

Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Saturday, October 14:
5:00 Patricia M. Silvestri

Saturday, October 21:
5:00 Bill Jones Theresa Hudik

Sunday, October 15:
7:00 Deceased Members of The Quinn & McCauley Families & Souls in Purgatory
9:00 Robert Lo'Primo
11:00 People of the Parish
1:00 John Gambardella (11th Anniversary)
5:00 Deceased Members of the Carey & Driscoll Families

Sunday, October 22:
7:00 Joan Prenty
9:00 John Mooney Jr. Maryanne Gambardella
11:00 Ken Wisniewski Pat Jezycki
1:00 Stephen Brown Dorothy Tarafa
5:00 Fred Maley Efrain Ortiz

Monday, October 16:
7:00 Special Intentions of The Gordon Family
9:00 Margherita & Philip Frabotta



Tuesday, October 17:
7:00 Eugene Whalen
9:00 Jesus & Adelaide Plurad

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

Wednesday, October 18:
7:00 John D. Beers Jr.
9:00 Anna & William Wilson

Thursday, October 19:
7:00 Stella Sutera
9:00 John Cooney

Friday, October 20:
7:00 Beverly S. Brooks
9:00 Nancy McVey

Saturday, October 21:
9:00 Maureen Driscoll
5:00 Thomas Kopf (5th Anniversary)

Collections:
October 8th.....\$6,366.00
Monthly Collection October 2017.....\$3,513.00

Sunday, October 22:
7:00 Janet Miller
9:00 Sue & Al Amore
11:00 Nicholas & Adeline Carducci
1:00 People of the Parish
5:00 Deceased Members of the Nicolais & Fischetti Families

Wedding Banns

III Juan Manuel Alejandro & Jennifer Lauren Minucci
III Leo Kim & Sihjae Lee

Be sure to kindly remember Sacred Heart Church in your Estate and Will planning.

NOTE FROM THE PASTOR:

Dear Parishioners:

This past week, the question of how our society treats females has been on my mind. First, Hugh Hefner passed away several days ago. We might call him the “father” of contemporary pornography. His *Playboy* magazine motored our nation’s sexual revolution, which I hate. I am sure Jesus does as well.

What does that have to do with how we treat females? Much! Pornography objectifies women. It dehumanizes them. It presents them as equivalent to toys or pleasure machines. Therefore, it is no surprise that studies show that with pornography comes an increase in domestic violence against women, as well as rape. The serial killer Ted Bundy, who did unspeakable things to dozens of women, complained bitterly before his execution in 1989 about how his exposure to pornography as a teen poisoned his attitude toward women.

Second, I read an article entitled, “Why Moms Like Me Are Pulling Their Daughters Out Of Dance Class,” by Calah Alexander [*Aleteia.org*. Jun 29, 2017]. Alexander pulled her two daughters out of dance school four years ago. They both loved dance and she and her husband wanted to give them the chance to learn grace, strength, rhythm, and all the other benefits that come from dancing. She explains, “What they mostly learned, though, was how to sashay and shake their tiny heinies. Oh, and they also got a good helping of body angst, since their toddler-and-little-kid bodies didn’t match the wrapped-present halter tops and French maid costumes.”

Haley Stewart had a similar experience with her daughters, which she wrote about at her blog: “Carrots for Michaelmas”. Is having a child shake her behind at the audience real art? Stewart says no. Moreover, she does not think sexualizing small children is “cute.” “Cute is little ballerinas chase-ing across the stage and plie-ing at the wrong time and you say ‘aw.’ Cute is not sexualized movement imposed on small children who don’t understand what they’re doing.” Stewart also pulled her daughters out of dance.

I bring up these two articles not so much to criticize dance studios. I know very little about their services. However, I do wish to criticize the sexism that our society celebrates. Alexander points out that in our emphasis to empower women we are falling into a trap. That trap is that we start to equate empowerment not with real virtue such as wisdom or fortitude, but with sexiness. “So even if you are an athlete or an actor or a scientist, or any kind of intelligent, accomplished woman, the message that we’re sending, especially to young girls, is above all else be sexy ... The message is, I should be celebrated, and the way that I do that is by presenting myself as a sexualized object.”

We see this approach on television news programs, for instance. The men delivering the news, analyses of current events or the weather, are usually fitted with nonchalant jackets and ties. Many of them are

average looking. The women, on the other hand, engaged in the same work, are clothed with tight fitting and revealing clothing, and they are usually good looking enough to be fashion models. This is sexism, if you ask me. As Alexander puts it, “It’s saying the same old thing — that the sum total of a woman’s worth is how sexually desirable she is.” Women’s sex appeal is a good thing. It is, after all, God-given. However, to reduce a woman to a sum of her body parts is a pitiful (and sinful) approach to how we value females. Let’s avoid this reductionist approach. Women are far more than their romantic attractiveness. Made in the image and likeness of God, they are the bearers of life in motherhood and give great impetus to human progress by means of their relational power and their warmth and nurture, which gives encouragement and healing in every generation. And they are much more than this. To capture the entirety of the fairer sex is impossible for my pen. They are daughters of God and they bear the light of Christ in a uniquely feminine way. St. John Paul II referred to the contribution of women to the Church as the “feminine genius.”

Pardon me if I am biased in favor of women. You see, the most heroic people in my life have been female. I am not criticizing the men of my existential journey. They have my deepest appreciation, especially my Dad. However, for whatever reason, the females, in particular, my mother, godmother and grandmother, have been most inspiring to me.

In conclusion, I think Alexander put it well when she reminds us that in raising daughters (and sons) we do not have to purchase a subscription to the reductionist approach to females that is so epidemic in our culture. She states, “As parents, we don’t have to sit by and allow our daughters and sons to learn, from far too early an age, that girls are sexualized objects rather than full, complete, amazing human beings. We’re the ones who pay for the dance classes and the magazines, the clothes and the movies — we can (and should) choose all of those things carefully and wisely, keeping in mind that we’re forming young women and young men, not simply entertaining children.”

May our blessed Lady, the fairest of our race, help us to value girls and women the way Her Son does. Amen.

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 Basketball: The annual Sacred Heart Pep Rally will take place on Saturday, October 21st, immediately following the 5 PM Mass. The rally will take place in the school gymnasium and let's all come and cheer our players on to a another successful, championship season.

Radio Bingo: On Friday, October 20th, Sacred Heart will be having Radio Bingo which begins at 7 PM in the school auditorium. The price is \$30 per person and if you are interested see the fliers in the vestibule of the Church. This has always been a very fun night so why attend and have laughs with friends.

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Saturday, October 21, 2017:

5:00 : Mary, Siobhan & Ann McCafferty

Sunday, October 22, 2017:

7:00 Kasey, Kelly & Erik Shashaty

9:00 Matthew, Julia & Sean Ahern

11:00 N. Ramdass, W. Wenzel, G. Seaborg

1:00 J. Mullen, H. Xuereb, M. Fernando

5:00 A. Buscemi, H. Bond, B. Daniels

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)

Women of Wisdom: Tuesday, October 24th from 1:00 - 3:00 PM, \$25 per person, facilitated by Sister Louis Curry. Saint Catherine of Siena, Saint Teresa of Avila, Saint Therese of Lisieux and Saint Hildegard of Bingen were all named Doctors of the Church. Join us as we plunge into their lives and God's plan for the Church.

Praying for Our Loved Ones: Wednesday, November 1st from 1:30-3:30 PM, \$25 per person facilitated by Pat Stephens. Come and pray and share memories of your loved ones who are now resting in God's embrace. We will provide a time of peace and a sacred place not only to remember your deceased family but also your relationship with them.

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. Peter's Boys High School: St. Peter's Boys High School will be having their annual open house on Sunday, October 29th from 1-4 PM. This year also marks the school's centennial anniversary so why not enroll in a school with 100 years of academic success and excellence.

Sacred Heart Bereavement Mass: The annual Sacred Heart Bereavement Mass will take place on Sunday, November 5th at 11 AM. Letters have been mailed to the relatives of all our Parishioners who died from September 2016-August 2017. During the Mass the names of the deceased will be announced and the family may come forth and light a candle in their memory. Light refreshments will be served afterwards. Those who wish to attend please contact the Rectory.