



Dear Brothers and Sisters of Our Lady of Lourdes,

In this Sunday's Gospel, we read from Luke Chapter 15 of the lost sheep, the lost coin and the lost son also known as the "Prodigal Son".

This is a reflection on the Prodigal Son from Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI:

Angelus Message, 2010 March 14, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

The Gospel of the father and the two sons better known as the Parable of the "Prodigal Son" (Lk 15:11-32) is proclaimed. This passage of St Luke constitutes one of the peaks of spirituality and literature of all time. Indeed, what would our culture, art and more generally our civilization be without this revelation of a God the Father so full of mercy? It never fails to move us and every time we hear or read it, it can suggest to us ever new meanings. Above all, this Gospel text has the power of speaking to us of God, of enabling us to know his Face and, better still, his Heart. After Jesus has told us of the merciful Father, things are no longer as they were before. We now know God; he is our Father who out of love created us to be free and endowed us with a conscience, who suffers when we get lost and rejoices when we return. For this reason, our relationship with him is built up through events, just as it happens for every child with his parents: at first he depends on them, then he asserts his autonomy; and, in the end if he develops well he reaches a mature relationship based on gratitude and authentic love.

In these stages we can also identify moments along man's journey in his relationship with God. There can be a phase that resembles childhood: religion prompted by need, by dependence. As man

grows up and becomes emancipated, he wants to liberate himself from this submission and become free and adult, able to organize himself and make his own decisions, even thinking he can do without God. Precisely this stage is delicate and can lead to atheism, yet even this frequently conceals the need to discover God's true Face. Fortunately for us, God never fails in his faithfulness and even if we distance ourselves and get lost he continues to follow us with his love, forgiving our errors and speaking to our conscience from within in order to call us back to him. In this parable the sons behave in opposite ways: the younger son leaves home and sinks ever lower whereas the elder son stays at home, but he too has an immature relationship with the Father. In fact, when his brother comes back, the elder brother does not rejoice like the Father; on the contrary he becomes angry and refuses to enter the house. The two sons represent two immature ways of relating to God: rebellion and childish obedience. Both these forms are surmounted through the experience of mercy. Only by experiencing forgiveness, by recognizing one is loved with a freely given love a love greater than our wretchedness but, also greater than our own merit do we at last enter into a truly filial and free relationship with God. (Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, 14 March 2010)

In Christ's Peace,
Father Jim Ferry



PARISH GIVING

FISCAL YEAR STARTING JULY 2019	
WEEKLY GOAL	\$ 6800
Collection: Aug. 31-Sept 1	\$ 4034
Deficit:	\$ 2766
* Includes Online Giving Weekly Average Deposit	



For Your Stewardship of Time, Talent and Treasure


OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH – SEPTEMBER 15, 2019



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 Member of the Pflug & Napolitano Families 11:30 am Jaroslav & Rose Konvalinka
MONDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 8:30 am Peter Marriott
TUESDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 8:30 am Russell Funk
WEDNESDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 8:30 am John Brennan
THURSDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 8:30 am Matilda O'Boyle
FRIDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 8:30 am Mauroso Chiovaro (Ann.)
SATURDAY 21 SEPTEMBER 8:30 am Vivian C. Petrillo 5:30 pm Fran Glennon
SUNDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 7:30 am People of the Parish 9:30 am Catherine Catalano 11:30 am Rose Konvalinka (29th Ann.)


SUNDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 9:00 am KOC Bus Trip to Wind Creek—Upper Lot
MONDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 5:30—7:30 pm Family Catechesis—Grades 1-6—CH 7:00—7:30 pm Mandatory parent meeting M/HS 7:00—8:30 pm M/HS Religious Ed—School Chapel
TUESDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 6:00 pm Choir Practice
WEDNESDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 7:30 pm Parish Council Townhall Meeting—Church
THURSDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 10:00 am Deadline for News & Announcements for Sept. 29th bulletin email: lourdesbulletin@aol.com. 7:00 pm Christian Book Club—KOC Room
SATURDAY 21 SEPTEMBER 2:30—6:30 pm Confirmation Retreat This Weekend: Boy Scout Popcorn Sale KOC Membership Drive Legion of Mary Book Borrow
SUNDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 9:30 am Inscripton Mass + meeting—CH 10:30 am Children's Choir Rehearsal

 This week's Bread & Wine, a gift of J. A. Konvalinka, is in memory of **JAROSLAV & ROSE KONVALINKA**

 This week's Sanctuary Candle, a gift of J. A. Konvalinka, is in memory of **JAROSLAV & ROSE KONVALINKA**

 This week's Altar Candles, a gift of J. A. Konvalinka, is in memory of **JAROSLAV & ROSE KONVALINKA**


PRAYERS
Needed For...



Catherine Gascoyne	Mary Lou Ruppel
Peter McDonald	Pat Schoeler
Mary McGuiness	Patricia Seib
William Ollenschleger	Dineya Urena

PRAYER
Requests

If you wish to have a friend or loved one prayed for, please call the rectory at 973.325.0110.

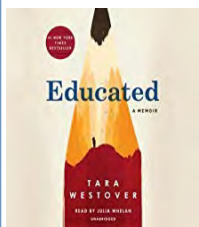
 SEP. 21– SEP. 22, 2019			
Mass	Lector	Eucharistic Ministers	Altar Servers
5:30 pm Choir	Pat Sigalas	Judith Albore Marge Christiano Emily Kunz (C) Frank Refinski	Francesca Appolon Liam Cunningham Thiago Lavado
7:30 am	Joe Gruszczynski	MaryEllen Chandler Louis Volpe	Tim Brennan
9:30 am	JoAnn Melhorn	JoAnne Chiamonte Ann Pflug John Pflug Myrna Regino	Briana Sampson Volunteer
11:30 am	Anika Fernandes	Virginia Dimapilis Carmelita Dizon Nancy Lanfrank Wendy Sheyka	Gregory Clark Jennifer Fernandes
11:30 am	Children's Liturgy -	Carol Ford	<i>Called to Serve</i>



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

Our Lady of Lourdes will hold its
Annual Communion Breakfast on
Sunday, October 6, 2019
 following the 9:30 a.m. Mass in Connor Hall.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO JOIN US.

Our guest speaker will be:
Rev. Msgr. Sylvester J. Cronin
 Pastor, The Church of St. James
 Basking Ridge, NJ.
ALUMNUS, Our Lady of Lourdes

For reservations @ \$25 per person, please call **Ann Pflug** at **973-325-2212**. Sponsored by the Rosary Altar Society.

FOOD FOR THE NEEDY



September 28-29 is our monthly food collection for St. John’s Church, Newark. Please bring non-perishable food and place it in the bins in the Church lobbies. Thank you.

Are You Receiving
the Sacrament of Confirmation?


If yes, be sure to attend on the following dates:



- ◆ **Retreat, 2:30-6:30 pm, SATURDAY SEPT. 21 (Chapel + 5:30 Mass).** The retreat is only for the Confirmation candidates, not for the sponsors.
- ◆ **Rehearsal/Confirmation Mass, 7:30 pm, TUESDAY SEPT. 24 (Church).** Sponsor is expected at the rehearsal. If Sponsor is unable to attend, candidate’s parent or guardian may stand in at the rehearsal.
- ◆ **Sacrament Confirmation, 11:30 am, SUNDAY SEPT. 29 (Church w/ Bishop Dominic Marconi).**

If you have questions or need information, please contact:
Father Jim Ferry, Pastor 973.325.0110 x 113 (ferrydam2@aol.com)
Monica Nieves 973.325.0110 x 123 (ollconfirmationclass@aol.com)
Annemarie Grasso 973-325-0110 x 102 (annemariek823@aol.com)

SOCK-TOBER COLLECTION—
CHARITABLE DRIVE (Month of October)



Our St. Vincent DePaul Society of Our Lady of Lourdes will be collecting New Socks for Men, Women, and Children during the month of October to be distributed to the needy through Local Charities.

Please bring your donations of new socks to the bins at the doors of the church during October. Thank you for your continued generosity.

ATTENTION—Families of 8th Grade Students planning to attend Catholic High School in FALL 2020

The Cooperative Admissions Examination Program (COOP) will be using the High School Placement Test (HSPT®) for the 2019 administration. The COOP/HSPT® is only for current eighth-grade students.

Date: Friday, November 8, 2019 (8:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.).
Extended Time (8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.).
 Make-up examination: Saturday, November 16, 2019 at one test site in each county (same times).

Information about the High School Placement Test (HSPT®) is available on the Web site STSTESTING.COM. Click on the Parents’ Resource icon at the top right corner of the welcome screen.

Students must register online using the Online Application Registration.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS MIDNIGHT, OCTOBER 23, 2019.



Our Lady of the Lake
 32 Lakeside Avenue, Verona, NJ

10th Annual Oktoberfest
Saturday, September 28th — 5:30 pm until 11:00 pm

Seasonal food, beer & wine! Will include traditional German food, craft beers, wine, non-alcoholic drinks, raffles, a tricky tray, and live entertainment by the NERDS!

Admission: \$75/tickets in advance (\$80 @ door)
Tickets: www.ollverona.org/oktoberfest