

July 24, 2016 The Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, July 23

5:00 p.m. **+Beatrice and Thomas Nappi**
By Angela Gross

Sunday, July 24

8:00 a.m. **+John McLaughlin**
By The McLaughlin Family

10:30 a.m. **+Al Moss**
By Gerry and Brian Moss

Monday, July 25 **Saint James**

8:45 a.m. **+Maria Swierad**
By Friend

Tuesday, July 26 **Saints Joachim and Anne**

8:45 a.m. Birthday Blessings for Chris Rupell, Jr.
By Grammy Rupell

Wednesday, July 27

8:45 a.m. **+Anna Corigliano**
By The McLaughlin Family

Thursday, July 28

8:45 a.m. **+Lori Baldwin**
By Eileen and Jim Mattison

Friday, July 29 **NO MASS**

Saturday, July 30

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

Sunday, July 31

8:00 a.m. **Parishioners of St. Theodore Church**
10:30 a.m. **+Maria Swierad**
By Friend



***Saints Joachim and Anne
(Parents of the Blessed
Virgin Mary) Feast Day:
July 27.***

In the Scriptures, Matthew and Luke furnish a legal family history of Jesus, tracing ancestry to show that Jesus is the culmination of great promises. Not only is his mother's family neglected, we also know nothing factual about them except that they existed. Even the names *Joachim* and *Anne* come from a legendary source written more than a century after Jesus died.

The heroism and holiness of these people, however, is inferred from the whole family atmosphere around Mary in the Scriptures. Whether we rely on the legends about Mary's

childhood or make guesses from the information in the Bible, we see in her a fulfillment of many generations of prayerful persons, herself steeped in the religious traditions of her people.

The strong character of Mary in making decisions, her continuous practice of prayer, her devotion to the laws of her faith, her steadiness at moments of crisis, and her devotion to her relatives—all indicate a close-knit, loving family that looked forward to the next generation even while retaining the best of the past.

Joachim and Anne—whether these are their real names or not—represent that entire quiet series of generations who faithfully perform their duties, practice their faith and establish an atmosphere for the coming of the Messiah, but remain obscure.

This is the “feast of grandparents.” It reminds grandparents of their responsibility to establish a tone for generations to come: They must make the traditions live and offer them as a promise to little children. But the feast has a message for the younger generation as well. It reminds the young that older people's greater perspective, depth of experience and appreciation of life's profound rhythms are all part of a wisdom not to be taken lightly or ignored.

SAVE THE DATE—DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO THE NATIONAL SHRINE



On Saturday, November 19, 2016, Bishop Checchio will lead a pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the

Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC, concluding the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy and celebrating the Thirty-Fifth Anniversary of the creation of the Diocese by St. John Paul II. More details about the pilgrimage, including how to register, will appear in the bulletin in coming weeks.



Our church will be welcoming a missionary from the Brothers of the Sacred Heart this month. Brother Lucien Blain will be speaking to us on **July 30 and 31** about the brothers' ministry to the unfortunate of Africa.

The brothers work in many areas of Africa to direct and staff schools, minister to street children and AIDS orphans, and run agricultural programs. The generosity of American Catholics help the Brothers of the Sacred Heart in Africa develop these programs and also to insure that African youth have the Catholic values, education and skills to look to the future with hope and confidence.



The priests, brothers, and sisters taking part in this year's walking pilgrimage from Great Meadows to Doylestown will be stopping at St. Theodore's for lunch and rest on Thursday, August 11. They were especially grateful for our hospitality in the past. *If you are able to donate soda, cookies and cakes, it would be most appreciated.* Thank you so much. Fr. Damian.



St. Theodore Church participates in collecting food for the Food Pantry in Washington. Donations are needed to help feed the hungry in our area. There is a list of needed items posted on the bulletin board. Please place your donations in the shopping cart located in the Narthex. Thank you and God bless. *—Father Damian*

Father Damian has received a letter from Bishop Checchio thanking him for his kind hospitality during his visit to our parish. In the letter the bishop states in part... "What a wonderful visit to your lovely parish,"... "I enjoyed meeting your parishioners and it was good to spend some time with you too."... "Thank you for all you do for the flock there." Father thanks those of you who attended the 8 o'clock Mass on July 3 to welcome the bishop to our church.

Our Offering: July 17: \$2,237. ; 2015: \$2,689.63



Stephen, Anthony Vitale, Bridget M., Savannah Paine, Bobby Gross, Michael Dante, Keira H., Maryann Vaughan, Charlie Guerriere, Sr., Robert Dicheck, Peter, Zachary, Logan Peter Saksa, Anna Paine, Maryann Vaughan, Charlie Guerriere, Sr., Robert Dicheck, Anna Saksa, Lauren Lane, Jay Mildrum, Philip Kinney, Mary D., Eleanor D., Kerry Kraft, Barbara K., Patty Mahoney

Please Register As Soon As Possible



PLEASE DOWNLOAD FORMS (one per child): www.sttheodorenj.com

Fee: 1child-\$120; 2 children-\$240, 3 children-\$240
Grades 2 & 8: Additional \$25 per child for Sacrament fee. (If you are experiencing financial difficulty, please see Father Damian so arrangements can be made.)

You Can Save Your Marriage!

Has your marriage become unloving or uncaring—your relationship grown cold, distant—thinking about a separation or divorce? Are you already separated/divorced but (both of you) wish to try again—then the Retrouvaille program may help you.

RETROUVAILLE (Rediscovery) sponsored by the Family Life Office/Diocese of Metuchen consists of a weekend experience for couples (no group discussions) with six follow-up sessions.

The next program initiates the weekend of September 16-18, 2016. All inquiries are confidential. For further information please call the Family Life Office 732-562-1990 ex4573. Rich & Annette Colasuonno 732-236-0671 or Tom & Pat McTague 732-583-4468 (evenings).