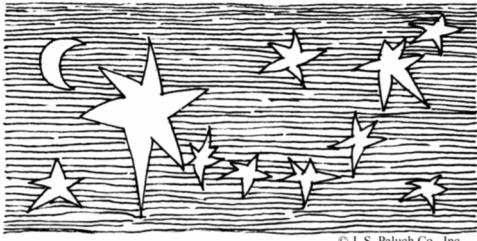


FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

February 8, 2015



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

The LORD tells
the number of
the stars and
calls them by
name.
-Psalm 147:4

MASS INTENTIONS

MON.,	Feb. 9 th	Weekday
7:00	A.M.	Bob Stephan r/o Bob & Agnes Paulis
TUES.,	Feb. 10 th	St. Scholastica, Virgin
12:00	P.M.	Richard Zakashefski r/o Wife, MaryAnn
WED.,	Feb. 11 th	Our Lady of Lourdes
7:00	A.M.	Robert & Loretta Goodwin r/o Goodwin Family
THURS.,	Feb. 12 th	Weekday
12:00	P.M.	Joseph & Christopher Comune r/o Comune Family
FRI.,	Feb. 13 th	Weekday
7:00	A.M.	Jerome Kehoe r/o The Franzetti Family
SAT.,	Feb. 14 th	Saint Cyril, Monk
8:00	A.M.	Maria & Luigi Renda r/o Family Parishioners
5:00	P.M.	
SUN.,	Feb. 15 th	Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00	A.M.	Catherine Canavan r/o Mr & Mrs. R. Stepien
10:00	A.M.	Maria Bertilda Valencia r/o Bertha I. Gonzalez
11:30	A.M.	John Struzinski r/o Betty & Ed Koznowicz
1:30	P.M.	Comunidad Hispana

LENTEN NOVENA- Our Lenten Novena began on Monday, February 2nd and continues every Monday through March 30th at 7:00 P.M. in the church. All are invited.

Week of February 8—14



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

Sanctuary Candles

Ellen & John S. Micca r/o Allison & Rachel Maggio

PRAY FOR THE SICK... In your charity please pray for the sick of our parish, the sick who remain in our intentions and those whose names are kept on our prayer list in the sacristy. Prayers are requested for the recent deceased: Diana Carolina Carmona Gonzalez.

A Prayer for Marriage

Heavenly Father,
through the intercession of the Holy Family,

Help us treasure the gift of marriage that reflects the love of Christ for the Church, where the self-giving love of husband and wife unites them more perfectly and cooperates in your plan for new life created in your image.

Help us support men and women in their vocation of marriage, especially in difficult times when they join their sufferings to Christ on the Cross.

Help us uphold the institution of marriage in our society as the place where love is nurtured and family life begins.

Help us acknowledge that our future depends on this love and on your providential care for us. Amen

Please pray daily for the vocation of marriage.

A note from our Pastor:

Today the Church celebrates **“World Marriage Day.”** Our Lady of Mount Virgin Parish congratulates and invokes God’s blessing on all husbands and wives on this special day in which we celebrate married life. Please join in prayer for the all of our married couples: “May the Lord continue to bless you as you live out the Sacrament of Marriage each day. May you know the love of God and the love of each other today and always! Amen.”

WEDDING BANNS

II Victor Gonzalez & Karen Sanchez

LENT IS LESS THAN TWO WEEKS AWAY! Now is the time to begin thinking about how we plan to spend the time of Lenten preparation as we look forward to Easter! Watch next week’s bulletin for information about the different worship and prayer opportunities that will be available at OLMV during Lent. **Don’t forget Ash Wednesday: February 18!**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Taize Service: March 1
Knights of Columbus Pasta Night: March 7

Lenten Penance Service: March 10

Cultural Diversity Ministry Bake Sale:
March 14—15

Lenten Mass of Anointing of the Sick: March 21
Baby Shower Collection: March 21—22



January 31—February 1.....	\$10,936.00
Hispanic Mass.....	\$667.00
Major Renovations.....	\$2,100.00
OLMV Sisters of Petra House.....	\$3,361.00
Catholic Education Collection additional.....	\$406.00
Weekly Parish Expenses.....	\$19,246.00

NAOMI TEA...

Sunday, Feb. 8th...12:30 -2PM in Petra House... We welcome ALL WIDOWS to join us for a gathering to share prayer, conversation, and refreshments. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet friends and discover others who have suffered the same loss. No need to register; just come and bring a friend or someone who might need a ride or a personal invitation. Small bite-sized desserts to share are also appreciated!

INTERFAITH GATHERING...

Join us on Sunday, Feb. 22nd at 12:30 PM in the Parish Center Cafeteria for an Interfaith Gathering . Ethnic food will be shared as well as conversation with our Muslim neighbors. This is a wonderful opportunity to express and live out what we say when we pray for *Peace And Unity*. Please sign your name on clipboards located on tables around the church so we can have an estimate of how many people will be coming to share in this gathering. All are welcome... bring a friend! Call Sr. James for more information (732-609-1091).



IMMEDIATE OPENING- CATECHIST NEEDED!

Communion Preparation Catechist Needed on Tuesdays (during March/April ONLY) from 6:15-7PM for one student. Please contact Mrs. Zmigrodski in the Religious Education Office to volunteer or request more information.

SACRAMENTS

First Penance: Due to the inclement weather on January 26 we have re-scheduled First Penance for our second grade children. First Penance will take place on Wednesday, February 25 at 7:00pm in the Church.

Confirmation: the Sacrament of Confirmation will be administered to our eighth grade students at 5:00pm on Sunday, April 19 at Mass.

Let us remember our young parishioners in prayer as they continue to grow in wisdom and grace before the Lord and as they continue to prepare to receive the Sacraments for the first time.

Children's Liturgy

February 15th, 10:00 am Mass

All families are invited for refreshments in the Church Hall after the 10:00 am Mass.

CROCHETTIERS AND KNITTERS

For those of you who are new, The Project Linus, we are a national non-profit organization and we offer comfort and security to children going through a crisis through the gift of handmade blankets. Blankets are needed for all age groups from infant to adolescents. The blankets are distributed to hospitals in the area and given to police for children involved in accidents.

We have expanded the Linus project to include baby blankets to our new-born children on the occasion of their baptism into our church. We are looking for pastel colored knitted or crocheted blankets. Blankets can be dropped off in the parish office.



My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Jesus continues his ministry. Even though we can presume that Jesus has come to Peter's home for a chance to relax and rest, he readily responds to the needs of others. He cures the sick and he casts out demons from those who are presented to him. He then goes off to pray. And we are reminded early In Mark's Gospel of the importance of prayer to Jesus. He must regularly renew himself with the Father so that he can continue his ministry to the people to whom he has been sent.

Peter realizes that Jesus has gone off somewhere so he looks for him. When he finds Jesus, he tries to get him to go back to his home and continue to minister to the crowd that has gathered. At first we are surprised that Jesus not only doesn't return to Peter's house and continue his ministry to those who have come to meet him; rather, he insists that now it is time to go to other towns and villages so he can preach to them. As Jesus tells Peter, "For this purpose have I come."

Indeed, Jesus is aware of his purpose, that is, to share the Good News of the Kingdom of God with the People of Israel. Today as we meditate on our Gospel passage we, hopefully, become aware of a powerful intensity as we encounter Jesus. We are still meditating on the first chapter of Mark's Gospel and we have already been present with Jesus as he comes forward to be baptized by John in the desert, as he enters into his desert (temptation) experience and as he calls his disciples. We have been with Jesus as he shares God's word in the synagogue at Capernaum, we have witnessed, in awe, the casting out of a demon. Finally we spend time with Jesus as he "rests" at Peter's home, as he cures many and also casts out demons. We now are with him as he tells Peter that they must move forward so that he can do that which is his mission: to preach the Good News. Jesus goes forth to surrounding synagogues and preaches the word and casts out demons!

I think that we who are among the 21st century followers of the Lord are invited today to consider the intensity with which Jesus shared the Good News of the Kingdom of God with the people of Capernaum and the surrounding communities. More than this, I think we are invited today to consider "our purpose" as 21st century followers of Christ.

Today, all too often, we seem to lack both the awe and the intensity with which we should encounter and then share Christ. Perhaps what is most telling in this first chapter of Mark's Gospel is the great desire of people, once they have encountered Jesus, to remain with him. Peter tries to get Jesus to go back to his house because "everyone is waiting for you." They have been awed by his presence and want to continue to be with him.

Shouldn't it be the same with us? We encounter Jesus at Mass and we even come forward to share in Eucharist. Yet so often, once we leave the church, the incredible encounter we have just experienced with the Lord easily fades into the background. We continue our day and week, often not even remembering that together we have heard the Word of the Lord and been nourished by the Lord in Holy Communion. Like the believers at Peter's house, we must be waiting for the Lord---always!!!

**In peace and prayer,
Father Pat**



THE DEANERY SCHOOL: HOLY SAVIOR ACADEMY

Holy Savior Academy, 149 South Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield. Come tour the pre-kindergarten-through-eighth-grade school and ask about plans for the upcoming school year, including our Academic Power Hour and the year-round pre-kindergarten program for 3- and 4-year-olds. Visit with our faculty and staff as well as with school parents and students. For more information, call 908-822-5890 or visit www.holysavioracademy.com.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL TUITION ASSISTANCE APPLICATIONS FOR 2015—2016 NOW AVAILABLE

Applications for financial aid through the Diocese of Metuchen Tuition Assistance Program for the 2015—2016 school year are now available at all diocesan elementary and secondary schools. Completed applications must be mailed to Private School Aid Service, postmarked no later than Tuesday, March 31, 2015. To obtain an application form, please contact the Principal or the main office of the school where the student is registering. A printable version of the form, both English and Spanish, is also available on the diocesan website at (<http://tinyurl.com/DOM-TuitionAssistance>).

Holy Savior Academy Spring Splendor Tricky Tray: Holy Savior is hosting its Spring Splendor Tricky Tray Saturday, April 18, 2015 at the school. Doors open at 6:30 pm. Tickets are limited and will be sold at Holy Savior on February 20 (2:00—7:00pm). All proceeds will benefit educational programs. For more information call 908-822-5890.

MINISTRY TO THE HOMEBOUND

We invite you to join in this beautiful ministry of bringing Communion to those who are ill or homebound in our parish. You may receive the consecrated Hosts at Mass on Sunday mornings, or other arrangements may be made that are more convenient for you or those you serve. If more ministers could be available, then each would need to visit only one or two shut-ins weekly, requiring about a half an hour to 45 minutes of your time, on a day of your choice. Please call the Parish Office (732-356-2149) to volunteer or Sister James at 732-609-1091 for more information. Your time and presence are urgently needed and greatly appreciated.

THE YEAR END CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS FOR TAX PURPOSES CAN BE OBTAINED BY CALLING THE PARISH OFFICE DURING THE WEEK.

JOY

THE FULLNESS OF JOY

IS TO BEHOLD GOD IN EVERYTHING



**OLMV ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY
"HELP LINE"**
732-356-2149 option 6

All calls for assistance are confidential

VEHICLE DONATION PROGRAM:

donate a running or non-running vehicle to help the less fortunate.
To do so please call the help line at 732-356-2149 option 6

2014 Bishop's Annual Appeal

Life-Changing Faith

The Office of Catechesis works to train and nourish parish leaders and catechists who teach and echo the faith, build up the life of the worshipping community, and lead others to commit themselves to living our Christian values in everyday life, according to age and ability.

Thank you to our parishioners who have already made a gift the Diocese of Metuchen Annual Bishop's Appeal. To date, 313 parish families have pledged almost \$58,795 toward our parish goal of \$85,200. Bishop Paul thanks all who have already made their yearly gift and encourages all of our families to generously support this appeal which supports so many of our diocesan ministries.

Your gift to Bishop's Annual Appeal strengthens and grows a family of faith.

Catholic Charities is currently seeking volunteers for the Connections Program. This program provides positive adult role models for children who have suffered loss or who have special needs.

Do you:

1. Have a minimum of three hours a week to offer to a child?
2. Like having fun?
3. Want to make a difference in a child's life?
4. Enjoy being a positive role model?

Then call Jeanette Cullen at **(732) 738-1323** OR email at jcullen@ccdom.org for more information.

Next Food Collection for Fish, Inc. Next Weekend. February 14 -15. We are asking each family to consider donating one or more of the following:

- A box of cereal or
- A package of rice or pasta or
- A canned good item or
- A can of coffee or
- A box of tea bags or

Any single non-perishable food item

We are grateful to all who contribute hearty foods during the winter months. Such foods include: stews, soups, tomato sauce, meats, etc. The staff at the pantry appreciate and count on these monthly contributions.

<<<<<<RINCÓN ESPAÑOL >>>>>>

NOTAS DEL PADRE PAT...

Lectores: Oportunidades para servir durante Misa. Para mas información llamar a Gabriella al 732-356-2149 ext. 1001.

Monaguillos: Todo niño que tenga su primera comunión y desee colaborar como Monaguillo puede hacerlo llamando a nuestra oficina para mas información.

Si desean llevar la Virgen a sus hogares lo puede hacer registrándose en la parroquia de Lunes a Jueves de 8:30 am—2:00 pm.