



Dear Brothers and Sisters of Our Lady of Lourdes,

We are blessed this year to welcome and anticipate the springtime celebration of First Holy Communion on Saturday May 16, 2020 with our children.

These young people are now in “Year 2” (second year) of parish religious education for First Holy Communion. If you have not yet registered and would like to begin this journey at Lourdes, we would love to hear from you. I am sincerely grateful to our parents through whom the Catholic faith is shared and all our leaders in our family-based religious program for First Communion and Grades 1-6. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to call our office to speak to me or to Mrs. Barbara Camp.

SAVE THE DATE - **Reminder.** The 9:30 am Mass on Sunday September 22 is our “Inscription Mass” at which we have a special blessing for all children receiving First Communion in 2020. A social gathering for First Communion families will follow in Connor Hall after 9:30 am Mass on Sept. 22.

I’d like to share with a reflection on First Communion and Holy Communion with this analogy.

**First Holy Communion & Baseball Practice...  
“Something in Common”**

**Part 1. “Uniforms”**

When I was about 11 years old, I felt awkward at my first baseball practice. The team was already practicing when I arrived. I was surprised – and nervous – because the players on the field were wearing the team uniforms. They wore uniforms – to PRACTICE?

I was so disappointed, that I returned home. My parents were confused, seeing me so soon. I explained why I returned home.

My parents were nice and also observed to me: “Well you know, professional baseball players – the New York Yankees – wear their uniforms to practice.” This was a fact and also an aspiration beyond Little League. At the time, I still felt a bit uncomfortable.

**Part 2. “Special Clothing”**

It can be an uncomfortable experience to put on a special set of clothes for the first time. To dress up with a special suit, tie, dress, shoes ...or a uniform.

We feel different, we are expected to behave differently. This also happens on First Holy Communion day.

On that day, you – our young boys and girls – may receive many compliments today because of your presentation, your attire, your appearance.

**Part 3. “The Appearance and Clothing of Jesus”**

We also say that the appearance, the garments, the CLOTHING of Jesus Christ, our Savior, also showed his

love for you and for me. That is, our Savior, the Son of God, our Messiah, arrived – clothed – wrapped up – first as an infant child whom we remember at Christmas.

While we believe in God’s power, wisdom, love, we give thanks that he was born – and clothed – as a human being – just as you and I are.

Jesus showed his love through his appearance, his willingness to die for us, to give up his life.

**Part 4. “The Invitation to First Holy Communion”**

To our young people, you are invited to the table of the Lord’s supper for the first time in First Communion. We know that your beauty, your faithfulness is not only symbolized by what you wear but also demonstrated – body and soul – in who you are.

When I was 11 years old... when I turned around at the baseball field, I was – at the moment lacking an understanding of what a team was ...and the community of the team. That is, the team was not defined only by what we wore – on the outside.

**Part 5. “Questions We Might Reflect On”**

And, isn’t it true for us that sometimes we may feel isolated/ restricted or apart from God or unworthy for the wrong reasons.

Do you, girls and boys, sometimes, compare what you have to what someone else has?

Do you sometimes compare what you are wearing to what someone else is wearing?

Though I felt temporarily isolated – without my uniform – I remained a part of the team. I was not aware of this, but it was the truth.

You and I – all of us – are God’s precious children.

On the day of that baseball practice, I remain quite sure that the coach wanted me to stay, despite my own discomfort, anxiety, nervousness. I can still hear him calling me back.

I also recall there was one other kid who also did not get the message about the uniform. He was also in regular clothes. I was not alone after all.

We are not alone in this gift of his Body and Blood and our need for God’s mercy.

**Our Lady of Lourdes, Pray for Us and for all our children preparing for First Holy Communion!**

In Christ’s Peace,  
Father Jim Ferry

**PARISH GIVING**

FISCAL YEAR STARTING JULY 2019

WEEKLY GOAL \$ 6800

Collection: Aug. 24-25\* \$ 3762

Deficit: \$ 3038

\* Includes Online Giving Weekly Average Deposit



**For Your Stewardship of Time, Talent and Treasure**

**OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH – SEPTEMBER 8, 2019**



**SATURDAY 7, SEPTEMBER**

8:30 am Kay McFarland  
5:30 pm Fran Glennon

**SUNDAY 8 SEPTEMBER**

7:30 am People of the Parish  
9:30 am Berardino DiGiacomantonio  
11:30 am Frank Ludwiczak

**MONDAY 9 SEPTEMBER**

8:30 am Nestor Matias (10th Ann.)

**TUESDAY 10 SEPTEMBER**

8:30 am William O. McCurdy III

**WEDNESDAY 11 SEPTEMBER**

8:30 am William O. McCurdy III

**THURSDAY 12 SEPTEMBER**

8:30 am Leopoldo Nin, Sr.

**FRIDAY 13 SEPTEMBER**

8:30 am Dumonname Dossous

**SATURDAY 14 SEPTEMBER**

8:30 am Robert Wagner  
5:30 pm Lucille Cappello (1st. Ann.)

**SUNDAY 15 SEPTEMBER**

7:30 am People of the Parish  
9:30 am Deceased members of the Pflug & Napolitano Families  
11:30 am Jaroslav & Rose Konvalinka

**SUNDAY 8 SEPTEMBER**

9:30 am Mass and meeting—Religious Educ. w/ newly registered—C Hall

**MONDAY 9 SEPTEMBER**

1:00 pm RAS meeting—Rectory

**TUESDAY 10 SEPTEMBER**

7—9:00 pm Alumni Meeting—C Hall

**WEDNESDAY 11 SEPTEMBER**

6:00 pm Choir Practice  
7:00 pm KOC meeting—C Hall

**THURSDAY 12 SEPTEMBER**


10:00 am Deadline for News & Announcements for Sept. 22nd bulletin email: lourdesbulletin@aol.com.


**SATURDAY 14 SEPTEMBER**

3:30—5:30 pm Family Catechesis—C Hall

**SUNDAY 15 SEPTEMBER**

9:00 am KOC Bus Trip to Wind Creek—Upper Lot

 This week's Bread & Wine, a gift from Nancy Lanfrank, is in memory of **BESSIE CORCORAN.**

 This week's Sanctuary Candle, a gift from Nancy & Michael Lanfrank, is in memory of **PETER MONTEVERDE (13th Ann.).**

**WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE SEP. 14– SEP. 15 2019**

Mass	Lector	Eucharistic Ministers	Altar Servers
5:30 pm	Sharon Rosario	Judith Albore Marge Christiano Frank Refinski	Gina Camosy Jenie Camosy Jonathan Camosy
7:30 am	Mary Cassels	Bless Bernardo Patricia Saway	Joseph Lobo Barry Skinner
9:30 am Choir	Kathy Petrillo	( C ) Joseph Petrillo Myrna Regino Bill Talbot	Seamus Murphy Volunteer
11:30 am	Carmelita Dizon	Michele Gizzi Carmelita Dizon Paul Hirsch Nancy Lanfrank	Faith Nzegwu Ikeh Uzor Mezu Uzor
11:30 am	Children's Liturgy -	Annamarie Frey	<i>Called to Serve</i>

**PRAYERS**  
Needed For...

Vincent Aiello Sean Bailey Josefina Balerdi Suzane Ball Kazimiera Borchet Darlene Cangialosi Teresa Carbin Josephine Ciuolo Tom Collinson Jeannie Cox Ramona De Castro Peggy Dolan Pierre Ferrus Catherine Gascoyne Al Gebhardt Judy Givas Alberta Greco Michael Harris Marissa Hedstrom Richard Hedstrom Jovann Henry Yann Henry Glenn Holland Prepty Joint	Bruce Kiefer Tim Klein James Leung Rose Mateus Marion McConville Mary McGuinness Stephanie Montano Noreen Meyers Liam Morley Florence Olabiyi William Ollenschleger Otilia Ortega Idelourdes Petion Patrick Pierre Mark Quarno Amy Ricciardi Mary Lou Ruppel Vincent Santucci, Jr. Pat Schoeler Heather Scoffone Patricia Seib Natalie Sims Jimmy Tiernan Robin Tobia Harry Vendemia, Annalisa Verdi Ann Whelan George Zachos
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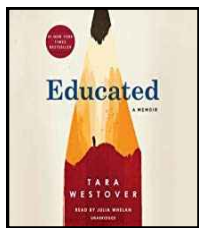
If you wish to have a loved one prayed for, please call the rectory at 973.325.0110.



**Lourdes Town Hall Meeting**  
**Wednesday Sept. 18, 2019 - 7:30 pm**  
**Main Church --ALL ARE WELCOME**

All parishioners are invited to our Town Hall meeting on Wednesday Sept. 18th at which time Father Jim Ferry will present: - A summary of our parish survey questionnaire; the Financial Report on the parish as of June 30, 2019 and, some Goals and Strategies for our growth as a parish family.

**CHRISTIAN BOOK DISCUSSION –**



Our Next Book:-“**EDUCATED**”  
 By: **Tara Westover**

Join the Book Discussion Group on  
**Thursday, September 19th, 7:00 pm**  
 in the Knights of Columbus Room,  
**Connor Hall**

**Cardinal Tobin’s Stewardship Reflection**  
**September 8, 2019.**

*“Everyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple” (Luke 14:33)*

When we first hear this statement, it seems that Jesus is making an unrealistic demand upon us. How can we renounce all of our possessions? We need them to live. However, what we must renounce is the belief that they belong to us. Everything that we have belongs to God alone. All of our resources are entrusted to us not only for our own use, but also so that we can help others. Once we renounce the idea that we possess or are entitled to anything, it is much easier to share the many gifts that God has given us. Then we truly are His Disciples.

**PLEASE NOTE**

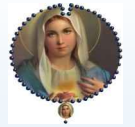
Our  
**Bulletin Sick List**  
 will be updated on  
**September 15th**

If you have friends or loved ones you wish to continue on the list, or if you wish to add a name to the list please call the Rectory by September 9th. All names not confirmed will be removed from the list.

Thank you

The **Rosary Altar Society’s 1st Quarterly meeting** will be held on **Monday, September 9th, at 1:00 pm in the Rectory.** Looking forward to seeing everyone there.

Carol Ford, President



**ORATORY PREP SCHOOL**

We invite you to our **OPEN HOUSES** on  
**Sunday, September 29, 2019 1-3 pm &**  
**Thursday, October 24, 2019 6:45—8:15 pm**

Oratory Prep is located at **425 Morris Avenue, Summit, NJ**  
**No RSVP necessary**

For further information, call **908-273-1084, ext. 1** or visit us at  
**www.oratoryprep.org.**

**Celebration of Marriage Retreat**  
**SEPTEMBER 27-29**

Marianist Family Retreat Center  
 Cape May Point, NJ 08212



This weekend is intended for couples married at least 10 years. It honors and celebrates the commitment of marriage. We strike a deliberate balance among participation/reflection, liturgy, free time, fun activities and plenty of “couple time” for walks on the nearby beaches.

**Cost: \$280 per couple** (includes all meals, room, and program).

**Sign up online at [www.capemaymarianists.org](http://www.capemaymarianists.org)** or call for more information—609-884-3829.



A 3 Day Retreat

**Helping You Find Peace, Power & Passion After Your Divorce**

The Archdiocese of Newark is sponsoring a 3 day retreat for the separated and divorced. Whether you got divorced ten days ago or ten years ago, this program offers valuable insight & support.

**Saturday mornings from 9 am to 1 pm**  
**September 28th, October 26th & November 16th**

Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament  
 28 Livingston Avenue Roseland, NJ 07068  
 Founders Hall (Red building) Exit 5B off of Rt. 280

**COST: \$20.00** (includes cost of guide book, refreshments & light lunch)

**REGISTER online: <https://conta.cc/31gcKqr>**  
**REGISTER by phone: 973-497-4327**

[Also offering a fourth optional session on December 7th covering topics such as: dealing with the family & children, finances, & moving forward.]