

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15

5:00 SR. THERESE MARY, O' CARM & KATHERINE FRIFAEEL

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16

7:00 GRACE MURPHY
8:30 AL & SUE AMORE
10:00 XUE QIAN ZHENG
11:30 PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
1:00 CHRISTINE CAPEL WORSFOLD
5:00 WILLIAM NOBLE

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17

7:00 MSGR. DANIEL FLYNN
9:00 DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE APOE & OKHERIA FAMILIES

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18

7:00 CATHERINE & JAMES LONG
9:00 MICHAEL J. BILOTTO 35TH ANNIVERSARY

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

7:00 JOHN KIRINCICH
9:00 EDWARD KISTO, JR.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20

7:00 REV. ADRIARI HEENAN O.P.
9:00 MARY LILLIAN BAKER

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21

7:00 MARY TARASOVIS
9:00 BRENDAN J. HOEY

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22

9:00 CORINNE A. O'BRIEN & CHARLES KENNEDY
5:00 GUIDO ANGELI

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23

7:00 GRACE SHAY
8:30 MARY DEVLIN
10:00 MARIE & FRANK BARNARD & LT. ROBERT (BOBBY) RYAN
11:30 PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
1:00 GEORGE RAUTENSTRAUCH
5:00 EDWARD & MARGARET McCAULEY

The Bread and Wine are in loving memory of the Macaluso and Bocignone Families.

The Sanctuary Candle is for Special Intentions to the Blessed Mother to give Thanks.

LECTORS

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Saturday, November 22

5:00 Bill Jones Theresa Hudik

Sunday, November 23

7:00 Vincent Tarasovis
8:30 Charles Romanelli Mary Romanelli
10:00 Roy Hansen Mary Ann Gambardella
11:30 Ken Wisniewski Theresa Cunningham
1:00 Stephen Brown Dorothy Tarafa
5:00 Fred Maley Wanda Ortiz



Susan Pellecchia, Lois Mazzitelli, Rosanne Mezzacappa, Christopher Luciano, Patricia Repoli, Meghan Clark, Tim Campagna, Alberto Meranda, Jerry Russo, Anna Parente, James Parente, Gerard Crane, Ruth Manieri, Rafaella Tierno, Mary Kenny, John C. Marino, Michael Rucci, Cpl Justin Campbell, Joyce Rusinak, Barbara Brennan, Sam Pezzano, Sheila Jones, Edward B. Hanson, Robert Gaylord, Emily Baron, Frank Silvestri, Carol Van Manen, Frank Juliano, Richard Nagrowski, Theresa Mirante, Diane Gregorio, Barbara Walsh, Ruth Irons, Christian Pepo, Jim McGinley, Joe Arrigo, Joe Meagher

Collection November 9

Regular \$8,413.00
Budget Deficit \$917.00
There will be a special collection next weekend for Thanksgiving-Human Development

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.

CHURCH, MORE THAN A BUILDING...

I suppose that most of us by now have learned that the Archdiocese of New York wants to close and consolidate several dozen parishes all across the region by next August. Some people are naturally very upset at the loss of their parish. It may have been the church that they were baptized in or received their Holy Communion. It could have been the church where they pronounced vows in the Sacrament of Marriage. It probably is the church where they have attended Mass for many years, receiving the Holy Eucharist each and every Sunday.

Closing a parish is something like a “death” in the Catholic family and we mourn the loss! Now why are parishes and other Catholic institutions being closed? Well, there are various reasons. One explanation is that of demographics. There are neighborhoods in our cities and our towns where thousands of Catholics once resided. Due to certain factors, many of these Catholic people moved away from those neighborhoods. However the parish, perhaps just a “shell” of what it used to be, still remains, with increasing costs for a plant and buildings to maintain. Demography is just one reason for the downsizing of our Catholic Church in New York. But it is not the central one.

In my view, a far more critical factor is the decline in Mass attendance in the last fifty years. In 1958, 75% of Catholics came to Mass on Sunday. In 2012, that number had plummeted to only 24%. What a tragedy that since the Church has been renewed, so few go to Mass anymore!

Another element in the closures is the fact that vocations to the priesthood and religious life have also taken a “nosedive” since the 1960's. The Church simply does not have enough Priests, Brothers and Sisters to staff our parishes, schools and other institutions.

A lady I met recently from the Buffalo Diocese told me that her pastor who is all by himself on Sunday, must drive to three different parishes to cover Masses. Although we are not that bad in the Archdiocese yet, we will soon be headed in that direction, if we do not have sufficient vocations in the future.

With the announcement of church closures, there has been some anger expressed. Several years ago, a priest that I know had the unenviable task of announcing the closing of a parish. Well, an angry parishioner stood up and yelled, “Why are you closing our parish?” The priest responded very respectfully and said, “No Ma'am. I am not closing your parish...you are!”

When she pressed for an explanation, Father asked how many people in her family went to Mass on Sunday. The answer was practically no one! He then inquired, “And how many of your sons and daughters have gone into the priesthood and religious life?” The answer - zero! “So,” he concluded, “it is the people who really close the church!” I think that is a “spot on” analysis of the current crisis in the Church.

Our ancestors and forebears came to this country with very little, but they brought with them the treasure of their Catholic faith. It was that strong faith that built the magnificent churches that adorn our landscape. For instance, here at Sacred Heart, it was a group of dedicated parishioners from West Brighton that petitioned Archbishop Corrigan to build our magnificent church here on June 17, 1899.

That faith-filled generation built our churches. Now this generation is closing them! What does this have to say for the faith of this modern generation? We need to do something about it!

Let's pray for the church and certainly for more vocations to the Priesthood and Sisterhood. Attend Mass faithfully on Sunday and encourage others to come! Above all, support the Church, pray for the Church because the Church is all of us, baptized into one body - the Body of Christ! Sincerely in the Lord, Father Jerome

ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY NEEDS TO RESTOCK ITS FOOD PANTRY Please donate one or more of the following non-perishable food items: Canned Soups, Canned Vegetables, Canned or Jar Fruit, Tuna Fish, Pasta, Rice, Tomato Sauce, Peanut Butter & Jelly, Cereal, Canned Broth and Canned or Bottled Juices. Donations can be dropped off in the church vestibule. **Please check expiration dates on all donated food. We cannot distribute expired food.** Thank you, St. Vincent de Paul Society.



SACRED HEART SCHOOL

Office Hours

Mon.-Fri. 7AM-3PM.

CONSIDERING A CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FOR YOUR CHILD? Please call the school office at 718-442-0347 to schedule an appointment to visit Sacred Heart School for **TOURING TUESDAY** on November 18th from 9-11AM.

CCD -Class November 19th

MASS OF THANKSGIVING Tues., Nov. 25th at 7:30PM in the church. All parishioners are invited to attend. The third and fourth grade students from Sacred Heart School and CCD will be dressed in the costumes of the First Thanksgiving participants - Pilgrims and Native Americans. Each family attending is asked to bring a nonperishable food item for the needy.

SACRED HEART YOUTH GROUP Thank you to all who supported our bake sale, generously donated items or money toward our foster teen birthday buddy project. Your kindness will help bring a smile to a foster teen in the near future!



We will be collecting non-perishable food items at Key Food on Sat., Nov. 22nd beginning at 9:30AM. If you are shopping that day please make a donation. All items collected will go to the Sacred Heart St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry.

SACRED HEART CHRISTMAS FAIR Dec. 7th. Donations are needed for our raffle baskets. If you would like to donate a NEW item, a completed basket, gift card or even a monetary donation towards the purchase of items to be raffled, please bring it to the rectory or call Nora in the rectory (718-442-0058). All donations are needed by Nov. 28th. (Please donate new items we will NOT have a white elephant table.) Thank you for your support of our annual parish fundraiser.

RICHMOND CHORAL SOCIETY FOLLOW THE STAR A Holiday Celebration At Sacred Heart Church, Dec. 6th at 8:00PM. Tickets \$20 General Admission, \$15 Seniors, \$10 Students with ID, Children under 12 Free. Call 718-448-3656 or at richmondchoral.com

Choir News

Wow! A packed choir loft weekend before last 11:30AM!! Many thanks Kids Praise, Family Choir and France Traveling Choir 2016 for such a beautiful and uplifting music liturgy for Feast of All Souls Day!! So beautiful in fact, it made me wish Moms/Daughters; Dads/Sons; Grandmas/Grandchildren will join France Traveling Choir 2016 and sing with us at Notre Dame Cathedral; Chantre Cathedral and in Liseux!! Just imagine those angelic children's voices from Kids Praise Choir as the frosting on our already delicious choral cake...join us singing in France 2016!! Questions?? Pam 442-0058. Join a Choir Speaking of joining a choir, now is a perfect time to join Parish Choir!! Singing with PC for the next two months will guarantee you/your family the awe, joy and wonder of singing together during this holiday season!! Amazing music liturgies from Our Lord Jesus Christ; King of the Universe through Advent to the magic of Midnight Mass/Christmas Eve!! Hop on board!! Bring a friend, a spouse, a niece, a nephew - make this a holiday season to remember... better yet, create a new tradition for yourself and your families to savor every year for years to come!! Questions?? Pamela (VM24) Join a choir today! Pamela 442-0058 (VM 24) [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5F5VwD0SHzI!](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5F5VwD0SHzI) Join a choir today! Put away a hymnbook! Buy a CD! Come on our next International Choir tour Feb. 16-23, 2016: Great Cathedrals France!!

SETON FOUNDATION Next weekend representatives from the Seton Foundation for Learning, a program for developmentally disabled children and young adults ages 3 to 21 years will be selling raffle tickets for a \$10,000.00 savings bond at the doors of the church. Tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$25. Please support this very worthy program.

OPEN HOUSE St. John's University, Staten Island Campus - Nov. 22 from 10AM to 3PM

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE NOVEMBER 22 & 23

Saturday, November 22

5:00 Christopher Basile, Marc Artuz

Sunday, November 23

7:00 David Albro, Gabrielle Fulton

8:30 Ryan & Kelly O'Neil

10:00 Timothy Donnelly, Michele Chen

11:30 John Altschuler, Vicky Bruno

1:00 Stephen, Sarah & Megan Lauren

5:00 Patrick & Keifer Regan