

The Bulletin

St Anne of the Heights • Jersey City, NJ

August 21, 2016
Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time



**Strive to enter through
the narrow gate**





SAINT ANNE OF THE HEIGHTS CHURCH

3545 Kennedy Blvd., Jersey City, NJ 07307
Tel: 201-360-0838 Email: info@sahjerseycity.com
Fax: 201-721-5996

Parish registration:
General parish feed:
Website:

sahjerseycity.com/register
[@stah_nation](https://twitter.com/stah_nation)
sahjerseycity.com

Pastoral Team

Fr. Nigel Parish Priest
Fr. J. Ranieri Weekend Assistant
Msrgr. L.J. Miller Weekend Assistant
Fr. D.X. Stump, S.J. Weekday Assistant
Mrs. J. Waddleton & Lt. J. Carroll Trustees

Weekly Planner

SUNDAY 8/21 21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MONDAY 8/22

3:30—4:30 PM Legion of Mary *Cent Hall*

TUESDAY 8/23

12:15 PM Bingo *Cent Hall*

FRIDAY 8/25

12:15 PM Bingo *Cent Hall*

SUNDAY 8/28 22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sick List

Let us pray for the sick (People will remain on sick list for 2 weeks unless otherwise notified): Juliet Nawrocki, Doreen Busacca, Kathleen Link, Orlando Basile, Marie Carlson, John Norton, Patricia Kucinski, Frank McNamara, Jennifer O'Connor, Donna Tuzzo, Matt Bolger, Lawrence Shin, Lupe Pena, Frances Kearns, 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

Baptism Information

Families are asked to please contact the Rectory for further information on preparing for the sacrament of Baptism.

Sacrament of Matrimony

In accordance with archdiocesan policy, couples contemplating marriage are asked to begin the sacramental preparation program at least one year in advance of the wedding date. Please contact the Rectory for further information.

August Prayer Intentions of the Holy Father

UNIVERSAL: Sports — That sports may be an opportunity for friendly encounters between peoples and may contribute to peace in the world.

EVANGELIZATION: Living the Gospel — That Christians may live the Gospel, giving witness to faith, honesty, and love of neighbor.

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: info@sahjerseycity.com**

Mass Intentions • August 22nd—28th 2016

Mon 8/22
9 AM † Ernesto Zagala Family
Tues 8/23
9 AM † Giuseppe Russo Karen Corallo
Wed 8/24
9 AM Diana Paparella Frances & Family
7 PM Special Intention OL Perpetual Help Group
Thurs 8/25
9 AM † Most Rev. Thomas A. Donato Parish Intention
1st Anniversary in Heaven

Fri 8/26
9 AM † Christina Burke
Sat 8/27
9 AM † Teodoro Ducusin Family
5:30 PM † Martha Wilson Butler Family
7:00 PM † Maria Esther Fuentes Family
Sun 8/28
8 AM † Christina Burke
10 AM † Michael Clifford Marie Carlson
12 PM † Patricia Santana Carol Dowd

Sanctuary Gifts • August 21st—27th 2016

Gift	In memory of	Requested by
Altar Wine	Most Rev. Thomas A. Donato <i>1st Anniversary in Heaven</i>	Parish Intention
Altar Bread	Philomena Bartolone	Parish Intention
Sanct. Lamp	Roy Maglori	Clare & Family
Altar Candles	Agnes Cassely	Parish Intention

Sunday Readings / Lecturas del Domingo

First Reading / Primera lectura **IS 66:18-21**
Psalm / Salmo **PS 117:1, 2**
Second Reading / Segunda lectura **HEB 12:5-7, 11-13**
Gospel / Evangelio **LK 13:22-30**

Weekday Readings / Lecturas del Día

Mon *Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary / Nuestra Señora María Reina* 2 THES 1:1-5, 11-12 / PS 96:1-2A, 2B-3, 4-5 / MT 23:13-22
Tue 2 THESS 2:1-3A, 14-17 / PS 96:10, 11-12, 13 / MT 23:23-26
Wed *Saint Bartholomew / San Bartolomé* REV 21:9B-14 / PS 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18 / JN 1:45-51
Thu 1 COR 1:1-9 / PS 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 / MT 24:42-51
Fri 1 COR 1:17-25 / PS 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11 / MT 25:1-13
Sat 1 COR 1:26-31 / PS 33:12-13, 18-19, 20-21 / MT 25:14-30

Family Faith Formation

Please contact Rectory for more information.

Please follow the Twitter channels of the parish:

[@sah_promise](https://twitter.com/sah_promise) Faith Formation Grade K—1
 [@sah_goodnews](https://twitter.com/sah_goodnews) Faith Formation Grade 2—3
 [sah_venture](https://twitter.com/sah_venture) Faith Formation Grade 4—6
 [sah_visions](https://twitter.com/sah_visions) Faith Formation Grade 7—8

Family Faith Formation Registration:

sahjerseycity.com/ccd

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND ADDRESSING ABUSE:

The Catholic Church Is Battling Sexual Abuse

While most media focus over the past ten or more years has been on the incidents of sexual abuse within the Church, little has been said about the many positive steps that the Catholic Church has taken to address the issue. Dioceses across the country, and especially the Archdiocese of Newark, have instituted compassionate outreach to victims and support services, training and background checks for staff and volunteers, training for children and youth, codes of conduct, reporting requirements to civil authorities, independent Review Boards to investigate allegations and recommend actions under Canon law for offenders, as well as other initiatives.

To date, the Catholic Church is the only youth-serving organization in the country — private or public — to undertake such a comprehensive program to create and promulgate safe environments for children and young people.

Independent auditors from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops have found the Archdiocese of Newark to be fully compliant with the requirements of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People in every year since audits began in 2003.

Marriage Encounter

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend can help you do that! Marriage Encounter is 44 hours where married couples can get away from jobs, kids, chores, and phones—and focus only on each other. If you'd like greater depth, growth, and enrichment in your relationship, you'll like the difference a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend can make! **For more information, contact Janet and Mike Turco 973 427-7016 or 609 335- 6880 (njwwme@peoplepc.com) or go to njwwme.org.**



THINKING PRIESTHOOD?
www.NewPriestNJ.com
Archdiocese of Newark
Office of Vocations
973-313-6190

Campus Ministry Guide

Farleigh Dickinson University (Teaneck)

FDU Catholic Campus Ministry (Metro Campus)

OFFICE: Interfaith Chapel, 2nd floor
(next to Campus Public Safety)

CONTACT: Breanna Silva, Campus Minister, (908) 763-6496, campusmin.fdumetro@gmail.com

SCHEDULE: Sunday Mass begins September 4 at 7 PM at St Anastasia's (carpool meets at the FDU Chapel at 6:30 PM). Welcome Social will be on September 8 at 6 PM in the Chapel

Kean University

OFFICE: Downs 130 and online at www.KeanCatholics.org

KeanCatholics (also on Cougar Link)

CONTACT: Fr Bill Sheridan, Chaplain wsheridan@kean.edu
Jackie Oesmann, Campus Minister joesmann@kean.edu
908-737-4835 (office) or (973) 900-3812 (cell)

SCHEDULE: Weekday Mass & Welcome Social: Tuesdays beginning September 6 at 3:30-4:30 PM in CAS 308
Sunday Mass & Fellowship: Begins September 11 at 6 PM in MSC 226
Newman Meetings (free food!): Thursdays beginning September 13 3:30-4:30 PM in CAS 205

Montclair State University

OFFICE: Newman Catholic Center- 894 Valley Road-973-746-2323

NewmanCatholicMSU @MSU_Newman or www.MSUNEWMAN.com

CONTACT: Fr Jim Chern, Chaplain chernjam@comcast.net
Quinn Hussey, Campus Minister qhussey@me.com
Mrs Mary Kaminsky, Office Manager: mareko423@aol.com

SCHEDULE: Sunday Mass: Begins September 11 at 8:30 PM in the Student Center Caf B&C
Welcome BBQ on Wednesday, September 7 at 4:30 PM in the Newman Catholic Center

New Jersey City University

CONTACT: Lawrence Laurente, Campus Minister laurenla@rcan.org, 973-652-8696

SCHEDULE: First meeting on Thursday, September 1 at 3 PM in CSUB 316

New Jersey Institute of Technology, Rutgers University Newark & Essex County College

OFFICE: Newark Newman Center 91 Washington Street, Newark, NJ 07102; 973-624-1301
Find our events and more at www.newmanclubnewark.org

CONTACT: Fr Bismarck Chau Chaplain frbismarck@saintpatricksprocathedral.org
Joselina Castillo, Campus Minister joselina.newmanclubnewark@gmail.com

SCHEDULE: Welcome Mass on Sunday, September 11 at 5 PM in NJIT Student Center B35

Ramapo College

OFFICE: Find us online at: www.ramapo.edu/ministries/catholic-campusministry/

CONTACT: Fr Kevin Gugliotta, Chaplain, frkevin@iccmahwah.org

Deacon Pat Quagliana, deaconpatq@gmail.com

SCHEDULE: Opening Mass on Sunday, September 11 at 8 PM in the Student Center Alumni Lounge

Stevens Institute of Technology

OFFICE: Check out Newman Catholic on Ducksync and Facebook for more events and info!

CONTACT: Lawrence Laurente, Campus Minister laurenla@rcan.org, 973-652-8696

SCHEDULE: Welcome Mass on Sunday, September 4 at 5 PM in the Hayden Lounge
Free diner & social after!
First Newman Meeting on Monday, September 12 at 9 pPM in Babbio 204

Union County College

CONTACT: Fr Bill Sheridan, Chaplain wsheridan@kean.edu
Jackie Oesmann, Campus Minister joesmann@kean.edu (973) 900-3812 (cell)

UCCcatholics or www.UCCcatholics.org/

SCHEDULE: For upcoming events, contact Jackie.

THIS SUNDAY'S GOSPEL

Unexpected Reversals

Today's Gospel reading is the third of three parables in chapter 13 that deal with the theme of the unexpected reversals brought by the Kingdom of God. The other two parables are about the tiny mustard seed that grows into a large tree and the small amount of yeast that makes a large batch of dough rise. All three are about the few and the many and the Kingdom of God.

As this parable opens, Luke reminds us that Jesus is making his way to Jerusalem. This journey, this exodus as Luke refers to it, makes up the entire middle of the Gospel. He is teaching as he goes. A question from the crowd gives Jesus the chance to make a prophetic statement. Luke uses this question device a number of times in his Gospel. A few weeks ago, the question "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" led to the parable of the Good Samaritan. The question about will only a few be saved uses typical Christian language about salvation but also expresses the Jewish concern about whether everyone who calls himself a Jew is actually faithful to the covenant. This was a concern of the Pharisees.

Jesus answers that they must strive in the time remaining to enter through the narrow door because many will be trying to get in but won't be strong enough. He then moves to a parable about another door. (The translation says "gate" then "door," but the same Greek word is used.) Once all those entering the master's house are in and he locks the door, there will be no way for others to get in. Those left outside may knock, but the master will say he doesn't know them. Unlike the Gospel reading from a few weeks ago where Jesus was teaching about prayer, and we were told to knock and the door would be opened, in this parable, the master will not open and say he does not know us. People from the north, south, east, and west will take our place inside. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and all the prophets will take our place in the Kingdom of God. Those who do not make it through the narrow door will be cast out to where there is wailing and grinding of teeth.

The image of the door is replaced in the final verses of the parable with the image of the heavenly banquet. Two passages from the Book of Isaiah influence the conclusion. Isaiah 43:5-6 speaks of God bringing Israel's descendants back from the east and from the west, the north and the south. And Isaiah 25:6 speaks of the Lord providing a feast of rich foods and choice wines for all peoples on his holy mountain. The answer to the question if only a few will be saved is no. In the end, many will be saved, but many who thought they would be saved will not be saved. The parable is a prophetic warning to repentance in order to enter the kingdom.

Intercollegiate Events

Join events held jointly by many campus ministries

Catholic Intercollegiate Adoration

Monthly nights of Eucharistic Adoration and social time for college students!

Intercollegiate Retreat:

October 28-30

God, the Father, at the Archdiocesan Youth Retreat Center in Kearny

Contact Campus Ministry staff at your college for more information or visit www.ccm-nj.com for details and retreat registration!

Fathers Whose Children Have Died

The needs of fathers who have suffered the loss of a son or daughter are unique. The Office of Family Life Ministries of the Archdiocese of Newark invites all grieving fathers to a morning of prayer, sharing, and discussion, away from societal expectations, in the hope it will provide a special place of understanding and healing. The Support Group for Fathers Whose Children Have Died will meet on Saturday, September 17, 2016 at Notre Dame RC Church (in the Parish Center), 359 Central Avenue, North Caldwell at 10:00 AM. Pre-registration is requested. **Please call the Office of Family Life Ministries at 973-497-4327 for information, directions and registration.**

Hospice training course



Do you want to do volunteer work that *really* makes a difference in the lives of the terminally ill and their families? Volunteer roles include companionship for the patients, emotional support for patient and family, errands and telephone reassurance. Please consider the following: volunteer training program, Hudson Hospice Office, 93 Clerk St, Jersey City, NJ 07305. This program consists of six classes on six consecutive Tuesdays. Participants must attend all six classes. Tuesday mornings 10am to Noon or Tuesday evenings 7pm to 9pm. The classes begin August 23, 2016 and end September 27, 2016. **For further information, please call Sister Carol at 201-433-6225**

Pilgrimage

Catholic Pilgrimage sponsored by Our Lady of Mt Carmel to Fatima/Lourdes and Paris, September 12 – 22, 2016. Daily Mass, Breakfast and Dinner Daily. Air from NY JFK For a flyer of more info, call Cathie or Mike Milano at 1-800-773-2660

Class of 1972 Graduates!!

Looking for 1972 Graduates from St. Anne's Grammar School JC Heights. 45th Anniversary Reunion Celebration Scheduled for 2017.

Please contact: jam24336@aol.com and/or look for our page on Facebook "St Anne School JC Heights Class of 72."

DISCOVER

Bethlehem Handicrafts



From Bethlehem, the birthplace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Christian community is seeking your love and support through obtaining their handmade olive wood religious articles. These items will be displayed in front of the church after all masses this weekend. Your help can and will make a difference in the lives of your Brothers and Sisters in Christ in Bethlehem.



Bethlehem Handicrafts is a Christian organization which supports the families in Bethlehem, Holy Land who carve unique crafts from olive wood. Olive wood handicrafts such as crosses, nativity sets, angels, crucifixes, ornaments, figures of Virgin Mary and Jesus Christ, rosaries, bible and more. These olive wood products make great idea for holiday gifts as well as memorable souvenirs. Tourism is an only outside source of income to the town of Bethlehem which has dramatically dropped from the current situation that Bethlehem area faced after the year of 2000.

We humbly thank you for all your support. Also, Bethlehem Handicrafts is the trade name for the Bannoura family olive wood business. The international retail center for Bethlehem Handicrafts is based in the United States, with our factory in Bethlehem in the Holy Land. We do not have a factory in the United States.

All olive wood products are guaranteed to be produced in Bethlehem the Holy Land with genuine Holy Land olive wood.

Olive wood is by nature a grainy, multi-colored wood. Part of the attraction of olive wood is the unique texture and visual appearance of the wood itself. Furthermore, all items are handcrafted. Therefore, no two items are exactly alike, and therefore, absolute copies and duplicates of catalog images are impossible.



All through Love and Nothing through Fear

How to be inclusive and welcoming? Rev. Paul H. Colloton, OSFS explains

Isaiah offers us a vision of utter inclusivity and welcome: "From them I will send fugitives to the nations ... and they shall proclaim my glory among the nations. They shall bring all your brothers and sisters from all the nations as an offering to the LORD" (66:19-20a). Isaiah's words challenge us given our current world climate of fear and mistrust. Many, if not most, of us want to welcome all of our brothers and sisters, especially those in need due to unjust political and religious situations at home. However, with terrorist attacks and violence that seem rampant, the deeper desire to be welcoming is often overshadowed by the innate human desire for safety and protection. On one hand, this is understandable. On another, we must remember the words of Jesus that also call us to a deeper inclusivity: "People will come from the east and the west and from the north and the south and will recline at table in the kingdom of God. For behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last" (Lk 13:29-30). While we must be prudent and even cautious, that does not mean allowing fear to get the best of us and replace the acts of faith and inclusion to which our readings call us.

Pope Francis has spoken often about our need to welcome the stranger and see the Church as a mother whose care is expressed with special attention to sisters and brothers who must flee their homeland. They are in limbo, between the home of their roots and the countries that might become new homes for them. When he spoke to the US Congress, Pope Francis said: "In a word, if we want security, let us give security; if we want life, let us give life; if we want opportunities, let us provide opportunities" (9/24/15). We are a nation who has welcomed others from our beginning. When Pope Francis welcomed refugees to the Vatican this spring, he put his money where his mouth was, so to speak. His witness is a foretaste of the words from Luke that all will come from east and west and north and south and recline at table in God's kingdom made visible in that part of God's reign known as Vatican City.

How do we follow his example? How do we face our fears in ways that help us feel as safe as humanly possible and, at the same time, follow the Pope's call to find security by giving security? Today's second reading is our guide: "Do not disdain the discipline of the Lord or lose heart when reproved by him" (Heb 12:5). The discipline of prayer opens hearts and brings before the Lord what we find there—fear and hope—and helps us find strength and courage in the Lord. The discipline of study informs us more fully on issues that can seem daunting or off-putting at first glance. The discipline of dialogue allows truth to surface when we speak honestly and listen openly, especially to those with whom we disagree. The discipline of compassion helps us to feel with another, in the same way we would like others to feel with us. We strengthen our drooping hands

and weak knees by taking on these disciplines, like the athlete or musician whose discipline of practice brings freedom and facility in one's desired goal. Discipline of prayer, study, dialogue, and compassion brings us "the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who are trained by it" (Heb 12:11b).

Pope Francis models these disciplines for us in his letter to the 2016 Refugee Olympic Team. He wrote the team members: "I have learned about your team and read some of your interviews so that I could get closer to your lives and your aspirations. I extend my greetings and wish you success at the Olympic

Games in Rio—that your courage and strength find expression through the Olympic Games and serve as a cry for peace and solidarity... I pray for you and ask that you, please, do the same for me."

St. Francis de Sales taught that we should do all through love and nothing through fear. Our readings invite us to live these words and offer the tool of discipline to help us do so. By living what today's readings invite, Jesus will recognize us, know where we are from, and open the door for us to join the throngs gathered in God's kingdom. *Courtesy of Liturgical Press*



Prayer for Those Affected by the Floods

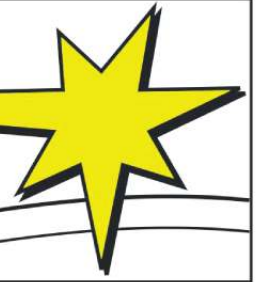
God of compassion,
You created a world for us
To know your love and peace
Yet amidst the beauty of creation
We encounter pain and hurt
And forces beyond our control.

At times like this our hearts are shaken and ache with sorrow
At the destruction of our lives, homes and livelihoods.
Hear our prayers for those affected by the floods
And for all those working
To bring relief and fresh hope.

Amen

Remember in your prayers
ALL THOSE AFFECTED BY THE RECENT FLOODING

Partners in FAITH™



Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith.

September 2016

Saint Anne Church, a Roman Catholic community,

Putting the J.C. in Jersey City for over a hundred years!

Make a fresh start with a new school year

Each new school year offers a new beginning. This is a chance to rethink your priorities, create a new family rhythm, and acquire virtues so parents and children can grow and learn.

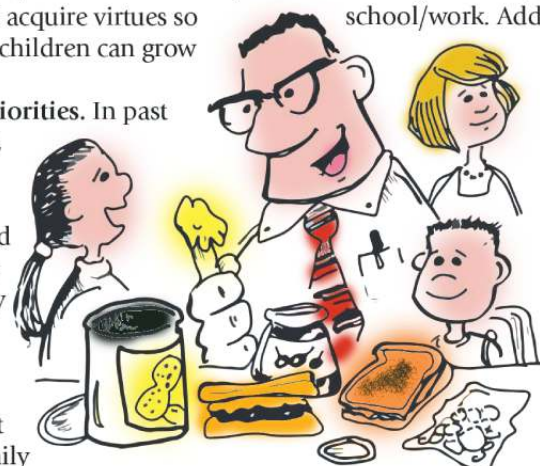
Rethink priorities. In past school years, have you found your family pulled in too many directions by a too-busy life? Consider blocking out time for family activities you value most: family meals, prayer together, Mass, religious education, school work, visiting relatives. Make these "immoveable." Then schedule other activities that will fit without causing stress. Say "no" to anything else.

Create a new family rhythm. Creating a predictable rhythm to days can give

your family life order, balance, and joy. Base the rhythm on anchor points of waking, bedtime, meal times, and school/work. Add in natural, calming

activities children can count on such as morning prayer, nighttime devotion, bedtime stories, and spiritually seasonal activities.

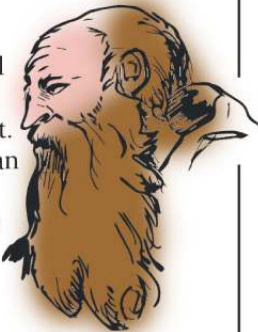
Acquire virtues. Virtues help us give the best of ourselves. As a family, choose a virtue each month that you would like to strengthen. The four Cardinal Virtues are considered key to acquiring others. Prudence enables us to make good choices. Justice helps us to play fair and see others' points of view. Fortitude ensures we don't give up when the going gets tough. Temperance keeps us from overdoing and keeps us in balance.



Thoughtful Moments

St. Jerome

After a classical education in his native Stridon, St. Jerome became an expert in Greek and Latin. At the age of 18, he was baptized in Rome and began more rigorous study. He was ordained, went to Constantinople in 380 AD to study Scripture, and then to Rome as secretary to the pope. It was then he completed his great work of translating the Bible into Latin, called the Vulgate. "Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ," said Jerome.



Confession spirals

Spiral notebooks make good Confession companions. In a spiral notebook, children can copy the form for Confession as a reminder, the Act of Contrition, the Holy Spirit prayer, and common prayers your priests may give for penance. They can also jot down their sins to tell the priest and then easily tear them out afterwards.

"Hold fast to instruction, never let it go; keep it, for it is your life"
(Proverbs 4:13).



Why Do Catholics Do That?

The word "catholic" comes from a Greek word that means "throughout the whole" or "universal."

The first record of the Church being called "Catholic" quotes a first-century letter from St. Ignatius to the Smyrnaeans,



Why is our Church called "Catholic"?

"Where the bishop appears, there let the people be, just as where Jesus Christ is, there is the Catholic Church." St. Cyril of Jerusalem (347) wrote, "Now it [the Church] is called Catholic because it is throughout the world, from one end of the earth to the other."

All God's children are loved

God created each of his children unique and all have great value in his eyes. How can you help youngsters appreciate and respect all God's children?

Nurture curiosity. Bring the world into your home. The local library is a rich source of books, maps, music, and movies about other cultures and people to whom you can introduce your children. Encourage youngsters to wonder what it is like to live in places different from theirs.

Encourage flexibility. Children who can adapt to new situations, improvise, and shift



strategies to meet challenges become more independent and creative problem solvers. They are also more likely to be competent in dealing with people from different backgrounds and cultures.

"Judge not, that you be not judged" (Matthew 7:1). Everyone on earth is God's beloved child. People who look, act, and sound different have life stories that are distinctive from ours. Teach children to show respect and empathy for those with disabilities, physical or mental difficulties, or who are experiencing hardships and may need help.

Scripture LESSON

Luke 16:19-31, Learn God's language of love

This is the story of a rich man who enjoys his life on earth, and a beggar who suffers, ignored, outside his door. In the afterlife, it is the rich man who suffers torment and begs for relief.

The rich man was condemned for two reasons. The first was because he had become blind to the suffering of others. He deliberately ignored the misery of the poor man right outside his door. He had the resources to bring a change in the man's situation but did nothing.

The second is because the rich man knew what Scripture said about how

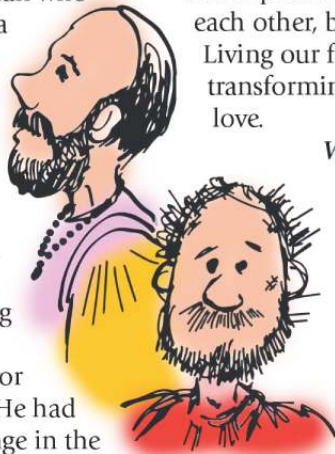
God expects his followers to care for each other, but he ignored it.

Living our faith means transforming prayer into deeds of love.

What can a parent do?

The key to learning God's language of love and how he wants us to speak it can be found in the Bible. Put your family Bible in a conspicuous spot in your home, one that will remind you to

read it together daily. Then talk about putting what you learn into action.



Parent TALK

Up to now, the questions my children have asked about our faith have been easy to answer. What I don't know off the top of my head, I can look up in the *Catechism*, the *Bible*, or our other Catholic sources.

As they get older, the questions get more challenging.

"Where did Jesus go after he died and before he rose?"

"If you do something you once knew was wrong but forgot, is it still a sin?"

And my favorite, "is your iPhone a false god? You are on it all the time."



To stay ahead of my girls, I stepped up my own religious education. I take an online scripture study class. I belong to a challenging women's faith group. I also attend lectures our pastor offers whenever I can.

Just as my learning didn't end when I graduated from school, my faith education can't stop with my Confirmation.

Feasts & Celebrations

September 16 – St. Cyprian (258). Born in Carthage to pagan parents, Cyprian converted to Christianity. A renowned theologian and speaker, he became a priest and then bishop of Carthage. He helped Pope St. Cornelius defend the Church against heretics and set guidelines for readmitting lapsed Christians. Cyprian was arrested for refusing to worship idols. He was exiled and executed.

September 28 – St. Wenceslaus (929). As the king of Bohemia, Wenceslaus worked to end the persecution of Christians in his country.

He encouraged German missionaries, built churches, and cared for the sick and poor. Political conflict led to his assassination by his brother. The "Good King" was immediately recognized as a martyr.

September 28 – St. Lawrence Ruiz and companions (1630). Lawrence was born in the Philippines to Christian parents—a Chinese father and a Filipino mother. Accused of murder, he fled, traveling with four Catholic priests and a leper to Nagasaki, Japan where there was violent persecution. They were arrested, brutally tortured and martyred on Okinawa.



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