

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



SATURDAY, JANUARY 16

5:00 JOHN R. KUBASEK

SUNDAY, JANUARY 17

7:00 JAMES P. KELLY, JR.

9:00 AL & SUE AMORE

11:00 PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

1:00 MR. & MRS. JOHN PERRY

5:00 DIANA KISTO

MONDAY, JANUARY 18

7:00 PASQUALINA TIRRO

9:00 ALEX RUSINAK

TUESDAY, JANUARY 19

7:00 THOMAS MC NAMARA

9:00 JOHN MCGARRY

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20

7:00 NAMCY MC VEY

9:00 MARY & FRANK SANTORO

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21

7:00 MARIE D. CARNEGIE

9:00 BRENDAN J. HOEY

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22

7:00 SPECIAL INTENTIONS

9:00 LUIS VASQUEZ

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23

9:00 ANTONIA ALTAGRACE PRIGNE

5:00 ELLEN TALIERICO

SUNDAY, JANUARY 24

7:00 DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE QUINN & MC CAULEY FAMILIES & THE SOULS IN PURGATORY

9:00 WILLIAM MARSH

11:00 PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

1:00 DANIEL HOLLNSTEINER

5:00 GUISEPPINA SEDITA

LECTORS

EUCCHARISTIC

MINISTERS

Saturday, January 23

5:00 Mary Rosso Theresa Hudik

Sunday, January 24

7:00 Vincent O'Grady

9:00 Charles Romanelli Maryann Gambardella

11:00 Frank DiSalvo Pat Jezycki

1:00 Charles Sullivan John Mooney

5:00 Jane Coyle Efrain Ortiz

Sick Relatives & Friends

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Susan Pellecchia, Lois Mazzitelli, Rosanne Mezzacappa, Christopher Luciano, Patricia Repoli, Tim Campagna, Meghan Clark, Alberto Meranda, Jerry Russo, Anna Parente, James Parente, Ruth Manieri, Mary Kenny, John C. Marino, Michael Rucci, Cpl Justin Campbell, Barbara Brennan, Sam Pezzano, Sheila Jones, Edward B. Hanson, Robert Gaylord, Emily Baron, Frank Silvestri, Carol Van Manen, Frank Juliano, Richard Nagrowski, Theresa Mirante, Barbara Walsh, Christian Pepo, Joe Arrigo, Thomas Coppola II, Terrence Gibbons, Sondra Cronin, Jean Forte, Baby Michael John DiCostanzo, Bill Kiesewetter, JoAnn DiPietro, Frances Bocignone, Robert Williams, Sebastian Lattuga, Linda Browne, Linda Powers, Frances Nodar

Collections:

Regular January 10 \$6,324.00

Monthly January \$3,254.00

Congratulations to the Christmas Raffle Winners:

1st Prize.....Michael Sullivan

2nd Prize.....Henry Morey

Newly Baptized

Brayden Harrison Risley

Liam Raphael Alvarez

Michael James Blyth

Caleb Ryan Torres



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The Rectory Office will be closed Monday, January 18, Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

The Bread and Wine are offered in loving memory of Dennis Nix by his Family.

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

Alexis Carrel was born into a Catholic family in France in 1873. He attended Mass regularly and went to Catholic school. Unfortunately, by the time he went to college he was an agnostic. However, that condition would change. Carrel went on to become a famous surgeon. He invented techniques for suturing large blood vessels, which earned him a Nobel Prize in 1912. One day in 1902 he was on a train in Lourdes when he came across Marie Bailly, who was traveling to Lourdes to beg our blessed Lady for a miracle. She had tuberculosis peritonitis. It was a fatal disease. She was only half-conscious and had a swelled belly. Carrel gave her morphine to relieve her pain, but he did not think she would survive the rest of the trip to Lourdes. Other doctors on the train agreed with that conclusion. When they arrived, her friends carried her to the grotto, and three pitchers of water from Lourdes were poured on her. With each pour, she said she felt a searing pain throughout her body. To the amazement of the doctors present, her belly started to flatten back to a normal size almost immediately and her pulse returned to a normal rate. By that evening, she was well enough to eat dinner. Carrel didn't know what to make of it all. He had to admit that everything he knew about medicine made it seem like her cure was miraculous. But he knew that publicly claiming to have witnessed a miracle in such skeptical times would ruin his career. So he chose to stay quiet about the affair. However, Bailly's cure quickly became national news. News outlets had reported that Carrel had been present, but that he did not think there was anything miraculous about what happened. Because this was not accurate he decided to publish a public reply. In it, he scolded certain religious believers for being too quick to claim something unusual was miraculous, but he also criticized the medical establishment for ruling out the possibility of miracles, saying that Bailly may have indeed been cured miraculously. This was a scandal! Many powerful people asked how could someone so steeped in science say that Bailly's cure was possibly miraculous. His career in France was over. Unable to work in hospitals any longer, he moved to Canada, and eventually the United States. He joined the Rockefeller Institute of Medical Research in New York and spent the rest of his career there. (Marie Bailly, for her part, joined a convent.) Carrel

wrestled in his soul about the meaning of that encounter with Marie Bailly and twenty years later he decided to meet with a Catholic priest. Shortly thereafter he returned to practice of the true Faith. He died with a priest at his side in 1944. David Hume, the skeptical philosopher who is lionized by many contemporary atheists, believed that miracles do not happen. In other words, to believe in miracles is irrational. In his *Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding* (Book X), he defined a miracle as a violation of the laws of nature. Laws of nature are universal generalizations established by firm and unalterable experience. Once a so-called miracle occurs it represents a "law-breaking" event, and so that implies, according to Hume, that the universal generalization is to be seen as no longer universal. Take the universal generalization of the law of nature that people who die and are buried stay dead and buried. Christians, however, claim that Jesus died but He did not stay buried. He is risen. (Aleluya!) There is now at least one event, the resurrection of Jesus Christ, that does not follow this general pattern. As a result, says Hume, we should conclude that the only thing our supposed law breaking event can do is show that the law (that dead people stay dead) is false and not that the supposedly miraculous event "breaks" the law. Once the body that was dead for three days comes back to life, it is simply no longer true that firm and unalterable experience establishes that human bodies dead for three days stay dead forever. The result of all of this is that supposed miracles can never do what miracles must do, namely, *break* or *violate* laws. Thus, according to this feeble argument, miracles cannot occur.

On the other hand, as Michael Murray and Michael Rea point out (*An Introduction to the Philosophy of Religion* [2008]) there is a better way to conceive of miracles than as violations of laws of nature. We should define a miracle as an event caused by God that cannot be accounted for by the natural powers of natural substances alone. Conceived of this way, miracles do not violate laws of nature but rather involve the occurrence of events that cannot be explained by the powers of nature alone.

Which approach, that of Hume, or that of Murray and Rea, seems more rational to you?

Father Eric

CCD JANUARY HAPPENINGS

Classes in session:

January 20 & 27th

Confirmation Retreat: Saturday, January 23rd
9:00 AM at the School for all Confirmation
Candidates

Sacred Heart School- Registration 2016-2017

Now accepting applications for September 2016. Re-
registration for continuing students is also required
Free Full Day Universal Pre-K for All 4 yr olds
Pre-Kindergarten 3
Kindergarten and Grades 1-8

Open House Dates:

Tuesday, February 2, 2016, 9:00am - 11:00am
Sunday, February 7, 2016, 11:00am - 2:00pm

Bible Study

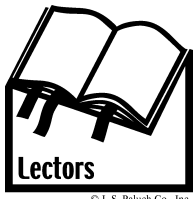


BIBLE STUDY GROUP meets the first
and third Tuesday of every month at
7PM in the rectory. If you are
interested in joining contact the
rectory at 718-442-0058.

March For Life 2016:

Save the Date - 1/22/16. Join us - we will depart
for Washington DC directly after a special 6:30AM
Mass at Sacred Heart. See flyer in the vestibule for
further information.

Lectors: There will be a lector meeting on



Thursday, January 21st in the
conference room of
the rectory. There will be two
sessions - one at 2:00pm and the
other at 7:00pm. Please attend
only one meeting at the time that
is most convenient to you.

2016 Special Event:

The Tree of Life is located in the vestibule of the
Church and is a lasting remembrance to memorialize
a loved one. A \$300 donation allows for a leaf to be
inscribed with a loved ones name. Please contact the
rectory at 718-442-0058 for further information.

Choir News

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Happy New Year! A million thanks for all the ways
you support the choirs here at Sacred Heart!

If you loved the Christmas music, why don't you *join*
a choir and help create the music yourself?? There
are so many wonderful blessings involved in serving
a choir! The New Year is a perfect time to join a
choir at Sacred Heart:

Parish Choir (ages 8-120) rehearsals 1st and 3rd Wed.
Sing for Mass 2nd & 4th Sunday 11AM

France Voyager Choir sings 1st & 4th Sundays 11AM
in preparation for choir tour to France Feb. 16-23,
2016

Kids Praise Choir (ages 5-11) rehearses every Wed.
5-6 chapel sings 1st Sunday 11AM

Family Choir all family members (age 0-120) sing
together 1st Sunday 11AM Prizes! Treats! Coffee!
Make 2016 the year you join a choir at Sacred
Heart!! Bring a friend!! Wishing you peace and joy
in 2016!! Pamela and the Choirs (VM 24)

Family Choir sings February 7, 2016 at 11AM- Uncle
Joe, Ant Sue - Come on up & help create an inspiring
5th Sunday in Ordinary Time Mass!! Prizes!! Treats!!
Coffee!!

Join a Choir today! Buy a CD! Put away a Hymnbook!!
Come to France with us!!

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE JAN 23 & JAN 24

Saturday, Jan 23

5:00 William Hollnsteiner & Chris Basile

Sunday, Jan 24

7:00 Gabrielle Garcia & Patrick Reyes

9:00 David & Billye Albro

11:00 Michele Chen & Bernard Daniels

1:00 Matthew Riccardi & Angela Buscemi

5:00 Elizabeth Eadicco & Austin Maida

FLOWER DONATIONS: Total cost of two flower
arrangements for the Altar is \$80.00, and flowers
may be donated in memory of a loved one, to
celebrate anniversaries or other special occasions,
or for special intentions. Please call Theresa
Cunningham at 718-981-8047 for further details.