

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

April 7, 2024

Monday, April 8

The Annunciation of the Lord

9:00am (SPJ) - Special Intention of Rose Mary Rogers by John O'Hara

Tuesday, April 9

12:00pm (SE) - Philips Forbes by the Mildred Paquette Family

Wednesday, April 10

No Scheduled Mass

Thursday, April 11 – St Stanislaus, Bishop & Martyr

5:00pm (SPJ) - John Remancus – 14th Anniversary by Margaret Smith

Friday, April 12

12:00pm (SPN) - Amadt N & Gertrude Clark Montville Families by Nancy Montville

Saturday, April 13

4:30pm (SE) - Deceased Members of the Babich Family by Jim & Kim Matthews

Sunday, April 14

8:30am (SPN) - Popo
10:30am (SPJ) - Special Intention of Rose Mary Rogers by John O'Hara

(SE) = St. Elizabeth, Elizabethtown
(SPJ) = St. Philip of Jesus, Willsboro
(SJ) = St. Joseph, Essex
(SPN) = St. Philip Neri, Westport

Readings for the Week of April 8

Monday: Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Ps 40:7-11/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38
Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37/Ps 93:1-2, 5/Jn 3:7b-15
Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26/Ps 34:2-9/Jn 3:16-21
Thursday: Acts 5:27-33/Ps 34:2, 9, 17-20/Jn 3:31-36
Friday: Acts 5:34-42/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Jn 6:1-15
Saturday: Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19/Jn 6:16-21
Next Sunday: Acta 3:13-15, 17-19/Ps 4:2, 4, 7-9/1 Jn 2:1-5/Lk 24:35-48

THOUGHTS ON EVANGELIZATION

Readings: Acts 4:32-35/1 Jn 5:1-6/Jn 20:19-31

It is Mercy Sunday today. Because of the Lord, we have access to the forgiveness of our sins: "Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, whose sins you retain are retained." The gift of reconciliation. As Pope Francis told us: "the Lord never tires of forgiving us. We tire of asking for forgiveness!" As our responsorial psalm repeats today: the mercy of the Lord endures forever. Let us not tire of asking for forgiveness because there is nothing more irresistible to our God than a repentant heart! Accept the blessing of peace that comes from trusting in the goodness of the Lord, in his everlasting love.

Last Weekend's Collection

Saint Elizabeth – Attendance: 38
Envelopes: \$413.25; Plate: \$150.00
Total: \$563.25
Good Friday/Holy Land: \$143.00
Easter: \$345.00

Saint Philip Neri – Attendance: 57
Envelopes: \$2,669.00; Plate: \$169.00
Total: \$2,838.00
Good Friday/Holy Land: \$221.00
Easter: \$295.00

St Philip of Jesus – Attendance: 62
Envelopes: \$535.00; Plate: \$285.00
Fuel: \$50.00
Total: \$870.00
Good Friday/Holy Land: \$45.00
Easter: \$580.00

REGISTER NOW FOR
2024 SUMMER
CAMP GUGGENHEIM
WWW.RCDONY.ORG/YOUTH/CAMP
HIKE - SWIM - PRAISE
CHANGING LIVES FOR OVER 50 YEARS!

CHOOSE YOUR WEEK:
1. *JUNE 30 - JULY 3 (11 - 13 YR OLD)
2. JULY 7 - JULY 12 (12 - 15 YR OLD)
3. JULY 14 - JULY 19 (12 - 15 YR OLD)
4. JULY 21 - JULY 26 (12 - 15 YR OLD)
5. JULY 28 - AUG 2 (12 - 15 YR OLD)
6. AUG 4 - AUG 9 (16 - 18 YR OLD)
* TRY US ON FOR SIZE 3 DAY SESSION

Experience the most fun week of summer
on Lower Saranac Lake!
Make lifelong friends in the beauty of the Adirondacks and draw closer to Christ while hiking, swimming or rappelling. Enjoy arts & crafts, project adventure, volleyball, gaga ball and quiet time to relax.
There's something for EVERYONE!

REGISTER TODAY! VIEW OUR 2024 VIDEO
redony.org/youth/camp TO SEE ALL THE FUN!

Camp Guggenheim - A Bishop's Fund supported agency.
Operated by the Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg.
Camp Fees: Week 1 \$200. Weeks 2 - 6 \$425.
Scholarships available through the Youth Office or your local parish.



There is no more pernicious abuse of power than human trafficking. This modern day slavery is a crime that takes all of us, working together, to eradicate. **Alliance to End Human Trafficking**-Founded and Supported by **US Catholic Sisters**

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska of the Blessed Sacrament was known to very few people during her lifetime. But through her, God has spoken the message of His abundant mercy to the entire Church and world. What is this message? Though its content is endless and unfathomable, here are five keyways that Jesus desires this new devotion to be lived: The first way is through meditation on the sacred image of The Divine Mercy. Jesus asked Saint Faustina to have an image of His merciful love painted for all to see. It's an image of Jesus with two rays shining forth from His Heart. The first ray is blue, indicating the font of Mercy coming forth through Baptism; the second is red, indicating the font of Mercy poured forth through the Blood of the Holy Eucharist. The second way is through the celebration of Divine Mercy Sunday which was established as a universal celebration on the Eighth day of the Octave of Easter. On that day the floodgates of Mercy are opened, and many souls are made holy. The third way is through the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. The chaplet is a treasured gift. It's a gift that we should seek to pray for every day. The fourth way is by honoring the hour of Jesus' death every day. "It was at 3 o'clock that Jesus took His last breath and died upon the Cross. It was Friday. For this reason, Friday should always be seen as a special day to honor His Passion and ultimate Sacrifice. This is the ideal time for praying Chaplet of Divine Mercy. If the Chaplet is not possible, it's at least important to pause and give thanks to our Lord every day at that time. The fifth way is through the Apostolic Movement of The Divine Mercy. This movement is a call from our Lord to actively engage in the work of spreading His Divine Mercy. This is done by spreading the message and living in Mercy toward others. Jesus, I trust in You.

With Love and Prayers....  Fr. J.T.

REMINDERS:

A word of gratitude to all who helped with cleaning and decorating our churches for Easter and all who helped with liturgy as lectors and our musicians in Westport & Elizabethtown. Thank you so much for your selfless service toward our parishes.

REPORT MISCONDUCT

If you have a complaint of suspected misconduct involving diocesan clergy, religious, employees or volunteers, contact **Victims Assistance Coordinator**, Terrianne Yanulavich, Ph.D., LMHC, 5050 Route 374, Merrill, NY 12955; terrianneyanulavich@yahoo.com Phone 518-651-2267 days; 518-569-0612 evenings; or Father Christopher Carrara, the Episcopal Vicar for Clergy; ccarrara@rcdony.org Phone 315-393-2920 ext 1340. If you have a complaint of suspected sexual abuse or related misconduct by the bishop, contact the **Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service** at 800-276-1562 or www.ReportBishopAbuse.org

THE GIFTS AND FRUITS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Somehow, I have got this feeling that I should repeat the reflections I shared last year on the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit. I hope you do know them all. If not... it's time that we refresh our memory once again and know more about the 7 gifts of the Holy Spirit in our growth to holiness, especially in the next few weeks leading to the Solemn feast of Pentecost on May 19th.

WISDOM is the first and highest gift of the Holy Spirit because it is the perfection of faith. Through wisdom, we come to value properly those things which we believe through faith. The truths of Christian belief are more important than the things of this world, and wisdom helps us to order our relationship to the created world properly, loving Creation for the sake of God, rather than for its own sake. As Fr. John A. Hardon, S.J., notes in his Modern Catholic Dictionary, "Where faith is a simple knowledge of the articles of Christian belief, wisdom goes on to a certain divine penetration of the truths themselves." The better we understand those truths, the more we value them properly. Thus wisdom, the Catholic Encyclopedia notes, "by detaching us from the world, makes us relish and love only the things of heaven." Through wisdom, we judge the things of the world in light of the highest end of man—the contemplation of God.

UNDERSTANDING is the second gift of the Holy Spirit, and people sometimes have a hard time understanding (no pun intended) how it differs from wisdom. While wisdom is the desire to contemplate the things of God, understanding allows us to grasp, at least in a limited way, the very essence of the truths of the Catholic Faith. Through understanding, we gain a certitude about our beliefs that moves beyond faith. It differs from wisdom in that wisdom is the desire to contemplate the things of God, while understanding allows us, as Fr. John A. Hardon writes in his Modern Catholic Dictionary, to "penetrate to the very core of revealed truths." Once we become convinced through understanding of the truths of the Faith, we can also conclude those truths and arrive at a further understanding of man's relation to God and his role in the world. Understanding rises above natural reason, which is concerned only with the things we can sense in the world around us. Thus, understanding is both speculative—concerned with intellectual knowledge—and practical because it can help us to order the actions of our lives toward our end, which is God. Through understanding, we see the world and our life within it in the larger context of the eternal law and the relation of our souls to God.
(To be continued...)

Things to Ponder....

Develop yourself...

...to you fullest potential!



The Season of EASTER

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 14, 2024

Monday, April 15

No Scheduled Mass

Tuesday, April 16

11:00am (SE) - Holy Hour – Litany of the Holy Spirit

12:00pm (SE) - Special Intention by Nancy Belzile

Wednesday, April 17

12:00Pm (SPJ) - Mary Brown & Husband by the Estate

Thursday, April 18

12:00pm (SPJ) - Fr. John Patrick Bertolucci
by Margaret Smith

Friday, April 19

11:30am (SPN) - Adoration

12:00pm (SPN) - Msgr Stephen J Wojciechowski
by the Estate

Saturday, April 20

4:30pm (SE) - Pro Populo

Sunday, April 21

8:30am (SPN) - For the Souls of the Faithful Departed
from the Westport Parish

10:30am (SPJ) - Maureen Varion by Peg Sheehan

(SE) = St. Elizabeth, Elizabethtown

(SPJ) = St. Philip of Jesus, Willsboro

(SJ) = St. Joseph, Essex

(SPN) = St. Philip Neri, Westport

Readings for the Week of April 15

Monday: Acts 6:8-15/Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30/Jn 6:22-29

Tuesday: Acts 7:51—8:1a/Ps 31:3-4, 6-8, 17,21/Jn 6:30-35

Wednesday: Acts 8:1b-8/Ps 66:1-7/Jn 6:35-40

Thursday: Acts 8:26-40/Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20/Jn 6:44-51

Friday: Acts 9:1-20/Ps 117:1-2/Jn 6:52-59

Saturday: Acts 9:31-42/Ps 116:12-17/Jn 6:60-69

Next Sunday: Acts 4:8-12/Ps 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28-29

1 Jn 3:1-2/Jn 10:11-18

THOUGHTS ON EVANGELIZATION

Readings: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19/1 Jn 2:1-5a/Lk 24:35-48

"Peace be with you." So often we do not feel the peace of Christ ... we are concerned and anxious about many things. We see the suffering in the world, and it might bring us doubt. But Jesus is still with us. He shows us the wounds in his hands and feet, the signs of his suffering, even in his glorified body. If we join our suffering to his, it bears fruit in our world. There is a beautiful prayer called the Anima Christi which has the line, "within your wounds hide us." We are called to soothe the wounds of Christ, by soothing the wounds of our brothers and sisters, to help relieve their suffering of pain, loneliness and rejection, and so to bring the peace of Christ into our wounded world, that others may come to believe.

Last Weekend's Collection

Saint Elizabeth – Attendance: 41

Envelopes: \$654.25; Plate: \$57.00

Fuel: \$25.00

Total: \$736.25

Easter: \$100.00

Saint Philip Neri – Attendance: 36

Envelopes: \$208.00; Plate: \$73.00

Fuel: \$25.00

Total: \$306.00

St Philip of Jesus – Attendance: 68

Envelopes: \$1,805.00; Plate: \$526.00

Fuel: \$225.00; Easter Flowers: \$20.00

Total: \$2,576.00

Good Friday/Holy Land: \$5.00; Easter: \$60.00

ELIZABETHTOWN THRIFT SHOP



St. Elizabeth's parish received a donation from the thrift shop of \$1,412.85. This represents 1/4 of their proceeds from March. As always, sincere thanks. Job well done!



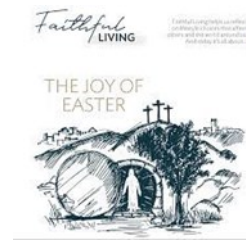
Step into a new day! Find hope & healing at Rachel's Vineyard After-Abortion Healing Retreat
May 24-26 Guggenheim Lodge, Saranac Lake. Register online: rcdony.org/pro-life. More info: [Respect Life Office 518-524-0774](tel:518-524-0774).



MATER DEI COLLEGE FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY Attention High School Seniors

The Mater Dei College Foundation is pleased to offer a scholarship opportunity to Catholics who are currently in their senior year of high school and who currently reside in the Diocese of Ogdensburg and are planning to attend a Catholic college or university in the fall. To request an application form, please email Valerie Mathews, Mater Dei Foundation Scholarship chair, at vmathews@rcdony.org. **Application deadline is June 1, 2024.**

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



The Easter season—beginning on Easter Sunday and continuing for 50 days—is an opportunity for us to cultivate a spirit that defines who we are as Christians. So, what does living the spirit of the Easter season mean in practical terms? Here are three concrete suggestions. Live with Joy. Joy is a deep-down gladness that cannot be taken away, even amid sorrow. The Passion and Resurrection of Jesus teach us that suffering is transformed through faith in the Risen Christ. With this faith, we can hold on to an enduring sense of joy even amid the sadness we experience from the loss of a loved one, a failure to achieve an important goal or a setback during recovery from an illness. Live without Fear. The Resurrection teaches us that God can overcome anything, even death. When the Risen Christ appears to the women at the tomb and later to his disciples, his first words are "Do not be afraid!" (Mt 28:5,10) These words speak to our hearts, helping us cope with the fear of the loss of a job, a serious illness, or a crumbling relationship. Our faith allows us to trust that God can overcome our most serious problems. Live with New Eyes. Easter means to live with a sense of newness. Just as the return of spring lifts our spirits and makes us feel like the whole world is new, the Resurrection of Jesus makes "all things new." (Rev. 21:5) The Easter spirit is a spirit of renewal that enables us to show up at work with a positive attitude, to renew relationships that have been taken for granted, and to express appreciation and affection to those closest to us. It means to see the world through new eyes—God's eyes. We can use these 50 days to cultivate an Easter spirit that enables us to be truly Christian: embracing joy, living without fear, and seeing the world again—as if for the first time.

With Love and Prayers.... Fr. J.T.

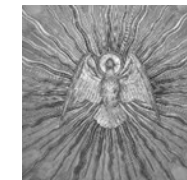
REMINDERS:

MASS INTENTIONS: I encourage all of you to offer Masses for your loved ones, both the living and the deceased. This is the best way of letting them know of your spiritual support. Mass intention envelopes can be found at the entryways of each of our churches and after filling in the details you could drop them in our regular weekend collection with a \$10 offering. If you wish to have a Mass card (postal), please approach the pastor.

PARISH ENVELOPES:

If you wish to sign up for parish envelopes for your weekend contribution, please leave your name and address on the signing sheet that's placed at the entryways of the Church. In case you wish to know your contributions to the church at the end of a fiscal year, this would be the best way you could keep a record. Thank you.

THE GIFTS AND FRUITS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT-II



COUNSEL, the third gift of the Holy Spirit, is the perfection of the cardinal virtue of prudence. Prudence can be practiced by anyone, but counsel is supernatural. Through this gift of the Holy Spirit, we can judge how best to act almost by intuition.

Because of the gift of counsel, Christians need not fear to stand up for the truths of the Faith, because the Holy Spirit will guide us in defending those truths. Counsel is the perfection of the cardinal virtue of prudence. While prudence, like all the cardinal virtues, can be practiced by anyone, whether in a state of grace or not, it can take on a supernatural dimension through sanctifying grace. Counsel is the fruit of this supernatural prudence. Like prudence, counsel allows us to judge rightly what we should do in a particular circumstance. It goes beyond prudence, though, in allowing such judgments to be made promptly, "as by a sort of supernatural intuition," as Fr. John A. Hardon writes in his Modern Catholic Dictionary. Counsel builds on both wisdom, which allows us to judge the things of the world in light of our end, and understanding, which helps us to penetrate to the very core of the mysteries of our faith. "With the gift of counsel, the Holy Spirit speaks, as it were, to the heart and in an instant enlightens a person what to do," writes Father Hardon. It is the gift that allows us as Christians to be assured that we will act correctly in times of trouble and trial. Through counsel, we can speak without fear in defense of the Christian Faith. Thus, the Catholic Encyclopedia notes, that counsel "enables us to see and choose correctly what will help most to the glory of God and our salvation." **(To be continued...)**

WHY LIGHT VOTIVE CANDLES?

In the Christian tradition, light is a symbol of faith, truth, wisdom, virtue, grace, the divine life, charity, the ardor of prayer, and the sacred presence that flows from Christ Himself. With this background, we can appreciate the usage of votive candles. Here, as in early Christian times, we light a candle before a statue or sacred image of our Lord or a saint. Of course, we do not honor the statue or the image itself, but the one whom that statue or image represents. The light signifies our prayer offered in faith coming into the light of God. With the light of faith, we petition our Lord in prayer or petition the saint to pray with us and for us to the Lord. The light also shows a special reverence and our desire to remain present to the Lord in prayer even after we depart from the church and go about our daily business. Also, the burning candle symbolizes a sacrifice, which is made in both the offering of the prayer and the acceptance of the Lord's Will. In all, the usage of votive candles is a pious practice that continues today in many churches. The symbolism does remind us that prayer is a "coming into" the light of Christ, allowing our souls to be filled with His light, and letting that light burn on in our souls even though we may return to our other activities. Hence, I encourage all of you to make use of the votive candles in all our churches with a suggested offering (for replenishment). Thank you.





The Season of EASTER

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 21, 2024

Monday, April 22

5:00pm (SPJ) - Roger & Lucy Belzile by Nancy Belzile

Tuesday, April 23

8:30am (SE) - Barbara Ruggeri by Yvonne Lesperance

Followed by *Holy Hour*

Wednesday, April 24

No Scheduled Mass

Thursday, April 25 – St. Mark, Evangelist

5:00pm (SPJ) - Deceased Members of the Wells &

McCarthy Families by Margaret Daby

Followed by *Adoration until 6:00pm*

Friday, April 26

8:30am (SPN) - For the Souls of the Faithful Departed

from the Westport parish

Followed by *Adoration until 9:30am*

Saturday, April 27

4:30pm (SE) - Deceased Members of the Lamos Family

by Jim & Kim Matthews

Sunday, April 28

8:30am (SPN) - Pro Populo

10:30am (SPJ) - Special Intention of Nichole Gilles

by a Friend

(SE) = St. Elizabeth, Elizabethtown

(SPJ) = St. Philip of Jesus, Willsboro

(SJ) = St. Joseph, Essex

(SPN) = St. Philip Neri, Westport

Readings for the Week of April 22

Monday: Acts 11:1-18/Ps 42:2-3; 43:3-4/Jn 10:1-10

Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26/Ps 87:1-7/Jn 10:22-30

Wednesday: Acts 12:24—13:5a/Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8/Jn 12:44-50

Thursday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14/Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17/Mk 16:15-20

Friday: Acts 13:26-33/Ps 2:6-11/Jn 14:1-6

Saturday: Acts 13:44-52/Ps 98:1-4/Jn 14:7-14

Next Sunday: Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-28, 30-32/1 Jn 3:18-24

Jn 15:1-8

THOUGHTS ON EVANGELIZATION

Readings: Acts 4:8-12/1 Jn 3:1-2/Jn 10:11-18

We are members of Christ's flock and he is our shepherd. Do we listen to his voice? Do we take his presence and call for granted? Jesus tells us in today's gospel that there are other sheep, not (yet) of his fold, and that he must lead those as well. They too will listen to his voice if we follow his call to go out and make disciples of all the nations. The Church, the flock of Christ, needs to be missionary. We cannot be content to sit in our parishes and remain idle and comfortably in our comfort zone. We are called to go out and to share the good news. Let us listen to the voice of the Good Shepherd.

Last Weekend's Collection

Saint Elizabeth – Attendance: 25

Envelopes: \$674.25; Plate: \$17.00

Fuel: \$110.00

Total: \$801.25

Mother's Day: \$25.00

Saint Philip Neri – Attendance: 34

Envelopes: \$280.00; Plate: \$34.00

Fuel: \$48.00

Total: \$362.00

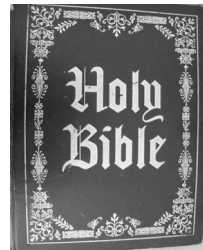
St Philip of Jesus – Attendance: 49

Envelopes: \$540.00; Plate: \$162.00

Fuel: \$225.00

Total: \$927.00

Easter: \$10.00; Mother's Day: \$10.00



BIBLE QUIZ (Get to know your Bible)

- Which of the following is NOT a son of Jacob?
Asher, Josiah, Benjamin, Gad
- The Songs of the Suffering Servant are found in the book written by which prophet?
Ezekiel, Micah, Isaiah, Jeremiah

3. How many books are there in the Old Testament?

46, 39, 25, 73

4. What is another name for the Pentateuch?

Septuagint, Vulgate, Torah, Tanakh

5. Which prophet uses his marriage as a metaphor for the relationship between God and his people?

Isaiah, Hosea, Habakkuk, Joel

*Answers will be available in next weekend's bulletin



MATER DEI COLLEGE FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY Attention High School Seniors

The Mater Dei College Foundation is pleased to offer a scholarship opportunity to Catholics who are currently in their senior year of high school and who currently reside in the Diocese of Ogdensburg and are planning to attend a Catholic college or university in the fall. To request an appn form, please email Valerie Mathews, Mater Dei Foundation Scholarship chair, at vmathews@rcdony.org. **App deadline is 6-1-24.**

DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG VOCATION SOCIETY

The Diocese of Ogdensburg Vocation Society (DOVS) is having a Raffle from April 21 to June 20 to support promoting the culture of vocations in the diocese. On June 20, the DOVS will be making a Pilgrimage to St. Anne's Shrine, Isle la Motte, Vermont, to pray for vocations. The winning tickets will be drawn June 20.. The cost of the tickets is \$5 or 5 tickets for \$20 1st Prize – \$500.; 2nd Prize – Quilt and Rocking Chair; 3rd Prize – \$50 gift card, \$25. Visa Gift Card, \$25 Gift Card to Walmart. For any questions, **contact Constance Randall, connierandall47@yahoo.com (315) 783-0574.**

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



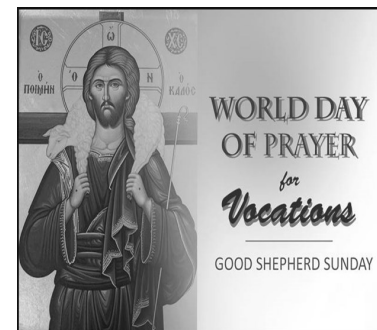
Though little is known for certain about **Saint Mark's (25th)** life, the Gospel attributed to him is unquestionably one of the most important scripts ever written. In a nearly breathless way, Mark recounts Jesus' public ministry in concise and vivid detail. The shortest of the four Gospels is packed with information. Mark's Gospel was most likely written primarily for Roman Gentiles, rather than for Jews, which is why he often describes various Jewish customs to the reader. According to later traditions, Mark was ordained a bishop and sent to Alexandria, Egypt, to preach the Gospel (that he wrote) and establish the first Church in Africa. He is therefore considered the first bishop of Alexandria. In Alexandria, Mark encountered the wrath of the local Alexandrians and was martyred after almost twenty years of ministering to them. As a child, Saint Mark could never have imagined what would become of his life. Not only did he come to know the Messiah as a youth, but he also later became a bishop and the first to bring the Gospel to the continent of Africa. Most importantly, he became one of God's most powerful evangelists by faithfully writing down the life of Christ for others to read. Since that time, countless people have read his words, meditated on their meaning, been converted in the depths of their hearts, and given their lives over to Christ. Ponder the significance of this one man who never gave up. He turned back to the mission and ultimately died a martyr, bestowing on us one of the greatest treasures ever given. If you feel regret at any failure, or even numerous failures in your life, take inspiration from Saint Mark. Failures can be remedied. Recommit yourself to God's mission, and know that, if you do, God will use you in unimaginable ways.

With Love and Prayers....  Fr. J.T.

REMINDERS:

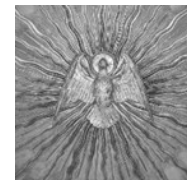
Please note that the **weekday Mass Schedule** with Holy Hour and Adoration has been updated for Spring and Summer

If you wish to have your house blessed as part of the Easter tradition, please contact the pastor at 518-873-6760. Thank you.



On Good Shepherd Sunday, April 21, 2024, the Church celebrates the 61st Anniversary of the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. The purpose of this Day of Prayer for Vocations is to publicly fulfill the Lord's instruction to, "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest" (Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2). Pope Francis has invited us all "on this day in particular, but also in the ordinary pastoral life of our communities, I ask the Church to continue to promote vocations. May she touch the hearts of the faithful and enable each of them to discover with gratitude God's call in their lives, to find courage to say 'yes' to God." Will you make a special effort to ask the Lord for vocations to the priesthood and religious life? Pray for the priests who have ministered to you throughout your life, both living and dead. Encourage your children, grandchildren, or other young people to consider a vocation as a priest or religious brother or sister. Pray a rosary for more young men and women in our diocese to respond to God's call. We are especially grateful for our Bishop Terry LaValley, priests, deacons and consecrated men and women who are serving in the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

THE GIFTS AND FRUITS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT-III



FORTITUDE is commonly called courage, but it is different from what much of what we think of as courage today. Fortitude is always reasoned and reasonable; the person exercising fortitude is willing to put himself in danger, if necessary, but he does not seek danger for danger's sake. While counsel is the perfection of a cardinal virtue, fortitude is both a gift of the Holy Spirit and a cardinal virtue. Fortitude is ranked as the **fourth gift** of the Holy Spirit because it gives us the strength to follow through on the actions suggested by the gift of counsel. While fortitude is sometimes called courage, it goes beyond what we normally think of as courage. St. Thomas Aquinas ranked fortitude as the third of the cardinal virtues because it serves prudence and justice, the higher virtues. Fortitude is the virtue that allows us to overcome fear and remain steady in our will in the face of obstacles. Prudence and justice are the virtues through which we decide what needs to be done; fortitude gives us the strength to do it. Sometimes, however, the ultimate sacrifice is necessary to stand up for what is right and to save our souls. Fortitude is the virtue of the martyrs, who are willing to give their lives rather than renounce their faith. That sacrifice may be passive—Christian martyrs do not actively seek martyrdom—but it is nonetheless determined and resolute. It is in martyrdom that we see the best example of fortitude rising above a mere cardinal virtue (able to be practiced by anyone) into a supernatural gift of the Holy Spirit. But it also shows itself, as the Catholic Encyclopedia notes, "in moral courage against the evil spirit of the times, against improper fashions, against human respect, against the common tendency to seek at least the comfortable, if not the voluptuous. "Fortitude, as a gift of the Holy Spirit, also allows us to cope with poverty and loss, and to cultivate the Christian virtues that allow us to rise above the basic requirements of Christianity. The saints, in their love for God and their fellow man and their determination to do what is right, exhibit fortitude as a supernatural gift of the Holy Spirit and not just merely as a Cardinal virtue. **(To be continued...)**

Things to Ponder.....

How you say something is as important...

...as what you say!



The Season of EASTER

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 28, 2024

Monday, April 29

5:00pm (SPJ) - Deceased Members of the Carver Family
by John & Sue Carver

Tuesday, April 30

8:30am (SE) - The William & Ellen Keenan Family
by the Estate
Followed by *Holy Hour*

Wednesday, May 1 – St. Joseph The Worker

5:00pm (SPJ) - Special Intentions of Fr. John Corapi
by Margaret Smith
Followed by *Adoration until 6:00pm*

Thursday, May 2

No Scheduled Mass

Friday, May 3 – First Friday

8:30am (SPN) - Msgr. Stephen J Wojciechowski
by the Estate
Followed by *Holy Hour*

Saturday, May 4

4:30pm (SE) - Pro Populo

Sunday, May 5

8:30am (SPN) - Amady H & Mary Casavoy Montville
Families by Nancy Montville
10:30am (SPJ) - Deceased Relatives
by Carolyn, Jane & Nick

(SE) = St. Elizabeth, Elizabethtown
(SPJ) = St. Philip of Jesus, Willsboro
(SJ) = St. Joseph, Essex
(SPN) = St. Philip Neri, Westport

Readings for the Week of April 29

Monday: Acts 14:5-18/Ps 115:1-4, 15-16/Jn 14:21-26
Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-13, 21/Jn 14:27-31a
Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122:1-5/Jn 15:1-8
Thursday: Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-3, 10/Jn 15:9-11
Friday: 1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-5/Jn 14:6-14
Saturday: Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1-3, 5/Jn 15:18-21
Next Sunday: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1-4
1Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17

THOUGHTS ON EVANGELIZATION

Readings: Acts 9:26-31/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8

We are called to bear much fruit and be Christ's disciples. Since a branch that is cut off from the vine cannot produce fruit, we need to remain connected to the vine and be pruned of all those things that keep us from being fruitful. So, let us allow the life of Christ to flow through us so that others can also discover the fruits of joy and love, peace and patience, kindness, goodness and self-control. In this way our lives will praise the Lord and others will come to know his love so that they too may become his disciples.

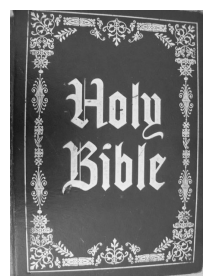
Last Weekend's Collection

Saint Elizabeth – Attendance: 26
Envelopes: \$402.25; Plate: \$9.00
Fuel: \$10.00
Total: \$421.25
Mother's Day: \$25.00

Saint Philip Neri – Attendance: 40
Envelopes: \$1,826.00; Plate: \$46.00
Fuel: \$5.00
Total: \$1,877.00

St Philip of Jesus – Attendance: 55
Envelopes: \$415.00; Plate: \$254.00
Fuel: \$10.00
Total: \$679.00
Mother's Day: \$25.00

BIBLE QUIZ (Get to know your Bible)



1. What city's destruction is described in Chapter 6 of the Book of Joshua? (Hint: The children of Israel marched around the city walls for six days and on the seventh day, the walls collapsed.)

Gilgal, Jerusalem, Babylon, Jericho

2. This queen of Persia saved the Jewish people from a plot to destroy them:

Deborah, Esther, Ruth, Miriam

3. How many plagues did the Lord bring upon the Egyptians so that they would let the Israelites depart?

10, 7, 14, 1

4. The story of Samson and Delilah is found in which book of the Bible?

I Kings, II Maccabees, Judges, Ezra

5. The first three kings of Israel, in order, were:

David, Solomon, Saul; Solomon, Saul, David; David, Ahaz, Solomon; Saul, David, Solomon

*Last weekend's answers are:

1. Josiah 2. Isaiah 3. 46 4. Torah 5. Hosea

*Answers will be available in next weekend's bulletin

TRUE PRESENCE CLUB

We are starting a new initiative to educate and inspire the next generation on the genius of Catholicism and the true presence of Christ in the Eucharist. This program is geared towards ages 5-15 and we'll be receiving a new package every three months! The package will include books, booklets, medals, prayer books, prayer cards, and lots of surprises to make learning about the Eucharist fun. We will plan on ordering one box per interested family. Dates of box opening parties TBD. Please contact Father Justin or Sarah Bosley at adironackmommy@gmail.com if you are interested in participating.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



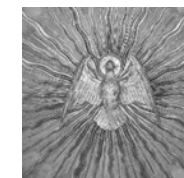
On December 8, 2020, Pope Francis announced the beginning of the universal celebration of the "Year of Saint Joseph." He introduced this year with an Apostolic Letter entitled "With a Father's Heart." In the introduction to that letter, the Holy Father said, "Each of us can discover in Joseph—the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence—an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble." **Saint Joseph was a worker (May 1st).** He worked with his hands as a carpenter to provide for the daily needs of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Son of God. He provided them with a home, with food, and with the other daily necessities of life. Joseph also protected them both by following the various messages of the angel of God who spoke to him in his dreams. Joseph fulfilled his duties in life in a quiet and hidden way, serving in his role as father, spouse, and worker. Though Joseph is universally recognized and honored today within our Church and even as a prominent historical world figure, during his lifetime he would have been a largely unnoticed man. He would have been seen as an ordinary man doing his ordinary duty. For that reason, the life of Saint Joseph, this humble and hidden life lived in Nazareth, provides most people with inspiration for their own daily lives. If your life is somewhat monotonous, hidden, unappreciated by the masses, tedious, and even boring at times, then look to Saint Joseph for inspiration. Today's memorial especially honors Joseph as a man who worked. And his work was quite ordinary. But holiness is especially found in the ordinary parts of our daily lives. Choosing to serve, day in and day out, with little or no earthly accolades, is a service of love, an imitation of the life of Saint Joseph, and a source of your holiness in life. St. Joseph, pray for us.

With Love and Prayers....  Fr. J.T.

HEART WELL HOMESTEAD

Announcement and request for help
Heart Well Homestead is an established 501(c)3 non-profit organization which will be offering homeless pregnant and parenting mothers a residential home with programs for up to 2 years in Plattsburgh, NY. We will be the only maternity home that is in Clinton-Essex-Franklin NY's tri-county area. We are looking for volunteers to help us in our planning, networking and fundraising efforts.
Contact: HeartWellHomestead@gmail.com. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram. View our secure website: HeartWellHomestead.org where you can make a donation towards this much needed service. You may also submit questions and ideas through our website. We look forward to hearing from you!

THE GIFTS AND FRUITS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT-IV



The fifth gift of the Holy Spirit, **KNOWLEDGE**, is often confused with both wisdom and understanding. Like wisdom, knowledge is the perfection of faith, but whereas wisdom gives us the desire to judge all things according to the truths of the Catholic Faith, knowledge is the actual ability to do so. Like counsel, it is aimed at our actions in this life. In a limited way, knowledge allows us to see the circumstances of our lives the way that God sees them. Through this gift of the Holy Spirit, we can determine God's purpose for our lives and live them accordingly.

The Perfection of Faith:

Like wisdom, knowledge perfects the theological virtue of faith. The aims of knowledge and wisdom are different, however. Whereas wisdom helps us to penetrate divine truth and prepares us to judge all things according to that truth, knowledge gives us that ability to judge. As Fr. John A. Hardon, S.J., writes in his *Modern Catholic Dictionary*, "The object of this gift is the whole spectrum of created things insofar as they lead one to God."

The Application of Knowledge:

Knowledge allows us to see the circumstances of our lives as God sees them, although in a more limited way since we are limited by our human nature. Through the exercise of knowledge, we can ascertain God's purpose in our lives and His reason for placing us in our particular circumstances. As Father Hardon notes, knowledge is sometimes called "the science of the saints," because "it enables those who have the gift to discern easily and effectively between the impulses of temptation and the inspirations of grace." Judging all things in the light of divine truth, we can more easily distinguish between the promptings of God and the subtle wiles of the devil. **(To be continued...)**

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2024 SUMMER
CAMP GUGGENHEIM
WWW.RCDONY.ORG/YOUTH/CAMP
HIKE - SWIM - PRAISE
CHANGING LIVES FOR OVER 50 YEARS

CHOOSE YOUR WEEK:
1. JUNE 30 - JULY 3 (11 - 13 YR OLD)
2. JULY 7 - JULY 12 (12 - 15 YR OLD)
3. JULY 14 - JULY 19 (12 - 15 YR OLD)
4. JULY 21 - JULY 26 (12 - 15 YR OLD)
5. JULY 28 - AUG 2 (12 - 15 YR OLD)
6. AUG 4 - AUG 9 (16 - 18 YR OLD)
*TRY US ON FOR SIZE 3 DAY SESSION

Experience the most fun week of summer on Lower Saranac Lake! Make lifelong friends in the beauty of the Adirondacks and draw closer to Christ while hiking, swimming or rappelling. Enjoy arts & crafts, project adventure, volleyball, gaga ball and quiet time to relax. *There's something for EVERYONE!*

REGISTER TODAY! VIEW OUR 2024 VIDEO
redony.org/youth/camp TO SEE ALL THE FUN!

Camp Guggenheim - A Bishop's Fund supported agency.
Operated by the Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg.
Camp Fees: Week 1 \$200, Weeks 2 - 6 \$425.
Scholarships available through the Youth Office or your local parish.