

TWENTY-Fifth SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Saturday, September 17:

5:00 James Crowdell

Sunday, September 18:

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

9:00 Sue Amore 12th Anniversary

11:00 People of the Parish

1:00 Ralph Knisley

5:00 Stanley Modzelewski

Monday, September 19:

7:00 Michael Hyland

9:00 Corinne O'Brien

Tuesday, September 20:

7:00 Nancy McVey

9:00 Matthew Pavis

Wednesday, September 21:

7:00 Tim DeRosa

9:00 Brendan Hoey

Thursday, September 22:

7:00 Albert Tarasovis

9:00 Mary Romanelli

Friday, September 23:

7:00 Sr. Therese Mary O'Caim.

9:00 Patricia Silvestri

Saturday, September 24:

9:00 John Buzzard

5:00 Victoria & James Crowdell

Sunday, September 25

7:00 Domenico Petrecca

9:00 Daniel Hollnsteiner 1st Anniversary

11:00 Joseph Trembone

1:00 John Malloy

5:00 Daniel Hollnsteiner 1st Anniversary

Saturday, September 24:

5:00 Bill Jones

Theresa Hudik

Sunday, September 25:

7:00 Joan Prenty

9:00 Vincent O'Grady

11:00 Ken Wisniewski

1:00 Stephen Brown

5:00 Bob Mazzucco

Maryanne Gambardella

Patricia Jezycki

Dorothy Tarafa

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, Linda Powers, Frances Nodar, Tina Russo, Nathaniel Sasha, Kathryn Capofari

Collections:

Regular September 11: \$6,848

Mission Collection \$2,176

The flowers on the altar are donated in the loving memory of the deceased members of The LaCava, Sullivan and Balice families.

Wedding Banns

III . Amanda LaCava & Frank Balice
I. Samantha "Sammy" Genunu Kirinnagoda
&
Jemila Mohamed
I. Michael Azzato & Alisen Pappalardo

NOTE FROM THE PASTOR:

Dear Parishioners:

Last week in this column, I wrote about the fascinating story of Claude Newman. He was an illiterate African American sharecropper who had a death-row conversion after experiencing a vision of our blessed Lady. He was received into the Catholic Church shortly after the apparition. Claude's execution was scheduled for 12:05 AM on January 20, 1944—just four days after his Baptism. As a last request, Claude wanted cake and ice cream for himself and all of his fellow prisoners. He said, “All of my friends are all shook up. The jailer is all shook up. But you don't understand. I'm not going to die; only this body is going to die. I'm going to be with the Lady. So then, I'd like to have a party.” Though the warden was initially reluctant, Fr. O'Leary, the chaplain, persuaded him to accept the generosity of a wealthy patron of the parish who generously supplied the ice cream and cake for the convicts' party. After the party, Claude requested a Holy Hour with the Stations of the Cross. The prisoner received *the Viaticum moments prior to his execution and Fr. O'Leary prayed with the condemned man.*

Fifteen minutes prior to the execution, Sheriff Williamson halted the procedure, saying that the governor had given Claude a two-week reprieve. Unbeknownst to Claude and Fr. O'Leary, the sheriff and the District Attorney were secretly trying to get a stay of execution for Claude in order to save his life. However, when Claude found out, he had an unusual reaction. He started to cry saying, “But you don't understand! If you ever saw her face, and looked into her eyes, you wouldn't want to live another day!” Claude lamented, “What have I done wrong these past weeks that God would refuse me my going home?” Fr. O'Leary later testified that Claude wept as if he was completely brokenhearted.

The priest had a sudden inspiration and reminded Claude of a fellow prisoner, James Samuel Hughs, a white prisoner also on death row, who hated Claude intensely. Hughs was an ex-Catholic and a convicted murderer. “Maybe Our Blessed Mother wants you to offer this denial of being with her for Hugh's conversion,” suggested Fr. O'Leary. “Why don't you offer to God every moment that you are separated from your heavenly Mother for this prisoner, so that he won't be separated from God for all eternity.”

Two weeks later, Claude was finally put to death by the electric chair on Feb. 4, 1944. He offered the intervening time for the atonement of the sins of James Hughs. Fr. O'Leary later testified to journalists: “I've never seen anyone go to his death as joyfully and happily. Even the official witnesses and the newspaper reporters were amazed. They said they couldn't understand how anyone could go and sit in the electric chair while at the same time actually beaming with happiness.” Claude had his favorite dessert, coconut pie, on the night before he died. His last words to Fr. O'Leary were, “Father, I'll remember you. Whenever you have a request, ask me, and I'll ask her.”

On May 19, 1944, three months later, James Hughs was scheduled to be executed for his crimes. Once strapped into the electric chair, he was asked if he had any last words. At that, he bellowed out a stream of the vilest insults and blasphemies. Suddenly, Hughs froze. He was horrified as he stared at the corner of the room. He then cried out desperately and begged the sheriff to fetch a priest. Fr. O'Leary stepped forward and the execution chamber was cleared so that the two could speak in private. Hughs confessed his sins with great contrition and humility. Apparently, he had experienced two visions while strapped in the electric chair. The first was of Claude Newman who stood before the Blessed Virgin Mary, her hand resting upon his shoulder. Claude said to Hughs, “I offered my death in union with Christ on the Cross for your salvation. She has obtained for you this gift of seeing your place in Hell if you don't repent.” The second vision was of Hughs' final infernal home if he refused to repent. James Hughs was executed as soon as he had finished his Confession and given the *Viaticum*.

For further Reading see Angelo Spagnaro, “The Amazing Conversion of Death Row Inmate Claude Newman. *National Catholic Register* (8 August 2016.)

God bless you!
Father Eric

Sacred Heart School- Registration 2016-2017

Now accepting applications for September 2016.
Free Full Day Universal Pre-K for All 4 yr olds,
Pre-K 3, Kindergarten and Grades 1-8 (718) 442-0347.

CCD Registration & Re-Registration:

It's not too late to register..If you are interested in registering your child (entering 1st-7th grade in Sept 2016) for Religious Education classes for the 2016-2017 school year please email Mrs. Rizzuto at shcreligioused@yahoo.com or call and leave a message 718-442-1536.

CCD Look Ahead to September:

Confirmation Parent Meeting— September 22 @ 7PM
Communion Parent Meeting—September 29 @7PM

Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary: On Friday, October 7th at 6:30P.M. Father Eric will be celebrating mass in honor of The Feast of Our Lady of The Rosary. Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament will follow at 7 P.M. with recitation of The Holy Rosary (20 Mysteries), Meditation before each mystery (3 minutes) and Silent Prayer (5 minutes) after each of the four sets of mysteries. The service will conclude with Benediction at 9:30 P.M.

Bible Study : Father Eric is offering an eight week Bible series on the Gospel of St. Matthew. The series will be on Sunday evenings from 6:30 to 8 P.M. and will run from October 2 to November 20. The Gospel is featured throughout the next liturgical year at Sunday Mass beginning with the first Sunday of Advent, November 27, 2016. This series is designed to help our parishioners enrich their Sunday worship by experience while expanding their knowledge of Sacred Scripture. All are welcome. No Charge. For further information please contact Father Eric at frrapaglia@yahoo.com or at the rectory (718) 442 -0058.

Staten Island Grandmothers Club: The Staten Island Grandmothers Club Chapter 899 is a local Non Profit Social Club that raises money for sick children on Staten Island. The Club meets the first Wednesday of every month at the Staaten on Forest Avenue at 11:45 A.M. for a luncheon. If you are interested in joining or coming to a luncheon please call Alana Chanod at (347) 423-1190.

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Saturday, September 24:

5:00 Chris Basile & Kevin Postler

Sunday, September 25:

7:00 Margaret Donovan & Matthew Kalikas

9:00 Mary, Kathleen & Siobhan McCafferty

11:00 Albert Cardone & Bernard Daniels

1:00 Sarah Laureno & Angela Buscemi

5:00 Austin Maida & Elizabeth Eadicicco

Choir News

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Join a Choir Today

Il Viaggiare Coro 2018 (traveling choir) :

September 18th 10:30 A.M. (11 A.M. Mass)

Parish Choir (ages 10 –110) :

Rehearsal October 5th 7:30 - 8:30 P.M (11 A.M. Mass on Oct 9th.)

Kids Choir (ages 5—grade 5):

Rehearsal Oct. 12th 5 - 6 PM in the Chapel, registration is required. Prizes!! Treats!! Hop on Board!!!

Family Choir :

October 2nd 10:45 A.M. In the Choir loft. Bring the entire family. Newcomers are most welcome and greatly appreciated. If you have any questions please call Pamela. (VM 24). Prizes!! Treats!! Coffee!! Come on up!!

Newcomers are Most Welcome and Greatly Appreciated!! Any questions please contact Pamela at (718) 442 -0058 (VM 24).

The Hymnbooks: Thanks for all your support, comments and advice regarding the next course of action with regards to our beloved hymnbooks. I have passed along your ideas to Fr. Eric. They have included everything from complete replacement (\$8,500 - \$11,500 for 475 books/choir books/organ books) to the most economical solution (retire the wounded books and replace with misselettes, approximately \$1,200 a year). These retired books would go home with dedicated family members or be rebound by family and returned to the pew.

Fr. Eric will share your ideas with The Parish Council and see how best to proceed. In the meantime thanks so very much for your donations, commitments and checks to Sacred Heart Choir earmarked hymnbooks. I will keep you posted. In the meantime, thanks for putting away a cherished hymnbook (pew, rack, number on back cover). Any questions call Pamela. (VM 24)

Join a choir today! Put away a hymnbook! Purchase a CD! Come with us on our next International choir tour!