

22nd Sunday In Ordinary Time

AUGUST 29, 2021



A MESSAGE FROM POPE FRANCIS

"In a brotherly spirit, I join in this message of hope for a brighter future. Thanks to God and to the work of many, we now have vaccines to protect us from COVID-19. They grant us the hope of ending the pandemic, but only if they are available to all and if we work together.

Being immunized with vaccines authorized by the competent authorities is an act of love. And contributing to ensure the majority of people are vaccinated is an act of love – love for oneself, love for one's family and friends, love for all people. Love is also social and political. There is social love and political love; it is universal, always overflowing with small gestures of personal charity capable of transforming and improving societies (cf. *Laudato si'*, no. 231, cf. *Fratelli tutti*, 184).

Vaccination is a simple but profound way of promoting the common good and caring for each other, especially the most vulnerable. I pray to God that everyone may contribute their own small grain of sand, their own small gesture of love. No matter how small, love is always great. Contribute with these small gestures for a better future.

God bless you, and thank you."

- Pope Francis

MASS INTENTIONS

- 5 p.m.: Laurence O'Brien, Frank Valenti
and the Ryan, Borst & Costello Families
10 a.m.: Marilyn Boland Stein, Carlos Sanabria
Jack Shapiro and Joe Britto

TREASURER'S REPORT

August 15-22: Totaled \$ 5,590.29

Envelopes: \$ 2,949.00 – Online: \$ 2,641.29

THANK YOU!

CLW COMES BACK TO MASS

CLW, or Children's Liturgy of the Word, will return at 10 a.m. Sunday, **September 19**. Once again, first-through sixth-graders (give or take), who must wear masks, will be escorted to Deacon John Hall, enabling their parents to give their undivided attention to the readings and homily.



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The children will each have their own mat, spaced three feet apart in Classrooms 1 and 2, from where they will hear the Word at their level and enjoy age-appropriate activities. The mats will be sanitized after use.

And, of course, they will be safely returned to their families for the remainder of Mass. Promise.

OFFER GOD YOUR IMPERFECTIONS



It is through our broken, vulnerable, mortal ways of being that the healing power of the eternal God becomes visible to us.

We are called each day to present to the Lord the whole of our lives: Our joys as well as sorrows; our successes as well as failures; our hopes as well as fears. We are called to do so with our limited means, our stuttering words and halting expressions.

In this way we will come to know in mind and heart the unceasing prayer of God's Spirit in us. Our many prayers are, in fact, confessions of our inability to pray. But they are confessions that enable us to perceive the merciful presence of God.



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COPING WITH COVID

Catholic Charities invites anyone struggling with the death of a loved one due to COVID and/or the effects of the pandemic to its **Coping with COVID Virtual Support Group** via Zoom from 7-8:30 p.m. the following Thursdays: September 9 and 23; October 7 and 21; November 4 and 18 and December 2 and 16. Contact facilitator Gae Savino, LCSW, CT, at 914-391-5966 for information and to register.

NEW EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM

Are you worried about a young person who might be starting to drink or experiment with drugs? **Teen Intervene** can help.

The new substance-use prevention program for 12- to 19-year-olds draws from various models proven effective in addressing mild to moderate alcohol or other drug use. It meets teens where they are, acknowledging that he or she might not see any reason to change behavior because they don't see their use as a problem.

The two- to four-session program is free and can be accessed by contacting Jessica Pforte, LMHC, at the Archdiocese of New York's Drug Abuse Prevention Program.

Ms. Forte says that when an adult reaches out and refers a teen, a counselor is assigned and a Zoom meeting scheduled. Family involvement is encouraged, and follow-up sessions provide specific tools and education. Citing environmental and peer pressures as common challenges, Ms. Forte says the tailored program often includes practicing assertive and refusal skills with the counselor. The teen is also assessed to ascertain whether further treatment is recommended.

To reach Ms. Forte and Teen Intervene, call 561-3633 Ext. 40 or email jpforte@adapp.org.

MOMS IN PRAYER

Moms in Prayer gathers women together to pray specifically and scripturally for students and their schools – helping to replace anxiety and concerns with peace and hope.

The branch specific to families in the Pine Bush School District meets via Zoom at 7 p.m. Mondays during the school year, beginning **August 30**. The hour is divided into praise, silent confession, thanksgiving and intercession for the children.

The branch specific to middle- and high-school students in the Valley Central School District meets at 7 p.m. Mondays in person at a co-leaders house, with the first meeting scheduled for **September 13**.

For information about the Pine Bush group, contact Diane Smutek at smutekdiane559@gmail.com. For the Valley Central group, contact Karen Andersen at mybunnythumper@gmail.com. And for general info about Moms in Prayer, visit MomsInPrayer.org.

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK



Dealer in Sporting Goods
2557 NY 17K
Montgomery, NY
845-609-7109
smokewagonfirearms.com
Sun. (by appt.) Tues.-Fri. 9am-5pm; Sat. 11am-5pm; Closed Mon.

BOOK CLUB'S NEXT CHAPTER

In his book, "**Learning to Pray: A Guide for Everyone**," by James Martin, SJ, Fr. Martin explains how anyone can have an intimate relationship with God through prayer. As a trusted and experienced guide, the author provides a primer on the rich history of different styles of prayer. In this inviting and accessible book, we learn what happens when we pray and, moreover, that prayer is accessible to anyone – from the doubtful seeker to the devout believer. All that is required is a willingness to open one's heart.

Participants will meet from 10-11:15 a.m. via Zoom for five weeks beginning **September 14** when the first five chapters will be discussed. Chapters 6-8 are slated for September 21; Chapters 9 and 10 for September 28; Chapters 11-13 for October 5 and Chapters 14-18 on October 12.

The book can be purchased in hard copy or electronically from Amazon or other book sellers. New members are very welcome to join and can contact the church office (361-3107) or Deacon Carl (carlloc@yahoo.com) for further details.

CALL TO SOCIAL JUSTICE



We continue to share resources into social justice issues from a Church/Biblical perspective.

Keeping Our Promise, originally a regional chapter of the No One Left Behind program, is a nonpartisan and nondenominational organization that partners with a variety of churches, synagogues and faith-based organizations to help resettle people granted Special Immigrant Visas.

Ellen Smith, its executive director, says that for the past two weeks, her focus has exclusively been Afghanistan evacuations. Similarly, a sister organization - Westchester County-based Hearts and Homes for Refugees - has seen its volunteer pool swell fivefold recently.

".....I could tell you a lot of tears have been shed reading what we're reading," says Kathie O'Callaghan, Hearts and Homes' founder.

For the full article, visit:

<https://www.americamagazine.org/politics-society/2021/08/24/afghanistan-refugee-resettlement-special-immigrant-visa-241272>

