

JMJ

Dear Parishioners,

Fire is used frequently in Sacred Scripture as a symbol of the Love of God, a love which works to cleanse men of their impurities. Love is like the fire which never says enough. Love is ignited by contact with God: My heart became hot within me. As I mused, the fire burned, exclaims the Psalmist. On the day of Pentecost the Holy Spirit came down upon the Apostles in the form of tongues of fire, to purify their hearts and prepare them for the mission of extending the Kingdom of Christ throughout the world.

The Lord wants the fire of His love to set alight our hearts, to light them up completely. He loves each one of us with a personal love, as if each one of us were the only object of His love. He never ceased to love us, to help us, to protect us, to communicate with us, even when we are ungrateful, when we sin or even when we sin gravely. The Lord always shows forth His benevolence. God does not love us with a conditional love. He loves us totally, without any conditions, with all His being, which is infinite. This mystery of love is particularly apparent in the case of His Mother, the Blessed Virgin.

Mary, Our Mother is a mirror in which we should see ourselves. She lived a normal life in such a way that none of her relatives or neighbors knew what was in her heart. Not even Saint Joseph would have known, had not God revealed it to him. Our Blessed Lady, God's most favored creature, remained always in a state of absolute normality. At the time of the Annunciation, when God's special love for her was especially evident, she accepted God's eternal plan for her. How great was her faith! To think that she carried within her the salvation of Israel, the fulfillment of all the prophesies! She not only believed in God's absolute love, but believed without the slightest reservation.

Mary teaches us to love God without limits. She helps us now to examine our conscience concerning the quality of our love for God. It doesn't make sense to have a halfhearted love for a God who loves us with such ardor. Is our heart on fire like that of the Blessed Virgin? Or has our heart gone cold, becoming a heap of ashes?

God loves me. This is the fundamental fact of our existence. Everything else pales in importance.

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
*Father Newcomb*

Monday, August 15th is the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is not a holy day of Obligation, but Holy Mass will be celebrated at 9am in the Chapel.

### **Mark your calendars!**

The 2017 Mass book will open on Tuesday, August 16th from 9:30am until 1pm and Wednesday, August 17th from 9:30am until 1pm and 5pm until 7pm. To allow everyone to get the dates they want, we will take 5 intentions the first week in person. The following week, we can take additional intentions.

**St. Mary's Little Lambs**, which is a NYS Licensed facility, is now accepting registrations for Preschool and Pre-Kindergarten classes in the fall. There are full and half day programs still available. For information contact:  
Eileen Carmody, director 845-858-4208



**4<sup>th</sup> Annual School Supply Drive**

F.A.I.T.H. is organizing our 4th annual **School Supply Drive**.

Look for the Tree of Knowledge in the narthex beginning the weekend of August 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> through August 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. Select your apple (red apples have a list of supplies needed and green apples can be returned to the office or in the offering baskets with a monetary donation). Return your donations by the weekend of August 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. All purchased donations can be left in the bins in the narthex.

FAITH will deliver all donations the first week of September. In working closely with the schools, we have modified the supplies requested to reflect what is needed most by the children of our community.

*Thank you in advance for your generosity.*

**Sunday, Sept. 18th is our Annual Parish Picnic at the Sparrowbush firehouse.** Hot Dogs and hamburgers will be provided. **Please bring your own Non-Alcoholic drinks and item according to your last name (enough for approximately 8 people). Last names:**

**A-G Appetizer or Snack \* H-P Dessert\*  
Q-Z Salad or Vegetables**

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number of Adults: \_\_\_\_\_ Children: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Bringing: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return the reservation form to the parish office before Monday, September**

**ANNOUNCED MASSES**

- Monday, August 15 (Assumption of the BVM)**  
9:00am Raymond and Irene Guinn, by Barbara Guinn  
Luann McCarthy, by Catherine Westfall
- Tuesday, August 16 (Stephen of Hungary)**  
9:00am Eileen Darcy, by Lorraine Gilley
- Wednesday, August 17**  
9:00am Marion Rohner, by Rayola McLaughlin
- Thursday, August 18**  
9:00am Michelle and Christopher Marion, by daughter Toni  
Luann McCarthy, by Ernie and Debbie Jackson
- Saturday, August 20**  
4:00pm The parishioners of St. Mary's
- Sunday, August 21**  
8:30am Mary Marino, by Deacon Rich and Joanne Marino  
11:30am Nick Marinaro, by Patti and Patricia Marinaro and family



*The Sanctuary Lamp will burn brightly this week for Luann McCarthy, by Ray and Sharon Close.*

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:** Ida Lissner, Joann Wilcox, Nick Moscatiello, Jackie Mundy, Theresa Fuller, Bob Ritchie, Allan Van Starrex, Donald Wolff, Walter Szpakowicz, Frances Brennan, Jose Ramos, Aedan Roach, Jim Roach, Robyn Radzikowski, Joseph Brennan, Betty Brennan, Richard Samek, Sandy Osbourne, John McKeon, William Lincoln, Michael Barnes, Jeanine Lincoln, Mary Platania, Angela Grillo, Ruth Lewis, Anthony Medaglia, Maureen Hildebrandt, Jose Maldonado, Tonya Addy, Raquel Maldonado, Robert Cinerar, Andrea Fedoruk, Angela Portella, Pauline Portella, Steve Wilkinson, Grace Maillet, John Little, Joseph Cox, Dennis Simmons, William Gaide, Jacqueline Hamilton, Ashley Avella, Fr. Ivan Csete, Robert Semerano, Christina Greeves, Barbara Drew, Amelia Quinn, and Marianne Ripel.

The collection for August 6/7 was \$5,546.  
Thank you for your continued generosity.

**Liturgical Ministers for August 20th/21st, 2016**

MASS	LECTOR	MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	ALTAR SERVERS
4:00PM	B. HECKMAN	J. FLYNN, D. MURO, D. SIMMONS	J. MARCONE, J. LEGATO, J. LEGATO
8:30AM	J. SMITH	A. STASILLI, N. STASILLI, J. TAYLOR	T. LAMOREAUX, S. PHILLIPS, E. TRUJILLO
11:30AM	D. COTUGNO	M. ADAMCIK, B. DENNINGTON, T. MARION	Z. ADAMCIK, J. ENNIS, K. EPPS