Welcome to the Parish of St. Paul - St. Ann

Church of St. Paul
82 Lake Road West
Congers, NY 10920

Church of St. Ann
16 Jefferson Street
Nyack, NY 10960

Pastor@spasaparish.org
Parish Office:
82 Lake Road West, Congers, NY 10920
Phone: (845) 268-4464/-4465 Fax: -6790
Current Email: office@spasaparish.org
Website: spasaparish.org

Rev. Vladimir Chripko, C.O. Pastor
Rev. **Roman** Dominik Palecko, C.O. Assistant Pastor
Rev. **Arogya** Raju Narisetty, Parochial Vicar • Rev. **Peter** Bujdos, Parochial Vicar
Rev. Maniraguha **Jean Paul** Ruriho, Assistant
Rev. **George** Torok, C.O., Provost—Weekend Assistant

	◆◆ ST. PAUL ◆◆	◆◆ ST. ANN ◆◆
Deacons	**Dominic** Buonocore **Mark** Czerwinski, Director RCIA	**Luke** Conroy, Director RCIA **Charles** DeGroat **Gerald** Fenton, Liturgy Coordinator
Parish Office Hours	9:00 am-3:00 pm Monday-Friday	11:00 am-12:00 pm Mon, Tues, Wed & Thurs.
Cemetery/Assistant to Pastor	**Lissette** Diaz Lissette.sor3@gmail.com	
Religious Education Program	(845-268-5442) Email: religiouseducation@spasaparish.org Carmen Hernandez Lissette Diaz	
St. Paul Regional School	**Mrs. Michelle Pitot** (845-268-6506)	
Music Ministry	**James** Russell	**Vincent** Green
Sunday Masses	**Saturday** 5:00 pm **Sunday** 7:30 & 10 am, 12:00 & 6:00 pm 2nd & 4th Sundays of month: Spanish mass at 7:30 pm	**Saturday** 5:30 pm **Sunday** 8:45, 11:30 am
Weekday Masses	Monday—Friday 6:30 & 9:00 am Saturday 7:30 am & 9:00 am	Monday—Friday 7:30 am & 12:10 pm Saturday 9:00 am
Morning Prayer	Monday—Saturday 8:45 am	
Rosary	Following Weekday 9 am Mass	Before 12:10 Mass
Confessions	Saturdays 4:00-4:45 pm *Anytime by request.*	Saturdays 4:30-5:15 pm *Anytime by request.*

Sacrament of Baptism
Baptisms are normally celebrated at St. Ann's Church on the first and third Sundays of the month and at St. Paul's Church on the second & fourth Sundays. For a Baptism at St. Paul's contact Deacon Dominic at the Rectory (845-268-4464); at St. Ann's, call Deacon Luke (845-323-5669). First-time parents of child to be baptized must register for a Baptismal instruction class, held in the Rectory, normally on the last Thursday of the month at 7 pm. Please direct all inquiries to Deacon Dominic.

Sacrament of Marriage
Engaged couples should contact the Rectory at least six months in advance in order to arrange for their participation in the marriage preparation program. Please email assistantpastor@spasaparish.org.

Anointing of the Sick
If someone is homebound or in the hospital, please notify the Rectory. Arrangements can be made for the sick person to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. Holy Communion is brought to the homebound by our Ministers of Holy Communion.

September 2, 2018 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH		ST. ANN'S CHURCH	
Saturday	Sept. 1, 2018	**Saturday**	Sept. 1, 2018
5:00 PM	John Gilbride	5:30 PM	Denise & Michaelle Pielle
Sunday	Sept. 2, 2018	**Sunday**	Sept. 2, 2018
7:30 AM	Luciana Soledad	8:45 AM	Katherine Struthers
10:00 AM	Dominick Cardone	11:30 AM	Rose Posenato
12:00 PM	Melody Ortiz — First Anniversary		Second Collection for Capital Projects
6:00 PM	For the People of the Parish		
Monday	Sept. 3, 2018	**Monday**	Sept. 3, 2018
6:30 AM	Christopher Cardinuto	7:30 AM	Anna Rodriguez
9:00 AM	William Gallie	12:10 PM	Raul Aberion
Tuesday	Sept. 4, 2018	**Tuesday**	Sept. 4, 2018
6:30 AM	Margaret Kraus (L) & Frank Corringraco (D)	7:30 AM	Bonnie M. Taylor
9:00 AM	Thomas Hughes	12:10 PM	Thomas J. Harley
Wednesday	Sept. 5, 2018	**Wednesday**	Sept. 5, 2018
6:30 AM	Steven Kantermann — 1st Anniversary	7:30 AM	Daphne Ramirez
9:00 AM	Ann & William Jennings	12:10 PM	George Larose
Thursday	Sept. 6, 2018	**Thursday**	Sept. 6, 2018
6:30 AM	Matthew Family — Living & Deceased	7:30 AM	tba
9:00 AM	Timothy O'Sullivan	12:10 PM	George Bryant
Friday	Sept. 7, 2018	**Friday**	Sept. 7, 2018
6:30 AM	Felecia Hammel	7:30 AM	Daphne Ramirez
9:00 AM	Stanley & Sadie Orbacz	12:10 PM	Charles Barone
Saturday	Sept. 8, 2018	**Saturday**	Sept. 8, 2018
7:30 AM	tba		
9:00 AM	Marianna Riveiso	9:00 AM	Eduardo Alcazar Jr.
5:00 PM	Basak & Cangro Families	5:30 PM	Paul Muscarella
Sunday	Sept. 9, 2018	**Sunday**	Sept. 9, 2018
7:30 AM	Robert Michael Sbordonne (L)	8:45 AM	For the People of the Parish
10:00 AM	Frank & Marietta Giacobbe	11:30 AM	Tina Urban
12:00 PM	Andrew Coviello		Second Collection for Parish Needs
6:00 PM	Jerry & Ann Elicks		

These masses are still available. If you would like to schedule a mass to be said for your special intention, please call the Rectory.

St. Paul — Sept. 15 (7:30), Sept. 22 (7:30), Sept. 28 (9:00), Sept. 30 (6:00)

St. Ann — Sept. 13 (7:30), Sept. 16 (11:30), Sept. 17 (12:10), Sept. 18 (12:10), Sept. 19 (7:30 & 12:10)

PARISH NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS

SOCIAL HOUR
on FIRST WEDNESDAYS

Every first Wednesday of the month starting this Wednesday, Sept. 5, after the 9 am mass at St. Paul's, there will be a social hour in the community center. Come join us for coffee and friends. It'll be a chance for all of us to get to know each other a little better. Hope to see you there.

SEPT. 29 FEAST OF ST. MICHAEL

On the Feast of St. Michael, Sept 29, at the 5 pm mass, we will honor and pray for those in our parish family who have served or are serving our country in the military, at home and abroad. We also encourage all first responders including law enforcement, firefighters, and EMT personnel to attend in recognition of your service in harm's way. If you have a family member currently in the military, we invite you to send a photo to Liz O'Brien (*lobrien56@yahoo.com*) for a bulletin insert that week. Please include **their name, relation to you and where they are at this time**. **(Deadline for photos is Sept. 18.)**

If someone is about to enter the service, we would like to include you in a short sending service at the mass. Please contact the rectory, 845-268-4464, with your information.

We invoke the protection of St. Michael for all who serve in harm's way for our country. We hope all veterans will attend to receive our gratitude and prayers. Refreshments will follow .

Saturday, September 8th

Marydell Faith & Life Center - N. Midland Ave., Upper Nyack

Gate opens at 12:30pm
Outdoor Mass begins at 4 pm followed by:

An All You Can Eat Barbecue
Dessert Table - Pie Eating Contest - Bouncy Castle
Face Painting - Dunking Tank - Many More Surprises
Popcorn - Cotton Candy - Bonfire

If you questions email: etangredi@aol.com or call 914-447-6527
Or go to our website: spasaparish.org

Detach and return to the Rectory or put in collection basket by **Wed. Sept. 5th**

I (we) will be attending the Parish Picnic on Saturday, September 8th and will bring a dessert

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Number Attending: _____ Adults @ $10 each = $ _____

_____ Seniors @ $5 each = $ _____

_____ Children (under 12) @ $5 each = $ _____
(must be accompanied by an adult)

TOTAL ENCLOSED = $ _____

Volunteers are needed:

I would like to help with:

____Set Up (1pm); ____ Cooking; ____ Activities; ____ Clean up

See more photos of Fr. George's 60th Anniversary Mass & Reception at

SPASAPARISH.ORG

Scroll down to the Albums section on the homepage

FIRST FRIDAY at ST. ANN'S

7:30 am — Mass (church)
8:00 am to 11:50 am — Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (chapel)
8:15 am — Morning Prayer
11: 15 am — Rosary
11:50 am — Benediction
12:10 pm — Mass (church)
12:40 pm — Divine Mercy Chaplet
7:30 pm — Holy Hour & Exposition

SEPT. 7

FROM the RECTORY

MASS BOOK & MEMORIALS

The **Mass Book** is open at both churches. Please call the Parish Office to reserve a mass at St. Ann's or St. Paul's **through September 2018**.

If you'd like to bring up the Gifts at a mass for which you've scheduled an announced intention, please tell the usher.

You may also request that the **'Sanctuary Lamp'** in either church or the St. Ann's Chapel be lit for your special intention or in memory of a loved one. The candle burns for 1 week. Donation is $25.

EMAIL FOR THE PASTOR

Pastor@spasaparish.org

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Deadline is Friday, the week before publication
Send to: Bulletin@spasaparish.org

Sept. 9 bulletin — deadline Friday, Aug. 31

Sept. 16 bulletin — deadline Friday, Sept. 7

PARISH WEBSITE

For more detailed information about our parish:
Spasaparish.org

FORMED Free Catholic movies, e-books, audios, and programs. Go to *Formed.org* and use our parish code **X74FWM. You can download a free Formed app.**

GET IT ON Google Play | Download on the App Store

flocknote **WE'D LIKE TO CONNECT WITH YOU!**

Sign up for important updates from the parish via email or text.

www.flocknote.com/STANNNYACK or /STPAULS
Or text SACC or STPC to 84576 from your phone

DONATING TO OUR PARISH ONLINE

Currently, we have two programs for donating online.

Our new program is called **PARISH GIVING**. You can register online at either of our parish websites, *stann-nyack.org or spasaparish.org.*

The original program, which many of you are enrolled in, is called **WESHARE** (used to be called **PARISH PAY**). It still exists, and if you are satisfied with it, you may keep it. If not, we suggest you switch to Parish Giving. The WeShare link is also on our websites, or you can call them at 800-950-9952, option 1. You may experience a wait.

MEMORIAL INTENTIONS — WEEK OF SEPT. 2

Sanctuary Lamp (St. Paul)

Sanctuary Lamp (St. Ann)
Marie-Antoinette & Andre Gaspard

Chapel (St. Ann)

St. Paul & St. Ann
PRAYER FOR THE SICK

We pray that the sick of our parish, our relatives, and friends will experience God's healing love, especially:

Sonia Andino, Kathleen Hopkins,
Ernest Damiani,
Msgr. Patrick McCabe,
Ann O'Connor, Kathy Courtney,
Frances Doherty, Margaret Russell,
Gregory O'Gorman,
Michael Doria, Noah Diaz, Manuel Tucay

Call the rectory (268-4464) to be placed on the list of those who need prayers in time of illness, or call with the names of any sick family members or friends. The name will remain on the list for 3 weeks and then be removed unless we hear from you that the person still needs our prayers.

PARISH COUNCIL Enrico Aberion, Ann Marie Blackwood, Hernan Caceres, Guy Gebbia, Vicki Gill, Marie Josee Joseph, Karen Lancellotti, Julie Lepore, Marie Lorenzini, Dennis Lynch, Bernadette Masiello, Greg Moreau, George Strayton, Keith Taylor

FINANCIAL COUNCIL William Dailey, Carlos Hernandez

	07/01/18	07/08/18	07/15/18	07/22/18
St. Paul collection	7,474	8,607	8,190	7,655
St Ann collection	3,973	4,180	3,898	4,265
St. Paul and St Ann Parish Giving & We share	8,180 + 2,774			

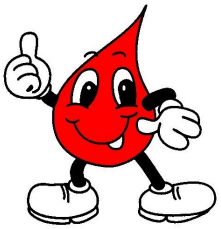
St. Ann's LITURGY MINISTERS for Sept. 9, 2018

TIME	LECTORS	EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS	ALTAR SERVERS	USHERS
5:30 PM	C. or B. Knoebel	J. Gunther, B. Lynch	M. Brosius, K. Lusaria	Joe A., Nick, Guy Diona & Jim
8:45 AM	M. Standish	M. Dely, H. Pierson	S. Taylor-Packes B. Vital	Jack B., Jules C. Bill D.
11:30 AM	B. VanCura	V. Leone, J. Tangredi	T. Ryder, A. VanCura	Ed T., Rob C. Jean L.

DEVOTIONS

Rosary	Monday through Friday	11:45 am (11:30 am, First Friday)
Divine Mercy Chaplet	Monday through Friday	after 12:10 pm Mass
Rosary & Divine Mercy	Saturday	after 9 am Mass

First Friday 7:30 am Mass; 8:00 am to 11:30 Exposition of Blessed Sacrament (chapel); 8:15 Morning Prayer, 11:30 Rosary; 11:50 Benediction; 12:10 Mass; 12:40 pm Divine Mercy Chaplet; 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm Holy Hour, Exposition, Benediction.



BLOOD DRIVE AT ST. ANN'S SEPT. 16

I would once again like to thank you for your past support of our blood drives. It is wonderful to see so many people return time after time to help those who need what only you can give. There is still no substitute for human blood.

As usual, the drive will be held in St. Ann's School Cafeteria. It will run from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm.

You can sign up with a time that is most convenient for you by calling me at (845) 353-2424 or by going to the Blood Center's website (*nybloodcenter.org*).

Hope to see you on September 16th.

George Berry

Celebrate STAR-FEST IX

A concert to benefit

One to One Learning

A nonprofit outreach, teaching English and providing support services for new immigrants, sponsored by the Dominican Sisters of Sparkill.

Sunday, September 16th 3:30 p.m.

Concert followed by Mini Taste of Rockland — Nyack Seaport, Hudson House, Munno's and more!

Broadway show tunes and more echoing from the lawn of Marydell Faith and Life Center, 640 North Midland Avenue Nyack, New York

Featuring host and emcee John Patrick "JP" Schutz, award-winning cabaret and concert performer, and his friends.

Reservations $30 in advance and $35 at the door

845-512-8176; email clpangel59@gmail.com
register Pay-Pal on www.one2one-learning.org

REGISTER NOW FOR PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM (PREP)

PREP registration is now open. For families currently enrolled, you should have received an email from Parish Giving Admin (*info@parishgiving.org*). It will contain the website address ***https://www.parishgiving.org*****. Please access to obtain the family portal with your ID number.** If you have difficulty, please contact them directly at 866-307-7140.

Following is the link for New Family Registrations:

https://forms.parishgiving.org/form-2487991/

A copy of your child's/children's Baptism certificate is required before we can finalize registration. Please mail, fax 845-268-6790, or email us at *religiouseducation@spasaparish.org.*

If you have any questions or experience difficulty with online registration, please contact Parish Giving directly at 866-307-7140.

PLEASE REGISTER EARLY TO ENSURE THE EARLY BIRD RATE AND THE DAY/TIME THAT YOU WOULD LIKE.**

HOPE

Bereavement Support

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP — SEPT. 7

The Bereavement Support Group meets the First Friday of every month at 10 am in St. Ann's School.

CHURCH of ST. PAUL

St. Paul's LITURGY MINISTERS for Sept. 9, 2018

TIME	LECTORS	EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS	ALTAR SERVERS	USHERS
5:00 PM	G. Scerbak	J. O'Neill, J. Amodio	S. Byrne, A. Sawal A. Zil	V. Panzo, W. Rodriguez, G. Holland
7:30 AM	R. Sbordone	E. Pellegrino Sr. S. Gerard	B. & H. Sopin	A. Smith, V. Czajkowski, T. Totora
10:00 AM	B. Pfingst	K. Butler, L. Terminello	H. Caceres, R. Adriano	G. Spinney, H. Caceres, M. Katigbak W. Kelder, K. McAleer, S. Reynolds S. Leto, V. Alfieri, A. Diaz, R. Nesi
12:00 PM	M. Allgor	J. & S. Crean	C. Devers, K. Crai, G. Kopf	W. Hartl, W. Kelder P. Dudgeon, A. Dibianco, M. Reilly, E. Lockhart, F. Cifuni
6:00 PM	A. Cacciola	D. Zinna, C. McShane	M. Alfieri, W. Puehl	C. Linen, J. Cerreta, R. Aberion

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Homebound — M. Raboy, M/M Masiello, T. Alexander **Nyack Manor** — H. Hohlfeld, O. Massaro **Tolstoy** — A. & R. Blackwood

DEVOTIONS			
	Morning Prayer	Daily	8:45 am
	Holy Rosary	Daily	after 9:00 am Mass
	Eucharistic Adoration	Wednesday	noon to 6:00 pm, Benediction at 6:00 pm
	Our Lady of Fatima Novena	Wednesday	6:00 pm
	Chaplet of Divine Mercy	Friday	after 9:00 am Mass

OCT. 13 BABY MASS

Our second annual Baby Mass will take place Saturday, Oct. 13, at the 5 pm mass at St. Paul's. Come welcome, pray for, and celebrate our newest little cherubs. This Mass will be for all babies baptized in the parish from September 2017 to August 2018. Refreshments to follow.

300 CLUB WINNERS

Congratulations to the Lucky Winners of our July Drawing!

#60	Mr. & Mrs. Ehardt
#109	Ms. Leah Ryer
#215	Mr. Mike Duffy
#23	Ms. Sheila Murphy

H.A.N.D.S. BEREAVEMENT GROUP — SEPT. 5

H.A.N.D.S. (Healing and Nurturing Distraught Survivors) sponsors a bereavement support group for parents who have lost a child. It is facilitated by Ann Carucci. All groups meet from 6:30 to 8:00 pm at H.A.N.D.S. International Headquarters at 9 Scott Drive, New City. Services are free of charge. Ann is also available for one-on-one counseling sessions. 845-634-6706.

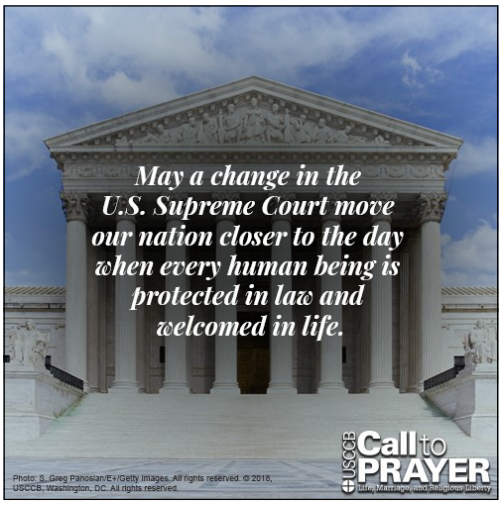
CYO AND SPAL BASKETBALL

Registration ends on Sept. 30 for CYO teams and on Oct. 8 for SPAL.
Please visit STPAULSNY.ORG

WEEKLY at ST. PAUL'S

Monday	Prayer Group, 7:45 pm (school) K of C, 7:30 pm, 2nd & 4th
Tuesday	Bible Study, 7 to 8:30 pm (school)
Wednesday	(see 'Devotions' on pg. 6)
Thursday	Shawl making, 10 am (Parish Center)
Saturday	Spanish Prayer Group (Parish Center)

MORE PARISH & COUNTY EVENTS



RCIA: Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults…

Come into the Vineyard

RCIA is the spiritual journey of discovery for persons seeking to come into communion with the Catholic Church. The process includes dialogue about the life of Jesus Christ and teachings and practices of the Catholic faith. Candidates enter into full harmony with our parish family and the Catholic community on receiving the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil.

All are invited! We welcome those who have fallen away from the Church and want to come home, individuals who are baptized Christians but have not received Eucharist or Confirmation and all who feel God is calling them to deeper encounter with Him through His Church. The process of faith formation recognizes the uniqueness of each individual's faith journey.

If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about the Catholic faith, please call the rectory: 845-268-4464

Our program is open to teenagers and adults. RCIA sessions meet one evening each week, for 1 hour:

Parish Center room, St Ann School, 33 Jefferson St, Nyack, beginning on Tuesday, Sept. 11, 2018 at 7pm.

FALL 2018 SCRIPTURE CLASS

An Introduction to a Feminist Interpretation of the Bible" (DVDs) Approaching the Scriptures from a feminist perspective will uncover new outlooks and offer a spiritual flourishing for women and men from every walk of life. Your guide is Sister Barbara E. Reid, OP, Ph.D., professor of New Testament Studies at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago.

Class begins on Tuesday, Sept. 11, at 10 am until 12 pm at St. John the Baptist Church, 895 Piermont Avenue, Piermont, in Connelly Hall. There is a fee of about $20 to cover the cost of the DVDs, coffee, and study guide duplication. Please join us and bring a friend. Email Joanna Krum, *jkrumm25@verizon.net, for* more information.

NY ARCHDIOCESE CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL

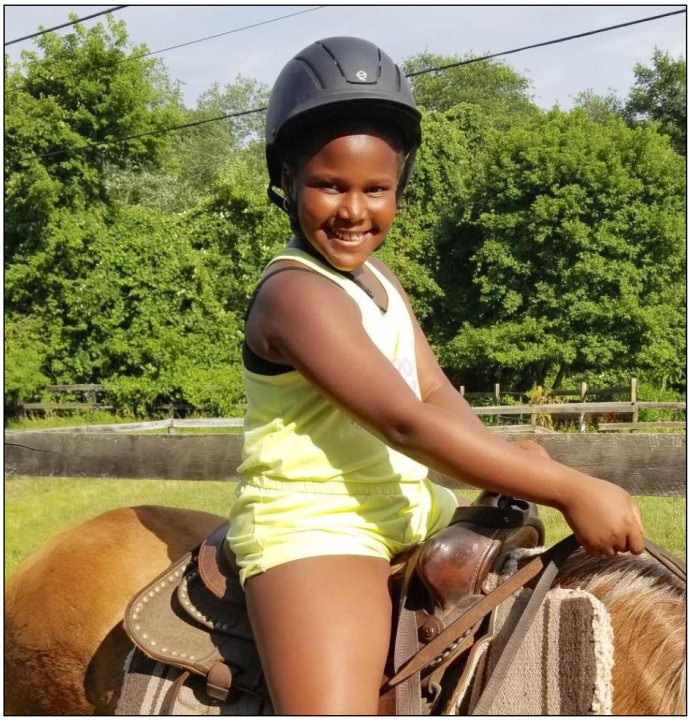
The Archdiocese of New York Catholic Charismatic Renewal Service Team invites you to our Upper Counties Conference, Saturday, Sept. 29, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm, at Capuchin Youth and Family Ministries, 781 Route 9D, Garrison. Doors open 9:00 am. Fee is $25 per person (includes continental breakfast, buffet lunch, and conference). Theme: Lord Deliver Me! Speakers: Fr. Vincent Druding, "Deliverance Ministry: The Why And How of It"; Fr. Chris Argano, "Discernment of Spirits: To Protect Ourselves"; Ryan Young of Camp Veritas, "How Do We Live In the Spirit In a Hostile World?" Visit our website for more details, and registration: *CatholicCharismaticNY.org* or call (845)223-5653, no later than Sept. 16.

PARAMUS CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Paramus Catholic High School, an academic community which combines both faith and education, cordially invites 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students and their parents to visit us during one of our Open Houses on Sunday, Sept. 23, from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm, and Wednesday, Oct. 17 from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. The school is located at 425 Paramus Road, Paramus NJ. For more information, please contact the Admissions Office at 201-445-4466, ext. 104.

OPEN HOUSE & FAMILY FUN DAY, SATURDAY, SEPT. 15

St. Zita's Villa, a Rockland County, Catholic owned and operated adult home for mature women, invites everyone to join them for its Annual Open House and Gala Family Fun Day on Saturday, Sept.15, from 11am to 4pm. Co-sponsored by Catholic Daughters Court John Paul II, the festivities will include a Fall Bazaar, Chinese Auction, Bake Sale, Games and fun-filled activities for the entire family. The barbeque will be hosted by Knights of Columbus Joyce Kilmer Council 1177. ***Prospective residents and their families are encouraged to visit and experience the spirit of St. Zita's.*** In case of heavy rain, festivities will be held on Sunday, Sept.16 (same times). St. Zita's is located at 50 Saddle River Rd, Monsey. For information, contact Sr. Maureen (845) 356-2011.



About 50 people, including 23 altar servers, gathered for a multigenerational parish camping trip at Allaire State Park in Howell and Wall Township, NJ, the second weekend in July.

Everyone enjoyed breakfast and dinner together, followed by karaoke, Frisbee, board games, volleyball, and moments of sharing. During the day, Belmar beach was a big attraction along with the Allaire State Park Museum and walking trails.

Sunday's morning rain was no match for the high spirits of the group as they huddled together to play games. Best of all was the touching mass in the woods and new friendships.

There will be more photos next week!

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Seven decades after her death at the hands of a Soviet soldier, Anna Kolesarova, a 16-year-old peasant girl from Slovakia, will be beatified this weekend in Kosice.

Thousands are expected to attend the ceremony, which will be held outdoors in a stadium. Beatification is the final step before saint-hood. Beatified persons are called "Blessed" and may be venerated by the faithful, but not necessarily by the entire Church.

Anna was 13 when her mother died of pneumonia, and she took over the household responsibilities, caring for her siblings. She was known to be modest, deeply devout, and kind, and she regularly attended mass and was devoted to the rosary.

Near the end of World War II, her village in eastern Slovakia was taken by the Russians, liberating the area from Nazi occupation. Local families kept in hiding because of the fighting and for fear of the Soviet soldiers, who were known to be rough and violent.

In their cellar hiding place, Anna and her family were discovered by a drunken soldier. He ordered Anna to prepare him some food and then demanded sex. She refused, and continued to resist even when he threatened to kill her. She broke free, but the soldier shot her right in front of her father and brothers. "Goodbye! Jesus, Mary, and Joseph," were her dying words.

Because of the fighting, her body remained with her family in the cellar for one more night and she was then hastily buried in a shallow grave. Later, when she was formally laid to rest, the priest recorded that she had made a Confession and received Communion before her death and had made a sacrifice of holy purity.

In a website statement, the Kosice Archdiocese said accounts of her testimony had been secretly gathered in the 1950s by Jesuit Father Michal Potocky. The statement said her grave had become a place of pilgrimage only after the 1989 collapse of Communist rule.

Blessed Anna Kolesarova
Beatified Sept. 1, 2018

Since then, thousands of visitors, especially young people, have come to Anna's gravesite to draw on the stream of pure love they find there to be refreshed and strengthened in their lives.

According to Archbishop Bernard Bober of Kosice, Slovakia, Anna Kolesarova "embodies the faithful layperson living in their family, regularly receiving sacraments, praying the rosary, and approaching God through good works. Her heroic testimony, drawn from a sincere spiritual life, is something every Catholic and believer can aspire to."

Kolesarova's beatification will bring to over 80 the number of Communist-era Catholic martyrs honored in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.

And today, in this time of scandal in the Catholic Church, it's heartening to see this example of a young woman and Catholic layperson, upholding the purity and faith that so many in higher positions have betrayed – a martyr, but not a victim.

REMEMBERING THE VICTIMS OF ABORTION The annual prayer service to remember the victims of abortion will be held on Sept. 8 at 10 am at St. Mary's Church (46 Conklin Ave.) in Haverstraw. It will be outdoors in the Garden of Innocence, blessed by Bishop Austin Vaughn in 1993.

PILGRIMAGE TO THE BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION Join with Cardinal Dolan on Saturday, Oct. 6, for an pilgrimage to Washington, D.C., to tour the basilica, pray the rosary together, and celebrate mass. Tickets are $50 and include a boxed lunch. The Rockland bus will leave from St. Thomas Aquinas College, 124 Route 340, Orangeburg. Register at *adnypilgrimage.eventbrite.com* or email *pilgrimage@archny.org*.