19th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“You also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.” - Lk 12:40

Saturday, August 10 — Memory of the Blessed Virgin Mary
8:00am Intentions of the Parishioners
2 Corinthians 9:6-10 / John 12:24-26
Sacrament of Reconciliation 3:00—3:30 pm
4:00 pm Patricia Hurley (living) by Anthony & Helen Finateri

Sunday, August 11 — 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00am †Allison Bergen by John & Barbara Suo
10:30am †William McKenna by Rita Withee
4:30 pm †Jose Azevedo by his wife, Maria

Monday, August 12 — Weekday
7:30 am Living & Deceased members of the Pope, Spillane and Lavenski families by John & Barbara Suo
Deuteronomy 10:12-22 / Matthew 17:22-27

Tuesday, August 13 — Weekday
7:30 am †Dorothy Sequenzia by her Family
Deuteronomy 31:1-8 / Matthew 18:1-5, 10, 12-14
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 8:00 am—9:00 am

Wednesday, August 14 — St. Maximilian Kolbe
7:30 am †Wendy Bender by Cindy & Gregg Russo
Deuteronomy 34:1-12 / Matthew 18:15-20

6:30 pm Vigil Mass for the Feast of the Assumption
1 Chronicles 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2 / 1 Corinthians 15:54b-57

Thursday, August 15 — The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
7:30 am †The children of Rosemary Henault (living)
7:00 pm The grandchildren of Rosemary Henault (living)

Friday, August 16 — Weekday
7:30 am †James Nardello by Jane & Bob Curina
Joshua 24:1-13 / Matthew 19:3-12

Saturday, August 17 — Memory of the Blessed Virgin Mary
8:00 am Intentions of the Parishioners
Joshua 24:14-29 / Matthew 19:13-15

Sacrament of Reconciliation 3:00—3:30 pm
4:00 pm Elida Vindas by her Family
Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10 / Hebrews 12:1-4 / Luke 12:49-53

Sunday, August 18 — 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00am †Annette Plourde
10:30 am †Paul McKinney by Bob & Mary Ellen Harkey
4:30 pm †Thomas Devine by Rosemary Henault
Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10 / Hebrews 12:1-4 / Luke 12:49-53

“Fostering Stewardship as a Way of Life”
Caring for and Sharing with Each Other
“G I F T S”
Giving In Faith Through Stewardship
Discover your God-given gifts and find a place in our community to give your gift back to God in gratitude and service.

Treasure (Resources): Financial Report
$ 3,088.00 Envelope Offertory for August 4, 2019
$ 542.00 Loose Offertory for August 4, 2019
$ 1,152.00 Air Conditioning
$ 526.00 Previous weeks & other donations
$ 5,308.00 Sub-total
$ 372.00 Cathedraticum
$ 4,936.00 Total that stays in the parish for our use.

Thank you for giving your “first fruits” back to the Lord! May God return your generosity to you 100-fold!

Staff
Father John Kuzhikottayil, Administrator
Father Binny Issac and Father Joy Jacob,
Parochial Vicars
Annette Whidden, Director of Religious Education
Mary Sciarretta, Child Care Center Director
Thomas Festa, Facilities Manager
Jeff Bingham, Parish Secretary
Helen Finateri, Bookkeeper
Anita Gawronski, Parish Council President
Nancy Hanson, Parish Minister
Cornell Bialicki, Music Director & Organist

Finance Council
Father John, Matt Fortney,
Michael Mason, David Whidden,
Don Duman (Trustee) & Cindy Russo (Trustee)

Ministries
Virtus Facilitator: Annette Whidden
Pro-Life: Dorothy Deitelbaum
Raffle: Don & Jackie Duman
Attic Treasures: Joan Bettencourt
Food Bank: Barbara Salerno & Mabel Herring
Cooking Club: Joanne Ramos
Adult Faith Formation Minister: Sherri-Lyn Raimo
Retreat Coordinator: Mary Welch
Holy Name Society President: Don Duman
Our Lady’s Guild Co-Presidents: Mabel Herring
and Jackie Duman

Rest in Peace
The victims of the shootings in El Paso and Dayton.
Mary Jane Hennessey
To their families & friends, we offer our prayers & sympathy.
Our questions this week center around the Sacrament of Marriage.

What is the focal point of the wedding ceremony?

The focal point of any wedding ceremony is the exchange of vows. The vows are not simply a ritual that defines the relationship of two people in love. They are much more. They are a sacred pact through which the spouses embrace each other and, together, embrace Christ as their partner. The pledge they make is unbreakable because through their union with Christ they participate in the unbreakable pact between God and humanity: the covenant that was sealed in the death and resurrection of Jesus.

A permanent commitment is an inherent attribute of the marital relationship. All couples who marry want their marriage to last a lifetime. Researchers tell us that the presence of an irrevocable commitment contributes to the happiness of the spouses. Linda Waite and Maggie Gallagher, the authors of The Case for Marriage, write: “Having a partner who is committed for better or for worse, in sickness and in health, makes people happier and healthier.”

But married life is difficult and today many couples find it hard to keep their promises. Many young people have grown up experiencing the pain of divorce. While wanting to marry, they find it hard to believe that marriages can last a lifetime. They are afraid to commit. One of the benefits of a sacramental marriage in the Catholic Church is the power of God’s grace, which helps spouses keep their commitment and find happiness together. Social scientists are finding that couples who recognize God’s presence in their relationship are most satisfied in their marriages and are least likely to put their children, families and friends through the pain of a divorce.

How do we experience God’s grace in marriage?

Couples of faith are more successful and satisfied in marriage not because they have fewer problems than anyone else. What helps these couples grow and overcome obstacles is the help they find in God’s grace. Recently we asked some couples: “How do you experience God’s grace in your marriage?”

A wife married 28 years said: “We experience God’s grace in our marriage through the seasons of our life. He was present when we were newlyweds, when we had young children, and he is present now that we are empty nesters. He gives us strength in the tough times and celebrates with us the good times.”

A husband married 43 years said, “I experience God’s grace in the love and support I receive from my wife. Her care and patience are gifts I do not deserve. They are grace.”

Another husband married 15 years said, “I feel God’s grace when life gets our of control—loss of a job. I know I can turn to God and find the courage I need to carry on.”

Marriage in the Catholic Church is attractive not only because of its meaningful rituals and traditions, but because of its impact on your life and happiness. Couples can fully appreciate its value when they look at married life through the eyes of faith. Then you will see your wedding not as a one-day event but as the door to a great adventure that will last the rest of your life, a journey that involves not just you and your spouse but one that includes God, your children, your community and all of society. Marriage is not an isolated relationship. The family based on marriage is the fundamental cell of human society. The Catholic Church invites you to give meaning to your life by embracing the vocation of marriage and forming a family that is dedicated to cultivating and sharing God’s love.

[Please see www.foryourmarriage.org for more information.]
Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst.” (John 6:35)

Parents (who are registered here) and godparents are prepared at a class next held September 3rd at 6:30pm. Please call the Office to sign up. If you missed a class you previously signed up for, you must sign up again for the new class; nothing is assumed.

Godparents must be confirmed and obtain a Sponsor Certificate from their own Catholic parish.

Baptisms normally take place here on the 2nd or 3rd Sundays of the month after the 10:30am Mass, but other weekends are possible depending on other events.

**ATTIC TREASURES & BOOK SALE—**

**MANY THANKS TO THE GENEROUS DONORS AND VOLUNTEERS:**

Gary Almarza + Joan Bettencourt + Joan Blaskey
Justine Blaskey + Judy Cousens + Don & Jackie Duman
Elaine Gravel + Jean Rostowsky + Larry & Donna Hanlon
Irene Henry + Helen Kelly + Mabel Herring + Marisa Kemp
Joyce Leahy + Bob Perugini + Barbara Salerno

**SAVE THE DATE!**

St. Vincent Ferrer Car Show
Sunday, September 15, 2019
12—4 pm in the upper parking lot
Rain Date: Sunday, September 22, 2019

**VIRTUS**

Parishioners in active ministries (lectors, catechists, aides, ministers, etc) need to attend a training session in child protection. The Virtus Training session entitled “Protecting God’s Children” is being offered at various locations throughout the Archdiocese.

**Important: Register online only at:**

Holy Rosary—Ansonia
Monday August 12—6:00pm
Church of the Assumption—Woodbridge
Monday August 26—6:00pm

**ATTENTION** We now offer Infant and Toddler Care*

State-licensed facility offering Year-round Full and Part time care for children aged 6 weeks to 12 years of age, including Before and After care during the School Year.

HOURS: 7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
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stvincentccc@gmail.com * 203-723-9094
FAX 203-632-8157

**FALL CATECHESIS**

Registration for Religious Education GIFT (Growing in Faith Together) program. Registration for the 2019-20 year is beginning this week. Registration forms and schedules are available on the bulletin board outside the Religious Ed Office. Completed forms and payments can be mailed in or left in the Religious Ed mailbox in the Parish Office. **It is important to fill out the entire form, back and front, even if you have done so in the past. Thank you.**

Our first GIFT meeting is Sunday, September 15th for all families in the Vern Maxwell Family Center. There will be an ice cream social and orientation/short class for children. Please register your family to reserve a place in the program.

**10th Grade Confirmation Class Parents:** There will be an informational meeting for parents/guardians of our Confirmation 2019 class on September 4, 2019. The meeting will be in the Religious Ed office at 7 PM. Please make every effort to attend this important meeting.

**MONEY COUNTERS**

August 11 Sandy DeGennaro / Steve Shulick
August 18 Cindy Russo / Gerry Boffen / Frank DiBiase

**ST. FRANCIS CHURCH (in unity with ST. VINCENT FERRER)**

**SCHOOL SUPPLY needs for NAUGATUCK YOUTH SERVICES:** boys and girls—ages 10-15 and COVENANT TO CARE FOR THE CHILDREN OF GREATER WATERBURY—ages 5 years and up.

We are asking you to generously help this Outreach Project by supplying any of the following items:

- BACKPACKS
- SPIRAL NOTEBOOKS
- PENS
- PENCILS
- CRAYONS
- ERASERS
- RULERS
- SMALL CALCULATORS
- GLUE STICKS
- PENCIL SHARPENERS
- COLORED PENCILS
- LOOSELEAF PAPER
- 1” BINDERS

Donations can be placed in the box labeled SCHOOL SUPPLIES in the foyer here at St. Vincent Ferrer Church.

Last day for drop off is Sunday, August 18th.

Thank you of generously helping those of “our” children in need!

**Volunteers Needed!**

If you currently volunteer for Religious Education, or think you might want to join the Ministry (We need you!) please contact Annette Whidden to update your contact information and availability. You can email: saintvincentferrerdre@gmail.com. I will get back to you as soon as possible. Thank you so much for your time and talent!

**Faith Formation**

Annette Whidden, DRE 203-723-0782
REFLECTION ON THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

We are born of the faith of our fathers, descending from a great cloud of witnesses whose faith is attested to on every page of Scripture. We have been made His people, chosen for His own inheritance, as we sing in this Sunday’s Psalm.

The Liturgy this week sings the praises of our fathers, recalling the defining moments in our “family history.” In the Epistle, we remember the calling of Abraham; in the First Reading we relive the night of the Exodus and the summons of the holy children of Israel.

Our fathers, we are told, trusted in the Word of God, put their faith in His oaths. They were convinced that what He promised, He would do.

None of them lived to see His promises made good. For it was not until Christ and His Church that Abraham’s descendants were made as countless as the stars and sands. It was not until His Last Supper and the Eucharist that “the sacrifice...the divine institution” of that first Passover was truly fulfilled.

And now we too await the final fulfillment of what God has promised us in Christ. As Jesus tells us in this week’s Gospel, we should live with our loins girded—as the Israelites tightened their belts, cinched up their long robes and ate their Passover standing, vigilant and ready to do His will.

The Lord will come at an hour we do not expect. He will knock on our door, inviting us to the wedding feast in the better homeland, the heavenly one that our fathers saw from afar, and which we begin to taste in each Eucharist.

As they did, we can wait with “sure knowledge.” His Word like a lamp lighting our path. Our God is faithful, and if we wait in faith, hope in His kindness, and love as we have been loved, we will receive His promised blessing and be delivered from death.

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The Catholic Cemeteries Association of the Archdiocese of Hartford, Inc.
0% Financing
During the months of July and August, 2019, any Mausoleum Crypt purchase or any 4 Grave or more burial plot purchase from the Catholic Cemeteries Association will receive 0% financing for up to 2 years with 30% down payment.
(Pre-Need only) May not be combined with any other offers. Stop in or call and speak with a Family Service Advisor to take advantage of this special financing opportunity!

Calvary Cemetery  Mt Olivet Cemetery  St Francis Cemetery
Waterbury  Watertown  Torrington
203-754-9105  860-274-4641  860-482-4670

For your convenience we now sell Granite Flush Markers and Upright Monuments at all our locations! Unlike other providers of these products who come and go, the Catholic Cemeteries will always be here to look after your loved ones and their memorials, for eternity.

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