

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA CHURCH
5371 AMBOY ROAD
STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK 10312
(718) 984-0593

Dear Parish Family,

Keep praying the rosary. Not only it is our weapon for peace but more importantly Our Blessed Mother calms our frazzled nerves. On October 7th the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, I sang a hymn composed by cloistered nuns in Summit, New Jersey who have a devotion of praying the rosary around the clock for us. These are Dominican Nuns of Summit. Here are the lyrics of that beautiful hymn.

Mary the Dawn

Mary the dawn, Christ the Perfect Day
Mary the gate, Christ the Heavenly Way!
Mary the root, Christ the Mystic Vine;
Mary the grape, Christ the Sacred Wine!
Mary the wheat sheaf, Christ the living Bread;
Mary the rose tree, Christ the Rose blood –red!
Mary the font, Christ the Cleansing Flood
Mary the chalice, Christ the Saving Blood!
Mary the temple, Christ the Temple's Lord
Mary the shrine, Christ the God adored!
Mary the beacon, Christ the Haven's Rest
Mary the mirror, Christ the Vision Blest!
Mary the mother, Christ the Mother's Son.
Both ever blest while endless ages run. AMEN.

October certainly has become a month of events, and full schedule of weddings, anniversaries, homecomings for graduates, football games, and jubilees. I have been on the road a lot with weddings in New Jersey, Newburgh, and right here in our parish. On October 25th at 3PM at Immaculate Conception Church in Montclair, my nephew and godson Justin Devery will marry his long time sweetheart Amanda Fey. What makes this a unique wedding is that this is not the first time the bride and groom walked down the aisle together. On the day of their First Holy Communion they were partners at Holy

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Child Church, long before I was their pastor. May God's choicest blessing be upon them and the New Wine of Cana always enrich their lives in Christ.

This coming Monday evening until Friday lunchtime about 115 pastors will gather at the Breakers Hotel, in Spring Lake, New Jersey for the Our Archdiocesan Pastors workshop. I will be interested in learning about the Synod on Family Life that Cardinal Dolan is presently attending. Also there's information about "Flocknotes" and "ECatholic", a new digital tool for evangelization and ongoing Adult Faith Formation. This is one of the highlights of the year for us priests, to enjoy the boardwalk with friends and celebrate our fraternity enriches us all for the year, along with great guest speakers.

On November 1st representatives from the Seton Foundation for Learning, a program for developmentally disabled children and young adults, ages 3-21 years will be selling raffle tickets for \$10,000. Savings bonds at the doors of the Church. Tickets are #10 each and 3 for \$25. Once again I thank you in advance for your wonderful generosity for this very worthy program.

At the next staff meeting and parish council meeting I would like to introduce the topic Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers being re-commissioned. Many have been serving the altar and the table of God's word for years and perhaps we could enter into a time of discernment to determine if those already serving wish to continue and discontinue and then others may be selected and all re-commissioned for service. I look forward to that discussion.

Also on October 30th I ask you to join me in welcoming Father Basil Akut to our parish staff. His favorite saying, "God is good, all the time, All the time... God is good.

Thank you for your goodness and faithfulness.

In His Will is our peace,

Fr. Tom Devery