

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Saturday, July 22:

5:00 Josephine, Joseph & Charles DeMeo

Sunday, July 23:

7:00 Deceased Members of the Quinn & McCauley Families & Souls in Purgatory

9 :00 Al & Sue Amore

11:00 Stanley Modzelewski

1:00 Mary Donohue

5:00 People of the Parish

Monday, July 24:

9:00 Eugene M. Brown

Tuesday, July 25:

9:00 Marie D. Carnegie

Wednesday, July 26:

9:00 Mario N. Rapaglia

Thursday, July 27:

9:00 Xeu Qian Zheng

Friday, July 28:

9:00 Richard Gibson

Saturday, July 29:

9:00 Vincenzo Camardo (Living)

5:00 James Crowdell

Sunday, July 30:

7:00 Carmella Nix

9:00 Maureen Driscoll

11:00 People of the Parish

1:00 Rocco Fleming

5:00 Susan Nacchio

Saturday, July 29:

5:00 Bill Jones

Pat Foley

Sunday, July 30:

7:00 Sister Barbara

9:00 John Mooney Jr.

Elizabeth D'Antuono

11:00 Ken Wisniewski

Pat Jezycki

1:00 Theresa Cunningham

John Mooney Sr.

5:00 Fred Maley

Efrain Ortiz



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, Terrence Gibbons, Jean Forte, Baby Michael John DiCostanzo, JoAnn DiPietro, Robert Williams, Sebastian Lattuga, Linda Browne, Frances Nodar, Tina Russo, Nathaniel Sasha, Kathryn Capofari, Crystal Helewa, Rosemary Regan, Anthony Umana, Barbara Rotondo, Carmela D'Angelo, Mark Herman, Richard Juliano, Arthur Schmitt Sr., Richard Christie, Anthony Columbo, Frances Bocignone

Collections:

July 16th.....\$7,293.00
Budget Deficit July 2017.....\$842.00

Wedding Banns

II Georgios Makrogiannis & Stephanie Sabella

Newly Baptized : Chinonye Odili, America Garcia Martinez, Daniel Garcia Martinez, Jennifer Garcia Martinez, Julianna Enid Rodriguez, Gianna Enid Rodriguez, Julio Anthony Rodriguez Jr., Landon Nicholas Siracusa, Francesco Joseph Citera, Robert William Bates Jr.

NOTE FROM THE PASTOR:

Dear Parishioners:

Tomorrow is the memorial of Saint Charbel Makhlouf. Charbel (also spelled Sharbel) was born in Lebanon in 1828. He entered a monastery at the age of 23 and was ordained a priest in 1858. For 16 years, Father Charbel lived the communal contemplative life of the monastery with the other monks. In 1875, he was granted permission to live a hermit's life in solitude. For the next 23 years, he practiced great austerities for the sake of Christ and His Church, often wearing a hair shirt, sleeping on the ground, and eating only one meal a day. Jesus in the Holy Eucharist was the center of his life. He died at the age of seventy.

His body was buried directly in the ground without a coffin and without embalming. For the next 45 nights according to many local villagers a bright light appeared above his tomb. As the mysterious light persisted, officials at the monastery decided to petition church authorities for permission to exhume the body. When the grave was opened four months after Charbel's death, his body was found to be incorrupt. In 1928, and again in 1950, the grave was reopened, and his body was once again found to be without decomposition. Pope Francis is said to have a deep devotion to St. Charbel. It was reported that last Christmas the Holy Father asked to have a relic of the Saint sewn into the hem of his vestments. There are many miracles attributed to St. Charbel.

One of these was reported recently in the Southwest. [Kathy Schiffer, "Phoenix Mother: St. Charbel Cured My Blindness." *National Catholic Register*, March 25, 2017]. Dafne Gutierrez suffered from benign intracranial hypertension (BIH), a condition that causes increased pressure in the brain. In 2012, the increased pressure caused her to lose vision in her right eye. Three years later, in November 2015, this Catholic mother lost sight in her left eye, as well. She was devastated to be unable to care for her children. She said, "For me, I was like, 'Please God, let me see those faces again. Let me be their mother again.' Because I feel like [my kids] were watching me, taking care of me 24/7." Gutierrez struggled to adjust to her infirmity, which included seizures at times.

Then, in January 2016, as St. Joseph's

Maronite Church in Phoenix announced that the relics of St. Charbel would be visiting the parish, Gutierrez's sister encouraged her to go. Gutierrez entered the church January 16 and prayed before the relics. Then she went to Confession and was blessed with holy oil by the pastor, Father Wissam Akiki. She felt different after this. Early in the morning of January 18, Gutierrez awoke with a burning pain in her eyes. Her husband turned on the lights and the brightness hurt her eyes. At 4 AM she told him that she could see shadows, but he scoffed at this notion. After all, she was blind! Soon after, her vision reached a perfect 20/20.

Dr. Anne Borik explained that the brain condition Gutierrez was suffering from before the healing causes the optic nerve to constrict. Once the optic disc—the spot at which the optic nerve enters the eyeball—is damaged, it's too late to repair. This is so because when the pressure in the brain reaches high levels, as it did in Gutierrez's case, the optic nerves become strangulated. "Unfortunately, once the blindness occurs," said Borik, "it's irreversible." Prior to the healing, images of Gutierrez's optic disc revealed great damage. "We have pictures," said Borik, "to confirm that the optic disc was chronically atrophied. There was significant swelling, or papilledema." But after Gutierrez's vision returned, Borik reported, there was no evidence of the aberrations of the earlier images. "In the post-healing pictures," Borik said, "her optic disc is back to normal. Her vision is completely restored. She has no more seizures. That is why I, as a medical doctor, have no explanation."

A medical committee, led by Borik, conducted a careful review of Gutierrez's medical records, and examined her repeatedly. The committee wrote, "After a thorough physical exam, extensive literature search and review of all medical records, we have no medical explanation and therefore believe this to be a miraculous healing through the intercession of St. Charbel." Dr. Borik is very enthusiastic about what happened. "It has changed my practice! It has changed how I relate to patients. Now," she said, referring to her relationship with those entrusted to her care, "prayer is such an important part of what we do."

God Bless You!

Father Eric

Sacred Heart 2017-2018: Sacred Heart is now accepting applications for the 2017-2018 school year. Sacred Heart School is a West Brighton fixture with a rich history of academic and athletic success. At Sacred Heart children are inspired and educated in the image of God. One hundred percent of our 8th grade graduates are accepted into their high school of choice. Many of our students are awarded high school scholarships, are accepted into advanced/specialized programs and our school has among the highest ELA and Math scores on Staten Island. We place emphasis on technology in the classrooms as our kindergarten—eight grade students have Chrome Books in the classroom. Homework assignments, upcoming events and school news are posted on our school website. Also our basketball, soccer, swimming and golf teams are not only competitive, they win! Sacred Heart also has a Junior National Honor Society as well as drama, art and chess clubs. In addition we offer a free Pre-K and financial assistance is available to students from K-8th grade. If you are interested please contact the school at (718) 442-0347, private tours are available.

Sacred Heart Soccer Registration:

Registration is now open for the 2017-2018 Sacred Heart Soccer Team. Both boys and girls ages 4 (birth year 2013) thru 14 are welcome to join. Please visit www.sacredheartsoccerclub.siplay.com to register and for further information.

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Saturday July 29, 2017:

5:00 : J. Oliveras, T. Koleci, M. Riccardi

Sunday July 30, 2017:

7:00 C. Basile, G. Garcia, J. Hoey

9:00 J. Torres, M. Perkert, S. Lauren

11:00 Kathleen, Ann & Siobhan McCafferty

1:00 B. Freund, T. Smith, G. Seaborg

5:00 M. Donovan, H. Xuereb, A. Cruz

St. Joseph's Retreat Center

(St. Joseph Hill Academy)

Summer 2017 Program Schedule

Sunday-Friday, August 13-18th: Friendship with God: A Spirituality for Living Now. Facilitated by Father Paul Fagan, rooms are available for \$450 for a single and \$400 for a double with a non-refundable deposit of \$50 due by August 7th. This retreat will explore the tradition of friendship with God along with the marks of friendship such as benevolence and mutuality. Each day will include daily Mass with a homily, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and confessions.

The retreat center is located on the grounds of St. Joseph Hill Academy at 850 Hylan Blvd. To reserve a seat simply call Ronnie Keane at (718) 720-1097 or visit SJRetreatCenter.org

Sexual Abuse: Anyone who needs to report an alleged incident of sexual abuse of a minor by a priest, deacon, religious or lay person serving in the Archdiocese of New York is asked to contact Sr. Eileen Clifford, O.P., at 212-371-1000 ext. 2949 or Deacon George Coppola at 917-861-1762. Both may be also be reached via email at victimassistance@archny.org. Information can also be found on the Archdiocesan website, www.archny.org. In keeping with the Archdiocesan policy regarding abuse of minors, this information is provided to ensure that our children remain safe and secure.

Society for the Propagation of the Faith Mission

Appeal: On the weekend of August 12th & 13th, Father Corrado Masini (Italy) will be speaking here to the parishioners of Sacred Heart on behalf of the Propagation of the Faith. He will focus on the many challenges that missionaries face and the second collection that weekend will be for the needs of mission Dioceses and Religious Communities. We ask that you be as generous as your means will allow as Evangelization is at the heart of the Church's Mission.

Online Giving: Do you know that Sacred Heart now offers online giving which makes donating quick and easy. This is perfect for our parishioners who take frequent vacations, have a busy weekend schedule or have moved but wish to continue their support of our parish. Just go to the Sacred Heart website, www.sacredheartsi.org, click on the online giving option at the top of the page and follow the link.