

September 10, 2017 Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, September 9

5:00 p.m. +**Ed, Brian and Scott Wyker**
By The Wyker Family

Sunday, September 10

8:00 a.m. **Parishioners of St. Theodore Church**
10:30 a.m. **The Altar Rosary Society**

Monday, September 11

8:45 a.m. **Blessings for Gae Savino**
By George and Georgianne Merlo

Tuesday, September 12 Most Holy Name of Mary

8:45 a.m. **In Thanksgiving of Sts. Jude, Anthony, Francis**
By Angela Gross

Wednesday, September 13

8:45 a.m. +**Corrado and Jennie Tridente**
By Sam and Marietta Tridente

Thursday, September 14 (NO MASS)

Friday, September 15 Our Lady of Sorrows

8:45 a.m. +**James Harris**
By John and Theresa Saraniero

Saturday, September 16

5:00 p.m. +**Antonietta and Sabino Antinolfi**
By Daughter

Sunday, September 17

8:00 a.m. **Parishioners of St. Theodore Church**
10:30 a.m. +**James Harris**
By St. Theodore Choir

Dear Parishioners,

I have been told that there was confusion last weekend concerning the date of our special collection for Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund. We received an email from the bishop stating that “the collection could be taking up on Sept. 16/17 or another weekend more convenient for your parish schedule”. I reviewed our collection schedule and we have two collections every weekend except for October 14/15. Since we had been told in the past never to have three collections, I chose October 14/15.

After this memo was received and the bulletin already sent to the printers, we received another message from the bishop stating that the collection is to be taken up Sept. 16/17 or Sept 23/24. Therefore, after all said and done, the special collection for the relief fund will be taken up on Sept. 16/17.—Mary Rupell

The title, Our Lady of Sorrows, given to our Blessed Mother focuses on her intense suffering and grief during the passion and death of our Lord. Traditionally, this suffering was not



limited to the passion and death event; rather, it comprised the seven dolours or seven sorrows of Mary,

which were foretold by the Priest Simeon who proclaimed to Mary, This child [Jesus] is destined to be the downfall and the rise of many in Israel, a sign that will be opposed and you yourself shall be pierced with a sword so that the thoughts of many hearts may be laid bare (Luke 2:34-35). These seven sorrows of our Blessed Mother included the flight of the Holy Family into Egypt; the loss and finding of the child Jesus in the Temple; Mary's meeting of Jesus on His way to Calvary; Mary's standing at the foot of the cross when our Lord was crucified; her holding of Jesus when He was taken down from the cross; and then our Lord's burial.

In all, the prophesy of Simeon that a sword would pierce our Blessed Mother's heart was fulfilled in these events. For this reason, Mary is sometimes depicted with her heart exposed and with seven swords piercing it. More importantly, each new suffering was received with the courage, love, and trust that echoed her fiat, let it be done unto me according to Thy word, first uttered at the Annunciation.

This Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows grew in popularity in the 12th century, although under various titles. Granted, some writings would place its roots in the eleventh century, especially among the Benedictine monks. By the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, the feast and devotion were widespread throughout the Church

Focusing on the compassion of our Blessed Mother, our Holy Father, Pope John Paul II, reminded the faithful, Mary Most Holy goes on being the loving consoler of those touched by the many physical and moral sorrows which afflict and torment humanity. She knows our sorrows and our pains, because she too suffered, from

Bethlehem to Calvary. 'And they soul too a sword shall pierce.' Mary is our Spiritual Mother, and the mother always understands her children and consoles them in their troubles. Then, she has that specific mission to love us, received from Jesus on the Cross, to love us only and always, so as to save us! Mary consoles us above all by pointing out the Crucified One and Paradise to us! (1980).

Therefore, as we honor our Blessed Mother, our Lady of Sorrows, we honor her as the faithful disciple and exemplar of faith. Let us pray as we do in the opening prayer of the Mass for this feast day: Father, as your Son was raised on the cross, His Mother Mary stood by Him, sharing His sufferings. May your Church be united with Christ in His suffering and death and so come to share in His rising to new life. Looking to the example of Mary, may we too unite our sufferings to our Lord, facing them with courage, love, and trust.

Princeton police are investigating after someone stole at least \$10,000 in collection money from a church. The burglary happened between 6:30 and 9 p.m. Sunday at St. Paul's Catholic Church on Nassau Street. Police said the burglar stole money that had been collected during the Saturday and Sunday masses from an unsecured drawer in an unlocked office of the rectory. The total amount stolen is estimated to be more than \$10,000, police said.--Rev. Msgr. William Benwell, JCL Vicar General, Diocese of Metuchen

Following-up about the burglary at St. Paul Church in Princeton:

Bishop O'Connell informed the bishops of New Jersey today that the Diocese of Trenton has experienced "a spate" of burglaries of rectories and churches recently, particularly on Saturday and Sunday nights when it is presumed the weekend collection is on the premises. **Also, a number of parishes in Trenton have experienced small groups appearing outside their churches or in their parking lots and claiming to be homeless or in financial need. Some have been quite aggressive and have even threatened parishioners or staff who confront them. Such groups have appeared in at least three of our parishes—in East Brunswick, Plainsboro, and Three Bridges. The police say that these groups are gypsies and ask that you call the police immediately when they appear on church property.**

Our Weekly Offering

Sunday collections needed to meet expenses: (based on last year's data):

Needed Weekly: \$3,637

August 27: \$1,950

Needed for August: \$14,548; Collected: \$7,432

August deficit: \$7,116

Thank You

Many thanks to our parishioners who generously donated \$1,288 to the Randy Smith Memorial Fund. We will

be sending the proceeds this week, to be used for his son, c/o Vicki Smith, (his widow) of the Dutch Valley Florist. May God bless you for your compassion and generosity.

September Calendar

Bible Study every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.

9/9, 5 pm: Rel. Ed. Students-Gr. 1-4 meet teachers & get books

9/10, 10:30 am: Rel. Ed. Students-Gr. 5-8 meet teachers & get books

9/10: Hospitality Sunday & Ministry Fair after the Masses

9/11, 6:15 pm: First Day of Rel. Ed. Classes

9/11, 6:15 pm: Rel. Ed. Parents meeting with Father Damian at the school

9/30, 6 pm: Game Night in the Parish Center

October Calendar

10/4, 7 p.m.: Altar Rosary Society Meeting

10/8: Hospitality Sunday after both Masses

10/9: No Rel. Ed. Classes

10/9: Parish and Rel. Ed. Offices closed

10/14: 7 pm: Wine Tasting Fundraiser & Social in Parish Ctr.



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, Kathy & Bob Y.
