

## Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time † September 3, 2017

### MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday Sept. 4**  
**8:30 a.m.** Roy Kaestner by his wife Maryann & Family
- Tuesday Sept. 5**  
**8:30 a.m.** Joseph Calvanelli Sr. by Muriel Calvanelli
- Wednesday Sept. 6**  
**8:30 a.m.** Leonard Carter by Eileen Sullivan
- Thursday Sept. 7**  
**8:30 a.m.** James Higgins by Nancy Felczak
- Friday Sept. 8**  
**8:30 a.m.** **The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary**  
Eucharistic Service
- Saturday Sept. 9**  
**10:00 a.m.** Saint Peter Claver, Priest  
William J. Johnson by his wife
- 4:00 p.m.** Diane and Family
- Sunday Sept. 10**  
**7:30 a.m.** Angela DiLouie by Mary Kay Cullinan
- 9:00 a.m.** Lorraine Bond by daughter Patti
- 11:00 a.m.** Adelaide Carneiro & Hortencia Sequeiro by Ricardo & Christine Carneiro

### CANDLE AND FLOWER OFFERINGS

*The sanctuary candle is offered in loving memory of John Cassiliano by Elizabeth Heuser. The candle before the Blessed Virgin Mary is offered in loving memory of Doris Ballerini by Thomas Santamaria. The candle before St. Joseph is offered in thanksgiving by Ann. The candle before St. Anthony is offered in loving memory of Anthony Chirico by Janet Mascio.*

*The sanctuary flowers in the sanctuary are offered for the people of the parish.*

The collection amount for the weekend of August 27 was \$14,056. Thank you for your continued support of our parish!

### Office Hours

Starting after Labor Day, the office will be open Monday thru Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

### PARISH CALENDAR

- Sept. 3 SYG – Meeting 10 am
- Sept. 4 **Office Closed – Labor Day**
- Sept. 5 Knights of Columbus – 7:00pm Hall
- Sept. 6 Buildings & Grounds – 10 am  
Bible Study – 9:00 -11:00 am  
Catechist Dinner – 6:30pm
- Sept. 7 Choir Practice – 7:30 pm  
St. Vincent DePaul – 9:00am  
Woman’s Faith Sharing 9:00am
- Sept. 8 JYG – 6-10pm Hall
- Sept. 9 Fair Trade / Food Pantry  
Green Thumb – 9:00am
- Sept. 10 Hospitality Sunday  
Fair Trade / Food Pantry  
Men’s Faith Sharing – 7:00pm  
RCIA – Resurrection Room
- Sept. 11 Companions of Pauline – 7:00pm Hall.  
Pastoral Council – 7:00pm



### Daily Readings

#### Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

##### Sunday

Jer 20:7-9; Rom 12:1-2; Mt 16:21-27

##### Monday

1 Thes 4:13-18; Lk 4:16-30

##### Tuesday

1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11; Lk 4:31-37

##### Wednesday

Col 1:1-8; Lk 4:38-44

##### Thursday

Col 1:9-14; Lk 5:1-11

##### Friday

Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30; Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23

##### Saturday

Col 1:21-23; Lk 6:1-5

There  
is in my  
heart a  
burning  
fire



## HIS WORD TODAY

by Rev. William J. Reilly

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time  
September 3, 2017

**“I urge you brothers and sisters... Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good, pleasing and perfect... Then Jesus said to his disciples ‘Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me.’”**

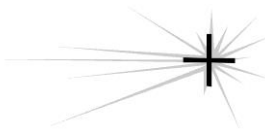
One of the most difficult tasks for our parents is to bring the saving message of Jesus to their children. In an age when values, customs and traditions are challenged, what is important for families and parents is often rejected or even scorned. St. Paul’s message certainly does not conform to this attitude. We are asked to be renewed and seek – 1. what is good, not just what I want to satisfy myself, 2. what is pleasing to God and to others, and 3. what is perfect, as we try to follow the way of the Lord.

The challenge never ends, but requires us to change and look for ways the gospel values become part of our daily living. Perhaps the secret for all of us is to find ourselves, praying, reflecting and asking what is the will of God for me, for us, in our particular circumstance. Unfortunately, we often forget to ask His help and go it alone. Yes, we deny self when we say ‘yes’ to the Lord, we embrace whatever comes our way, and determine once again to follow Him more closely.



Knights of Columbus calendar raffles are now available for purchase anytime.

Call Ed Visinski, Grand Knight at 609-915-7942 – email [shvejv@verizon.net](mailto:shvejv@verizon.net) or Francis Macchiaroli, Dep. Grand Knight at 917-622-6815 or [starfire13@comcast.net](mailto:starfire13@comcast.net).



## HEAVENLY FATHER...

I call on You right now in a special way. It is through Your power that **Father Ed** was created. Every breath he takes, every morning he wakes, and every moment of every hour, he lives under Your power.

Father, I ask You now to touch him with that same power: for if You created him from nothing, You can certainly recreate him. Fill him with the healing power of Your Spirit. Cast out anything that should not be in him. Mend what is broken. Root out any unproductive cells. Rebuild any damaged areas. Remove all inflammation and cleanse any infection.

Let the warmth of Your healing love pass through his body to make new any unhealthy areas so that his body will function the way You created it to function. And Father, restore him to full health in mind, body and spirit, so he may serve You the rest of his life. I ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen



## RCIA

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Do you or someone you know have questions about the Catholic faith?

Have you ever considered or know of someone who is thinking about joining the Catholic Church?

Are you an adult or know of an adult who has never received First Holy Communion, or Confirmation?

If you have answered **“YES”** to these questions, **RCIA** may be for you.

We invite you, or any adult family member or friend who is not a member of the Catholic faith or who is not fully initiated into the Catholic Church to an Inquiry Session in the Resurrection Room after all the weekend Masses on **September 10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup>** to answer any questions you may have.

**All are welcome to stop in and inquire.**

If you would like to know more about the **RCIA** program before Inquiry Sunday, ask Sister Marie Colette for an **RCIA Brochure**.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### Catechist & Assistants

**Wednesday, September 6, at 6:30 pm**

All Catechists and Assistants please join us for a light dinner, fellowship, and meeting to kick off the 2017-2018 Religious Ed year. If you haven't done so already, please RSVP to [reoa@nativitymonroe.org](mailto:reoa@nativitymonroe.org) ASAP.

### Registration for 2017-2018

**Registration is now closed!** If you are new to the parish, please contact the Religious Ed office at 609-371-2518. Classes start the week of Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>.

**8<sup>th</sup> Graders: Please remember your text books, bibles and Saint Project the first night of class.**

## CHURCH ACTIVITIES

### Our October AC Trip!!!

On Tuesday October 3rd, 2017 we have planned a trip to Atlantic City's **Tropicana** Casino. The cost is \$22pp, with \$25 slot play bonus per person. A photo ID is required to obtain a Tropicana Advantage Card to receive the bonus. Make check payable to **Church Activities**. Park in the rear of the Church parking lot. Arrive at 9:15am. The bus will leave promptly at 9:30am, returning approximately 7:30pm. For reservations call **Vinny DiSanto 609 655 5744**.

## PARISH MINISTRIES

**St. Vincent De Paul Society:** If you are experiencing financial hardship due to a temporary loss of employment, illness, or disability, the St. Vincent de Paul Society is available to provide assistance for your everyday needs such as food, utility assistance, or agency referrals. Please dial the parish number 609-371-0499, then press 8, and leave a message with your name and phone number. Someone will return your call. **All calls are handled in strict confidence.**

**Backpacks 4 Kids:** We can't thank you enough for making a difference in children's lives! As always, you overwhelm us with your spirit of generosity. Thanks also to the dedicated volunteers - **youth group, religious ed students, and adults** - who helped sort, pack and haul the hundreds of items you donated. "Well done, good and faithful servants!"

**Respect Life:** Respect Life - Please join us on September 12<sup>th</sup> for our meeting. We will be discussing our baby shower on October 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Food Pantry:** Due to the holiday, our collection will be held next weekend, **Sept. 9th-10th**. Especially needed at this time are the following: Canned Tuna, Canned Fruit, Canned Vegetables, Jelly, Soup, Beans and Cereal. Thank you for your continued support of this vital ministry!

**Fair Trade:** We have 6 different coffees, 6 types of tea, 5 varieties of chocolate, and cocoa and chocolate chips too. And they all support small farmers and their communities **Sept. 9th-10th**. You don't have to travel to Africa or South America to help suffering families. Buy what they produce, and you're giving them what they truly need - the dignity of work. Thank you!

**Hospitality:** We're back!!! Join us after all the Masses on **Sunday Sept. 10th**. Food for your body, food for your soul. Come enjoy a cup of Fair Trade coffee or tea and some goodies. Chat with neighbors or make some new friends. All are welcome!

**Caring Meals:** The Caring Meals group **delivers soup** year round to our homebound parishioners and provides short-term help to parishioners who are recuperating from an illness or hospital stay with deliveries of **home-cooked meals**. If you like to cook or know of someone who could benefit from either of these two services, please call **Maryanne Sheerin at 609-937-4963**.

**Elder Care:** Do you need assistance with shopping periodically? Are you seeking a responsible person to sit with someone in need of supervision for a brief time? Do you require help with minor household chores? Please call **Marge Nadolny 609-409-6164** to schedule this service, or to become a volunteer.

**Helping Hands:** Do you need a helping hand with minor tasks around the house? There are parishioners who are willing to help in these situations. Please contact **Esther Wolff** by phone on **732-521-6019** or via email to [richardj.wolff@verizon.net](mailto:richardj.wolff@verizon.net).

**Prayer Shawl Ministry:** Our prayer-centered group of crocheters/knitters will resume Tuesday **Sept. 12th at 1:30**. Join us!

## CRS Rice Bowl - Your "Change" Changes

**Lives:** The Democratic Republic of Congo has one of the highest maternal and infant mortality rates in the world, making pregnant women one of the country's most vulnerable groups. When Gisele Biringanine discovered she was pregnant, she was worried. But thanks to the support of CRS, she now has free access to professional healthcare to assist her throughout and after the delivery of her baby.

### McCaffrey Tapes

Just a kind reminder we are collecting McCaffrey grocery store register receipts – **ONLY McCAFFREY RECEIPTS. Other store receipts cannot be used.** McCaffrey gifts us with 1% of the total grocery amount collected. In this past, this has meant donations up to \$700 to our church just for collecting these McCaffrey receipts. There is a drop box in the Narthex. Thank you for your participation!



Please join us for our Fall Bible Study beginning **Wednesday,**

**September 6<sup>th</sup> at 9am** and continuing for 10 weeks. We will study the book of Psalms. We hear the Psalms read or sung at every Mass between the first and second readings, but do we understand their significance? The Psalms are at the heart of the Bible. They are prayers from God that help us learn to pray. The Holy Spirit inspired them. Israel sang them. Christ himself prayed them, as did our Blessed Mother. These sacred hymns become our heartfelt response to God's loving and wondrous deeds for us. Their words captivate the imagination and draw us into a deeply personal encounter with God. **To register, call Elaine Carter at 917-873-5138 or email carter615@comcast.net.**

### RCIA



The RCIA program for adults who are seeking to receive the Sacraments of Initiation, which are Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation, will begin on

**September 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am** in the Resurrection Room at Nativity of Our Lord Parish.

**Rosary Group** Please join us every Monday,



Wednesday, and Friday at 7:50 a.m. to recite the Holy Rosary. We will be seated at the right side of the church near the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

## YOUTH GROUP NEWS

### JOIN JYG!!!



**Attention 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Graders**

Come join us for the Jr. Youth's "**Getting to Know You**" kick off meeting on Friday, September 8<sup>th</sup> from 6-8:30pm in Fr. Congdon Hall. We will be serving pizza and salad and we are asking our JYG parents to donate fruit or dessert. Please let us know if you can help. Be specific so there are no duplications! RSVP to Laura McIntyre at [Mcintyre253@comcast.net](mailto:Mcintyre253@comcast.net) by September 4<sup>th</sup>. Look for our email that contains our contract and other important information. JYG shirts will be on sale for \$13 each. Hope to see you there!!

### Prayers to Begin a School Year

God of wisdom and might,  
we praise you for the wonder of our being,  
for mind, body and spirit.  
Be with our children as they begin  
a new school year.  
Bless them and their teachers and staff.  
Give the strength and grace  
as their bodies grow;  
wisdom and knowledge to their minds  
as they search for understanding;  
and peace and zeal to their hearts.  
We ask this through  
Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.



### Stewardship Reflections

*"What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?" - MATTHEW 16:26*

St. Francis of Assisi once said, "*Remember, you are what you are in the eyes of God, and nothing else.*" We often forget this stewardship wisdom when we spend all of our time, talent and treasure to gain more of the world's riches. We need to set our priorities based on God's values and not the values of the material world.



*“Blessed are those who mourn for they shall be comforted.”*

When a loved one dies, our world is forever changed. If you have recently lost a loved one, your first year or subsequent years without them can be painful. Many times people are caught in the dilemma of the need to grieve and the pressure from others to get over it. If you are suffering over the death of someone you love, perhaps our Bereavement Team here at Nativity of Our Lord Parish can help you during this painful time.

Our support group will begin on **Tuesday evenings, September 19, 2017 from 7:00-8:30pm in the Resurrection Room and will continue through Tuesday evening October 31<sup>st</sup>**. The sessions are focused on the stages of grief and offer a safe haven during this difficult time in your life.

To register or for more information, contact Sister Marie Colette at, 609-371-0499 ext.16 or [sistermariecolette@nativitymonroe.org](mailto:sistermariecolette@nativitymonroe.org).

## **Hero’s Walk for Life!**

Saturday, October 7, 2017

9am-12pm Merrill Park, Iselin (Rain or Shine)  
Benefitting the lifesaving work of Life Choices Resource Center

### **CONFIRMATION SERVICE HOURS PROVIDED**

DJ, Refreshments, Games – Family Fun, No Distance or Time Restrictions! *Be a HERO and Make the Difference in the Life of an unborn child*

Register or DONATE today @ [www.LifeChoicesRC.com](http://www.LifeChoicesRC.com) or download a pledge form. \$200 raised provides 1 free ultrasound! Call (732) 516-0911 or TEXT 848-229-7634 with questions.



## **You’re Invited**

**2017 Champions for Catholic Charities Dinner  
Monday, October 16 -The Palace at Somerset Park  
6:30 p.m. Cocktails - 7:30 p.m. Dinner**

Please mark your calendar and plan on joining us for the **2017 Champions for Catholic Charities Dinner** where you will hear how American Standard, the well-known plumbing supply company that is part of LIXIL, joined forces with Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen to renovate Naomi’s Way giving 12 low-income families a safe and attractive place to call their own. The dinner is an opportunity for us to publicly recognize our corporate partners while raising much-needed funds for our less-fortunate neighbors. For dinner reservations and sponsorship opportunities, call 732-562-2438 or visit [www.diometuchen.org/champions](http://www.diometuchen.org/champions).

## **Women of Nativity**

All the women of Nativity are invited to gather together for the 8:30am Mass on Tuesday, September 19<sup>th</sup> followed by a catered buffet communion breakfast in Father Congdon Hall.

Our speaker will be Mary Ann Sullivan.

The cost of the breakfast is \$14. French toast, country style eggs, buttermilk pancakes sausage and bacon, breakfast fries, assorted pastry, danish and bagels, fresh fruit platter, coffee, tea and juice.

Please deposit the form below along with your check of \$14 made out to Nativity of Our Lord Church in the W of N slot in the narthex through September 12<sup>th</sup>.

Call Joyce Peppe 908-963-9308 with any questions.

## **Women of Nativity**

**Communion Breakfast 9/19/17**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_