



*Founded in 1894 our parish is served by the Mercedarian Friars
Father Michael Rock, O. de M., pastor
Father Scottston Brentwood, O. de M., associate pastor*

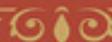


OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH

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SUNDAY, JULY 18, 2021

16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



When he disembarked and saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them, for they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things. - Mk 6:34

There's an ordinary pine grove located on a tree farm not too far from town where life's stresses and demands seem to melt away. It is here that all that seemed so important out there no longer is and one can get lost in the rows of trees and majestic beauty. God is here and all is good. We need to connect with the Divine Source of all that is in order to understand what it is we are doing and why we are doing it. Otherwise, things stop making sense and bitterness can overcome one's spirit. It's okay to play once in a while and to discover that place of profound life and peace. People always have needs and there is constantly something to do. And while all of that is necessary and we are needed, there is also that inner solitude within that needs to be celebrated and released.

We all need a pine grove. It's that little place we can go and leave all that consumes us behind. It's a place where technology can be set aside and wonder, and awe given some time. We don't have to text, calculate, or orchestrate anything in the pine grove. It is a somewhat deserted place where all of that can be set aside and we can just be. The anger, frustration, exhaustion, discouragement, helplessness, and occasional apathy, all can fall to the ground like all of those pine needles that once held their place on the branch of a Frasier Fir. The needles can let go. We can let go. We are beings connected with Being and we all need to remember what really matters, who really matters and what life is truly all about. We need to find that place where we can rest and let go of all of the barnacles we accumulate. Rest, breathe, seek, and love.



The world will need us again when we leave the pine grove. It will all be waiting for us, beckoning for our attention. But we will have prayed and will have marveled at the silence and the beauty of goodness. We can go back, ready, and eager to listen, to help, to heal, to cry, to embrace, and attend to all that is asked of us. But, having let go of the distractions in that deserted place we will have a renewed sense of purpose. We will know better Who it is we serve and what we are meant to do. It will all be clearer now that we have been Divinely touched and refreshed.

**STEWARDSHIP A WAY OF LIFE
GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING**

Total Collection for Sunday July 4th: \$8,327.42

*Offertory: \$ 6,888.73
Electronic Giving: \$ 1,438.69*

Thank you for your continued generosity and support!

Readings for the Week of July 18, 2021

- Sunday: Jer 23:1-6/Ps 23:1-3, 3-4, 5, 6/Eph 2:13-18/Mk 6:30-34
- Monday: Ex 14:5-18/Ex 15:1bc,-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 12:38-42
- Tuesday: Ex 14:21—15:1/Ex 15:8-9, 10 and 12, 17/Mt 12:46-50
- Wednesday: Ex 16:1-5, 9-15/Ps 78:18-19, 23-24, 25-26, /Mt 13:1-9
- Thursday: Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5/Jn 20:1-2, 11-18
- Friday: Ex 20:1-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11/Mt 13:18-23
- Saturday: Ex 24:3-8/Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15/Mt 13:24-30
- Next Sunday: 2 Kgs 4:42-44/Ps 145:10-11, 15-16, 17-18/Eph 4:1-6/Jn 6:1-15



Sunday, July 18

- 8:00am +Eva Wischnowski
- 9:30am Rev. Matthew Phelan, O.de M.
- 11:30am +Jacqueline Tucker
- 8:00pm Pro Populo

Monday, July 19

- 8:30am Cayla Isabella Wade

Tuesday, July 20 St. Apollinaris

- 8:30am +Wilhelm Family

Wednesday, July 21 St. Lawrence of Brindisi

- 8:30am +Buccino/Talarico/Mollinedo

Thursday, July 22 St. Mary Magdalene

- 8:30am Special Intention

Friday, July 23 St. Bridget

- 8:30am +Van Daniel Gossett

Saturday, July 24 St. Sharbel Makhluf

- 8:30am +Michelina Capriotti
- 4:00pm +Dolores Abalo Mimo

Sunday, July 25

- 8:00am Pro Populo
- 9:30am Rev. James W. Mayer, O.de M.
- 11:30am +Marlene Stewart-Keller
- 8:00pm +Buccino/Talarico/Mollinedo





I am sharing with you the article below by Fr. Saunders, a priest of the Arlington Diocese and a graduate of our seminary here in Philadelphia. I do this to encourage people to have Masses offered for friends and loved ones. So often I see, when someone passes into eternal life, that donations are made to countless charities but very few encourage having a Mass celebrated for a person –living or deceased. You do not have to be present at the Mass; your intention is remembered and prayed for by everyone there.

If you would like to have Masses offered please contact Denise at the parish office by phone or email: 215-473-1669 or parishsecretary@ourladyourdes.org
God Bless and have a wonderful week.

To: Michael

MASS INTENTIONS

What does it mean to have a Mass "offered" for someone? An individual may ask a priest to offer a Mass for several reasons: for example, in thanksgiving, for the intentions of another person (such as on a birthday), or, as is most common, for the repose of the soul of someone who has died. One must never forget the infinite graces that flow from the Sacrifice of the Mass which benefit one's soul. Pope Leo XIII in his encyclical "*Mirae caritatis*" (1902) beautifully elaborated this point and emphasized the connection between the communion of saints with the Mass: "The grace of mutual love among the living, strengthened and increased by the sacrament of the Eucharist, flows, especially by virtue of the Sacrifice [of the Mass], to all who belong to the communion of saints."

In his encyclical "*Ecclesia de Eucharistia*," our beloved late Holy Father, Pope John Paul II, taught, "In the celebration of the Eucharistic Sacrifice, the Church prays that God, the Father of mercies, will grant His children the fullness of the Holy Spirit so that they may become one body and one spirit in Christ." (No. 43).

Please keep in mind that the tradition of offering Masses for others, particularly the dead, originates in the very early Church.

Given this understanding, we can add some specifics. When a priest offers Holy Mass, he has three intentions: First, to offer the Mass reverently and validly in accord with the norms of the Church. Second, to offer the Mass in union with the whole Church and for the good of the whole Church. Third, to offer the Mass for a particular intention, such as the repose of the soul of someone who has died.

The special personal fruits of the Mass benefit the celebrating priest who acts in the person of Christ in offering the Mass and to the people who are in attendance and participate in the offering of the Mass. These fruits are both extensively and intensively finite, since each of us is finite. Therefore, the more a Mass is offered, the more benefit is conferred.

Finally, a person may ask a priest to offer a Mass for a particular intention; usually, a stipend is given to the priest for offering the Mass, which thereby in justice creates an obligation which must be satisfied.

When we face the death of someone, even a person who is not Catholic, to have a Mass offered for the repose of his soul and to offer our prayers are more beneficial and comforting than any other sympathy card or bouquet of flowers. To have a Mass offered on the occasion of a birthday, anniversary or special need is appropriate, beneficial and appreciated.

FR. WILLIAM SAUNDERS

ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM

Please remember the souls of the faithfully departed.

REMEMBER OUR SICK

Dorothy Hardy, Kurt Mohammed, Patricia Nicholson, Colin Ramberan, Avery Lofton, Eugene Colombaro, Monica Ramberan, Yosan Gabriel, Jenell Sifontis, Cathy Norman, Sabrina Freeman, Leslie Wade, Esmond Family, Scott Stierbeim, Sr. Mary Charles, A.S.S.P., Mecca Taylor, Melissa Becker, Christian Laffy, Lisa Becker, Debbie Everett, Nigel Simon, Donald Graham, Jean Hargraves, Marci Wade, Mary Frances Doran, Maureen Doran Hendrix, Melissa Potts, Cayla Wade, Theresa Gilliam, Suzanne Dupre, Indramattie Somwaru, John Bricker, Alina Simon, Carmelina Desiderio, Graham Family, Chuck Murrin, Samantha Johnson, Holly, Damon, and Stephen Anthony, Charles Epps, Ramona Wade, David and Gay Cooper, Lori Cooper, Jack Weber, Dolores M. Hasson, Miguel Tulido, Matthew Tulido

+++++

The Sanctuary Lamp intention is:

For a Special Intention

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We offer to anyone who may wish to 'donate' for the following "Memorials":

For personal intentions; For your beloved dead; and/or For the living

Sanctuary Lamp in the Church - \$15.00 per week

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a non-judgmental, safe, loving, and confidential environment. It will give you hope for your future and freedom from the pain within your heart and soul.

A Woman's Testimony: *I received great inner healing during my retreat. I recommend it to anyone suffering from abortion. I was able to forgive myself and found Christ's unconditional love.*

A Man's Testimony: *For 18 years, I had been haunted by guilt that no one could take away. Through the retreat, I was able to forgive myself. God has given me a peaceful mind, cleansed my heart and washed away my guilt.*

For information call/email:

Georgeann 484-955-4278 geemcgarry@gmail.com or

Susan 610-716-4795 susiemck@comcast.net

RACHEL'S VINEYARD OF GREATER PHILADELPHIA

All inquiries are strictly confidential.

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