

**Stewardship Report – Treasure
WEEKLY COLLECTION**

Budgeted Amount: \$5,000.00
Sunday Collection – 5/20/18 \$3,207.00
On-Line Giving for 5/13/18 \$ 516.00

The Sanctuary Lamp is given this week:

In Memory of: Marie Perricone
Given by: The Vernacchio Family

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

5/28 MON: 9:00a Marie Krecji (LIV)
5/29 TUES: 9:00a People of the Parish
5/30 WED: 9:00a No Mass Today
5/31 THU: 9:00a Taylor Dougherty
6/1 FRI: 9:00a Casey Marie Bull Peters
6/2 SAT: 5:00p Connie Mooney
Irma Gozzolino
Anna Sydow
James Murray
6/3 SUN: 8:00a Robert Schneider
Peggy Peluso
Michael P. Suchdolski
John J. Stendor
10:00a Sonia & Greg Frankowski
Georgio Gallara
Eddie McGovern
James Murray
11:45a Mary “Linda” Natale

MAY 27, 2018



We say “In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,” not in the *names* of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. For God, though three persons, is One. This is perhaps the most central mystery of our faith. Today we have the opportunity to reflect on the reality that God, though One, was able to send the Son and the Holy Spirit to us, to save us and to be with us forever.

WEEKLY/MONTHLY PARISH EVENTS

COFFEE & DONUTS – are served after 8:00 a.m. Mass on the first Sunday of the month in the Church Hall. All are invited to join us.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION – Wednesdays at 6:30pm in the Rectory Meeting Room. Weekly reading/ reflection of the Sunday Scriptures – fellowship time & refreshments follow.

ST. MONICA’S LEISURE GROUP – The next meeting will be on **Wednesday, June 6 at 12:00 noon** in the Church Hall. Annual dues are \$10.00. For more information, please call Grace or Mike Casalino at 973-702-8569.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP meets on the third Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Rectory Meeting Room. **The next meeting is Monday, June 18.** We will be reading *Perfectly Yourself (Discovering God’s Dream for You)* by Matthew Kelly.

Helping Hands meets the second Tuesday of each month in the Rectory Meeting Room at 7:30 p.m. New members are always welcome! **The next meeting is Tuesday, June 12.**

SPECIAL DEVOTIONS AT ST. MONICA’S

Novena to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal – every Tuesday after the 9:00 A.M. Mass.

Chaplet of the Divine Mercy - Every Friday after the 9:00 A.M. Mass.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament – First Friday of the month after the 9:00 A.M. Mass until 10:00 A.M.

ST. MONICA’S CHURCH – Contact information

Phone: 973-875-4521 **Fax:** 973-875-7538
Parish Office Hours: 9:30am – 1:30pm Mon-Fri
Website: www.stmonicasussex.org
Email: stmonica@ptd.net
Deadline for bulletin submissions: Tuesday of each week for information to be printed on the following Sunday.
Email to stmonica@ptd.net
The Parish Office will be closed on Memorial Day, May 28.

READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

Sunday - Dt 4:32-34, 39-40; Rom 8:14-17; Mt 28:16-20
Monday - 1 Pt 1:3-9; Mk 10:17-27
Tuesday - 1 Pt 1:10-16; Mk 10:28-31
Wednesday - 1 Pt 1:18-25; Mk 10:32-45
Thursday - Zep 3:14-18a or Rom 12:9-16; Lk 1:39-56
First Friday - 1 Pt 4:7-13; Mk 11:11-26
First Saturday - Jude 17, 20b-25; Mk 11:27-33

PARISH REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Are you new to our parish? If so, welcome! Do you wish to register? If you are attending Mass and using our blue “blank” visitor envelopes and wish to receive our weekly envelopes in the mail, please register with us. If you wish to become a registered member and placed on our parish mailing list, there are blank registration forms on the table near the Church Hall exit. Please fill it out and give it to Fr. Jan after Mass, or either drop it in the collection basket or visit the rectory during the week between the hours of 9:30am and 1:30pm.



HELPING HANDS is sponsoring **“A Night of Baseball”** at Skylands Ball Park on Saturday, July 7th at 6pm. Come out to watch the Sussex County Miners play, and stay for the fireworks after the game! Tickets must be purchased in advance, and will be sold after all masses the weekends of June 3rd and June 10th. Ticket price is \$12. For more information, please see the flyers at the Church and Hall exits.

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES
DIOCESE OF PATERSON**

Annual Corpus Christi Food Collection for the Poor

Due to the unprecedented requests for assistance from Catholic Charities’ food pantries and in order to fulfill our obligations to the poor, Bishop Serratelli has authorized a Diocesan-wide food collection in all parishes and agencies on the Feast of Corpus Christi, Saturday/Sunday, June 2-3, 2018. We are all being asked to bring assorted food products on that day.

St. Monica’s has been asked to provide COOKIES AND CRACKERS.

Cash/Check donations will also be accepted made payable to Catholic Charities.

Please mark Saturday and Sunday June 2-3 as the food collection day in order to help those in need in our Diocesan communities of Morris, Passaic and Sussex Counties.

PILGRIMAGE TO THE ALPINE COUNTRIES

Bishop Serratelli will be the spiritual director for a tour of the Alpine countries of Switzerland, Austria and Germany from July 8 to 17, 2018.

Reservations are limited. For a brochure and information, contact Great Experiences at 201-825-3725 or by email at Anne@greatexperiencesnj.com

ST. MONICA’S ROSARY SOCIETY

Several years ago, St. Monica’s Church had an active Rosary Society. Several women have asked if this could be implemented again. What a wonderful idea!

If you would like to become a member of St. Monica’s Rosary Society, there is a sign-up sheet on the table in the Church Hall. We already have several names on the list! Details will follow. Thank you.



**EVENTS AT THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF
OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL
70 Carmelite Drive, Middletown, NY**

Monthly Healing Mass

A Healing Mass is held on the last Thursday of every month at 7:00pm. The next Healing Mass is scheduled for Thursday, May 31st.

Spiritual Direction

Are you seeking the presence of God on a deeper level? Have you been considering Spiritual Direction for your life?

Spiritual Direction sessions are offered on the third Wednesday and last Thursday of each month at the Shrine.

Please call Carol Bezak, Shrine Director, at 845-343-1879 for further information on the above events.

ARE YOU NEW TO OUR PARISH?

Please join us after 8:00am Mass next Sunday, June 3, for coffee, donuts, etc. in the church hall (between 9:00 and 9:45am). We would like to meet you and welcome you to St. Monica’s Parish!



This Monday we observe Memorial Day when we give thanks for those men and women who gave of their time, health and lives for the future of our nation and liberty of many people around the world. We as country, pay tribute to those who valiantly gave of their lives on foreign lands for the sake of freedom and liberty in our country and beyond.

Throughout the test of time, American soldiers have tirelessly given of themselves to fight for liberty, and to free millions in their respective homeland. It was Americans who freed people from the strife of the Great War now called WWI, from Nazism and the atrocities of WWII, from many dictatorships, and from all the regimes. Without a doubt, they deserve our respect, and our memory. We should also keep in mind and in prayers our soldiers who are serving in war against terrorism and against the evils of these terrorist groups, for they continue to serve with valor and honor for us and for the liberation of others. Thus, as we gather for parades, parties, and rest on Monday, pause to say a prayer for our soldiers, deceased, retired, and active. They have served us well, and a prayer of thanks is the least we can do.

The freedom that our soldiers fought for is something that we should cherish. The liberties that we have because of our gallant and courageous forefathers, who included the freedom to assemble and the freedom of religion in the Bill of Rights, stands as a testament to the basic rights that every American shares and has the pleasure to enjoy. It is those rights that our soldiers battled for in the Revolution, and is protected in wars today, not only for ourselves, but for others who are oppressed around the world.

As we gather on Memorial Day let us give thanks to our heroes, to our nation which was founded by those who did not shy from freedom and liberty, and to those who still proudly serve. It is because of their efforts that we can gather as a free nation, and have a gift to give our young people.

So, enjoy Memorial Day. Remember the sacrifice of our soldiers deceased, retired and active, and let us look with hope and pray for our nation and world.

Fr. Jan



FROM THE DESK OF FR. JAN.....

The Most Holy Trinity

This Sunday the Catholic Church celebrates The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity. This solemnity honors the most fundamental of Christian beliefs—belief in the Holy Trinity. The word “Holy Trinity” is the term used to define the central doctrine of the Christian religion – the truth that in the unity of Godhead there are three divine persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. These three divine persons are truly distinct one from another, yet are one “substance or nature”. In this context, a “substance or nature” is what one is, while a “person” is who one is.

In the Athanasian Creed it states: "the Father is God, the Son is God, and the Holy Spirit is God, and yet there are not three Gods but one God." So each person of the Holy Trinity is fully divine in nature, but each person has individual self-awareness, each person has a will, loves, and says: "I" and "You" when speaking. The Father is not the same person as the Son, who is not the same person as the Holy Spirit, and who is not the same person as the Father. Each of them is divine, yet there are not three gods but one God. There are three individual persons in the Holy Trinity but one substance (nature). Jesus Christ, the second person of the Holy Trinity, since the moment of incarnation is one person with two natures: Divine and Human. This union of those two natures is called Hypostatic Union.

In this Trinity of Persons the Son is begotten of the Father by eternal generation (John 3:16), and the Holy Spirit proceeds by an eternal procession from the Father and the Son (John 14:26, 15:26). Yet, notwithstanding this difference as to origin, the persons are co-eternal and co-equal: all alike are uncreated and omnipotent and they stay and work in perfect harmony. The Father creates (Isaiah 44:24), the Son redeems (Gal. 3:13), and the Holy Spirit sanctifies (Rom. 15:16).

In the Holy Scripture there is no single term by which the three divine persons are denoted as the Holy Trinity. The word *trias* (of which the Latin *trinitas* is a translation) is first found in Theophilus of Antioch about A.D. 180. He speaks of "the Trinity of God [the Father], His Word and His Wisdom (*To Autolytus* II.15). The term may, of course, have been in use before his time. Then it appears in its Latin form of *trinitas* in Tertullian (*On Pudicity* 21). In the next century the word is in general use. It is found in many passages of Origen ("In Ps. xvii", 15). The first creed in which it appears is that of Gregory Thaumaturgus. In his *Ekthesis tes pisteos* -composed between 260 and 270, he writes: "There is therefore nothing created, nothing subject to another in the Trinity: nor is there anything that has been added as though it once had not existed, but had entered afterwards: therefore the Father has never been without the Son, nor the Son without the Spirit: and this same Trinity is immutable and unalterable forever (P.G., X, 986)."

Although in the Scripture, there is no single term to denote three divine persons as Trinity; however, there are many verses that demonstrate the doctrine of the Holy Trinity. Here are some of them:

Matt. 28:19, "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit."

1 Cor. 12:4-6, "Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are varieties of ministries, and the same Lord. And there are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all persons."

2 Cor. 13:14, "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all."

Eph. 4:4-7, "There is one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all. But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift."

In conclusion: we worship one God in the Trinity and the Trinity in unity, without either confusing the persons or dividing the substance, and the persons are inseparable in what they are and what they do. The doctrine of the Holy Trinity is a strictly monotheistic and it states that in all the universe there exists a single being known as God who is self-existent and unchangeable.