

*JMJ*

Dear Parishioners,

This week we will take another look at the use of incense in the liturgy. From the Holy Bible passages above in both the Old and the New Testaments, we can see that incense is an important part of the worship of God on earth, by Jews first, and by Christians after the Death and Resurrection of Christ.

The smoke of the incense is symbolic of sanctification and purification, as well as symbolic of the prayers of the faithful. It is one of the outward signs of spiritual realities, and that is why it has its place in Christian liturgy. These two purposes reveal a deeper truth that prayer itself purifies and sanctifies us, making us worthy of worshipping God in heaven for eternity with all the angels and saints.

Many Scripture commentators show how the Tabernacle in the Old Testament is a pattern of us, human beings, as temples or dwelling places of the Holy Spirit. Before we can dwell with God in eternity, there is a need for our purification and sanctification, the removal of sin. One of the ways this happens is through prayer.

*This spiritual meaning is evident in the Wisdom books of the Old Testament, where prayer is connected with purification, making our prayer a sweet aroma rising up to God:*

*Let my prayer be counted as incense before thee, and the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice!*  
(Psalm 141:2)

*Listen to me, O you holy sons, and bud like a rose growing by a stream of water; send forth fragrance like frankincense, and put forth blossoms like a lily. Scatter the fragrance, and sing a hymn of praise; bless the Lord for all his works.* (Sirach 39: 13-14)

When we see incense being used in our churches, it is meant to remind us of heaven, and that our worship of God in the Christian liturgy is divine in origin. It also reminds us to pray, and that our prayer rises to God like the smoke from the censer, purifying our worship of God, and allowing his Holy Spirit to work in us to make us holy.

*“The usage of incense adds a sense of solemnity and mystery to the Mass. The visual imagery of the smoke and the smell remind us of the transcendence of the Mass which links heaven with earth, and allow us to enter into the presence of God.”*

– Father William Saunders

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
*Father Newcomb*



For the last several years, St. Mary’s has held a school supply drive to support our local schools. Please consider choosing a red apple with a list of needed supplies or a green apple for a monetary donation from the Narthex. Please bring back the supplies or monetary donations between July 29th and August 13th. We thank you for your continued support.

***Liturgical Ministers for August 12th/13th, 2017***

<b>MASS</b>	<b>LECTOR</b>	<b>MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION</b>	<b>ALTAR SERVERS</b>
4:00PM	J. SMITH	A. WITKOWSKI, W. PONDS, H. ECKES	E. WITKOWSKI, A. WITKOWSKI
8:30AM	J. HENDRICK	N. STASILLI, R. BABEY	J., S., D. KLOTZ
11:30AM	H. MARINARO	B. DENNINGTON, T. MARION, J. SNELLINGER	M. LAUTIRE, A. EPPS, A. ST. LOUIS

The 2nd collection this week is for the Mission Cooperative. Please give it your prayerful consideration.

There are Announced Mass Intentions available for Weekday Masses for this year.

**The 2018 Mass Book will open on:**

Tuesday, September 12th from 9:30am-12:30pm  
Wednesday, September 13th from 9:30am-12:30pm and from 5:30pm-7:30pm.

We currently have a few spaces available in our Church bulletin for advertisements. If you or someone you know would like to place an ad, please call the parish office. Some of the funds received allow us to do our many building projects like the Most Sacred Heart Hall. Please assist us in this effort in garnering more advertisements.

Starting Monday September 11th we will have a weekly holy hour from 5:30pm to 6:30pm in the Chapel dedicated for an increase in vocations to diocesan priestly vocations. A priest will be available for Confession at this time as well. Please note, that hopefully this will allow more people an opportunity to go to Confession that might not be available for the Saturday 3-3:45pm time frame. Even if you can only stop in for five minutes, it will not be a wasted five minutes.

Also, starting on Monday September 11th Father Newcomb will start a class on prayer which will use the Formed.org website class on it. The class will start at 6:30pm in the Saint Peter and Saint Paul Meeting Room. Please contact the office if you're planning on attending.

Sunday, Sept. 17th is our Annual Parish Picnic at Riverside Park. Hot Dogs and hamburgers will be provided. Please bring your own Non-Alcoholic drinks and an 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 4th

**ANNOUNCED MASSES**

- Monday, August 7 (Sixtus II, pope, and companions, martyrs; Cajetan, priest)  
9:00am Intentions of Fr. Matthew Newcomb, by Catherine and Bill Simons
- Tuesday, August 8 (Dominic, priest)  
9:00am Donald Anglin, Jr., by Carol Wittine
- Wednesday, August 9 (Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, virgin and martyr)  
9:00am Ruth Heater, by Dot and Jack Spiezio  
Sharon Rothchild, by Agnes Devore
- Thursday, August 10 (Lawrence, deacon and martyr)  
9:00am Mildred Wilkinson, by Pat Arnold
- Saturday, August 12 (Jane Frances de Chantal, religious)  
4:00pm Agatha Haering, by Hannelore Kucher
- Sunday, August 13  
8:30am The parishioners of St. Mary's Magdalena Bosque, by Maria Capra  
11:30am Mary A. Rombousek, by son Thomas and niece Lucy Basta



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn brightly in the church this week for the deceased members of the Westfall and Rybak families, by Catherine Westfall.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:** Joann Wilcox, Jackie Mundy, Theresa Fuller, Donald Wolff, Sue Fitzsimmons, Barbara Straub, Robert Cinerar, Richard Samek, Sandy Osbourne, Theresa Kavanagh, John McKean, William Lincoln, Jeanine Lincoln, Michael Barnes, Elizabeth Brennan, Walter Szpakowicz, Frances Brennan, Andrea Fedoruk, Jose Ramos, Carmen Ramos, Mercedes Rodriguez, Elizabeth Startup Jones, Thomas Davies, Pat Arnold, William Gaide, Sue Arnold, Steve Wilkinson, William Thomas, Maureen Hildebrandt, Charles Hildebrandt, Aedan Roach, James Roach, Robin Radzikowski, Dotty Lynch, Jesse G Smith, Charlie Gard, Marge Evans, Melinda Torres, Kaitlyn Smith, and Marianne Ripel.

St. Joseph's Table will be serving a hot meal in the Most Sacred Heart Hall, on Friday, August 11th from 5pm-7pm. If someone you know is in need of a meal or fellowship, please invite them.

Save the Date: Plan to join us for the first-ever Port Jervis Area Lifechain on October 15th from 1:00-1:30 PM Let's stand in prayerful vigil with other local Christians right here on the sidewalks of our own city of Port Jervis to protect the lives of the unborn!"

The collection for August 7/8 was \$4,709. Thank you for your continued generosity.