

ST. FLORENCE PARISH  
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*22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday  
IN ORDINARY TIME*

“Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person; but the things that come out from within are what defile.”

- Mk 7:15

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

**PASTORAL TEAM**

<b>Administrator:</b>	<b>Rev. Thomas J. Reilly</b>
<b>Deacon:</b>	<b>Joseph A. Cooley</b>
<b>Office Manager:</b>	<b>Christine Breslow</b>
<b>RE Coordinator:</b>	<b>Anne Dooley</b>
<b>Maintenance:</b>	<b>Joseph DiMauro</b>
<b>Music Director:</b>	<b>Phyllis Bunnell</b>
<b>Cantors:</b>	<b>Alison Creedon</b> <b>Cory D'Arco</b> <b>Julie Kron</b> <b>Kellie Leavitt</b> <b>Michelle Manzi-Grasso</b>

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS**  
**9:00 AM-1:00 PM Monday—Thursday**

**MASS SCHEDULE**

<b>Weekend:</b>	<b>4:30 PM Saturday</b> <b>8:00 AM &amp; 11:00 AM Sunday</b>
<b>Weekday:</b>	<b>9:00 AM Monday-Thursday</b>
<b>The Holy Rosary</b>	<b>8:25 AM Monday-Thursday</b>
<b>Adoration</b>	<b>9:30 AM -12:00 PM</b>
	<b>Monday-Thursday</b>
<b>Confessions:</b>	<b>3:15-4:00 PM Saturday</b>
<b>Holy Days:</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>
<b>Baptisms:</b>	<b>2nd Sunday/Month 12:30 PM</b>
<b>Marriage:</b>	<b>Contact Pastor 6 months prior</b>
<b>Scripture Study:</b>	<b>10:00-11:00 AM Thursday</b>

**Our Church is Open for Prayer:**

<b>Monday—Thursday</b>	<b>8:00 AM—5:00 PM</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>9:30 AM—5:00 PM</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>9:30 AM—6:00 PM</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>7:30 AM—6:00 PM</b>



## From Father Tom

Dear Friends in Christ,

Peace be with you! There are a number of exciting new happenings at St. Florence Parish.

We had a beautiful healing service last night. Three healing sacraments were available. Fr. Mario of St. Patrick Parish, Fr. Anda from St. Theresa Parish and myself heard Confessions totaling 3.5 hours! Praise God! We estimated 150 people participated. The music ministry, led by our Music Director, Phyllis Bunnell, was great! Our next healing service is Wednesday, September 29, with Sr. Briege, Fr. Pablo and myself. That will culminate her three day mission at St. Florence.

Fr. Jurgen Liias has joined our Center for Healing! He is quite gifted in the healing ministry, with the Scriptures and more! He is an excellent speaker on the topic of Christian unity. He came into the Catholic Church on April 20, 2013. I attended his ordination ceremony. Fr. Jurgen is a good friend. I really look forward to working with him. He is married to Gloria. They have two children. Fr. Liias was an Episcopalian priest prior to joining our Church.

St. Florence is now open seven days a week! The times are listed on our bulletin cover. We now have Eucharistic Adoration every Monday through Thursday from 9:30 am to 12 noon! This is a great blessing for our parish!

There are reserved signs on five benches right behind the handicapped pew. These are for people who wish to socially distance AND wear a mask.

We are accepting applications for our Religious Education Program this coming year! Anne Dooley is our new Faith Formation Coordinator. You will like her. Anne is quite gifted.

We are also in the process of rebuilding our Parish web site. Stay tuned!

You are remembered in my Masses and prayers! Please pray for our parishioners and our wonderful staff!

Peace,

Fr. Tom



**Mass Intention Cards and Healing Cards** are available at the Rectory during normal business hours. The



Confessions are heard on **Saturdays** from **3:15 PM to 4:00 PM**. "Recognizing our need for true peace, both with others and within our own selves, let us confess those ways we have distanced ourselves from God."



We are extending a warm welcome back to **Our Lady's Sodality of St. Florence and St. Joseph**.

New Night: Thursday

Date: September 9th

New Time: 6:00 PM St. Joseph's Church Hall

Please come and, of course, feel free to bring a friend. All are welcome! We are looking forward to seeing our members and meeting new ones.



## 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Albert Einstein said that the “true measure of intelligence is not knowledge but imagination.” Being a disciple of Jesus Christ requires a great deal of imagination. It is not enough to simply attend to facts, rules and rituals and consider the job done. Quite contrarily, the Gospels demands creativity, of trying to discern how to put flesh on the Beatitudes and properly serve God’s children. Jesus never doled out a top down agenda. Not once did he ever demand conformity over conversion or sacrifice over mercy. The Gospel is always about putting people in touch with their compassionate, forgiving, and unconditionally loving God and meeting them where they are.

For Jesus, it often meant breaking a few rules. Well respected and time-honored traditions had to be set aside in order to attend to what really mattered. God’s compassion, mercy and true conversion were always the trump cards. The story of the Good Samaritan, healing on the Sabbath, and bypassing of purification rituals all display this theme. Human beings can get too hung up on protocol and tradition. This is so much so that often preserving all of these things is of greater concern than the beggar knocking on our door or the sinner looking for mercy. It is no wonder, then, that we can easily become hypocritical. Many can see us on our knees in prayer while our true heart and actions, rooted in judgment and self-preservation, are hidden from others. It is a trap into which we can easily fall. Who cares how we live our lives as long as our hands are properly washed!

Here enters the need for imagination and the distinction of truly being a wise and intelligent person. It takes a good measure of creativity and a lot of guts to really be a doer of God’s word and not merely a hearer. Being a person who doesn’t just tell people about God but shows people God requires courage and ingenuity. That’s why people like St. Francis of Assisi and St. Teresa of Calcutta are timeless. Their genuineness speaks volumes generation to generation. It’s risky business taking the step to allow God into our hearts. Permitting God to release us from the grip of our evil thoughts, infidelity, greed, malice, sexual improprieties, licentiousness, envy, arrogance, folly, and the like takes courage. That’s why we prefer to spend our energy rearranging the future rather than take measures to secure a foundation that is most certainly crumbling.

August 29, 2021

# Your Sacrificial Offering

Offertory— August 22, 2021:

\$2,360.000



Saturday 4:30 PM	August 28th <b>Alessandra Molinara</b> 30th Anniversary Mass requested by her family
Sunday 8:00 AM	August 29th <b>Mass for the People of St. Florence</b>
11:00 AM	<b>Carmela &amp; Frank Travano, Sr. and Frank Travano, Jr.</b> Memorial Mass requested by their family
Monday 9:00 AM	August 30th <b>Janet Abbruzzese</b> Healing Prayers requested by her friend
Tuesday 9:00 AM	August 31st <b>Marlena Diaz</b> Healing Prayers requested by her friend
Wednesday 9:00 AM	September 1st <b>Francis DeMarchi, Louise DeMarchi, Jane Lucia and Ron Lucia</b> Memorial Mass requested by Karen Rotondi
Thursday 9:00 AM	September 2nd <b>Luther White</b> Healing Prayers requested by his friend

The suggested offering for all published Mass Intentions is \$20.00.



Dear Lord, Let us pray for the soul of **Grace Moran**, whose Funeral Mass was celebrated this past week. We the Parish of St. Florence offer our deepest condolences to her family and friends. May she rest in peace.

# MINISTRY NEWS

As a reminder, all of our volunteers need to complete a **CORI Form** each year. If you are recently returning to a Parish Ministry, please contact our Business Office to check on the status of your CORI. There may be some volunteers who need to renew this year. Thank you.



Before celebrating Daily Mass, please join us at **8:25 AM** **Monday-Thursday** to pray **The Holy Rosary**.



St. Florence Parish will celebrate **Eucharistic Adoration Monday through Thursday from 9:30 AM—12:00 PM**.



## 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Lawn Party to Benefit Seminarians

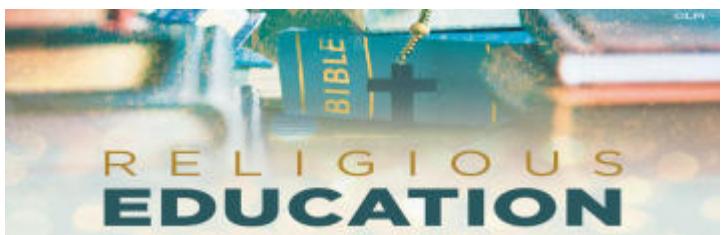
Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary in Weston is hosting its 40th Annual Lawn Party on **Wednesday, September 29th, at 6:00 PM**, on the grounds of the seminary. This premiere fundraising event is hosted by His Eminence, Seán Cardinal O'Malley, OFM Cap. The evening will include a reception and dinner with music. Located on Route 30 in Weston, the Seminary prepares second career candidates, men over the age of 30, for priesthood. The proceeds from the Lawn Party help to keep tuition costs affordable. For ticket information, please call the Pope St. John XXIII Development Office at 781-899-5500, or visit their website [www.psjs.edu](http://www.psjs.edu). You can make a difference and encourage the vocations of these men through your support of the Lawn Party.



As a reminder, Sister Briege McKenna will be giving our parish mission on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, September 27th through the 29th. She will give a morning and evening presentation each of those days. She will be speaking at all the Masses on September 25th and 26th. We know you will really appreciate her. She is a very holy Sister, friendly and gracious. She is also a friend of Father Reilly. She will be joined by missionary priest, Father Pablo. Below is some background information for both Sister Briege and Father Pablo.

**SISTER BRIEGE MCKENNA, O.S.C.**, was born in Ireland and entered the Sisters of St. Clare at the age of fifteen. Following her final vows and after suffering for more than three years with rheumatoid arthritis, she was transferred to her community in Tampa, Florida with the hope that the Florida sunshine would relieve her suffering. At the age of twenty-four, she was miraculously and instantaneously healed during the celebration of the Eucharist and some time later received, in prayer, the gift of healing for which she has become so widely known. In 1974, again during prayer, she was given a deep spiritual insight into the mystery of the call to priesthood. Since then, bishops and priests in many parts of the world have invited her to speak and minister at their retreats and conferences. Her Book, "Miracles Do Happen" has been translated into many languages throughout the world. Since 1985 Sister Briege has been ministering to priests in collaboration with Father Kevin Scallon, C.M. She is the 1988 recipient of the Poverello Award from the Franciscan University and the 2009 recipient of the Award for Outstanding Catholic Leadership from the Catholic Leadership Institute.

**FR. PABLO ESCRIVA DE ROMANI** was ordained in Madrid 2009. He studied Theology in the Faculty of San Damaso in Madrid, Spain. He worked predominantly with the youth in the parish of St. Teresa of Jesus in Madrid for several years. After that period, he went to Ukraine as a missionary, working with Bishop Jan Sobilo in the Shrine of Merciful God the Father, giving retreats and helping people from the war zone, pro-life missions with doctors, and spiritual exercises for priests. Fr. Pablo has been ministering at retreats as a missionary in different countries, including France, Mexico, Italy, Poland, Belarus, Switzerland, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Ethiopia, Dominican Republic, USA, Belgium, Lebanon, Holy Land, Guatemala, Chile, Portugal, Puerto Rico, Ukraine, and Costa Rica. He is now working as a diocesan missionary from Madrid in Costa Rica, residing with Bishop Javier Roman in the Diocese of Limon and helping in the indigenous zone, working with youth and giving spiritual exercises to priests. He is now beginning to restore a retreat house to receive priests willing to have a missionary experience and renew their priesthood. Additionally, Fr. Pablo has joined Sr. Briege in ministering to priests and at parish missions.



Registration for our **Religious Education Program** for the 2021-2022 school year is now open. St. Florence will again offer classes for Grades 1 through 10 starting this Fall.

As a reminder, if your child is entering the 10th Grade and is enrolled in a Catholic School, they will need to participate in our 10th Grade Program to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Please contact **Anne Dooley**, our Religious Education Coordinator, for a registration form or if you have any questions.



On Saturday, August 21st, **Luke Almeida** celebrated for the first time the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Please keep Luke in your prayers as he prepares for First Holy Communion.



If you are interested in volunteering as a Catechist this Fall, please contact our office as soon as possible. We need to know who is available so we can plan our program accordingly. Thank you.

## SCORSHIPS

Due to the pandemic many of our families experienced financial challenges this past year. If you are interested in supporting our young families, we are accepting scholarship donations for our Fall Religious Education Program. Please contact the office for more information.



### Sharing Your Faith

*"My friend has never heard of Christ and I want to share the Gospel with her but I'm afraid to. How do I share my faith?"*

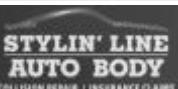
There are a lot of ways to bring up the topic of religion, without being judgmental or pushy. Begin by asking what her thoughts are about religion, or what her experience was growing up. Finding common ground is often easier than you think, because the questions and problems we have about God, the presence of evil, our purpose in life, and our relationship with God are universal concerns.

Why are you afraid? If you do not want to insult or offend someone, don't be pushy or judgmental. If you are uncertain about how to explain your own faith, do a little reading or practice with a friend. If you measure success only by this person converting, focus your attention more on beginning the conversation, not on bringing it to a perfect close! Faith is a journey of many acts of belief, many discussions about God, and many choices about how we practice what we preach. In some we will have great success; in others we will need forgiveness and perseverance. The most important thing to keep in mind is that the Holy Spirit is always at work and our most humble efforts can bear great fruit. Have faith in God because he has faith in you!



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