

Our Lady of Fatima

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PARISH NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER, 2017

THE HOLY NAME OF MARY - September 12

On this day dedicated to the Holy Name of Mary let us repeat that wonderful prayer of Saint Bernard, responding to Pope Benedict XVI's invitation to "invite everyone to become a trusting child before Mary, even as the Son of God did. Saint Bernard says, and we say with him: 'Look to the star of the sea, call upon Mary ... in danger, in distress, in doubt, think of Mary, call upon Mary. May her name never be far from your lips, or far from your heart ... If you follow her, you will not stray; if you pray to her, you will not despair; if you turn your thoughts to her, you will not err. If she holds you, you will not fall; if she protects you, you need not fear; if she is your guide, you will not tire; if she is gracious to you, you will surely reach your destination'" (Benedict XVI, address at Heiligenkreuz Abbey, September 9, 2007). ~ **Luciano Alimandi**

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL - September 27

Vincent, the son of poor French peasants, was born in 1581. When he grew up and became famous, he loved to tell people how he had taken care of his father's pigs. Because he was intelligent, his father sent him to school. And after finishing his studies, Vincent became a priest.

At first, he was given an important position as the teacher of rich children, and he lived rather comfortably. Then one day, he was called to the side of a dying peasant. In front of many people, this man declared that all his past confessions had been bad ones. Suddenly Father Vincent realized how badly the poor people of France needed spiritual help. When he began to preach to them, crowds went to confession. He finally decided to start a congregation of priests to work especially among the poor.

The charities of St. Vincent de Paul were so many that it seems impossible for one person to have begun so much. He took care of criminals who worked on the sailing ships. He started the Congregation of the Sisters of Charity with St. Louise de Marillac. He opened hospitals and homes for orphans and old people. He collected large sums of money for poor areas, sent missionaries to many countries, and bought back prisoners from the Mohammedans. Even though he was such a charitable man, however, he humbly admitted that he was not so by nature. "I would have been hard, rough and ill-tempered," he said "were it not for God's grace." Vincent de Paul died in Paris on September 27, 1660. He was proclaimed a saint in 1737 by Pope Clement XII.

Jesus asks us to be good to others, especially to those who suffer. He says to us too. "As long as you did it to one of the least of my brethren, you did it to me."

Annual Parish Picnic

The annual parish picnic was held on Sunday, July 16 on the great lawn with the blessings of beautiful weather and wonderful attendance. There were delicious foods, face painting, and games for all ages, music to enjoy, and of course, line dancing with **Father Virgil!** **Father Paul** blessed the food and offered his gratitude to all who participated by donating their time, talents and resources for the picnic.

A raffle for a 46" smart television which was anonymously donated and a 50/50 raffle were held this year. **The Knights of Columbus** and the **St. Charles Borromeo Vocations Committee** were represented once again this year offering parishioners an opportunity to learn more about the organization and ministry. Terry Culpepper showcased and took ticket orders for the beautiful Blessed Mother Prayer quilt made by parishioner, **Debbie Dilollo**.

Father Bert Coruna and **Father Alex Carles** stopped in to visit with parishioners and enjoy the day.

Stacy Lopez, Veronica Klein, and Jacinto Fernandes coordinated the games which included the water balloon toss, musical chairs, tug of war, the water balloon dance contest, sack races, wheelbarrow races, ring and bean bag tosses and more. Children and adults alike enjoyed the face painting. Music was provided by DJ RYKY.

The parish family is grateful to all who attended, donated food and beverages, cooked, served, set up and cleaned up and took photos to share for the newsletter. There was great stewardship present in all areas of the picnic planning and in the day itself. The offering of time, talent and resources was evident in every corner of the great lawn as the parish family took time to celebrate our wonderful parish.



Pat Lorenc & Connie Sprayberry

The Saint Charles Borromeo Vocations Committee would like to thank those who made "Donations for Vocations" at the parish picnic.

100th Anniversary OLF Prayer Quilt

This traditional Irish Chain quilt was handmade in honor of our Lady and to raise funds for the renovation project for our church. I chose blue and white floral fabrics because in Catholic Tradition, the color blue represents “heavenly love, unveiling of truth. It is the traditional color of Mary, the Blessed Virgin. Azure blue pigment was always the most expensive and thus the only paint color considered worthy to use for the sky and in images of the Virgin. White is the symbol of purity, innocence of soul, holiness of life.”*

Begun on August 17, 2016 I held the fabrics before my crucifix and prayed, “Lord Jesus Christ, I entrust the making of this Her title Our Lady of Fat- to Your Sacred Heart and You for taking care of eve- building up of Your Holy this and in grand ways. All every need, is known to love. I ask You Lord and dinary grace: the grace of sonal Motherly care to be of this quilt. May that per- this blanket know the Love and Her embrace.” work on this quilt I prayed ing the needs and intentions of the winner to our Lord and our Lady.



quilt to Your Mom, under ima. I surrender my plans offer all to You. I thank ryone participating in the Church, in little ways like of us, each person and You. Thank You for Your dear Mother for an extraor- Our Lady of Fatima’s per- made known to the winner son and all who rest under warmth of Your unfailing Each time I sat down to a similar prayer, entrust-

Last September, a dear friend made a pilgrimage to Fatima, Portugal, took the binding fabric with her, and at the very site where our Lady appeared 100 years ago a Priest blessed it. I finished this prayer quilt on February 16, 2017.

*www.catholictradition.org/Saints/signs6.htm

Date of Drawing: Saturday, October 14, 2017 - 2:00 PM

Location: Our Lady of Fatima Cafeteria

Queen size; will fit double & overlay King. \$1,200 value **Ticket Price \$5.00**

No substitution of the offered prize may be made and no cash will be given in lieu of the prize.

Tickets can be purchased everyday in the Parish Center, on days when the tent is setup beside the parking lot, and from John with the 50/50 raffle.

Net proceeds to benefit the Renovation of Our Lady of Fatima Church
501 New Marker Road, Piscataway, NJ 08854 Tel: 732-968-5555 www.olfparish.org

Adoration Chapel

Guardians are needed for the following hours:

Monday
7:00 PM, 10:00 PM

Wednesday
6:00 AM, 7:00 AM,
3:00 PM, 7:00 PM

Thursday 9:00 AM

Saturday 12 NOON

Sunday 11 PM

Please call:

Gerry 732-266-4145

Or

Pat 732-752-4479

O heart of Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament, burning with love for us, inflame our hearts with love for thee.

THE POWER OF REDEMPTIVE SUFFERING

God chose to suffer and die for us in order to redeem us for, our sins, substituting his own pain for the suffering we deserve. As a result, we are able to offer up our own suffering for our sins and for the sins of others by uniting them to Christ.

By bearing our pains with patience, offering our sufferings as a form of prayer, and enduring hardship and disappointments, we can grow in grace and virtue. We can also grow in grace and virtue when we respond to those around us who suffer. Suffering gives us the opportunity to serve the sick, the needy, and the grieving through our self-giving as we respond in love and mercy to Christ, who presents himself in person.

We might not always understand why we have to suffer. Nevertheless, Christ tells us, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit."¹

Jesus Christ is our example of how to suffer. In his Passion and Death, he shows us how to bear our pains and injustices. In his ministry on earth to the sick, the dying, the crippled, and the grieving, he shows us how to be of service to others in love. By uniting our suffering to his Cross, we can experience interior conversion and empower our intercessory prayers for others.

1. JN 12:24

Substitutes are also needed:
For further information please call :

Gerry 732-266-4145 or
Pat - 732-752-4479
Please leave message.

