

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

JULY 23, 2023

FROM OUR PRIESTS' DESKS:

Dear sisters and brothers of Sacred Heart:

Today's Gospel parable (Mt. 13: 24-43) speaks to us about the contradictory experiences of life that we are all too familiar with: "the weeds among the wheat." Things seem to be going so well for us and then along comes the proverbial fly in the ointment; we're soaring so high and then a contrary wind brings us crashing back down to earth, leaving us bruised and confused. What went wrong: How could this happen to me? What did I do to deserve this? The servant in the parable put it this way: "Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where are the weeds coming from?" The question may well have reflected the distress of the early church upon discovering that their community was not as pure and righteous as they may have wished or expected it to be. If the Church was supposed to be a community of saints, then why were there still so many sinners? If it was possible for some people to make progress in virtue why did others, as St. Augustine said, "only make progress in vice?" Certainly, each of us may well have asked that question about things that have happened in our own personal lives, at least once and probably on many different occasions. Where are the weeds coming from: why this suffering, this unhappiness; why this hurt and loss? . . . And the answer given by the master in the story is as good as any: "I see an enemy's hand in this," he said.

There have been many attempts throughout history to identify this "Enemy" of ours. Some have said it is the devil or Satan, that spiritual force of evil opposed to God's plan and dedicated since he first deceived Adam and Eve to our eternal ruin and damnation; others have said that the enemy is within ourselves—our own negative and destructive attitudes: hatred, prejudice, greed, jealousy, self-centeredness, that often lead us to hurt ourselves and to hurt others. And some have said that the enemy is simply our imperfect world in which blind forces beyond our control—disease, drought, earthquakes, hurricanes, and other natural disasters—impartially cut down whatever or whoever unfortunately happens to stand in their path.

No matter how we may interpret "the enemy", faith calls us to believe that our enemy in terms of all that is evil and unjust and destructive in this world is God's enemy as well. For our faith assures us that the God of Jesus Christ is supremely good, supremely loving, and that this God wishes us to be happy, not sad; to be whole and well, not broken and ill; to have the opportunity to share in the goods and blessings of his

creation, not to be victimized or oppressed or burdened by fear. The

Gospels provide a record of how this God in the person of Jesus fought against our enemy and bestowed on all of those who were willing to believe a fuller, a richer, a more meaningful life; that God who encourages and challenges us through repentance and conversion to become our best selves, not to waste or hoard our time, our talents, our spirit of joy and hope; to overcome what is evil in every way we can, using the resources, the strength, and the intelligence which He has given us.

The problems that loom up so suddenly and so unexpectedly in our lives, in our world, in our Church—like weeds that spring up overnight—can seem so overwhelming, so intimidating, so frustrating that we are sometimes tempted to become discouraged and to give up hope. The message of the Gospel is that the force of good is far more powerful than the force of evil and that if we allow that good to penetrate and transform our own lives, we can become part of that creative and positive movement, working always for the betterment of our world in the present moment and our eternal happiness in the future.

In His Love & Grace,

Fr. John Gruben

Fr. Michael Rafferty, OAR, Pastor

Fr. Eric Crelencia

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

See, I have God for my help. The Lord sustains my soul. I will sacrifice to you with willing heart, and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

Responsorial Psalm:

Lord you are good and forgiving.

You, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in kindness to all who call upon you. Hearken, O Lord, to my prayer and attend to the sound of my pleading.

Lord you are good and forgiving.

You, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in Kindness and fidelity. Turn toward me and have pity on me; give your strength to your servant.

SHARING WHAT WE HAVE IN JESUS' NAME

**July 16th Collection- \$10,433.
Last Year's-\$10,050.**

MASS BOOK

2024 MASS BOOK will open **August 1.**

The 2023 Mass book is almost completely full. When there are no Masses available for a particular date, there are Altar Memorials available to remember your loved ones.

Altar Wine \$40.00
Altar Bread \$30.00
Altar Candles \$20.00
Sanctuary Lamp \$10.00

...Together With an Unannounced Mass.

CARDINAL'S ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL

To date our parish has received **\$79,275**, toward our goal of **\$104,000**. Please support this important effort for the church in New York and our own parish. We are **\$24,725** dollars away from our goal.

PARISH CALENDAR

Sunday, July 23

Ultreya, 9am at Tagaste Monastery

Monday, July 24

Grupo Carismático 7pm cafeteria school

Tuesday, July 25

Wednesday, July 26

IHM – 7:30pm in the church

Grupo Biblico 8pm in the cafeteria

Thursday, July 27

Friday, July 28

Rectory Office closes at 2pm

Saturday, July 29

7:30am to 9am St. Joseph's men's scripture group-rectory pre-k

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION

2023 - 2024

For All New & Returning Students

Baptismal Certificate is required at time of registration for all First Grade and New Registrants.

A program for children with Special Needs is available. Please contact the Religious Education office to schedule an appointment.

Registration will be held in the Religious Education Office in the school. Please go to the Clinton Place entrance (the side street) of the school and ring the bell. Please call the Religious Education Office at **845-357-6044** if you have any questions or to schedule an appointment.

Re-registration forms were emailed to the families of children already in our program. Please return them as soon as possible. Thank you.

INVITE TO SERVE AS EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS AT MONTEFIORE NYACK HOSPITAL

Fr. Ravi Dasari Catholic Chaplain for Montefiore Nyack Hospital is seeking individuals to step forward and volunteer as Eucharistic Ministers. Due to the global pandemic Eucharistic ministry was essentially on pause. At this time the full ministry is needed. Ministers serve a vital role in bringing communion to those who cannot attend Mass. This is a role that requires empathy, understanding, and dedication to the teachings of our faith. If you are interested, please contact Fr. Dasari at 845-467-3952 or email at frravikiran@gmail.com

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

The St. Vincent de Paul Pantry is now closed for the summer. **For food emergencies please call the Rectory at 845-357-0035**

DONATING ONLINE WITH WE SHARE!

Have you considered making your contributions online? It is so easy to do and goes a long way to minimize any human errors in accounting and gives you the ability to view your contribution any time. At the end of the year, you still receive a complete accounting of your donations for tax purposes. For the parish it helps with reducing costs associated with sending the envelopes out through our envelope company. So many parishioners forget to use the envelopes. Sometimes people have moved, and the church was not informed and have sent envelopes out already. So please consider donating online. Easy, Safe and Secure. Please visit our website: www.sacredheartparish.org and look for the donating tab. Thank you for considering online donating.

SISTERS OF LIFE



Providing Life-affirming choices for women: Here in the Archdiocese of New York, there are many resources that provide women facing unplanned pregnancies with alternatives to abortion. If you know someone who is struggling, please urge them to contact: www.visitationcenterus.org or call (877)777-1277. hopeandhealing@sistersoflife.org.

CRISIS PREGNANCY HOTLINE GOOD COUNSEL HOMES

For Pregnancy emergencies call
Any time of day: 1-800-723-8331
www.goodcounselhomes.org

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

We welcome into the Roman Catholic Church and our Parish Community the following children who were recently baptized at Sacred Heart:

NATHANIEL EKENEDILICHUKWU IWUCHUKWU

Child of "Frank" Mbanefo and Jessica

VALENTINA ESCOBAR MIX

Child of Heber and Jennifer

EMILY ANNE LYNCH

Child of Thomas and Claire

DIANE ELISA DOMINGO BAUTISTA

Child of Edilsa



*Remember
Our Sick*

*Please pray for those who are ill
and have asked us to pray for
them:*

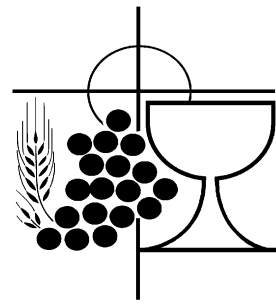
Theresa Anselmi, Emil Boss, Joe Bauer, Baby Braven Ryan, Elantoniette Camagong, Ronald Carlucci, Siobhan Casey, Angie Clifford, Joseph Collins Jr., Robert Conly, Comerford Family, Teresa & Tom Consolo, Fr. Frank Cregan, Laudelina Crowley, Janet Curcione, Joe Davey, Carol Deery, Anthony DeFrancesco III, Matthew DeMayo, Cledha Desir, Marge Diebner, Karen DeJoie, Mary Discini, John Duffy, Ginny & Sonny Figula, William Figundio, Stefanie Gaudelli, John Genardi, Teddy Girvan, Joseph Gilson, Debra Gravina, Nick Gravina, Gail Griggs, Mary Guarnieri, Senan Halpin, Clement & Maureen Hayes, John Hughes, Domenic & Anthony Iannaccone, Rob Incognoli, Bob Janson, Fran Janson, Kathleen Keane, Thomas Kelly, Eileen Kennedy, Rick Konrad, Steven C. Klumpp, Fred Lemoine, Elizabeth Lempka, Robert Liggio, Ginger Listwan, Vasily Lockhart, Roberta Lynch, Laura Mack, Matthew Luludis, Thomas Mathai, Jeanne Matera, Richard McCarthy, Catherine McMenamin, John McLoughlin, Jacob Mendelsohn, Joyce Miller, Iraida Molina, Robert Nunes, Thomas O'Connor, Jennifer O'Hara, Nancy Overend, Leona Overend, Nolita Padilla, Joseph Payne, Shace Paljusevic, Noreen Pidgeon, Barbara Procopio, James Procopio, Louis Paturzo, Charles Picarelli, Danny Ranke, Della Russell, Claudia Spallanzani, Joseph Pasculli, Abdul Shakur, Michael Shumway, Jean Simons, Thomas Sullivan, Rose Stark, Maureen Starke, Lindsey Sterling, Shaun Stein, Patricia Steiper, Janet Tamburro, Barbara Veraldo Strano, Phyllis Varacalli, Kali Villela, Christopher Yan and Michael Zavoski Jr..

ALTAR MEMORIALS

JULY 23, 2023

Altar Wines, Breads, Candles and the Sanctuary
Lamp
in Memory of

DOLORES MENDOLIA



SCHEDULE OF MASSES

9:00AM DAILY – (MONDAY – SATURDAY)

SATURDAY VIGILS – 5:30PM AND 7:15PM (S)

SUNDAYS

8:30AM, 10:00AM, 11:30AM 4:00PM (S) AND
5:30PM

SATURDAY, JULY 22

9:00am – † Josephine Simon

SATURDAY, JULY 22

5:30pm – **Vigil Mass** – † Elizabeth Mattioti Mendolia

7:15pm – **Vigil Mass** – † Arcesio Lopez

SUNDAY, JULY 23

8:30am – † Richard & Eileen Doran

10:00am – † Ana Stillo

11:30am – † Ray Mazzei

4:00pm – Juan y Virginia Alvizures (Anniversary)

5:30pm – † All Parishioners / Parish Memorial

MONDAY, JULY 24

9:00am – † Thomas Andrew Butler

TUESDAY, JULY 25

9:00am – † Carmelo Soto

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26

9:00am – † Vincent DePaul

THURSDAY, JULY 27

9:00am – † Andrew Statham

FRIDAY, JULY 28 – † Tom Henderson

SATURDAY, JULY 29

9:00am – † Richard Lynch, Jr.

SATURDAY, JULY 29

5:30pm – **Vigil Mass** – † Dolores Mendolia

7:15pm – **Vigil Mass** – † Ana y Segundo Siguencia

SUNDAY, JULY 30

8:30am – † Margaret Billy

10:00am – † Joe & Florence Cavanaugh

11:30am – † Palma & Henry Heck

4:00pm – †

5:30pm – All Parishioners / Parish Memorial



Let us pray for our deceased parishioners, and family members and loved ones Especially:

NICHOLAS GRAVINA

BOOSTER CLUB

WEEK 6 – KATHLEEN JURITSCH