February 12, 2017 The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 11

5:00 p.m. +Joseph, Nettie and Joseph Roche, Jr.

By The Wyker Family

Sunday, February 12

8:00 a.m. +Al Moss

By Brian and Gerry Moss

10:30 a.m. +Thomas, Elizabeth and Louis DeBari

By Sam and Marietta Tridente

Monday, February 13

8:45 a.m. + John DeLuca

By The McLaughlin Family

Tuesday, February 14 Sts. Cyril, Monk, & Methodius

8:45 a.m. +James Kane

By Susan Reynolds

Wednesday, February 15

8:45 a.m. In Honor of the Madonna of Health

By Angela Gross

Thursday, February 16 NO MASS

Friday, February 17 Seven Founders of the Servite Order

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

Saturday, February 18

5:00 p.m. +Albert McLaughlin

By Karl and Rose Strohmaier

Sunday, February 19

8:00 a.m. **Parishioners of St. Theodore Church** 10:30 a.m. **+Sebastian and Concetta Gallo**

By The Gallo Family



The Story of the Seven Founders of the Servite Order

Can you imagine seven prominent

men of Boston or Denver banding together, leaving their homes and professions, and going into solitude for a life directly given to God? That is what happened in the cultured and prosperous city of Florence in the middle of the 13th century. The city was torn with political strife as well as the heresy of the Cathari, who believed that physical reality was inherently evil. Morals were low and religion seemed meaningless.

In 1240, seven noblemen of Florence mutually decided to withdraw from the city to a solitary place for prayer and direct service of God. Their initial difficulty was providing for their dependents, since two were still married and two were widowers.

Their aim was to lead a life of penance and prayer, but they soon found themselves disturbed by constant visitors from Florence. They next withdrew to the deserted slopes of Monte Senario.

In 1244, under the direction of St. Peter of Verona, O.P., this small group adopted a religious habit similar to the Dominican habit, choosing to live under the Rule of St. Augustine and adopting the name of the Servants of Mary. The new Order took a form more like that of the mendicant friars than that of the older monastic Orders.

Members of the community came to the United States from Austria in 1852 and settled in New York and later in Philadelphia. The two American provinces developed from the foundation made by Father Austin Morini in 1870 in Wisconsin.

Community members combined monastic life and active ministry. In the monastery, they led a life of prayer, work and silence while in the active apostolate they engaged in parochial work, teaching, preaching, and other ministerial activities.

In common with all religious orders strictly so called, the Servites make solemn profession of the three vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience. The particular object of the order is to sanctify first its own members, and then all men through devotion to the Mother of God, especially in her desolation during the Passion of her Divine Son. The Servites give missions, have the care of souls, or teach in higher institutions of learning. The Rosary of the Seven Dolours is one of their devotions, as is also the Via Matris. The fasts of the order are Advent, Lent, and the vigils of certain feasts. All offices in the order are elective and continue for three years, except that of general and assistant- generals which are for six years. The canonized Servite saints are: St. Philip Benizi (feast 23 Aug.), St. Peregrine Latiosi (30 April), St. Juliana Falconieri (19 June), and the Seven Holy Founders (12 Feb.).



Interested in Becoming a Catholic?

The RCIA, which stands for Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, is a process through which non-

baptized men and women enter the Catholic Church. It includes several stages marked by study, prayer and rites at Mass. Participants in the RCIA are known as catechumens. They undergo a process of conversion as they study the Gospel, profess faith in Jesus and the Catholic Church, and receive the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist. This process is also for children who have not been baptized and have reached the age of seven. If a person has been baptized in another Christian tradition, the initiation process prepares you to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church by celebrating the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist.

Are You a Baptized Catholic and have not received the sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation?

RCIA Sessions are also for the completion of the initiation sacraments for Baptized Catholics.

Please Join us; for more information please call 908-689-8318, ext 1



Stephen, Anthony Vitale, Bridget M., Savannah Paine, Bobby Gross, Michael Dante, Keira Hedges, Maryann Vaughan, Robert Dicheck, Peter, Zachary, Logan Peter Saksa, Anna Paine, Maryann

Vaughan, Anna Saksa, Lauren Lane, Jay Mildrum, Philip Kinney, Mary D., Kerry Kraft, Patty Mahoney, Cheyann Miller, Cathy Moncello, Louise C., Peter S., Helen Dicheck, Mary Supple

Church & Religious Education Schedule

Feb. 11, 6 pm: Movie Night-Parish Ctr.

Feb. 12: Hospitality Sunday

Feb. 13, 27: All Grades at school

Feb. 20: No Rel Ed; Parish & Rel Ed Offices Closed

Feb. 26: 11:30: Good Friday Auditions

<u>2016 Income Tax Contribution Statements</u> are available. Please, when you submit your request, include a self-addressed, stamped envelope.



Every Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.

The Bible Timeline: *The Story of Salvation* (begins 1/31/17) This is the foundational study in the *Great*

Adventure Bible Study Series that has helped hundreds of thousands of Catholics learn to read the Bible.

The Bible Timeline is a fascinating study that takes participants on a journey through the entire Bible. They will go deep into each period of salvation history and discover the amazing story woven throughout all of Scripture. Using a unique color-coded system, they will learn the major people, places, and events of the Bible and see how they all come together to reveal the remarkable story of our faith.



1/29/17: \$1,884 2016 \$3,367.35 **2/05/17: \$2,472** 2016 \$2,249.



Our church is participating in the *Hackettstown Pajama Program Contribution Drive*, a charity that provides new pajamas and books to needy children of Warren County. The Pajama Program is a 501c not for profit organization, which provides new, warm PJ's and books to children in need. These are youngsters who may not know the comforts of a mother or father to tuck them into a cozy bed and read them a bedtime story. Many have been abandoned, most deprived of any love at all. Please, if you are able, donate to this worthy cause. You will find a donation box in the Narthex. For more information, view the posters on our bulletin boards.



Food Pantry Donations Needed

Our Food Pantry Ministry is a vital outreach program pledged to fulfill the continuing needs of our community and those of the surrounding area. In order to meet this commitment we need

you to donate nonperishable food items. We are asking that, if you are able, to bring food items such as soups, tuna, cereal, vegetables, pasta, etc. to our Parish Center. Once weekly, the items we collect are delivered to the Community Food Pantry of Washington, operated from the First Presbyterian Church, which serves more than 100 families. The Food Pantry depends on donations from local churches and organizations.