

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, May 7

8:45 a.m. **Mother's Day Blessings for Susan Reynolds**
By Susan and Larry Rineer and Family

5:00 p.m. **Mother's Day Mass Remembrance**

Sunday, May 8

8:00 a.m. **Mother's Day Mass Remembrance**

10:30 a.m. **Mother's Day Mass Remembrance**

Monday, May 9 *Saint Damian de Veuster*

8:45 a.m. **+Mary Kane**
By Bernadette and Andy Ryan

Tuesday, May 10

8:45 a.m. **Blessings of Health for Fr. Al Roca**
By Bernadette and Andy Ryan

Wednesday, May 11

8:45 a.m. **Blessings for Father Damian**
By M.

Thursday, May 12 *Saints Nereus & Achilleus*

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

Friday, May 13 **NO MASS**

Saturday, May 14

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

Sunday, May 15

8:00 a.m. **Altar Rosary Society**

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

12:30 p.m. **Saint Theodore Confirmandi**

The pious practice of honoring Mary during the month of May has been especially recommended by the Popes. Pius XII made frequent reference to it and in his great Encyclical *on the Sacred Liturgy (Mediator Dei)* characterized it as one of "other exercises of piety which although not strictly belonging to the Sacred Liturgy, are nevertheless of special import and dignity, and may be considered in a certain way to be an addition to the liturgical cult: they have been approved and praised over and over again by the Apostolic See and by the Bishops" (no. 182).

Paul VI wrote a short encyclical in 1965 using the Month of Mary devotion as a means of obtaining prayers for peace. He urged the faithful to make use of this practice which is "gladdening and consoling" and by which the Blessed Virgin Mary is honored and the Christian people are enriched with spiritual gifts" (no. 2).

In May of 2002 Pope John Paul II said, "Today we begin the month dedicated to Our Lady a



favourite of popular devotion. In accord with a long-standing tradition of devotion, parishes and families continue to make the month of May a 'Marian' month, celebrating it with many devout liturgical, catechetical and pastoral initiatives!"

The Blessed Virgin Mary is the Mother of the Church and therefore the example, as well as the guide and inspiration, of everyone who, in and through the Church, seeks to be the servant of God and man and the obedient agent of the promptings of the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit, as Pope Leo XIII reminded us, is the soul of the Church: All the activity and service of the members of the Church, beginning with the supreme participation of the Blessed Mother in the work of the Church, is vivified by the Holy Spirit as the body, in all its activities, is vivified by its soul. The Holy Spirit is the Paraclete, Advocate, and Comforter which Christ Himself sent to be our consolation in the sorrowful mysteries of life, our source of moderation in the joyful mysteries of life, our added principle of exaltation in the glorious mysteries of life.

So He was for the Blessed Mother; so also He is for the least of us; so also He is for the rest of the Church, even for those who are its unconscious but conscientious members.

Wherever there is faith there is the example of Mary, because she lived by faith as the Scriptures remind us....

If, then, piety is the virtue which binds us to the sources of all life, to God, to our parents, to the Church, to Christ, certainly Christian piety binds us, in grateful love, to Mary — or our acceptance of Christ and of the mystery of our kinship with Him is imperfect, partial, and unfulfilled.

— Cardinal John Wright

The Litany of the Blessed Virgin also called the Litany of Loreto—is one of the many Marian litanies, or praises of Mary, composed during the Middle Ages. The place of honor it now holds, in the life of the Church, is due its faithful use at the shrine of the Holy House at Loreto, which, according to tradition, was the small cottage-like home where the Holy Family had lived and which was miraculously transported by angels, in 1291, from the Holy Land to its present location in Loreto. It was definitely recommended by Pope Clement VII and approved by Sixtus V in 1587, and all other Marian litanies were suppressed, at least for public use.

Its forty-nine titles (fifty, or fifty-one, or even more, in some versions: with "Mother of the Church" and "Mother of Mercy" and being the 'official' newcomers' in recent times and which are included

on the Vatican website version) and invocations set before us Mary's exalted privileges, her holiness of life, her amiability and power, her motherly spirit and queenly majesty. Reflection on the titles of the litany, therefore, will unfold before us a magnificent picture of our heavenly Mother, even though we know little about her life.

In form, the Litany of Loreto is composed on a fixed plan common to several Marian litanies already in existence during the second half of the fifteenth century, which in turn are connected with a notable series of Marian litanies that began to appear in the twelfth century and became numerous in the thirteenth and fourteenth. The Loreto text had, however, the good fortune to be adopted in the famous shrine, and in this way to become known, more than any other, to the many pilgrims who flocked there during the sixteenth century. The text was brought home to the various countries of Christendom, and finally it received for all time the supreme ecclesiastical sanction.

Sixtus V, who had entertained a singular devotion for Loreto, by the Bull "Reddituri" of 11 July, 1587, gave formal approval to it, as to the litany of the Holy Name of Jesus, and recommended preachers everywhere to propagate its use among the faithful. Excerpted from *The History of the Litany of Our Lady*



ATTENTION ALL YOUTH!

We need your help to raise money for Family Promise, which supports homeless families in Warren County.

Cardboard City will take place

at St. Theodore Church on May 21 at the 5 p.m. Mass and conclude with pick up by parents on Sunday, May 22 at 7:15 a.m. sharp. (All you need is a cardboard box large enough to sleep in, a \$5 donation for the evening and to have raised at least \$20 for Family Promise.) Three service hours will be granted. Also bring snacks, sleeping bag and pillow for the evening. All friends are welcome and everyone needs a permission slip, which will be available in the narthex next week. Contact your youth ministers with any questions about this event: youthgroup@sttheodorenj.com. **Tyro youth will be collecting donations from parishioners after the Masses on May 14 & 15. Thank you in advance for supporting this non-profit cause.**

Saint Theodore Roman Catholic Church
855 Rt. 57, P.O. Box 146, Port Murray, NJ 07865
Fr. Damian Tomiczek, SDS, Administrator
908-689-8318; sttheodorenj@gmail.com
www.sttheodorenj.com

Our Offering: 5/1/16 : \$2,395.50 Last Year: \$2,176.

Have you purchased tickets yet?

Please help your church!



(The outside of the church will be painted this Spring. We are counting on this raffle in a big way to help fund this project.)

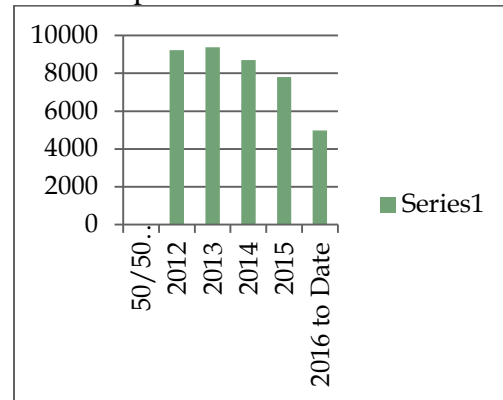
Drawing: Sunday May 29 @ 11:30

1st Prize: 40% of total,

2nd Prize: 6% of total

3rd Prize: 4% of total.

Ticket Price \$10.00 each. Please visit the Rosarian Gift Shop in the Parish Center to purchase tickets. Proceeds will be applied to Parish Expenses.



Stephen, Elizabeth Ondroczyk, Rosaria Incantalupo,

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 Saksa,

Lauren Lane, Jay Mildrum, Philip Kinney, Mary D.,

Eleanor D., Kerry Kraft, Barbara K.



May Schedule

May 9, 6:15: All students in church for May Crowning of the Blessed Mother (last day of school)

May 10, 6 pm: Trustee & Pastoral Council Meeting

May 11, 7 pm: Altar Rosary Society Meeting

May 14: 6 pm: Confirmation Practice in church

May 15, 12:30 pm: Confirmation

May 21, 5 pm: Cardboard City Sleepover

May 29, 11:30 am: 50/50 drawing