

JMJ

Dear Parishioners,

This Labor Day weekend let us reflect the wise words of Pope Benedict Emeritus:

Charity is at the heart of the Church's social doctrine. Every responsibility and every commitment spelt out by that doctrine is derived from charity which, according to the teaching of Jesus, is the synthesis of the entire Law (cf. Mt 22:36- 40). It gives real substance to the personal relationship with God and with neighbour; it is the principle not only of micro-relationships (with friends, with family members or within small groups) but also of macro-relationships (social, economic and political ones). For the Church, instructed by the Gospel, charity is everything because, as Saint John teaches (cf. 1 Jn 4:8, 16) and as I recalled in my first Encyclical Letter, “God is love” (Deus Caritas Est): everything has its origin in God's love, everything is shaped by it, everything is directed towards it. Love is God's greatest gift to humanity, it is his promise and our hope.

Without God man neither knows which way to go, nor even understands who he is. In the face of the enormous problems surrounding the development of peoples, which almost make us yield to discouragement, we find solace in the sayings of our Lord Jesus Christ, who teaches us: “Apart from me you can do nothing” (Jn 15:5) and then encourages us: “I am with you always, to the close of the age” (Mt 28:20). As we contemplate the vast amount of work to be done, we are sustained by our faith that God is present alongside those who come together in his name to work for justice. Paul VI recalled in *Populorum Progressio* that man cannot bring about his own progress unaided, because by himself he cannot establish an authentic humanism. Only if we are aware of our calling, as individuals and as a community, to be part of God's family as his sons and daughters, will we be able to generate a new vision and muster new energy in the service of a truly integral humanism. The greatest service to development, then, is a Christian humanism[157] that enkindles charity and takes its lead from truth, accepting both as a lasting gift from God. Openness to God makes us open towards our brothers and sisters and towards an understanding of life as a joyful task to be accomplished in a spirit of solidarity. On the other hand, ideological rejection of God and an atheism of indifference, oblivious to the Creator and at risk of becoming equally oblivious to human values, constitute some of the chief obstacles to development today. A humanism which excludes God is an inhuman humanism. Only a humanism open to the Absolute can guide us in the promotion and building of forms of social and civic life — structures, institutions, culture and ethos — without exposing us to the risk of becoming ensnared by the fashions of the moment. Awareness of God's undying love sustains us in our laborious and stimulating work for justice and the development of peoples, amid successes and failures, in the ceaseless pursuit of a just ordering of human affairs. God's love calls us to move beyond the limited and the ephemeral, it gives us the courage to continue seeking and working for the benefit of all, even if this cannot be achieved immediately and if what we are able to achieve, alongside political authorities and those working in the field of economics, is always less than we might wish[158]. God gives us the strength to fight and to suffer for love of the common good, because he is our All, our greatest hope.

Development needs Christians with their arms raised towards God in prayer, Christians moved by the knowledge that truth-filled love, *caritas in veritate*, from which authentic development proceeds, is not produced by us, but given to us. For this reason, even in the most difficult and complex times, besides recognizing what is happening, we must above all else turn to God's love. Development requires attention to the spiritual life, a serious consideration of the experiences of trust in God, spiritual fellowship in Christ, reliance upon God's providence and mercy, love and forgiveness, self-denial, acceptance of others, justice and peace. All this is essential if “hearts of stone” are to be transformed into “hearts of flesh” (Ezek 36:26), rendering life on earth “divine” and thus more worthy of humanity. All this is of man, because man is the subject of his own existence; and at the same time it is of God, because God is at the beginning and end of all that is good, all that leads to salvation: “the world or life or death or the present or the future, all are yours; and you are Christ's; and Christ is God's” (1 Cor 3:22-23). Christians long for the entire human family to call upon God as “Our Father!” In union with the only-begotten Son, may all people learn to pray to the Father and to ask him, in the words that Jesus himself taught us, for the grace to glorify him by living according to his will, to receive the daily bread that we need, to be understanding and generous towards our debtors, not to be tempted beyond our limits, and to be delivered from evil (cf. Mt 6:9-13).

Have a joyful weekend and may Our Blessed Mother assist us in directing all of our hard work to her divine Son.

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
*Father Newcomb*

**In observance of Labor Day, the parish office will be closed on Monday, September 5th.**

***Liturgical Ministers for September 10th/11th***

<b>MASS</b>	<b>LECTOR</b>	<b>MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION</b>	<b>ALTAR SERVERS</b>
4:00PM	L. AVELLA	T. WEBB, H. ECKES, J. SNELLINGER	N. WEBB, A. WEBB, J. MARCONE
8:30AM	J. HENDRICK	R. BABEY, T. CALVARIO	T. LAMOREAUX, E. TRUJILLO, B. BIRKENSTOCK
11:30AM	D. COTUGNO	N. SMITH, M. ADAMCIK, B. DENNINGTON	Z. ADAMCIK, K. EPPS, J. MALDONADO

**S.M.A.R.T.** will have a team of walkers participating in the St. Jude's Children's Hospital in NYC on Sat., Sept. 24. Donations will be accepted on the weekend of Sept. 10/11th in the Narthex.

Anyone can become a member of **TEAM SMART** by going to <http://walkrun.stjude.org/teamsmart>

- Click on Join Team
- Create An Account
- Enter necessary information and start fundraising.

**S.M.A.R.T.'s goal is \$1,500**

There is a \$10 fee to walk if you are 6 years or older which goes towards the team's goal. All donations must be turned in no later than October 1st.

**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: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. #: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return the reservation form to the parish office before Monday, September 5th.**

To see pictures of the parish dance, please go to <http://www.bobbycurrestudios.com/St-Mary>

Beginning September 1st, the parish office hours will be from 9:30am until 3pm.

**Save the Date!** Court Madonna #114 is sponsoring the 6th annual antique and appraisal day and annual fall holiday craft fair in the church hall on Saturday, November 12th. Craft vendors call Patty at 914-443-8222 to reserve a spot or for more information.

A monthly Healing Mass is held on the last Thursday of every month at The National Shrine of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, 70 Carmelite Drive, Middletown, NY.

**All are invited to attend.**

For further information, please contact Carol Bezak, Shrine Director at 845-343-1879.

## ANNOUNCED MASSES

**Monday, September 5 (Theresa of Calcutta, religious)**

9:00am Louis and Josephine Pelosi, by Joseph and Angela Portella

**Tuesday, September 6**

9:00am Elfriede Cooperman, by her daughters  
Intentions of Marissa Maldonado, by the family

**Wednesday, September 7**

9:00am Jamie Willis, by Paul and Diane Hartmann  
John Edward Onuschak, by the Giandoni family

**Thursday, September 8**

9:00am Julio and Mary Rose Portella, by Joseph and Angela Portella

**Saturday, September 10**

4:00pm The parishioners of St. Mary's

**Sunday, September 11**

8:30am Francis Hartmann, by the Hartmann family

11:30am Luann McCarthy, by Rich and Diane Quick



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn brightly this week in the Church, in memory of Raymond Kahmar by his friends at the Cardio-Pulmonary department.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:** Ida Lissner, Joann Wilcox, Nick Moscatiello, Jackie Mundy, Theresa Fuller, 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, William Gaide, Jacqueline Hamilton, Ashley Avella, Robert Semerano, Christina Greeves, Barbara Drew, Amelia Quinn, Marianne Ripel, Dennis Curtin, Joseph Livingston, Donna Bancala, and Leonard Schweizer.

The collection for August 27/28 was \$5,661.50.  
Thank you for your continued generosity.