CHURCH OF ST. ANN

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SUNDAY, JULY 19, 2020

16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"The righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father." - Mt 13:43a

PARISH LIFE



| <i>Monday</i> 8:00am | 7-20-20 John D'Altilio |
|-------------------------|--|
| | rq by Loving Family |
| Tuesday | 7-21-20 |
| 8:00am | Margaret Deltome rq by Sister Kathleen |
| Wednesda | uy 7-22-20 |
| 8:00am | Nicoletta Frank Lanzisera |
| | rq by Loving Family Thomas Sauickie Jr. |
| | rq by Loving Family |
| Thursday | 7-23-20 |
| 8:00am | Michael & Maria Delvecchio rq by Loving Family |
| Friday | 7-24-20 |
| 8:00am | Ann Giamella |
| | rq by William Sandford Jim Killeen |
| | rq by Loving Wife and Children |
| | Helen Brandly |
| | rq by Loving Niece |
| | Thomas Sauickie Jr. |
| Saturday | rq by Loving Family 7-25-20 |
| 5:00pm | Special Intentions for Sisters of Mer |
| | rq by Sister of Mercy |
| Sunday | 7-26-20 |
| 8:00am | Jimmy Tierney |
| | rq by Rena Tierney |
| 10:30am | Kay Falco |
| | rq by Bobby Ruthann & Boys |
| 6:00pm | St. Ann's Purgatorial Society |

THE SANCTUARY LAMP

The Sanctuary Lamp is available for special intentions. The Lamp burns weekly for deceased members of a family or requests for a special intention. The donation is \$20. Please call the Rectory for further information.. This week's Sanctuary Lamp burns for John D'Altilio rq by Loving Family



<u>Church Hours</u> Mon - Fri 8:30A - 12P. <u>Confessions</u> Sat 1P - 2P *outside* the double doors of the handicapped entrance.

NEW FACEBOOK PAGES

Please check out and "Like" our pages. The parish is www.facebook.com/ church.of.st.ann.keansburg/ and CCD's page is www.facebook.com/St-Anns-Religious-Education-204651476726972/

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

stannsreligiouseducation.weebly.com stannsre@gmail.com PHONE: 732-787-5744

Information on guidelines and restrictions continue to evolve rapidly and the likelihood of being closed longer seems imminent, but we will do our best to keep all our families informed. Here's how you can help: Make sure that you are signed into our CCD Text Blast system. Those already signed into "STANNCONFIRM" will continue to receive messages but all previous grade level options were eliminated in the fall as previously announced. Text "STANNRE" to 84483 & you will receive a confirmation notice that you are in the system. Check our website for home study plans and important updates and Sacrament information.

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WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 19, 2020

- **SUN 7/19** Wis 12:13, 16-19/Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16 [5a]/Rom 8:26-27/ Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30
- **MON 7/20** Mi 6:1-4, 6-8/Ps 50:5-6, 8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23 [23b]/ Mt 12:38-42
- **TUE 7/21** Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 85:2-4, 5-6, 7-8 [8a]/Mt 12:46-50
- WED 7/22 Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [2]/Jn 20:1-2, 11-18
- **THR 7/23** Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13/Ps 36:6-7ab, 8-9, 10-11 [10a]/Mt 13:10-17
- **FRI 7/24** Jer 3:14-17/Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13 [cf. 10d]/Mt 13:18-23
- **SAT 7/25** 2 Cor 4:7-15/Ps 126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6 [5]/Mt 20:20-28
- **SUN 7/26** 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12/Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130 [97a]/ Rom 8:28-30/Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 19, 2020

| Sunday: | 16 th Sunday in Ordinary Time |
|--------------|---|
| Monday: | St. Apollinaris, Bishop and Martyr |
| Tuesday: | St. Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest and Doctor of the Church |
| Wednesday: | St. Mary Magdalene |
| Thursday: | St. Bridget, Religious |
| Friday: | St. Sharbel Makhlūf, Priest |
| Saturday: | St. James, Apostle |
| Next Sunday: | 17 th Sunday in Ordinary Time |

LIVE THE LITURGY Inspiration for the week

Grace and sin are found together. As much as our hearts long for union with God, there is always that part of us that resists. As much as I wholeheartedly believe in God, there is a dimension of disbelief with which I also wrestle. Even though we may seek purity and integrity in all of our thoughts, words, and deeds, there is also the path toward weakness and sin that we find ourselves traversing. Just as weeds can easily overtake the best of gardens, so too can weakness and sin overtake and overwhelm a person. The call is to realize the power the weeds of sin have to choke us off from God's presence. While God allows the wheat and the weeds to exist together, we must keep our eyes fixed on God's mercy and forgiveness and resist the death that comes from giving way to sin and evil. In God's time, the eternal harvest will come, and we will no longer have to worry about the weeds. For now, we must be vigilant and regularly seek the assistance of the Master Gardener.









SIR



FIRST READING

For your might is the source of justice; your mastery over all things makes you lenient to all. (Wis 12:16)



PSALM Lord, you are good and forgiving. (Ps 86)



SECOND READING

And the one who searches hearts knows what is the intention of the Spirit, because it intercedes for the holy ones according to God's will. (Rom 8:27)



GOSPEL

"Let them grow together until harvest; then at harvest time I will say to the harvesters, "First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles for burning; but gather the wheat into my barn."" (Mt 13:30b)

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WORSHIP & MEDITATION



GOSPEL MEDITATION Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Grace and sin, belief and unbelief, good and evil all exist together. While we wrestle with these two dimensions of reality inwardly, they are also witnessed in the actions and words of others. Many, all too often, beat themselves up because of their sin. We are also all too quick to pass judgment on others whom we perceive to be in error and walking down a wrong path. God does not make rash judgments, nor should we. Patience is the order of the day as is an understanding that God is ultimately the caller of the shots.

Our faith tells us that while God allows the wheat and the weeds to coexist, the wheat will always triumph. As long as we can cultivate even a little faith and a small measure of desire for God, He can produce abundant blessings and good things. Even when the weeds seem to have triumphed, there still may be a small measure of faith remaining that can be cultivated and grown. It doesn't take much! Unless a person totally allows the weeds to reign, there is always to be found at least a small measure of faith, good, light, and love. With even this small portion, God can produce abundant growth.

Admittedly, it is easy to give into the weeds, and they grow very quickly. Any gardener knows this to be true. Sometimes, the weeds even seem more attractive and vibrant. Dealing with weeds can quickly become a losing battle, and they can look healthier and grow faster than the very plants we are trying to protect. It's easy to give into them and let them win. While God will deal with all things in due time, we are responsible for keeping things in check in the short term. It is our task to keep our eyes fixed on God's presence and mercy. We are asked to avoid judgment. And, it is not our responsibility to deal with the weeds in someone else's garden, only our own. One garden is enough responsibility for anyone.

Weeds have power. We have to realize this. While they can appear attractive and healthy, they can quickly choke us off from God's presence. Our task is one of maintenance and cultivating a desire for God. Even the smallest kernel of faith can grow into something wonderful. In God's time, the eternal harvest will come, and we will no longer have to worry about the weeds.

LITURGICAL LIFE



EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments

Do What Needs to Be Done

A friend recently confided in me that although he prayed frequently each day and was involved heavily in his parish, he did not sense much fruit coming from it all and was left feeling unsatisfied. I assured him he was not alone. I told him of a deceased pastor of mine who had spoken frequently about being in this type of situation. Even as a priest, he knew all too well of how we can feel like we are simply going through the motions. It is precisely at those times that continuing to pray and practicing good stewardship is most important, because it would be easier to simply take a break and risk never coming back. He liked to say, "Do the drill," meaning just do what needs to be done.

We are all called to be mature disciples who answer the call of Jesus Christ regardless of the cost. We cannot choose when and where the call will come. We cannot schedule our stewardship in a way that is always most convenient for us. Even when the fruits of our faithful efforts seem hidden from us, we hold to the promise that we are never called to give of ourselves for nothing. God is working through us and in us. No matter how dry the land may seem, seeds are being planted to yield a harvest greater than we can ever realize. Stay strong and do the drill! — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



Do you know someone who is carrying the grief of a past abortion? There is always hope. The pain and sorrow of abortion does not need to endure for a lifetime. A "Day of Prayer and Healing" offers the opportunity to experience the love and mercy of God and to respond to His invitation to begin the journey of healing the wound of abortion. For upcoming dates, locations, and confidential registration, or just to talk to a Sister, please call the Sisters of Life at (866)-575-0075 (toll free) or reach us by email at hopeandhealing@sistersoflife.org



WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained: Fish on Friday

Question:

Why do Catholics eat fish on Friday?

Answer:

For centuries, meatless Fridays were the norm for Catholics throughout the world. Friday was chosen because that was the day on which Jesus died, and Christians wanted to find a way to honor that day with special prayers and acts of penance and self-denial. The practice of abstaining from meat on Fridays — under pain of sin — grew out of that desire, and it became an official part of Church teaching until the time of the Second Vatican Council.

In the 1960s, there was a shift in the Church's thinking, in large part because there was a recognition that differences in cultures and economic realities meant that eating or not eating meat had different meanings for different peoples. For example, in cultures that were largely dependent on seafood or a vegetarian diet, abstaining from meat was no sacrifice at all. While in other places, eating fish and other kinds of seafood was actually something rare and special and not a sacrifice. This was all part of a basic reflection on "why we do what we do" among the Church's pastors.

Today, Catholics throughout the world are still instructed to abstain from meat on the Fridays of Lent. The bishops of some countries, such as in England and Wales, ask Catholics to abstain from meat every Friday, continuing the older tradition. The Bishops of the United States have taken a slightly different approach, encouraging Catholics to honor Friday as a special day by abstaining from meat every Friday or by taking on some other work of penance or charity for the sake of others.

Regardless of what we choose to do, the real value in all of this is to see a reflection of Good Friday in each Friday, to remember the selfgiving love of Jesus, and to honor that love through some sort of sacrifice or act of mercy.

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"The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all who cause others to sin and all evildoers. They will throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father."

- Mt 13:41-43a

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LITURGICAL LIFE

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading

The Jewish sage speaks of God as master of all who judges us with clemency and governs us with leniency. What are some areas of your life that make you grateful for a merciful God?

Second Reading

Paul teaches the Christians in Rome that the Spirit helps us "to pray as we ought." When do you find yourself most at prayer?

Gospel Reading

We hear today a series of parables describing aspects of the kingdom of heaven: the parable of the weeds among the wheat, the parable of the mustard seed, and the parable of the yeast. What do you think makes Jesus' parables such an effective method for teaching about the mystery of the kingdom of heaven?



16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



LITURGICAL LIFE

3 EASY STEPS

To Keeping Yourself & Others Healthy!

We are cautioned to be especially careful during the Coronavirus outbreak. Here are some simple ways to keep sickness away.



Wash Your Hands

Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds using soap and water. If you can't wash your hands, use hand sanitizer frequently.

Don't Touch Your Face

Especially around the eyes, nose and mouth. If you must sneeze, use a tissue or your arm.

Keep Your Distance

Practice social distancing during this epidemic and stay away from large groups. Instead, call, email or check up on family and friends using social media.



"He replied, 'No, if you pull up the weeds you might uproot the wheat along with them. Let them grow together until harvest; then at harvest time I will say to the harvesters, "First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles for *burning; but gather* the wheat into my barn." ' "

- Mt 13:29-30

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