

August 5, 2018 The Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, August 4

5:00 p.m. +**John, Theresa and John Jr. Adamiak**
By The Wyker Family

Sunday, August 5

8:00 a.m. +**Catherine Holmann**
By Nellie Haddick

10:30 a.m. +**Sergio and Sabina Cappelluti**
By Angela Gross

Monday, August 6 -*The Transfiguration of the Lord*

8:45 a.m. +**Theresa Rebinski**
By Henry Rebinski

Tuesday, August 7 *Saint Sixtus & Companions*

8:45 a.m. +**Shane Corrigan**
By The Shipley Family

Wednesday, August 8 *Saint Dominic*

8:45 a.m. +**George Reynolds**
By Susan Reynolds

Thursday, August 9 **NO MASS**

Friday, August 10 *Saint Lawrence*

8:45 a.m. **Parishioners of Saint Theodore Church**

Saturday, August 11

5:00 p.m. **In Thanksgiving of St. Philomena**
By Barbara and Mary Kovacs

Sunday, August 12

8:00 a.m. **Special Intentions of Sam Saponaro**
By Mary Rupell

10:30 a.m. +**Victor W. Vallo, Sr.**
By Robert and Victoria Dicheck

exists today can be traced back to the Church Jesus founded? Don't you wonder which church *Jesus* wants us to join?"

My question was met with a collective shrug and a simple recommendation that I just "believe in Jesus", but that wasn't good enough for me. How did my Evangelical friends know we only have to believe in Jesus to be saved? What does it *mean* to believe in Jesus? Do we have to be baptized to believe in Jesus? Do we have to receive Communion? If I stop believing in Jesus will I lose my salvation?

I wanted the answers to these questions so I decided to study what the very first Christians believed. These were the believers who lived just after the apostles. If there was one church I wanted to belong to, it was their church.

In the time of the apostles believers were called "Christians", *but the Church* was not called "the Christian Church." It was simply referred to as "the Church", as is evident in Luke's description of what Paul and Barnabas did in the city of Antioch. He said, "For a whole year they met with the Church and taught a large company of people; and in Antioch the disciples were for the first time called "Christians" (Acts 11:26).

A few decades later, St. Ignatius of Antioch wrote a letter to Christians who lived 600 miles away, in the coastal city of Smyrna (located in modern Turkey). He said, "Wherever the bishop shall appear, there let the multitude (of people) also be; even as, wherever Jesus Christ is, there is the Catholic Church."

Who Started Your Church?

Calvary Chapel, 1965: Chuck Smith
Mormon church, 1830: Joseph Smith
Disciples of Christ, 1809: Thomas Campbell
Baptist church, 1609: John Smyth
Presbyterian church, 1560: John Knox
Calvinist church, 1536: John Calvin
Lutheran church, 1517: Martin Luther
Eastern Orthodox church, 1054: Eastern Patriarchs
Catholic Church, 33: Jesus Christ

Why We Belong to the Catholic Church

-Trent Horn "Why We're Catholic"

When I was considering joining the Catholic Church, I sat down with some of my non-Catholic friends to see if they could talk me out of my decision. They were Christians, but they didn't consider themselves to be "Protestants". Instead, they called themselves Evangelicals or just "Christ-followers". Regardless, their response to my decision to become Catholic surprised me.

One of the girls said, "As long as Catholics believe in Jesus then I don't think it's a big deal". Another chimed in, "I mean, we're never going to know which church is the right church or even if there is such a thing, so why worry?"

That answer didn't satisfy me so I asked them, "Don't you wonder if one of the churches that

Mass Intentions

There are Masses available for 2018 from August 24 on.

The Mass Intentions Book for 2019 is now open.

To schedule your Masses for 2019, please write your dates on a piece of paper, state if person is living or deceased. If any of your dates are not available, please indicate if it's ok to book any date closest to the original or if the date has to be a Saturday or Sunday. If not indicated, I will book the next available day. The stipend is still \$10 per Mass.

Thank you. –Mary Rupell

Our Sunday Offering

July 1: \$2,269 July 8: \$2,371. July 15: \$2,379
July 22: \$1,888. Assessment Fund: \$ 703.

2018 Bishop's Annual Appeal

Lighting a Fire in the Heart of Our World

Thanks to the dedication of our faithful parishioners, pastors and parish appeal coordinators, we exceeded our Bishop's Annual Appeal goal for the second year in a row with pledges of over \$7.8 million from nearly 26,000 households. Achieving our \$7.2 million goal for the 2018 Appeal allowed us to distribute funds to the ministries as projected.

Your extraordinary generosity enables us to continue advancing our mission. Money raised over goal will help cover tuition costs for 6 more seminarians than originally budgeted for, address the needs of a growing number of retired clergy, and enhance our communication strategy. Thank you for also providing for these urgent needs. As you can imagine, the needs are great!

It's Not Too Late to Give: Donations are still being gratefully accepted for the 2018 Bishop's Annual Appeal. Money raised over goal will help provide for more urgent needs. A parish receives 50% of the amount collected over the parish goal. Parish rebates can be earned through October 2018, so there is still time to fulfill your pledge.

To see how Appeal funds are being allocated or to make a gift, go to <https://diometuchen.org/BAA>.

Your wonderful response is a reflection of our commitment as a diocesan family to bring Christ's message of hope and love to everyone we meet. Together we are *Lighting a Fire in the Heart of Our World*.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

It is time to register your child!

What is needed for Registration?

- Registration form completed for each child (one form per child)
- Your check is to be made out to St. Theodore Church.
- Payment -Anyone experiencing financial difficulties should still register & contact Fr. Damian.

What is the tuition cost?

\$120 for one child; \$200 for two, \$240 for three or more children.

Sacraments Fee Additional \$50 (Grades 2 & 8) For more information and to download forms go to <http://sttheodorenj.com> or call 908-689-8318, ext 2.

Religious Education

Aides Needed

Monday's at 6 p.m.

* Two Classroom Aides needed to assist teachers



Almighty and ever-living God, physician who brings eternal healing to those who believe, hear us as we ask your compassionate

help for your servants who are sick.

Stephen, Bridget M., Savannah Paine, Bobby Gross, Keira Hedges, Peter, Zachary, Logan Peter Saksa, Anna Saksa, Lauren Lane, Jay Mildrum, Philip Kinney, Peter S., Mary Rupell, Susan Reynolds, Maryanne C., Robert Dicheck, Christian, Tara, Zoe, Teagan, Eric Harding, Kathy & Bob Y., Irma Marquart, Dolores Staiano, Gerard Schnaars, Glenda L., The Rasimowicz Family, Michael Dante, Joseph Boyle, Tony Santos, Tina Delrosso, Gaspar Scozzati, Eleanor D., Tom and Jean C.

Give them back good health, and enable them to return thanks to you in the assembly of the faithful. Amen
