

Happy Father's Day !!

Jesus, in His time, did something quite extraordinary. He taught His disciples to think of God as a “father.” God had always been regarded as the Most High, the Almighty, the Creator. But no one ever thought of Him in such a personal way. And yet how beautiful, how comfortable, how comforting an image it is, to think of the All-Powerful as a father to us. It’s an insight into God that only Jesus the Son could have given us. It changes our whole understanding of God; it makes Him approachable, capable of affection, and personally committed to us.

Our human fathers reflect something of this to us. Though none can be perfect, their efforts at fatherhood make God the Father more understandable to us. We congratulate today all who accept the role of ‘father’—all fathers, grandfathers, step-fathers, foster fathers, Godfathers, fathers-in-law and fathers-to-be. Your care and devotion to your families enables them to thrive.

We ask Saint Joseph, the foster-father of Jesus, to intercede for our Dads and to be their model. Saint Joseph must have been a wonderful father. (Look how good Jesus turned out.) Jesus certainly reflected often upon Joseph’s good example, and even used it to teach us that God above loves us as a father. Jesus told us that, when we pray, we should pray: “Our Father ...”

Let us pray for all fathers today. May the Lord bless them for all that they do, and for all that they sacrifice for their families. Usually in silence and without asking anything in return—they show something of the generosity of God the Father. May the Lord bless them as they continue their fatherly tasks. May they find reward for all their efforts—in the success and the devotion of their families.

Happy Father’s Day to all our Dads !!

God bless you
Father Wayne

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But Jesus Said ...

We read in Matthew 23: 9: “Call no one on earth your father.” Scripture scholars tell us that this must be understood in the context of the first century mindset and the situation of the early church at the time Matthew wrote his Gospel (c. 75 A.D.). About this time the early church was first becoming organized into preachers, administrators, teachers, table servers, etc.

Jesus warns His disciples not to call anyone “father,” or “rabbi,” or “master,” because He wants His disciples to see each other as equals. No one was to be considered as “superior” by giving them such a title of honor. No matter what their task within the community, they were to see each other as brothers and sisters, with One God above as their Father.

Today we do use the terms “father” and “rabbi” and “teacher” mainly to recognize a **vocation**. Fathers are called by the Lord to guide and lead their children, to provide for them, to prepare them for life in the wider world. Not so much an honor as a challenge, fathers are also given God’s grace to perform their tasks well. May they also find blessings and rewards for their efforts—in the love of their families and in the honor that they are given.

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

June 20, 2010

St. James the Greater

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of John Cerra at the
Request of his wife, Janice & Family

TUESDAY, June 22

8:00AM – Robert Quinn
req. by his wife, Regina

SATURDAY, June 26

8:00 AM – John Cerra
req. by his wife, Janice

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

June 27

8:00AM – Intentions of Art & Maria Henn
On their 40th Wedding Anniversary

11:30AM – Father Gerald Lewis

ST. JAMES THE GREATER

\$1,365.00 – Regular Collection – June 13, 2010

\$2,477.00 – Weekly Budget Need

\$1,148.00 – Regular Collection – June 14, 2009

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

\$2,611.00 – Regular Collection – June 13, 2010

\$4,410.00 – Weekly Budget Need

\$3,252.00 – Regular Collection – June 14, 2009

St. Thomas the Apostle

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Angelo & Emma Peressini &
Deceased Members of the Peressini Family at the
Request of their daughter, Lorraine

MONDAY, June 21

9:00AM – Eric Blohm
req. by T. Paz

TUESDAY, June 22

9:00AM – Rev. Joseph Ryan
req. by Mary Flexer
- Special Intentions of
Genevieve Arnault

WEDNESDAY, June 23

9:00AM – William Frank
req. by his wife, Lydia & Family

THURSDAY, June 24

No Mass

FRIDAY, June 25

9:00AM – Father James Gacquin

SATURDAY, VIGIL, June 26

5:30 PM – Edward & Marie Hoffman
req. by the Wainwright Family

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

June 27

9:30AM – Bill Strong
req. by his wife, Shirley & Family

PILGRIM VIRGIN OF FATIMA STATUE

This beautifully adorned statue is a visible reminder of the love God has shown in the Blessed Mother. Placing such a beautiful image in your home turns hearts to prayer and brings grace to those who open their hearts to any image of God's love. If you would like to have the statue of Our Lady of Fatima in your home, please contact Diana, Legion of Mary at 973-948-7601.
Pray the Family Rosary

TO CHRIST THE DIVINE HEALER WE PRAY FOR:

Bree Andrews, Mary Bell, Vickie Bennett, Joseph Bruno, Eric Cerra, Gail Collis, Jerry Cooper, Jason DeLorenzo, Geri Fawyer, Ronnie Ferriere, Marie Furtado, Nancy Green, Eric Harper, Horace Harper, Catherine Higgins, Sharon Hubbell, Peter Jaycay, Sharon Johnson, Pearle Kohol, Chuck Lombaerde, Florence Majewski, Karen Morgan, Richard Nowicki, Lugi Osso, Flo Puccio, Ruth Rogers, Evelyn Schweer, Deena Slain, Bill Sousa, Lilia Vazquez, Catherine Vecharello, Lisa Vergona, Tarra Wagner and Gabriel Wyzga

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Registrations for 2010/2011 Catechetical Year

Re-registrations for parishioners in grades 2 through 8 have been mailed out. Please return all re-registrations by July 1st to avoid the late fee. Registration for the Confirmation Preparation Program was mailed out this week. Please return all registrations by July 15th to avoid the late fee.

Parents of children entering first grade, new children to the parish or children enrolled in Catholic school or home school who will be preparing to receive the Sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Holy Eucharist or Confirmation must call the Religious Education Office to register. To enroll your child(ren) in the parish program, you must be a registered and participating member of the parish.

On This Day We Celebrate Fathers

Happy Father's Day to all the Dads in our Parish! May you always be an instrument in God's hands as you pass on the Holy Spirit's Gifts of wisdom, understanding and knowledge to your children.

Here is a prayer for children to pray on Father's Day:

Thank you, friend Jesus,
For my father who loves me,
For my grandfather who cares for me,
For my godfather who prays for me,
And for God,
Your Father and mine. Amen.

(Taken from Friend Jesus: Prayers for Children)

Paterson Diocesan Pilgrimage

Bishop Arthur J. Serratelli has designated **Saturday, September 18, 2010** as the day for our Paterson Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary, our Patroness. He will lead this Pilgrimage of Faith and celebrate the Mass of Thanksgiving; he hopes we will have 4,000 people coming. Price for the 1 – day bus pilgrimage is \$40.00, leaving between 6 and 7 AM and returning around 10 PM. An optional overnight Pilgrimage is outlined on the blue flyers and posters. Please call our Parish Coordinator: St. James, Carol Lombaerde at 973-948-2285 and St. Thomas, Diana Rimshnick at 973-948-7601 for registration or information.

Respect Life Reflections

“They cannot sleep till they do evil; they are robbed of slumber till they make someone fall.” Prov 4:16. When we lose sight of the sanctity of life, our concern for other aspects of the moral law is likewise weakened. **Prayer** – Lord, protect all those who may become victims of the malice and negligence of the abortion industry – not only the unborn babies, but their vulnerable young mothers.

St. Thomas Feast Day Picnic

On Saturday, **July 3rd**, we will be holding our annual St. Thomas Feast Day Picnic from 2:00PM until 5:00PM on the St. Thomas grounds. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided. Please bring a covered dish. Sign up sheet is in the gathering space. Please sign up so we know how many to plan for.

We will also be pulling the St. Thomas Feast Day 50/50 raffle ticket. We are currently selling the 50/50 raffle tickets. The tickets are \$20.00 and are available after Masses, in the parish office or by calling Deirdre at 973-948-6092. The prizes will be as follows: 1st – 30%, 2nd – 10%, 3rd – 5% and 4th – 5%. **You need not be present to win.** Please come to make both our picnic and raffle a success. Thank you.

St. James Feast Day Picnic

Our St. James Picnic is fast approaching – **July 24th**. We need volunteers to set up, clean up, make salads, cook and help with children's games. If you would like to volunteer your time, please call Art Henn at 973-293-3243, Carol Lombaerde at 973-948-2285 or the parish office. Thank you.

A Family Perspective

In today's gospel, Jesus asked “Who do people say I am?” We are often misunderstood. And at times we even misrepresent ourselves and get away with being who we aren't. In our family we are known, accepted and loved for who we really are. Today we honor dads for who they really are in our lives.

BEYOND THE PARISH

The Deanery Choir will present their annual Healing Service at St. Joseph's Church, 4th Street and Ave. F in Matamoras, PA on Tuesday evening, July 13th at 7:00PM. This year's theme is **Does God Answer Prayer?** Please join us for an evening of prayer, praise, meditation and song. No tickets required. For more information, please call Linda at 570-775-0727.

The Homestead Nursing Home needs volunteers on various Tuesdays during each month to meet us at Wal-Mart. The volunteers are to help escort residents around the store, help them reach items off shelves and assist them with their purchases. We need the volunteers at Wal-Mart at 10:30AM until 1:30PM. Anyone who is interested in helping our seniors, please contact Danah at 973-948-5400 X3119.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISHES

STC -- St. Thomas Ch. or Fr. Lewis Center

SJC -- St. James Ch. or Church Hall

REC -- Fr. Gacquin Religious Ed. Center

Sunday, June 20, 2010

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Happy Father's Day !

Monday, June 21

11:00 a.m. REC Prayer Shawl Ministry

Tuesday, June 22

10:00 a.m. STC Reflections on Readings

Wednesday, June 23

Thursday, June 24

Friday, June 25

No Adoration today

Saturday, June 26

9:30 a.m. REC Legion of Mary Mtg.

Sunday, June 27, 2010

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Future Events

Tues. June 29 7:30 p.m. Parish Calendar Mtg.

Sat. July 3 St. Thomas Parish Picnic

Sat. July 24 St. James Parish Picnic

Why So Green ? We are back in the "Ordinary Time" of the liturgical year. Ordinary, in that we count these next weeks using ordinal numbers (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.) in contrast with the cardinal numbers (1, 2, 3, etc.) We use the color green because it is the color of productivity and fertility. Look around and you'll see the green trees, the green grass (which seems to grow uncontrollably), the green plants in your garden and the green crops in the fields. Likewise the Ordinary Time is the opportunity for us to grow spiritually. We should devote time each day to cultivate our faith and allow it to express itself in our daily lives. And to water it through prayer and reading. At the end of the summer, hopefully we can reap the harvest of a deeper faith and trust and appreciation of the Lord. (Ordinary Time is not so ordinary, after all.)

Pro Life News.

1. **"Take My Hand,"** performed by our choir member Keaton Douglas, is an inspiring song and video written from the perspective of an unborn child, imploring its young unwed mother to "take my hand, don't take my life." Written by Keaton and fellow composer Tom Yates, it is a joyful tribute to the beauty of life and the heroism of those who choose to preserve it. The song/video features local scenes and members of our parishes; it is available on Amazon.com and on iTunes by searching "Keaton Douglas." A portion of the proceeds will benefit N.J. Right To Life. It is hoped that this song will be a powerful inspiration for the Pro-Life Movement. **"Take My Hand"** is also available for view on YouTube.com.

2. A boy with Downs Syndrome will be born in September and **Good Counsel Homes** is looking for a loving, Catholic couple willing to adopt him. The father of the baby is German/Italian and the mother is Finnish/Ukrainian. The child to be born also has a heart problem and a pulmonary issue. Surgery will be required after two months and regular visits to a cardiologist will be needed. If you, or someone you know, would consider adopting this child, please call the Homes at 973-293-8600 and speak to Chris Bell for more information.

3. **Good Counsel Homes** 24 / 7 Hotline number: 800-723-8331

Parish Calendar. All leaders of parish groups are asked to submit the dates that you would like to schedule events during the next year. We'd ask you to give us your list of dates by **Tues. June 15**. Then on **Tues. June 29th**, at one big meeting, we will get together and finalize our Parish Calendar and iron out any apparent conflicts.

About Our Fathers:

"A good father is one of the most unsung, unpraised, unnoticed, and yet one of the most valuable assets in our society."

-- [Billy Graham](http://BillyGraham.com), Christian Evangelist

"The most important thing a father can do for his children is to love their mother."

-- Theodore Hesburgh, Catholic Priest and President Emeritus of Notre Dame