

**May we follow  
her example  
in reflecting  
your holiness  
and join  
in her hymn  
of endless love  
and praise.**

# Festival Recap

**Thank you to all who volunteered their time, talent and treasure to make this year's Festival another resounding and enjoyable success. Final Festival fundraising figures will be made available as soon as all receivables have been tallied and paid. Stay tuned.**

## Festival Appreciation Gathering

The Festival Committee will be having a "thank you" gathering on Friday, August 28th in Centennial Hall from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM. This is open to all the volunteers, Committee Members, workers; all who helped with this year's Festival. Please R.S.V.P at the Rectory BY AUG. 24th to help give us a headcount. Thanks. 50/50 Winner

Congratulations! St. Anne's Festival 50/50 Raffle collected \$10,085. The winning ticket number was 12826; the winner being LOU GIORDANO who received \$5042.50 (before taxes).

## Gift Wheel Thank You

Many thanks to all who helped, enjoyed, played, and won at this year's Feast Gift Wheel sponsored by the St. Padre Pio Prayer Group. Thanks again to all who helped make The Gift Wheel another successful weekend. God Bless You and may St. Anne and St. Padre Pio always pray for you.

*Sincerely, Pres. Fran Spazian*

P.S. Thanks to all who helped set up behind the gift wheels and take it all down. With much appreciation and gratitude, God Bless!

## Cafe Volunteers

Special Thanks to all who helped make the Café and Smoothie Table. It was a delicious and smooth success! Your patronage and sponsorship is greatly appreciated. Thanks again and God Bless You! May St. Anne pray for you always!

## Safeguarding Children and Addressing Abuse

The Archdiocese Reports all Allegations of Abuse



The Archdiocese of Newark takes very seriously any and all complaints of sexual misconduct by members of the clergy, Religious and lay staff of the Archdiocese. We encourage anyone with knowledge of an act of sexual misconduct to inform the Archdiocese immediately so that we may take appropriate action and provide support to the victim.

Although the Archdiocese immediately reports all abuse allegations to the appropriate County Prosecutor, it also encourages victims to independently report such matters to the Prosecutor.

Individuals who want to report an allegation of sexual misconduct to the Archdiocese may do so by calling the Victim's Assistance Coordinator of the Archdiocesan Office of Child and Youth Protection at (201) 407-3256.

The phone numbers for the County Prosecutors within the Archdiocese are:

- Bergen - (201) 226-5689
- Essex - (973) 753-1121
- Hudson - (201) 795-6400
- Union - (908) 965-3879

# Bus Trip to Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes

St. Padre Pio bus trip Saturday, September 26, 2015



Come with us to a place in the wooded hills of Connecticut, under a canopy of trees by a stream of flowing water! A place of peace and prayer dedicated to Mary the Mother of Jesus. Pray in a church without walls, stand on holy ground as you follow Jesus and allow Mary's presence to touch your heart.

Bus will leave 8:30 am from in front of St. Anne's Church. For more information, please call Fran Spazian. 201-653-1315.

**Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto is located at 83 Montfort Rd, Litchfield, CT 06759**

## Daughters of St. Paul



Sat. & Sun., Aug. 15 & 16, the Daughters of St. Paul Sisters who evangelize with media will

come and make available for purchase at St. Anne's a wide variety of Catholic Bibles, lives of saints, books for children, music, movies, etc. in both English and Spanish. Plan to stop and browse for your own spiritual benefit or for members of your family!

# Assumption 2015



By **FR WARREN HALL**

My mother had a great devotion to Mary. For as many years as I can remember she attended the Monday Night Novena in Honor of Our Lady in our parish of St. Paul of the Cross in Jersey City Heights. I don't know how her devotion to Mary came about but I'm guessing my Grandmother, who lived in Hoboken and attended St. Ann's Church, instilled it in her. After all, my Grandmother's name was Anna and she named my mother Anna-Marie. I don't remember my great grandmother's name but I wouldn't be surprised if it too had something to do with the Mother of God.

All of our great Catholic traditions are passed down through the generations in formal ways and in informal ways. Such is the case of the Feast of the Assumption. Pope Pius XII in 1950 formally declared that "the Immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory." History tells us that most people already believed this but the Pope felt the need to preserve this beautiful doctrine of the Assumption in a formal way.

In a real sense, the Assumption of Mary into heaven was a gift given to Our Lady by God for having said "yes" to him so many years before. Since Mary had been immaculately conceived in the womb of her mother Anna, then it only made sense that her human body should not experience earthly corruption since it was the vessel that held our Lord Jesus.

Now, I'm not sure if my mother, my grandmother or my great grandmother understood all of that theology. I'm definitely sure that it was not all that theology that made my mother attend that novena for nearly all of her life.

What I am sure of is that they, as mothers themselves, simply saw in Mary a gentle woman who in some spiritual way could be a guide and a strength to them in the joys and challenges of their lives. That thought alone was important enough to each of them that they passed it down one to the other.

***Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of OUR death, amen.***

## LITURGY NOTES

# Worship Space

By **NRM**

In late 2012, early 2013, a decision was made to remove the carpeting in church and return to the original floors of terrazzo, marble and wood. The carpet was filthy; pockmarked with chewing gum and various mystery stains, dangerously gathered in some areas, foul smelling in others. The choices were: remove and replace with new carpet or, remove and restore the original floor. I chose to reclaim and restore the original floor. Without knowing them personally, I am convinced that the builders of the church never intended for it to be carpeted, otherwise, why go to the expense and effort of creating floors of such rich and lustrous materials? Warm, red, Douglas fir that is priceless because it can no longer be duplicated, coming, as it did from very old trees, even a hundred years ago. Costly, at the time and even more now, terrazzo, which, when cared for properly, becomes jewel-like in brilliance. Acoustically, the one gives warmth, the other, reverb. Carpet dampens.

Given the limited finances of the parish, the project was not entered into lightly, but with a great deal of trepidation. At the time, I explained from the Ambo at all masses one Sunday, that the restoration and repair would take place over the course of a lengthy period, as monies became available to pay for each phase. Three years later, on Friday, the 22nd of May, 2015, to be exact, the final square feet of terrazzo in the Sanctuary were restored. In the early hours of Sunday, the 24th of May, I discovered that someone had come in during the night, the doors were locked but left open, and attempted to remove pieces of the newly restored terrazzo with what seemed to be a hammer and chisel, or a screwdriver. I announced that act of vandalism at all the Sunday masses that day and said appropriate security measures would be sought. One of those security measures was the moving of the Tabernacle to the Holy Family alcove, left of the Altar, right under a preexisting security camera. The Altar Candle stands were also damaged; the vandal tried to use their heavy bases to hack at various sections of the Sanctuary terrazzo. They are in the process of being repaired. Whether done out of malice, or some superstitious desire masquerading as Faith, the damage has been done and I am thankful that nothing more seems to have been affected. The Altar candles will return. The Tabernacle will be moved into a dignified and secure housing behind the Altar. The floor will be repaired. I have publicly asked for, and have received from the vast majority of parishioners,

patience and understanding, several of you reminding me, Rome wasn't built in a day, Father... I am grateful for your good humor and kind words of encouragement; some nights, that's the only thing that lulls me to sleep. But, as in any community, Christian or otherwise, there are some who are finding it more difficult than others to exercise patience, who are fearful that the Sanctuary, as it is right now, is the finished product. I would like to assure them, and all parishioners of goodwill, that this is not the end. Security issues, unreliable contractors, tight budgets aside, there is more work to be done. In the meantime, if the Sanctuary seems 'naked', I invite you to raise your eyes to the ornate and emotionally charged fresco of the Crucifixion taken from the Gospel of John, an intentionally massive work of art that dwarfs all but the Pentecost window, which the original church builders deliberately positioned at its opposite. Greedily feast your eyes on the Crucifix for the Church of Saint Anne of the Heights, not the gold plated processional cross, but the Body that was given, the Blood that was poured out into the ground of Calvary. What takes place at the Altar during mass does not take place in the context of flowers or candles or the processional cross or any other ornamentals we might think it lacks. No. What takes place at the Altar, at all Altars, takes place in the context of the grim and grave events of Good Friday. What takes place at the Altar takes place in the context of the anguished gestures of a bereaved, beloved disciple. What takes place at the Altar takes place in the context of a silent, sorrowful Mother, witness to the execution of her only Child. The fresco was not put there to be solely ornamental. Painstakingly created, the original builders put it there to give the Altar, the Tabernacle, the Sanctuary, the Font, the statues, the windows, the seats, the hymns, the prayers, the People, every Thing and every Body in the building, our context. Life giving Eucharist celebrated in the shadow of the Cross. Belief in resurrection even as we journey through the place of the skull.

It will be some time yet before all is complete, until then, I continue to ask for your patience and understanding, Rome, indeed, was not built in a day. And, if the area seems naked or bare, perhaps it is an opportunity, unencumbered by the visual noise that can sometimes clutter our spaces and lives, to discover the genius of the original builders of the church, whose faith still reaches out from so long ago, and who catechize and nourish us even today through the extraordinary craftsmanship and sublime artfulness of the worship space they gave to us.

## NICENE CREED PART III:

# God the Creator

By **DREW STUART, MA**

After professing that God is “the Father, the Almighty” the Nicene Creed affirms that God is “maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.” Referring to God’s role as creator, this phrase calls to mind the creation accounts in Genesis 1 and 2. Unfortunately, a modern perception of God as creator can be blurred by extreme interpretations of these two chapters. Some people assert that they must be taken literally while others point out that science seems to contradict and therefore invalidate them. These views forget that these stories are more concerned with presenting religious *truth* than scientific *fact*. While they may not be scientific, both accounts, along with various passages from Psalms and other books of the Old Testament, reveal of God as the all-powerful yet loving Creator.

What do these accounts tell us about God? First, God, motivated by love, chose to peacefully will creation into existence out of nothing. This contrasts to the polytheistic creation myths of other ancient cultures, where the gods were said to create out of pre-existing substances (water, chaos, etc.), often through acts of violence or sexual intercourse (see the Babylonian myth, the *Enuma Elish*). God is revealed to be all powerful (omnipotent) and peaceful unlike the “gods” of other nations who had to work and struggle against other gods to create the world.

**GENESIS 1 AND 2** also reveal that God gave humanity a unique place in creation. We see that human beings are made in God’s image and likeness (from whence comes our free will, our relational nature, and our rationality and potential for good). Having given humanity this loving gift, God sets them above the rest of creation. In Genesis 1, God gave Adam and Eve dominion over the created world. Similarly, Genesis 2, God asks Adam names the ani-

mals and gives him the responsibility of caring for and tending to the Garden of Eden. This dominion or stewardship of creation therefore comes with the responsibility of caring for the natural world just as God cares for humanity. Again, this contrasts with ancient Near Eastern myths, where the gods created human beings out of necessity to worship them and to be their servants/workers on earth.

By professing belief in God the creator, we embrace the goodness of creation and accept our role as its stewards. How do we do this? First, we must learn to recognize/know God through the natural world, just as we recognize artists by their works. Next, we should acknowledge that every human being is made in God’s image and likeness and therefore has inviolable dignity. It is tempting to say “It’s not my problem” when we see others suffering and, at times, we want to hurt those who have hurt us. However, we must overcome both instincts. When someone takes a parking spot you’ve been waiting for, pray for them; when an acquaintance or coworker talks about you behind your back, don’t retaliate, forgive; when you see people in need (a homeless person, an elderly neighbor, or a co-worker who is facing difficulties, etc.), find a way to help them. Third, if we believe God is the creator, we should express this belief by acting as good stewards of creation: conserving water and electricity, recycling, avoiding excessive consumerism (we don’t *need* to get the latest smart phone, car, or tablet), etc. God gave us the gift of dominion, let’s exercise it responsibly.

When calling God creator, the Nicene Creed also stresses that he made “all things visible and invisible”. The creed lays out orthodox/apostolic Christian belief against heterodox or heretical beliefs. At the time it was composed, the Gnostics a heretical sect, claimed that the physical (visible) world was created by a lesser god and therefore inferior or even evil while the spiritual (invisible) world was created good and therefore superior.

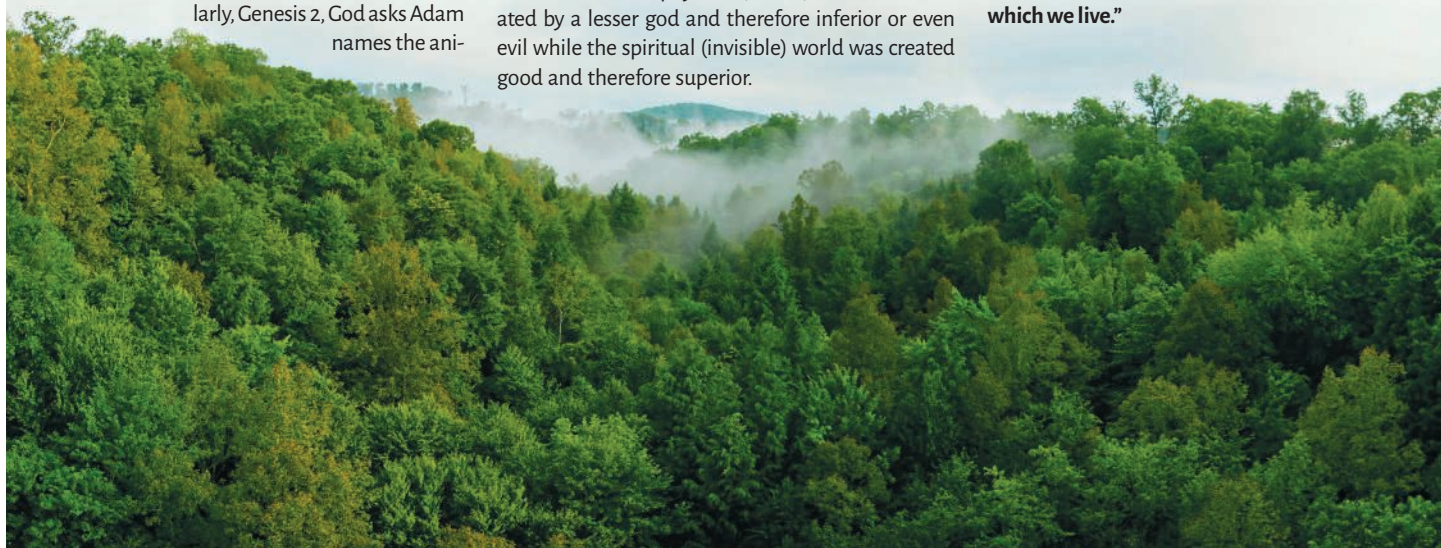
The Nicene Creed refuted this by emphasizing that God, who called all creation good, created *everything*, both physical and spiritual.

In chapter three of *The Creed*, theologian Berard Marthaler says that, this phrase serves an additional purpose. In ancient times, few people repudiated the existence spiritual world (ie heaven, hell, God, gods, and lesser beings such as angels or demons). Today, however, many people doubt or even deny the existence of anything they cannot see. Others profess an intellectual belief in the spiritual world but deny in practice it by focusing exclusively on earthly concerns. If we truly believe what we profess, we should focus our attention on both the physical and spiritual worlds.

To do this, we need to resist the temptation of living only for earthly matters (money, power, technology, success, etc.) as well as the temptation to withdraw from the physical world in order to focus solely on spiritual matters. Christians are called to hold these two “worlds” in tension. As Jesus says in John 17, we must be in the world but not of the world.

God lovingly created everything in existence, both what we can see and of what we cannot see. Human beings, as men and women made in God’s image and likeness, are called to be responsible stewards of creation. Let us work to make this world a better place while also directing our attention to our ultimate goal of sharing in God’s life in heaven when our earthly lives are over.

**Pope has designated September 1 as World Day of Prayer for Care of Creation. The day of prayer, the Pope said, will give individuals and communities an opportunity to implore God’s help in protecting creation and an opportunity to ask God’s forgiveness “for sins committed against the world in which we live.”**





# SAINT ANNE OF THE HEIGHTS CHURCH

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## Pastoral Team

<b>James Carroll</b>	Trustee
<b>Fr. Nigel</b>	Parish Priest
<b>Fr. J. Ranieri</b>	Weekend Assistant
<b>Msgr. L.J. Miller</b>	Weekend Assistant
<b>Fr. D.X. Stump, S.J.</b>	Weekday Assistant
<b>Mrs. J. Waddleton &amp; Lt. J. Carroll</b>	Trustee

## Weekly Planner

**SUNDAY 8/16** • 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

**MONDAY 8/17**

3:30-4:30 PM Legion of Mary *Convent*

**TUESDAY 8/18**

12:15 PM BINGO *Cent Hall*

**WEDNESDAY 8/19**

**THURSDAY 8/20**

**FRIDAY 8/21**

12:15 PM BINGO *Cent Hall*

**SATURDAY 8/22** • The Queenship of Mary

**SUNDAY 8/23** • 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Liturgies

<b>Saturday Evening Church</b>	English 5:30 PM
<i>(anticipating Sunday)</i>	Misa Español 7 PM
<b>Sunday Church</b>	8 AM, 10 AM, 12 Noon
<b>Monday ▶ Saturday: Mass Church</b>	9 AM
<b>Wednesday: Mass Church</b>	7 PM

## Holy Hour

Holy Hour will be suspended during July & August

## Sacrament of Penance

Saturdays *Church (Or by Appointment)* 5 PM

## Schedule of Masses August 10<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015

### Monday, August 17

9 AM John Shin *Family*

### Tuesday, August 18

9 AM † Veronica Burns *Parish Intention*  
*1<sup>st</sup> Anniv in Heaven*

### Wednesday, August 19

9 AM † Christina Burke *Jeanne & Ken Woods*  
7 PM Special Intention *OL Perpetual Help Group*

### Thursday, August 20

9 AM † Christina Burke *Marie Dolan*

### Friday, August 21

9 AM † Christina Burke *Nora Browne*

### Saturday, August 22

9 AM † Jordan David Baoh *Lina Tango, Charisma Carramusa, Cindy DeLeon & Families*

5:30 PM Tagliareni Family *Roseann*

7 PM † Aura Ordonez *Parish Intention*

### Sunday, August 23

8 AM † Salvatore Gencarelli *Mr. & Mrs. Angelo Tango*  
10 AM † Helen Clifford *Marie Carlson*  
12 PM † Roy Maglori *Clare & Family*

## July Giving

The following is a July 2015 donations breakdown:

July 4/5	\$3,398
July 11/12	\$3,795
July 18/19	\$3,118
July 25/26	\$3,894
<b>Total July Sunday Giving</b>	<b>\$14,205</b>

## Sunday Readings

First Reading:	<b>Proverbs 9:1-6</b>
Psalm:	<b>Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7</b>
Second Reading:	<b>Ephesians 5:15-20</b>
Gospel:	<b>John 6:51-58</b>

## Weekday Readings

### Monday

Ju 2:11-19 / Ps 106:34-35, 36-37, 39-40, 43AB & 44 / Mt 19:16-22

### Tuesday

Ju 6:11-24 / Ps 85:9, 11-12, 13-14 / Mt 19:23-30

### Wednesday

Ju 9:6-15 / Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 / Mt 20:1-16

### Thursday *St Bernard*

Ju 11:29-39 / Ps 40:5, 7-8A, 8B-9, 10 / Mt 22:1-14

### Friday *St Pius X*

Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14-16, 22 / Ps 146:5-6AB, 6C-7, 8-9A, 9BC-10 / Mt 22:34-40

### Saturday *The Queenship of Mary*

Ru 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17 / Ps 128:1B-2, 3, 4, 5 / Mt 23:1-12

## Sanctuary Gifts for August 16<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>

Gift	In Memory/honor of	Requested By
Altar Wine	† Agnes Acerra	Yvonne, AnnMarie & Family
Altar Bread	† Robert Smyth	Yvonne, AnnMarie & Family
Sanct. Lamp	† Teresa Fusco	DeBenedetto Family
Altar Candles	† Alma DeBenedetto	Frank & Gemma Infante

## Sick List

Let us pray for the sick (People will remain on sick list for 2 weeks unless otherwise notified): Frances Kearns

- Nicholas Zegular ● Frances Wise ● Vicky Aguilon
- Marie Foley ● Josephine Cermak Rowan ● Steve & Rachel Mastin ● Diane Shea ● Joseph Callandrillo ● Humberto Quintana ● Julia Annicchiarico ● Javier Vega ● Jennifer Moloughney ● Antoinette Maddi ● Carol Jordan ● Anthony Biggio ● Sammy DeLeon ● Shane Quinn ● Alice Daly ● Sadie Krieger ● Dolores DelMonte ● Dianne O'Sullivan ● Carl Carlson ● Larry Bello ● Miyuki Campbell ● Diane Albert ● Meghan Connaughton ● Lupe Pena

## Ministry to the Sick

We hope to give to all the sick and aged in our parish the opportunity to receive the Eucharist. If you or someone you know can no longer get to church, and would like a Eucharistic Minister to bring you Communion, **please call St. Anne's Rectory at 201-360-0838 or email: Webmaster@stannesjc.com**

## August Prayer Intentions of the Holy Father, Pope Francis

**General intention:** That volunteers may give themselves generously to the service of the needy.

**Missionary intention:** That setting aside our very selves we may learn to be neighbours to those who find themselves on the margins of human life and society.

# Harnessing Technology at St. Anne

Several weeks ago, we launched a brand new parish website, [WWW.SAHJERSEYCITY.COM](http://WWW.SAHJERSEYCITY.COM). 'Thank you' to Gert Waller for the positive feedback. A healthy future for this, and perhaps all parishes, both financially and pastorally, will become more and more dependent on the ability to harness the power of technology. Already, for many visitors and new parishioners, the face of Saint Anne Church is our website. For those who visit it, I hope you think it professional, well organized, user friendly, educational and visually appealing.

We've tried to maintain a similar look to the weekend bulletin, which was relaunched last year with much the same goals in mind, to facilitate ease of navigation. A major addition to the website experience is online Parish Registration, available from this weekend, to be followed by online Religious Education Registration, which we hope to launch by next weekend. We hope to have online registration ready for Baptism and Marriage in the ensuing weeks, and eventually make it possible to donate to Saint Anne Church via a website donation link.

We are also working to upload financial information to the site such as the annual budget, projected and actual, and graphics of monthly operating costs vs. monthly donations. In the meantime, please use the online Parish Registration tool to register as a new parishioner, or to notify us of a change of address, contact information, name, marital status and the like; we are in the process of migrating the Parish database to a cloud platform so now would be an ideal time to give things a good scrubbing.

*Explore the new site and I hope you enjoy this latest improvement to the parish experience at Saint Anne of the Heights.*

Regards,

## NRM

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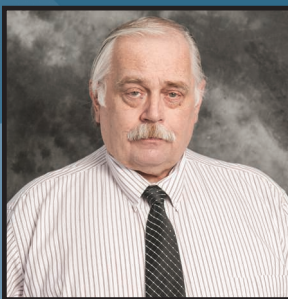
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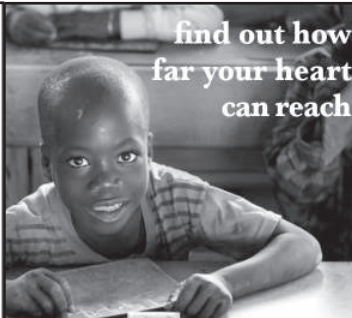
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