FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME JULY 13, 2014

PLEASE PRAY WITH US FOR						
Mon	July 14	8:00 am	Katherine Blinn			
Tue	July 15	8:00 am	Lawrence C. Hardisty, Jr.			
Wed	July 16	8:00 am	Margaret Sicord			
Thu	July 17	8:00 am	NO MASS			
Fri	July 18	8:00 am	Barbara & Ray McEnroe			
		12 noon	Elizabeth Brizzie			
Sat	July 19	8:00 am	Mary Ellen O'Rourke			
	-	4:30 pm	Thomas J. Downey, Jr.			
Sun.	July 20	8:00 am 10:15 am	People of the Parish Edmund John Quinn, Jr			

"WHO DO YOU GIVE YOUR MONEY TO"

Dear Friends.

I recently read a letter in the Poughkeepsie Journal about how people should donate their money to Churches. The man who wrote the letter argued that people should not give their money to Churches, since the "return on investment" is very poor. If one were to give to a Church, the money does not go to "reaching souls". The letter writer states that the money given to Churches does not reach out to people; it would be better to give to organizations that promote videos that reach thousands, or to organizations that can feed thousands of hungry people.

The letter writer also points out that Church leaders and pastors rarely reach out to people on the street, seldom speak with high school or college students, and/or hardly ever contact the elderly or shut-ins. I would say that might be somewhat true, but in my experience, the writer is seemingly unaware of how much Church leaders really reach out to those in need. My experience tells me that most Church people spend a great deal of time helping others.

But my response to the letter is even more involved than that. I agree that the Church could do more to reach out to people in the world. But the letter writer points out that money donated to the video makers and evangelists and charities can make more of an impact in "saving souls." I contend that the issue of spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ is more, much more, than that. The souls that are attracted to Christ need a place to go to practice their faith. They need a place to grow in their faith. They need a place to teach their children in the faith. They need a place to baptize, a place to pray, a place to remember their deceased loved ones.

The letter writer calls donations to Churches, giving money to "dead churches". You can call the Roman Catholic Church a lot of things, but I wouldn't call it a "dead church."

Fr. Wilson

WE'RE GETTING CLOSER TO OUR CARDINAL'S ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL GOAL – To date, we have received \$21,060 in pledges/gifts from 83 families toward our goal of \$26,000. I am so very grateful to the 83 families who have responded thus far. At this time, I would like to make a final appeal to those of you who have not yet contributed, to consider making a pledge or one-time donation in an amount you can afford. No donation that is heartfelt is too small. I thank you for your sacrifice and pray that God will bless you for supporting the work of the Cardinal's Appeal.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH: Ralph Cummings, Drew Airy, Anna McBride, Ann Bida, Ursula Robertson, Allison Bray, Mariley Najdek, Maureen & Thomas Santacroce, Gerhard Herron, Gene Turner, Pat Allen, Walter Lysaght, Kyleigh Cummings, Dorothy Lee Walsh, Brian Darnell, Katie Matman, Jack Boice, Margaret Wilcox, Micha Carroll, Jenifer Dean, Janet Stiles, Thomas LaGrutta, Evan Ciovacco, Uncle Mike, Lydia Casey, Domenic Mottola and Babies Gunner and Cooper Lynch, Theresa Murtagh, Evelyn Bouffard, Mark Hamm, Richard Belliveau, Grover Williams, Erik Platania, Lisa Tittone, Anthony Mottola, Domenic Mottola, Shirley Cardinal, Stephanie Merenda and Philomena Ketchum.

LAST CALL FOR REGISTERING IN OUR 2014-2015 RELIGIOUS ED PROGRAM - Our Religious Ed Program is essential in helping parents pass on the Catholic Faith to their children. We are currently in the process of forming classes and therefore if you have not yet registered your child, please do so ASAP. You can either mail the forms, place them in the collection basket or drop them off at the parish office. If the forms are not received by July 18th, we will assume that your child is not returning to the program and therefore will not be placed on the class list. Any questions, please call the office at (845) 373-8193 or stop in Monday to Thursday from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Thank you for your consideration.

<u>VINE AND BRANCHES</u> - The winner of the 50/50 was Tom Carberry. The split was \$148.50. The next food distribution will be on Saturday, July 19th, at 10 am in our gym. All food and monetary donations are much needed and greatly appreciated.

STRONG FAMILIES

The LA. Times reports that a national survey of "strong" families revealed these common strengths:

Appreciation - compliments and words of thanks among family members.

Ability to deal with crises in a positive manner - a mutual support system.

Time together - schedule structured time to be together, especially in outdoor activities, affording greater concentration and fewer distractions.

High degree of commitment - time and energy invested in promoting each other's happiness and welfare.

Good communications patterns - conflicts kept out in the open to talk them out by listening well and showing respect.

High degree of religious orientation - a spiritual lifestyle making them less petty, more forgiving, patient and positive.

<u>PLEASE NOTE SCHEDULE CHANGE</u> - Fr. Wilson has plans to visit his brother in California who he hasn't seen for a long time. He will be going on Monday afternoon, July 21st, and returning Friday evening, July 25th. Therefore, there will be no Masses on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday of that week. Thank you so much.

SUNDAY COLLECTION - Last Sunday we collected \$2,753.31 in our Regular Sunday Collection and \$592.75 for Black & Indian Missions. The sacrificial offering you provide to our Parish is your expression of loyalty, love and support. Thank you for your generosity.

† Sanctuary Light †

The Sanctuary Light which will burn this week at Immaculate Conception Church and St. Patrick's Church will be lit
In Celebration of Fr. Wilson's 60th Birthday

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