



Dear Folks,

In today's reading from Luke's Gospel, the disciples ask Jesus to teach them how to pray. What is important to grasp is not the words of the prayer (Luke's version of the Lord's Prayer is shorter and more concise than Matthew's version), but the attitude of prayer Jesus teaches. To pray is not to impose our will on God but to ask God to make us open to his will; in other words, we pray not to change God's mind but for God to change ours.

We often approach prayer as if we are trying to wring gifts from an unwilling God; in fact, we come before a God who knows our needs better than we do ourselves.

Prayer, as Teresa of Avila taught her sisters, "is the conformity of our will to the will of God."

Authentic prayer is not a formula or ritual but an awareness of God's presence in our lives, of God's hand as sustainer and nurturer of creation, of God's love giving breath to every moment of our existence..

Love,

Fr. Mike

✠ Masses for the Week ✠

Sunday, July 25

- 5:30 Dorothy Davenport
- 8:00 Domenick Scioli
- 9:30 Leonardo Pimentel
- 11:00 Manuel Bustillo
- 12:30 Helen & George Hauerstein

Monday, July 26

- 8:00 Bart and Ellen Lynch
- 11:30 Christina Hecker 1st. Anniv.

Tuesday, July 27

- 8:00 Michael J. German, Sr., 11th Anniv.
- 11:30 Domenick Pileggi

Wednesday July 28

- 8:00 Jane Miranda Finch
- 11:30 Oreste Manciani

Thursday, July 29

- 8:00 Amber Gillespie
- 11:30 Ellen Mary Ward

Friday, July 30

- 8:00 Pat and Tracy Armellino
- 11:30 Maria Ren

Saturday, July 31

- 9:00 Patrick Lawler
- 5:30 Lucy Finnegan

Sunday, August 1

- 8:00 Richard Kanestrin
- 9:30 Walter O'Boyle
- 11:00 People of the Parish
- 12:30 Fitzpatrick & McConnell Families

Parish Prayer Chain

To request prayers for any need, call:

- Cristina Casanova, (201) 342-8655
- Eleanor Grybowski, (201) 262-0306
- Rose Mary Dignam, (201) 262-5637
- Lillian Terlizzi, (201) 262-3558

WORD OF LIFE

I do not mean to say that caring for the elderly and others is not a burden. It can be, sometimes significantly so. I am saying that bearing this burden is so central to being human that if we run from the burden, we not only disrespect the elderly and vulnerable, we dehumanize ourselves.
 ~ William E. May, "On Being a Burden to One's Family,"
 Culture of Life Foundation Briefs (March 26, 2010)



The Altar Bread is given in Loving Memory of Margartetta Bollinger by Teresa and Dave Donohue and Family

The Altar Wine is given in Loving Memory of Jack Lucey 1st. Anniv. By Maryanne Dugan and Family

The Altar Lamp is given in Loving Memory of Jack Lucey by Marybeth and Jim Flynn.

ST. PETER ACADEMY
MIDDLE STATES ACCREDITED
The Catholic School Advantage
EDUCATION PLUS...
www.spare.org

REGISTRATION IS ONGOING DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS

PreK-3 Program— Age 3 by Oct. 1
Mon/Wed/Fri Program 8:00—11:00 am

PreK-4 Program—Age 4 by Oct. 1
Full Day Program 8:00—2:30pm

Kindergarten Full Day Program—Age 5 by Oct. 1
Reading, Language Arts, Math, Computer,
Spanish, Phys Ed, etc.

Grades 1 – 8
Complete Academic Program

After Care for PreK 4 – Gr. 8

Check the website and call the School Office
for an appointment and tour of the school
(201) 261-3468

CATCH THE SPIRIT

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Jer 13:1-11; Mt 13:31-35
Tuesday: Jer 14:17-22; Mt 13:36-43
Wednesday: Jer 15:10; 16-21; Mt 13:44-46
Thursday: Jer 18:1-6; Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42
Friday: Jer 26:1-9; Mt 13:54-58
Saturday: Jer 26:11-16, 24; Mt 14:1-12
Sunday: Eccl 1:2; 2:21-23; Ps 90; Col 3:1-5, 9-11;
Lk 12:13-21

FAMILIES LIVING THE GOOD NEWS

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C
July 25, 2010

Sunday's Gospel, Luke 11:1-13.

Gospel Summary

This Gospel reminds us of three things. First of all the disciples asked Jesus how to pray and he gave them a model we call the "Our Father." Jesus gave the disciples a form of prayer that praises and petitions God. Next there was the example of a friend who came in the middle of the night to another's house asking for bread. The visitor awoke his friend with a plea for bread, but the sleeping friend did not want to be disturbed. Perhaps it would not be their friendship that got the first man his loaf of bread, but his persistence. So, the only way to continue his night's sleep was for the second man to give his friend the bread. In this parable, Jesus made clear that we need to be persistent in prayer. Finally, Jesus asked what father would hand his son a snake when asked for a fish, or a scorpion when asked for an egg. The point of this illustration was to show the disciples that God would give us the most important gift, the Holy Spirit.

Reflection for Families

It is easier for parents to appreciate the love God has for each of us. We strive to care for our children and provide the things necessary for their well being. We see to it that they have nutritious meals rather than junk food each day. We find a way to provide warm clothing and shoes in the cold weather. We don't hand our children something that would harm them when they ask for something that would nourish or protect them. We learn from this Gospel today that the greatest gift God can give us is the Holy Spirit. Like a child, we only need to stretch out our arms and be open to receive this gift.

Bringing the Gospel Into Your Family

As you pray the Our Father this week, have each family member reword the prayer in a way that brings meaning to that person's life in the twenty-first century. What is the daily bread you require? what is it that you really need most? When you ask for sins to be forgiven, what are they? What are the hurts you need to forgive someone else for? What are the things that tempt us not to follow God's ways? As your family prays this week, focus on each phrase and encourage everyone to think about exactly what they are saying or asking for when they say the words of this familiar prayer.

Discussion Starters

1. There are many times God has answered my prayers. One time I remember in particular was when ...
2. One thing I do when it is difficult for me to pray is ...
3. One time when my persistence paid off was when ...

“LIFE AND FINANCIAL PLANNING - ARE YOU PREPARED?”

The Stewardship Council sponsors a series to help you plan for the expected and unexpected events in life. A panel of attorneys, financial planners, and other specialists will answer your questions about estate planning, taxes, wills, serious illness, long term care, etc. Each session focuses on a specific stage in life.

September 9, 2010 - Near or Into Retirement
September 30, 2010 - Mid-Career
October 14, 2010 - Young Adults, Single and Married

Sessions start at 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Center. While not required, advance registration is available on the website. All are welcome.

Eighth Graders and their families interested in attending a Catholic high school in September 2011

THE COOPERATIVE ADMISSIONS EXAMINATION

For participating Catholic High Schools in the Archdiocese of Newark will be administered on Friday, 5 November 2010.

Application forms and Handbooks for this test and a listing of all Catholic High Schools and their admission requirements are available from:

- MCS/CTB at their Web site, www.coopexam.org or e-mail support@coopexam.org
- Catholic Elementary Schools of the Archdiocese of Newark
- Catholic High Schools of the Archdiocese of Newark

QUESTIONS or to obtain registration form, please call 1-888-921-2667 or visit www.coopexam.org.

Ministry to the Sick and Homebound

If you know someone who is sick or homebound and would like to be visited please call the rectory 201-261- 3366.

**St. Peter the Apostle Parish
International Food Festival
Saturday, September 18, 2010
6:30pm - 9:00pm**

Take a culinary trip to explore the aromas and tastes of worldwide cuisine without getting on an airplane or experiencing jet lag.

If you are interested in making your favorite ethnic dish for this fun, free, family event, please contact:

Dawn: 201-967-8112 dmrivas@hotmail.com

Ann: 201-262-1577 abcannon@optonline.net

Hosted by Small Christian Communities Core Team

What's a prayer labyrinth?

More and more churches are creating labyrinths for church members to enhance their spiritual life.

A labyrinth is a circuitous path that people walk, stopping at various sites to meditate, reflect on their life and find peace, renewal and direction for living.

A labyrinth isn't a maze for fun. It's a walkway to a center and back out again. Pictures of various labyrinths are available online.

To find a labyrinth near you, visit www.labyrinthociety.org.

UPDATE: Family Shelter Ministry at St. Peter's

Great news! Family Promise of Bergen County has procured a Day Center for this ministry. The Day Center is where guests will spend their daytime hours before returning to the host congregation each night. The Day Center will be in Ridgewood and renovations are underway to accommodate the needs of the guests (showers, laundry facilities). Also, Family Promise is in the process of finalizing the calendar for host congregations and they anticipate that the first congregation will host guests in mid-to-late October. Our parish will most likely have our first guests during the month of November. All volunteers who will be interacting with guests while they are here in our parish will need to participate in mandatory training which will take place about one month before the guests are scheduled to arrive for the week. The next step for Family Promise is to obtain a van that will transport guests between the Day Center and the host congregation. We anticipate that our parish will need approximately 70 volunteers a week to assist with set up, food preparation/serving, activities and other vital tasks. Updates on the progress of our new ministry will appear in the bulletin as they develop.

TROUBLED MARRIAGE??

See helpourmarriage.com or retrouvaille.org.

A Catholic-based program open to all faiths. Next NJ/NY area weekend July 30 – Aug. 1 at the Gov. Morrison, Westin Hotel, Morristown, NJ. For registration, call 732-457-0959.



Our parish community welcomes these newly baptized babies as they join our family after Baptism in our church. Welcome:

Gavin James Chin
Sophia Isabella Tartari

COUNCIL CORNER

The months of June and July are significant to the Pastoral Council of Ministries. At the end of June, Eduardo David, Tony DiBisceglie, Mary Donohue, Lori Haggerty and Linda Hodges completed their three year terms on the Pastoral Council. Succeeding them in the month of July to the council are Dave Ashley, Peter Faiz, Tom Haggerty, Diane Montemurro and Noreen Scala. Joanne Mitchell George moves from Vice Chairperson to Chairperson and Mary Davis was discerned to be the Vice Chairperson. Many thanks to those leaving the council for all of their time, talent and treasure that they gave to St. Peter's. May their commitment be an inspiration to the new members, to whom we say welcome.

Back-to-School Drive

For many needy families this time of year can be very stressful. It is hard



for them to find the money to buy their children back-to-school clothing and supplies. St. Peter's will once again help out clients at the Food Bank with our annual Back-to-School drive. Please take a tag from the school house display in the gathering space of the church. Buy the item listed on the tag or on the list posted by the Back-to-School display in the Gathering Space. Return the back-to-school supplies to the display between now and 12 noon on August 8. Your generosity makes a lot of children very happy and excited to return to school! If you would like to help with this effort, please call Susan Carney at 201-265-5410.

BOOK COLLECTION

Colette Kost is collecting books for her Girl Scout Gold Award project, where she will be setting up a library for the Boys and Girls Club in Hackensack. If anyone has new or gently used books for children ages 10-14, they can either be dropped off at 409 Bogert Road or call (201)967-7210 for pickup. Flyers can be found in the gathering space.



ATTENTION ALTAR SERVERS

SAVE THE DATE!

MONDAY, AUGUST 30TH

GREAT ADVENTURE TRIP

MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW



JUSTFAITH NEW INFORMATION SESSION WEDNESDAY JULY 28 7:30 PM—CASAZZA CENTER

Summer days allow more time to take stock of your life and faith. Do you have a sense of looking for something more in your faith journey? In these polarizing times, do you wonder what the Church teaches about poverty, war and peace, consumerism and the environment, racism and immigration? Perhaps you're being invited to encounter the Good News in terms of some of these pressing social issues of our day. Maybe you just want to learn more. Maybe you find yourself wanting to do more. Consider joining the next JustFaith group beginning in September and most Wednesdays thereafter for 30 sessions. Contact Mary Bertani at 201-783-3885 or mbertani@verizon.net.