

September 6, 2009 *Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time*



Saturday, September 5

5 p.m. **Ed, Scott, Brian & Dot Wyker**
r/o Wyker Family

Sunday, September 6

8:00 a.m. **Elizabeth, Louis & Thomas DeBari**
r/o Sam & Marietta Tridente

10:30 a.m. **George Reynolds**
r/o Family

Monday, September 7, Nativity of the Blessed Mother

No Morning Mass

6:30 p.m. Mary Falvo
r/o Barbara, Angela, Maria & Anthony

Tuesday, September 8

8:45 a.m. **Iolanda Nappa**
r/o Maira Iannelli

Wednesday, September 9

8:45 a.m. **Margaret Martin**
r/o Veronica Gender

Thursday, September 10

8:45 a.m. **Patricia Kinnaman**
r/o Altar Rosary Society

Friday September 11—No Mass

Saturday, September 12

5 p.m. **Jim Ackerman**
r/o Eileen & Jim Mattison

Sunday, September 13

8:00 a.m. **Jennie & Corrado Tridente**
r/o Sam & Marietta Tridente

10:30 a.m. **Ann Marie Dickson**
r/o Maguire Family

Sunday, September 20, 10:30 Mass

Father Zenek will profess his faith at the 10:30 Mass on September 20, where he will be formally installed as the Pastor of St. Theodore Church. You are cordially invited to attend the Mass and the reception (in the Parish Center) immediately following. We offer our prayers in thanksgiving for Father Zenek. May God bless him as He has blessed us.

Please Note: Monday, September 7: there will not be a morning Mass. There will be, however, a Vigil Mass for the feast of the

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary at 6:30 p.m. on this date. From this date on all Vigil Masses will be said at 6:30 p.m.

If you wish to commemorate a special day in memory or thanksgiving of a love one, Sanctuary candles are available. The name of your love one and the intention will be published in that week's bulletin.

Dear Parishioners!

Imagine your first anything: your first swimming experience, your first airplane flight, and your first day on the job. For all my firsts, there seemed always to be a person standing by telling me not to be afraid, "Don't be scared." Easy for them to say, I'm standing out here on the edge of the diving board, alone! The Gospel is literally a quite touching story. People bring to Jesus a man who has hearing loss and an inability to communicate through sound-words. This man's friends ask Jesus to lay hands on him which he does by putting his own fingers into the man's ears while praying. He then prays, "Be open". The crowd sees that Jesus has done all things well by fulfilling the expectations of what a Messiah should be doing.

Perhaps the difference between listening and hearing is that when we are listening we allow what we hear to change something within us or about us, or about others. The Gospel calls this fellow, "a deaf person". That is what others called him and so that was his name, his image, his defectiveness. In placing His fingers into the man's ears, Jesus is asking the man to be open to whom Jesus names him. The challenge before the man then, would be to live that healed name.

Jesus redeems this man more than heals him. This is the work, the laboring, of Jesus to bring all of us out of our deafness, to lives of

hearing deeply that to which Jesus asks us to listen. He did all things well, except He cannot force any of us to really listen and allow what we hear to bring us more into full creation. We have our own personal fingers in our ears and we can be so accustomed to not listening that we can assume nothing different is being spoken.

There is a challenge implied in our hearing what Jesus says about us. Change comes from listening, but change is frightening and so we hear the ever-present God saying to us as well, "Swim, fly, dive, dance, do not be afraid, things are going to be better if you hear who you really are."

Fr Zenek, SDS (Society of Divine Savior)

Please Note: The Parish Office and the Office of Religious Education will be closed Monday, September 7.

Interested in Becoming a Catholic?

Have you ever thought about becoming a Catholic? Or, having been baptized Catholic, have you considered completing the Sacraments of the Eucharist and Confirmation (Sacraments of Initiation)? If you have answered "Yes", the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A.) will help with your journey. This program will bring you together with others who desire to know the Lord Jesus Christ in the truth of the Catholic faith. As you undergo catechesis, reflect on the scriptures and contemplate the call to faith in Christ, you will be preparing for Baptism and/or reception and completion of the Sacraments of Initiation. Also invited to attend are adults who are interested in broadening their knowledge of and intensifying their commitment to the Catholic faith. Meetings will begin in October. Contact Rose Strohmaier: 908-689-5173 or [908-303-9692](tel:908-303-9692) or Father Zenek at [908-689-8318](tel:908-689-8318). When leaving a message, please give your name and telephone number

Tricky Tray Event

Our annual Tricky Tray event will be held on 12/4/09 in the Parish Center. We hope to receive from you theme baskets, new gifts, gift certificates to restaurants, concerts, theater, sporting events. We also need shrink wrap, basket bags, bows, ribbons, tissue paper and packing materials, etc.

Our first planning meeting will be held on September 27 at 7 p.m. in the Rectory. We hope many parishioners will attend.

Food Pantry

Nonperishable food is needed for residents of the Port Murray/Washington area. If you are able to donate, please drop off your items in the Parish Center. Our volunteers make weekly trips to the Food Pantry in Washington.

Dutch Valley Florists of Rt. 31, Hampton, NJ

have been donating beautiful roses and other varieties of flowers to our church. Our Sanctuary has been adorned in splendid style for many months due to their kindness and generosity. It is only fitting that our parishioners show their gratitude by purchasing flowers from them for special or any other occasion. Their work is outstanding.

7th & 8th Graders and Parents

I am asking for 7th & 8th Graders and parishioners to help clean the church and property before my installation Mass. If you could give up some of your time to help, please come to the church on September 12 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Service hours will be granted to the students. Thank you.

Fr. Zenek

Interested in being an Altar Servers? If you are in 3rd Grade or higher and interested in becoming an altar server, please see me after any Mass. Fr. Zenek

Our Weekly Offering

Last Week \$2,960.14 Last Year \$2,778.51



Special Collection

Sept 12 & 13: Major Maintenance

Religious Education Information:

- Religious Education will begin with Mass at 6:15 p.m. on September 14. All students and their parents are required to attend this Mass and should sit together during Mass. Text books will be given to students after the Mass.
- There will be a Catechist meeting on Saturday, September 12 following the 5 p.m. Mass. All catechist and aides are to attend.

Margaret Glackin, Chris, Bree, Anna & John Saks, Heather, Stephen, Ray & Alice O'Donnell, Vickie Li Puma, Theresa, Mary, Robert Gross, Lillian Shaffer, Bridget, Beatrice Gillis, The Hance Family, Erin Stanton, Theresa Kugelman, Katlyn Faulkner, Denise Piazza, Chris Gilheany, Steve, Dolores. To add Name: Call Parish Office 908-689-8318; email Rose Strohmaier at: strohmaier@yahoo.com to add name to the Prayer Chain.

Please Note: Beginning Sept. 19, Petitions to Preserve the Definition of Marriage will be circulated after all Masses in September. The signed petitions will be hand-delivered to State of NJ legislators showing our resolve to preserve the definition of marriage as the union of one man and one woman. We ask you to take time to sign this petition and defeat the “Same –Sex Marriage” law proposed by Governor Jon Corzine and some members of the NJ legislature, which they intend to establish in the “lame duck” legislative session after this year’s November elections.

Altar Servers

Sept 12: Evan & Ryan Moran

Sept 13: Robert & Juliette Capaldo-8; Angleica Jackson, Melody Haag, Kaitlyn Gagliano-10:30

Sept 19: Sean Flaherty & Auston Viotto

Sept 20: Mackenzie & Robert Mason-8; William & Walter Gonsiewski, Sarah Kochan-10:30

Lectors

Sept 12: Christine DeLellis

Sept 13 Joan Capaldo 8; Bob Gagliano 10:30

Sept 19: Fran Licciardiello

Sept 20: Joan Capaldo 8; Mary Rupell 10:30

Eucharistic Ministers

Sept 12: Tim Moran, E, Ginny Moran C, Charles Shipley C

Sept 13: Monica Merkel E, Bill Supple C, Nadie Hill C 8; Joy Haag E, Tina Jackson C, Helene Picht C 10:30

Sept 19: Eileen Mattison E, Jim Mattison C, Tim Flaherty C

Sept 20: Bill Supple E, Karl & Rose Strohmaier C