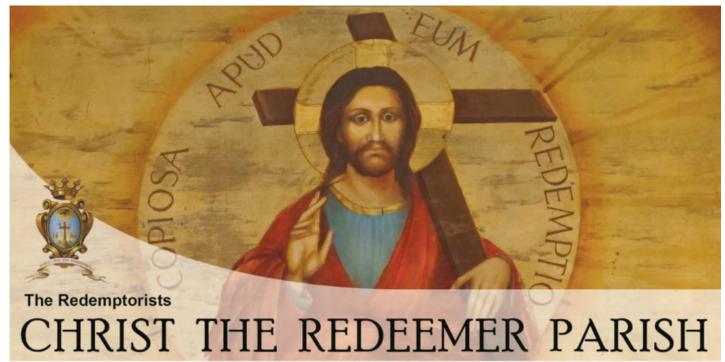
August 17, 2025

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time



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ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

TUESDAY 11:30AM - 9PM SATURDAY 7:30 - 8:00 AM & 4:00 - 4:45 PM

CONFESSION

(English & Polish)
WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY
6:30 - 7:00 PM
SATURDAY
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
4:00 - 4:50 PM

OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Thursday 10:00AM to 3:00PM. Office closed on Fridays. Saturdays and Evenings: By Appointment.



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, August 18 (Poniedziałek)

8:00AM †Antoni Niecikowski r/o M/M Jan Kowalczuk

11:00AM †Alicja Guzik r/o Anna Kleszcz

Tuesday, August 19 (Wtorek) - John Eudes

8:00AM †Stanislaw & Stanislawa Nalesnik r/o Klara Konopka

11:00AM †Alicia Guzik r/o Anna Kleszcz

11:30AM OLPH Novena in English

Wednesday, August 20 (Środa) - Bernard

11:00AM †Alicja Guzik r/o Anna Kleszcz

11:30AM Exposition and Rosary

7:00PM OLPH Novena & Mass in Polish

Thursday, August 21 (Czwartek) - Pius X

8:00AM †Antoni Niecikowski r/o Bogdan Krol

11:00AM †Alicja Guzik r/o Anna Kleszcz

Friday, August 22 (Piątek)

Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

11:00AM †Alicja Guzik r/o Anna Kleszcz

7:00PM †Piotr Karnas r/o Zolnierczyk Family

Saturday, August 23 (Sobota) - Rose Lima

8:00AM †Alicja Guzik r/o Anna Kleszcz

11:00AM †Ewa Pasek r/o great-granddaughter

5:00PM †Agnes & James Marsicano r/o family

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time - August 24 (Niedziela)

7:00AM †Alicja Guzik r/o Anna Kleszcz

9:00AM †Jan Chorzepa r/o A. Lonczak

†Anna Maziarz r/o Maria Radwanski

†Charlotte Snow r/o James & Sarina Urban

†Janina Szeremeta r/o Krystyna & Mike Wojtczuk

†John, Anna & Henry Krysinski r/o estate

†Mary DeWet r/o Collection Counting Teams

†Stanislaw Wierzba r/o John & Magdalena Daus

†Gerard Rossi r/o Dora & Gerard Perna

†Adriana LoPresti r/o Dora & Gerard Perna

Health of Ryan McKee r/o mother

†Stanley Jasinski r/o Eleanor Pisowacki

†Danuta Karczewski r/o Czyrnek Family

For the People of the Parish

10:30AM †Living & Deceased Members of the Blessed Virgin Mary Society

LIVE THE LITURGY INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Jesus tells us that he has come to set fire to the earth. What can we give him as kindling? Let us look into our souls and see where the fire of Christ can be ignited, and pray that our souls may be consumed by its life-giving flames.



"There is a baptism with which I must be baptized, and how great is my anguish until it is accomplished! Do you think that I have come to establish peace on the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. From now on a household of five will be divided, three against two and two against three."

- Lk 12:50-52

20th Sunday of Ordinary Time

During my baseball career, my best coach often said, "You shouldn't be worried if I yell at you. Be worried if I don't. If I stop pushing you, it means I don't think you have any more potential." He demanded a lot, and I knew it meant he saw that I could be something special on the baseball field.

Jesus says some demanding words to us this week. "Do you think I have come to establish peace on the earth?" he asks, "No, tell you, but rather division" (Luke 12:51). He wants you and me—in fact, all the earth—to participate in the luminous glory of God. That's why he speaks of himself as a divine arsonist. Divine fire is like a good coach: it demands the removal of all that obstructs the achievement of the lofty goal.

How is your life demanding right now? That inconvenient family situation, the unfair boss at work, the kids who reject their parents' wishes, the nagging health issue? Maybe things would be more peaceful devoid of these seemingly arbitrary difficulties. But for us who believe in the one who comes to set the earth of fire, we should be much more worried if he stops demanding so much from us. In fact, let's thank him for it. He sees how glorious we can become.

Father John Muir

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

To be a community of love, a family that joyfully proclaims and bears witness to the Gospel, and which serves the poor and one another.



I. Mark Walyga and Meagan Murphy

Silver & Gold & 5 Year Wedding Anniversary Celebration

You are cordially invited to celebrate your 25th, 50th, 50+ or 5th Wedding Anniversary with the Church of Metuchen and renew your marriage vows with Bishop James F. Checchio at a special Evening Prayer Service at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi in Metuchen on Sunday, October 19, 2025 at 3:00 PM. The Silver and Gold Anniversary Prayer Service will again include couples celebrating 5 years of marriage. Registration is Please register online at: required. www.diometuchen.org/silver-and-gold-anniversarycelebration. If you are unable to access, please contact the Family Life Office at 732-562-1543 or amarshall@diometuchen.org. Registration will close on October 10, 2025. Although no fee is required, in the past many Jubilarian couples have given a donation of gratitude to the Church in memory of this special occasion. Donations of Gratitude may be made online at https://www.diometuchen.org/silver-and-goldanniversary-celebration or calling 732-562-1543.



Registration is now open for the 2025-26 Religious Education School Year

See the Religious Education page on the parish website for more details. A child is not considered enrolled until tuition is paid.

Rejestracja na Program Katechetyczny 2025-26 jest już otwarta. Szczegóły można znaleźć na stronie internetowej parafii w zakładce "Katecheza". Dziecko nie będzie uznane za zapisane, dopóki czesne nie zostanie opłacone.



Pierogies, cabbage & noodles and stuffed cabbage are available for sale in the parish office.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Set the Earth on Fire

My wife can get so invested in a sporting event where one of her favorite teams is playing that she sometimes must leave the room due to the stress. That is heavy-duty investment! I remember her on the sidelines for our son's soccer games or our daughter's lacrosse games. Her emotions were intense, and she cheered loudly for her children. She never yelled at a referee because it wasn't about them. It was about wanting to see her children, or her favorite team, achieve something great. Her passion was fueled by love and her connectedness to something or someone.

When we look at our Church, we need to see greater passion. Sometimes that passion is there, but many times, we approach our discipleship as just another aspect of who we have become. It needs to be more than that. As we call ourselves Christian, we need to "put on Christ" so that a world in need sees not us, but Jesus. By being serious about our discipleship and living as transformed Everyday Stewards, we bear witness to the power of Jesus Christ.

Jesus said in Luke 12, "I have come to set the earth on fire." Those words sound pretty emotional to me! If we are to be like him, then we need to set the earth on fire. We need to be bold and proclaim the Good News without apology. By our actions of love and justice, we need to show the world that with the Body of Christ on earth, it is not business as usual. Surely our emotions about these things should trump the emotions we have about a sporting event. We need to ask ourselves what truly sets us on fire.

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: Jer 38:4-6, 8-10/Ps 40:2, 3, 4, 18 (14b)/

Heb 12:1-4/Lk 12:49-53

Monday: Jgs 2:11-19/Ps 106:34-35, 36-37, 39-40, 43ab

and 44/Mt 19:16-22

Tuesday: Jgs 6:11-24a/Ps 85:9, 11-12, 13-14/

Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday: Jgs 9:6-15/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mt 20:1-16

Thursday: Jgs 11:29-39a/Ps 40:5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/

Mt 22:1-14

Friday: Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22/Ps 146:5-6ab, 6c-7,

8-9a, 9bc-10/Mt 22:34-40

Saturday: Ru 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17/Ps 128:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/

Mt 23:1-12

Next Sunday: Is 66:18-21/Ps 117:1, 2 (Mk 16:15)/

Heb 12:5-7, 11-13/Lk 13:22-30

The daily Scripture references are printed here. If you find it helpful and have internet access, you can find the complete Daily Scripture Readings at http://www.usccb.org/nab/.

Please visit our parish website: www.ctrmanville.com

up-to-date information, schedules, church bulletins, pictures from parish events and much more...

Be sure to check out our video reflections on the Sunday Readings each week. This week Suzanne Runyon will be presenting the reflections and next week Caz & Diane Bielen will be the presenters.

Weekly Vocation Prayer Schedule

Sunday: Elizabeth Urookiay; Landon Calulo

Monday: Lala Llarena Tuesday: Mirna Gonzalez

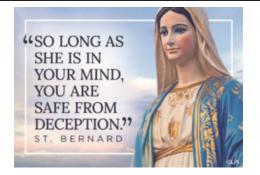
Wednesday: Laura Christie; Leose Calulo; Donna

Puma

Thursday: Marianne Kenton

Friday: Rosemary Jablonski; Keily Camacho

Saturday: Suzanne Runyon



The Christ the Redeemer collection for the weekend of August 10, 2025

Offertory	\$ 4,988.00
Children's Donations	\$ 2.00
On-line Giving	\$ 2,652.00
Total	\$ 7,642.00
Property Insurance	\$ 2,281.00
Mission Appeal	\$ 2,345.00

Thank you for your generosity and support. May God bless you. Fr. Stan

"Do you think I have come to give you peace on Earth? No, I tell you, but rather division." Luke 12:51

Many of us like to play it safe, not cause waves with our family and friends, especially when it comes to politics and religion. We don't want to cause any turmoil. However, many times this is at the expense of the truth. The truth being Jesus Christ. Too many people are misguided because they rely on their own limited human ability to reason and are not allowing faith in God to guide them. Form your conscience; take a stance for life, marriage, and religious liberty.

OUR CHILDREN'S STEWARDSHIP GIFTS

My Good Deed was when I: helped my mommy wash clothes and fold them. Brooke-Lynn

Don't forget to put your first & last name and grade on your envelope.

DEVOTIONS, *EXPLAINED!* – CONNECT WITH TRADITION AND GROW YOUR FAITH

Gregorian Chant, Explained!

Gregorian chant is an ancient form of sacred music used in liturgical worship and prayer. Defined by a monophonic (meaning a single melody without harmony or chords), unaccompanied song, this type of chant focuses the singer's mind on the content of the prayer being sung, which makes it uniquely suited for use in the Mass.

Dating to the first millennium, it derives its name from Pope St. Gregory the Great, though scholarship is unclear on when exactly this type of chant originated. Prior to the Second Vatican Council, it was standard to use Gregorian chant in the Roman Rite Mass. *Sacrosanctum Concilium*, the Constitution on Divine Worship promulgated by Pope Paul VI in 1963, asserts that Gregorian chant is "specially suited to the Roman liturgy...(and) should be given pride of place in liturgical services."

We ask you for your prayers for the health of those in need, especially: Toni

Antonelli, Evelyn Appenzeller, Cheryl Argento, John Bartley, Thelma Bartus, Andrew Bartushak, Frank Batula, Elizabeth Bednarczyk, Keith Bielanski, Pat Bohar, Harold Bok, Bishop Paul Bootkoski, Shawn Brickley, Denise Buanano, Lorraine Burkoski, Marie Callahan, Marylou & Jason Cebula, Sofia Chantel, Luke Chartowich, Palo Cizmar, John Clougher, Allison Collins, Bill Corson, Jean Courtney, Kaiden Crothwer, Bill Davison, Marge Demski, Malcolm Ferraira, Maureen Femiano, Valerie Frank, Nancy Franklin, Karter Fridlund, Joe & Mirella Gazo, Joann Genovese, Helen Gilmore, Margaret Guerrazzi, Savannah Hemenway, Frank Honkisz, Maryann Hughes, Marge Iarkowski, Maria Inglot, Raul Jaime, Lucy Jankowski-McClure, Stanislaw Jelski, Kim Jenkins, Dennis Koslowski, Theresa Kraska, Wiktoria Lach, Ken Lake, Rita Lagasse, Janice Lalley, Donna Lawler, Judy Lentzsch, Lincoln & Chris Levash, Chevenne Liccardi, Vitoria Marrcino, Dottie Mesaris, Veronika Mleczko, Quaid Mobus, Alexander Monto, Ed Nawracaj, Mai Nguyen, Joyce Nipps, Dolores O'Bara, Robert Oliver, Celeste Onka, James O'Reilly Jr., Susan, Brian, Robert & John Parlier, Irene Pastula, Dora Perna, Barbara Perone, Rachel & Vince Petrone, Rosemary Phillips, Steven Pirello, Joseph G. & Mark Pschar, Carolyn Puia, Ava & Steve Quintana, Marcelle Reed, Peg Reilly, Laura Rodaman, Marie Rogusky, Cindi Shandor, Michael Sheehan, Pat Sherwood, Eric Slaight, Jim Spinola, Albert Stanski, Steve Szabo, Gertrude Szczecina, Michelle Tranter, Helen Turiano, David & Robert Urban, Carol Vinchur, Rita Wass, Mark & Veronica Waugh, Cindy Weigel, Cathy Wildgust, Raymond Wisniewski, Veronica Wolenski, Patrick & Michael Zamorsky, Julia Zarbetski Kemmett, Celia Zelinski, Mark Zujkowski and Maria Zurawiecki.

God of all consolation give life and health to our sisters and brothers for whom we pray in your Holy Name. Amen.



Our Men and Women in the Service

Please pray for all of our men and women serving in the Armed forces, especially

SPC Christopher Elsen Lieutenant Colonel James A. Jablonski Jr. Master Sergeant Kimberly Kaminski USAF Airman Michael Edward Kassick III Master Sergeant Michael John Lamonica USAF Captain John Limyansky USAF Specialist Allison Okurowski. Combat Medic Airman Jason Pikula USAF SR Jerry Lee Rogalski PFC Steven Ubry Master Sergeant Lindsay Zaccardi USAF

Let us know if you have a family member who is serving in the military and we will acknowledge them in our weekly bulletin. Please share the good news with us when one of the above soldiers returns home!

The Knights of Columbus Saint Jude Council # 6573



Council Meeting: Council Meetings are held monthly on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday at 7:00 pm; Saint John Neumann Center

Recruiting: Catholic men 18⁺ are invited to reach out to Chester Makowski

(chester.makowski@gmail.com) or approach any of the brother knights.

Bible Study: All are welcome to join us in the Little Red Schoolhouse, (the Saint John Neumann Center) next to the Rectory on Thursday evenings at 7pm.

Clothing Drive - September 13th - 9AM - 12 noon -St. John Neumann Center.



The next Altar Rosary Society MASS will be said on September 14th at 9:00AM. Please join us for the PARISH ROSARY OF

THE MONTH AT 8:30AM.

The next First Saturday Devotions to Our Lady of Fatima will take place on September 6th at 11:30AM.



The Christ The Redeemer Caritas Food Pantry depends on both monetary and grocery donations to keep its shelves stocked.

Please help us help those less fortunate. When going shopping please consider picking up something

Food items can be dropped off in our donation bins in the church vestibule or at the parish office. Monetary donations can be made through on-line giving.

The Pantry is most in need of the following tems:

Instant Oatmeal,
Applesauce,
Mac & Cheese,
Toaster Pastries,

Rice,
Tuna,
Boxed Milk,
Tooth Paste, Tomato Sauce, Canned Chicken, Chef-Boy-Ardee, Body Wash

WHY DO WE DO THAT? - CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

Queenship of Mary

Ouestion:

Why do we have a feast for the Queenship of Mary?

Answer:

For many of us, the language of kings and queens may seem like they belong to history or a medieval movie. Royalty have absolute authority over a kingdom and their subjects, a concept that is foreign to many of us today. While Jesus doesn't rule a political kingdom, we honor and recognize him as the King of Kings, Lord of Heaven and Earth. To God alone belongs absolute authority over all of existence.

We may think of queens as the spouse of the king, but there is another key relationship: the king's mother. In Biblical history, we see instances where the mother of the king is given due as a queen herself, complete with a throne! Mary's guiding influence over her Son is seen most notably in the Wedding Feast at Cana. Mary is not Queen on her own merit. She is "full of grace" and "blessed" in "all ages" because of the reign of her Son.

"Have you tithed your estate in your will?"

What of planned are common types gifts? Bequests are by far the most common type of planned gift because they're easy to create. Beneficiary designations on life insurance policies and unused retirement assets are also common. Legacy giving makes an impact for decades to come and creates meaningful ways to engage and help your Parish, enriching your relationships over time. It can provide a new way for members to demonstrate their commitment to Christ and their church community. An avenue for celebrating a families' deep connections to the Parish through named endowments, buildings, and programs funded by their gifts. Please consider giving to your Parish in this manner.

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC – BENEATH THE SURFACE

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Mini reflection: If we let Christ set fire to our lives, what would that fire burn away? What dead and festering undergrowth in our souls would be consumed by the flames? What promise of future holiness would sprout from beneath the ashes?

The Fire

This past week I have been reading a biography of St. Francis of Assisi. I admit I didn't know much about Francis going into the book, but I always had this image of him as a hippie — an easygoing nature-lover who sang about peace and let animals climb on him.

I'm not sure where that caricature of Francis came from, but since I've been reading this book I've come to see that it's not true at all. He was a lover of nature, yes. A poet who sang of God's peace, yes. And I'm sure he let a few animals climb on him from time to time (he did live in a hut in the woods).

But St. Francis of Assisi wasn't the lost fourth member of Peter, Paul and Mary. He was a man on fire. He was a man burning.

Francis walked around barefoot and slept on the ground. He abandoned a life of wealth to embrace the material poverty that Christ experienced. He embarrassed his family and they disowned him. When his father would encounter Francis in the streets of Assisi, he would curse him.

Sometimes we get this idea that Christianity is a comfortable, cozy thing. We give our lives to Christ, and we expect to feel instantly satisfied, happy, safe and warm. But the saints knew better.

The saints knew that Christ had not come to wrap us in a warm blanket. Christ has come to set us on fire. And though fire is often seen as a sign of death and destruction, it is also the precursor of new life.

Think of a field of native plants and how it benefits so richly from a controlled burn — an action that clears away detritus and releases nutrients back into the soil.

If we let Christ set fire to our lives, what would that fire burn away? What dead and festering undergrowth in our souls would be consumed by the flames? What promise of future holiness would sprout from beneath the ashes?

Minister Schedule for August 23 & 24						
	5:00PM	7:00AM	9:00AM	10:30AM		
Lectors	Suzanne Runyon	Bogdan Nowak	Ted Petrock	Tomasz Jaje		
Extra-ordinary Ministers of the Holy Eucharistic	Carol Borysewicz		Anthony Tartaglione Juanita Villagra			

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