

The Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Intention

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 22 – Twenty-First Sunday
in Ordinary Time**

8:00 A.M. Paul Eiaw
9:30 A.M. Theresa Polizio
11:00 A.M. For the People of St. Francis
12:30 P.M. Jacqueline Mangiafreno
Maria Cini
Theresa Androsiglio

MONDAY, AUGUST 23 - St. Rose of Lima
9:00 A.M. Theresa Polizio

TUESDAY, AUGUST 24 - St. Bartholomew
9:00 A.M. The McHale Family

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25 - WEEKDAY
9:00 A.M. John Purich

THURSDAY, AUGUST 26 - WEEKDAY
9:00 A.M. Heinz-Dieter Wrede

FRIDAY, AUGUST 27- St. Monica
9:00 A.M. Joe Argenzio Jr.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 28 - St. Augustine
9:00 A.M. Purgatorial Society
Catherine Ann Niemice
Veronica Gordon
Charles Gordon

5:00 P.M. For the People of St. Francis

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 29 – Twenty-Second Sunday
in Ordinary Time**

8:00 A.M. Paul Eiaw
9:30 A.M. The Brucaliere Family
11:00 A.M. Philip Lupetin
12:30 P.M. Evelyn Matz
Calogera Giordano
Mrs. Grace Fulop



Today's Readings

The Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b
Ephesians 5:21-32
John 6:60-69

Readings for the Week

MONDAY: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5, 8b-10
Matthew 23:13-22

TUESDAY: Revelation 21:9b-14
John 1:45-51

WEDNESDAY: 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13
Matthew 23:27-32

THURSDAY: 1 Thessalonians 3:7-13
Matthew 24:42-51

FRIDAY: 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8
Matthew 25:1-13

SATURDAY: 1 Thessalonians 4:9-11
Matthew 25:14-30

The Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8
James 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23





***Monday, August 23, 2021
The Feast of
Saint Rose of Lima***

The first canonized saint of the New World has one characteristic of all saints—the suffering of opposition—and another characteristic which is more for admiration than for imitation—excessive practice of mortification. She was born to parents of Spanish descent in Lima, Peru, at a time when South America was in its first century of evangelization.

The saints have so great a love of God that what seems bizarre to us, is simply a logical carrying out of a conviction that anything that might endanger a loving relationship with God must be rooted out. So, because her beauty was so often admired, Rose used to rub her face with pepper to produce disfiguring blotches. Later, she wore a thick circlet of silver on her head, studded on the inside, like a crown of thorns. When her parents fell into financial trouble, she worked in the garden all day and sewed at night. Ten years of struggle against her parents began when they tried to make Rose marry. They refused to let her enter a convent, and out of obedience she continued her life of penance and solitude at home as a member of the Third Order of Saint Dominic. So deep was her desire to live the life of Christ, she spent most of her time at home in solitude.

During the last few years of her life, Rose set up a room in the house where she cared for homeless children, the elderly, and the sick. This was a beginning of social services in Peru. Though secluded in life and activity, she was brought to the attention of Inquisition interrogators, who could only say that she was influenced by grace.

When she died at 31, the city turned out for her funeral. Prominent men took turns carrying her coffin.



***Tuesday, August 24, 2021
The Feast of
Saint Bartholomew, Apostle***

In the New Testament, Bartholomew is mentioned only in the lists of the apostles. Some scholars identify him with Nathanael, a man of Cana in Galilee who was summoned to Jesus by Philip. Jesus paid him a great compliment: “Here is a true Israelite. There is no duplicity in him” (John 1:47b). When Nathanael asked how Jesus knew him, Jesus said, “I saw you under the fig tree” (John 1:48b).

Whatever amazing revelation this involved, it brought Nathanael to exclaim, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the King of Israel;” (John 1:49b). But Jesus countered with, “Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than this” (John 1:50b).

Nathanael did see greater things. He was one of those to whom Jesus appeared on the shore of the Sea of Tiberias after his resurrection (see John 21:1-14). They had been fishing all night without success. In the morning, they saw someone standing on the shore though no one knew it was Jesus. He told them to cast their net again, and they made so great a catch that they could not haul the net in. Then John cried out to Peter, “It is the Lord.”

When they brought the boat to shore, they found a fire burning, with some fish laid on it and some bread. Jesus asked them to bring some of the fish they had caught, and invited them to come and eat their meal. John relates that although they knew it was Jesus, none of the apostles presumed to inquire who he was. This, John notes, was the third time Jesus appeared to the apostles.



Friday, August 27, 2021
The Feast of
Saint Monica

Although Monica was a Christian, her parents gave her in marriage to a pagan, Patricius, who lived in her hometown of Tagaste. Patricius had some redeeming features, but he had a violent temper. Monica also had to bear with a cantankerous mother-in-law who lived in her home. Patricius criticized his wife because of her charity and piety, but always respected her. Monica's prayers finally won her husband and mother-in-law to Christianity. Her husband died in 371, one year after his baptism.

Monica had at least three children who survived infancy. The oldest, Augustine, is the most famous. At the time of his father's death, Augustine was 17 and a rhetoric student in Carthage. Monica was distressed to learn that her son had accepted the Manichean heresy—"all flesh is evil"—and was living an immoral life. For a while, she refused to let him eat or sleep in her house. One night she had a vision that assured her Augustine would return to the faith. From that time on, she stayed close to her son, praying and fasting for him. When he was 29, Augustine decided to go to Rome to teach rhetoric. Monica was determined to go along. One night he told his mother that he was going to the dock to say goodbye to a friend. Instead he set sail for Rome. Monica followed him. She arrived in Rome only to find that he had left for Milan. Although travel was difficult, Monica pursued him. In Milan, Augustine came under the influence of the bishop, St. Ambrose, who also became Monica's spiritual director. Monica became a leader of the devout women in Milan as she had been in Tagaste. She continued her prayers for Augustine. At Easter 387, St. Ambrose baptized Augustine and several of his friends. Soon after, his party left for Africa. Although no one else was aware of it, Monica knew her life was near the end. She became ill shortly after and suffered severely for nine days before her death.



Saturday, August 28, 2021
The Feast of
Saint Augustine

St. Augustine was born in Roman Africa to his Christian mother, St. Monica, and a pagan father, Patricius, whom later converted on his deathbed. St. Augustine is the patron of printers and theologians for his extensive writings on the Catholic Faith. Through the prayers of his holy mother and the marvelous preaching of St. Ambrose, Augustine finally became convinced that Christianity was the one true religion. Yet he did not become a Christian then, because he thought he could never live a pure life. One day, however, he heard about two men who had suddenly been converted on reading the life of St. Antony, and he felt terrible ashamed of himself. "What are we doing?" he cried to his friend Alipius. "Unlearned people are taking Heaven by force, while we, with all our knowledge, are so cowardly that we keep rolling around in the mud of our sins!"

He was baptized, became a priest, a bishop, a famous Catholic writer, Founder of religious priests, and one of the greatest saints that ever lived. He became very devout and charitable, too. On the wall of his room he had the following sentence written in large letters: "Here we do not speak evil of anyone." St. Augustine overcame strong heresies, practiced great poverty and supported the poor, preached very often and prayed with great fervor right up until his death. "Too late have I loved You!" he once cried to God, but with his holy life he certainly made up for the sins he committed before his conversion. He died in A.D. 430 at the age of 76.

The Memorare



Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thine intercession was left uncided. Inspired by this confidence,

I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my mother; to thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.



Welcome to Our Church

If you wish to register as a parishioner of St. Francis of Assisi Church, please stop by the Rectory Office during regular business hours. There you can pick up a census card which can be filled out at that time or returned by mail or in the Sunday Collection Basket. You can even download the census card on line. Just check our website at:

stfrancisofassisiastoria.org

You will then begin to receive weekly offering envelopes.



3rd Time:

Darren Burke
St. Francis of Assisi
Astoria, NY

And

Joanna Sawyer
St. Francis of Assisi
Astoria, NY

3rd Time:

William O'Donnell
St. Robert Bellarmine
Bayside, NY

And

Caitlyn O'Connor
St. Francis of Assisi
Astoria, NY



Ensuring the Future of Your Church

Saint Francis of Assisi Parish relies on your goodness and generosity to ensure that the ministry of Jesus continues here in Astoria. A charitable bequest is an excellent way to create a lasting memorial. Many of our parishioners use their wills or living trusts to make their most generous gifts. Please remember us when you create yours.



Parish Mission Statement

St. Francis of Assisi Parish is a Catholic community that is centered in Jesus, gathers in worship and witnesses the Gospel message. The parish values and welcomes each person's gift of time, talent and treasure. As a faith-filled community, we are committed to minister to the spiritual, educational and material needs of all people.

Remember in your prayers all those in our parish who are sick, that they may find health and comfort:



Charles Hickey, Steven Joyce, Ana Balint, John Wrenn, Rose Williams, George Behringer, Augustin Cisneros, Martha Calado, James Nunez, Vincent Wytak, Carol Ross, Jeffrey Hyans, Marie LoVolpe, Jessica St. Preux, Al Ciani, Alesha Moses, Nancy McCaffrey, Christopher Wojtalik, Marie Guerriero, Theresa Pacheco, William Goss, Luke Pacheco, Vincenza Papa, Jim Schneggenburger, Anthony Criscuolo, John Ross, Samantha O'Sullivan, Marilyn Miller, John Carmody, Rosario Duran, Vivian Papa, Joel Steinmann, Anna Governali, Antonio Postiglione, Mario Tamburello, Christopher Araimo, Charles Principato, Jim Kreitler, Humberto Cordova, John Schakir, Louise Joyce Mastromarco, Margaret Culhane, Benedicto Randazzo, Theresa Unter, Angelo Niakas, & Peter Lopez.

Also remember in your prayers all the deceased of the Parish. Please remember to continue to pray for vocations to the priesthood, religious life, diaconate, and married life.

RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

After receiving Holy Communion, please remember this is a special time with the Lord. Do not be stopping to say hello or wave to people in the pews. Return to your seat in silence and use this special time for prayer and thanksgiving. Reflect that you have received the Body and Blood of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Jesus is with you. Please observe a prayerful silence.

Please be mindful that there are people who come to church early in order to pray.



Please show respect by observing silence.

The Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time August 22, 2021



Pray
for Vocations

“You have the words of eternal life.”

Will your path of holiness be as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life?

Contact the Vocation Office at
(718) 827-2454 or
email: vocations@diobrook.org



Communion for the Homebound

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion can bring the Eucharist to home bound parishioners using the usual safety precautions (masks, social distancing) and if the parishioner and extraordinary minister are comfortable doing so. The homebound person should be equally comfortable in having the Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion visit their home. If Extraordinary Ministers are willing, please call Marybeth at the rectory to let her know.

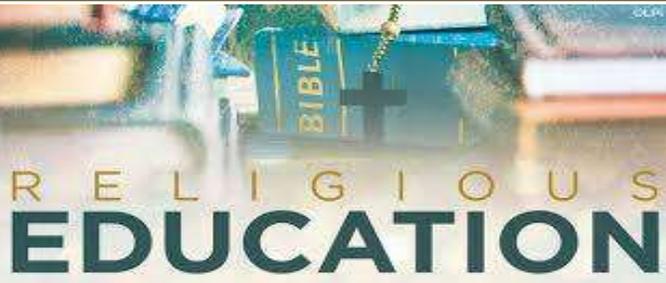
Those who are home bound, if you wish Holy Communion, please call the rectory and leave your name, address, and phone number. A minister will be in contact with you to make the necessary arrangements. Please DO NOT contact a minister on your own. If a minister was bringing Holy Communion to you let Marybeth know that when you call the rectory.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

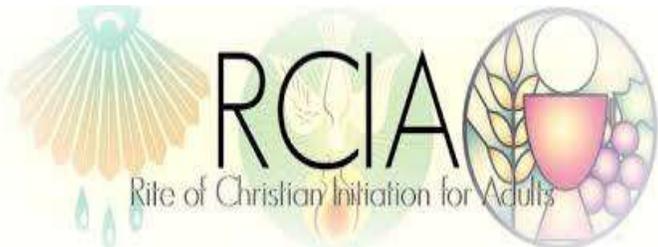
FOCUS:

The immense love God has for His people prompts us to love in return.

The theme for today's readings is fidelity between God and His people. How loyal are we to Jesus? As we able to take Peter's words as our own? *Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.* How well do we even know the words of Jesus? Let us recommit ourselves to deepening our knowledge and love of the Lord.



If you have a child beginning first grade in public school, it is time to register for Religious Education. Diocesan guidelines require *two years* of instructions prior to the reception of a Sacrament. If your child is already in the first grade and missed this year, call the Office of Religious Education to set up an appointment to discuss the options.
Anthony Perrelli, Director of Faith Formation,



ARE YOU SOMEONE OR DO YOU KNOW
SOMEONE WHO...

Has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic?
Was baptized Catholic as a child, but has not celebrated the Sacraments of Eucharist and/or Confirmation?

Then **RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)** is what you're looking for!

Sessions focus on the teachings and experience of the Church as well as prepare individuals to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist during the Easter season.

For information please contact our Director of Faith Formation, Anthony Perrelli at [\(718\) 278.0259](tel:7182780259) or dre@sfaacademy.org.

OFFICE HOURS
Monday - Thursday 9:00AM to 3:00PM
or by appointment



DO YOU ENJOY SINGING?

Then use your voice to praise the Lord!

Join the St. Francis of Assisi Choir.

We meet every Monday evening at 7:00pm
In the choir loft in church.

ALL ARE WELCOME!



Golden Age Meetings

YES! Finally, the Golden Age meetings resume on Monday, September 13th in Monsignor Campbell Hall.
(45th Street side entrance to the Church basement)

Hope all return and bring a friend or neighbor who is 60 years or older.

We are now permitted to have food and drink.

Admission (weekly) is \$2.00. Cards, Pokeno and Bingo will be played as usual. You will have time to socialize with friends.

Looking forward to you return.

Welcome back all -

God Bless

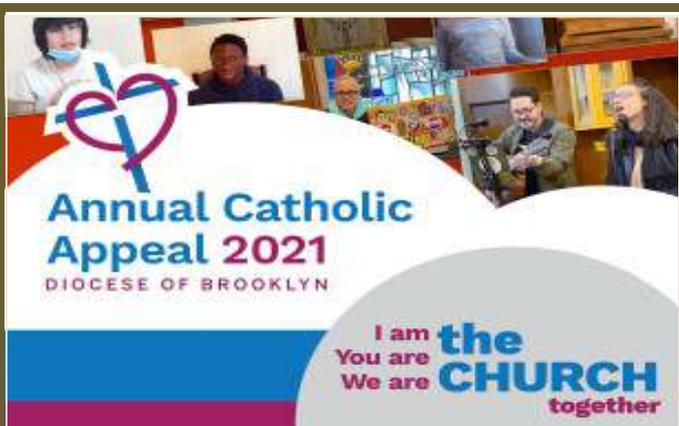
St. Francis of Assisi Parish
Weekly Offering

Thank you for your continued generosity of giving each week. Your weekly offering helps us pay our monthly bills.

**The Collection/Donation
for the weekend:**

Sunday Collections 8/7-8/8	\$3,953.00
2 ND Collection—The Assumption	\$1,372.00

School parents must use church envelopes.



THANK YOU to all who have donated to the Annual Catholic Appeal. I appreciate your generosity. As of this time we have \$36,948.00 pledged and \$29,601.66 paid towards our goal of \$41,679.00.

If you have not donated to the appeal as of this time, I ask you to prayerfully consider a donation to help us achieve our goal.

Envelopes are available in Church or you may stop at the rectory.

Our parish receives a grant from the appeal for our Religious Education Program and a grant helps to defray the cost of the hospital chaplain in our deanery. I ask that you help us reach our goal since we do benefit from the appeal.



Church Tower Repairs

As you see they are completing the repair of the front left side of the Church.

THANK YOU for your donations to help with this project. The cost of this project is \$25,500.00 and we received through your donations \$13,280.00.

Thank you for your support of this project and helping to keep our Church building in good shape.

Hopefully, capping the wood will last and prevent any water leaks in the stairwell.

Please know I am grateful to all who have donated to this project.

Msgr. Maresca

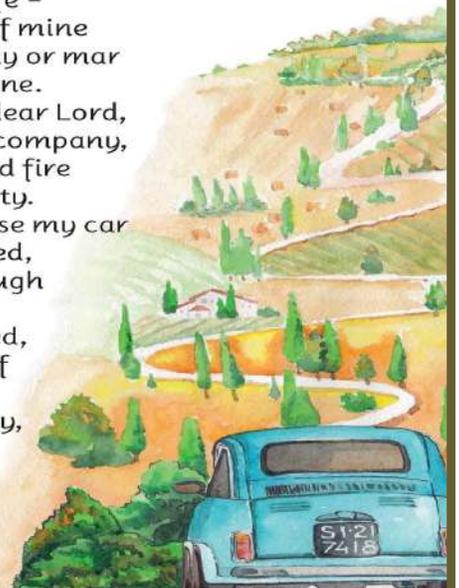
The Motorist's Prayer

Grant me a ready hand, a watchful eye,
that none may suffer hurt as I pass by.

Thou givest life -
I pray no act of mine
may take away or mar
that gift of thine.

Shield those, dear Lord,
who bear me company,
from fools, and fire
and all calamity.

Teach me to use my car
for others' need,
nor miss through
lack of wit
or love of speed,
the beauties of
thy world -
that thus I may,
with joy and
courtesy go
on my way.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THIS WEEK

August 22 - 28

Sunday, August 22

Monday, August 23

Tuesday, August 24

6:30pm—AA Meeting

Wednesday, August 25

Thursday, August 26

Friday, August 27

Saturday, August 28

Attention All Society Leaders

A copy of the 2021/2022 Pastoral
year calendar
can be picked up at the Rectory.

NEXT WEEK

August 29 - September 4

Sunday, August 29

Monday, August 30

Tuesday, August 31

6:30pm AA Meeting

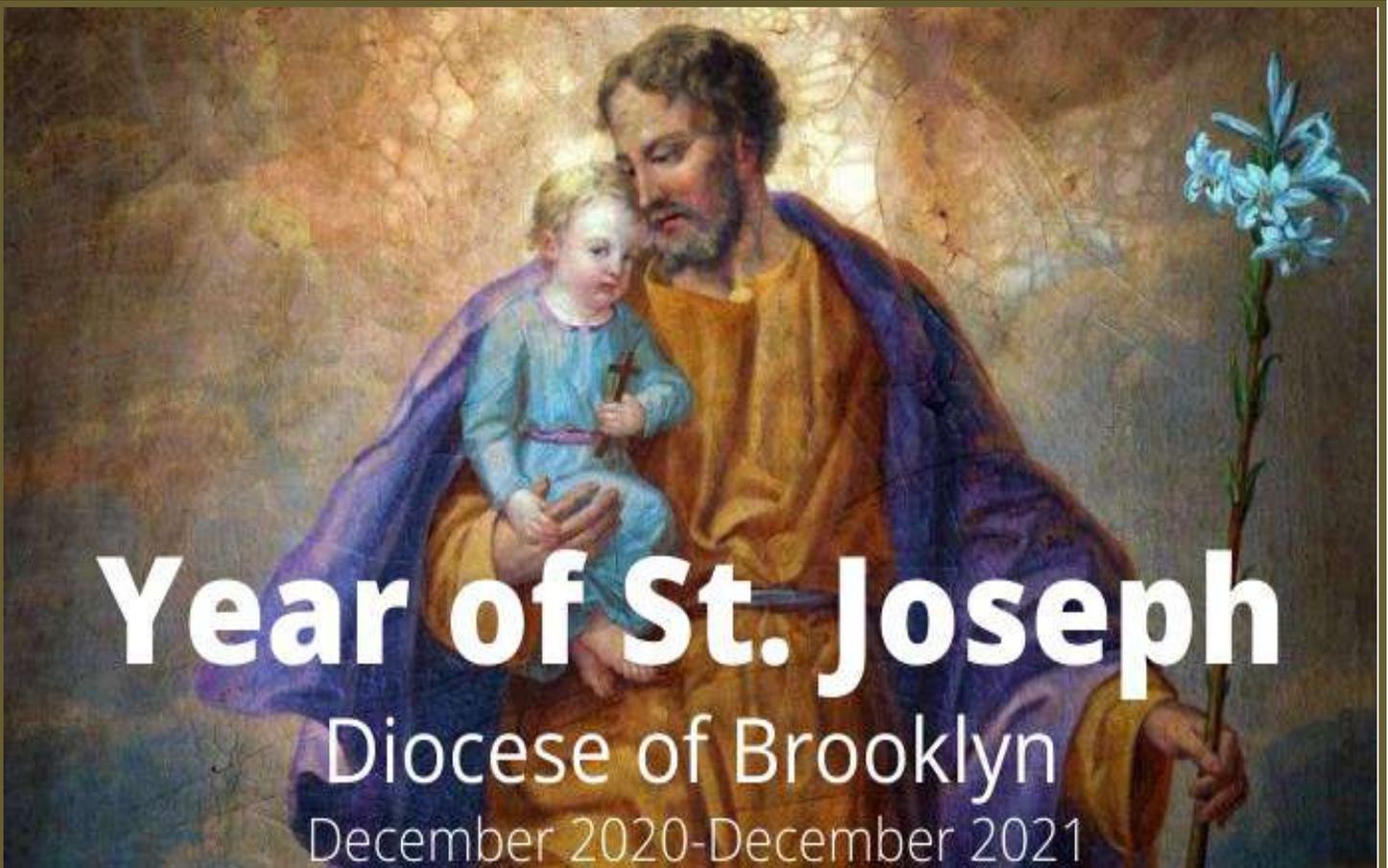
Wednesday, September 1

Thursday, September 2

Friday, September 3

Saturday, September 4

9:00am—Anointing Mass



Year of St. Joseph

Diocese of Brooklyn

December 2020-December 2021

Saint Joseph was a faithful son of the Eternal Father. God reveals in Saint Joseph that a father is a man who is obedient to God in an uncomplicated, sacrificial, and steadfast way. Saint Joseph was a faithful and loving spouse. Joseph trusted in the angel's words to him and lovingly accepted Jesus as his own son. He provided a protective home for Mary and Jesus and accepted his call to be a husband to Mary and a father to the Son of God, even when he believed himself unworthy to do so. "Joseph's attitude encourages us to accept and welcome others as they are, without exception, and to show special concern for the weak, for God chooses what is weak".

Saint Joseph was present to his child and to his wife. God entrusted the Holy Family to Joseph and worked through his creative courage to guide and protect the Holy Family. "Arriving in Bethlehem and finding no lodging where Mary could give birth, Joseph took a stable and, best he could, turned it into a welcoming home for the Son of God come into the world".

Saint Joseph was willing to sacrifice for his family. Work is a means of participating in the work of salvation. Joseph's work as a carpenter provided a means for the Holy Family to thrive and to remain hidden in Bethlehem. Joseph taught this work to Jesus. "Saint Joseph's work reminds us that God himself, in becoming man, did not disdain work"

I do not remember even now that I have ever asked anything of [St. Joseph] which he has failed to grant... To other saints the Lord seems to have given grace to succour us in some of our necessities, but of this glorious saint my experience is that he succours us in them all... (Autobiography of St. Teresa of Avila)

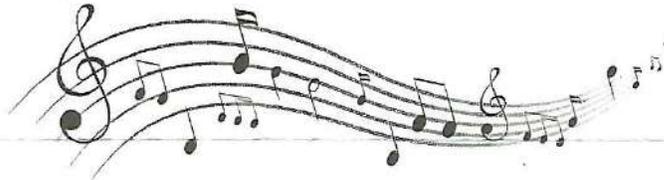


SAVE THE DATE!

Thursday September 9th, 2021
7:00 p.m.

McManus Memorial Park
81st St. & Ditmars Blvd.

Rain Date
Fri., Sept. 10th



A Candlelight “Memorial Of Music”

To Remember, Glorify and Celebrate
With Song and Prayer
The Thousands of Innocent Souls
Lost on September 11, 2001

- N.Y.C. Dept. of Correction Pipe Band
- Port Authority of N.Y. & N.J. Pipe Band
- Violinist Maria Vero
- All Denomination Religious

*Hosted Annually By The
United Community Civic Association
Together With
Port Authority Of NY and NJ And
The NYC Department Of Correction*

Complimentary candles courtesy of Gus Antonopoulos



SUMMER WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

As the summer provides us with weekend opportunities to get away, please remember the importance of your weekly offerings. While the summer months bring a dip in our mass attendance and weekly offerings, it is important that we try to meet our normal operating expenses. Those expenses do not change with the summer season.

Please consider submitting your summer envelopes before you leave for vacation. Those monies help us pay our summer bills and keep our budget balanced. As you know our fiscal year ends August 31, 2021, so it is important we maintain a balanced budget. I appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

As always, thank you for your understanding, your generosity, and your spirit of sacrificial giving.

Have a peaceful, prayerful, enjoyable and safe summer!

SUMMER RECTORY OFFICE HOURS- 2021

**Summer Rectory Office hours will begin
Monday, June 28th and conclude Tuesday,
September 7th.**

Monday to Thursday

**9:00am to 12 Noon
1:00pm to 5:00pm**

NO Evening Hours

Friday

**9:00am to 12 Noon
1:00pm to 3:00pm**

NO Evening Hours

Closed Saturday, Sunday & Holidays



SUMMER WEATHER

We are blessed to have air conditioning in our Church to keep us cool.

Unfortunately, it is not easy to please everyone. Some say it's too cool, others say it's not cool enough. A suggestion that you bring a sweater might help to solve the situation if you feel the cold. Also, if it's a sunny day, you may want to sit on the schoolyard side of Church, where it is usually warmer from the sun's rays coming in through the windows. Thank you.



When going on vacation and you need to know the nearest Catholic Church, www.masstimes.org will assist you.

Enjoy the summer!