

**PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS
FLOW**

Stewardship Report – Treasure

Regular Collection – 7/24/22 \$3,459.00
Online Giving – Regular – 7/17/22 \$405.45

If you are unable to attend Mass, weekly collection envelopes may be mailed directly to the Rectory office at 33 Unionville Avenue, Sussex, NJ 07461. Collection envelopes may also be dropped in the metal milk box located to the left of the front door of the rectory. Thank you for your generosity!

“Give generously to him and do so without a grudging heart; then because of this the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in everything you put your hand to.”

Deuteronomy 15:10

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The Sanctuary Lamp is given this week:
In Memory of: People of our Parish

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

8/1	MON:	9:00am	The Futia Family
8/2	TUES:	9:00am	Michael J. Lawlor
8/3	WED:	9:00am	NO MASS TODAY
8/4	THUR:	9:00am	People of our Parish
8/5	FRI:	9:00am	People of our Parish
8/6	SAT:	5:00pm	Olga Lorente
8/7	SUN:	8:30am	Florence M. Swiss
			Emil Ogrinz
		10:30am	Mary Losiewicz
			Rita & Edwin Puzio
			Neil Slattery
			Lydia Busanic (LIV)

MASS TIMES:
SATURDAY: 5:00 PM
SUNDAY: 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM
WEEKDAY MASSES: MON., TUES, THURS, FRI. AT 9:00AM (NO MASS ON WEDNESDAYS)

Deadline for bulletin submissions: Please contact the Rectory Office by 10 am on Tuesday of each week for articles to be printed on the following Sunday.



EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
JULY 31, 2022



The Holy Spirit draws us here today to listen to God’s living word, to receive the Lord in the Eucharist, and to give praise and thanks to God. During the week, many of us work hard to make our lives comfortable, aiming for a promotion or raise, earning enough to afford the nicest things, putting money away for an easy retirement. Today’s readings will give us the bit of shock we need to put those parts of our life in perspective. “Vanity of vanities!” cries the first reading’s narrator, ridiculing the idea that we have total control over the rest of our lives. May we reorient ourselves toward what really matters.

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WEEKLY/MONTHLY PARISH EVENTS

HELPING HANDS- The next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 13, 2022 at 7:30 pm in the Church Hall. New members are always welcome.

LEISURE GROUP- Meets the first Wednesday of each month. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, August 3rd at 1:00 pm in the Church Hall.

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SPECIAL DEVOTIONS AT ST. MONICA’S

Recitation of the Rosary – Come join us every Monday at 4:00 pm in the Church to recite the Rosary for peace in our nation and around the world.

Chaplet of the Divine Mercy – every Friday after the 9:00 A.M. Mass

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament –First Friday of the month after the 9:00 A.M. Mass until 10:00 A.M.

READINGS FOR THIS WEEK



Sunday - Eccl 1:2, 2:21-23; Col 3:1-5, 9-11; Lk 12:13-21
Monday - Jer 28:1-17; Mt 14:13-21
Tuesday - Jer 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22; Mt 14:22-36
Wednesday - Jer 31:1-7; Mt 15:21-28
Thursday - Jer 31:31-34; Mt 16:13-23
First Friday - Na 2:1, 3, 3:1-3, 6-7; Mt 16:24-28
First Saturday - Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; 2 Pt 1:16-19; Lk 9:28b-36



PARISH REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Are you new to our parish? If so, welcome! Do you wish to register? If you are attending Mass and using our blue "blank" visitor envelopes and wish to receive our weekly envelopes in the mail, please register with us. There are blank registration forms on the table near the Church exits. Please fill it out and give it to Fr. Jan after Mass, or drop it in the collection basket.

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR DECEASED, ILL OR HOSPITALIZED



If you have a prayer request for someone who is deceased, ill or hospitalized, please enter the name of the person in the prayer request book located in the Church Hall. Each week, the prayer list is placed on the altar.

ATTENTION RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND YOUTH MINISTRY FAMILIES



Registration forms for the 2022-2023 school year for Grades 1 thru 8 are available in the Church Hall, the Rectory Office and available to download from our website www.stmonicasussex.org under the Faith Formation tab. You may return completed forms by mail to the Church, drop them at the church office or place them in the YOUTH MINISTRY bin on the back wall of the Church Hall. **Please return completed forms by August 19th so we may place our book order.** We are working on the calendars and hope to start classes the end of September. If you have any questions or need further information, please contact Janice Fazenbaker, Coordinator of Religious Education at (908) 337-6718 or at janicefazenbaker@yahoo.com.

Thank you all who supported St. Monica's Annual Baseball Game at Skylands Stadium last Saturday. Great Evening, Winning Miners and Wonderful Fireworks!

AND... THANK YOU to HELPING HANDS for planning such a fun evening!

COMBINED COLLECTION FOR THE BLACK AND INDIAN MISSIONS AND THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA.



Today our parish's second collection will be to benefit the Black and Indian Missions and The Catholic University of America. Your support of this combined collection enables building of the Church in African American, Native American, and Alaska Native communities from coast to coast through the Black and Indian Missions as well as supporting future Catholic leaders, both religious and lay, who are being formed by an exceptional, faith-rooted education at the esteemed Catholic University of America. Please see the flyers in the church hall for more information about the collections or visit www.blackandindianmission.org or www.futurecatholicleaders.igivecatholictogether.org.

Thank you!

FROM THE SUSSEX HELP CENTER (20 Main Street, Sussex, NJ):



The pantry gives coupons for the local laundromat. We are in need of detergent to go with these coupons. Just now, we can also use: any size traditional pasta sauce, canned beets and spinach, creamed corn, Spam. Whatever you give helps us make our "difference". We appreciate it! God Bless!

"Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the LORD, and he will reward them for what they have done." - Proverbs 19:17



The Transfiguration of the Lord

The Feast of the Transfiguration is celebrated on **August 6th** of every year and it is featured during the Lenten season, on the Second Sunday of Lent.

According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, the Transfiguration is: “The mysterious event in which Jesus, speaking with Moses and Elijah on the mountain, was transformed in appearance – in the sight of Peter, James, and John – as a moment of disclosure of His divine glory” (CCC, Glossary, pp. 901-902; 554). The English word “Transfiguration” comes from the Latin word “transfigurare” (pronounced *tranz-fig-you-ra-ray*). The first part of the Latin word, “trans” means “change;” and the Latin word “figura” (pronounced *fig-goo-ra*) means “figure” OR “appearance.” These words combine to describe what happened to Jesus at this event: Jesus’ appearance (figure) changed. The Greek text uses the word *metamorphosis* (pronounced *met-ta-mor-foe-sis*, meaning “to change form, shape, or appearance”) to describe the change or transformation that occurred in Our Lord at this momentous occasion.

There were three witnesses to the Transfiguration: St. Peter, St. James, and James’ brother, St. John. The event took place on Mt. Tabor. During the Transfiguration, Our Lord’s appearance changed! The three Gospel narratives tell us that the Lord Jesus’ “face shone like the sun,” (Matthew 17:2); and “the appearance of His countenance was altered” (Luke 9:29). Each narrative tells us that Our Lord’s clothing changed: “His garments became white as light” (Matthew 17:2); “glistening, intensely white, as no fuller on earth could bleach them” (Mark 9:3); “and His raiment became dazzling white” (Luke 9:29).

Why did Moses and Elijah appear to Our Lord during the Transfiguration? Both Moses and Elijah were real people that once lived; but, they were “bigger than life.” Moses symbolized the Jewish Law in much the same way “Uncle Sam” embodies the idea of “America.” Likewise, the Prophet Elijah was also a symbol of Prophecy as much the same way as the “Statue of Liberty” represents the ideal of freedom to Americans. The Transfiguration serves to “prove” by “The Law” (Moses) and “The Prophets” (Elijah) that Christ’s Suffering was indeed the plan of God (Luke 24:26). This “proof” is further backed by the testimony of God the Father Himself – commanding that Jesus’ revelation must be heeded (Matthew 17:5; Mark 9:7; Luke 9:25). Moses and Elijah are also the only Old Testament figures to hear God’s voice on Mt. Sinai, which is also called Mt. Horeb (Exodus 24:18; 1 Kings 19:8-18). The Transfiguration counteracts the mistaken belief held by the Apostles and many Jews of the time that the Messiah will bring only earthly blessings, like freedom from the Romans, material prosperity, and earthly contentment.

In the experience of the Transfiguration, the three disciples encounter not only the Lord Jesus, but also the other two Divine Persons of the Blessed Trinity: God the Father, Who made Himself known by His Voice. The Holy Spirit made Himself known by appearing visibly in the form of the luminous “Cloud” (CCC, 555). This “Cloud” is the Shekinah (pronounced *Sheck-key-nah*) or “Glory of the Lord.”

Catholic Q&A - By: Fr. Rick Poblocki

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS **HIS WORD TODAY**

by Rev. William J. Reilly, Most Holy Name Catholic Church, Garfield, NJ

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - July 31, 2022

“Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, ‘Teacher, tell my brother to share the inheritance with me.’ He replied, ‘Friend, who appointed me as your judge and arbitrator?’ Then he said to the crowd, ‘Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich, one’s life does not consist of possessions.’... Thus will it be for all who save up treasure for themselves but are not rich in what matters to God.”

Do you know anyone who had saved something special to bring to the next life? The adage ‘you can’t take it with you’ is so true, but what shall I do with all I have?

If it is not something which can lead my soul to eternal life, I can rid myself of it. The recent expression about ‘Black Lives Matter’ should apply to all life from conception to natural death. The gift I have received can be shared with someone else in need.

Our society unfortunately places value on things, accumulation and earthly treasures. They mean nothing when we consider someone suffering with terminal illness, the ravages of war. Greed, or covetousness are on the list of capital sins, and contrary to our society’s values. As disciples of the Lord we wish to avoid it.

