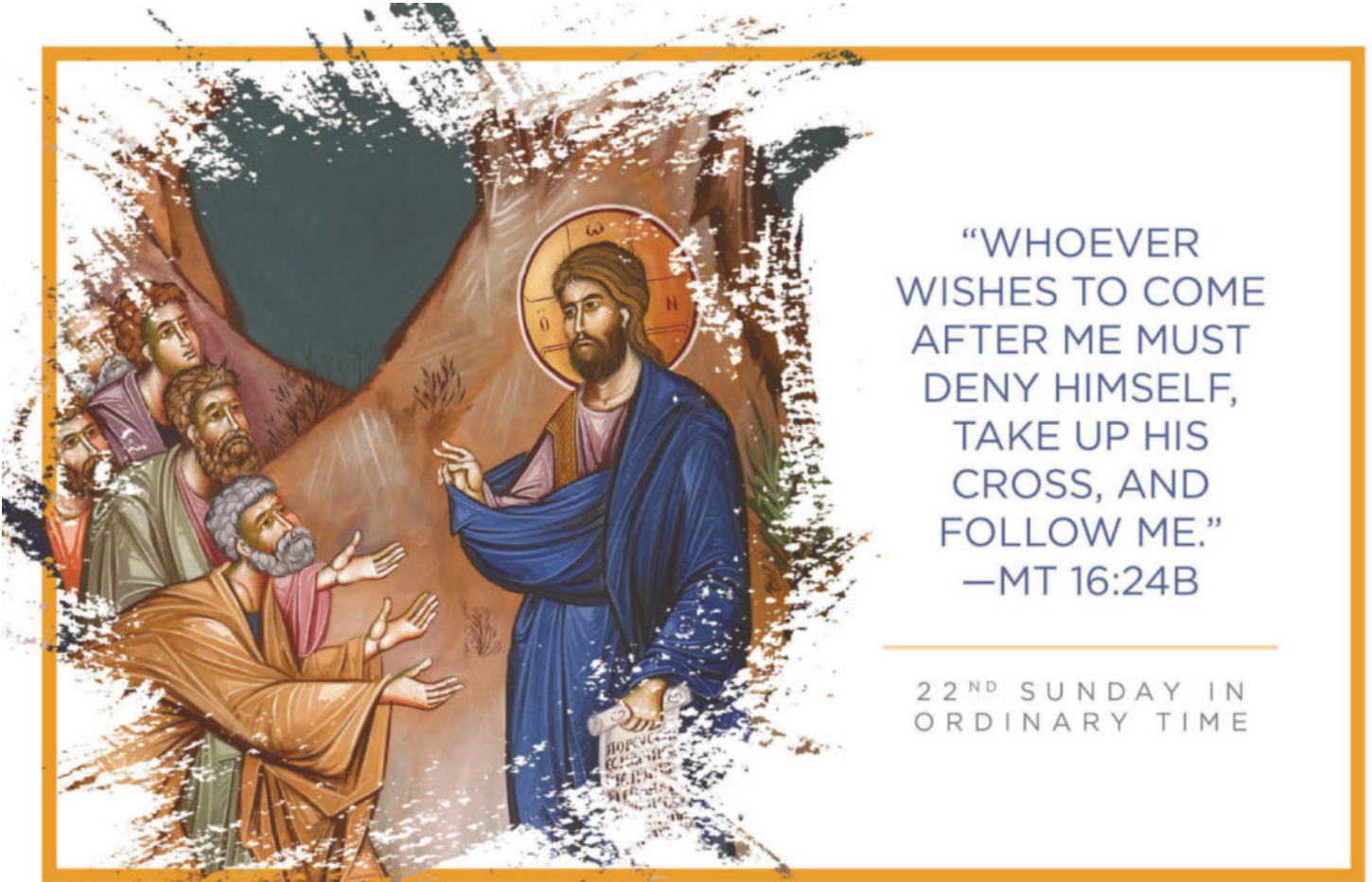


SEPTEMBER 3, 2023

SAINT CECILIA CHURCH, FONDA NY
SACRED HEART CHURCH, TRIBES HILL NY

Father Juanito Asprec, Parochial Vicar

Father Martin Kordel, Administrator



“WHOEVER
WISHES TO COME
AFTER ME MUST
DENY HIMSELF,
TAKE UP HIS
CROSS, AND
FOLLOW ME.”
—MT 16:24B

22ND SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME

EXCERPTS FROM THE LECTIONARY FOR MASS ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

~Weddings-Baptisms-Funerals~

~Please contact the parish office~

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E-mail: SCFonda@rcda.org

Sandi McCaslin, **Administrative Assistant**

Office hours:

Tuesday & Thursday, 9 am to 2:00 pm

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518-829-7301

E-mail: usacredh@nycap.rr.com

Sandi McCaslin, **Administrative Assistant**

Office hours:

Wednesday & Friday, 9 am to 2:00 pm

COLLECTIONS & ATTENDANCE

AUGUST 26 & 27, 2023—WEEKEND TOTALS:

COLLECTIONS:	SH	SC
WEEKLY COLLECTION	N/A	613.00
OTHER	570.00	150.00
HOME MISSIONS	N/A	177.00
<hr/>		
PARISH TOTAL	570.00	790.00
OTHER- E-GIVING, VIA USPS, VOTIVES		



Sun. Sept. 3, 8:30 am (SC) - 1.) †Anniversary remembrance for Frank & Marinda Arcesi, requested by their daughter MaryAnn.

2.) †In memory of Jenny Sponnenburg Bushey, requested by Michele Furnare.

Sun. Sept. 10, 8:30 am (SC) - 1.) †In memory of Emily Wray, requested by Jim Wray.

2.) †For the repose of the soul of David Kollar, requested by Michele Furnare.

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

September 3, 2023 - 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isn't it easy to relate to Peter? One moment Jesus announces Peter's deep communion with God the Father. The very next, when he rejects the logic of Jesus' suffering and death, Jesus calls Peter Satan. We Christians shouldn't be too shocked when we experience both spiritual highs and lows, when we perceive breathtaking contradictions in our hearts.

Like the great apostle, you and I are recipients of unfathomable graces. God dwells in us, calls his beloved children, and takes care of our every need. And we also continually fail to embrace our sufferings with trust in Jesus. We know the truth of the creed, but we easily scorn the weight of the cross.

The good news is that, like Peter, we are never abandoned by the Lord even at our worst moments. Peter will eventually learn the beauty of the cross when he is willingly crucified. But it took time for him to get there. And it takes time for us, too. This week let's not be too shocked at these divisions in our hearts but accept them and patiently seek to be more obedient to Jesus' cross-shaped plan for us.

~Father John Muir

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Lector/Eucharistic Ministers

Sept 2 (SH)	No Mass	Sept 9 (SH)	No Mass
Sept 3 (SC)	James Wray Bill Quinn	Sept 10 (SC)	Ann Mahon Dave Marcais

Counters Schedule

Sept 6 (SH)	Deb Swarczewski Noreen Brownell	Sept 13 (SH)	Kathy Avery Barb Bilins
Sept 5 (SC)	Lorna Quinn Pat Galeazza	Sept 11 (SC)	Bette Papa Sandy Hayes

Food Pantry



Sept 6 (SH)	Jamie Lemiszki John Nigro
Sept 27 (SC)	Dianne Kierpiec Kathleen Harris Ann Mahon



The Giving of Treasure

Question:

Why are Catholics required to give money to the Church?

Answer:

Offering money and other goods to God and the Church is, before all else, a statement of gratitude. We see this when we look at how our spiritual ancestors showed their gratitude to God for the gifts they had received (e.g. Genesis 14:18-20 and Genesis 28:16-22). One of the ways they offered thanks to God was through a practice called "tithing," in which 10 percent of a person's goods (crops, livestock, money, etc.) were given back to God.

Today, the practice of tithing — giving 10 percent — is still common in many Protestant communities, but it is not required for Catholics. Instead, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches us that, "The faithful also have the duty of providing for the material needs of the Church, each according to [their] own abilities" (no. 2043). This means that, although we are not bound to practice "tithing" in the traditional sense, we do share a responsibility to share our money or other resources with our parish communities. Like our spiritual ancestors, we give as a sign of our gratitude for the many gifts that God has given to us. Beyond this, we also share our resources with other Catholic organizations to help them finance their ministries, to continue and grow their outreach to the poor and the needy, and to provide just wages for their employees.

How much we give depends on our individual circumstances, but since we share a responsibility for the programs, outreach, and health of our parish communities and Catholic organizations, this question gives us a wonderful opportunity to ask some important questions about the quality of our giving and what our priorities are. Remember, we are only stewards of our time, talents, and treasures and as the First Letter of Peter reminds us, "As each one of you has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied graces" (4:10).

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Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary - September 8

The Church has celebrated Mary's birth since at least the sixth century. A September birth was chosen because the Eastern Church begins its Church year with September. The September 8 date helped determine the date for the feast of the Immaculate Conception on December 8.

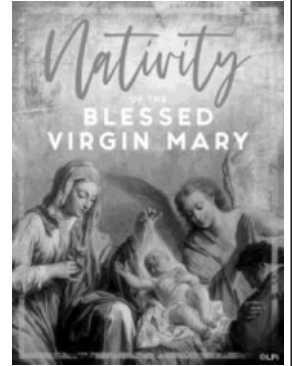
Scripture does not give an account of Mary's birth. However, the apocryphal *Protoevangelium of James* fills in the gap. This work has no historical value, but it does reflect the development of Christian piety. According to this account, Anna and Joachim are infertile but pray for a child. They receive the promise of a child who will advance God's plan of salvation for the world. Such a story, like many biblical counterparts, stresses the special presence of God in Mary's life from the beginning.

Saint Augustine connects Mary's birth with Jesus' saving work. He tells the earth to rejoice and shine forth in the light of her birth. "She is the flower of the field from whom bloomed the precious lily of the valley. Through her birth the nature inherited from our first parents is changed." The opening prayer at Mass speaks of the birth of Mary's Son as the dawn of our salvation, and asks for an increase of peace.

We can see every human birth as a call for new hope in the world. The love of two human beings has joined with God in his creative work. The loving parents have shown hope in a world filled with travail. The new child has the potential to be a channel of God's love and peace to the world.

This is all true in a magnificent way in Mary. If Jesus is the perfect expression of God's love, Mary is the foreshadowing of that love. If Jesus has brought the fullness of salvation, Mary is its dawning.

Birthday celebrations bring happiness to the celebrant as well as to family and friends. Next to the birth of Jesus, Mary's birth offers the greatest possible happiness to the world. Each time we celebrate her birth, we can confidently hope for an increase of peace in our hearts and in the world at large.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mass at Sacred Heart in Fr Juanito's Absence: At this time we are unable to find a temporary replacement for Fr. Juanito during his vacation. Saturday Mass at Sacred Heart will be canceled during this time (Aug 26 through Sept 30). We will alert you if this should change. There is a 4pm Saturday Vigil Mass at St. Mary's in Amsterdam as well as a 4pm Sunday Mass at Our Lady of Martyrs Shrine in Auriesville.

Saint Cecilia Sanctuary Light: Our candle burns this week for the Anniversary Remembrance of Frank & Marinda Arcesi, given by their daughter MaryAnn.

Saint Cecilia Parking Fundraiser: Volunteers are needed for our parking lot fundraiser on Saturday, **Sept. 16**. Please call or text Kelly Viscosi @ 518-774-7250

Saint Cecilia Rummage Sale: Our rummage sale will take place on Friday October 13 and Saturday October 14 with proceeds going to St. Cecilia's. We are asking for donations of gently used clothing, linens, household goods, knick-knacks, toys, books, CDs, DVDs and small furniture. Please, no tires, TVs, computers, broken or dirty items. Drop items off at the detached garage thru Oct. 9. Help is needed Oct. 10 and 11 starting at 8:30 and the days of the sale starting at 7:45. Any assistance is appreciated. Thank you for your generosity.

Scripture: Moses, Freedom, and 10 Commandments:

Saint Kateri Shrine is holding a Bible Course.

Exodus, Numbers

Sept 9 through Oct 14 (Saturdays 11AM to 12:15PM).

If you'd like to participate, send an email to Fr. Joe at joebangel@aol.com

Please Support Our Advertisers: Take a look at the back of your bulletin. The businesses on the back commit to a yearly ad. These ads PAY for the printing and distribution of our bulletin.

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary: Father Juanito has an awesome assignment in mind for us this month of September. September 8 is the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The Blessed Virgin Mary is given to us by Jesus as our Heavenly Mother and Intercessor. On Her Birthday this coming, will you join our parish community of honoring her by praying the Mysteries of the Holy Rosary that the Virgin Mary loves? And will you share your thoughts of how you remember the Blessed Virgin Mary in your daily activities? We invite you to share your thoughts to our Parish Facebook Pages **Sacred Heart Church** and **StCecilia Church**

You can start your thoughts with "I think of the Virgin Mary when I am....."

Upcoming Second Collections:

Sept 9/10—Fuel & Heat

Sept 16/17—School Assessment



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