also strangers who came to our office. My predecessor, Father Charles, was appreciative of the help she offered him during his pastorate. I, myself, am very grateful for the help and support she had offered me while working in St. Monica's. Marie's selfless service is the virtue which Christ calls all of us to possess. We wish Marie all the many blessings which come from above.

Fr. Jan



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

REGISTRATION FOR 2018/2019

Registration forms for the upcoming school year are now available on the table in the Church Hall or can be picked up at the rectory office. This is for Religious Education AND Youth Ministry.

If anyone has a child entering first grade in September and wishes that they be a part of our program, please contact Mary Vernacchio at 973-875-2110.

Please return the completed form as soon as possible with the appropriate fee. The fees are: \$75.00 for one child, \$110.00 for two children, and \$150.00 for three or more.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to call. Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.

BECOME A HOSPICE VOLUNTEER

Six Classes will be offered in September and October from 10 am to Noon on September 21, 26, 28 – October 2, 5, with Graduation on October 10. Classes will take place at:

Joseph T. Quinlan Bereavement Center
5 Plains Road, Augusta, NJ 07822.

The Hospice Volunteer Training Course is free of charge. Upon completion, participants are Certified Hospice Volunteers.

Become a pivotal member of our Care Team!

For information and required registration:
Call Sue Dougherty, Volunteer Coordinator
973-383-0115 or 800-882-1117

sdougherty@karenquinlanhospice.org.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS ABOUT THIS PROGRAM,
PLEASE SEE THE FLYER ON THE BULLETIN BOARDS
AT THE CHURCH EXITS.

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: I Kings 19:4-8

Queen Jezebel had vowed to kill Elijah, who went into the desert and prayed for death. Instead he went to sleep and was awakened by an angel, who told him to eat the food God had given him. He ate and went back to sleep, but God's angel again woke him and told him to eat. Strengthened by the food, he got up and walked forty days and nights to the mountain of God.

Second Reading: Ephesians 4:30-5:2

Paul appeals to the Ephesians to get rid of bitterness, anger, and malice. Instead they must be kind, compassionate, and forgiving just as God has been. We must be imitators of Christ, and love one another as he has loved us.

Gospel: John 6:41-51

The Jews were not convinced that Jesus was the bread that came down from heaven. But he again explains that he is the bread of life. He tells them that anyone who believes and eats this bread shall live forever. He explains that the bread he will give is his flesh, for the life of the world.

HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 12, 2018

“Elijah prayed for death, saying: This is enough, O Lord. Take my life, for I am no better than my fathers. He lay down and fell asleep under the broom tree, but then an angel touched him and ordered him to get up and eat...for the angel of the Lord came back a second time, touched him and ordered ‘Get up and eat, else the journey will be too long for you.’ He got up, ate and drank...he walked forty days and nights to the mountain of God, Horeb.”

We return to Capernaum and find Jesus telling us ‘I AM the bread of life.’ It is in the Eucharist we find Jesus present to accompany us on our journey. Elijah was awakened twice and was ordered to brace himself for the journey. Jesus is the bread of life for us. We often overlook how great, how important, how necessary is this gift for our spiritual survival.

How many people in the world die each day of starvation? Too many, and we are called to assist them. How many people in the church take the gift of the Eucharist for granted? We speak of a priest shortage, while we should focus on the lack of appreciation for the gift of the Eucharist. Where in our world are people deprived of what is so essential, yet we sometimes take the priesthood, the mass and Eucharist for granted.

If Jesus is the bread of life, I need to go to Him with renewed fervor and gratitude. ‘Get up and eat, else the journey will be too long for you.’

READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

Sunday - 1 Kgs 19:4-8; Eph 4:30—5:2; Jn 6:41-51

Monday - Ez 1:2-5, 24-28c; Mt 17:22-27

Tuesday - Ez 2:8—3:4; Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14

Wednesday - Vigil: 1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16, 16:1-2;
1 Cor 15:54b-57; Lk 11:27-28

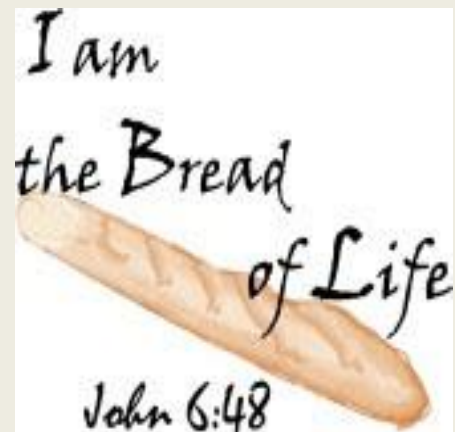
Day: Rv 11:19a, 12:1-6a, 10ab;

1 Cor 15:20-27; Lk 1:39-56

Thursday - Ez 12:1-12; Mt 18:21—19:1

Friday - Ez 16:1-15, 60, 63 or 16:59-63; Mt 19:3-12

Saturday - Ez 18:1-10, 13b, 30-32; Mt 19:13-15





FROM THE DESK OF FR. JAN



Celebrated every year on August 15, the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary commemorates the death of Mary and her bodily assumption into Heaven. Because it signifies the Blessed Virgin's passing into eternal life, it is the most important of all Marian feasts.

Scripture does not give an account of Mary's Assumption into Heaven. Nevertheless, Revelation 12 speaks of a woman who is caught up in the battle between good and evil. Belief that Mary, without dying or shortly after death, has been taken up into Heaven with body and her soul, has been part of the teaching of the Catholic Church since the earliest centuries of Christianity. That early Christians believed in Mary's Assumption is proven in lack of her relics, empty tomb, the existence of *Transitus Mariae* stories, and quotes from early Christians.

The Feast of the Assumption is the effect of these beliefs and is a very old feast of the Church, celebrated universally by the sixth century. The feast was originally celebrated in the East, where it is known as the Feast of the Dormition, a word which means "the falling asleep." The earliest printed reference to the belief that Mary's body was assumed into Heaven dates from the fourth century in a document entitled, "The Falling Asleep of the Holy Mother of God." The document is written in the voice of the Apostle John, to whom Christ on the Cross had entrusted the care of His mother, and recounts the death, laying in the tomb, and assumption of the Blessed Virgin. Tradition variously places Mary's death at Jerusalem or at Ephesus, where John was living.

The doctrine of the Assumption says that at the end of her life on earth Mary was assumed, body and soul, into heaven (just as Enoch or Elijah). It is also necessary to keep in mind what the Assumption is not. Some people think Catholics believe Mary "ascended" into heaven. That is not correct. Christ, by his own power, ascended into heaven. Mary was assumed or taken up into heaven by Jesus. She did not do it under her own power. The Church has never formally defined whether she died or not, and the integrity of the doctrine of the Assumption would not be impaired if she did not in fact die, but the almost universal consensus is that she did die. The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into Heaven at the end of her earthly life is a defined dogma of the Catholic Church. On November 1, 1950, Pope Pius XII, exercising papal infallibility, declared in *Munificentissimus Deus* that it is a dogma of the Church "that the Immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory."

The Assumption of Mary has two purposes. The first is that we celebrate the happy departure of Mary from this physical life on Earth. The second purpose is the assumption of her body into heaven. We firmly believe that from the first moment of her conception Mary was free of all sin, including Original Sin, by a special favor of Almighty God. The Archangel Gabriel recognized her as "full of grace", "blessed among women" and "one with the Lord" (Luke 1:26-28). Mary always freely and actively cooperated in a unique way with God's plan of salvation (Luke 1:38; Gal. 4:4). Like any mother, she was never separated from the suffering of her Son (Luke 2:35), and Scripture promises that those who share in the sufferings of Christ will share in his glory (Rom. 8:17). Since she suffered a unique interior martyrdom, it is appropriate that Jesus would honor her with a unique glory. We Christians believe that one day we will be raised in a glorious form and then caught up and rendered immaculate to be with Jesus forever (1 Thess. 4:17; Rev. 21:27). Mary is in a sense the prototypical Christian, and received early the blessings we will all one day be given.

By contemplating Mary in heavenly glory, we understand that the earth is not the definitive homeland for us either, and that if we live with our gaze fixed on eternal goods we will one day share in this same glory. Supported by awareness of this, let us continue confidently on our path of Christian commitment wherever Providence may lead us. Let us forge ahead in our lives under Mary's guidance.