

September 8th, 2019 † 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

From the Desk of Fr. James



Sitting down on Tuesday morning to write this column, I am hoping that all of you enjoyed an extra day of rest on Labor Day! It seems that more of our days are spent at labor rather than rest. With this in mind, I thought I would share with you a reflection that I came upon. It was written by of Severianus of Gabala, a bishop who lived during the fourth and fifth centuries. I hope it will be helpful in seeing the spiritual significance of all the good work we do.

“Of all the trades the one that Adam first practiced was the trade of a tailor. Yes, before taking up any other trade he collected some fig-leaves and sewed them together.

Who taught him this skill? How did he learn it? The fact is that he had received from God the gift of intelligence; the fact is that he was the image of God.

You may ask yourselves in what way man arrived at the construction of the first plough, at woodwork, at forging iron, at putting oxen under the yoke, and in what way woman invented the art of spinning.

Where did all this come from?

When a trade comes into being, it is plied with a tool. The hands are not involved in the work as much as the reason, intelligence which arranges different objects in different shapes. It is the intelligence, for example, that manufactures clothes. The shape of the clothes reveals the intelligence of the tailor. When you read in the Bible that God worked in creating the world, do you really think he needed hands for His work?

If you are looking for the origin of a trade, if you are asking how a discovery or an invention could have come about, remember the word that God spoke: ‘Let us make humanity in our image’ [*Genesis* 1:26].

Then you will have the solution at once. Humanity in the image of God. How could humanity possibly fail to use intelligence? Humanity in the image of the Creator. How could humanity possibly fail to imitate Him?”

Your Servant in Christ,

Father James

“Brothers and Sisters, in great dismay, before the horror of destructive violence, but strong in the faith that has always guided our fathers, we turn to the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, salvation of His people, and with the confidence of children, pray that He will come to our aid in these days of mourning and innocent suffering.”

Pope Saint John Paul II, the day after 9/11/2001

MASS Intentions

☒ Saturday/Sunday, September 7/8

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

5 p.m. People of the Parish
8 a.m. † Loretta & James Bernardo
9:30 a.m. † Ray Kayne
11 a.m. † Dr. John Titus

☒ Monday, September 9

St. Peter Claver

7 p.m. Open Intention

☒ Tuesday, September 10

7 p.m. Open Intention

☒ Wednesday, September 11

Patriot Day

7 p.m. Open Intention

☒ Thursday, September 12

The Most Holy Name of Mary

9 a.m. Open Intention

☒ Saturday/Sunday, September 14/15

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

5 p.m. † Perry Faraldi
8 a.m. People of the Parish
9:30 a.m. † Ray Kayne
11 a.m. † Gerry Peoni

This Week's Activities

Monday, September 9

☒ Recitation of the Rosary 7:30pm (Church)

Thursday, September 12

☒ Knights of Columbus 7:30 pm (Upper Room)

Friday, September 13

☒ Deadline to Register for 9-Mile Walk

Saturday/Sunday September 14 & 15

☒ Food For Families Collection

Sunday September 15th

☒ Faith Formation Class
Grade 9 -The Church Hall 9:05am-10:50 am

Offertory Contributions

Offertory Collection for 9/1/19: \$3,119.

“Your name, O Mary, is a precious ointment, which breathes forth the odor of Divine Grace. Let this ointment of salvation enter the inmost recesses of our souls.” St. Ambrose

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Parish and Diocesan News

SANCTUARY LAMP Offerings will be accepted for those who wish the sanctuary lamp by the tabernacle to burn in memory of a loved one or for the intentions of someone living.

FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR Parishioners of St. Joseph are welcomed and invited to donate flowers for the sanctuary of our Church. Flowers can be either donated in memory of a loved one or for the intentions of someone living. Please call MaryJean at the Rectory Office if you would like to contribute to the adornment of our sanctuary.

MASS INTENTIONS Parishioners are invited to request that a particular Mass be offered for a deceased loved one or for the intentions of someone living. Please contact the Rectory Office to make arrangements and to receive a Mass card. Alternatively, if a Mass has an open intention, which will be indicated in the bulletin, you are welcome to see Father James before any of the weekend or weekday Masses to request an intention.



RECITATION OF THE ROSARY The Altar Rosary Society invites you to pray the Rosary on **Monday, September 9th** after the 7 p.m. Mass in the Church. All parishioners are invited and encouraged to join us! (It is on this date due to Labor Day.)

BIBLE STUDY Join Father James and Andrew Rispoli for an 8 week DVD Bible Study Program titled, **"Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible"** beginning on **Sept. 24** after the 7pm Mass in the Church Hall. This Bible Study will help you discover the story of salvation history and understand how you fit into God's plan. For more information, contact Andrew Rispoli at: Drewrispoli@comcast.net

R.C.I.A. For those who are not Catholic but are considering the possibility of becoming Catholic please contact the Parish Office to find out more about the process of becoming a member of the Catholic Church. For those adults baptized Catholic who have not received the Sacrament of Confirmation and/or First Holy Communion, please contact the Parish Office for more information on how you can receive these sacraments.



MUSIC MINISTRY Please consider joining the Church Choir, all voice parts are needed. Rehearsals are Tues. evenings after the 7:00 p.m. Mass and the Choir sings at the 11:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday and at special liturgies throughout the year. Contact Dee Savare at: (908) 638-4336 or dasavare72@gmail.com if interested.

Parish and Diocesan News

FAITH FORMATION BEGINS Another school year has arrived. Starting **Sunday, September 15th**, Grade 9 begins Faith Formation Class in the Church Hall from 9:05am-10:50am. and there will also be a parent meeting during class time as well.

A WALKING PILGRIMAGE In preparation for the Consecration of the Diocese of Metuchen to Our Lady of Guadalupe, all are invited to participate in a Walking Pilgrimage called, **"The Way of St. Juan Diego"** on **Saturday, September 21** from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. The walk will begin and end at Immaculate Conception Parish in Annandale. Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Checchio at 6 pm. For more details or to register online please visit www.LightingHeartsOnFire.org/walking-pilgrimage.

IN ADDITION on this special day, our Church will have **Eucharistic Adoration** from 12 noon until 5 p.m. If you have one hour to spend with Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament, please contact Eileen Chrobak at: (908) 482- 0802.

FOOD FOR FAMILIES Next weekend is our monthly Food for Families Collection for the Open Cupboard Food Pantry in Clinton. Please place your non-perishable food items in the vestibule of the Church. The Knights of Columbus will also donate \$100 to the Food Pantry for every 500 lbs. of food collected. Thank you for your generosity!

The 5th weekly winner of the K-Club is **Jim Harris**. If you would like to participate the dues are \$40 for the new 2019-20 K-Club. For more information visit: www.kofc10627.org/k-club.html



God of love,
we place in your loving arms the
thousands of innocent lives
that were lost on that unforgettable
morning of September 11, 2001.
We also remember the courage
of the countless men and women
who put their lives at risk in order to rescue,
alleviate and bring solace to the afflicted.
Help us to continue to work for a world
free from every form of hatred, violence and
ignorance. May terrorism, in all its forms,
disappear from the face of the earth.
Amen.