July 19, 2020

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Mass Intentions for the Week:

Saturday, July 18
Saint Frederick
8:00 a.m.
12:00 p.m. † Martin Goldberg
5:00 p.m. † Anna DeFusco

Sunday, July 19
Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
10:00 a.m. † Marie Scafisi

Monday, July 20
Saint Margaret of Antioch
8:00 a.m. Joyce D’Orazio
12:00 p.m. † Robert C. Powers

Tuesday, July 21
Saint Victor
8:00 a.m. † Ralph Comignola
12:00 p.m.
7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, July 22
Saint Mary Magdalene
8:00 a.m. Members & Benefactors of the Shrine
12:00 p.m. Muriel Barbieri
7:00 p.m.

Thursday, July 23
Saint Bridget of Sweden
8:00 a.m. † Eddie Wright
12:00 p.m. † Mollie DeMento

Friday, July 24
Saint John Bosco
8:00 a.m. † Augustine Pescatore, Sr.
12:00 p.m. Zaidan & McDermit Family

Saturday, July 25
Saint James, Apostle
8:00 a.m. Avelina Salinas
12:00 p.m. † Michael He
5:00 p.m. † Costello & Zecca Family

† = Deceased

Bread & Wine Offering
† Marie Scafisi
Sanctuary Candle
Intentions of Anne Huey

THIS WEEK’S SCRIPTURE:

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<th>First Reading</th>
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<td>Sun Wis 12:13, 16-19</td>
<td>Rom 8:26-27</td>
<td>Mt 13:24-43</td>
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<td>Mon Mi 6:1-4, 6-8</td>
<td>Mt 12:38-42</td>
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<td>Tues Mi 7:14-15, 18-20</td>
<td>Mt 12:46-50</td>
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<td>Wed 2 Cor 5:14-17</td>
<td>Jn 20:1-2, 11-18</td>
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<td>Thu Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13</td>
<td>Mt 13:10-17</td>
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<td>Fri Jer 3:14-17</td>
<td>Mt 13:18-23</td>
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<td>Sat 2 Cor 4:7-15</td>
<td>Mt 20:20-28</td>
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Prayer Requests

You can submit your prayer requests on our new online prayer board. Prayer requests are kept confidential and are placed in a petition basket below the reliquary area of Saint Rita in the Lower Shrine. We will also remember your intentions during each of our daily Masses. Visit www.SaintRitaShrine.org for more information.

The Turmoil of Job Loss: Support, Strength and Self-Empowerment

There are few things that bring a person down to a low point as much as the loss of a job, whether it’s through being “fired,” “furloughed,” or “laid off.” And there are plenty of folks—millions, in fact—under each of these monikers, especially with the lingering impact of the Coronavirus pandemic. Maybe you are one of them. Losing one’s job can be devastating. It attacks everything: one’s physical, emotional and spiritual health, including self-confidence and self-esteem. New life and opportunity come not from denying the pain or grief or emotional strain, but from naming it, embracing faith and taking charge.

Here at the National Shrine we are offering two avenues of help. First, if you are in need of one to one help, we offer Individual Counseling from Fr. Jim Paradis, O.S.A. who is an experienced therapist and Certified Pastoral Counselor. Secondly, we are ready to offer a 10-session, weekly Support & Empowerment Group for those who’ve experienced job loss recently. This group will be limited to 10 people. The goal of the group is to gather for support and professional input, and to develop positive resources and skills for moving forward through a time of unique loss and adversity. Fr. Jim will also facilitate this group in a conference area of the Shrine. If you are interested in speaking to Fr. Jim about either or both opportunities for help, please reach out to him at (215) 546-8333, x1400.

We Pray for Our Sick

Anthony Acchione, Isaiah Baker, Gregory Barbuto, Marie Biddy, Sarah Biddy, Bo Botto, Joseph Botto, Samuel A. Bowlen, Elizabeth Boyer, Anna Boyle, Deborah Brown, Pat Bruno, Alice Butterworth, Rita Cecchetti, Sonia Celia, Cindy Chen, Anthony Cimini, Louis Cosenza, William D’Amato, April L. DeMatto, Philip DiChiaro, Raymond DiPalma, Cecilia Dougherty, Anthony Ferrara, Helen Glowacki, Roger Gronert, Gavin Horn, Grace Iatralola, Ignatius José, Mila José, Brian Kuran, Catherine Mahoney, Rocco Mattio, Tara McCabe, Robert Monroe, Elizabeth Paglia, Joanna Palma, Kate Pepper, Courtney Pisano, Rita Pisano, John Politis, Annamaria Ranieri, Michael Reihl, Carolyn Sabatina, Gina Santaguida, Maria Scocca, Audrey Seebarrath, Sophia Haifa Zedan, & Joanne.

Thank you for your continued generosity!
July 11 & 12, 2020 Collection: $2,899
A Few Simple Notes from the Director

Uh oh! Fraudulent E-mails are Back!
On Monday, someone sent a fraudulent e-mail to a few of our staff members requesting they purchase a $400 eBay gift card on my behalf. Luckily our staff is aware of these kinds of scams and we caught it before any financial transaction occurred. Please know that none of the Shrine staff will ever solicit money, credit card information, and/or ask for giftcards through e-mail. Our website offers a secure, confidential, and convenient option for donations and purchases to be made online, should there ever be an interest and/or need. And, you should know that if we do need help purchasing giftcards or other items (for the Advent Giving Tree, or some other annual project), we will always ask you in person and the amount will never be larger than $50. If you come across a suspicious e-mail, please let us know. Thanks for your continued vigilance!

Cascia Center Groundbreaking: Delayed!
This past week, I also learned that the groundbreaking for the Cascia Center has been delayed until August 10, 2020. With the Coronavirus still looming large, the closing is taking longer than expected, which is pushing the timeline back another couple of weeks. We are hopeful that this will be the last delay, but as we’ve all come to learn, there is no guarantee when dealing with a pandemic. Please join me in continuing to pray for our team of lawyers, our partners working with us at the Archdiocese, and for the continued success of this project!

A New Ad Hoc Committee at the Shrine
Since I began at the Shrine in October, there has been a lot of conversation about our Advisory Council and Finance Committee. These two groups of dedicated professionals faithfully served the Shrine and worked with our staff to ensure our ongoing success and vitality. Their work was both generous and essential! Within the first week of my being named the Director though, I quickly learned that these groups had become a little disjointed; term limits expired, members quit, purpose and vision was unclear, etc. Needless to say, I have been working closely with our staff and the Provincial Council to reimagine these groups and to make sure that there is a real sense of purpose moving forward. After nine months of conversation, I’ve decided to create an ad hoc committee of five people to help us dream a little bit and think about the future of the Shrine, these advisory groups, and other looming projects. My intention is to eventually reinstate the Advisory Council and Finance Committee, but at the recommendation of the Provincial and the Provincial Council, we’re going to take our time so that we really have a clear vision moving forward. As soon as I have more to share, I will, but until then, please keep this new committee in your prayers.

St. Rita, remarkable in childhood, pray for us.