



# Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ August 14, 2016



Jesus endured the cross, despising its shame, and has taken his seat at the right of the throne of God. ~Hebrews 12:2

## Weekly Mass Intentions



### Mass Intentions

#### Saturday August 13

8:00am- †

5:00pm- †

#### Sunday August 14

8:30am- † Lorraine Edelstein

10:00am- † Peter Coraci

11:30am- † Parish Community Intentions

1:30pm- † Parish Community Intentions

6:00pm- † Parish Community Intentions

#### Monday August 15

8:00am- †

12:05pm- †

#### Tuesday August 16

8:00am- †

12:05pm- † Michael J. Contardo

#### Wednesday August 17

8:00am- †

12:05pm- †

#### Thursday August 18

8:00am- † Joseph Fortunato

12:05pm- †

#### Friday August 19

8:00am- †

12:05pm- †

#### Saturday August 20

8:00am- † Nonso Christian Ugboode

5:00pm- † Heriberto Oliveras

#### Sunday August 21

8:30am- ~Birthday Blessings for  
Valerie Cappucci & Victoria Garay

10:00am- † Dolores Elizabeth Zukowski

11:30am- † Parish Community Intentions

1:30pm- † Parish Community Intentions

Offered by:

Offered by:

Offered by: Torres Family

Offered by: Dianne Murphy

Offered by:

Offered by:

Offered by:

Offered by: wife, Theresa

Offered by:

Offered by:

Offered by: Joan Knighton

Offered by:

Offered by:

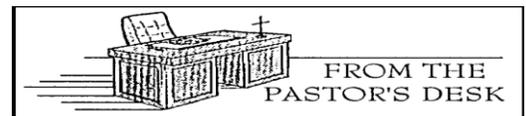
Offered by:

Offered by: mother, MaryAnn

Offered by: brother, Jose

Offered by: Fr. Mark &  
Community Ministry

By: Victoria & Wilfredo Garay



**‘Perseverance in the race that lies before us.’** This is the theme of today’s passage from Hebrews. Will we persevere in our faith so that we will win the prize of everlasting glory? Every day that I work in this parish and live in this neighborhood, I see reasons why it is hard for persons to persevere – expensive housing that is not always in good condition, the cost of basic needs, the difficulty of finding work, the low salaries that are often paid, the struggles parents have to give their children the values they need to grow into responsible adulthood, the tendency to find relief from stress in alcohol or even drugs for both youths and adults. It is easy to become weary in the face of the challenges that you face daily and to lose a sense of hope, to lose a sense that life has meaning and value. It is also easy to question whether your faith makes any sense. Should you persevere in trying to live a life lived in conformity with what you know God expects of you when it seems that the forces of evil are stronger than the forces of good?

The author of Hebrew reminds us in stark terms that Jesus had to persevere through much hardship in his life – opposition from religious and social leaders, the contempt of many of his contemporaries, the injustice of his arrest, torture, and finally death. Remember his final prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane. Jesus told his Father that he did not want to die. Yes, it was hard even for Jesus to persevere! But then Jesus entrusted himself to the Father in the knowledge that his Father had never betrayed his trust, his Father had never disappointed him. Jesus, therefore, persevered in faith through his suffering and death and was vindicated by his resurrection.

When you are tempted to despair, borrow the prayer of Jesus. Tell God, “I don’t want to fight the fight anymore.” And then ask Jesus for the grace to pray, as well, “But God I trust that you are with me to help me persevere so that I continue to live in the hope of one day sharing in the vindication of Christ – the resurrection of Christ!

To persevere requires courage, but it also requires a profound confidence in God.

**Fr. Mark Hallinan, S.J.**

## Weekly Memorials

Bread & Wine

Tabernacle Candle

Memorial Candle

Memorial Candle



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## Liturgical Minster’s Schedule AUGUST 2016

### Saturday 5:00 p.m.

Lector: Linda Graves & Tom Ventrudo (carry Gospel Book)

E. M.: Linford Smith, Peg & Tom Ventrudo

### Sunday 8:30 a.m.

Lector: Ceferino Albarracin & Samuel Torres (carry Gospel Book) Sub: Joan Fortunato

E.M.: Maria Oliveras, Linda Torres & Samuel Torres Sub: Cinderella Wonsewitz

### Sunday 10:00 a.m.

Lector: Alexis Crowdell (carry Gospel Book) Sub: Thelma Washington

E.M.: Emmanuel Fode, Beverly Marryshow & Dianne Murphy Sub: Valerie Cappucci

## **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

*These readings are found complete on our parish web page (www.olmcsi.org). Click on "USCCB Daily Readings."*

### **TODAY: 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10  
Hebrews 12:1-4  
Luke 12:49-53

### **Next Sun: 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Isaiah 66:18-21  
Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13  
Luke 13:22-30



**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM** – Registrations for religious education classes are currently being taken in the parish office during normal office hours. **Please register your child as soon as possible.** Any registrations taken after August 31<sup>st</sup> will incur a late fee per child. If you have any questions regarding the classes for the Religious Education Program, please visit the parish office. Thank you! **IMPORTANT:** If your child was enrolled last year in 1<sup>st</sup> year preparation for the sacraments, now is the time to reenroll them for the second year preparation. Please note that if your child is entering the 1<sup>st</sup> grade in September, it is time to register for First Holy Communion preparation. If your child is entering the 6<sup>th</sup> grade in September, it is time to register for Confirmation preparation.

**POPE FRANCIS on FORGIVENESS AND MERCY:** When we are indebted to others, we expect mercy; but when others are indebted to us, we demand justice! All of us do this. It is a reaction unworthy of Christ's disciples, nor is it the sign of a Christian style of life. Jesus teaches us to forgive and to do so limitlessly...In this Holy Year of Mercy, it becomes ever clearer that the path of forgiveness can truly renew the Church and the world. To offer today's world the witness of mercy is a task from which none of us can feel exempted. I repeat: to offer today's world the witness of mercy is a task from which none of us can feel exempted. The world needs forgiveness; too many people are caught up in resentment and harbor hatred, because they are incapable of forgiving. They ruin their own lives and the lives of those around them rather than finding the joy of serenity and peace. Let us ask Saint Francis to intercede for us, so that we may always be humble signs of forgiveness and channels of mercy.

**UNITED STATES BISHOPS on the DIGNITY and PROTECTION of ALL HUMAN LIFE:** "All too often in debates, people pit the defense of innocent, defenseless lives in opposition to work promoting the dignity of other vulnerable persons throughout the lifespan. From a Catholic perspective, these issues need not be in competition, but they must be held in proper relation to each other for promotion of the common good. Our bishops proposed the beautiful image of the human person as the "living house of God," and taught that the right to life is the foundation on which that house stands, with all other human dignity issues serving as the house's much-needed protective walls and crossbeams." These other human dignity issues include our opposition to euthanasia and capital punishment as well as our call for comprehensive immigration reform and our firm teaching that the needs of the poor must have priority in the allocation of our nation's resources.

**SCHOOL IS STARTING SOON. IS YOUR CHILD READY?** – It is very important that your child read regularly during the summer months. Your child should be encouraged to read and to practice his or her spelling and writing. Children who do not do this will often struggle when school resumes in September. Every child needs to exercise his or her mind and body during the summer months!

**PRAYER BEFORE OUR NATIONAL ELECTION** – Lord God, as the election approaches, we seek to better understand the issues and concerns that confront our city, state, and nation and how your Gospel compels us to respond as faithful citizens in our community. We ask you for eyes that are free from blindness so that we might see each other as brothers and sisters, one and equal in dignity, especially those who are victims of abuse and violence, deceit and poverty. We ask for ears that will hear the cries of children unborn and those abandoned, men and women oppressed because of their race or creed, religion or gender. We ask for minds and hearts that are open to hearing the voice of leaders who will bring us closer to your Kingdom. We pray for discernment so that we may choose leaders who hear your Word, live your love, and follow the way of your truth so that our nation might fulfill its promise of liberty and justice for all. This we ask in the name of the One who is our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ. *Amen.*

**YOUR FAITHFULNESS TO THE CARDINAL'S APPEAL IS A GREAT BLESSING!!** – We have reached our goal in actual funds received. Our goal was \$25,500 and the Campaign has received \$25,900. Thank you!! But the Campaign is not over!! Our parish pledged \$35,000 to the Campaign. The fulfillment of your pledge is crucial! The Archdiocese gives back a significant percentage of funds received beyond our goal. It is vital for us and the Archdiocese that you fulfill the pledges that you have made. Thank you for your extraordinarily generous support of the Cardinal's Campaign!

**WEEKLY OFFERING:** August 7<sup>th</sup>: \$4,421.00. \$515 to Home Missions and Latin America. *Thank you for your support of our parish!*

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**Stewardship Reflection** - In our Second Reading from the letter to the Hebrews, the writer says, "...persevere in running the race that lies before us while keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus." The author of the letter to the Hebrews has traditionally been considered to be St. Paul, although many scholars question that. However, the quote cited certainly sounds like Paul, doesn't it? It is easy to look at life as a race. In doing that nonetheless, we all understand that we are not speaking of a sprint, but of a marathon. In Greek the word used which we translate as "persevere" is *hupomone* which also might be translated as "endure." God has set a race before us. God wants us to run that race and He wants us to finish it correctly. To do that requires endurance, the willingness to continue and to seek holiness as good stewards, because our focus is on what is to come, not what is.