

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



SATURDAY, AUGUST 6

5:00 ALICE PERRY

SUNDAY, AUGUST 7

7:00 MARIE D. CARNEGIE

8:30 CHARLES & ROSEMARIE BLAICH

10:00 JOSEPHINE & JOSEPH DEMEO & MARY ANN DEMEO

11:30 PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

1:00 ANNA & VERONICA BUDNICK

5:00 ANGELINA DEFRANCESCO

MONDAY, AUGUST 8

7:00 WILLIAM G. MEAGHER

9:00 EVELYN WITTEK

TUESDAY, AUGUST 9

7:00 RAYMOND DANNEMANN

9:00 NED THOMPSON

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10

7:00 CHARLES & MARY DONOHUE

9:00 MARGARET MASTERSON

THURSDAY, AUGUST 11

7:00 DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE DOLAN & LYONS FAMILY & SOULS IN PURGATORY

9:00 JOHN KUBASEK & FRANK SOVA

FRIDAY, AUGUST 12

7:00 JACK REILLY

9:00 ELAINE MASTERSON

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13

9:00 DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE SIKORA FAMILIES

5:00 ALICE PERRY

SUNDAY, AUGUST 14

7:00 DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE QUINN & MCCAULEY FAMILIES

8:30 SUE AMORE

10:00 JOAN PRENTY

11:30 PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

1:00 MATTHEW & KATHLEEN DOWD 11TH ANNIVERSARY

5:00 BRIDGET JORDAN

Sick Relatives & Friends

Rosanne Mezzacappa	Susan Pellecchia	Lois Mazzitelli
Christopher Luciano	Rick Curley	Kathryn Brock
Margaret Shay	Patricia Repoli	Al Frezio
Julie Hunting	Meghan Clark	Mary DiSalvo
Youlanda Santella	Mary DiCostanzo	Christina Scotto
Tim Campagna	Alberto Meranda	Matthew Gleason
Jerry Russo	Ethel Thomas	Aurora David
Gordon C. Gladden	Ian Torello	Anna Parente
James Parente	Ruth Irons	John Lewis
Gerard Crane	Mimi Norberg	Marianne Garlan
Ruth Manieri	Tommy Baratta	Dawn Meade
Rev. Thomas Blessin S.J	Lauren Lam	John Keogh
Mary Kenney	John C Marino	Rafaella Tierno
Alice Longo	Spc. Bryan Camacho	Rose Bradley
Gabrielle Plumy	Michael Rucci	Patsy Jackson
Cpl Justin Campbell	Robert Poggi U.S.M.	Sylvia Lichtenstein
Bernard D Nidus MD	Joyce Rusinak	Tom Kopf
Barbara Brennan	Beverly Andrews	Jeffrey Schnorbus
Sam Pezzano	Edward B. Hanson	Venera Delamonico
Christian Pepo	Joan Romano	Roseanne Liveo
Grace Ford Seamans	Sheila Jones	Daniel Gomes
Elizabeth James Timmins		

BANNS

III Janine Brady and Brian Wertheimer

Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers

Weekend of August 13-14

Saturday, August 13

5:00 Mary Rosso

Sunday, August 14

7:00 Joe Meagher

8:30 Don O'Shea

10:00 Frank DiSalvo

11:30 Ken Wisniewski

1:00 Charles Sullivan

5:00

Collection for July 31th

Collection.....\$7368.00

The Second Collection this weekend is for the Latin America Home Missions.

IN THE CHARITY OF YOUR PRAYERS, PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Geraldine Whelihan
Margaret Woods

The Bread & Wine are in Loving Memory of Frank J. McLaren requested by his daughter Noreen Ursomanno

The Sanctuary Candle is in Loving Memory of Conrad Whiteside on his birthday requested by Margaret Walsh

“It wasn’t my turn...”: The reality of (spiritual) hunger

In her attempt to explain to pupils in a grade school in a town in Ghana- my home country- what a balanced diet is, a teacher asked her class what the children took for breakfast before coming to school that day. Few children responded that they took savory cereals, tea/coffee with bread and still others that they ate *koko* (local pudding prepared from corn). Others responded that because they couldn’t afford to be late to school (most children travel miles on foot to school),- which in most instances is punishable by few strokes of the cane- they didn’t take anything. Then came the turn of small wretched child: “what did you take before coming to school?” the teacher asked. The child mumbled, **“It wasn’t my turn.”** The teacher was moved by this response that she decided to offer the child some food anytime she came to school.

This experience has had a long impression on me ever since, so much so that when Fr Jerome asked me to write a reflection for this week’s bulletin, I just decided to elaborate the reflection of last Sunday’s liturgical readings vis-a`-vis the current problem of hunger/famine in some parts of the world today. Throughout the past months, heartbreaking accounts of famine in some parts of Africa litter our screens and monitors. The story I narrated above, which evokes memories of food rationing, is nothing as compared to the reality of famine in our world today. We take it for granted when we have three square meals, not counting the in- between. Many places in our world today are suffering from famine in such a way that a drop of water or a morsel of food is appreciated more than a brand new Bentley. I need not bore you with the ravages of hunger in our world today. Pope Benedict XVI has hammered time without number about the need for the world to come to the aid of the hungry in his recent weekly addresses.

As members in the universal church, we need to remind ourselves of the salvific message of Christ and the church is teaching on hunger and the right to have food for everyone. The churches understanding of the hunger phenomenon has been guided by it’s own experience of hunger in it’s vast history in light of biblical heritage. But the realities of hunger would often be interpreted either as a punishment from God, a call to repentance, or a challenge to a stricter ethical observance to the will of God.

Our call to duty to feed the hungry is evangelistic. Upon seeing hunger starring at the face of the hungry crowd, Jesus was moved with pity (My. 14:14). As the Greek word “*esplangchnisth*” graphically depicts, Jesus was literally, “moved/shaken in his bowels.” Like Jesus, many of us are moved by the situation of this unfortunate people. To be sure, others sympathize or better still empathize with the lot of these people. However, a few surmises in their heart that “it is their own making, or

worst still a “punishment from God”. Soliloquizing in such manner is a failure to recognize the wide-ranging causes of famine. Whom do we blame for *natural evil*? Natural evil originates independently of human actions- earthquakes, storms, tsunamis, droughts, tornadoes, name them. Surely moral evil is partly to blame. It results from the voluntary activity of an agent- human. What comes to mind readily are the inefficient government structures and other organizations who simply smell blood in the water. The evil or suffering of the victims of hunger resulting either in natural calamity or inflicted by social injustice is regarded as unwarranted deprivation of food. This is not unlike *privatio boni* (This is a theological term which means deprivation of the good).

As Christians, we are encouraged by Christ to pause and reflect on how best we can alleviate the plight of people who find themselves in such unfortunate situations. As Pope John Paul II once remarked in his homily in Xavier University in New Orleans, it is not enough to offer to the disadvantaged of the world crumbs of bread, crumbs of freedom and crumbs of truth. Rather it behooves on us as Christians to do the little in our means, which in turn is blessed by the Lord to benefit the many (you remember the five loaves and two fish?) The emphasis in doing so should be *theological motivation* rather than just a requirement for *social welfare*. It is only in the case of the former that we can collect twelve basketful of crumbs afterwards.

Finally, may we not forget about something much life-threatening than physical hunger. I am talking about spiritual hunger. Even if most of us did not experience the Irish famine or other famine in the past, most of what is happening in different parts of the world today, especially in the horn of Africa needs to remind us of the direness of spiritual famine. The dearth of God’s word in public sphere and the declining church vivacity disquiet us all. Amos prophesied this some 750 years B.C. E. that a time is coming when there would be hunger, not physical hunger or thirst but rather spiritual hunger for the word of the Lord (cf. Amos 8:11-12). Come to think of it: which is more painful, physical hunger or spiritual hunger? The life of those suffering from spiritual famine is not unlike what we see or hear in hear in the media waves because life without Christ risks crisis.

A lad once offered Jesus five loaves and two fish. What are you offering Christ to bless for the hungry?
It is now my turn...

Your beloved son in Christ, **Fr Stephen Annan**

CCD Registration for the school year 2011-2012 will be on going all summer long. For further information please call the CCD office at 718-448-1536 and leave a message. Please send your re-registration forms in.

C.Y.O. News

If you are interested in coaching a **Sacred Heart CYO** basketball team next season (2011-2012) please contact Mike Sanborn msanborndd@aol.com or Jeff Franzreb jefffranzreb@aol.com for a coach's application.

"Sacred Heart's Holy Land Trip" deposit is due by Aug 14th. Tour Guide Andrew Ostrowski will be available in the Church after the 1PM Mass every Sunday to accept your deposit. There are 5 seats left for anyone who has not yet responded.

Sacred Heart's Cross Country Team will be having registration and practice every Mon, Wed & Fri starting on Wednesday Aug 10th from 6:20-8PM at the Royal Oak. Any boy or girl in first through eighth grade can join. Please see the flyer in today's bulletin for more details or call Tom Hogan 718-720-5430, Mary Karasinski 718-727-5719 or John Trimmer 718-442-3731.

"Meeting Jesus On Our Journey" will be the theme of a Directed Silent Retreat at Mount Manresa Jesuit Retreat House on August 15th-21st. Daily Mass, reflection, time for prayer, spiritual direction, the sacrament of reconciliation, and the peace and beautiful grounds will enhance your yearning to get closer to God who desires to speak to your heart. For information, please call 718-727-3844 ext. 200.



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Kids Praise Choir:(grades 1-5) See you today!!
11:30AM Loft!

Family Choir (ages Newborn - 120) August 7th
11:30AM Mass Loft Bring the entire family!

Parish Choir: (ages 10-120) See you in the fall!

Melody Choir: (ages 10-120) no rehearsals! Just come on up & help sing the glorious melodies of our liturgies...see you August 7th-loft 11:15AM

Traveling Choir (ages 8-100) Come sing for your DVD- August 7th 11:15AM!

Put Away a Hymnbook Tis the season to put away a hymnbook! What does that mean? Look inside the back cover of the book to the small label at the top that says which pew, & rack the book goes (rack one is on pew # 2) - be aware of left side/right side (facing altar). Heads up about the Hymnbook Party sometime in August or September to bring many of us together to organize all the rows _ "many hands, light work!" See you there!

Traveling Choir: I have your DVD gift from M.C.I. -come sing for your supper (DVD)! See you 11:15, today August 7th!

Calling All Brides and Grooms!!

Please come up to the choir loft after any 11:30AM or 1PM Mass on any Sunday for your wedding music consultation with Pamela, at least 6 weeks prior to your wedding!! See you in the loft!! Pamela 442-0058 VM 24

Join a Choir! Put away a hymn book! Fill your jar!

Save the Date !



Sacred Heart Alumni Dinner Dance will be held on Friday, September 30th from 7:30 - 11:30PM at the Staaten. Please join fellow classmates for as night out together to remember our great memories of Sacred Heart School. For further information or to make reservations contact Sheila Whalen Watson at 718-815-5977 or Sheila_watson23@hotmail.com