

GIVE GENEROUSLY!

1Kings 17:10-16; Psalm 146:7-10; Heb. 9:24-28; Mark 12:38-44

"Giving is a beautiful symbolical way of saying - Thank you - I am grateful - I love you - I am available!" The scripture tells us "Happiness lies more in giving than in receiving" (Acts 20:35). It is when we truly love that we can give of ourselves to others. True love dies to itself and lives for others. Giving, therefore, can become a beautiful symbolic way of saying, "I love you - I am grateful for all that you mean to me." Giving is an expression of gratitude to God for all that He has done for us.

Last week Hurricane Sandy devastated most of the eastern coast of the United States. More than one hundred lives were lost - many homes were destroyed, rendering many homeless - many lost valuable belongings - many were left without electricity (some are still without power). In the midst of such devastation, our hearts go out to all the victims. We support them with our prayers - we pray to God to have mercy on the souls of those who lost their lives in the storm - for the living, that God might bring them consolation, restoration and hope for the future. Because we believe that "happiness lies in giving, not in receiving," we are called to give financial support to our brothers and sisters who are suffering the effects of the hurricane. Thus, our parishioners are asked this Sunday to donate generously, as their means can afford, to helping the Hurricane victims.

It is ironic that today's first reading talks about a man of God, Elijah, a stranger and an immigrant, who received love from a poor widow in time of need. She shared with "the man of God" the little cake, which was meant for her and her son. Initially, she was hesitant to share because it was the only thing left for them to eat. She had no hope of having any food the next morning. Elijah's request to have a share of the bread was a difficult one if not absurd. But he exhorted her: "Do not be afraid...the Lord says, the jar of flour shall not go empty, nor the jug of oil run dry..." A deeper reflection on the poor widow's act of kindness shows that **love** is not a feeling, but an attitude. It is made manifest in one's good acts and deeds to others.

In Jesus' time status was held in the highest esteem. One's status was often measured by how much money he could donate to the temple or to charity. The higher the amount the more prestige one got. As we see in today's gospel, Jesus, while in the Temple, had noticed the wealthy and leaders of the community donating money to the treasury out of their surplus. They did not donate out of love, but out of their concern for status and recognition. In the same Temple was a poor widow who "gave from her want, all that she had to live on." Even though she gave very little, Jesus praised her generosity because she gave, not out of surplus, but gave in love out of her want. She gave all that she had without holding back. She trusted and took the risk of giving generously. She made the greater sacrifice because she gave out of all that she depended upon.

Today's scripture exhorts us to "give out of love," not to "give out of compulsion." Most importantly, it is not what you give or how big / small your gift is, but the motive behind your giving. It is not the gift that matters, but the heart of the giver. As Christians we are called to support our community of faith. The scripture passage challenges you and me to participate in the "Tithing Program" of our parish. We must trust and believe that when we share the little or the much we have with others, our "jar of flour shall not go empty...nor (our) jug of oil run dry." For God loves a cheerful giver!

Rev. Anthony Ita Bassey, MSP

PARISH NEWS



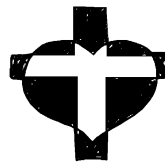
HOLY NAME SOCIETY

MEETING: This Monday, November 12th, the Holy Name Society will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the McManus Parish Center. All men of the Parish are welcome.



ALTAR FLOWERS for this week have been donated in honor of Bruce Beck, Fiore Brusco, John Brusco, Victor D'Angelo, Anthony DePaolo, Daniel J. DeRosa, Vito DeSantis, John DiRodio, Anthony Giuriceo, Robert Howley, David Jacob, Joseph Laudadio, Margaret Liddell, Robert Liddell, Martin Magzag, Carmine Manno, Frank Marra, Andrew T. McCormack, Gabriel Nanoia, Benjamin Pelliccio, Jerry Pisacreta, Francis J. Romano, Edward Smith, Harold W. Smith, and Robert Smith.

The Sanctuary Lamp and Altar Candles are lit this week in honor of their veterans by the Rosary Altar Society.



Our **SOCIAL MINISTRY** is having a special **Thanksgiving Food Drive through November 18th**. Please bring to church Thanksgiving appropriate, non-perishable fixings, such as stuffing, canned sweet potatoes, canned vegetables or fruit, boxed mashed potatoes, coffee, tea, juices, etc. Thank you.

We will be in need of **some frozen turkeys, fresh / frozen pies, desserts or fruit** on the **Sunday and Monday (November 20th & 21st)** of Thanksgiving week. Due to a lack of refrigerator / freezer storage space, we can only accept pies or turkeys at the lower level of the Rectory **before each Mass that Sunday or Monday morning between 6:45 and 8 a.m.** for distribution on that same Monday morning.

THANKSGIVING SHARING TABLE

It has been the custom at our Parish for those attending the 10 a.m. Thanksgiving Day Mass to bring something for our sharing table. Typically this would be along the lines of a pie, special bread, a favorite dessert, candy or flowers. At the end of Mass all items on the table are blessed and all are welcome to choose an item to add to their holiday table; thus sharing our meal with our Parish family. Please give some thought to what you might bring this year.

YOUTH GROUP: The first Sunday evening of each month immediately following the 5 p.m. Mass, our **Youth Group** meets in the McManus Parish Center. All youths age 13 and up are invited.

MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA: Held after the 9 a.m. Mass on Mondays.

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



THANK YOU to the 152 individuals who despite the obstacles created by Hurricane Sandy attended the **Family Faith Festival** on Saturday, November 3rd. The Divinity Game, a trivia game based on our Catholic Catechism, was a hit; and plans are afoot to share it with the rest of the parish in a future Parish Game Night. A special **THANK YOU** to our devoted catechists, to our Social Ministry Committee for the delicious meal provided, to our Youth Group for helping to serve the food, and to the many volunteers who staffed the event.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23RD

1:30 – 7:30 PM

MCMANUS PARISH CENTER

Please plan on participating in St. Bartholomew's Blood Drive the day after Thanksgiving. For an appointment call Tony Sciacca (423-3592).

Individuals 18-44 years old will have the opportunity to register with the National Marrow Donor Program at the drive. Those between 45 and 60 are encouraged to register online at www.bethematch.org.



CHILDREN'S MASS: Please make it a point to bring your child to our Children's Mass next Sunday and the rest of the Sundays in November. The 10 a.m. Mass will focus on our children. The Parish Children's Choir will sing the Mass. The children are encouraged to sit together during the Mass.

ANNUAL RETREAT: St. Bartholomew's **Rosary Altar Society** is holding its annual one-day Retreat for women on **Saturday, December 8th**, Feast of the Immaculate Conception, **from 9 a.m.-3p.m.** The program, *Encountering Mary as a Model of Gospel Living*, includes attendance at the 12 noon Mass and concludes with the Exposition of the Eucharist and Benediction. Fee is \$20 and includes breakfast and lunch. All women within and outside the parish are welcome! Please call Alice Jacob at 845-363-1088 or Dolly DeRosa at 914-969-6575 to make reservations.

PARENTS! TAKE NOTE!!

All children in the children's choir will be singing at the 5 p.m. Mass on Christmas Eve, December 24th. They will begin with Christmas carols at 4:30 p.m. We ask that the children attend all Tuesday practice sessions at 5:45 p.m. Part of these weekly practices will be in preparation for the Christmas Eve event.



EUCCHARISTIC DEVOTION: Held the First Friday of every month at 1 p.m. Please join us when you are able.

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTION: Held the First Saturday of every month at 3 p.m. All are encouraged to participate.

RECITATION OF THE ROSARY: Join your fellow parishioners in praying the Rosary after the 9 a.m. Mass on weekdays and Saturdays.



TITHING - GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING

November 6, 2011

Adults' Contribution	\$8159.65
Children's Contribution	\$136.10
Last Year's Total	\$8295.75

November 4, 2012

Adults' Contribution	\$7248.05
Children's Contribution	\$154.25
This Year's Total	\$7402.30

The collection for All Saints Day was \$2039.05.

The collection in support of our buildings & grounds totaled \$1904.15.

"The true purpose of tithing is to secure not the tithes, but the tither; not the gift, but the giver; not your money, but you... for God."

CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Next weekend we participate in a special collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. The Catholic Church is working to create lasting solutions to the problem of poverty through real community change. This Campaign gives us an opportunity to respond to the Gospel's call to solidarity with the poor. Please give generously.

REMEMBER YOUR BELOVED PARISH

Remember, "We make a living by what we earn. We make a life by what we share." Please remember our Parish in your Will as a lasting and loving gift to your parish family. Thank you!



Please pray for all the sick & the homebound members of our Parish, especially Ethel Thomas, Aldina Pereira, Rebecca Conroy, Andy DeFabritis, Maria Marte, Barbara Rup, Jule Yaskovic, Rosalie Heit, Florence B. Swetz, Clare Yaskovic, Neil Caruso, Raymond Fitzpatrick, Sr., Deacon James Byrnes, Andrea Objay, Carmen Torres, John Esposito, Frank Marra, Deacon Patrick Troy, Josephine Apuzzo, Edith Dugan, Gary Roth, Joyann Allan, Anna Rita Morgante, Lois Burton, Mary DeStefano, Mark Cianfaglione, Shawn Colon, Margaret Maccia, Nicole Ryan Betancourt, Anthony Spinner, Audrey & Alfred Falcone, Kathleen Hayes, Marge Muraik, Stan Buoninfante, Donna Vasconez, Gene DelBene, Nicole Pisani-Frame, Louis Petruolo, Cynthia Swiatkiewicz, Jimmy Maimone, Robert Mirsky, Steve Oddo, Roseann Mercandetti, Louis Brusco, Josephine Daniele, Jennifer Dorsey, Valerie Riccardi, Fatima Panik, Joanne Moscarello, Marian Fletcher, Anna Bonacci, Minerva Hernandez, Paula Parente, Barbara Olivieri, Carol Swetz, Bridget O'Malley, Anna Brucculeri, Peggy Clevenberg, Gerald Mazzerese, Jr., Patricia Keane, Louis Milone, Joey Bastardi, Carol Stola, and Amada Ortiz.

The **CANCER SUPPORT GROUP** will meet this Wednesday, November 14th, at 7 p.m. in Room 111 of St. John's Riverside Hospital, 967 North Broadway, Yonkers, for education & support to help cope with cancer. Call (914) 964-4441 for information.

NOVEMBER 11, 2012



Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, November 10 (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM Mary & Joseph Cuzzo +

Sunday, November 11

8:30 AM Carl Dietze, Robert & Chester Rodesky +

10:00 AM Loretta & Michael Kennedy +

11:30 AM For All the People of Our Parish

5:00 PM Ramberto Blanco +

Monday, November 12

Saint Josaphat, Bishop & Martyr

7:00 AM Deceased Members of Salerno & DelBene Families

9:00 AM Carmella & Frank Gerace +

Tuesday, November 13

Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin

7:00 AM Patricia Ortley (living)

9:00 AM Ermanno & Rachel Travaglini +

Wednesday, November 14

Weekday

7:00 AM No Intention

9:00 AM Angelina Brusco +

Thursday, November 15

Weekday

7:00 AM No Intention

9:00 AM William & Eva Blasko +

Friday, November 16

Weekday

7:00 AM Christine Plunkett +

9:00 AM Stephen Hickey +

Saturday, November 17

Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious

9:00 AM Madeleine Savard +

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, November 17 (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM For All the People of Our Parish

Sunday, November 18

8:30 AM Alexander Mikos +

10:00 AM Charles & Stefana Barba +

11:30 AM Julieann Campisi Moroch +

5:00 PM Carolina Barbieri (Memorial) +

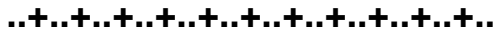
THE CATECHISM & THE YEAR OF FAITH



The *Year of Faith*, with its focus on the encounter with Jesus Christ and deepening of faith, calls for a Church-wide effort to rediscover the Catholic Faith in its fullness. Knowledge of what the Church believes and teaches is necessary if faith is to be authentic and made entirely one's own. For this reason, the Church will turn her gaze to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* as a "precious and indispensable tool -

one of the most important fruits of the Second Vatican Council - a valid and legitimate instrument for ecclesial communion and a sure norm for teaching the faith" (*Porta Fidei*: 11).

In the *Catechism*, we will find the full "symphony" of the Catholic Faith, made up of many articles, but united as one whole, a seamless garment of truth. Through our study of the *Catechism* we recognize that our love for Jesus Christ matures as we grow in knowledge of all that He taught and entrusted to the Church. The *Catechism* is an especially powerful tool for renewal because it draws from all the major sources of the Faith: Sacred Scripture, the Fathers of the Church, the Doctors of the Church, and the saints across the centuries. Ultimately, the *Catechism* has real power to transform our Faith because "on page after page, we find that what is presented here is no theory, but an encounter with a Person who lives within the Church" (*Porta Fidei*: 11). What is contained in the *Catechism* is not merely information, but the Lord Himself Whom we desire to encounter more intensely this year.



Perhaps one of the most misunderstood sacraments is the Anointing of the Sick. The cause is probably its past history and name: Extreme Unction. Many still refer to it, incorrectly, as the Last Rites. (Unfortunately, it is still pictured as such in many films.) In the ritual of the sacrament as well as the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* recalling the words of the Second Vatican Council it is stated: The Anointing of the Sick "is not a sacrament for those who are at the point of death. Hence, as soon as anyone of the faithful begins to be in danger of death from illness or old age, the fitting time for him to receive this sacrament has certainly already arrived." (CCC 1514) The *Catechism* goes on to remind the believer that the effects of the sacrament are both spiritual and possibly physical. Because the forgiveness of sin is involved in its celebration only those ordained priests may confer it. Physical healings have been known to result in its bestowal. The *Catechism* also mentions that the sacrament should be celebrated when a serious surgery is in prospect. (A practical point: although there are some wonderful deacons and religious who act as chaplains in our medical facilities, they cannot, as stated above, administer the sacrament. Therefore, it is wise to seek the Sacrament of the Sick from one's pastor before entering the hospital). It should also be noted that the experience of chronic illness might also call for periodic reception of the sacrament. Examples of such disease are diabetes, heart ailments, kidney diseases, as well as physical infirmity. It is a great sadness for parish priests to be requested to celebrate a funeral Mass for a person who has dwelt in their parishes without their knowledge. Families had never informed the Church that an elderly family member or homebound person was living with them. Your priests want to be of service to those who would benefit greatly from the graces of the sacramental life of the Church and the mercy of Christ. Finally it should be noted that the Church believes it to be preferred that the Anointing takes place in the context of receiving the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist. After all the companionship of Christ in Viaticum is the greatest source of comfort for one's final moments on earth.

