
24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

SEPTEMBER 17, 2023



THIS WEEKEND'S READINGS

First: Sirach 27:30–28:7

Second: Romans 14:7-9

Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

FOCUS: *We cannot claim forgiveness only for ourselves; God's mercy is for all.*

We are all the same flesh: Fellow sinners, servants and debtors, and God's mercy is for us all. We cannot seek pardon for ourselves yet refuse mercy to others. We must forgive as we have been forgiven. In the community of God's covenant, mercy is shared, not seven times but seventy-seven times, as Jesus teaches.

LITURGY OF THE WORD:

The first reading teaches that in order to be forgiven, one must forgive. In the second reading, Paul teaches that none of us lives and dies for oneself, but together for the Lord. In the Gospel, Jesus tells the parable of the debtor who refuses to share with others the mercy he has been shown by his master.



MASS INTENTIONS

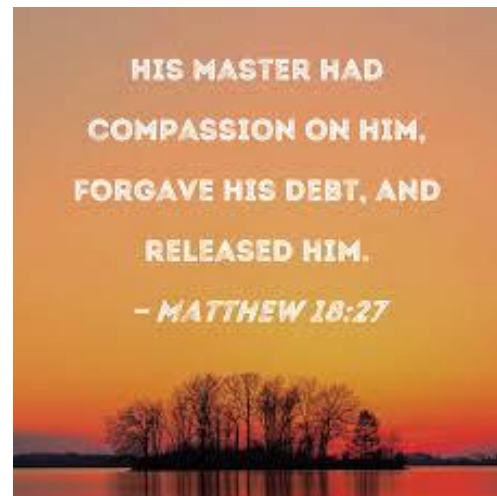
5 p.m.: Maryanne Reynolds, Stephen Kuhn and Delia Vuksanovich

10 a.m.: Frances Hernandez, Maryanne Reynolds, William Garry and Pegeen Comerford

MASS ATTENDANCE

5 p.m.: 103

10 a.m.: 134



*"No one heals himself
by wounding another."*

- Saint Ambrose

PARISH COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

Along with being 18, Catholic and a registered parishioner, what you really need in order to serve as a **Parish Council** member is just a couple of hours a month to spare – and a voice.

OK,
there is
one more
small
thing:
You have
to be able
to receive emails and attend occasional meetings via Zoom.



At those monthly meetings, whether in-person or online, ministry reports are first given. There are also discussions about what's going on, what's needed and what can be improved. The Parish Council serves as an advisory committee to Fr. Sean, offering fresh ideas and perspectives.

Now is the time to think about who you'd like to nominate for the three seats that need to be filled in January of 2024. A term is three years with the option to run for a second three-year term.

Nomination forms are in the church vestibules and need to be returned to the office no later than **Monday, October 2.**

TREASURER'S REPORT

Regular Sunday Collection

September 3-10: \$ 9,280.33

Envelopes: \$ 3,110.00 – Online: 6,170.33

THANK YOU!

What's Happening

HERE'S A LOOK AT THE WEEK AHEAD

- ❖ For those who have already registered, the second **Discovering Christ** session begins at **5 p.m. Sunday** with dinner. Feedback from last week's gathering was very positive. Along with enlightening conversation and time for introspection, those who attended also raved about the delicious roast beef dinner prepared by Rick and Julie Dzurilla.
- ❖ The Ignatian **Gospel Discussion of Mark** begins at **10 a.m. Monday** on Zoom. Call Gail Van Tassel at 845-457-3432.
- ❖ **Sunday Scripture Study** meets via ZOOM at **10 a.m. Wednesdays** to read the upcoming week's Scriptures and discuss them beforehand. "Drop-ins" welcome. Call Ernie Martin at (845) 845-800-4342.
- ❖ The **Confirmation Retreat** will take place from **5-8 p.m. Friday** in Deacon John Hall.
- ❖ The first session of the six-week **Bereavement Program**, designed to support the bereaved as they continue on their own healing path, begins at **9 a.m. Saturday** in classrooms 7 and 8. It is open to anyone struggling with the loss of a loved one. For more information, call Julie Laurenzi at 518-225-1170.

REL. ED. COORDINATOR NEEDED

We are urgently seeking a part-time Coordinator of Religious Education.

For more information, please visit Catholicjobs.com or call 845-361-5816 to arrange to speak with Jessica Carpino, the present coordinator.

REPORTING ALLEGED ABUSE

Anyone who needs to report an alleged incident of sexual abuse of a minor by a priest, deacon, religious or lay person serving in the Archdiocese of New York is asked to contact Eileen Mulcahy, victims assistance coordinator, at 646-794-2949 or e-mail victimsassistance@archny.org.

In keeping with the Archdiocesan policy regarding sexual abuse of minors, this information is provided to ensure that our children remain safe and secure.



WHERE ART AND FAITH WILL MEET

WHO: Brother Mickey McGrath, OSFS

WHAT: A conference titled: "St. Titus Brandsma and His Fellow Carmelite Saints"

WHEN: 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Thursday, October 12
Deadline to register October 1

WHERE: The National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Middletown

COST: \$45, which includes morning coffee and cake, plus lunch

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Carol Bezak, Shrine director, 845-343-1879, Ext. 22

"We pray best before beauty."

- St. Francis de Sales

As reflected in the quote above from the patron saint of his religious community (Oblates of St. Francis de Sales), artist and story-teller Brother Mickey McGrath, OSFS, firmly believes that beauty will heal and save this broken world.

Along with pursuing art, showing at many solo exhibitions and publishing 20 award-winning books, Brother Mickey has spent the last almost 30 years traveling to conferences and retreats throughout the United States and Canada sharing his faith and philosophy that are centered on that belief. And now he's coming to Middletown!

The Philadelphia native holds an MFA in painting and taught art on the college level. He has also taught and worked at the Grunewald Guild, an interfaith art community devoted to the intersections of art and religious faith.

Pope Francis has said that artists are apostles of beauty, and Brother Mickey takes that role seriously. "Art, one of the great gifts of the Holy Spirit, brings us joy and hope in these very broken and disturbing times in history," he says.

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

A graphic for Fontana's Auto Body. The logo features the name "Fontana's" in a stylized, bold font with a red outline, followed by "AUTO BODY" in a smaller, white font on a red background. Below that, it says "COMPLETE COLLISION & BODY REPAIR". To the right of the logo, it says "24 HR TOWING & RECOVERY". At the bottom right, the phone number "845-361-2322" is displayed in a large, white font, with "BULLVILLE, NY" underneath it in a smaller font. The background is dark with some decorative elements.

