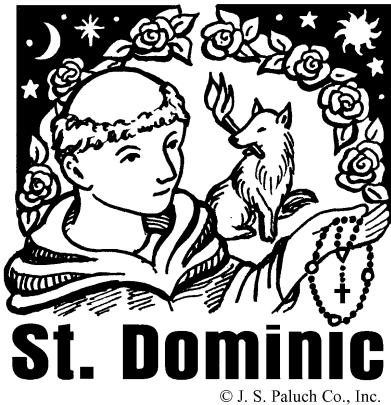


NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**Blessed the people the Lord
has chosen to be his own.**

August 7, 2016



ANNOUNCED MASSES

If you wish to bring up the gifts for a Mass being said for your loved one(s), please see the Usher before Mass.

Vigil (Sunday) Mass – August 6

5:00 PM Sal Pidala

Sunday, August 7 – Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM Rosemary Melville

10:15 AM *St. Joseph's* – John Casoli

12:00 PM Robert A. Stevens

Monday, August 8 – St. Dominic, Priest

8:15 AM For All the People of the Parish

Tuesday, August 9 – Weekday

8:15 AM Raymond Teator

Wednesday, August 10 – St. Lawrence, Deacon & Martyr

8:15 AM Rose Ortega

Thursday, August 11 – St. Claire, Virgin

8:15 AM Marion Euler

Friday, August 12 – Weekday

8:15 AM Marcia A. DiCastro

Saturday, August 13 – Weekday

8:15 AM Josie Pidala

Vigil (Sunday) Mass – August 13

5:00 PM Kitty O'Sullivan - 26th Anniversary

Sunday, August 14 – Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM Dimon & Robert Nicolosi & Cirillo Family

10:15 AM *St. Joseph's* – Sigmund Nokland

12:00 PM Sadie Early - 33rd Anniversary

PARISH OFFICE SUMMER HOURS

The Parish Office will be closed Wednesday afternoons from 12:00 noon to 3:00 pm, June 1st through August 31st, to accommodate administrative work for the Religious Education Program.

MEMORIALS

The **Sanctuary Candle** this week is burning in loving memory of Betty Timmons donated by Frank & Anita Pidala and Family. The candle will burn July 31st through August 6th.

The **Flowers** on the main altar this week were donated in loving memory of the Rapalje Family.

CHOIR REHEARSALS

Adult Choir rehearsals are held on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 pm in the choir loft. New members are welcome at all weekend Masses. If you would like to sing, please come to a rehearsal or call Jeffrey V. Lutz at 228-5612.

GRAYMOOR PRAYER GROUP

Increase your time in prayer. The Graymoor Prayer Group, following the Medjugorje prayer format, meets Thursday evenings, 7:30 to 8:30 pm at the Spiritual Life Building 6th floor Chapel. Prayer facilitator – Diana Roda: 424-4175.

PLEASE PRAY

For the sick and suffering, especially

Lucy Abbatine	Paula Martino
Lucas Boesch	Wesley Ann McGovern
Robert Broughal	Merna Mendelson
Michael Brusco	Todd Morris
Kathleen Clements	Joseph Nowakowski
Carmine Comberiata	Brian O'Keeffe
Joseph C. Etta	Inelda O'Keeffe
Bill Flaherty	Neilan Pierce
William Freeman	Vivian Pisanelli
Christopher Hartly	Phillip Rossignol
Joseph Hoda	Melissa Castro-Santos
Parker Jane Holloway	Miguel Santos
Elizabeth M. Hynes	Sally Singh
Geoff Lyons	Ralph Torres
Kathleen Manganello	Frank Volkmann
Mary Marion	Lidia Watrud

and for all our dearly departed, especially

Josie Pidala

that the fighting among nations cease, that vengeance end and lasting peace begin, and for all of our prayers in our book of petitions.

READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

Monday:	Ez 1:2-5, 24-28c; Ps 148:1-2, 11-14; Mt 17:22-27
Tuesday:	Ez 2:8 — 3:4; Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131; Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14
Wednesday:	2 Cor 9:6-10; Ps 112:1-2, 5-9; Jn 12:24-26
Thursday:	Ez 12:1-12; Ps 78:56-59, 61-62; Mt 18:21 — 19:1
Friday:	Ez 16:1-15, 60, 63 or 16:59-63; Is 12:2-3, 4bcd-6; Mt 19:3-12
Saturday:	Ez 18:1-10, 13b, 30-32; Ps 51:12-15, 18-19; Mt 19:13-15
Sunday:	Jer 38:4-6, 8-10; Ps 40:2-4, 18; Heb 12:1-4; Lk 12:49-53

POPE FRANCIS ADDRESSES WORLD YOUTH DAY IN KRAKOW

Dear young people, you have come to Krakow to meet Jesus. The Gospel speaks to us of just such a meeting between Jesus and a man named Zacchaeus, in Jericho. There Jesus does not simply preach or greet people; as the Evangelist tells us, he *passed through* the city. In other words, Jesus wants to draw near to us personally, to accompany our journey to its end, so that his life and our life can truly meet.

An amazing encounter then takes place, with Zacchaeus, the chief “publican” or tax collector. Zacchaeus was thus a wealthy collaborator of the hated Roman occupiers, someone who exploited his own people, someone who, because of his ill repute, could not even approach the Master. His encounter with Jesus changed his life, just as it has changed, and can daily still change, each of our lives. But Zacchaeus had to face *a number of obstacles* in order to meet Jesus. *At least three of these* can also say something to us.

The first obstacle is smallness of stature. Zacchaeus couldn’t see the Master because he was little. Even today we can risk not getting close to Jesus because we don’t feel big enough, because we don’t think ourselves worthy. This is a great temptation; it has to do not only with self-esteem, but with faith itself. For faith tells us that we are “children of God... that is what we are.” We have been created in God’s own image; Jesus has taken upon himself our humanity and his heart will never be separated from us; the Holy Spirit wants to dwell within us. We have been called to be happy for ever with God!

That is our real “stature,” our spiritual identity: we are God’s beloved children, always. So you can see that not to accept ourselves, to live glumly, to be negative, means not to recognize our deepest identity. It is like walking away when God wants to look at me, trying to spoil his dream for me. God loves us the way we are, and no sin, fault or mistake of ours makes him change his mind. As far as Jesus is concerned – as the Gospel shows – no one is unworthy of, or far from, his thoughts. No one is insignificant. He loves all of us with a special love; for him all of us are important: *you* are important! God counts on you for what you are, not for what you possess. In his eyes the clothes you wear or the kind of cell phone you use are of absolutely no concern. He doesn’t care whether you are stylish or not; he cares about you! In his eyes, you are precious, and your value is inestimable.

At times in our lives, we aim lower rather than higher. At those times, it is good to realize that God remains faithful, even obstinate, in his love for us. The fact is, he loves us even more than we love ourselves. He believes in us even more than we believe in ourselves. He is always “cheering us on”; he is our biggest fan. He is there for us, waiting with patience and hope, even when we turn in on ourselves and brood over our troubles and past injuries. But such brooding is unworthy of our spiritual stature! It is a kind of *virus* infecting and blocking everything; it closes doors and prevents us from getting up and starting over. God, on the other hand, is hopelessly hopeful! He believes that we can always get up, and he hates to see us glum and gloomy. Because we are always his beloved sons and daughters. Let us be mindful of this at the dawn of each new day. It will do us good to pray every morning: “Lord, I thank you for loving me; help me to be in love with my own life!” Not with my faults, that need to be corrected, but with life itself, which is a great gift, for it is a time to love and to be loved.

Zacchaeus faced a *second* obstacle in meeting Jesus: *the paralysis of shame*. We can imagine what was going on in his heart before he climbed that sycamore. It must have been quite a struggle – on one hand, a healthy curiosity and desire to know Jesus; on the other, the risk of appearing completely ridiculous. Zacchaeus was public figure, a man of power. He knew that, in trying to climb that tree, he would have become a laughingstock to all. Yet he mastered his shame, because the attraction of Jesus was more powerful. You know what happens when someone is so attractive that we fall in love with them: we end up ready to do things we would never have even thought of doing.

Something similar took place in the heart of Zacchaeus, when he realized that Jesus was so important that he would do anything for him, since Jesus alone could pull him out of the mire of sin and discontent. The paralysis of shame did not have the upper hand. The Gospel tells us that Zacchaeus “ran ahead,” “climbed” the tree, and then, when Jesus called him, he “hurried down.” He took a risk, he put his life on the line. For us too, this is the secret of joy: not to stifle a healthy curiosity, but to take a risk, because life is not meant to be tucked away. When it comes to Jesus, we cannot sit around waiting with arms folded; he offers us life – we can’t respond by thinking about it or “texting” a few words!

Dear young friends, don’t be ashamed to bring everything to the Lord in confession, especially your weaknesses, your struggles and your sins. He will surprise you with his forgiveness and his peace. Don’t be afraid to say “yes” to him with all your heart, to respond generously and to follow him! Don’t let your soul grow numb, but aim for the goal of a beautiful love which also demands sacrifice. Say a firm “no” to the narcotic of success at any cost and the sedative of worrying only about yourself and your own comfort.





Young Catholics from across the world gathered in Krakow for World Youth Day 2016 to meet with Pope Francis

After his small stature and the paralysis of shame, there was a *third* obstacle that Zacchaeus had to face. It was no longer an interior one, but was all around him. It was the *grumbling of the crowd*, who first blocked him and then criticized him: How could Jesus have entered his house, the house of a sinner! How truly hard it is to welcome Jesus, how hard it is to accept a “God who is rich in mercy!” People will try to block you, to make you think that God is distant, rigid and insensitive, good to the good and bad to the bad.

Instead, our heavenly Father “makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good.” He demands of us real courage: the courage to be *more powerful than evil* by loving everyone, even our enemies. People may laugh at you because you believe in the gentle and unassuming power of mercy. But do not be afraid. Think of the motto of these days: “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.” People may judge you to be dreamers, because you believe in a new humanity, one that rejects hatred between peoples, one that refuses to see borders as barriers and can cherish its own traditions without being self-centered or small-minded. Don’t be discouraged: with a smile and open arms, you proclaim hope and you are a blessing for our one human family, which here you represent so beautifully!

That day the crowd judged Zacchaeus; they looked him over, up and down. But Jesus did otherwise: he gazed up at him. Jesus looks beyond the faults and sees the person. He does not halt before bygone evil, but sees future good. His gaze remains constant, even when it is not met; it seeks the way of unity and communion. In no case does it halt at appearances, but looks to the heart. With this gaze of Jesus, you can help bring about another humanity, without looking for acknowledgement but seeking goodness for its own sake, content to maintain a pure heart and to fight peaceably for honesty and justice. Don’t stop at the surface of things; distrust the worldly cult of appearances, cosmetic attempts to improve our looks. Instead, “download” the best “link” of all, that of a heart

which sees and transmits goodness without growing weary. The joy that you have freely received from God, freely give away: so many people are waiting for it!

Finally let us listen to the words that Jesus spoke to Zacchaeus, which seem meant for us today: “Come down, for I must stay at your house today.” Jesus extends the same invitation to you: “I must stay at your house today.” We can say that World Youth Day *begins today and continues tomorrow, in your homes*, since that is where Jesus wants to meet you from now on.

The Lord doesn’t want to remain in this beautiful city, or in cherished memories alone. He wants to enter your homes, to dwell in your daily lives: in your studies, your first years of work, your friendships and affections, your hopes and dreams. How greatly he desires that you bring all this to him in prayer! How much he hopes that, in all the “contacts” and “chats” of each day, pride of place be given to the golden thread of prayer! How much he wants his word to be able to speak to you day after day, so that you can make his Gospel your own, so that it can serve as a compass for you on the highways of life!

In asking to come to your house, Jesus *calls you*, as he did Zacchaeus, *by name*. Your name is precious to him. The name “Zacchaeus” would have made people back then think of the *remembrance of God*. Trust the memory of God: his memory is not a “hard disk” that “saves” and “archives” all our data, but a heart filled with tender compassion, one that finds joy in “erasing” in us every trace of evil. May we too now try to imitate the faithful memory of God and treasure the good things we have received in these days. In silence, let us remember this encounter, let us preserve the memory of the presence of God and his word, and let us listen once more to the voice of Jesus as he calls us by name. So let us now pray silently, remembering and thanking the Lord who wanted us to be here and has come here to meet us.

— Pope Francis speaking to two million young Catholics from around the world at World Youth Day in Krakow

WEEKEND OF JULY 31, 2016

REGULAR WEEKLY COLLECTION – \$6,459

Thank you for your generosity.

MASS ATTENDANCE

	Adults	Children	Total
Saturday, 5:00 pm	86	8	94
Sunday, 8:30 am	Not taken	Not taken	Not taken
St. Joseph's Chapel Sunday, 10:15 am	48	4	52
Sunday, 12:00 pm	98	17	115
Total	223	29	261



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

At Our Lady of Loretto • Every Monday • 7:00-8:00 pm
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament remains as it is with individual prayer time, but specific groups are being identified for certain Mondays so they can come together to focus in prayer for a specific intention...

- August 8 – The Samaritans & the sick and suffering
- August 15 – Souls in Purgatory
- August 22 – Police & community service personnel
- August 29 – Military Personnel and their families



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Loretto Council #536

PHILIPSTOWN FOOD PANTRY DELIVERY

Sunday • August 28th

The Knights of Columbus will be collecting food and other items, including diapers, toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, cleaners and paper towels, for the Philipstown Food Pantry during the weekend of August 27th and 28th.

Please leave donations in the cry room during that weekend. Thank you for your generosity!

Grand Knight – Paul Grandetti

To join, email our Membership Director, John Hackney:
johnhackney@hotmail.com.

Information can also be found at KofC536.com.

OUR LADY OF LORETTO PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

"Handing on the Faith"

845-265-3718 ★ ollfaithformation@gmail.com

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION FOR THE 2016-17 SCHOOL YEAR

Registration information for the 2016-17 school year has been mailed to all families currently enrolled in our Religious Education Program. If you did not receive the information, or are new to the program, please call or stop by the Parish Office to register your children for next year's classes. Registration forms are available at the parish website: www.ladyofloretto.org. Thank you!

TO ALL WHO HAVE DONATED...

THANK YOU!

Thank you to all who donated supplies and made monetary contributions to our Religious Ed program. Everything will be put to good use throughout the coming year.

God bless you for supporting the faith formation of our children in such a special way!



PRAYER FOR POLICE OFFICER SAFETY

O Almighty God, whose great power and eternal Wisdom embraces the universe, Watch over all policemen and law enforcement officers everywhere. Protect them from harm in the performance of their duty to stop crime, robbery, riots and violence. We pray, help them keep our streets and homes safe, day and night. We commend them to your loving care because their duty is dangerous. Grant them strength and courage in their daily assignments. Dear God, protect these brave men and women. Grant them your almighty protection. Unite them safely with their families after their duty has ended. Please God, grant us this wish.