



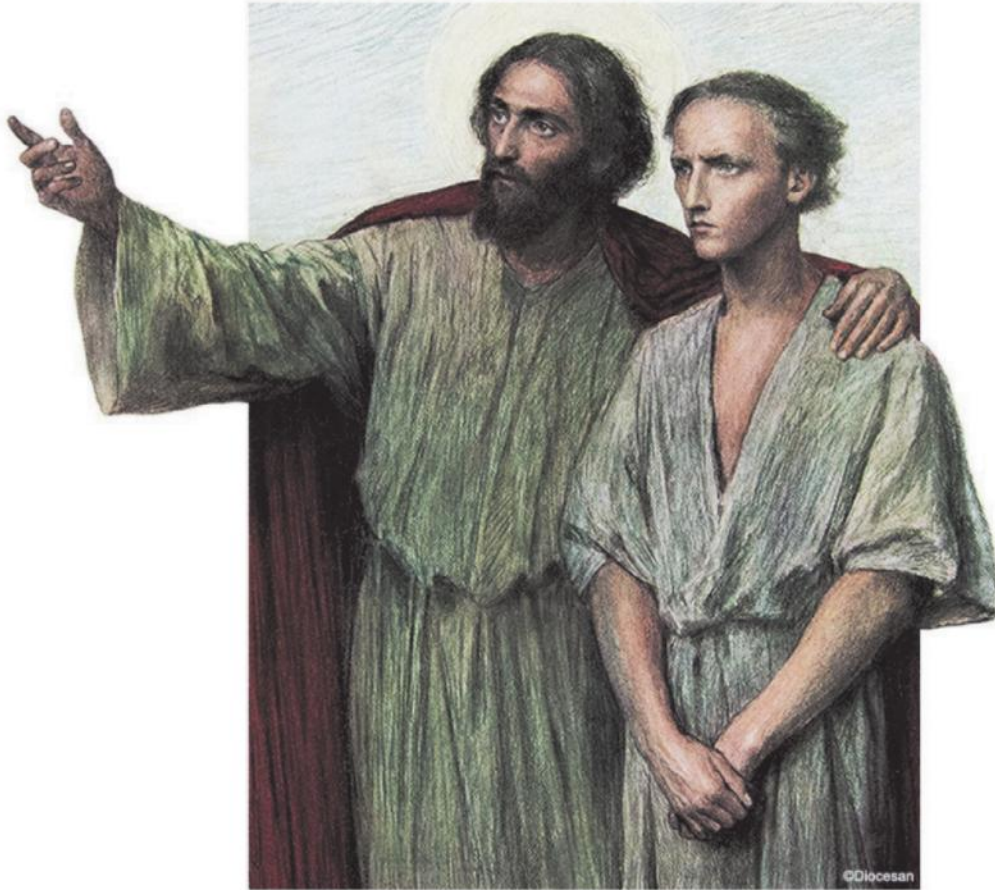
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 Rev. Andrew J. Auletta ..... Parochial Vicar  
 Rev. John E. Donia ..... President, Bishop Shanahan High School  
 Rev. Samuel A. Verruni ..... Chaplain, Saint Martha Center  
 Deacon Matt Coyne ..... Permanent Deacon  
 Deacon Michael Murtha ..... Permanent Deacon  
 Deacon Ed Schiappa ..... Permanent Deacon

338 Manor Avenue, Downingtown PA 19335  
 Phone: (610) 269-8294 Website: [www.stjosephrc.org](http://www.stjosephrc.org)

Sunday, October 22, 2023

29th Sunday of Ordinary Time

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY



HEARTS ON FIRE,  
 FEET ON THE MOVE

**Parish Staff**

Mr. Allan Anderson, CPA, Business Manager  
 Mrs. Joyce Castaldi, Parish Secretary  
 Mrs. Kelly Ennis, Elder Care Manager  
 Mrs. Dodie Milano, Receptionist  
 Mrs. Mary Beth Mostyn, Administrator  
 Deacon Michael Murtha, Ministry Coordinator  
 Mrs. Carol Orphanos, Bookkeeper  
 Mr. Darrin Preston, Facilities Manager

**Parish Office Hours**

Monday - Friday 8AM - 4 PM  
 Evening Hours Mon & Wed: 4PM - 7PM  
 Sunday 9AM - 1:30PM  
 \*Closed 12PM - 1PM Weekdays\*

**Convent**

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 Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate  
 Heart of Mary

**School**

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[www.StJosephRCSchool.org](http://www.StJosephRCSchool.org)  
 Sister Lisa Ann Golden, I.H.M., Principal  
 Sister Diane Licordare, I.H.M., Vice Principal  
 Mrs. Mary Jane McGeehan, Administrative Assistant

**Parish Religious Education Program**

Phone: 610-873-8798  
[www.stjosephrc.org/prep](http://www.stjosephrc.org/prep)  
 Mrs. Kathleen Greco, Director of Religious Education



# Mass Intentions

## Monday, Oct. 23

7am: Jim DiSante  
9am: Donald Lichok

## Wednesday, Oct. 25

7am: David Gallagher  
9am: Jack Roch

## Friday, Oct. 27

7am: Carmen DiPietro  
9am: Robert Dunn

## Tuesday, Oct. 24

7am: Joseph Batten  
9am: Veronica Moore

## Thursday, Oct. 26

7am: Vincent G. Leva  
9am: Anne DiLuigi

## Saturday, Oct. 28

8am: Michael & George Kravec

## Sunday, Oct. 22

**5pm Vigil:** Michael McGuiness  
**6am:** Parishioners  
**7:30am:** Jim King  
**9am:** Dominic Castaldi  
**10:30am:** David Gallagher  
**12pm:** Doris & Martin Gabris  
**4pm:** Antonia DelGuzzo

*Sanctuary Candle: The Jasienski & Firak Families  
Chapel Sanctuary Candle: Jerome Zwack*

## Sunday, Oct. 29

**5pm Vigil:** Amanda Gagliardi  
**6am:** Parishioners  
**7:30am:** Tyler Michael Eckert  
**9am:** Frank Jr. & Mike Nadelstumph & Mary Rispo  
**10:30am:** Andrea Delaney  
**12pm:** Andrew Nagy  
**4pm:** Joseph Gasper

# Sacraments & Devotions

### Baptism

First-time parents are asked to please attend Pre-Jordan. Baptism scheduling and Pre-Jordan class information can be found on the parish website.

### Matrimony

Engaged couples are asked to meet with their parish priest as soon as possible to enroll in a marriage-prep program at least 6 months prior to the wedding.

### Reconciliation

Saturday: 330PM-430PM &  
Wednesdays: 630AM, 830AM, 630PM

### Anointing of the Sick

Please contact the Parish Office.

### Perpetual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Available 24/7 in the Holy Family Center.

### Morning Prayer

Monday-Friday at 630AM in Church.

### Daily Devotions

The Holy Rosary: Recited before the 9AM Mass daily.  
Miraculous Medal Devotions: Tuesdays after the 9AM Mass.  
Novena to Saint Joseph: Wednesdays after the 9AM Mass.  
Divine Mercy Chaplet: Thursdays after the 9AM Mass.  
Litany to the Sacred Heart: First Fridays after the 9AM Mass.  
First Saturday Devotions: First Saturdays at 830AM

# Prayer List

Every three months we will remove names from the military and sick list to ensure the list remains up-to-date. Please call the parish office to add intentions.

### For those that are serving our country:

Brandon W. A'Hara, SSGT Steve Anderson, Petty Officer Katesiree Cannon Bosen, Caytie Castells, Ensign Morgan S. Dankanich, Major Joseph S. DiBerardinis, CPL Daniel A. DiLuigi, Airman First Class, James G. DiSantis, Sargent Ian Fay, James Heisler, Christopher L. Hume, USN Victoria Jones, Peter Kurtz, Lt. Col. Paul Lang, Krzysztof Malarz, Capt. Andrew C. Oddo, Pvt. Vincent Romano, 1st Lt. Eric F. Satterthwaite, Pvt. 1st Class Matthew Scalia, Cmdr. Christopher Schwarz, Jr., Corporal Jeremy Solnosky, SaR. Max Spatola, LT Sean Sweeney and Aaron Thieroff, and Sgt. Stephen Yori

### For those who are sick:

William Allan, Lidia Arasin, Sean Arnold, Diane Blakely Attien, Charles Authier, Vincent Bellistri, Wilma Bird, Deb Blazejewski, Baby Botero, Ashlyn Brown, Donna Buckalew, Donn Cabott, Mary Ann Cardelli, Bernadette Constant, Mary Crawford, Patricia Cudahy, Tony D'Angelo, Conner Farnum, Joan Garber, William Gilland, Carrie Grosso, Dana Hathaway, Liam Hawk, Danielle Horack, David Horack, Baby Kai D'Amore, Kari D'Amore, Jimmy Kane, Matthew Keenan, Aidan Kelly, John Keenan, Jim Lisney, Barbara Luminella, Kathleen Manuel, Donna Martin, Kellie Martin, Taylor Martin, McBeth Family, James Mento, Jr., Claire McGovern, Bill and Rosemarie McReynolds, Patricia Melcher, Winnie Mullen, Katie Nejman, Angie Pisano, John Pontzer, Gina Ofner, George Pastino, Nancy Paquet, Brenda Pezone, Larry Polinsky, Robert Poole, Charlie Rivas, Dave Robey, Robin Reichert, John Rogelstad, Stephen, Eileen Schafer, Ed Shultz, Don Skomsky, Helen Rechner Short, Justin Smith, Robin Smith, Phyllis Suleski, Donald Sundstrom, Bob Tiedemann, Noah Thomas and Christian Toner

## We remember in our prayers those who have died, especially: Betty Boland

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and may Perpetual Light shine upon them.



# Weekly Letter

October 22, 2023

Dear Friends,

We all know that tax day is April 15th (unless you file for an extension.) Did you know that April 15th is kind of a famous day apart from taxes? Abraham Lincoln was assassinated on April 15th and the Titanic sank on April 15th; I know that this is all coincidence but somehow it just seems right that tax day should be April 15th! Taxes, honestly, I do not know too many people who love to pay taxes however most if not all of us do pay them. As citizens of this great country one of the things that we are expected to do is pay taxes and then we trust that the tax revenue that we pay will go towards all sorts of things that hopefully benefit this nation. Now while we may not love paying taxes, most of us, I would imagine, do not have a huge problem doing it, it is just a part of what we do.

What about "repaying to God what belongs to God?" I wonder if we have the same attitude about that expectation as we do about paying our taxes. The truth is that everything we have, everything we are, and everything we hope to be is first and foremost a gift from God. I believe once we understand the importance of that reality then our hearts become filled with the love and grace that God lavishes on each one of us. Then we discover that our bodies, our minds and most importantly, our hearts truly belong to God. That is the moment when God takes possession of our hearts and sends his Spirit to live there and we find that it is not only easier to repay to God what belongs to God, but it becomes a great privilege and joy to do so.

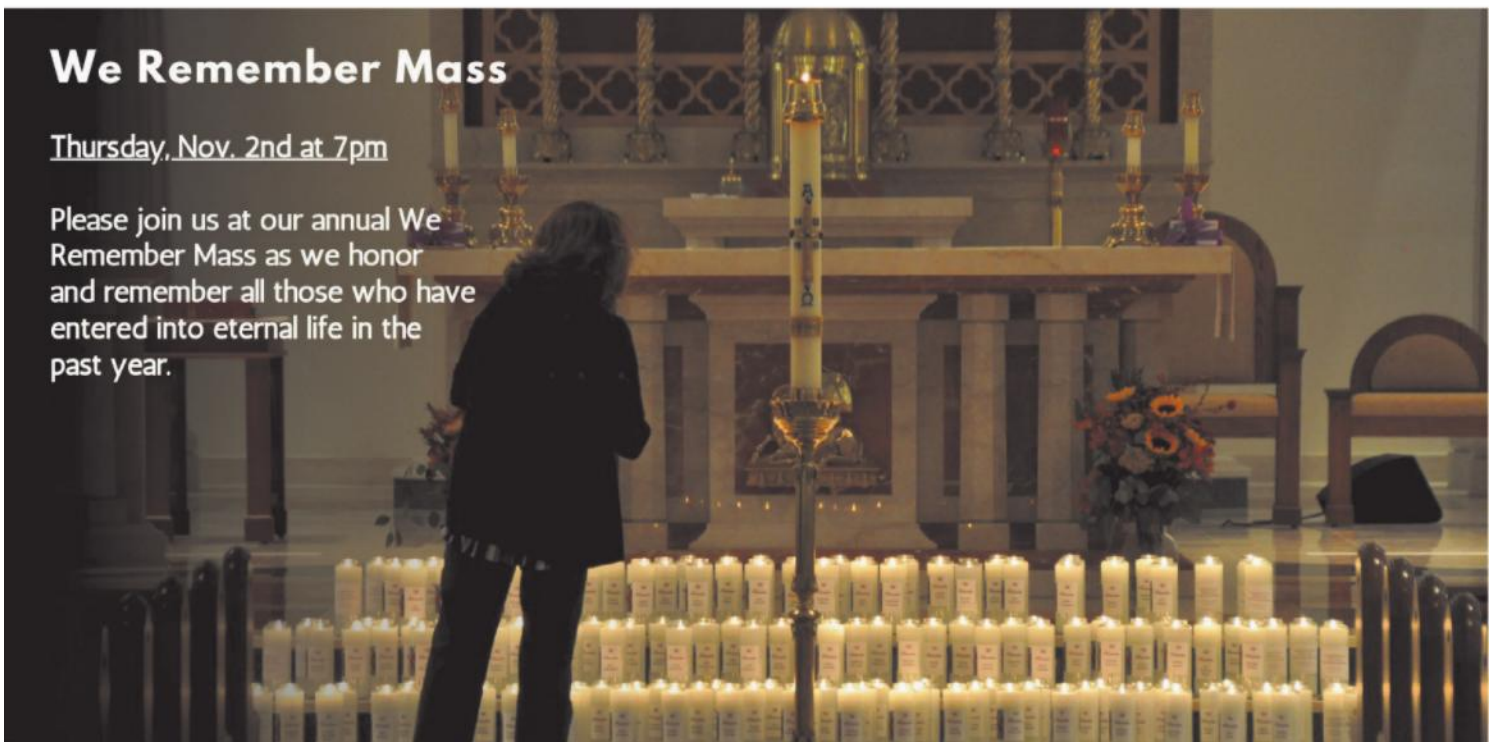
Really, we do not have a great deal of choice in paying our taxes which might be the reason why for the most part we do not have a great deal of trouble with it. And along the way, at least here at Saint Joseph Church most of us give generously to God. But what about our bodies? Our minds? Our hearts? God wants and deserves our first and our best. And then, when the Holy Spirit truly lives in our hearts, we will find repaying to God easier, more important, and certainly more enjoyable than rendering to Caesar.

Peace,  
Fr. Steve Leva

## We Remember Mass

Thursday, Nov. 2nd at 7pm

Please join us at our annual We Remember Mass as we honor and remember all those who have entered into eternal life in the past year.





## HOPE Transportation Ministry

HOPE is a transportation ministry which provides rides to doctor's appointments, the grocery store, the pharmacy and other necessary errands.

Rides require a minimum of 48 hours notice and can be requested a week in advance. For more information, please contact Debbie Hastings at 610-304-0631.

For the week of Oct. 23  
Debbie Hastings at 610-304-0631  
Mary Sweeney at 610-269-0604

For the week of Oct. 30  
Casey Rhoads at 908-489-0174  
Debbie Hastings at 610-304-0631



## Ministry of the Week: Divine Mercy Cenacle

The Divine Mercy Cenacle is a group of parishioners who gather together to study the Diary of St. Maria Faustina using the Cenacle Formation Manual, the Catholic Catechism and Holy Scripture. We meet every other Tuesday at 9:40 AM (after the 9 AM Mass) in the St. John Neumann Room for 90 minutes.

**Please contact:** Dennis Calvey ([papaden@verizon.net](mailto:papaden@verizon.net))

## Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest

Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus,  
Rev. William J. Fenerty Council #7208

### Topic

*How can the Church evangelize in the digital age?*

Essay should be between 500-750 words. The essay will be judged on content, grammar, style and how clearly, they present the theme through showcasing creativity, imagination, and overall development of the topic.

### Who Can Participate

Catholic students in private and public schools between 6-12th grades. All essays by students in 8th to 12th grade will be automatically submitted to Pennsylvania State Knights of Columbus Contest as well.

### Due On or Before

November 5, 2023, 11:59pm

### Send Essay To

[jnjbosco@gmail.com](mailto:jnjbosco@gmail.com) in PDF or Word format. Please include full name, school name, grade and best phone number to contact.

### Winners to be Announced

By Nov. 30, 2023

### Three Prizes

1st Prize: Gift Card for \$75  
2nd Prize: Gift Card for \$50  
3rd Prize: Gift Card for \$25

## Youth Ministry at St. Joe's!

Our goal is to serve the youth of our parish and meet every child where they are in their faith journey.

We've planned lots of fun events, scripture studies, service days, and pizza and prayer nights to give youth opportunities to have fun, grow in Christian friendship, learn about God, and develop and strengthen their relationship with Him.

## More Information & Registration



## St. Joseph Youth Ministry Presents A Character Scavenger Hunt

St. Joseph Youth Ministry is excited to host a Halloween character scavenger hunt for parish children ages 10 and under!

Join us **Sunday, October 22 from 1pm to 3pm**. Pick up your character scavenger list at the front door of school after the Noon Mass, then get ready to find as many of our Halloween characters (*Youth Ministry members*) as you can!

Parents are kindly asked to remain and help escort their child during the scavenger hunt. Costumes encouraged, but not required.

**Questions? Contact:** [YouthMinistry@stjosephrc.org](mailto:YouthMinistry@stjosephrc.org)



## Designer Bag Bingo

Friday, November 10th at 7pm

Doors Open at 6pm, Early Bird Special Runs at 6:45pm.

Tickets include 16 rounds of Bingo and chance at door prizes!

Additional 4 rounds of "Special" bingo and raffles available for purchase at event. All proceeds benefit parish Youth Group. BYOB and BYO - snacks!

**Tickets:**  
[www.tinyurl.com/YouthGroupBagBingo](http://www.tinyurl.com/YouthGroupBagBingo)



*"I wish not merely to  
be called Christian, but  
also to be Christian."*

*St. Ignatius of  
Antioch*

## Make Someone's Day!

Every week parishioners depend on the HOPE ministry to get to their medical appointments. Ride coordinators and drivers are urgently needed to meet their needs. A few hours of your time could truly make someone's day. Could you spare the time to help a neighbor in need?

**Please contact:** Debbie Hastings (610-304-0631 or dmorrishastings@hotmail.com)

## Catholic In Recovery

Catholic in Recovery provides healing from addictions, compulsions, and unhealthy attachments. Meetings combine the spiritual principles of 12-step recovery and the sacraments of the Catholic Church. Join others in recovery as we overlap scripture from Sunday's Mass readings, liturgical themes, and recovery topics with honest discussion and prayer. Confidentiality is protected.

The goal of every encounter and interaction that one has with our organization is connection—connections with others who have struggled or still struggle from a similar state of hopelessness as well as connection to Jesus Christ, the Lord that delivers new life.

For more information, email [mtal1962@yahoo.com](mailto:mtal1962@yahoo.com) (General Recovery) or [cir.familyfriends.stjosephdtown@gmail.com](mailto:cir.familyfriends.stjosephdtown@gmail.com) (Family & Friends).

### GENERAL RECOVERY GROUP

*Saturdays  
@ 9:00 a.m.*

FOR THOSE  
IN RECOVERY

### FAMILY & FRIENDS RECOVERY GROUP

*2nd/4th Tuesdays  
@ 7:30 p.m.*

FOR THOSE WITH LOVED  
ONES IN RECOVERY

## Young Adult Ministry

Join the St. Joseph Young Adult Group for young adults ages 21 to 35 for fun, faith and fellowship.

### Saturday, October 28th at 5pm- Fall party!

Join us for chili, pumpkin carving, a bonfire, and more! Please bring a snack or drink to share, as well as your own pumpkin and carving tools if you'd like to participate in the pumpkin carving contest! This will take place in the Nest, which is located behind the parish office building.

## Thank You Hospitality!

A great big thank you to the Hospitality Ministry for their delicious sandwiches, salads and desserts which were served at the luncheon after the Anointing Mass. Everyone enjoyed everything that was made for the event.

Thank you to the ladies who helped with setup on Friday, Kathy O'Brien, Nancy Coccetti and her husband, and Mary Kelly. Beautiful job there ladies and gentlemen.

Thank you to the following ladies for their help on Saturday Helen Bossong, Linda Bonaduce, Helen Lyons, Lisa Sayre, Nancy Coccetti, Susan Mandia and Jacqui Schantz.

A very special thank you to our confirmation candidates: Solomon Ambrose, Elise DeFrank, Brayden Graef, Chimaliya Okafor, Charlie Rudolph, Olivia Stare, Christian Zahner, Teddy Zobian and Charlie Zobian. I received many compliments about you boys and girls by the guests.

## Communion Distribution at St. Martha Manor

Fr. Verruni has asked for help in serving Communion during Mass at 10:00 am in the St. Marth Manor's chapel. Ministers would then distribute Communion to residents in their rooms who can't make it to Mass.

Help is also needed at St. Martha at the 11:15 am Mass with distribution of Communion afterwards to residents of the Villa.

Participants must be available at least one Sunday a month. Fr. Verunni will provide training to anyone interested in participating.

**Please contact:** Tracy Hoffmann at [tracyh@stjosephrc.org](mailto:tracyh@stjosephrc.org).



## Fair Trade Holiday Shopping

Shop our SERRV sale! Choose beautiful, unique holiday, home, and personal gifts for friends, family, or even yourself. Every item is made by a skilled artisan or farmer earning vital income and gaining opportunity through fair trade. Proceeds benefit Catholic Relief Services.

**When:** Nov. 4-5 (after all the Masses)

**Where:** In front of the church (rain location: St. John Neumann Room)

**Prices:** Most items under \$20; cash or check only, please!

*Sponsored by St. Joseph's Faith and Justice-CRS Team*



## 40 Days for Life Fall Campaign

Sept. 27 - Nov. 5, 2023  
Chester County Campaign

40 Days for Life is an internationally coordinated 40-day campaign that aims to end abortion locally through prayer and fasting, community outreach, and a peaceful all-day vigil in front of abortion businesses.

Since the first coordinated 40 Days for Life campaign took place in 2007, we've reached over 1000 cities in 63 countries.

Volunteers needed every day of Fall Campaign Vigil.

### More Information:

[40daysforlife.com/en/chestercounty](http://40daysforlife.com/en/chestercounty)



## Christmas Wreath Sale

The Knights of Columbus Council #7208 is sponsoring a Christmas Wreath Sale. All wreaths are made from live Fraser Fir, and are single-faced. They measure approximately 22" from end to end. Several wreath options are available for purchase.

- Plain Wreath (\$22.37)
- Plain Wreath with Bow (\$26.58)
- Decorated Wreath with Bow (\$33.95)
- Grave Blanket: Small or Large (\$31.84; \$47.63)

All orders are due by November 5th. The wreaths and grave blankets can be picked up at St. Joseph's Church on Sunday, December 3, 2023 between 8am and 12pm.

All proceeds from this sale support the charitable endeavors of the Knights of Columbus Council #7208. We thank you very much!

**Purchase Online:** <https://tinyurl.com/2023KofCWreaths>



*Pssst... Now that the door is done, decorate your home! The Scouts annual Christmas Poinsettia & Centerpiece sale will be back again this year! Stay tuned for more information about ordering coming soon.*





## This Weekend is World Mission Sunday

This weekend, we join Catholics around the world for the celebration of World Mission Sunday. As we prepare to observe this special day celebrated internationally, may we be reminded to ignite our hearts with Christ's love and extend that warmth to the most vulnerable around the world.

Your support helps:

- 26 Million Children in primary school,
- 38,140 Seminarians receiving an education
- 8,750 Homes for orphans and the elderly... and more!

Your prayers and gifts will make a difference this World Mission Sunday.



## Women of Hope Casserole Schedule

Group 3- Chicken Mushroom Casserole

Group 4- Lasagna

### Requested Items:

water & small snack bags.

Please leave items in the Loaves and Fishes closet in the designated basket.



## Prayer for Peace

Lord God of peace, hear our prayer!

We have tried so many times and over so many years to resolve our conflicts by our own powers and by the force of our arms. How many moments of hostility and darkness have we experienced; how much blood has been shed; how many lives have been shattered; how many hopes have been buried... But our efforts have been in vain.

Now, Lord, come to our aid! Grant us peace, teach us peace; guide our steps in the way of peace. Open our eyes and our hearts, and give us the courage to say: "Never again war!"; "With war everything is lost". Instill in our hearts the courage to take concrete steps to achieve peace.

*-Pope Francis*

## Stewardship Report

October 15, 2023

Weekly/Monthly Donations:	\$20,623
2023-24 Fiscal Year to Date:	\$691,828
Poor Box (St. Vincent de Paul):	\$168

*thank you*

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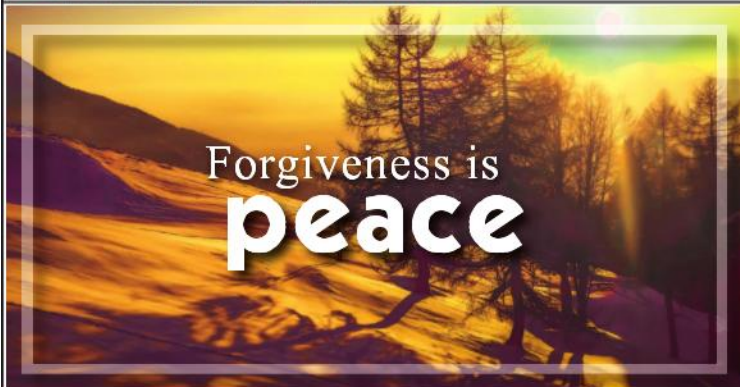


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