

**BULLETIN**  
**August 9, 2020**

**St Bonaventure Church**  
**174 Ramsey Street**  
**Paterson, New Jersey 07501**  
**Parish Office: 973.279.1016**  
**Website: [www.stbonspaterson.org](http://www.stbonspaterson.org)**

This week we celebrated the Feast Days  
of TWO FRANCISCAN WOMEN,  
a long-time saint, SAINT CLARE OF ASSISI  
and a new saint, SAINT DULCE PONTES LOPES  
who is in the same religious community as  
our Franciscan Sisters here in West Paterson/Woodland Park!!!

**SAINT CLARE OF ASSISI**  
**Founder, Poor Clares (1194-1253)**

The story of St. Clare of Assisi is inevitably linked with her companion St. Francis. It was Francis who gave her a vision and enabled her to define a way of life apart from the options offered by her society. Her goal in life, however, was not to be a reflection of Francis but to be, like him, a reflection of Christ. "Christ is the way," she said, "and Francis showed it to me."

Clare belonged to one of the wealthy families of Assisi. In 1212, when she was eighteen, she heard Francis deliver a series of Lenten sermons and afterward arranged to meet with him secretly and ask his help that she too might live "after the manner of the holy gospel." One night soon after, she slipped out of town, met with Francis

and his brothers, put off her fine clothes, cut her long hair, and assumed a penitential habit. [Notice the fourth stained-glass window from the back on the left in St. Bon's Church. It depicts this event.] In time other women joined her in a community dedicated to prayer and poverty, a counterpart to Francis's fraternity.

It has been said that of all the followers of Francis, Clare was the most faithful. Many stories reflect the loving bonds of friendship between them and the trust that Francis placed in her wisdom and counsel. She lived on for twenty-seven years after his death. Her own death came in 1253.

***"Place your mind before the mirror of eternity!  
Place your soul in the brilliance of glory!  
And transform your entire being into the image of the Godhead Itself  
through contemplation." – St. Clare of Assisi***

## **SAINT DULCE PONTES LOPES** **Servant of the Poor (1914-1992)**

Irma Pontes was born in Salvador, Brazil, to a well-to-do family. As a child, the sight of homeless beggars in her neighborhood inspired her to devote her life to the poor. At eighteen she joined the Congregation of Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, a Franciscan community founded in Germany in 1910 with missions in Brazil soon thereafter. Their house in the United States has been in West Paterson/Woodland Park for many years. They have often taken up ministries with the Franciscan Friars of Holy Name Province, also originally a German foundation. Irma took the religious name, Dulce, after her mother who had died when she was three.

Within a year of entering religious life, Dulce had formed the Workers Union of St. Francis, the first Christian worker's movement in Brazil. Meanwhile she took to sheltering homeless sick people in abandoned

houses, begging for food and medicine. As their numbers steadily increased, Dulce begged permission from her superior to house them in the chicken sheds of the convent. Eventually this gave rise to St. Anthony's Hospital, a complex of medical, educational, and social services. She could never pass a person in need without seeing the face of Christ: "We may be the last door, and for this reason we cannot close it." In 1959 Sr. Dulce's various programs were consolidated as the Charitable Works Foundation of Sister Dulce (OSID).

Twice nominated for the Nobel Prize, Sr. Dulce became one of the most beloved figures in Brazil. She has been called "the Mother Teresa of Brazil." She died in March 13, 1992, beatified in 2011, and canonized last year on October 13, 2019. Her Feast Day is celebrated every year on August 13. *Saint Dulce, pray for us!*

***There is nothing better that you can do in this world  
than to totally give yourself to God  
in the person of the poor and our needy brother."  
- Saint Dulce***

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### ANNUAL MISSION APPEAL 2020

Every year around this time we receive a missionary to preach at all the Sunday Masses. The collection for this Appeal will be

taken up this weekend, August 16. This year Sister Ellen of the

### MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE HOLY ROSARY sends us this letter.

*To the Pastor and the Parishioners of St. Bonaventure Church,*

I am sorry not to be with you in person to share with you. Fortunately, though, the Diocese of Paterson is

giving us this opportunity to let you know about our congregation and the help we need.

Our congregation, the Missionary Sisters of the Holy Rosary, was founded in Ireland in 1924 by Bishop Joseph Shanahan, C.S.Sp. for the education of the women of Nigeria, West Africa. We now are an international community working in nine countries of Africa and in Brazil, South America. We serve in all forms of education, medical work, pastoral work, local development and agriculture and assisting trafficked women and the homeless. We have been serving in the AIDS, Ebola and Covid-19 epidemics.

Our pressing need at the moment is to construct a convent for our Sisters running a clinic in Efofe, Kogi State, Nigeria. Efofe is a town of 7,500 with 25 surrounding villages. Traditional healers provided the medical services. There was a high rate of sickness and death in mothers and children. We started a clinic. Two Sisters and their

staff provide antenatal care, delivery services, immunizations, nutrition services and round the clock health services. The two Sisters serving there are housed in two rooms at the end of an adjacent building where deliveries are conducted. More Sisters cannot be stationed in Efofe until a convent is built.

Our Superior General and Council asked us to raise funds to build a convent. For us it is an urgent need. Your help, large or small, will be very much appreciated. We also ask for prayers for the safety of the Sisters as this is an area which can be attacked by Boko Haram or Fulani herdsmen.

Know that you and your intentions will be remembered in the daily prayer of all of our Sisters. We are sincerely grateful for your help. May God bless you and protect you in this Covid-19 pandemic!

Gratefully,

Sister Ellen Anderson, MSHR

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***AUGUST 15<sup>th</sup> IS NOT A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION THIS YEAR!!!***

However, the Mass for the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary will be celebrated at 11:30 AM for those who wish to attend. The Mass will NOT be live-streamed.

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***OUR CHURCH IS OPEN!***

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>9:30 AM</b>	<b>English</b>	
	<b>11:30 AM</b>	<b>English</b>	<b>live streamed</b>
	<b>5:30 PM</b>	<b>Spanish</b>	<b>live streamed</b>

**Tuesday & Thursday 11:30 AM English live streamed**  
 [Please note that there are no longer weekday Masses in Spanish.]

The doors open one half hour before the scheduled times.  
 The Protocols issued by the Bishop are observed.  
 Please wear a mask and bring hand sanitizer.  
 If you do not, we will provide you with both.

Also, observe six feet of social distancing at all times  
 while in and around the building.

We hope to return to the full Mass schedule in the months ahead.  
 As we add Masses, the times will be posted on the doors  
 and at our website at [www.stbonspaterson.org](http://www.stbonspaterson.org)  
 Live-streamed Masses may be accessed at the same website  
 or at [www.facebook.com/stbonslive](http://www.facebook.com/stbonslive).

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***THE PARISH OFFICE IS OPEN!***

**Monday & Wednesday 9:00 to 1:00 PM**  
**Tuesday & Thursday 1:00 to 4:00 PM**

If you have questions or comments about anything whatsoever,  
 please text or call. My cellphone is 201.321.7605. frDan

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**MASS INTENTIONS, August 9 – 16, 2020**

**19<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Sun	August 9	9:30 AM	Kenneth Ingwersen	
		11:30 AM	For the Parishioners	live-streamed
		5:30 PM	[Spanish]	live-streamed
Mon	August 10	11:30 AM	Franciscan Mass League	
			FEAST OF SAINT LAWRENCE, DEACON AND MARTYR	
Tues	August 11			

		FEAST OF SAINT CLARE OF ASSISI		
		11:30 AM	( )	live-streamed
		7:00 PM	( )	
Wed	August 12	11:30 AM	( )	
Thurs	August 13	MEMORIAL OF ST DULCE SMIC		
		11:30 AM	Deceased Member of the Missionary Servants of the Immaculate Conception	live-streamed
Fri	August 14	11:30 AM	( )	
Sat	August 15	SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY		
		<b>NOT</b> a Holy Day of Obligation this year		
		Open to the public but not live-streamed		
		11:30 AM	+Myrtle Evans +Fr. Joseph Patrick Kennedy, O.F.M. Twentieth Pastor of St. Bonaventure Anniversary +1970	
Sat	August 15	5:30 PM	Vigil Mass +James Mallaney	
<b>20<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME</b>				
Sun	August 16	9:30 AM	( )	
		11:30 AM	+Donald Hayden +George Petersen +Sarah Jackson +Jackie Maher	live-streamed
		5:30 PM	( )	live-streamed

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because you have given us your e-mail address.  
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and has NOT given us his/her e-mail address,  
please e-mail the address(es) to [parishoffice@stbonspaterson.org](mailto:parishoffice@stbonspaterson.org).  
Future mailings will be sent.  
This bulletin is also posted on our website: [www.stbonspaterson.org](http://www.stbonspaterson.org).