

The People of God called to form the Christian Community of...

# OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA

Huguenot ✦ Staten Island, New York 10312

## Served By

Fr. Thomas P. Devery ..... Pastor  
 Fr. Basil Akut..... Parochial Vicar  
 Fr. Antony Alfred ..... Parochial Vicar  
 James Quadrino..... Deacon  
 Debbie Emigholz..... Parish Manager  
 Jeannine Roland ..... Principal  
 Patti Gandelman..... Assistant Principal  
 Camille Quaglia..... Coordinator of Religious Education  
 John Manetta ..... Sacristan  
 Michael Ancona..... Minister of Music  
 Mia Marinaccio..... Athletic Director (718-966-8860)



Our Parish Family invites all to be active and participating members in every aspect of parish life! We care for each other and want to worship and serve our Lord and one another.

## † The Eucharist †

### Sunday Masses

Saturday Evening..... 4:00 & 5:30 pm  
 Sunday..... 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 am,  
 12:30 & 7:00 pm

### Weekday Masses

Monday through Saturday ..... 9:00 am

### Holy Day Masses

Eve of Holyday..... 7:00 pm  
 7:00, 9:00 am, 12 Noon & 8:00 pm

**THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:** To arrange for a Wedding at Our Lady Star of the Sea, registered parishioners must call the Rectory for an appointment with one of our Priests. A deposit is required to set a date. Marriages are celebrated on Fridays at 4:00 pm & 5:30 pm and continue with Saturdays at 11:00 am, 1:00 pm, and 2:15 pm, and Sundays at 4:00 pm.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:** To register a child, please contact the Religious Education Office as soon as possible. The child's Baptismal certificate (*and Communion certificate if applicable*) is required.

Grades 1 & 2 ..... Wednesday ..... 4:00 - 5:30 pm  
 Grades 3 & 4 ..... Tuesday ..... 3:45 - 5:15 pm  
 Grades 5 & 6 ..... Thursday ..... 3:00 - 5:00 pm  
 Grade 7 ..... Monday ..... 3:30 - 5:00 pm  
 Grade 8 ..... Tuesday ..... 3:30 - 5:00 pm  
 Special Needs ..... Thursday ..... 3:30 - 4:00 pm  
 & 4:30 - 5:00 pm

Evening Classes for Grades 1 - 7 meet Wednesdays  
 6:30 to 8:00 pm

**CHRISTIAN BAPTISM:** Baptisms are celebrated for Registered Parishioners every Sunday at 2:00 pm. To prepare for this Sacrament, parents should plan to attend a **SUNDAY PREPARATION MEETING** on the 2nd or 4th Sunday of the Month at 12:00 Noon in the Pat Damato Meeting Room in the new OLSS Athletic Center. Call the Parish Office for a Baptismal Registration Packet before attending the meeting. New Parishioners must be registered in Parish beforehand. Register in Rectory, Weekdays 10:00 - 4:00 pm. Consult bulletin for Baptism Ceremony dates and Parents' Class dates.

**PRIVATE PRAYER:** The Church is open Monday through Friday from 9-5pm for private prayer. There is no adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at this time.

**MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA:** Saturday after the 9:00 am Mass.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK:** Call the rectory to make arrangements. Sacrament is designed for those who are seriously ill, the elderly and the sick who request it.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** Saturday, 3:30 to 5:30 pm.

**PARISH REGISTRATION:** We welcome new parishioners and ask that they register at the Rectory Monday through Friday, from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm.

## PARISH INFORMATION

Church .....5411 Amboy Road  
 Parish Office.....5371 Amboy Road  
 Parish Website... www.olssparish.org  
 Phone ..... 984-0593  
 Fax ..... 347-838-6858

School: 5411 Amboy Road  
 Phone.....984-5750  
 Religious Ed. Office:  
 5411 Amboy Road  
 Phone.....984-1885

**OLSS WEBCAM:** Available for 11:00 am Mass on Sunday and 9:00 am Masses on weekdays, Monday through Saturday. Go to [www.olssparish.org](http://www.olssparish.org) to view the Mass.

**INTERESTED IN ONLINE GIVING?** Visit our website at [www.olssparish.org](http://www.olssparish.org) and click "Donate Online."

**FLOCKNOTE:** OLSS is now able to communicate with parishioners by using Flocknote, a text and email based messaging program. You may sign up by either texting "OLSS" to the number "84576", or by going to [www.flocknote.com/OLSS](http://www.flocknote.com/OLSS) and providing your email address. Please sign up in order to receive our Parish Updates!

Our Lady Star of the Sea  
Fourth Sunday of Lent  
March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**Announced Masses**

**Saturday, March 13**

- 4:00PM** Deceased Members of the Puglisi & Serrantonio Families  
**5:30PM** Deceased Members of the Antorino & Guido Families

**Sunday, March 14**

- 8:00AM** Laura Schoepfer  
**9:30AM** Bastianina Palmieri  
**11:00AM** Caroline Emigholz & John McMamara  
**12:30PM** Ida Trinidad  
**7:00PM** Florence Rubin

**Monday March 15**

- 9:00AM** Augustino Rizzuti

**Tuesday, March 16**

- 9:00AM** Carmella Silverio & Michael Coppello

**Wednesday, March 17**

- 9:00AM** Rocco & Ersilia Villani

**Thursday, March 18**

- 9:00 AM** Albert Petrocelli

**Friday, March 19**

- 9:00AM** Carol Primavera

**Saturday, March 20**

- 9:00AM** Raymond Beshara  
**4:00PM** Deceased Members of the Caldone & Estrada Families  
**5:30PM** Pat Damato

**Sunday, March 21**

- 8:00AM** Dolores Sclafani  
**9:30AM** Louis Weeks  
**11:00AM** Paula Sands & the Deceased Members of the Kelly Family  
**12:30PM** Salvatore DiMarco, Marie Parlante & Francine Ricciardi  
**7:00PM** Tony Prinzo

**Pray for the Sick**



John Byrnes, Vincerva Caccano, Korinn Camacho, Edward Canfield, Maria Cangelosi, Donna Cardillo, Patricia Carey, Marcos Castano, Kenzy Coursen, Rocky D., John Dawidoicz, Mary D'Amato, John DeLuca, Salvatore DiStefano, Virginia Duffy, Anthony Focca, Debra Friscia, Nancy Gallo, Mario Garafola, Linda Gibbons, Herbert Gruberger, Michael H., Susan Hanna, Amy M., Lorenzo Marinelli Jr., Maryann Monachino, Steven Morvillo, Santo Nicotra, Alex Ortiz, Elaine Parks, Ann Marie Peterson, Johnny Petillo, Salvatore Piro, Charlie R., Linda & Vincent Ranallo, Alexa Rigney, Emma Rondinelli, Caesar Russo, Tracy, Bill Smith, Elizabeth White, George Kerchhoffer Frank Vassallo

Please call the Rectory to have a name added to the sick list or to arrange for a home visit.



**Sincere Condolences**

The Parish Family of Our Lady Star of the Sea offer our sincere condolences to the families of:

**Michael Zampardi, Joann Pasciuta, Alfonse Miliano,**

**Banns of Marriage**



- 2<sup>nd</sup> Time:** Christina Martino & Michael Maynard  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Time:** Victoria Giordano & John Carstensen  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Time:** JoAnna Hankey & Neil Feuerstein



The Sanctuary Lamp  
for the week of  
March 14<sup>th</sup>- March 20<sup>th</sup>  
In Loving Memory of  
Our Beloved Husband, Father and  
Pop-Pop  
**William Donald**  
**Mass Minister Schedule**

**Lectors –March 13 & 14**

- 4:00 PM** –M. Andreola  
**5:30 PM** – A. Pompei  
**8:00AM** – P. Zoltowski  
**9:30AM** – P. Zoltowski  
**11:00AM** – B. Paccione  
**12:30PM** – L. Bauer  
**7:00PM** – A. Medeiros  
**Lectors –March 20 & 21**

- 4:00 PM** –L. Bauer  
**5:30 PM** – C. Messina  
**8:00AM** – A. Medeiros  
**9:30AM** – P. Zoltowski  
**11:00AM** – B. Paccione  
**12:30PM** – B. Weir  
**7:00PM** – J. Limeri

**Sunday collection for the week of 2/28/2021:**

**\$11,086.00**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: Debt Reduction**

**\$2,688.00**

**WeShare for February**

**\$12,047.00**

**God bless you for your generosity!**

**Click Here to Donate Online!**

Donating online is simple, secure & easy! To do so, click this box or go to [olssparish.org](http://olssparish.org) and click "Donate Online". You can also use the QR Code!

**Click Here to Join Flocknote!**

Stay up-to-date with OLSS parish by joining Flocknote, an email and text message based program. To join, text "OLSS" to 84576 and / or go to [www.flocknote.com/OLSS](http://www.flocknote.com/OLSS) and provide your email address.



**Stations of the Cross**

Join us for the Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent at 8PM. It will be live-streamed on our YouTube Page. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed.

# A LETTER FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parish Family,

I received an email from our school Principal that my name was used in a hack scam from a woman named Gennine Di Giuseppe. Supposedly, I was asking for greeting cards, and Amazon gift cards to support poor children. This is false. So if you have been contacted please disregard this. Thank you and I am sorry that this happened.

This is a deep paper written by Deacon Carmine Caruso, reviewing an article on the Sacrament of Penance and Saint Thomas Aquinas. Put on your thinking cap and enjoy.

The journal article I have selected for this paper is Sin as an Offense against God: Aquinas on the Relation of Sin and Religion by R. Jared Staudt. This journal article features much of the scholastic thought from Doctor of the Church; St. Thomas Aquinas. The gravity of sin is discussed in the consequence of wounding our relationship with God which integrates us with one another. The fact is God has given us everything with life and brought us into existence as trusted stewards of Creation. This notion emulates in our expression of

gratitude by bearing worship to God because of the great responsibility He has placed within our lives in giving us dominion over Creation. It's pretty awesome when you think about that

As one ascertains the aspects of this construct, one will be able to understand the significance sin has as "sin creates a debt because in the act of sin one refuses to fulfill the personal obligation of recognizing and honoring God as Creator of the world" (Staudt 195). The author is conveying fundamentals of Aquinas' theology; how sin has damaging affects on the integrity of creation and causes disruption to the way things have been ordered. God gave us the Divine Law to be adhered to so there would be balance and vitality in life. The law and commandments weren't established to make life challenging. They were provided to govern, regulate and most importantly protect. Sin which is an act of disobedience as Staudt points out shows how this incurs a debt we then owe to God based on justice for all.

Throughout this journal article Staudt examines the consequences of sin which rupture our relationship with God and one another. He looks to the value of religion which brings one back to friendship with God. This occurs through repentance, the act of contrition to express sorrow for one's actions. By confessing one's pitfalls, grace can be bestowed upon the penitent through the merits of the Sacrament of reconciliation. In returning to God's love, friendship is restored and healing is achieved within the interior life of the soul. Having fidelity to God will deepen the penitent into a greater awareness of the consequence of sin and why it is so disruptive. As one seeks to repent of their sins in a contrite manner they will seek to no longer cling to that which places their interests into a created object in lieu of God. By turning away from this detrimental behavior one is more inclined to promote justice. Repentance can be seen as two kinds: one is of time and of the senses, the other is divine and supernatural. Repentance in time always declines into greater sorrow and plunges someone into lamentation, as if they must despair now. This causes their repentance to remain in sorrow which will make no progress and often, nothing comes of it. Divine repentance is quite different. Once someone has fallen into a self-loathing mode, they can lift themselves up to God, and establish themselves in a liberating movement by turning away from all sin with a fortified will. This will elevate oneself to God for whom all of us were made and ultimately brings peace. When one procures peace within the spirit, the soul is lifted from all sorrow and lamentation, and makes it secure in God. For the weaker a person may find themselves due to many misdeeds, the more reason one has to bind themselves to God with an undivided love to eradicate weakness and sin. Therefore the best path forward for man to proceed is to become sinless which occurs by repenting.

**\*Continued onto the next page\***

The forgiveness of sins is an essential part of the mission of the Catholic Church. Sacraments are vital in the life of a Catholic because they are outward signs, instituted by Christ to give grace. Aquinas explains how “Christ’s grace enables a proper moral response via worship of God” (Staudt 207). All sacraments feature what is known as matter and form to bring an effect through the grace imparted from the sacrament. In the Sacrament of Penance the “matter” is expressing sorrow and contrition for the sins committed. The “form” is how the Church deals with the matter, namely confession to and absolution by the Priest. Canon 959 of the 1983 Code for Canon Law of the Catholic Church explains “In the sacrament of penance the faithful, confessing their sins to a legitimate minister in being sorry for them, and at the same time proposing to reform, obtains from God forgiveness of sins committed after baptism through the absolution imparted by the same minister, and they likewise are reconciled with the Church which they have wounded by sinning.” (Canon 959)

Isaiah the prophet tells us in (Is.1:18): “though your sins be like scarlet they may become as white as snow; though they be crimson red, they may become white as wool” (NAB). The sacrament of penance is a healing, a restoration of sorts “to make amends for one’s failures and shortcomings” (Staudt 206). Sins vanish into God’s abyss as we learned from the diary of St. Faustina, Jesus no longer remembers the sins of the penitent. But a major factor for receiving the healing grace, is that the sinner is contrite in confessing their sins. Contrition is the expression of sincere sorrow at wounding God through sin. From a Catholic moral perspective, contrition needs to be acknowledged when violating one’s justice, in failing to render them their appropriate “due”. Today we are witnessing many movements rise up in demonstration by utilizing their free speech rights to demand the justice that is due to them. As this article discusses, injustices occur through sin which “stems from the will’s lack of direction, which results in a lack of order” (Staudt 203).

Religion has merit as Staudt indicates because “Religion does not solely offer acts of worship, but as a general virtue it is meant to direct other virtues so that their proper acts become oriented to enabling their behaviors to honor God” (Staudt 198). This premise is about developing “dependence on God” as recorded in Matthew’s Gospel chapter six of Christ’s Sermon on the Mount. In doing so, the will is more inclined to doing the will of God thus negating the vices and inappropriate objects one’s focus is turned towards. If people were more educated on the word Religion they would see the etymology of it comes from the Latin “Religere” which is where we get our English word for “Regulations”. To regulate one’s life is to bring it to order through discipline. Religion is to bind oneself to God as opposed to the vices which one often binds themselves to. “Aquinas links worship and penance to those most dedicated to religion and will thus render the debt owed to God” (Staudt 206). This will lead one to have an ideal moral compass to best navigate their life in virtue. Ultimately this friendship with God through religion will become contagious because others will take notice and this will foster right relationship with others through God.

The initial step must be contrition, expressing that sorrow to fully turn away from what is sickening the soul. One wouldn’t intentionally ingest a toxic chemical in their right frame of mind because they know this would cause damage to the wellness of the human physiology. The same can be said for sin as its damaging to the soul and wounding our relationship with God. That is why many injustices occur throughout this world as Staudt indicates; “without a just relationship to God, no true justice is possible” (Staudt 200). Often pride creeps up within our lives and blinds us from rendering God the proper act of worship. In the summa which is referenced in Staudt’s article, he presses upon what Aquinas discusses regarding pride. “Pride denotes aversion from God simply through being unwilling to be subject to God and His rule” (Staudt 202). In essence pride and idolatry are sheer contempt for God which distorts the soul. Moreover, Staudt goes on to explain the soul becomes futile and dark when it is cut off from God due to pride and idolatry.

We are seeing the utter consequences in the decay of society today from this disregard and contempt for God by many souls that are futile and dark. Injustices occur on so many levels as people continue to de-sensitize themselves from the affects that these behaviors create. Like an old pipe that becomes clogged and fails to drain properly so too does the soul need cleansing from time to time. In doing so, one will experience the burdens lifted from the grace that can clean the soul. It is told the reason Angels are able to fly is because they carry no burdens that weigh them down. We too can experience this phenomena if we repent.

Sorry for the length but if your persevered, it was well worth it. Repent and believe in the Gospel.

*Fr. Tom Devery*

# PARISH NEWS

## OLSS School News

+ Registration for the 2021/2022 school year is underway. Please call the school office at 718-984-5750 for more information.

## 2021 Masses

If you would like to dedicate a Mass in memory of a deceased loved one, there is still availability. Please come in to the Rectory.

## OLSS Baptism Preparation Policy

All parish families preparing for the Baptism of their child must attend the OLSS Baptismal Class. Please contact the Rectory Mon-Fri 10-4 to obtain a Baptism Registration Packet. **Baptismal Ceremonies occur every Sunday at 2 PM Baptismal Class Dates for Parents will occur every other Sunday at 12 NOON via Zoom.** Please contact the rectory for class information. *PLEASE NOTE: Registration forms MUST be turned in to the Rectory prior to attending the Baptismal Class. Dates for*

## Sponsor Certificates

Certificates attesting to the fact that an OLSS parishioner is a practicing Catholic are often required when they are asked to sponsor someone at the time of Baptism or Confirmation. These certificates may only be obtained at the rectory. **Registered parishioners can receive a sponsor certificate from the Rectory, Mon-Fri from 10AM-4PM. Please have your parish envelope number available.**

## RCIA – Come Experience God’s Love

Are you interested in becoming a full member of the Catholic Church? Were you baptized Catholic as a child, but have not celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist? If so, then RCIA is for you. RCIA is a journey of exploration and initiation into the Catholic Church. RCIA is a fun, safe, faith-building discovery of Jesus Christ and the Church he loves. The Catholic Church welcomes you. For more information, please contact Joe Limeri at [jlimeri@aol.com](mailto:jlimeri@aol.com) or 646-541-9757 or call the Parish Office, 718-984-0593.

## PRE-CANA CLASSES

The Archdiocese of New York Family Life Office is offering Virtual Pre Cana Classes on March 20<sup>th</sup>, April 10<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am-2:30pm. To register see link:

<https://marriageprep.nyfamilylife.org/home.aspx?pagename=PreCanaPurchase>

## LENT 2021

**Fast & Abstinence:** The obligation of abstinence (refraining from eating meat) begins at the age of 14. The law of fasting (limiting oneself to one full meal and two lighter meals) obliges all between the ages of 19-59. The Fridays in Lent are obligatory days of abstinence from meat from 14 years onward.

**Confession:** The Sacrament of Reconciliation is held EVERY Saturday from 3:30 to 5:30 PM.

**Stations of the Cross:** Stations are held every Friday at 8 PM during Lent. It will be live-streamed on our YouTube Page. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed.

## +HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE+

### Palm Sunday, March 28

Masses: Saturday, March 27  
4:00 P.M. & 6:00 P.M.

Sunday, March 28

7:30 A.M., 9:00 A.M., 10:30 A.M.,  
12 Noon, 1:30 P.M. & 7:00 P.M.

**Due to Covid-19, we will not be distributing Palms.**

### Reconciliation Monday, March 29

9:00 A.M. – Mass

3:00 P.M.- 9:00 P.M. - Reconciliation Monday (Confessions will be heard continuously from 3:00 P.M.- 9:00 P.M.)

Tuesday, March 30

9:00 A.M. – Mass

Wednesday, March 31

9:00 A.M. – Mass

### Paschal Triduum

#### Holy Thursday, April 1

9:00 A.M. – Morning Prayer

8:00 P.M. – Mass of the Lord’s Supper

#### Good Friday, April 2

9:00 A.M. – Morning Prayer

3:00 P.M. – Celebration of the Lord’s Passion  
(Communion)

8:00 P.M. – Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday, April 3

9:00 A.M. – Morning Prayer

8:00 P.M.

### EASTER VIGIL – PRINCIPAL EASTER MASS

#### Easter Sunday, April 4

Masses:

7:30 A.M., 9:00 A.M., 10:30 A.M.,  
12 Noon & 1:30 P.M.

**PLEASE NOTE:**

**THERE WILL BE NO 7:00 P.M. MASS  
ON EASTER SUNDAY**

**ALL SERVICES & MASSES WILL BE LIVESTREAMED**

**REMINDER: GOOD FRIDAY IS A DAY OF FAST AND  
ABSTINENCE FROM MEAT!**

# CARDINAL'S APPEAL

Our Lady Star of the Sea is part of whole interconnected network of parish life, education and Catholic Charities. The 2021 Cardinal's Appeal is part of our Lenten sacrifice to help our church in it's mission to serve God's faithful people. While we are invited to pray, fast and give alms: this is one way in which we can help serve the Lord with your sacrifice. Be a part of our mission to bring about the Kingdom of God.

*Fr. Tom Devery*

## The Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal

If you have not yet done so and would like to make a pledge to the Appeal, please fill out this form, cut it out and put it in the collection basket, drop it off at the Rectory or mail it to:

**The Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal**  
1011 First Ave.  
14<sup>th</sup> Floor Donor Database Center

**(212) 371-1011 Ext. 3300**

Suggested total pledge:	5 Monthly Payments of:
\$5,000	\$1,000
\$2,500	\$500
\$1,000	\$200
\$500	\$100
\$250	\$50

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Parish \_\_\_\_\_  
E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_  
Total Gift \_\_\_\_\_

Choose your payment method:

Personal check payable to: The Cardinal's Appeal

Credit Card (complete below): American Exp – Visa – MasterCard

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Amt \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please charge:

One Time Amt of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ OR \$ \_\_\_\_\_ each month for \_\_\_\_\_ months.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## 2021 Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal: COVID-19 Relief



Few organizations were as well-equipped to respond to the needs of the community at the peak of the pandemic as the Catholic Church, but the work is far from over. We serve not only the faithful from Staten Island to Sullivan county, but all who approach our church doors in their time of need with spiritual, physical, and medical support.

**Visit [www.cardinalsappeal.org/donate](http://www.cardinalsappeal.org/donate)  
to make your gift today!**

**WHATEVER YOU DID FOR THE LEAST  
OF MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS,  
YOU DID FOR ME.**

MATTHEW 25:40



**THE CARDINAL'S**  
ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL  
*Sharing God's Gifts Throughout  
the Archdiocese of New York*

[cardinalsappeal.org](http://cardinalsappeal.org)

# READINGS AND RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

## First Reading

In those days, all the princes of Judah, the priests, and the people added infidelity to infidelity, practicing all the abominations of the nations and polluting the Lord's temple which he had consecrated in Jerusalem. Early and often did the Lord, God of their fathers, send his messengers to them, for he had compassion on his people and his dwelling place. But they mocked the messengers of God, despised his warnings and scoffed at his prophets, until the anger of the Lord against his people was so inflamed that there was no remedy. Their enemies burnt the house of God, tore down the walls of Jerusalem, set all its palaces afire, and destroyed all its precious objects. Those who escaped the sword were carried captive to Babylon, where they became servants of the king of Chaldeans and his sons until the kingdom of the Persians came to power. All this was to fulfill the word of the Lord spoken by Jeremiah: "Until the land has retrieved its lost Sabbaths, during all the time it lies waste it shall have rest while seventy years are fulfilled." In the first year of Cyrus, king of Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the Lord spoken by Jeremiah, the Lord inspired King Cyrus of Persia to issue this proclamation throughout his kingdom, both by word of mouth and in writing: "Thus says Cyrus, king of Persia: All the kingdoms of the earth the Lord, the God of heaven has given to me, and he has also charged me to build him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Whoever, therefore, among you belongs to any part of his people, let him go up, and may his God be with him!"

## Responsorial Psalm

**R. Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!**

By the streams of Babylon  
we sat and wept when we remembered Zion.  
On the aspens of that land  
we hung up our harps.

**R. Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!**

For there our captors asked of us  
the lyrics of our songs,  
and our despoilers urged us to be joyous:  
"Sing for us the songs of Zion!"

**R. Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!**

How could we sing a song of the Lord  
in a foreign land?

If I forget you, Jerusalem,  
may my right hand be forgotten!

**R. Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!**

May my tongue cleave to my palate  
if I remember you not,  
if I place not Jerusalem  
ahead of my joy.

**R. Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!**

## Second Reading

Brothers and sisters: Good, who is rich in mercy, because of the great love he had for us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, brought us to life with Christ—by grace you have been saved—, raised us up with him, and seated us with him in the heavens in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not from you; it is the gift of God; it is not from works, so no one may boast. For we are his handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for the good works that God has prepared in advance, that we should live in them.

# THE GOSPEL

Jesus said to Nicodemus: “Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.” For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him will not be condemned, but whoever does not believe has already been condemned, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the verdict, that the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light, because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come toward the light, so that his works might not be exposed. But whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God.

# THIS WEEK'S MUSIC

## **Entrance: Table of Plenty**

### **Refrain:**

Come to the feast of heaven and earth!  
Come to the table of plenty!  
God will provide for all all that we need, Here at  
the table of plenty.

- 1.O come and sit at my table where saints and sinners are friends. I wait to welcome the lost and lonely to share the cup of my love.
- 2.O come and eat without money; come to drink without price. My feast of gladness will feed your spirit with faith and fullness of life.
- 3.My bread will ever sustain you through days of sorrow and woe. My wine will flow like a sea of gladness to flood the depths of your soul.

## **Preparation: The King of Love My Shepherd Is**

1. The King of love my shepherd is,  
Whose goodness fails me never:  
I nothing lack if I am his,  
And he is mine forever.
- 2.Where streams of living water flow  
With gentle care he leads me,  
And where the verdant pastures grow,  
With heavenly food he feeds me.
- 3.Perverse and foolish I have strayed,  
But yet in love he sought me,  
And on his shoulder gently laid,  
And home, rejoicing, brought me.
- 4.In death's dark vale I fear no ill  
With you, dear Lord, beside me;  
Your rod and staff my comfort still,  
Your cross before to guide me.

## **Communion #1: Amazing Grace**

1. Amazing grace! How sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
Was blind but now I see.
- 2.'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And  
grace my fears relieved; How precious did that  
grace appear The hour I first believed!
3. The Lord has promised good to me,  
His word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be  
As long as life endures.
4. Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I  
have already come; 'Tis grace has brought me  
safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.
5. When we've been there 10,000 years,  
Bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise  
Than when we'd first begun.

## **Communion #2: Eat This Bread**

### **Refrain:**

- Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and  
never be hungry. Eat this bread, drink this cup,  
trust in me and you will not thirst.
1. I am the bread of life, the true bread sent  
from the Father.
  2. Your ancestors ate manna in the desert, but  
this is the brand come down from heaven.
  3. Eat my flesh and drink my blood, and I will  
raise you up on the last day.
  4. Anyone who eats this bread, will live forever.
  5.  
If you believe and eat this bread, you will have  
eternal life.

