

# SAINT JOSEPH CHURCH

## September 11, 2016

*"I Will Rise and Go to My Father" Psalm 51:3-4*

### **Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Celebrating 165 years of living faith since the foundation of our parish in 1851.**

## **The Tree of the Cross**

*In 2013 on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, at the Mass he celebrated in the Chapel of the Domus Sanctae Marthae in Rome, Pope Francis delivered a homily about the "love story" of the Cross:*

**I**n commenting on the day's readings — from the Letter to the Philippians (2:6-11) and from John's Gospel (3:13-17) — the Pope said we can grasp "something" of the mystery of the Cross "on our knees in prayer," and in "tears" as well. Indeed, tears actually "bring us close to this mys-

tery." "Without shedding tears," and especially without "heartfelt tears, we shall never understand this mystery." It is the "weeping of the penitent, the weeping of our brother and sister who see so many human miseries and likewise see them in Jesus, on his knees weeping."

The Church Fathers, the Pope said, "always compared the tree of Paradise with the tree of sin; the tree that

bears the fruit of the knowledge of good and evil, of knowledge, with the tree of the Cross." The tree of Paradise "did such great harm," whereas the tree of the Cross "brings us salvation and health, and pardons that harm." It is this "itinerary that human history follows." It is a way that enables us "to encounter Jesus Christ the Redeemer, who lays down his life for love."

The tree of the Cross tells the story of God who "wanted to take on our history and to walk beside us." In the First Reading the Apostle Paul "sums up the whole of God's story in few words: Jesus Christ, though he was in the form of God, did not consider it a privilege to be like God." Rather, the Pope explained, he "emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men." Indeed Christ "humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a Cross." This is "the itinerary that God's story followed." But, the Bishop of Rome wondered, why did it do so? The answer is found in Jesus' words to Nicodemus: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." God, Pope Francis concluded, "took this itinerary out of love; there is no other explanation."

*L'Osservatore Romano*



## **September 15th: Our Lady of Sorrows**

Mary endures the greatest of suffering at the foot of the cross: the death of her Son. Normally, a mother dies before her son; such is the normal course. It is normal for a son to be at his dying mother's side. It is difficult, but normal. However, a mother present beside her suffering and dying son is not normal. However, a mother present beside her suffering and dying son is not normal. At the cross Mary dies in her heart as Mother. If she remains standing, it is because she discovers, beyond Christ's humanity, the Word in the bosom of the Father. She, therefore, discovers that, in love, everything remains, everything lasts. She contemplates the victory of love. Love's victory enables her to remain standing and to live the mystery of the cross in unison with Christ's heart, in unison with Him who is the Resurrection. The mystery of the cross is intolerable considered from without—which is why it is intolerable for the large number of Christians who consider it as such. If considered from within, one discovers the cross as the victory of love, and as a means. The cross is not a stopping point. The cross is a passageway; it is a Passover. The cross is God's true "passage". One does not abide in the cross; one abides in love. Abiding in suffering is bad. One does not abide in suffering, but in love. And because one abides in love, one assumes suffering; one assumes the cross. It is important to have a good understanding of this, The cross is unbearable if viewed from the outside. The cross is wisdom if viewed in the light of faith, that is, from the inside, as God himself views it.

*Father Marie-Dominique Philippe, O.P.*

### **‡ ANNOUNCED MASSES ‡**

#### **Saturday, September 10**

5:00 p.m. 1st anniversary, William Foxley, requested, St. Joseph Church

#### **Sunday, September 11 Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**9:00 a.m.** Memorial, Belmira and William Anthony, requested, Bob and Pauline Anthony

**11:15 a.m.** In loving memory, Paul Sloan, requested, Mom and Dad

#### **Monday, September 12 The Most Holy Name of Mary**

**8:00 a.m.** Available

#### **Tuesday, September 13 St. John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor of the Church**

**8:00 a.m.** Intentions for the Parishioners of St. Joseph Church

#### **Thursday, September 15 Our Lady of Sorrows**

**8:00 a.m.** Memorial, Muriel Cole, requested, Sr. Mary Ellen

#### **Friday, September 16 Saints Comelius, Pope and Cyprian, Bishop**

**8:00 a.m.** Available

#### **Saturday, September 17 St. Robert Bellamine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church**

**5:00 p.m.** Available

#### **Sunday, September 18 Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**9:00 a.m.** Memorial, George Henault, requested, Virginia DiMasi

**11:15 a.m.** Memorial, Edith Coutanche, requested, Daniel S. Harrop III

**ALTAR SERVERS**

**Saturday, September 17**  
5:00 p.m. Olivia, Max, Grace, Kirsten

**Sunday, September 18**  
9:00 a.m. Catherine, Joseph, Laura, Jessica  
11:15 a.m. Ben, Will, Michael, Abigail

**LECTORS**

**Saturday, September 17**  
5:00 p.m. Jan Carrara

**Sunday, September 18**  
9:00 a.m. Virginia DiMasi  
11:15 a.m. David Gillis

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS**

**Saturday, September 17**  
5:00 p.m. Florence Gracie, Pat O'Hara, Jan Jaquinto

**Sunday, September 18**  
9:00 a.m. Lorraine Beaudoin, Michael Reilly, Brian Medeiros  
11:15 a.m. Judy Gillis, Bob Anthony, Shirley Sears



**The fall Mass Schedule begins this weekend:  
September 10th & 11th.**

**Saturday 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday 9:00 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.**



**Senior Priest Retirement Fund**

Next weekend, **September 17th and 18th**, our parish will join others throughout the diocese in a special second collection in support of the Senior Priest Retirement Fund. Although retired, many such priests continue to serve where they are needed, including here at St. Joseph. Since priests are paid a modest wage, they cannot rely on Social Security alone for such basic needs as food, housing, and medical care. Please consider a generous donation. To learn more about this fund, or to make an online donation, please visit [www.srpriestri.org](http://www.srpriestri.org). Thank you.

SAVE THE DATE  
**BLUE MASS**  
Praying for Police Officers  
**9.18.16**  
The Mass will begin at 10 a.m., at the Cathedral of SS Peter & Paul.  
Bishop Thomas J. Tobin will serve as the main celebrant. All are welcome!

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:** Parents with children enrolled in the program (grades 2 to 8) are asked to attend a meeting in the Rectory this **Monday, September 12th, at 6:30 p.m.** Religious Education classes begin **Sunday, September 18th following the 9:00 a.m.** Mass at 10:00 a.m. in the Rectory. **All students are expected to attend weekly Mass.**



**A FINANCE COUNCIL MEETING** will be held on Thursday, September 15th at 6:30 p.m. in the Rectory



**CHOIR PRACTICE:** St. Joseph Choir will resume this Sunday September 11th with rehearsal at 10:15am and Mass at 11:15am. The choir sings weekly at the 11:15 am Mass from Sept-June. Rehearsals are held each Sunday morning at 10:15am. We welcome new members to our volunteer group. Ability to read music is of benefit, although not necessary. Anyone interested speak to Donald Dame after Mass or simply come to rehearsal.



**BUDGET REMINDER:** Now that summer is coming to an end, please remember to make up your budgets. You can mail them to the Rectory, drop them off at the Office or drop them in the collection basket during any Mass. Thank You

**AROUND THE DIOCESE:**

**PROVIDENCE** — The Diocese of Providence is sponsoring "Thérèse: The Story of a Soul," a live, one-woman stage performance on Saturday, Oct. 1, at 7 p.m. in McVinney Auditorium, 43 Dave Gavitt Way. The performance will be a face-to-face encounter with Saint Thérèse of Lisieux, a most beloved saint of modern times. In this one-woman performance, Thérèse speaks directly to the audience, with humor, grace and humility. This drama is suited for all audiences. Tickets on sale now at [www.mcvinneyauditorium.org](http://www.mcvinneyauditorium.org). For more information contact [info@mcvinneyauditorium.org](mailto:info@mcvinneyauditorium.org) or 401.278.4575  
**CRANSTON** — St. George Maronite Church, 1493 Cranston St., will host their annual Lebanese Festival on Friday, Sept. 16, from 4 – 11 p.m.; Saturday, Sept. 17, from noon – 11 p.m.; and Sunday, September 18, from 11:30 a.m. – 7 p.m. There will be a variety of raffles, Middle Eastern food and drinks, children's games and activities, live Arabic entertainment and music. For more information, call 723-8444 or visit [www.stgeorgemaronitecatholicchurch.com](http://www.stgeorgemaronitecatholicchurch.com).



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn this week and the Altar bread will be offered in honor of our Lord and in memory of:  
**Belmira and William Anthony**  
Requested,  
Bob and Pauline Anthony

**SACRIFICIAL GIVING**  
**September 4, 2016**

	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
Envelopes	\$2,276.00	\$2,111.00
Loose:	\$ 105.00	\$ 50.00
Electronic giving	\$ 27.00	\$ 996.00
Children:	\$ .50	\$ 52.00
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>\$2,408.50</b>	<b>\$3,209.00</b>