

St. Matthew Parish



Website: www.stmatthewrc.org

Pastoral Staff

Pastor

Fr. Frank Black

Priests

Fr. Thaddeus J. Abraham

Msr. Pierre Andre

Pierre

Fr. Ralph Theodat

Fr. Paul Afetor

Deacon

Nickie Colon



St. Gregory the Great

224 Brooklyn Ave.

Brooklyn, NY 11213

Tel 718- 773-0100

Fax 718- 773-4198

Email: faithcommstgreg@aol.com

Mass Schedule:

First Friday 10:00am

Saturday-5pm

Sunday 11:30am

Saturday: Reconciliation-4:30 pm

Office Staff

Secretary: Rosanne Barber Ext.100

D.R.E.: Monica Flemmings

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday: 9:00am-5:00pm

St. Matthew

1123 Eastern Pkwy.,

Brooklyn, NY 11213

Tel 718- 774-6747

Fax 718- 953-4895

Email: stmatthew1123@aol.com

Mass Schedule:

Monday-Friday 7:30am & 9:00am

Saturday 8:00am & 8:00pm

Saturday: Reconciliation-7:30 pm
or by appointment

**Exposition on Wednesdays &
Fridays after the 9 A.M. Mass
until noon**

Sunday:

English-7:30am & 11:30am

Spanish 9:30am; Kreyol 1:30pm

Office Staff

Secretary: Sharon Andrews

D.R.E.: Charmaine Noel

Office Hours:

Monday:10:00am-4:00pm

Tuesday, Wednesday,

Thursday Friday & Saturday:

10:00am-6:00pm

Sunday: 9:00am-4:00pm

**Monday - Saturday-
Closed for lunch 1-2 P.M.**

Our Lady Of Charity

1669 Dean St.,

Brooklyn, NY 11213

Tel 718- 774-5100

Fax 718- 778-3335

Email: Olc1669@aol.com

Mass Schedule:

Sunday: Rosary 9:00am

9:30am-Praise & Worship

10am-Mass

Office Staff:

Secretary: Patricia Romain

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday:10am-6pm

Catholic Cemeteries-

80-01 Metropolitan Ave.

Middle Village, NY 11379

Tel:718 - 894-4888



28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

It was really horrible. 12 year old Tommy was bawled out by his little league coach. He was mocked in front of his teammates. He was told that if he ever refused to obey the coach again, he would be off the team. Tommy did his best to keep from crying, but his eyes welled up with tears. His offence? Tommy was a pitcher, and the best pitcher and all around player on the team. When the opposing pitcher came up, the coach went out to the mound to remind Tommy that one of his teammates was hit by a pitch the last inning. It was most probably just a pitch that got away, and it just grazed the leg of the hit batsman, but the coach wanted his pitcher to send a message. Tommy didn't think that was right; so he didn't do it. The coach went ballistic. "This is the way baseball is," the coach fumed, "this is the way of the world. You better learn from this or you'll be a patsy your entire life." Sad story, unfortunately not made up. Tommy asked me if he was disrespecting his elders. I told him he was respecting God.

Two different mothers called the school in the second month of the school year. Unless there was a change in the first grade classroom, they were pulling their little girls out of the Catholic school. And they were right. What was going on in that first grade? Some of the other mothers had told their daughters that they needed to assert themselves over the other girls. Well, perhaps these mothers had an original intention of raising daughters who would not be taken advantage of by anyone, but they turned their daughters into bullies, and then supported them when the other mothers complained, becoming bullies themselves. The principal tried to reason with the offending mothers. She got nowhere. In fact, she was told, "the world can be divided into the bullies and the bullied. My daughter will not be counted among the bullied." Within the year, the school had to ask the offending families to leave. Sad story. True story.

Might makes right. Be the bully or be bullied. Money is power. All these attitudes are the way of the world.

They are not the way of God. They are not the way of the followers of Jesus Christ.

God was very pleased with young King Solomon. The period of mourning the great King David was over. It was now time for Solomon to reign. His father had accumulated whatever Solomon would need to build a Temple to Yahweh in Jerusalem. Solomon decided to make this the focus of his reign. Then God appeared to Solomon in a dream. You can read about it in 1 Kings 3:3-9. "I am delighted with you," God said. And then He asked, "What is it that you would like, Solomon?"

And Solomon replied, "Give your servant an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil."

To this God said, "Because you have asked for wisdom,

Solomon sought the Wisdom of God, not the way of the world.

But the rich, young man of the Gospel was not so wise. He was a good man. Jesus loved him because he was sincere when he asked what he needed to do to attain eternal life. The man wasn't trying to trick Jesus into saying something that would be used against him. Jesus called him to become a special disciple, perhaps in time a great apostle. But the man could not leave the way of the world. His money dominated him, and, perhaps, destroyed him.

Might makes right. Be the bully or be bullied. Money is power. This is the sinfulness of the world that Christ came to destroy. He calls us to follow him. He calls us to choose the Wisdom of God over the way of the world.

And many are making this choice. Catholics and other Christians are right now sitting in the cells of horrible prisons throughout the world. Some have lost everything they owned and are expecting to lose their lives. Many young girls have been kidnapped by the practitioners of radical Islam and have been treated in the most abominable ways because they are Christians. Here in the United States many others have refused to sacrifice their Christianity for the sake of advancing in business. They are living far more frugally than some of their workmates. Yet all, those standing for truth in jail, the kidnapped martyrs, and those standing for truth in the rat race of business are in actuality living as rich people. They possess all that matters in life, the Presence of Jesus Christ. They chose and are continually choosing the Wisdom of God.

At the other end of the spectrum, there are some who are living miserably in mansions, surrounded by every type of unfathomably expensive items, paintings, sculptures, with the best vehicles in their garages and a huge ship waiting for them in some Caribbean port, but they are not happy because none of the possessions they spent their lives acquiring can give them happiness.

"Our hearts are made for you, O Lord, and shall not rest until they rest in you." St. Augustine in his Confessions.

The readings today really hit us to the core of our lives. They ask us to consider what are the guiding principals of our lives. Scripture does that to us, doesn't it? The second reading from *Hebrews 4* says that the Word of God is a two edged sword, a sword that is very sharp and very strong. The Word of God cuts through the bone and marrow. It cuts into us and uncovers the thoughts, reflections and desires of our hearts. It cuts through the lies we tell ourselves. It cuts through the masks we wear. The Word of God cuts through to the basic motivation of our lives. And it demands that we ask ourselves today, "Do I follow the way of the world or do I want the Wisdom of God to direct my life?"

Come Holy Spirit! Come Wisdom of God! Give us the courage to embrace the way of the Lord. Give us the courage to live our faith.

WEEKLY READINGS	
Sun Oct 13	Wis 7:7-11; Heb 4:12-13; Mk 10: 17-30 or 10: 17-27
Mon Oct 14	Gal 4: 22-24,26-27,31-5:1; Lk 11:29-32
Tue Oct 15	Gal 5: 1-6; Lk 11:37-41
Wed Oct 16	Gal 5: 18-25; Lk 11:42-46
Thu Oct 17	Eph 1: 1-10; Lk 11:47-54
Fri Oct 18	2 Tm 4: 10-17; Lk 10:1-9
Sat Oct 19	Eph 1: 15-23; Lk 12:8-12

OUR LADY OF CHARITY: MASS INTENTIONS

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS :

Donna Dingle , Erik Williams , Preston Scantebury,
Auguste Cadore , Nasir Hillaire , Kristina Sabally ,
Shelia Hepburn/ Torres ,Toni Huie , Bianca Ausby ,
Juliet Wilson , Alyssia Lewis , Kenneth Herbert Jr.

We pray to the Lord

TODAY'S MASS : We pray to the Lord.

ALTAR BREAD : We pray to the Lord.

SANCTUARY CANDLES : We pray to the Lord.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY :


PARISH PRAYER: For our parish, that the three communities of St. Matthew, St. Gregory the Great and Our Lady of Charity, learn how to merge and grow together spiritually and become financially sound as three and yet one,

We pray to the Lord.

ST. GREGORY : MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, Oct. 12th	5 PM Vigil Mass for Bishop Guy Sansaricq, R.I.P., Requested by The Jack and Sangster Families
Sunday, Oct. 13th	11:30 AM Mass for Angela Gomez, R.I.P., Requested by Ann Leonce
Saturday, Oct. 19th	5 PM Vigil Mass for Wilma Norde Farley, R.I.P., Requested Sister Claudette Norde

ST. MATTHEW: MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday October 12	8:00pm – Birthday blessings for Anthony Lambert & Beverly Skeete by Cita Ferguson & family
Sunday October 13	7:30am – Holy Name Society 9:30am – a. I.L.M. of Maria Sosa by Nancy Valdez 11:30am –Birthday blessings for Charmaine Noel 1:30pm –a. I.L.M. of Jacques Altidor & Franckze Voltaire by Marie Coeur Altidor B. Thanksgiving for Pierre Lucien Jr. Jean by his mom, Chest Rolande Jean C. I.L.M. of Jean Claude Basile by Yseult Lorseille
	
Monday October 14	7:30am – Birthday blessings for Floe Patrick & Marquis Ferguson by Allee & Krissee 9:00am – Birthday blessings Pierre Kenneth Edouard by his Mom
Tuesday October 15	7:30am – The Johnson family 9:00am – B'day blessings in heaven Ernestina Gallmore by niece, Fulvia Parris
Wednesday October 16	7:30am – R.I.P. Dexter Sean Smith & Michael Andrews by family 9:00am – Blessings for Maria Alleyne & Lynette Bourne by Tamara Bourne
Thursday October 17	7:30am –Repose of the soul of Degrace Kebreu by Stephanie Kebreu 9:00am – Thanksgiving for my family by Gertrude Agbasonu
Friday October 18	7:30am – I.L.M. of Joseph Osnel Ambroise by children 9:00am – Thanksgiving for Craig Matthew Moreau by Myriam Voigt-Moreau
Saturday October 19	8:00am – I.L.M. & R.I.P. for Nunez, Garcia & Lopez families by Jessica Garcia Kennedy

BREAD & WINE FOR OCTOBER



BREAD: R.I.P. St. Clair Andrews

WINE: Birthday blessings for Florence Holder & R.I.P. St. Clair Holder

SACRAMENTS & REGISTRATION

PARISH REGISTRATION:

All are welcome! Any letter concerning sponsorship for the sacraments or testimonial letters will only be issued to registered parishioners of 6+ months. Please register

✂

Full Name _____

Address 1 _____

Address 2 _____

Telephone Number _____

Email Address _____

Were you registered before _____

If yes, registration # _____

in the rectory.

RCIA

RCIA stands for RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS and is composed of a series of sessions bringing people together to experience the prayer life of the church as well as learn about its doctrines and teachings. Using the readings from the Bible which we hear daily at Mass, the Sacred Liturgy as well as the Catechism of the Catholic Church, teens and adults who have not yet done so prepare themselves to receive the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation & Holy Eucharist.

C'est la préparation de Ceux qui ne sont pas catholiques mais qui veulent le devenir. RCIA prépare ces personnes à recevoir le sacrement de baptême.

Es el proceso para preparar los no católicos que están interesados en pasa a ser miembros de la iglesia católica. También prepara católicos para completar el sacramento de la iniciación.

SACRAMENTS & REGISTRATION

RECONCILIATION/CONFESSIONS/RECONCILIACION

- ◆ Saturday 7:30PM-8:00PM or anytime by appointment in the Rectory.
- ◆ Samedi 7:30PM-8:00PM ou du moins appelez du presbytere pour un rendez-vous.
- ◆ Sábados de 7:30PM-8:00PM o cualquier otra hora por cita.

MARRIAGE/MARIAGE/MATRIMONIOS

- *Arrangements must be made AT LEAST six (6) months in advance
- *Contacter le presbytere au moins (6) l'avance.
- *Arreglos deben ser hechos por lo menos seis (6) meses por adelante.

MINISTRY TO THE SICK/LES MALADES/LOS ENFERMOS

- * Sick & Homebound can receive the sacrament of anointing from a priest and receive Holy Communion on a regular basis from our Ministers of Holy Communion. Please contact the Rectory
- * Ceux qui sont très maladies et ne peuvent pas sortir de leur maison peuvent recevoir le sacrement d'extrême onction d'un prêtre de la paroisse, la sainte communion d'un ministre de l'eucharistie appelle au presbytere pour un rendez-vous.
- * Puede recibir el Sacramento de los enfermos por un sacerdote. En tiempos regulares puede recibir Sagrada Comunión de uno de nuestro ministros de la Comunión Favor notificar la rectoría.

BAPTISM/BAPTEME/BAUTISMO

- ◆ Registration and preparation in our baptismal class is required. Please contact the Rectory for date and time of our next class.
- ◆ Tous ceux ou celles qui voudraient recevoir le baptême doivent se faire enregistrer au presbytere pour prendre part aux cours avant la réception de ce sacrement. Pour plus d'information, composez le 718-774-6747
- ◆ Registracion y participación en nuestras clases bautismal es un requisito para el bautismo. Favor de encontrar el diacono Cruz para fijar la fecha y

REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

For the homebound, hospitalized and sick

Judith Adams, Carmen Allen, Rita Antomez, Armelle Amilcar, Hillary Amarosa, Loraine Quash– Antoine, Marie Augustin, Al Barnett, Monica Belfon, Marque & Yael Barber-LaFon, Melona Barber, Jason Bascom, Silvestre Brathwaite, Ismay Brewster, Jahonah Brown, Recy Brown, Isabella Bugett, Patricia Burrows, Yolande Cadet, Eslyn Canning, Cathleen Charles, Caitilda Charles, Delcia Charles, Marcel Charles, Maria Clouden, Cecilia Clovie, Mahalia Clunis, Nelia Collins, Marilyn Coates, Virginia Cox, Daphne Critchlow, Golda Critchlow, Theresa Cudjoe, Veronica Dale, Angela Daniels, Shirley Daniels, Marcella DeSandies, Joseph Drew, Stephen Duncan, Dorothy Edwards, Una Europe, Stella Emmanuel, Elardo Flemings, Carrie Frasier, Sherwin Fung, John Gale, Ryan Gee, Sybil Geoffroy, Catherine & Deacon Roy George, Bernadette Gilbert, Muriel Gomez, Trina Gonzalez, Kellon Hagley, Kelly Hagley, Gwendolyn Harding, Pat Harris, Bruno Henry, Beverly Hillyer, Pierre & Elreta Hinds, Florence Holder, Danielle Huie, Janice & Orson Hutchings, Kerlyne Hyppolite, Anasha Inniss, Carlyn Jabouin, Donna James, Nellie James, Roberta Jennings, Alsie Johnson, Nicole Johnson, Magdalena Joseph, Ian Kellman, Lucy King, Albert Kirton, Kanelle Lang, Rhoda Lewis, Sampson Lewis, Marjorie Lopez, Luis Manuel Lorenzo, Madelin Lorenzo, Vivian Boykin Lott, Norberto Lovell, Jean Lubin, Gloria Lynch, Hubert Lynch, Mamita, Barbara Manuel, Judith Matthew, Wilma Maynard, Tom McCafferty, Laura McDonald, Mavis McDonald, Leticia McDowell, Vernita McDowell, Gemma Mejias, Daniel David Mendez, Marcelina Morales, Grant Nelson Jr., Isai Munoz, Marta Munoz, Nelson Munoz, Suzanna Neil, Claudette Norde, Mother Dolores Olf, Keena Ollivierre, Margaret Otumba, Ronaldo Nano Paul, Sharonie Perry, Andre Perry, Chung Peters, Mary James Peterson, Marie Pierre, Melody Pink, Sonia Prescott, Ann Primo, Val Quash, Len Quash, Dorothy Irons Reid, Catherine Richards, Elizabeth Rivera, Carlos Rudas, Lidia Saunders, Fr. Robert Seay, Pamela Smith, Pema Smith, Robert Smith, Lisa Scott Spencer, Delores Sykes, Kevin Maynard, Basil Suarez, Antonio Sultan, Brenda & Javier Talango, Angela & Edris Thomas, Jean Thornhill, Allison Thorpe, Lyonette Tribie, Janet Throne, Malik Wellington, Karen Williams, Terrance Williams, Octavio Willis, Leandro Wilson, Reynold Williams, Christine Wright, Joan Wright, Natasha Wright, Vilma Zuniga

SPECIAL PRAYERS FOR : Yvonne Lacy, Dean Jackson, Wendy Romain, Vaughn Haynes, Georgeann Campbell, Danielle Huie, Cotilda Charles, Anthony Hepburn Jr., Lawrence Latimer & family, La Mar Mc Nabb, Lisa Colone, Christine Hudson & family, Conrad Lord, Glenda Hunter, Livingston Holloway, Jaden Bell, Nathan Ford Sr. & family, Sabrina Guess, Daphne & Golda Critchlow, Gwen & Helena Pugh, Almarie Mc Coy, Raymond Jorsling, Kato Pollydore, Judith Prosper, Lisa Scott/ Spencer, Carla Martin, Marge Holas, Hermelene Thomas, Althea Gordon, Maureen Walter, Khalilah Saleem, Quarless family, Lisa Scott/ Spencer, Nigel & Jacinta James, all families represented here today,

All students, teachers and principals, President Joseph Biden & his family, Vice President Kamala Harris & her family, our Government, prayers and petitions in our prayer basket, for the all Priest especially those who serve here at Charity, Religious Vocations, and an increase in Religious Vocations, all men and women serving our country, the elders, all who are incarcerated, and unexpressed prayers, for immigrants, a successful solution to the pandemic, the mentally sick, the unemployed and under employed, end to gun violence and for world peace, and for world peace,

WEEKLY MEETINGS - St. Matthew

St. Matthew weekly meetings have commenced. Please contact your ministry to find out the time and date of the meetings.

WEEK OF SUNDAY 10/13/2024 @ ST. GREGORY

- + **9:30 AM Sunday school-Church**
- + **11:30 AM Mass – (Live Stream)**
- + **CREDIT UNION-OPEN**

MONDAY 10/14/24 – COLUMBUS DAY HOLIDAY **RECTORY OFFICE CLOSED**

- + **NO - Choir Rehearsal-Church**

FRIDAY 10/18/24

- + **7:15 PM Bible Study-meets via zoom**
(Studying the Book of Ephesians)

SATURDAY 10/19/24

- + **9 AM Shredding Event until 12 Noon-St. Johns Place, corner of Brooklyn Ave.**
- + **12 PM to 5 PM Heritage Committee Luncheon-St. Teresa of Avila**
- + **4 PM Confession**
- + **4 PM Vigil Choir Rehearsals**
- + **4 PM Light Fest Prayer Group – via zoom**
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82362442148?pwd=MGVNMWFFQcVdrQktXeTh0YjRadC9MdZ09>
- + **5 PM Vigil Mass-Church**

COLLECTION 10/05– 10/06/2024

ST. MATTHEW

Mass	Envelopes	Envelope Collection	Loose money	Totals
8:00 PM	25	714.00	218.00	932.00
7:30 AM	91	3,183.00	385.00	3,568.00
9:30 AM	76	1,252.75	309.60	1,562.35
11:30 AM	60	1,587.00	601.50	2,188.50
1:30 PM	49	741.00	190.00	931.00
L.I.R.	44	1,486.00	—	1,486.00
Total	345	8,963.75	1,704.10	10,667.85

ST. GREGORY

Mass	Envelopes	Envelope Collection	Loose money	Totals
5 PM	14	800.05	207.25	1,007.30
11:30AM	36	1,358.00	176.00	1,534.00
Total	50	2,158.05	383.25	2,541.30

OUR LADY OF CHARITY

Mass	Envelopes	Envelope Collection	Loose money	Totals
10:00AM	55	2,871.00	—	2,871.00
Total	55	2,871.00	—	2,871.00

**FAITH DIRECT: \$2,095.00 collected
September 2 to October 2, 2024**

ST. MATTHEW EXPENSES

INCOME	Jan – June 2024	Jan-Jun 2023	CHANGE
COLLECTION	\$ 463,241	\$484,004	(20,763)
RENTAL INCOME	280,457	260,410	20,047
DONATIONS/ FUNDRAISING	58,690	30,214	28,476
OTHER	17,060	1,622	15,438
TOTAL INCOME	819,448	776,250	43,198
EXPENSES			
SALARIES	380,494	411,038	30,089
MAINTENANCE	82,778	97,198	14,419
OFFICE EXPENSE	68,823	69,626	803
PROGRAMS	2,408	6,396	3,988
ALTAR SUPPLIES	9,655	14,393	4,738
UTILITIES	127,757	93,675	(34,083)
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE	192,841	181,601	(11,240)
TOTAL 3 EXPENSE	865,212	873,296	8,714
NET INCOME LOSS	(45,764)	(97,675)	51,912

ST. GREGORY THE GREAT

ALL ARE INVITED to join *St. Gregory the Great* **BIBLE STUDY** meets on zoom every Friday from 7:15PM to 8:30PM with Catherine Abdullah

Starts at 7:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Bible Study is beginning the Book of Ephesians
(A Book of the Bible is picked (By the Group) alternatively, from the Old Testament, followed by The New Testament.)

Link for Bible Study <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85498875775?pwd=Nk4zY3BVOUFmVzRUSDJodlIWSDArUT09>

. Dial 929-205-6099 using meeting ID 782362442148 and pass code 424370. (Please contact any member for information on book currently being read.) (ALL ARE WELCOME!)

LIGHT FEST PRAYER GROUP Meets In Person at St. Gregory R.C. Church every **“SECOND SATURDAYS”** of the month at 4PM in the Rectory’s dining room. The remaining Saturdays of the month, Light Fest Prayer Group meets on zoom in the Light Fest Reading Room from 8PM to 9PM. Dial 929-205-6099 using meeting ID 823 6244 2148 and passcode 424370. (Please contact any member for information on book currently being read.)

UPCOMING MTGS. & EVENTS @ ST. GREGORY

St. Gregory the Great – Religious Education
Sunday school will resume Sunday, October 13th, 2024 @ 9:30 AM

Registration will open for returning students and new students entering Sacramental and Non-Sacramental Classes.

Please see Ms. Monica Flemmings, Director Religious Education

MARCUS GARVEY SERVICE IS NOW SCHEDULED ONCE A MONTH ON THE SECOND SUNDAY AT 2 PM

EL CHRISTO NEGRO Mass will be held on Sunday, October 20th, 2024 at 11:30 AM. Hospitality hosted by The Panamanian Community.

Bethlehem Christian Family will visit with us on Saturday, October 26th and Sunday, October 27th, 2024. Sacred Items will be available for sale after Mass.

ALL SAINTS DAY Mass will be held on First Friday, November 1st, 2024 at 9 AM and 7 PM at St. Gregory the Great R. C. Church.

ALL SOULS REMEMBERANCE DAY Mass will be held on the First Saturday, November 2nd at St. Matthew Church at 8 PM. St. Matthew Church located at 1123 Eastern Parkway, corner of Utica Avenue.

Children’s Fall Festival sponsored by Sterling Block Association on Saturday, November 2nd, 2024
Event location: Parking Lot of St. Gregory the Great Church, entrance on Sterling Place. There will be distribution of Books to the children from 5:30 PM to 5:45 PM and movie starting 6:45 PM to 9 PM.

GIFT SHOP

Located @ the back of the Church, selling an array of religious articles including rosaries, open on weekends before & after Mass.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION



Adoration in the Church on
Wednesdays and Fridays after
9:00 am Mass until 12:00 noon
and
First Fridays from **7 P.M. to 9 P.M.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

FAMILY MASS— We will have our monthly Family Mass on Saturday, October 19th at 5 P.M.

Jesus Nazareno Mass will be held on Monday, **October 21st at 7.30pm starting with a procession followed by the Mass** at St. Matthew.

Bethlehem Christian families will be here to sell religious artifacts on the weekend of **October 26th and 27th after all masses**. By making a purchase you are supporting the Christian families in the Holy Land.

SIGHT N SOUND trip to Lancaster Pennsylvania to see the play “DANIEL” at 7:30 P.M.

DATE: Saturday, December 28th

Price: \$175 for adults and \$ 145 for children ages 3 -12.

We will have shopping, (**NOT** at Tangers outlet) Dinner at the Golden Corral and the show. Bus leaves from in front of St. Matthew at 11:45 A.M.

To reserve your seat you must make a deposit of \$50 immediately. Deadline for all payments is November 15th.

RAFFLE: You would've received your raffle books via mail. The tickets are \$5 each. If you sell a full book the 6th ticket is free. The prizes are:

1st prize— 2K

2nd Prize-1K

3rd Prize-750

4th Prize-500

If you need additional raffle books, please stop by the rectory. The **drawing takes place during our Christmas concert on December 15th.**

COLUMBUS DAY: The rectory will be closed on Monday, October 14th

REFLECTION

I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and your joy may be complete. (John 15:11)

It was one o'clock in the morning when the couple received news that their two sons would be returning home from the war in two months' time. They were so excited that they stayed awake all the rest of the night reminiscing about their boys and making plans for their eventual reunion. They knew their sons were still in harm's way but there was no room for doubt and worry that night. Their joy sprang from their hope.

As believers, we too are invited to rejoice in something that hasn't fully come to pass. Jesus has risen victorious from death. He has triumphed in the battle against sin and given us a share in his victory. But at the same time, his full victory has yet to be revealed, and we find ourselves living in hope. We still face battles against sin and temptation. We still face situations that threaten our peace or rob us of joy. In short, we are still waiting for the Second Coming, when our joy will be complete.

Just as the soldiers' parents found joy by living in hope, so too can we. It's what we do, in fact, every time we celebrate Mass. Gathered as one people, we hear Jesus speak his words to us— words of life that tell us of the promise of heaven and the salvation that he won for us. Then, offering him our gifts we fix our eyes on the altar, where bread and wine are transformed into his body and blood.

This is the reason for our hope! Just as the bread and wine become something different, so too will our lives be transformed at the end of time. Every time we receive Jesus body and blood we receive a share in the divine life that will completely suffuse us one day. We receive more strength, more encouragement, and more love to sustain us as we continue our vigil. And so we continue to wait in joyful hope for that day when our joy will be complete.

“Lord Jesus help me to live in your love today”