

My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

November 12, 2017

Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time



Saturday, November 11

5:30 pm For Robert Scanga by Lennon Family

Sunday, November 12

8:00 am For Josefa Silfa by her sisters
 9:30 am For Marie Louise Chang by Kopreski Family
 11:00 am For William Meiers by Solecki Family

Monday, November 13

8:45 am For

Tuesday, November 14

8:45 am For

Wednesday, November 15

8:45 am For

Saturday, November 18

5:30 pm For

Sunday, November 19

8:00 am For Linda Van Hoorebeke by Vanderhooft Family
 9:30 am For Teresa Ziko by Skoczylas Family
 11:00 am For Tom Mackie by Barbara Schmitt

**REMEMBRANCE MEMORIALS
 FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER**

Altar Breads & Wine – In loving memory of Patsy & Philip Marchese by Marchese family.

Sanctuary Lamp – In loving memory of Vito and Marie Benardone by Corry and Benardone families

Mass Candles: For Robert & Monica Horan, 60th Wedding Anniversary by O’Shea Family

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

NOVEMBER 18, 19, 2017

Saturday, 5:30 pm

Celebrant: Fr. Slawomir Tomaszewski

Lector: Tom Morley

Eucharistic Ministers: Mary Scarda

Altar Servers: Help Needed

Sunday, 8:00 am

Celebrant: Fr. Slawomir Tomaszewski

Lector: Tony Cretella

Eucharistic Ministers: Carmen Veras

Altar Servers: Help Needed

Sunday, 9:30 am

Celebrant: Fr. Slawomir Tomaszewski

Lector: Kevin O’Shea

Eucharistic Ministers: Gina & Paul Tupaczewski

Altar Servers: Hannah & Sarah Tupaczewski

Sunday, 11:00 am

Celebrant: Fr. Slawomir Tomaszewski

Lector: Emily & Gabriella Nowak

Eucharistic Ministers: Angel Nowak, Nick Caruso

Altar Servers: Help Needed

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK’S

Monday, Nov. 13

8:45 am Daily Mass
 4:30 pm CEC Grades K-5
 7:30 pm Boy Scout Meeting

Tuesday, Nov. 14

8:45 am Daily Mass
 4:30 pm CEC Grades K-5
 7:30 pm Choir
 8:00 pm Knights of Columbus

Wednesday, Nov. 15

8:45 am Daily Mass
 9:30 am Women’s Bible Study
 6:00 pm CEC JYM Grades 5-8

Thursday, Nov. 16

Parish Office Closed

Friday, Nov. 17

No events scheduled

Saturday, Nov. 18

8:00 am Men’s Bible Study
 5:30 pm Mass - following mass K-8 Family Fun Night

Sunday, Nov. 19

8:00, 9:30, 11:00 am Mass
 9:30 am Senior Youth Ministry

WEEKLY COLLECTION

| Current Year | Last Year 2016 |
|---|---|
| November 5, 2017: \$2,354 Envelopes used: 42 | November 6, 2016: \$2,624 Envelopes used: 66 |
| Parish Debt Reduction: \$744 Envelopes used: 20 | Parish Debt Reduction: \$536.85 Envelopes used: 28 |
| Supermarket Gift Cards: November 5, 2017 Sales: \$4,360 Profit: \$218 YTD Profit: \$6,866 - Now past last year’s Total Profit of \$6,664 2016 YTD Profit: \$5,676 # of families: 20 | St. Mark’s Faith Direct Church Code is NJ484 |

GROCERY GIFT CARD CHALLENGE...

An anonymous donor will match dollar for dollar the increase in gift card fundraiser profits over last year up to \$2,500. Last year we raised \$6,664. Can we raise \$9,164? **So far the 2017 year to date profit is \$6,866.** The extra gift card profits plus the donation could be an extra \$5,000 for St. Mark’s!

FAITH DIRECT...

With Thanksgiving and the Season of Advent coming up, enrolling in Faith Direct is a great way to ensure your gifts to St. Mark the Evangelist are received even while you are traveling for the holidays. Already using Faith Direct? Don’t forget to add your Christmas or End-of-Year contributions to your account. Visit www.faithdirect.net and use our church code: **NJ484**. support of our parish family!

FROM FR. MARCIN...

My dear parishioners,

Today we celebrate 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time. We have two Sundays to go before we begin Advent Season (our preparation for Christmas). Time goes so fast and we have to be prepared to see our Lord Jesus whenever he will decide to come. Today's Gospel invites us to stay awake because we do not know either the day or the hour.

In the parable of the ten virgins, five of whom were wise and five foolish, the idea of vigilance is presented in the scenario of a wedding feast.

The bridegroom of the parable is Jesus, and his coming occurs at the end of the world, either universally or at each person's death. For no one really misses the end of the world. Since our death seems remote during most of our lives, we are tempted to forget about being ready for the Lord at the end. This can be tragic if the record of our lives is not fit to be presented to the Lord when he comes, for in that case we will, like the foolish virgins, be left outside the wedding banquet of heaven.

The words of Jesus at the end of this parable summarize the challenge that we ought to recognize in this gospel passage: "Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour". Keeping awake and having our lamps lit have the same meaning, namely, that we must be aware that we will eventually need to give an account for the way in which we have lived.

From the perspective of secular philosophy, which is present in every aspect of our society, the end of life is simply the end of everything. In such a situation, it makes sense to be interested primarily in acquiring power and using it for one's own purposes. If the teaching of Jesus is trustworthy, however, such a program of life will lead to an unhappy surprise at the end. In fact, someone has made the wise observation that, for the selfish person, hell will be a room of mirrors in which one will be forced to see only oneself...for eternity!

By contrast, those who strive to live unselfishly, having invested their lives generously in the interests of others, will become members of a heavenly community of peace and joy. Being vigilant, and therefore aware of one's responsibility before God, will also lead to kindness and compassion in all circumstances.

Only authentic faith enables us to desire above all to see ourselves honestly, in the way that God sees us, to repent of our sins and then to live according to our need for God. "Whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." Total dedication to Christ and to His Gospel is rewarded with the total gift of God's love and embrace in the heavenly kingdom. Heaven begins with Christian commitment here and now, without delay or excuses.

Jesus warns us that there are consequences for being unprepared. There are certain things we cannot obtain at the last moment. For example, students cannot prepare for their exams when the day of testing is already upon them. When the Lord Jesus comes to lead us to his heavenly banquet will we be ready to hear his voice and follow? Our eternal happiness depends on our hearing, and many have trained themselves to not hear. We will not be prepared to meet the Lord, face to face, when he calls us on the Day of Judgment, unless we listen to him today.

The parable reminds us to choose well because at the end of life we will meet our Savior and we do not know when he will call us; that's why Jesus said in the Gospel, "So stay awake because you do not know either the day or the hour." Each decision or choice we

make going through life is a decision or choice for Jesus or against Jesus. There will be consequences to all of our decisions for Jesus or against Jesus. When Jesus calls us from this life whenever that will be, we will face the consequences of all our decisions for or against Jesus. "So stay awake because you do not know either the day or the hour."

Are you ready to see Jesus? God wants you to be happy. He wants you to spend eternity with him. And for that you must give him your love. The only way you will be totally happy is to totally love the God who is love.

OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAIN PRAY FOR US...
ST. MARK PRAY FOR US...

RESPECT LIFE MASS – NOVEMBER 18

Come for Respect Life Mass at the Cathedral in Paterson on
November 18 (Saturday) at 10 am.

All Catholics should be pro-life and protect human life from natural conception to natural death. Every Life is worth living because each of us is a masterpiece of God's creation. RESPECT LIFE AND JOIN OUR BISHOP AND OTHERS FOR THIS SPECIAL MASS. We pray: May God grant us courage to embrace his precious gift of life, even in the most difficult of circumstances.

HOLY HOUR

Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is waiting for you every second Monday of the month. This coming Monday, November 13 from 7pm to 8pm. If you have not gone to confession for a while come on Monday night, go to confession and spend some time before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Jesus is waiting for you with his LOVE and MERCY.

OLM Church – Monday – November 13 - 7pm – You and Jesus.

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTION

Join us for DIVINE MERCY DEVOTION on Friday November 17 at OLM church beginning at 3PM THE HOUR OF MERCY.



The message of The Divine Mercy is simple. It is that God loves us – all of us. And, he wants us to recognize that His mercy is greater than our sins, so that we will call upon Him with trust, receive His mercy, and let it flow through us to others. Thus, all will come to share His joy.

NOVEMBER IS THE MONTH OF ALL SOULS...

In the tradition of the Catholic Church, the month of November is set aside for the remembrance of all the faithful departed. Wouldn't it be nice to honor your loved one by having a daily mass said for them? Please call the parish office to make arrangements for a mass card.

GROCERY GIFT CARDS AVAILABLE AT CEC CLASSES...

A member of the fundraising committee will be selling grocery gift cards on Monday and Tuesday, Nov. 13 & 14 at CEC classes.

**2017 BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL
IN GIVING, WE RECEIVE**

This time of year, as our nation plans to celebrate Thanksgiving, let us reflect on how we use all of the gifts given to us by a loving God. Consider showing your thanks for all your blessings by making a gift to the 2017 Bishop's Annual Appeal. As we are reminded in this year's Appeal theme – *In Giving, We Receive* – your participation not only impacts the lives of tens of thousands of people in need, but it benefits you as well. Please make a pledge today! For your convenience, you can make an online gift or pledge at www.2017appeal.org.

FROM FR. SLAWEK...

**St. Elizabeth of Hungary
Queen (1207-1231) November 17**

St. Elizabeth, the daughter of Hungarian royalty, was betrothed as a child of four to Ludwig, the nine-year-old prince of Thuringia in southern Germany. Despite this arrangement, the two children established a close friendship that eventually blossomed into a loving marriage. Elizabeth bore three children. But Ludwig's family disapproved of her piety (she had become a Franciscan tertiary) and especially her "excessive" charity toward the poor and sick. Ignoring their wishes, she opened the royal granaries during a time of famine. This won her the people's devotion, though such generosity made her an object of scorn among the elite members of the court.

In 1227 Ludwig embarked on a Crusade and died on his journey. In a paroxysm of grief, Elizabeth cried, "The world is dead to me, and all that was joyous in the world." Without her husband's protection, she was at the mercy of her in-laws. They banished her from the court, forcing her to leave the place on a winter night, carrying nothing but her newborn child. She accepted shelter in a pig shed.

Eventually, to avoid scandal, she was provided with a simple cottage, where she supported herself by spinning and fishing. Otherwise, she visited the sick in their homes or in the hospices she had endowed. Over time, her reputation for holiness spread, and she earned the grudging respect of those who had persecuted her. She died on November 17, 1231, at the age of twenty-four. She was canonized less than four years later.

"We must give God what we have, gladly and with joy."

-St. Elizabeth of Hungary

FROM FR. JAVIER...

**TEACHING FROM THE CATECHISM OF THE
CATHOLIC CHURCH - THE TEN
COMMANDMENTS**

The Fourth Commandment

**Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long
in the land which the Lord your God gives you.**

My brothers and sisters, let us continue our learning from the fourth commandment.

This commandment is related with the society, according with Catechism "The family is the original cell of social life. It is the natural society in which husband and wife are called to give themselves in love and in the gift of life. Authority, stability, and a life of relationships within the family constitute the foundations for freedom, security, and fraternity within society. The family is the

community in which, from childhood, one can learn moral values, begin to honor God, and make good use of freedom. Family life is an initiation into life in society".

The family should live in such a way that its members learn to care and take responsibility for the young, the old, the sick, the handicapped, and the poor. There are many families who are at times incapable of providing this help. It devolves then on other persons, other families, and, in a subsidiary way, society to provide for their needs.

The fourth commandment illuminates other relationships in society. In our brothers and sisters we see the children of our parents; in our cousins, the descendants of our ancestors; in our fellow citizens, the children of our country; in the baptized, the children of our mother the Church; in every human person, a son or daughter of the One who wants to be called "our Father." In this way our relationships with our neighbors are recognized as personal in character. The neighbor is not a "unit" in the human collective; he is "someone" who by his known origins deserves particular attention and respect. God bless you

FUNDRAISER FOR ST. MARK'S. Sat., Nov. 25th 10 to 7pm

Join us at Charming Charlie in the Streets of Chester for a unique shopping experience. Both men and women can shop smarter by using this beautifully designed store to find a fabulous variety of women's accessories arranged by color making shopping a breeze. Just tell the cashier, as you check out, that you are shopping for St. Mark's and a percentage of your total will be paid towards our fundraiser. Thank you in advance for making the effort to support St. Mark's. Questions? Call Barbara Burke 908-876-3557

ST. MARK'S NEW YEARS DAY 5K RUN...

St. Marks is hosting a 5K run on January 1. This is a great way to start the year off with a bang. Currently we are looking for people and businesses to sponsor the event as well as volunteers to help us with the planning. If you are interested, please reach out to Pat Regan at Patrick.regan@outlook.com.

FAMILY FUN NIGHT....

Our CEC is hosting a family fun night on Saturday, November 18th following the 5:30 Mass. We will be packing boxes for Operation Christmas Child which will be sent to children in need throughout the world through the Samaritan's Purse organization. We are in need of donations for the boxes so please consider signing up for them in the gathering space and dropping off items by Friday, November 17th. Each box costs \$9 to ship so we will also be accepting donations made out to Samaritan's Purse to help with the shipping. Please join us for a fun night of snacks, games, and fellowship but be sure to sign up and let us know you're coming on the sign-up sheet in the gathering space. If you'll be joining us, the admission is \$10 a family which covers the cost of assembling one box. Thank you in advance.



