

Thirty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time



Saturday, November 11:

5:00 Thomas Kopf

Sunday, November 12:

7:00 Deceased Members of The Quinn & McCauley Families & Souls in Purgatory
9:00 Dr. Anthony Flagiello
11:00 Nicholas Torello
1:00 Michael Mustillo (10th Anniversary)
5:00 Barney Nugent

Monday, November 13:

7:00 People of the Parish
9:00 Patrick O'Connor

Tuesday, November 14:

7:00 Josephine Van Workum
9:00 Alice & Martin Geraghty
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Wednesday, November 15:

7:00 Bernard "Buddy" Gillotte
9:00 Stephen G. Siller

Thursday, November 16:

7:00 Louigina & Louis DeMartino
9:00 Beverly Tobin

Friday, November 17:

7:00 James McVey
9:00 Mary Romanelli

Saturday, November 18:

9:00 Kathleen Grace
5:00 John Kirincich

Sunday, November 19:

7:00 Brendan Hoey
9:00 Al & Sue Amore
11:00 People of the Parish
1:00 Patricia M. Silvestri
5:00 Deceased Members of The Pattison Family

Saturday, November 18:

5:00 Frank Ponterio

Anne Siemer

Sunday, November 19:

7:00 Teresa Zulch
9:00 Kennedy Apoe Elizabeth D'Antuonno
11:00 Ken Wisniewski Dorothy Tarafa
1:00 Charles Sullivan John Mooney
5:00 Robert Mazzucco 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, JoAnn DiPietro, Robert Williams, Sebastian Lattuga, Linda Browne, Frances Nodar, Tina Russo, Nathaniel Sasha, Kathryn Capofari, Rosemary Regan, Anthony Umana, Barbara Rotondo, Carmela D'Angelo, Mark Herman, Arthur Schmitt Sr., Richard Christie, Anthony Columbo, Frances Bocignone, Roseanne Viano, Barbara Longo, Linda Powers, Crystal Helewa, Eleanor Cooper, Daniel Juliano, Lizabeth Walsh, Joseph DeMeo

Due to any early deadline with our bulletin production company the collections for All Saints Day and the weekend of November 4th & 5th will be published next weekend.

Newly Baptized:

Timothy Michael Xuereb
Antonio Gianotto

NOTE FROM THE PASTOR:

Dear Parishioners:

Sammy Rangel has a Masters in Social Work. He is a consultant with law enforcement agencies on reducing violence. Rangel is the founder of *Formers Anonymous*, a self-help program for men and women looking to exit a lifestyle of crime and violence. His happy and productive life did not start that way.

At age three he and his sister were raped by their mother's brother. He said, "Even as a three-year-old you know when something terribly wrong is happening to you." He was also sadistically abused by his mother and stepfather throughout his childhood. He said, "My mother would always harm me in the worst possible way—so if it was a belt she was using, she'd hit me with the buckle end. I seldom got fed and had to sneak or steal food, and she didn't let me lie down at night; she made me kneel by her bed until I keeled over. She did everything she could do to degrade me. My siblings, who were conditioned to ignore me, just turned a blind eye. By the age of eight I tried to hang myself—only failing because the extension lead broke."

At age 11 he decided to run away. He wanted to kill his mother first, but he did not have the strength or courage to go through with it. After that he spent most of his early teenage years on the street. He joined a gang, started drinking and smoking cocaine, and constantly fornicated. He became callously indifferent to everything, and bore a hardened heart. One of the older gang members asked him to slit someone's throat. When he said he could not, the older gangster showed him how to do it by means of an actual demonstration. Soon after, he became thoroughly violent and aggressive in the extreme. At 17 he went to prison for the first time.

Rangel said, "Even though I was a father, with one child and another on the way, I was excited about going to prison because I knew it was where I could gain power and authority. And so the gang fighting that had started on the outside crystallized in prison. Now I had an ideology where violence was glamorized and glorified. It gave my life a sense of meaning and legitimized everything I did." Rangel became so dangerous that he was sent to a maximum security prison where, he claims, the inmates ran the establishment. The white racist gang members were in charge. He belonged to a Puerto Rican gang. One day he was caught up in a race riot that involved shootings, stabbings and hostage taking. He said, "I went into prison as a street punk and came out as a brutal leader with a killer mentality." When he was released from prison he started walking the streets with both a gun and a shank. He felt that at this point in his life, he was more animal than man. Seven months later he

returned to prison for armed robbery and was again immediately put in the segregation hole.

One day, a man named George came to the hole to talk to him. Rangel said, "He confused me by calling me 'nephew' and saying he wanted to see me in his office. I had had no human contact for months and yet he got me brought from my cell to his office—which required four men putting me in shackles, handcuffs and chains—and then he told the guards to take off my chains. I couldn't believe it: it was like letting a werewolf loose on a herd of sheep. It shocked me that this guy, who was half my size, wasn't afraid of me." Then George asked Sammy for his story, and Sammy told him everything. George didn't flinch or pity Sammy. He just listened. Afterwards he said, "I want to help you get out of this place." Sammy left knowing he had been affected in some way. The meeting left him feeling vulnerable. A year later he assaulted four guards and injured them. Instead of gloating, as he would have done in the past, Sammy felt remorse. He didn't want to do that anymore. He wrote to George and told him what he had done. George did not express any disappointment, which gave Sammy hope to carry on.

What really changed Rangel's life was an intense drug rehabilitation program. As part of the treatment Sammy had to talk about his life, and his mother, which unleashed a torrent of emotion. "I cried so much my face looked as if it was covered in bruises. When a fellow inmate told me that I didn't love my daughter because I hadn't properly tried to find her, that hurt terribly because I knew it was the truth. In an instant I went from feeling self-pity to feeling remorse. In fact, it was the first time I'd experienced empathy." From that moment he did everything to try to put his life together. When he left prison, he decided that he needed to find forgiveness from his son and daughter, and also to forgive his mother and everyone else who had hurt him, including his uncle. Sammy said, "I had created myths as to why I couldn't forgive my mother – the myth that she must accept my forgiveness, that she didn't deserve it, and most of all that what she had done was unforgivable. I realized now that I needed to let go of these myths because as long as I tried to collect what my mother owed me, I would never move forward in my life. And so, in the end, it was forgiveness that released me from the hate that was consuming me."

Jesus offers us His forgiveness and He offers our forgiveness of others as a way out of a certain darkness that smothers us at times.

God Bless You!

Father Eric

Sacred Heart 2017-2018: Sacred Heart is still 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. The school currently has an enrollment of 278 students all of who 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 Chromebooks 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 Thanksgiving Mass: The annual Sacred Heart Thanksgiving Mass will take place on Tuesday, November 21st at 7:30 PM. As is traditional the third and fourth grade children in both the school and the religious instruction program are invited to dress as Native Americans and Pilgrims. Also blessed bread will be distributed after the Mass to the parishioners in attendance to enjoy at their Thanksgiving Dinner Celebration.

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Saturday, November 18, 2017:

5:00 : B. Daniels, W. Hollnsteiner, M. Donovan

Sunday, November 19, 2017:

7:00 Kasey, Kelly & Erik Shashaty

9:00 R. Delamasa, H. Xuereb, G. Seaborg

11:00 N. Ehresman, V. Kaleta, G. Garcia

1:00 T. Smith, B. Freund, A. Schmitt

5:00 M. Perkert, A. Buscemi, N. Ramdass

St. Vincent De Paul: Once again your St. Vincent De Paul Society is in urgent need of non-perishable food for the pantry. Would you please donate or bring to the vestibule of the Church one or more of the following foods; canned vegetables, canned soups, peanut butter & jelly, canned tuna fish, cereal, apple juice, tomato sauce & pasta, canned or jarred fruits. Thank you and God bless you!

St. Joseph Retreat Center Fall Programs

(St. Joseph Hill Academy)

Luminous Seeing: Wednesday, November 15th from 9:30-11 AM, \$25 per person, facilitated by Grace Conte. The entire ministry of Jesus was a gradual care for the human blindness. You are invited to see as we awaken through prayerful encounters a vision of the life and land God wishes.

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

St. Joseph's Seminary: St. Joseph's Seminary, "Dunwoodie", has a variety of programs that are available to qualified lay men and women as well as consecrated religious and priests. These programs include: Master of Arts in Theology, Maser of Arts in Catholic Philosophical Studies, Graduate and Post Master's Certificate in Sacred Scripture and Graduate and Post Master's Certificate in Dogmatic Theology. All new students receive a 50% discount on their first class and there are four locations to enroll at including Yonkers, Douglaston, Poughkeepsie and Huntington. If you are interested contact Donna Eschenauer at (917) 367-8280 or Christine Hammill-Cregan at (631) 423-0483.

Seton Foundation: Next weekend, November 18th and 19th representatives of The Seton Foundation for Learning will be selling raffle tickets for a chance to win \$5,000. The tickets are \$5 each or three for \$25. The Seton Foundation teaches developmentally disabled children and young adults ages 3-21 years of age. Over the years some of our own parishioners have had children that benefitted from this very worthy and noble program.

SACRED HEART PARISH GROUPS

Bible Study: Our Pastor, Fr. Eric has a weekly bible study group which meets on Saturdays from 1-2 PM in the school's small cafeteria. During the hour The Rosary is recited, Father gives a short bible lecture and there is a brief group discussion. All parishioners are encouraged and welcome to attend.

Altar Servers: We are always looking for new boys and girls to become altar servers. If you are in the fifth grade or older, are a practicing Catholic and have received your first Holy Communion you can join. If anyone is interested please contact the Rectory at (718) 442-0058 or simply ask Fr. Eric after Mass. Being a server not only increases one's spiritual experience at Mass but also is a great way to get involved in the parish.

Sacred Heart Youth Group: Sacred Heart currently has a Youth Group for children in grades 6-12. If your child is interested in joining or if you have any questions contact Maria Montouri at (347) 247-2930. The group meets every first and third Monday of the month in the school cafeteria at 7 PM. There is free pizza, drinks and snacks for all who attend the meetings. The group does service projects like clothing and coat drives, eyeglass drives and bake sales as well as fun social activities like movie nights, bowling and laser tag! Also, any student who is currently in need of community service hours can join for an easy way get hours and have some fun at the same time.

Legion of Mary: The Sacred Heart chapter of the Legion of Mary meets weekly (if possible) on Wednesday's at 6:30 PM in the rectory. The meeting lasts roughly one hour and the members pray The Rosary and offer assistance to the Pastor. If you are interested please call Patti Foley at (718) 983-5416. All are welcome

and thanks to all who support The Legion of Mary.

Sacred Heart Choir: The Adult Choir sings on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month, rehearsals take place at 10:15 AM the Sunday you are scheduled to sing. If any new members who can carry a tune wish to join they do so by simply showing up. Being a member of the choir is a great way to enhance your spiritual experience at Mass. Remember he who sings prays twice!

Youth Activities Council: The Sacred Heart Youth Activities Council is a parish men's club that meets (schedule permitting) on the first Friday evening of the month. Coaches of the various sports teams attend and give an update on recent and upcoming events. Various fundraisers that not only benefit the teams but also the school are planned and discussed. Even if your child has already graduated from the school, you are still encouraged to attend and enjoy the camaraderie. The meeting lasts usually for an hour and afterwards refreshments are served.

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 and click on the link at the top of the page. Also kindly remember Sacred Heart Church in all your estate and will planning.

