

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

You are my inheritance, O Lord.

June 26, 2016



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ANNOUNCED MASSES

If you wish to bring up the gifts for a Mass being said for your loved one(s), please see the Usher before Mass.

Vigil (Sunday) Mass – June 25

5:00 PM Leon & Winifred Pralatoski

Sunday, June 26 – Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM Mary Donnelly - 57th Anniversary

10:15 AM St. Joseph's – William Purdy

12:00 PM Joseph Giachinta

Monday, June 27 – Weekday

8:15 AM Mary Jane & Joseph Engelbride

Tuesday, June 28 – St. Irenaeus, Bishop & Martyr

8:15 AM Betty Hanotis & Janice Hume

Wednesday, June 29 – Sts. Peter & Paul, Apostles

8:15 AM Nena Stellefson

Thursday, June 30 – Weekday

8:15 AM For All the People of the Parish

Friday, July 1 – Weekday

8:15 AM For All the People of the Parish

Saturday, July 2 – Weekday

8:15 AM Pedro Fodor

Vigil (Sunday) Mass – July 2

5:00 PM Raymond & Julia Gallagher

Sunday, July 3 – Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM Patrick Donnelly Jr. - 25th Anniversary

10:15 AM St. Joseph's – Daniel Cahalane Sr.

12:00 PM Arthur J. Sutton

OUR LADY OF LORETTO WEBSITE

Visit us on the web at: www.ladyofloretto.org

CONFESSION - YEAR OF MERCY

In this Year of Mercy, in addition to our regular hours on Saturday, Confession will be offered at Our Lady of Loretto on Monday evenings from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

CHOIR REHEARSALS

Adult Choir rehearsals are held on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 pm in the choir loft. New members are welcome at all weekend Masses. If you would like to sing, please come to a rehearsal or call Jeffrey V. Lutz at 228-5612.

GRAYMOOR PRAYER GROUP

Increase your time in prayer. The Graymoor Prayer Group, following the Medjugorje prayer format, meets Thursday evenings, 7:30 to 8:30 pm at the Spiritual Life Building 6th floor Chapel. Prayer facilitator – Diana Roda: 424-4175.

PLEASE PRAY

For the sick and suffering, especially

Lucy Abbatine	Paula Martino
Lucas Boesch	Wesley Ann McGovern
Robert Broughal	Merna Mendelson
Michael Brusco	Todd Morris
Kathleen Clements	Joseph Nowakowski
Carmine Comberiat	Brian O'Keeffe
Joseph C. Etta	Inelda O'Keeffe
Bill Flaherty	Neilan Pierce
William Freeman	Vivian Pisanelli
Christopher Hartly	Phillip Rossignol
Joseph Hoda	Melissa Castro-Santos
Parker Jane Holloway	Miguel Santos
Elizabeth M. Hynes	Sally Singh
Geoff Lyons	Ralph Torres
Kathleen Manganello	Frank Volkmann
Mary Marion	Lidia Watrud

that the fighting among nations cease, that vengeance end and lasting peace begin, and for all of our prayers in our book of petitions.

MONTH'S MIND

Nena Merando Stellefson – May 26th

James Cannon – May 28th

We remember our loved ones who have died one month following their passing on to eternal life.

READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

Monday: Am 2:6-10, 13-16; Ps 50:16bc-23; Mt 8:18-22

Tuesday: Am 3:1-8; 4:11-12; Ps 5:4b-8; Mt 8:23-27

Wednesday: Vigil: Acts 3:1-10; Ps 19:2-5; Gal 1:11-20; Jn 21:15-19

Day: Acts 12:1-11; Ps 34:2-9;

2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18; Mt 16:13-19

Thursday: Am 7:10-17; Ps 19:8-11; Mt 9:1-8

Friday: Am 8:4-6, 9-12; Ps 119:2, 10, 20, 30, 40, 131; Mt 9:9-13

Saturday: Am 9:11-15; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Mt 9:14-17

Sunday: Is 66:10-14c; Ps 66:1-7, 16, 20;

Gal 6:14-18; Lk 10:1-12, 17-20 [1-9]

WEEKEND OF JUNE 19, 2016

REGULAR WEEKLY COLLECTION – \$5,487

Thank you for your generosity.

MASS ATTENDANCE

	Adults	Children	Total
Saturday, 5:00 pm	86	6	92
Sunday, 8:30 am	108	24	132
St. Joseph's Chapel Sunday, 10:15 am	50	5	55
Sunday, 12:00 pm	104	19	123
Total	348	54	402



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

At Our Lady of Loretto • Every Monday • 7:00-8:00 pm
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament remains as it is with individual prayer time, but specific groups are being identified for certain Mondays so they can come together to focus in prayer for a specific intention...

- June 27th – Respect Life Committee
- July 3 – Unborn & Persecuted Christians
- July 10 – Activities Committee
- July 17 – Altar Servers and parish vocations



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Loretto Council #536

PHILIPSTOWN FOOD PANTRY DELIVERY

Sunday • June 26th

The Knights of Columbus will be collecting food and other items, including diapers, toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, cleaners and paper towels, for the Philipstown Food Pantry the weekend of June 25th and 26th.

Please leave donations in the cry room during that weekend. Thank you for your generosity!

Grand Knight – Paul Grandetti
Deputy Grand Knight – Sean Tortora

To join, email our Membership Director, Phil D'Amato:
phildamato55@gmail.com.

Information can also be found at KofC536.com.

OUR LADY OF LORETTO PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

"Handing on the Faith"

845-265-3718 ★ ollfaithformation@gmail.com

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION FOR THE 2016-17 SCHOOL YEAR

Registration information for the 2016-17 school year has been mailed to all families currently enrolled in our Religious Education Program. If you did not receive the information, or are new to the program, please call or stop by the Parish Office to register your children for next year's classes. Registration forms are available at the parish website: www.ladyofloretto.org. Thank you!

NEEDED: DONATED SUPPLIES FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

As we come to the end of another school year, it's time to replenish the supplies for our Religious Ed program. We are asking for donations of supplies such as crayons, magic markers, pens, pencils, children's scissors and glue sticks, etc. This will offset the cost of running the program and will enable us to keep from raising tuition. And, most importantly, don't forget to pray for our catechists and all the children in our parish. Thank you!

Summer Camps at Our Lady of Lourdes

Volleyball Camp at Our Lady of Lourdes High School is scheduled for August 8th – 12th. Girls in 6th through 8th grades are invited for a week of instructional volleyball. The emphasis of the camp will be fundamental skill development in the areas of passing, serving, hitting and defense. The camp will operate Monday through Friday from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm and will be limited to 50 campers. The fee is \$150. For more information visit ollchs.org or contact Emily Krieger (914) 475-3028.

Our Lady of Lourdes Athletics Camp is designed to introduce multiple sports to students ages 9 – 12. Varsity level coaches will be teaching skills and utilizing drills to aid in the development of their specific sport. All ability levels are welcome. Each camper will receive daily instruction from coaches and varsity athletes. Sports included are: Baseball, Softball, Volleyball, Track & Field, Football, Soccer, Hockey and Lacrosse. Session 1: June 27 - July 1 (\$175), Session 2: July 5-8 (\$140), Time: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. For more information visit ollchs.org or call Matt Petruzzelli (845) 728-2675.

PARISH OFFICE SUMMER HOURS

The Parish Office will be closed Wednesday afternoons from 12:00 noon to 3:00 pm, June 1st through August 31st, to accommodate administrative work for the Religious Education Program.

U.S. CATHOLIC CONFERENCE OF BISHOPS STATEMENT ON RELIGIOUS LIBERTY:

We are Catholics. We are Americans. We are proud to be both, grateful for the gift of faith which is ours as Christian disciples, and grateful for the gift of liberty which is ours as American citizens. To be Catholic and American should mean not having to choose one over the other.

Our allegiances are distinct, but they need not be contradictory, and should instead be complementary. That is the teaching of our Catholic faith, which obliges us to work together with fellow citizens for the common good of all who live in this land. That is the vision of our founding and our Constitution, which guarantees citizens of all religious faiths the right to contribute to our common life together.

Freedom is not only for Americans, but we think of it as something of our special inheritance, fought for at a great price, and a heritage to be guarded now. We are stewards of this gift, not only for ourselves but for all nations and peoples who yearn to be free. Catholics in America have discharged this duty of guarding freedom admirably for many generations.

In 1887, when the archbishop of Baltimore, James Gibbons, was made the second American cardinal, he defended the American heritage of religious liberty during his visit to Rome to receive the red hat. Speaking of the great progress the Catholic Church had made in the United States, he attributed it to the "civil liberty we enjoy in our enlightened republic." Indeed, he made a bolder claim, namely that "in the genial atmosphere of liberty [the Church] blossoms like a rose."

From well before Cardinal Gibbons, Catholics in America have been advocates for religious liberty, and the landmark teaching of the Second Vatican Council on religious liberty was influenced by the American experience. It is among the proudest boasts of the Church on these shores. We have been staunch defenders of religious liberty in the past. We have a solemn duty to discharge that duty today.

We need, therefore, to speak frankly with each other when our freedoms are threatened. Now is such a time. As Catholic bishops and American citizens, we address an urgent summons to our fellow Catholics and fellow Americans to be on guard, for religious liberty is under attack, both at home and abroad.

This has been noticed both near and far. Pope Benedict XVI recently spoke about his worry that religious liberty in the United States is being weakened. He called it the "most cherished of American freedoms"—and indeed it is. All the more reason to heed the warning of the Holy Father, a friend of America and an ally in the defense of freedom, in his recent address to American bishops:

"Of particular concern are certain attempts being made to limit that most cherished of American freedoms, the freedom of religion. Many of you have pointed out that concerted efforts have been made to deny the right of conscientious objection on the part of Catholic individuals

and institutions with regard to cooperation in intrinsically evil practices. Others have spoken to me of a worrying tendency to reduce religious freedom to mere freedom of worship without guarantees of respect for freedom of conscience.

"Here once more we see the need for an engaged, articulate and well-formed Catholic laity endowed with a strong critical sense vis-à-vis the dominant culture and with the courage to counter a reductive secularism which would delegitimize the Church's participation in public debate about the issues which are determining the future of American society."

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY UNDER ATTACK

Is our most cherished freedom truly under threat? Sadly, it is. This is not a theological or legal dispute without real world consequences. Consider the following:

Christian students on campus. In its over-100-year history, the University of California Hastings College of Law has denied student organization status to only one group, the Christian Legal Society, because it required its leaders to

be Christian and to abstain from sexual activity outside of marriage.

Catholic foster care and adoption services. Boston, San Francisco, the District of Columbia, and the state of Illinois have driven local Catholic Charities out of the business of providing adoption or foster care services—by revoking their licenses, by ending their government contracts, or both—because those

Charities refused to place children with same-sex couples or unmarried opposite-sex couples who cohabit.

Discrimination against small church congregations. New York City enacted a rule that barred the Bronx Household of Faith and sixty other churches from renting public schools on weekends for worship services even though non-religious groups could rent the same schools for scores of other uses. While this would not frequently affect Catholic parishes, which generally own their own buildings, it would be devastating to many smaller congregations. It is a simple case of discrimination against religious believers.

Discrimination against Catholic humanitarian services. Notwithstanding years of excellent performance by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Migration and Refugee Services in administering contract services for victims of human trafficking, the federal government changed its contract specifications to require us to provide or refer for contraceptive and abortion services in violation of Catholic teaching. Religious institutions should not be disqualified from a government contract based on religious belief, and they do not somehow lose their religious identity or liberty upon entering such contracts. And yet a federal court in Massachusetts, turning religious liberty on its head, has since declared that such a disqualification is *required* by the First Amendment—that the government somehow *violates* religious liberty by allowing Catholic organizations to participate in contracts in a manner consistent with their beliefs on contraception and abortion.

Statement continued on following page...



RELIGIOUS LIBERTY IS MORE THAN FREEDOM OF WORSHIP

Religious liberty is not only about our ability to go to Mass on Sunday or pray the Rosary at home. It is about whether we can make our contribution to the common good of all Americans. Can we do the good works our faith calls us to do, without having to compromise that very same faith? Without religious liberty properly understood, all Americans suffer, deprived of the essential contribution in education, health care, feeding the hungry, civil rights, and social services that religious Americans make every day, both here at home and overseas.

What is at stake is whether America will continue to have a free, creative, and robust civil society—or whether the state alone will determine who gets to contribute to the common good, and how they get to do it. Religious believers are part of American civil society, which includes neighbors helping each other, community associations, fraternal service clubs, sports leagues, and youth groups. All these Americans make their contribution to our common life, and they do not need the permission of the government to do so. Restrictions on religious liberty are an attack on civil society and the American genius for voluntary associations.

The Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America issued a statement about the administration's contraception and sterilization mandate that captured exactly the danger that we face:

“Most troubling, is the Administration's underlying rationale for its decision, which appears to be a view that if a religious entity is not insular, but engaged with broader society, it loses its “religious” character and liberties. Many faiths firmly believe in being open to and engaged with broader society and fellow citizens of other faiths. The Administration's ruling makes the price of such an outward approach the violation of an organization's religious principles. This is deeply disappointing.”

This is not a Catholic issue. This is not a Jewish issue. This is not an Orthodox, Mormon, or Muslim issue. It is an American issue.

THE MOST CHERISHED OF AMERICAN FREEDOMS

In 1634, a mix of Catholic and Protestant settlers arrived at St. Clement's Island in Southern Maryland from England aboard the *Ark* and the *Dove*. They had come at the invitation of the Catholic Lord Baltimore, who had been granted Maryland by the Protestant King Charles I of England. While Catholics and Protestants were killing each other in Europe, Lord Baltimore imagined Maryland as a society where people of different faiths could live together peacefully. This vision was soon codified in Maryland's 1649 Act Concerning Religion (also called the “Toleration Act”), which was the first law in our nation's history to protect an individual's right to freedom of conscience.

Maryland's early history teaches us that, like any freedom, religious liberty requires constant vigilance and protection, or it will disappear. Maryland's experiment in religious toleration ended within a few decades. The colony was placed under royal control, and the Church of

England became the established religion. Discriminatory laws, including the loss of political rights, were enacted against those who refused to conform. Catholic chapels were closed, and Catholics were restricted to practicing their faith in their homes. The Catholic community lived under these conditions until the American Revolution.

By the end of the 18th century, our nation's founders embraced freedom of religion as an essential condition of a free and democratic society. James Madison, often called the Father of the Constitution, described conscience as “the most sacred of all property.” He wrote that “the Religion then of every man must be left to the conviction and conscience of every man; and it is the right of every man to exercise it as these may dictate.”

George Washington wrote that “the establishment of Civil and Religious Liberty was the Motive that induced me to the field of battle.” Thomas Jefferson assured the Ursuline Sisters—who had been serving a mostly non-Catholic population by running a hospital, an orphanage, and schools in Louisiana since 1727—that the principles of the Constitution were a “sure guarantee” that their ministry would be free “to govern itself according to its own voluntary rules, without interference from the civil authority.”

It is therefore fitting that when the Bill of Rights was ratified, religious freedom had the distinction of being the First Amendment. Religious liberty is indeed the first liberty. The First Amendment guarantees that “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.”

Recently, in a unanimous Supreme Court judgment affirming the importance of that first freedom, the Chief Justice of the United States explained that religious liberty is not just the first freedom for Americans; rather it is the first in the history of democratic freedom, tracing its origins back the first clauses of the Magna Carta of 1215 and beyond. In a telling example, Chief Justice Roberts illustrated our history of religious liberty in light of a Catholic issue decided upon by James Madison, who guided the Bill of Rights through Congress and is known as the architect of the First Amendment:

John Carroll, the first Catholic bishop in the United States, solicited the Executive's opinion on who should be appointed to direct the affairs of the Catholic Church in the territory newly acquired by the Louisiana Purchase. After consulting with President Jefferson, then-Secretary of State James Madison responded that the selection of church “functionaries” was an “entirely ecclesiastical” matter left to the Church's own judgment. The “scrupulous policy of the Constitution in guarding against a political interference with religious affairs,” Madison explained, prevented the Government from rendering an opinion on the “selection of ecclesiastical individuals.”

That is our American heritage, our most cherished freedom. It is the first freedom because if we are not free in our conscience and our practice of religion, all other freedoms are fragile. If citizens are not free in their own consciences, how can they be free in relation to others, or to the state? If our obligations and duties to God are impeded, or even worse, contradicted by the government, then we can no longer claim to be a land of the free, and a beacon of hope for the world.