

The Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Intention

SUNDAY, JULY 25 – Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 A.M. Theresa Prezioso
9:30 A.M. Helen Farrugia
11:00 A.M. For the People of St. Francis
12:30 P.M. Tommaso Scarlatto
Nina Calderone
Letizia Montanti (Living)

MONDAY, JULY 26 - Saints Joachim and Anne
9:00 A.M. Francis Caridi

TUESDAY, JULY 27 - WEEKDAY
9:00 A.M. Calora Annibale

WEDNESDAY, JULY 28 - WEEKDAY
9:00 A.M. Emilia Mizic

THURSDAY, JULY 29 - Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus
9:00 A.M. Giovanni Ciancio

FRIDAY, JULY 30 - WEEKDAY
9:00 A.M. Marie Salamone

SATURDAY, JULY 31 - St. Ignatius Loyola
9:00 A.M. Purgatorial Society
Emil Sorrento
The Hovanec Family

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

SUNDAY, AUGUST 1 – Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 A.M. Caroline Connors
9:30 A.M. Mary Martino
11:00 A.M. Maria Zgaljic
12:30 P.M. Helen Gorski
Romolo Trivisan
Maria Cini



Today's Readings

The Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

2 Kings 4:42-44
Ephesians 4:1-6
John 6:-15

Readings for the Week

MONDAY: Exodus 32:15-24, 30-34
Matthew 13:31-35

TUESDAY: Exodus 33:7-11, 34:5b-9, 28
Matthew 13:36-43

WEDNESDAY: Exodus 34:29-35
Matthew 13:44-46

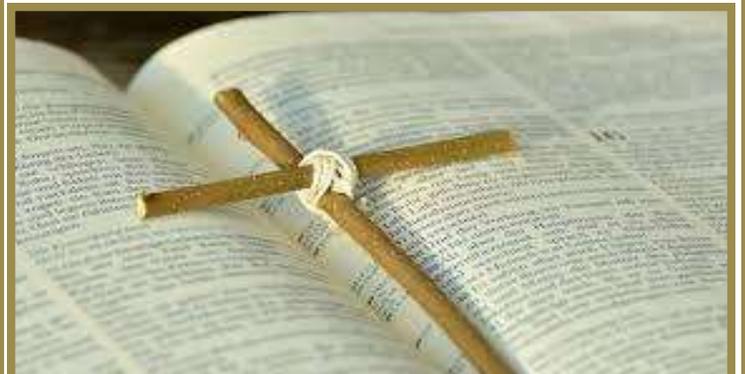
THURSDAY: Exodus 40:16-21, 34-38
John 11:19-27

FRIDAY: Leviticus 23:1, 4-11
Matthew 13: 54-58

SATURDAY: Leviticus 25:1, 8-17
Matthew 14:1-12

The Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exodus 16:2-4, 12-15
Ephesians 4:17, 20-24
John 6:-24-35





Monday, July 26, 2021
The Feast of
Saints Joachim and Anne

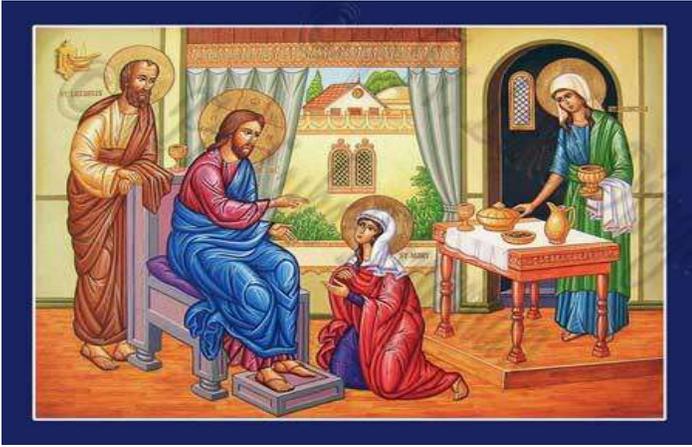
In the Scriptures, Matthew and Luke furnish a legal family history of Jesus, tracing ancestry to show that Jesus is the culmination of great promises. Not only is his mother's family neglected, we also know nothing factual about them except that they existed. Even the names "Joachim" and "Anne" come from a legendary source written more than a century after Jesus died.

The heroism and holiness of these people however, is inferred from the whole family atmosphere around Mary in the Scriptures. Whether we rely on the legends about Mary's childhood or make guesses from the information in the Bible, we see in her a fulfillment of many generations of prayerful persons, herself steeped in the religious traditions of her people.

The strong character of Mary in making decisions, her continuous practice of prayer, her devotion to the laws of her faith, her steadiness at moments of crisis, and her devotion to her relatives—all indicate a close-knit, loving family that looked forward to the next generation even while retaining the best of the past.

Joachim and Anne—whether these are their real names or not—represent that entire quiet series of generations who faithfully perform their duties, practice their faith, and establish an atmosphere for the coming of the Messiah, but remain obscure.

This is the "feast of grandparents." It reminds grandparents of their responsibility to establish a tone for generations to come: They must make the traditions live and offer them as a promise to little children. But the feast has a message for the younger generation as well. It reminds the young that older people's greater perspective, depth of experience, and appreciation of life's profound rhythms are all part of a wisdom not to be taken lightly or ignored.



Thursday, July 29, 2021
The Feast of
Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus

Martha, Mary, and their brother Lazarus were close friends of Jesus. He came to their home simply as a welcomed guest. The sisters felt free to call on Jesus at their brother's death, even though a return to Judea at that time seemed an almost certain death.

Martha's great glory is her simple and strong statement of faith in Jesus after her brother's death. "Jesus told her, 'I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' She said to him, 'Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world'" (John 11:25-27).

Martha was an active sort of person. On one occasion, she prepares the meal for Jesus and states the obvious: All hands should pitch in to help with the dinner. The Lord recognizes that Martha is "worried about many things," also noting that Mary, who has spent the preparation time at Jesus' feet listening to his words "has chosen the better part." John 12:1-8 describes Mary's anointing of Jesus' feet at Bethany, an act which he praised highly.

Immediately after we are told that the chief priests plotted to kill Lazarus "because many of the Jews were turning away and believing in Jesus because of him." Lazarus was the one of whom the Jews said, "See how much he loved him." In their sight Jesus raised his friend Lazarus from the dead.

Legends abound about the life of Lazarus. Some say he followed Peter into Syria. Another story is that despite being put into a leaking boat by the Jews, he and his sisters landed safely in Cyprus. There he died peacefully after serving as bishop for 30 years.



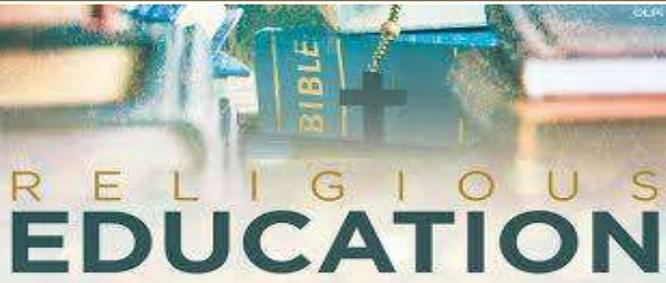
Saturday, July 31, 2021
The Feast of
St. Ignatius of Loyola

The founder of the Jesuits was on his way to military fame and fortune when a cannon ball shattered his leg. Because there were no books of romance on hand during his convalescence, Ignatius spent his time reading a life of Christ and lives of the saints. His conscience was deeply touched, and a long, painful turning to Christ began. Having seen the Mother of God in a vision, he made a pilgrimage to her shrine at Montserrat near Barcelona. He remained for almost a year at nearby Manresa, sometimes with the Dominicans, sometimes in a pauper's hospice, often in a cave in the hills praying. After a period of great peace of mind, he went through a harrowing trial of scruples. There was no comfort in anything—prayer, fasting, sacraments, penance. At length, his peace of mind returned. It was during this year of conversion that Ignatius began to write down material that later became his greatest work, the *Spiritual Exercises*.

He finally achieved his purpose of going to the Holy Land, but could not remain, as he planned, because of the hostility of the Turks. Ignatius spent the next 11 years in various European universities, studying with great difficulty, beginning almost as a child. Ignatius was twice jailed for brief periods.

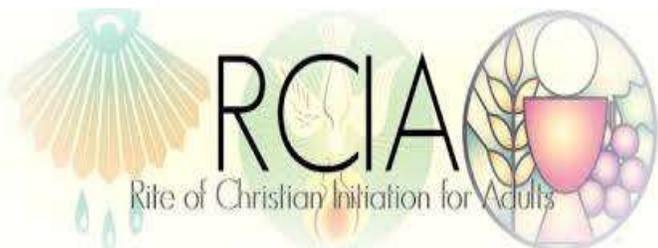
In 1534, he and six others—one of whom was Saint Francis Xavier—vowed to live in poverty and chastity and to go to the Holy Land. They vowed to offer themselves to the apostolic service of the pope.

Ignatius centered his spiritual life on the essential foundations of Christianity—the Trinity, Christ, the Eucharist.



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?

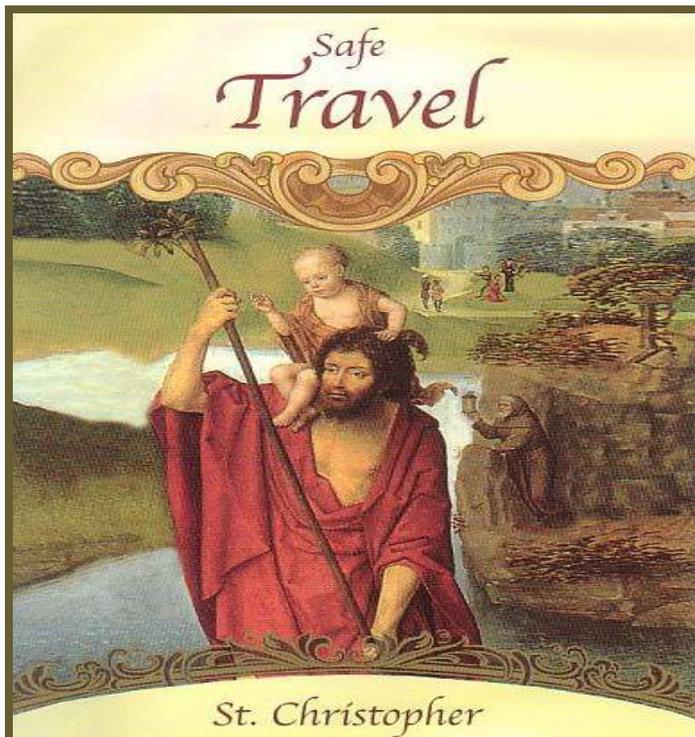
Was baptized Catholic as a child, but has not
celebrated the Sacraments of
Eucharist and/or Confirmation?

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 or dre@sfaacademy.org.

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



St. Christopher

Prayer for Safe Travel

*O almighty and merciful God, Who
commission Your angels to guide and
protect us, command them to be our
constant companions from our leaving
until our return; to clothe us with their
invisible protection; to keep us from all
danger, and finally, having preserved us
from all evil, and especially from sin, to
guide us to our heavenly home.*

Through Jesus Christ our Lord.



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.



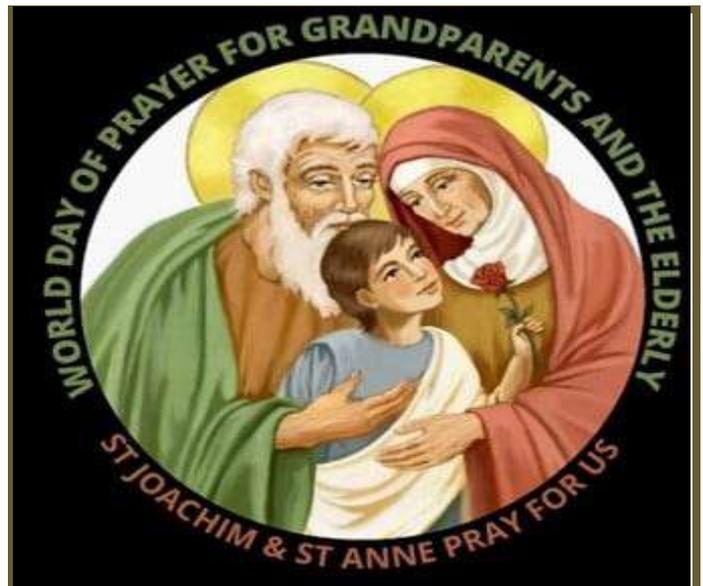
PRAYER TO OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE

Most holy and immaculate Virgin, Mother of Jesus and our loving Mother, being His mother, you shared in His universal kingship. The prophets and angels proclaimed Him King of Peace. With loving fervor in our hearts, we salute and honor you as Queen of Peace.

We pray that your intercession may protect us and all people from hate and discord, and direct our hearts into the ways of peace and justice which your Son taught and exemplified. We ask your maternal care for our Holy Father who works to reconcile the nations in peace. We seek your guidance for our head of state and other leaders as they strive for world peace.

Glorious Queen of Peace, grant us peace in our hearts, harmony in our families and concord throughout the world.

Immaculate Mother, as patroness of our beloved country, watch over us and protect us with your motherly love. Amen



July 26th is the “feast of grandparents.” It reminds grandparents of their responsibility to establish a tone for generations to come: They must make the traditions live and offer them as a promise to little children. But the feast has a message for the younger generation as well. It reminds the young that older people’s greater perspective, depth of experience, and the appreciation of life’s profound rhythms are all part of a wisdom not to be

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:



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 Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time July 25, 2021



Pray
for Vocations

“I urge you to live in the manner in which you have been called.”

Consider a vocation 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:

Offer your gift, however inadequate, with thanksgiving, trusting the power of God.

Today's sign from John's Gospel, the feeding of the five thousand, shows the power of God. The boy gave five loaves and two fish. It was a small amount, but it was all he had. Jesus took the loaves and gave thanks, and God provided food for many. We, too, can benefit from these three steps: Offer what we have. Give thanks. Expect God to act.

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 7/17-7/18	\$3,633.00
Diocesan Mission Program	\$1,398.00

School parents must use church envelopes.



Next weekend, July 31th and August 1st, the second collection will be for Air Conditioning. Please be as generous as your means allow.



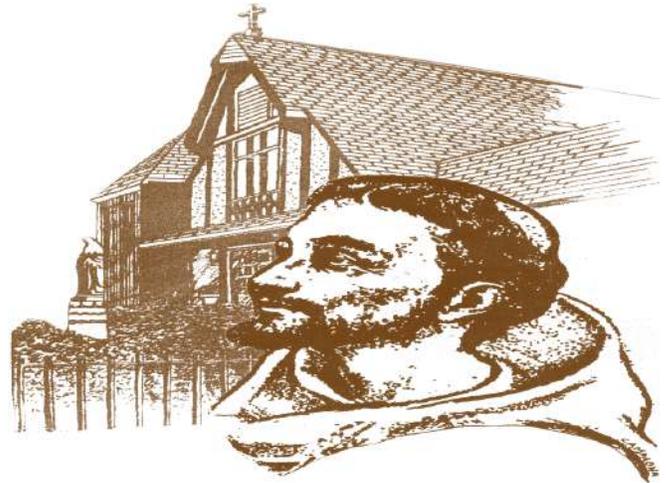
THANK YOU to all who have donated to the Annual Catholic Appeal. I appreciate your generosity. As of this time we have \$36,508.00 pledged and \$27,508.00 paid towards our goal of \$41,679.00.

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.

Thank you for your support.



Church Tower Repairs

The front and side of the tower of Church are in need of major repair. If you look closely at the wood it is rotting and cracked and, in some places, coming off. Work needs to be done before water seeps into the stairwell going down to Msgr. Campbell Hall. Before that happens, which would create mold and mildew, it has to be repaired.

I have contracted with ARTECH Church Restoration, they are the company who restored the inside of our church years ago, to do the work on the tower. They will fasten all the loose boards and then install custom cap aluminum siding to replicate the existing design. This will protect the tower and prevent any rotting or leakage of water for years to come. The cost of this project is \$25,500.00.

I know we are in challenging times, however, if you are able to make a donation to help defray the cost, I would be very grateful. Please make the check out to St. Francis of Assisi and mark the envelope "TOWER RESTORATION". You may place it in any collection or drop it off at the rectory.

Thank you for your support of this project and your help in keeping our Church in good shape. To this day, we have received 12,230.00 in donations.

I am grateful to all those who have donated to this project.

Msgr. Maresca

P.S. There will be a two week delay on this project.



ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY

The St. John's University Speech and Hearing Center will be offering
"Hearing Aid Help"

from June 21, 2021 through August 5, 2021. This is a free service and is available for anyone who has a hearing aid and may be experiencing some difficulty caring for it or using it.

Please call the Center at (718) 990-6480 to schedule an appointment.

The Speech and Hearing Center is located at 152-11 Union Turnpike Flushing, NY



Fast paced, busy elder law firm in Astoria, Queens seeks conscientious paralegal and/or secretary with experience in elder law, surrogate's court procedure, guardianship court procedure, Medicaid applications, real estate transfers and sales. Familiarity with PC Law, HotDocs, word processing, any languages a plus. Candidate must be reliable and punctual. Monday - Friday, 9am - 6pm. References required. Salary commensurate with experience. Please submit cover letter, resume, references and salary requirements to Donna Furey at dfurey@fureylaw.net.

NO THANK YOU

PLEASE do NOT leave any donations of clothing, shoes and other things that you do not want on the front steps of the rectory or the Church. We are NOT collecting these things and we have no place to keep them. You may want to call the St. Vincent DePaul Society and inquire if they are collecting things at this time.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Associated Vincentian Charities of Brooklyn

Money goes back to your local parish

My Car Went To Heaven



DONATE YOUR AUTO
Running or Not

• IRS Tax Deduction • Free Towing
• Any Condition • Any Model

718-491-2525

Visit Us at svdpauto-brooklynqueens.org

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

Since 2014 alone, the Associated Vincentian Charities of Brooklyn Donation Program has given back over \$400,000 to local parishes throughout the New York Metropolitan Area. Your donation has helped many individuals in need in your neighborhood. Only through the generosity of countless parishioners are we able to make a difference. Please help us to continue to make a difference by spreading the word to anyone you know that would like to donate a vehicle, running or not leaving a review on Google, and liking us on Social Media. Together we can continue our mission in helping the less fortunate.

Help Spread the Word to help Those in Need!

Please Visit Us at svdpauto-brooklynqueens.org 

Leave a Review on  & 

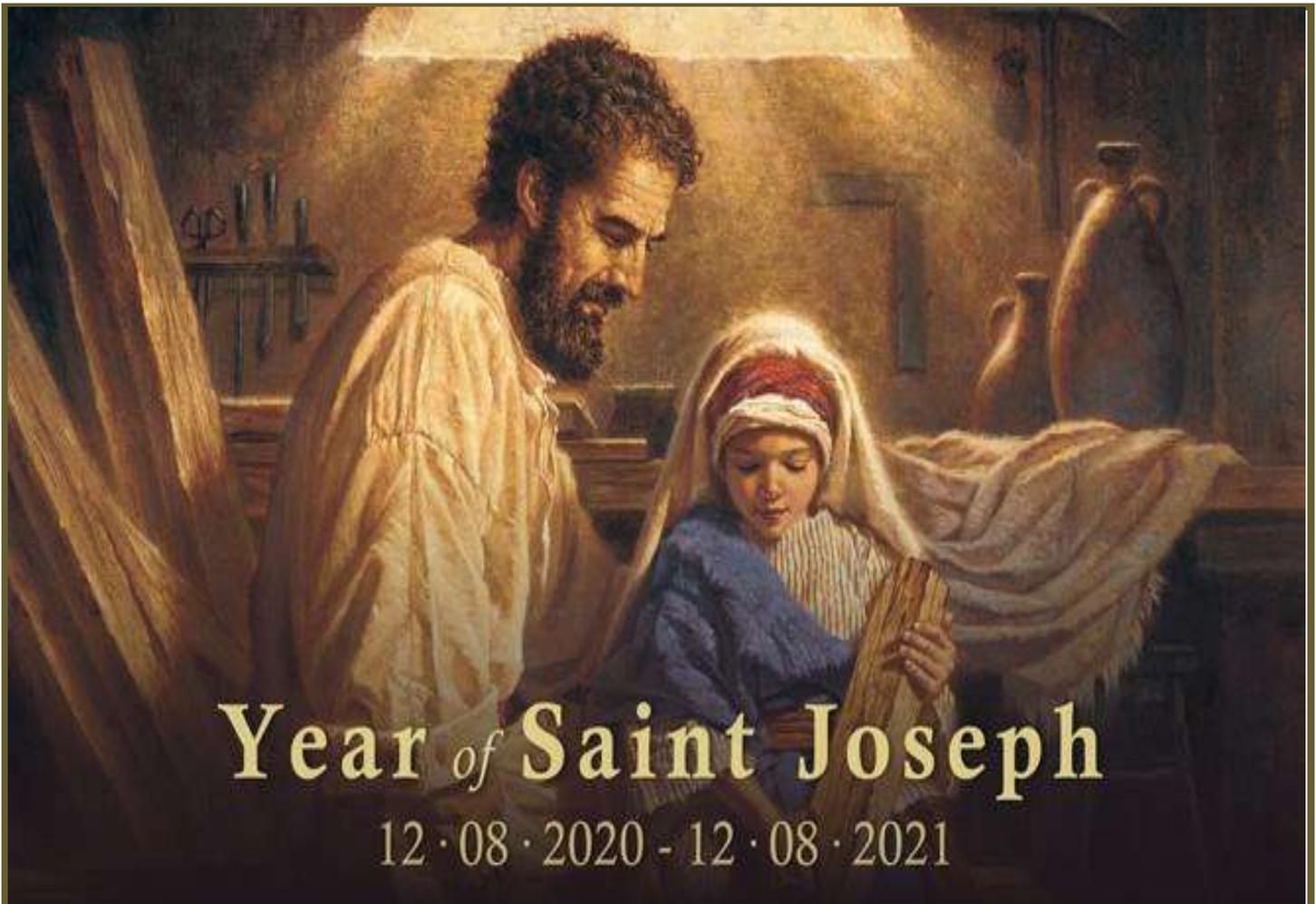
Like us on 

Follow us on 

With Much Thanks and Many Blessings,

Jim Shea

Associated Vincentian Charities Car Program Coordinator



Year of Saint Joseph

12 · 08 · 2020 - 12 · 08 · 2021

To you, O blessed Joseph, do we come in our afflictions, and having implored the help of your most holy Spouse, we confidently invoke your patronage also.

Through that charity which bound you to the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God and through the paternal love with which you embraced the Child Jesus, we humbly beg you graciously to regard the inheritance which Jesus Christ has purchased by his Blood, and with your power and strength to aid us in our necessities.

O most watchful guardian of the Holy Family, defend the chosen children of Jesus Christ; O most loving father, ward off from us every contagion of error and corrupting influence; O our most mighty protector, be kind to us and from heaven assist us in our struggle with the power of darkness.

As once you rescued the Child Jesus from deadly peril, so now protect God's Holy Church from the snares of the enemy and from all adversity; shield, too, each one of us by your constant protection, so that, supported by your example and your aid, we may be able to live piously, to die in holiness, and to obtain eternal happiness in heaven. Amen.

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!