

July 23, 2017 The Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS INTENTIONS

<u>Saturday, July 22</u>	Saint Mary Magdalene
5:00 p.m.	Parishioners of Saint Theodore Church
<u>Sunday, July 23</u>	
8:00 a.m.	Parishioners of Saint Theodore Church
10:30 a.m.	+Beatrice and Thomas Nappi By Angela Gross
<u>Monday, July 24</u>	Saint Sharbel Makhluf
8:45 a.m.	+Rome and Lena Ranulli By Theresa Cappello
<u>Tuesday, July 25</u>	Saint James
8:45 a.m.	+George Biemer By Karl and Rose Strohmaier
<u>Wednesday, July 26</u>	Saints Joachim and Anne
8:45 a.m.	+Mary Hurigan By Margaret Doyle
<u>Thursday, July 27</u>	(NO MASS)
<u>Friday, July 28</u>	
8:45 a.m.	+Lori Baldwin By Jim and Eileen Mattison
<u>Saturday, July 29</u>	Saint Martha
5:00 p.m.	John, Theresa, and John Jr. Adamiak +By The Wyker Family
<u>Sunday, July 30</u>	
8:00 a.m.	Blessings of Health for Mary Rupell By Family
10:30 a.m.	+Angela Ciarlone By Ray and Joanne Malejko

Mass Intentions Book for 2018 is Now Open



Martha, Mary and their brother Lazarus were evidently close friends of Jesus. He came to their home simply as a welcomed guest, rather than as one celebrating the conversion of a sinner like Zacchaeus or one unceremoniously received by a suspicious Pharisee.

The sisters feel free to call on Jesus at their brother's death, even though a return to Judea at that time seems almost certain death.

No doubt Martha was an active sort of person. On one occasion (see Luke 10:38-42) she prepares the meal for Jesus and possibly his fellow guests and forthrightly states the obvious: All hands should pitch in to help with the dinner.

Yet, as biblical scholar Father John McKenzie points out, she need not be rated as an "unrecollected activist." The evangelist is emphasizing what our Lord said on several occasions about the primacy of the spiritual: "...[D]o not worry about your life, what you will eat [or drink], or about your body, what you will wear.... But seek first the kingdom [of God] and his righteousness" (Matthew 6:25b, 33a); "One does not live by bread alone" (Luke 4:4b); "Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness..." (Matthew 5:6a).

Martha's great glory is her simple and strong statement of faith in Jesus after her brother's death. "Jesus told her, 'I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?'" She said to him, "Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world'" (John 11:25-27)

Scripture commentators point out that in writing his account of the raising of Lazarus, St. John intends that we should see Martha's words to Mary before Lazarus was raised as a summons that every Christian must obey. In her saying "The teacher is here and is asking for you," Jesus is calling every one of us to resurrection—now in baptismal faith, forever in sharing his victory over death. And all of us, as well as these three friends, are in our own unique way called to special friendship with him.

Saint Martha's Feast Day: July 29
Patron Saint of: Housewives, waiters, waitresses



We pray for the repose of the soul of our parishioner, **Michael McCormick**.

Parish Office Hours: Until further notice the office hours are as follows:
Monday & Wednesday—8:30 am to 12:30 pm;
Tuesday & Thursday—9 am-1pm

Our Weekly Offering

Last Week \$2,137. **Last Year** \$2,222.

Parish Support

If you are away at any time during the summer please remember to make up any envelopes or contributions that you might miss. Most of our expenses remain fixed throughout the year and we depend on your regular financial support of the parish, even during the summer to meet our obligations.

Sts. Peter and Paul Walking Pilgrimage

Again this year, **St. Theodore Church** will welcome the priests, religious brothers and sisters of the pilgrimage to our Parish Center for respite. We are asking parishioners, if they are able, to donate water, cookies, fruit. The pilgrims will stop at our parish on August 10 at 12 noon. Please put your donations in the Narthex.

- Bible Study every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.
- Our *Sincere Thank You* goes to two parishioners who have donated vacuum cleaners to our church.
- We are asking for volunteers to help clean the church every Wednesday after the 8:45 a.m. Mass. We are in dire need of help, since we are down to only three people. By the way, Father serves us coffee and baked goods in the Rectory after the cleaning! :<)
- August 13: 2nd Collection- Mission Co-op
- St. Theodore Church Trustees and Parish Council met on July 16. The decline in Mass attendance was the priority topic. This decline has caused a dramatic reduction in the weekend collections. Ideas for getting people interested in coming back to church and new people becoming parishioners, along with ideas to increase revenue were discussed. Proposed fundraisers discussed were wine tasting, pot luck dinners, dances, and art auction. We welcome parishioners' suggestions and ideas. Feel free to give us your input. Youth Group activities discussed were movie night, game night, trunk n treat. The Youth Group activities will resume in the fall.
- We need back-up help for head counting at all the Masses. If interested, let any usher know you can help.



Sanctuary Candle burns for the Intentions for Healing of ***Keira Hedges & Mary Rupell***



Registration for Religious Education students is open. We are asking parents to please take time out of their busy schedule to register their children ASAP. It would really help take the guessing out of ordering text books and reserving classrooms if we had a head count before the end of July. In your kindness, please send in your registrations forms along with you tuition before then. Forms can be downloaded from our web site: www.sttheodorenj.com. Please use one form per child and fill in all the required information. We thank you in advance for your cooperation.



Stephen, Bridget M., Savannah Paine, Bobby Gross, Keira Hedges, Peter, Zachary, Logan Peter Saksa, Anna Paine, Anna Saksa, Lauren Lane, Jay Mildrum, Philip Kinney, Kerry Kraft, Peter S., Mary Supple, Mary Rupell, Patty Mahoney, Susan Reynolds, Millie B., Robert Dicheck, Christian, Tara, Zoe, Teagan, Eric Harding

Going on vacation? No need to skip Mass while traveling. To find a church near your vacation destination, visit the following web site.



Thought for the Day: "The Spirit comes to the aid of our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes with inexpressible groaning. And the one who searches hearts knows what is the intention of the Spirit. But though you are master of might you judge with great clemency and with much lenience you govern us...and you taught that those who are just must be kind."