Faith is the realization of what is hoped for and evidence of things not seen. Heb 11:1

MASS INTENTIONS AND CHURCH SCHEDULE

Saturday, August 6
5:00pm (O) Wayne F. Morris
Sunday, August 7
8:00am (O) St. Lucy's Parishioners
10:30am (O) George and Helen Leeber
7:00pm (O'N) St. Lucy's Parishioners
Monday, August 8
9:00am Sue Boutin
Tuesday, August 9
9:00am Deacon Robert Sheeley
Michael Sheeley
Wednesday August 10
9:00am The Hattenback Family
Thursday, August 11
9:00am Communion Service
Friday, August 12
9:00am (S) Mary Mello Silvia
Thomas Roberts (1st Anniversary)
5:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
7:00pm Devotions
8:00pm Benediction
Saturday, August 13
1:30pm Mass at Grand Islander
2:30pm Marriage of Beth Varnum and Tim O'Brien
5:00pm (O) St. Lucy's Parishioners
Sunday, August 14
8:00am (O) Evan Nesby (Birthday Remembrance)
10:30am (O) Arthur Hines (1st Anniversary)
12:00pm Baptisms
7:00pm (O'N) William H. and Mary K. Connerton (Anniversary Remembrance)

In the above celebrations:
O = Rev. John O'Brien
O'N = Rev. Tom O'Neill
S = Rev. Saji Joseph

The Rectory Office is closed on Monday, August 8 in observance of the Rhode Island "Victory Day" Holiday.

During this "Year of Mercy," the **DVD** of **Little Boy** is available to be lent out to Parishioners (within a 1-week timeframe, please). Please call the Rectory Office to make sure that this copy of Little Boy is available.

LIFE (Learning **I**n **F**aith **E**xperiences)
There are so many MAJOR things going on in our world, and in our lives, that *sometimes* we "miss out" on events that could and/or should take top billing for us – but unfortunately, do not. The media has bombarded us with coverage of the RNC and DNC, and now the Olympic Games. Some "local" events that filled our lives but not media newsworthy (per their standards) were our Parish Picnic, Family Reunions/Gatherings, Weddings, etc. A world-wide event, of magnanimous proportions has just occurred, but the majority of the world hadn't heard about it: **WORLD YOUTH DAY 2016** in Krakow, Poland, called by Pope Francis. The first World Youth Day, begun by Saint Pope John Paul II was held in 1984, in Rome, Italy, for which I am forever grateful and blessed for having been a part of that pilgrimage. The theme for WYD 2016 was "*Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy*" which coincides with the Jubilee Year of Mercy theme. Pope Francis shared that the best way to understand mercy is to experience it. He also went on to say that the best way to practice mercy is by reading the *Beatitudes*. Pope Francis shared that if we want to know how to practically live the *Beatitudes* in our lives, we should read *Matthew 25*. By reading those two parts of the Gospel, we will have a plan of merciful action. At home, in our Parish, in our work places and schools, we need to do as Pope Francis suggests and follow the Beatitudes and Works of Mercy. Mercy must become a deliberate habit. Just as Pope Francis is a world-wide model of mercy, we (yes, each one of us) must be the local bearers and bringers of mercy – the embodiment of mercy in our thoughts, prayers, words, and actions. Asking for and giving forgiveness; praying for others; seeking out and responding to the needs of others; living out the corporal and spiritual works of mercy, etc. Living intentionally FOR others is not easy, especially if we haven't been living in that way. But the good news is that we have God on our side, waiting for us and loving us! In Pope Francis' homily at the closing mass of WYD he said "*At times in our lives, we aim lower rather than higher. At those times, it is good to realize that God remains faithful, even obstinate, in his love for us. The fact is, God loves us even more than we love ourselves. He believes in us even more than we believe in ourselves. He is always "cheering us on." He is our biggest fan. He is there for us, waiting with patience and hope…God is always hopelessly hopeful*! Here's yet another challenge that Pope Francis spoke at Campus Misericordiae to the WYD 2016 pilgrims that keeps rewinding and re-playing in my mind, and one that I'd like to leave you with: ***"God is pointing you to the future, not to the museum. Take your place in history, leave your mark."***

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Ez 1:2-5, 24-28c/Mt 17:22-27
Tuesday:	Ez 2:8-3:4/Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14
Wednesday:	2 Cor 9:6-10/Jn 12:24-26
Thursday:	Ez 12:1-12/Mt 18:21-19:1
Friday:	Ez 16:1-15, 60, 63/Mt 19:3-12
Saturday:	Ez 18:1-10, 13b, 30-32 /Mt 19:13-15
Sunday:	Jer 38:4-6, 8-10/Heb 12:1-4/Lk 12:49-53

THE COMMUNITY ACTION COMMITTEE (CAC) is responding to a request from Child & Family Services for the following "Back to School" supplies that are needed for the upcoming school year for middle/high school students. Items needed are backpacks (good and sturdy either new or gently used), calculators, 3 ring binders (new or gently used), spiral notebooks, pencils, pens, paper, highlighters, rulers, etc. Any of the above will be greatly appreciated by C & F as they strive to meet the needs of their families. Please place items in the bin marked "***School Supplies for Child & Family Services"*** in the Church foyer. Thank you for your generosity.

SOUP KITCHEN NEEDS
Tuesday, August 16
6 bags oranges 200 plastic knives
6 dispenser bottles of hand sanitizer
Assorted finger desserts (cupcakes, cookies, brownies)
If you would like to help with any of the above items, please call Sylvia Bunker at 683-0320. You may drop off your donations at the Rectory anytime before 3pm on Tuesday, August 16. We served 87 meals in July. ***Thank You!***

BIBLE STUDY will be held every Tuesday morning from 9:45-10:30 in the Family Room of the Church. We will focus on the upcoming Sunday readings. All are welcome.

All Saints STEAM Academy in Middletown will be holding an **Open House** on **Sunday, August 14 from 11:00 – 1:00pm**. For more information call 848-4300

The Parish recently purchased more **CDs** from **Lighthouse Catholic Media** which are available at the kiosk at the Church entrance.

All American Landscaping (an advertiser in our bulletin) is now hiring laborers, masons, and landscape crew chiefs. Call 619-5296 to schedule an interview.

THANK YOU for contributing to our **Catholic Charity Fund Appeal** Parish Goal of $63,000. According to the *RI Catholic* newspaper, St. Lucy's has met 94% of its goal with a total of **$59,092**, which is a very respectful accomplishment in these economically challenged times!

CHURCH SUPPORT – July 30/31, 2016
Weekly Collection $5959.00
July Total for Electronic Giving $3695.03
The Second Collection this weekend will be for the Holy Father (Peter's Pence Collection).
Friendly Reminder: For your convenience donations may be made electronically. It is simple, secure, and convenient! Detailed instructions are on our web site (www.stlucy.org).
**If you have been making your donation by EFT and no longer wish to receive bi-monthly envelopes, please contact the office 847-6153 ext. 201. (You would still receive special mailings from St. Lucy's if you opt out of having the collection envelopes mailed to you.)
Thank you for your continuing generosity.

PARISH PICNIC THANK YOU
Our Parish Picnic was, once again, a **HUGE** success! Many thanks to everyone who attended our Picnic this past Tuesday evening. It was truly a wonderful gathering with great food and great weather. Deep gratitude is extended to all who helped make this event possible: the Parish Picnic Committee, food suppliers, pastry makers, the cooks, Parish Staff, grounds crew, face painters, petting zoo, the Middletown Fire engine crew, prize donators, etc. It was a wonderful fun-filled event for our Parish Community!!!

The Rhode Island Right to Life Services will be holding a professional ultrasound training course designed to equip nurses as sonographers for its new free mobile ultrasound clinic. Volunteers who are between 5 to 20 weeks pregnant are also needed to serve as ultrasound models for this training. These women will receive a free, non-diagnostic ultrasound as well as pictures to take home. Please contact Alison at 521-1860 if you are able to donate an hour of your time between August 11 – 13 to give mothers courage and save lives.

Throughout the year the **Diocese of Providence offers several live and online courses** covering the major aspect of our Catholic Faith. These courses are for anyone interested in learning more about Catholicism and can also be used for diocesan Catechist Certification. Below is a list of upcoming courses: **The God of Mercy –** A three week online course which begins August 21 – Perfect for the Year of Mercy and **Salvation History: Old Testament** – a six week live course that will meet on Tuesdays, August 30 through October 4. For more information or to register, call Ed Trendowski at 278-4646 or register online at www.discovercatholicfaith.org.

Please ***pray*** for all the men and women who have served and who currently serve in the armed forces, and the military commanders who lead them. ***Pray*** for our homebound Parishioners and the sick of the Parish (including those in hospitals and nursing homes). ***Pray*** for the unborn, the premature, and the fragile among us so that we may deepen our respect for life at all stages.

Community Connections – A Program of Memorial Funeral Homes: **Loss of Spouse –**In a supportive environment we will explore ways to cope with loss of a spouse. Sponsored and facilitated by Hope Hospice & Palliative Care Rhode Island. Tuesdays August 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 and September 6 from 4 to 5:30pm. **Portsmouth General Grief Support –** Come share with others in a safe and supportive environment. Grief is hard, we can help. Facilitated by Hope Hospice & Palliative Care. Connors, 55 West Main Rd. Portsmouth. Thursday, Aug. 11 from 1:30 to 3pm. **Open Door: Ongoing Grief Support –** Drop in support for those who are grieving is available every week, Wednesdays, 12:30 to 2:30pm. Community Connections events are free of charge and held at Hambly Brick House, 30 Red Cross, Newport, unless otherwise noted. Space is limited, reserve your place at www.communityconnectionsri.com or call 846-0698.