

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time



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

Saturday, October 28:  
5:00 Bill Jones

Theresa Hudik

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

Sunday, October 29:  
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 23:  
7:00 Benjamin Zarelli  
9:00 Jack Graham & Souls in Purgatory



Tuesday, October 24:  
7:00 Joseph Giorlando  
9:00 Corinne A. O'Brien & Joseph F. O'Brien

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 25:  
7:00 John Clark  
9:00 Janet Mahoney

Thursday, October 26:  
7:00 John King Jr.  
9:00 Janet Mahoney

Friday, October 27:  
7:00 Sarah Schmitt  
9:00 Grace Stanger

**Collections:**  
October 15th.....\$7,587.00  
Budget Deficit October 2017.....\$267.00

Saturday, October 28:  
9:00 Florence Campbell  
5:00 Victoria & James Crowdell

Sunday, October 29:  
7:00 Brendan Hoey  
9:00 Robert & Helen Mullaney  
11:00 Stanley Modzelewski  
1:00 People of the Parish  
5:00 Margaret & Edward McCauley

We ask that you kindly remember the souls of our recently departed parishioners and their families in your prayers especially: Louis Mangiapia Sr., Valerie Eymer, Steven Vargas, Charles Butera, William Grimes Jr., Margaret Faulds, Joseph Carmine & Thomas Daly.

## NOTE FROM THE PASTOR:

Dear Parishioners:

As you know, parents face challenges raising children in the Catholic Faith. David Mills mentions a major concern, namely, how to help children understand the ultimate meaning of our religion. This plays out especially in the occasional tug-of-war to get them to come to Mass. [“A Lesson for Parents: Don’t Drag Your Children to Mass for the Wrong Reasons.” *Aleiteia.org*. October 11, 2017.]. Mills makes two fine points.

First, our approach should be Christ-centered. “There’s a difference,” he says, “between wanting to be a Catholic and loving Christ and His Church. You ought to want to be a Catholic, but only because in the Church you find Jesus.” When I was a child whenever a particular older relative of mine came to church with us she would often ask us children after Mass, “Don’t you feel better now after going to church?” Reflecting upon her approach as a grown man I think that she had very good intentions. She wanted to motivate us children to keep coming to Mass. However, she was appealing to our subjective inner feelings, which, as you know, can vary with the weather. That we go to Mass *for Jesus*, which is what Mills emphasizes, is a better approach.

Jesus [in tandem with the Father and the Holy Spirit] has created us. He has suffered and died for us as our Redeemer. He is the author of all that is good in our lives. Therefore, we do well to remind our children that we go to church *for Jesus*: to worship Him, to thank Him and to praise Him. Thus, we go *to give*—to give what we owe to Jesus. However, because He is so much more generous than we are we also go *to receive*—to receive that which is totally good and the greatest, namely Jesus Himself: in the living Word of God proclaimed at Mass and deposited in our souls, and most especially in the Blessed Sacrament.

Mills points out that we sometimes forget the centrality of Christ in our effort to strengthen the faith lives of our children. We instrumentalize the faith, he says. We make it an instrument for getting something we want. “We fret about our children entering a seductive yet hostile world. We worry they’ll make ‘bad choices’ and screw up their lives in a way they’ll never be able to undo. So we press

church on them as a way of keeping them safe. On Sunday morning, our children can hear ‘Let’s go for our weekly attitude adjustment,’ not ‘Let’s go meet Jesus.’ They can hear, ‘You ought to be like this,’ not ‘You ought to love Jesus who loves you.’ They see that for you the Church is a means to an end. They know you believe it, but they also know you’re using it. If they don’t want the same end as you, and they won’t, being kids, they may well reject the means.”

Second, our approach to the Faith should be Heaven-centered. Our religion is not ultimately aimed at this world. To make this claim is ironic, considering that the Catholic Church does so much for the world. We are the largest provider of social services in the world today. We do more to serve the sick, help the poor, and educate children than any other organization or government on the planet. Nevertheless, the point of our religion is not to build up an earthly paradise, but to prepare our souls for Heaven. St. Paul once said, “*If for this life only we have hoped, we are the most pitiful people.*” (1 Cor. 15:19).

In *Mere Christianity* C.S. Lewis explained that history shows that the Christians who did most to help this world, starting with the Apostles, were the ones most concerned with the next world. “It is since Christians have largely ceased to think of the other world that they have become so ineffective in this,” he adds. Mills reminds us that when we aim at Heaven we will get earth “thrown in”. However, if we aim only at earth we will get neither. It seems like a strange rule but something similar can be seen at work in other matters. For instance, health is a great blessing, but once we make physical health our number one concern we often become hypochondriacs. “This offers a lesson for parents. Aim at Heaven. Don’t drag your children to Mass because it’ll save them from the world or make them better or turn them into the kind of children you want. Bring them because you love Jesus in the Mass and in His Church, and make sure they know that for you Jesus is the end, not ever a means. Weirdly, you may then get the child you want.” In other words, *seek first the Kingdom of God, and all these [good] things will be added unto you.* (Matthew 6:33).

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 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 at (718) 442-0058.

### **ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE**

**Saturday, October 28, 2017:**

5:00 : A. Basile, C. Basile, A. Cruz

**Sunday, October 29, 2017:**

7:00 J. Torres, J. Esco, S. Baniswal

9:00 T. Koleci, A. Maida, R. Delamasa

11:00 S. Ahern, J. Mullen, E. Shashaty

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

5:00 A. Schmitt, J. Perkett, J. Oliveras

**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](http://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. Over the years many of our students at Sacred Heart have gone on to great things at St. Peter's.

## **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](http://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.

**All Souls Day:** Wednesday, November 1st is All Souls Day which is a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass times are Tuesday, October 31st at 7 PM, Wednesday, November 1st at 7 AM, 9 AM and 7 PM.

