

# CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH COMMUNITY

234 SOUTHERN BOULEVARD CHATHAM, NEW JERSEY 07928

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Rev. Lemmuel Camacho, S.T.L., Parochial Vicar ext. 6, lcamacho@corpuschristi.org

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Chris Medeiros, Administrative Assistant

ext. 711, medeiros@corpuschristi.org

Elizabeth Nowik, Handbell and Children's Choirs

ext. 716, liz@corpuschristi.org

Mary Anne (Psomi) Psomas—Jackloski, Pastoral Associate, Youth Ministry and Formation, ext. 718, <a href="mailto:psomi@corpuschristi.org">psomi@corpuschristi.org</a>

Maintenance Staff, ext. 721, maintenance@corpuschristi.org

# JULY 15, 2018 FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jesus summoned the Twelve and began to send them out two by two.



We pray in gratitude for the 12 Thai youth and their coach successfully rescued this past week.

Now we continue to pray for all the children separated from their parents in our country.

Support our Weekly Food Drive for Catholic Charities every week.

#### **SACRAMENTS • PARISH ORGANIZATIONS**

#### **EUCHARIST**

#### **WEEKEND LITURGIES:**

Saturday—5:00 p.m. Sunday—7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m.

WEEKDAY LITURGIES: 7:30 a.m.—Monday to Friday **EUCHARIST FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND:** 

Every first Friday; other times upon request

FIRST EUCHARIST:

Usually celebrated in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade for children. Celebrated at the Easter Vigil for adults.

#### BAPTISM

Baptisms for registered parishioners are celebrated at 1:15 p.m. on Sundays: monthly during the summer, and twice a month during the rest of the year. A required orientation for first-time parents of babies being baptized is held one Sunday each month, 10:15—11:45 a.m. (July & August by appointment.) Please contact the parish office in advance to register for the orientation and to schedule the Baptism. No Baptisms are scheduled until after the baby has been born.

Adults: participate in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). Through this process, the sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation are received. For further information, contact the parish office.

#### CONFIRMATION

Parishioners of high school age are confirmed following a two-year preparation program, usually culminating with Confirmation in the beginning of junior year. Adult parishioners are usually confirmed at the Easter Vigil. For further information, contact the parish office.

#### **PENANCE**

For all parishioners: celebrated on Saturday from 4:15-4:45 p.m. in the Atrium Conference Room;

outside of these times, upon request.

Communal Penance services are held in Advent and Lent. First Penance: Usually celebrated in the 2nd grade.

#### MARRIAGE

Please contact the parish office one year prior to the wedding. Preparation for Marriage includes: Pre-Cana or Engaged Encounter, as well as meetings with the Pastoral Associate for Marriage and Family, the Music Minister, and the Priest who will witness the marriage. Weddings may be scheduled any day Monday through Saturday. No weddings will be scheduled on Sundays, eves of holidays, holidays, or holiday weekends.

#### ANOINTING OF THE SICK

This sacrament may be celebrated with any person who is seriously ill. A communal celebration of this sacrament is held periodically. You may request this sacrament at any time, especially in case of emergency. Any parishioner who is in the hospital and wishes to see a member of the parish staff should notify the parish office.

#### CYO Basketball Program

See Corpus Christi website (www.corpuschristi.org) or call Jim LeMon at 973-701-1602 or email jlemon@lordabbett.com or Drew McKenzie at 973-635-1342 or email drewmckenz@aol.com.

#### SENIOR CITIZENS

Priscilla Ursino, Coordinator Meets first Friday of month at 12:30 p.m. Liturgy and Lunch October – June

#### Religious Education Sessions

The parish offers a comprehensive program in religious education for pre-school, elementary school, middle school, and high school. These sessions are held on Sundays or Mondays. We also offer a program for students who are educationally challenged. education programs are scheduled periodically and announced in the bulletin. For further information, contact the parish office, x 715.

#### ALTAR SOCIETY

Coordinators: Kathleen Magill and Dorothy Shanahan

MEN'S SOCIETY Meets second Tuesday of the month during the school year at 7:30 p.m.

#### Young Adult Ministry

For those in their 20s and 30s, through social, spiritual and service activities, young adults meet at St. Paul Inside the Walls in Madison (www.insidethewalls.org) and volunteer with the youth here at Corpus Christi. Contact Psomi for further information.

#### HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY

Most youth entering high school become involved in Youth Ministry through a 2 year Confirmation Preparation Program which includes, service, education and retreats. In this three pronged approach, youth learn, experience and grow in their love for self, others and God. After Confirmation, young people are invited into deeper involvement or leadership which includes retreat teams, justice and service, teaching, music and more.

#### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Knights of Columbus is an international fraternal, family and charitable organization. Locally, the Parcells Council of the Knights of Columbus jointly serves the parishes of Corpus Christi and Saint Patrick. Membership is open to all Catholic men over 18. Visit the Parcells Council on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/ parcellscouncil

For further information contact Dan Otten at 973-335-1435.

#### **AL-ANON MEETING**

Al-Anon meets every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. This is open to any persons in the community who are family members or friends of those suffering from any type of chemical dependency, such as alcohol, etc. The meeting is held in the double classroom area. Enter the parish center through the main doors from the rear parking lot. This is not affiliated with the parish, but the facilities are offered as a service to the community. The participants are to maintain strict confidentiality and require anonymity.

# LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

#### SATURDAY, JULY 14

5:00 p.m. Marie and Leo Rudnick

#### SUNDAY, JULY 15

7:30 a.m. Genevieve Taverna 9:30 a.m. Patricia Garnaas 11:30 a.m. Stan Feeley

#### MONDAY, JULY 16

7:30 a.m. Frank D'Alto; Roberto Reyes; Mary Clare Incardona

#### TUESDAY, JULY 17

7:30 a.m. Maureen Alexander

#### WEDNESDAY, JULY 18

7:30 a.m. Elizabeth Gorman; Joseph Sharkey; Andrew Durkin

#### THURSDAY, JULY 19

7:30 a.m. Theresa Ryal; Cynthia Mayer Idleman

#### FRIDAY, JULY 20

7:30 a.m. Gloria Comerford

#### SATURDAY, JULY 21

5:00 p.m. Ronald Zanoni

#### SUNDAY, JULY 22

7:30 a.m. Concetta Cosenza

9:30 a.m. Sam & Charles Kuchar; Gene Daquila

11:30 a.m. Thomas Malloy

#### IN REMEMBRANCE

For the week of July 15, Sanctuary Lights burn for a special intention. Blessed Sacrament Chapel Flowers are in memory of Maureen Alexander.

#### FLOWER MEMORIALS

Remember a loved one or offer a Special Intention by having a flower arrangement placed in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. The cost will be \$50 or more plus a \$10 offering. The Parish Office will coordinate the request with our florist, Carl Lemanski.

# PRESIDER'S SCHEDULE JULY 14/15

5:00 p.m. Fr. Lem 7:30 a.m. Fr. Lem 11:30 a.m. Fr. Lem

## PRESIDER'S SCHEDULE JULY 21/22

5:00 p.m. Fr. Lem 9:30 a.m. Fr. Mahoney 7:30 a.m. Fr. Lem 11:30 a.m. Fr. Mahoney

# JULY 15, 2018 FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

#### PARISH OFFICES SUMMER HOURS!

June 25 through August 31

Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m.—4 p.m.

Friday, 9 a.m.—1 p.m.



#### **Last Sunday's Collection**

Checks \$11,618.50 Cash 2,326.00 Total \$13,944.50

#### **ONLINE GIVING**

is available for one-time and recurring donations conveniently and securely from our parish website at <a href="www.corpuschristi.org">www.corpuschristi.org</a>. You can make your secure donation via electronic check or debit/credit card by clicking on ONLINE GIVING at the top of the home page. You will need your family ID/envelope number to complete the registration. If you don't know your family ID/envelope number, please call the Parish Office.

#### WELCOME!

New parishioners are asked to register for the parish by going to our website at **www.corpuschristi.org**. Click on the **Parish Registration** tab at the top of the home page next to **Online Giving**. For more info, please call the Parish Office.

#### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Patty Westerzelt, LaVerne Washburne, Brian Deasy, Mon Cassius, Pam Koch, Trish Dowling, David Natale, Donald de Castro, Megan O'Neil, Christopher Ciufo, Martin Dubel, James Mulvaney, Melina Hennigan, James Greendonner, Jeffrey Dowling, Donna Conforti, Carolyn Phalon, Wayne Parisi, Debby Conti, James J. Price, Pat Pierson, Florence and John Hefele, Hank Campbell, Amy Fitzgerald, Mary McHale, Father John O'Brien, Frances Primack, Dorothy M. Torick, Howard Daly, Katherine Brown, Conor Jennings, Barbara Layman, Peter Pietrucha, Craig Wisdo, John Petite, Raymond O'Connell, Joseph Doria, John Fleming, Donna Kugelman, Jeffrey Hodgeson, Kiran Kenney, Helen Dwyer, Margaret Pittaluga, Tina Errico, Nick McGann, John (Jack) Kaplan, Marie Orgo, Fr. Tony Duffy, Lucy Ryan, Joann Uibelhoer, Beth Abella, Hazel Townsend, Nicholas DeNunzio, Nicholas Ciufo, Peter Elder, Lori Abrams, Brandon Glynnyoung, David Carey, Marylou Perrini, Alan Fischer, Sarah Addison, Carol Murphy, Michelle Johnson, Adam Goodkind, Loree Goodkind, Likeu Lee, Susan Kosinski, Camille Moran, Michael Turinchak, Dorothy Norton, Sr. Barbara Takacs, Diane Allen, Nora and Callum Lemanski, Lucas Reiling, Dominic Ursino, Andrew Jenkins, Debbie Dwyer, Bridget Noe, John Cunningham, Mary Beth Driscoll, Denise Phalon Cascio, Abigail Brady, Frances Smith, Claudia Fernandez, Tom Warren, Marty Erickson, Mary Beth Bonkowski, Carey Jenkins, Aurora Tremaroli, Aubrey Baumbach, Christopher Green Cunningham, John VanDam, Ethel Gasda, Patrick Ford, David Kelly, Patrick Murphy, Jr., Helen Huk, Cathy Caputo, Rui Boos, Joseph Todisco, Marie Skurka, Arianna Khelil, Sister Theresina Flannery, RSM, Dorothy Craig, Stephanie Quiroga, Sal Guidone, Judy Broyhill, Tony Rios, Lois McGuire, Gina Pagnotta, Helen Huddleston, Mary Ann Allen, Mary Ellen Wagner, Ed Lord, Gina Pelillo, Thomas Singer, Gregory Malzberg, Kristine Ryan, Luis Gallardo, Maria Caicedo, Susan McGeough, Marianne Conod, Mary McNiff, Joseph Cirella, Jeannette Robey, Donna Gocking, Marti Sullivan, Lauren Gardner, Helen Marie Kravitz, Edward Cameron, Vivian Riley, Marie Viteri, Steven Hensle, Bob Whelan, William Cody, John Keelin, Richard Delaney, Mary Lou Carrier, Bill Kolb, Lydia Oldroyd, Mary Conforti, Charlie Roussel, Jay Conroy, Richard Pelillo, Christopher Crahan, Ryan Lowe, Dominick Canavaro, Larry Califano, Frank Intagliato, Clifford McGuire, Don Stauber, Marie Meister, Marlenes Teixeira, John Crisp, Don Spagnuolo, Maddie Niebanch, Anthony Careccia, Martine Errico, Henry Von See, Michelle Benaim, Parker Watson, Kevin and Dorothy Franken, Arnold Wainstein, Adriana Martins, Frances Psomas, Eugene Iannocelli, Ella McOsker, Stasi Cittadino, Peggy Cox, Eileen Matt, Everett Farren, Connie McNamara, Rose Drake, Ann Zerga,

# PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE GONE HOME TO THE LORD...

CHARLES MCCABE, HUSBAND OF MARYANN,
FATHER OF CJ AND KELLY
JOHN OSSINO, UNCLE OF CHRISTOPHER
MORAN
MARY CONLAN, MOTHER OF DANIEL,
BERNARD & CHRISTOPHER
JAMES MULYANEY, BROTHER OF MIKE,
JOHN & MARY ANN AND
FATHER OF RYAN, JENNIFER & COLLEEN

#### SPIRITUALITY—FAITH DEVELOPMENT

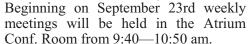


Contact:

Sister Margaret Dincher SCC 973-635-0070 x 714 (phone) 973-635 -5518 (fax) Email: marga@corpuschristi.org

#### RCIA

Those who wish to know more about the Catholic Church, to become Catholic or to receive Confirmation and/or Eucharist should contact Sister Margaret.





#### **EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS**



Eucharistic Ministers are asked to sign up for serving If you are unable to sign in, email the days and times you are available to Richard Gentles at richardg53@gmail.com. Those who do not have computer access can call Sr. Margaret with the available dates and times.

Additional Eucharistic Ministers are needed. If you are able to volunteer contact Sr. Margaret.

# WOMEN'S CANCER SURVIVOR PRAYER GROUP

Second Tuesday beginning October 9, 2018

Women of all ages, who are surviving any form of cancer are invited to gather to support and pray for each other and for all who struggle with cancer.

Facilitator: Sr. Marie Pauline Demek, SCC, a cancer survivor.

Flyers are on the Spirituality Board in the atrium.

#### **SPIRITUAL DIRECTION**



Spiritual direction helps a person recognize and respond to God's ongoing invitation for a closer relationship. Learning how to be attentive or notice God's presence and action in our lives is a big part of what spiritual direction seeks to do. If wish further information call or email Sr. Margaret.

#### PASTORAL CARE

If you or someone you know is in the hospital or is homebound and wishes to receive Communion or a visit from a staff member, contact Sister Margaret.



Our priests are available to celebrate the Sacrament of the Sick for those who would like to receive the Sacrament. Contact them or Sister Margaret if you or a loved one wishes to receive the Sacrament of the Sick.

#### SPECIAL MINISTERS OF COMMUNION TO THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND

Eucharistic Ministers who wish to become involved in the ministry of Communion to the sick can contact Sister Margaret, marga@corpuschristi.org or call 973-635-0070 x714.

Communion is taken to Juniper Assisted Care Center on Sunday at 8:45 am. to those who are unable to attend Mass. If you are able to volunteer or wish more information for this ministry contact Sister Margaret.

#### **ALTAR SERVERS**



Altar Servers are an integral part of the celebration of Mass. At least one server is needed to process with the cross at the beginning of Mass, to lead those who bring the gifts to the altar and to lead the priest to exit at the end of the Mass. On Sunday a second server is needed to assist the priest.

Boys and girls in grades 3 through 8 are encouraged to serve at Sunday Mass. Please call Sister Margaret to receive training during the summer for this important ministry at 973-635-0070 x714 or e-mail at marga@corpuschristi.org

#### **EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

Teenagers who wish to participate in Sunday liturgy in the ministry of a Reader or Special Minister of the Eucharist are invited to call Sister Margaret for a meeting to receive information before beginning to serve in the ministries.



#### FAMILY/MARRIAGE MINISTRY



**Contact: Deacon Sal Bonfiglio** 973-635-0070 x 720 (phone)

973-635-5518 (fax)

email: sbonfiglio@corpuschristi.org

#### MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Congratulations! As soon as you have your date set on the parish calendar, please contact Sal Bonfiglio to schedule an appointment to begin your preparation for the sacrament of marriage (12 months before your wedding).



#### PRE-CANA

Corpus Christi Parish provides a Pre-Cana Program in the Spring and Fall as one of many facets of marriage preparation. Facilitated by our team of married couples, the program helps build a strong foundation for a lasting, loving

Fall Pre-Cana Course October 27

#### MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

**SEPT 28-30** 

Morristown, NJ

CONTACT: Mike & Janet Turco 973-427-7016

#### On a MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

weekend, married couples can get away from jobs, kids, chores, and phones and focus only on each other to deepen, enrich, and grow in their relationship. www.wwme.org



#### **Weekend Marriage Retreat**

Falling in Love, Staying in Love, and Finding God in it All!



#### **Genesis Spiritual Life & Conference Center August 17-19**

Westfield, MA

Join acclaimed authors Bridget Brennan and Jerry Shen for a weekend exploration of marriage and spirituality.

#### **Event information and registration:**

http://genesisspiritualcenter.org/retreats-programs 413-562-3627

#### **Help for Troubled Marriages**

www.SmartLoving.org/BreakThrough www.retrouvaille.org





#### **Morning Prayers**

Stick a Post-It note on the bathroom mirror that says, "Thank you, God, for this new day!" Leave it there throughout the summer as a reminder to praise God first thing in the morning.

**Sing prayer songs as you help little ones bathe and dress.** It could be something as simple as, "This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!" Once one person starts to sing, the catchy tune will spread throughout the family.

At breakfast, pray this simple morning together as a family: "Lord, we offer you this day and all that we think, and do, and say." Remind everyone that these simple words turn their entire day into a prayer.

During breakfast, ask if there's something happening that day that anyone in the family wants to pray for. You might also want to pray as a family for family members or friends who are sick, traveling or going through a difficult time.

Remind your children that their Guardian Angel will be with them throughout the day. Teach them this traditional prayer to their Guardian Angel: "Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God's love commits me here. Ever this day, be at my side, to light, to guard, to rule and guide."

Take Out Magazine, Summer 2008

#### A MARRIAGE MOMENT

In healthy marriages spouses strive to be good and strong. But in recognizing our weakness we can grow stronger. "...for when I am weak, then I am strong." (2 Cor. 12:10) Can you identify a weakness in yourself that has punctured your pride and made you a better spouse?



#### **A PARENTING POINTER**

"Is he [Jesus] not the carpenter; the son of Mary...?" (Mark 6:3) We inherit both physical and personality traits from our parents. It can be a source of parental pride, but also consternation. Talk with your child about what strengths and weaknesses they might have received from you.

www.SusanVogt.net

#### BAPTISM PREPARATION

By appointment only during summer months.

for first-time parents

*For an appointment,* please contact the Family Ministry office at 973-635-0070 x 720





Sept 12	<b>CAP—Caring for Aging Parents</b>
Sept 16	<b>Welcome Back Sunday</b> Coffee House
Sept 27	Moms Morning Out Group
Sept 30	Children's Liturgy of the Word
Oct 6	Milestone Anniversary Mass
Oct 16	Bereavement Group begins

#### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Contact: Bridgette Hanley 973-635-0070 x715 (phone); 973-635-5518 (fax) or email: bhanleys@corpuschristi.org for PreK—Grade 5 Contact: Brian Duemling 973-635-0070 x740 (phone); 973-635-5518 (fax) or email: bduemling@corpuschristi.org for Middle School (Grades 6-8)

Contact: Psomi 973-635-0070 x718 (phone); 973-635-5518 (fax) or email: Psomi@corpuschristi.org for Confirmation Prep (Gr. 9-10)

#### BE A CATECHIST!

We are looking for a few good men and women who love children, challenges and a change of perspective! *BE A CATECHIST!* Share your faith with little ones who will think that you are a genius!

Pre-K through 5th grade kids are fun, energetic and surprisingly enlightening. Volunteer to teach a class or to assist with our Religious Education Program and learn along with the little ones! If God has been nudging you to get more involved, take this opportunity to offer your gifts and talents to our young ones. If you are a little nervous about stepping up...the book of Jeremiah says: "Be not afraid, I am with you. I will put my words in your mouth." (Jer. 1:8-9)

#### Share your Faith with Young Minds!

Our Middle School students are bright and thoughtful young adults who have a lot of questions and want to know more about their faith. Looking for parents to help lead those conversations at the following times:

6<sup>th</sup> Grade 11:45 am 7<sup>th</sup> Grade 5:00 pm

7<sup>th</sup> Grade 7:00 pm (2 openings)

You'll also receive a great gift from being a Catechist and you can ask others who have done it ... your own faith will be strengthened and you'll learn from our young adults.

Contact: Brian at 973-635-0070, x740 or email <a href="mailto:bduemling@corpuschristi.org">bduemling@corpuschristi.org</a>.



#### MUSIC MINISTRY

**Contact: Robert Long**, 973-635-0070 x716 (phone); 973-635-5518 (fax); email: rlong@corpuschristi.org

#### CORPUS CHRISTI CHOIRS SINGERS AND INSTRUMENTALISTS ARE WELCOME!

#### **ADULT CHOIRS**

Corpus Christi Adult Choir rehearsals are on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. in the Emmaus Room.

Corpus Christi Handbell Choir rehearses on Mondays at 7:00 p.m. in the Emmaus Room.

#### CHILDREN'S CHOIRS

Angel Chime Choir (Grades 1+2) - Thurs., 4:00 - 4:25 p.m. Cherub Choir (Grades K-2) - Thurs., 4:30 - 5:15 p.m. Joyful Noise Choir (Grades 3-8+) - Tues., 3:30 - 4:15 p.m. Junior Bell Choir (Grades 3+) - Tues., 4:15 - 5:00 p.m. Orchestra (Grades 3+) - some Tuesdays 5:00 - 5:45 p.m.

# PLEASE HELP FEED AND CLOTHE THE HUNGRY

This week, the food donated will be going to the Partnership for Social Services Family Center in Franklin, NJ, one of our Catholic Charities agencies. Here are the items most needed by the Food Banks: Cold Cereal, Oatmeal / Hot Cereal, Pancake Mix and Syrup, Brown / White Rice, Pasta and Pasta Products (side dishes), Macaroni & Cheese, Soups (canned, mixes, ramen noodle), Cookies and Crackers, Canned Meats, Fish and Fruit, Peanut Butter, and Parmalat. Please consider purchasing low-sodium and low-sugar items. Please help support our local programs by donating Clothing, Shoes, and Household Items in our donation bin located in our back parking lot.

#### **DRIVERS FOR EVA'S KITCHEN**

#### August, September, October

Eva's Kitchen needs drivers for the months of **August, September** and **October** to drive frozen pans of our homemade chili casseroles to Paterson. The driving falls on the 3rd Sunday of every month.

Please Help!

Call Anna Quinn at 973-635-5490

#### **ROSARY GROUP** will NOT meet in July.

The next Rosary Group will meet August 1st at Juniper at 1:45 pm and then resume meeting the following Wednesdays at 10:30 am in the Church.



Contact M. A. "Psomi" Psomas-Jackloski; 973-507-8718(desk); 201-572-1608 (cell) 973-635-5518 (fax); email: psomi@corpuschristi.org; www.corpuschristi.org www.facebook/chathamyouthministry

#### **CONFIRMATION PREPARATION**

Registration is now open for all Year 1 (current 8th grade) and Year 2 (current 9th grade) on the parish website online. www.corpuschristi.org—
Ministries—



Youth Ministry and Confirmation—Confirmation Prep and Registration.

Please contact Psomi with any questions.

#### RETREAT ADULTS NEEDED 2018-2019



We need two adults to help with the Confirmation retreats. Each adult would be needed to be on board for 3 Friday night retreats, and the team meetings. We begin with the start of the school year, and end in February. All that is needed is a willingness to

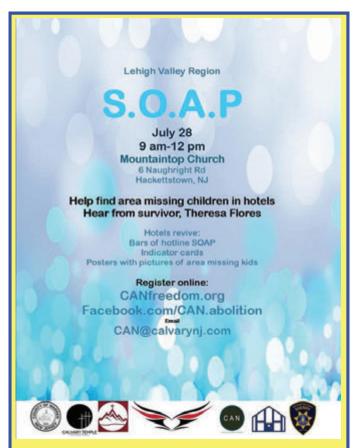
support and affirm teenagers in leadership and in their faith quest. Please contact Psomi for more information.

#### **CATECHISTS**

We need Catechists to teach the high school crowd. 10 sessions for the year. Please consider. For more info please contact Psomi.



# Keep Jesus in your heart all summer!



## CAN: CHURCH & COMMUNITY ABOLITION NETWORK

Hackettstown, NJ will be the location of the 9th Save Our Adolescents from Prostitution (SOAP) outreach in NJ. In a SOAP outreach, teams of 3—4 are given posters with pictures of area missing children, packets of indicator information, and bars of hotel soap labeled with the national human trafficking hotline number to give to the hotel staff. Participants can expect to finish in less than 3 hours.

This year SOAP will infiltrate hotels in the Bethlehem/Easton area in advance of the MusikFest in August. This event has had over one million attendees in the past, and is potentially the largest SOAP outreach in the nation. When hotels are filled, demand for victims goes up as does the supply. This gives hotel staff ample opportunity to supply possible victims with a way of escape.

CAN exists to empower church and community to do abolition including prevention, detection, action, advocacy and survivor care. CAN is based out of NJ and has been Nationally Appointed. To learn how you can participate and partner, visit CANfreedom.org.

If several teenagers from Corpus Christi would like to be part of this, let Psomi know. We'll work out rides, and a way to be involved.

#### Sunday, Jul 15, 2018

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

#### We're not alone

"Through him, with him, in him." This phrase from the Eucharistic Prayer we hear at every Mass says a lot with a few well-chosen prepositions. Whatever it is we're out there doing, we're never doing it alone. It's *through* Christ that we serve the needs of our families, friends, and strangers too with our charity. It's *with* Christ that we suffer burdens of loss, betrayal, sickness, loneliness. It's *in* Christ that we're strengthened to speak the truth, seek justice, and promote peace with our words and actions. Take a moment to ground yourself in Christ.

TODAY'S READINGS: Amos 7:12-15; Ephesians 1:3-14 or 1:3-10; Mark 6:7-13 (104). "In him we have redemption . . . in him we were also chosen . . . in him you also . . . were sealed."

#### Monday, Jul 16, 2018

MEMORIAL OF OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

#### Our Lady of the hour of death

Death has a way of focusing one's attention. You may intend someday to pay more attention to your faith and "get right with God." But, as you learned in school, you shouldn't postpone studying until the night before finals. Today is the Memorial of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, who in 1251 appeared to Saint Simon Stock, an English Carmelite, and bestowed on him the scapular and the promise to intercede at the hour of death for all who wore it in life. The original scapular was the brown sleeveless tunic that is still a part of the Carmelite habit today. The best way to prepare for a good death is to live a better life—starting today.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 1:10-17; Matthew 10:34—11:1 (389). "Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it."

#### **Tuesday, Jul 17, 2018**

#### Empty the schedule for a while

As you take some time for fun and pleasure this summer, remember that what you are doing is holy. It is our duty to rest, repair, and restore ourselves. Several times a year that actually means vacating our normal routine and residence. The word *vacation* comes from the Latin *vacare*, "to be empty, be free." Taking a vacation is a separate and very different act from making a retreat (from the Latin for "withdraw"), though that, too, is often a holy act. Without the release a vacation provides, our lives can easily get thrown off balance, which leads to stress, exhaustion, apathy, and eventually hardness of heart—a trait Jesus condemns in today's gospel.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 7:1-9; Matthew 11:20-24 (390). "If the mighty deeds done here had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until now."

#### Wednesday, Jul 18, 2018

MEMORIAL OF CAMILLUS DE LELLIS, PRIEST

#### Using what ails us

A six-foot-six-inch-tall soldier, strong and commanding, Camillus was brought low by pain and disease. His addiction to gambling led him to poverty. Instead of giving up, he worked to heal others and brought others to toil with him. Now he is the patron saint of hospitals and the sick as well as of nurses. He used the limitations, pain, and shortcomings of his own life to bring healing

to others and to sanctify himself. What ails us today that we can use to help others and ourselves?

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 10:5-7, 13b-16; Matthew 11:25-27 (391). "Although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to the childlike."

#### **Thursday, Jul 19, 2018**

#### What's in a name?

It makes a difference whether you know someone's name. To be introduced to a person involves learning their name. It puts you on personal terms. It was the same for the ancient Israelites, even when it came to God. When Moses asked God who he should say sent him, God revealed the divine name to Moses to tell the people. In this way they would know the Lord cared for them and would act on their behalf. Call on the Lord by name and ask God to be active in your life.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 26:7-9, 12, 16-19; Matthew 11:28-30 (392). "This is what you shall tell the children of Israel: I AM sent me to you."

#### Friday, Jul 20, 2018

#### Follow the law of love

The Pharisees were a sect that demanded strict interpretation and observance of Mosaic Law. They sometime preferred rules and regulations to thoughtful consideration of circumstances or the larger picture. It's not hard to see why: Laws are neat, impartial, neutral, clear. Moreover, when we simply follow laws, thinking is generally not required! Jesus, however, calls his followers to a higher standard: to *love*, which, as Archbishop Desmond Tutu rightly observed, "is much more demanding than law." Just for today, let's immerse ourselves in the "something greater" that Jesus talked about. Let's immerse ourselves in love. What would your day be like if you did so?

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8; Matthew 12:1-8 (393). "I say to you, something greater than the temple is here."

#### Saturday, Jul 21, 2018

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#### The gift of a broken heart

In his *Personal Narrative*, the early American sermon writer Edward Fitzgerald reveals something important about love when he says, "I have greatly longed of late for a broken heart, and to lie low before God." It is unlikely any of us long for a broken heart. But to consider a broken heart a gift, Fitzgerald must have seen something akin to what Saint Lawrence of Brindisi approached when he wrote, "Love stirs itself from sorrow; and love itself is in equal measure lanced with sorrow." The lower we lie in sorrow, the further we can experience God's sacrificial love that comes down to us. Moreover, the pureness of our emotions when we are steeped in sorrow allows us to offer up to God a supple material for his grace. Instead of fearing your brokenness, use it to open to God's grace.

TODAY'S READINGS: Micah 2:1-5; Matthew 12:14-21 (394). "Many people followed him, and he cured them all."

#### Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time



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### Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson...

Pretend that it is 1918. You believe that this afternoon a man driving a colorful wagon will be coming to visit your town. He will step up onto a platform and make this announcement with a certain gusto: "Ladies and gentlemen, how much is your health worth? It's priceless, right? Indeed, Ladies and Gents, and now for just fifty pennies, you can have a bottle of "Nature's True Remedy." This potion will succeed where doctors have failed. Only Nature can truly heal, and I have Nature right here in this little bottle. My secret formula, from God's own laboratory, the Earth itself, will cure rheumatism, cancer, diabetes, baldness, bad breath, and curvature of the spine."

Google offers you a lot of similar speeches made by the self-important salesmen in the days of the old time travelling medicine shows. Fast forward to today, and except for the modern updating, this old-fashioned scam has its counterpart. The lead story of the June 2018 issue of "Consumer Reports" magazine urges its readers to "protect yourself from scams" and goes on to list seven of them.

The townsfolk of Nazareth had a similar skepticism about claims of healing when they maliciously classified Jesus as no better than a fraud. Why? Because He was a "local boy."

For the same reason, today's celebrities are often rejected by the people they grew up with when they come home to visit. "Where did He, Jesus get all this?" they argued. They did not have to wrestle with what we have learned to call "fake news," but they wanted proof. So they taunted Jesus, like another crowd would do on Good Friday.

They knew His roots so they foolishly denied Him credibility. What does St. Mark write about it? "So He was not able to perform any mighty deed there, apart from curing a few sick people by laying His hands on them, He was amazed at their <u>lack of faith</u>." (My emphasis)

Lack of faith. There is a good topic for reflection. Not faith understood solely as acceptance of a creed. But faith in Jesus Christ. A faith that takes Jesus at His word. After all, He is the Word! Does he matter in my life? Does His opinion matter when I make my important decisions?"

Unlike the Nazarenes of old, I believe we do trust our hometown heroes, although the times we live in make us wary. Will there be some later revelation about their dark sides?

When it comes to Jesus, there is no dark side. No reason to be shy about our recognition of Him. Hesitancy. Granted, He might challenge us to be better at the task of being Christian. But that's His right, indeed His loving obligation. We must also bear in mind that faith in Him means faith in the Church He founded, of which we are a part. The two are inseparable.

The good news in all this is that we have within us the grace and power of the Holy Spirit, who teaches us all we need to know, if only we will listen. We're never asked by God to believe in any fakery like that offered up by the barker standing beside his garish wagon filled with little bottles of lies. Instead we have blessed assurance. Genuine faith is something like electricity. You can't see it, but you can see the light!

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