



LIFE (Learning In Faith Experiences)

As much as I want to be updated on the effects of Hurricane Harvey, at the same time, I don't want to watch the horrifying scenes of how Harvey is unfolding and actually affecting the lives of so many people. Harvey has been wreaking havoc for (as of today) six straight days in virtually the same region, and is now making its second landfall in Louisiana – on the 12th Anniversary of Hurricane Katrina. At least Harvey is sparing the people of New Orleans. Thousands upon thousands of people have been rescued from their homes, an estimated 30,000+ people will be temporarily homeless afterwards. With up-to-the-minute scenes of such massive devastation and destruction available to us on social and news media, the feelings and thoughts that come from such a horrific event like this is and can be overwhelming, but there is ONE THING that I am amazed at in all of this bleakness: *God's presence!* In the depressing and heartbreaking stories by news reporters, they are finding and naming stories of hope – even calling news segments “Strangers helping strangers and neighbors helping neighbors.” The following are some statements made by people who'd had to leave everything behind, getting out with not much more than the clothes on their backs, some having had to wait many anxious and fear-filled hours until being rescued. *“We prayed a lot. We just praised God and we were rescued, so we're very thankful.” “God is good, we are blessed!” “I'm just so grateful!” “I've got my babies, I love you so much! Thank you, and Thank you God!”* God is present...people with boats came out and are first-responders, neighbors are helping one another and living in the same spaces, the human capacity to love and care for another is being lived out, and in the words of a young man who went to Texas to offer his help: *“We're not leaving our brothers behind.”* There are many ways that we, too, can help those persons whose lives have been forever changed by Hurricane Harvey – I'm reminded of the words of the song *St. Teresa's Prayer* (John Michael Talbot). *Christ has no body now but yours, no hands, no feet on earth, but yours. Yours are the eyes through which He looks compassion on this world. Yours are the feet with which He walks to do good. Yours are the hands, yours are the feet, yours are the eyes, you are His body. Christ has no body now on earth, but yours.* On Tuesday night in the Houston area, a sign of hope emerged: the sun, not seen for days, broke through the clouds! May our thoughts, prayers, and Christ-like actions continue to actively be with our “distant friends” who will forever feel the effects and after-effects of Harvey in their lives. May this outpouring of thoughts, prayers, and Christ-like actions also find a home as we are reminded to be Christ and bring him to our “local” friends. Written by: Colette Savaria, LIFE Coordinator

Hurricane Harvey Disaster Relief – What can I do to help? Donations may be sent to Catholic Charities USA, PO Box 17066, Baltimore, MD 21297-1066. You may go to <https://catholiccharitiesusa.org> to make online donations. “In the very near future, and as the long-term recovery begins, the Diocese of Providence will offer an opportunity for members of the Church to provide financial assistance.” (from Bishop Tobin's statement on Developing Crisis Caused by Hurricane Harvey)

“Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.” Mt 16:24b-25

MASS INTENTIONS AND CHURCH SCHEDULE

Saturday, September 2
 5:00pm (O) Henry “Hank” Lombardi (1st Anniversary)
 Sunday, September 3
 8:00am (O) James J. Manning (9th Anniversary)
 10:30am (O) St. Lucy's Parishioner
 2:00pm Marriage of Kristina Recchia and Zachary Taylor
 7:00pm (O'N) St. Lucy's Parishioners
 Monday, September 4
 9:00am Thomas Allison
 Tuesday, September 5
 9:00am In Remembrance of Terry Sullivan
 Wednesday, September 6
 9:00am The Betty and Spooner families
 Thursday, September 7
 9:00am Communion Service
 Friday, September 8
 9:00am (S) Fe Niego, Gina Tartaglino, In Thanksgiving (grandson in Houston)
 5:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
 7:00pm Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Litany to Mary
 7:50pm Benediction
 Saturday, September 9
 1:30pm Mass at Grand Islander
 5:00pm (O) Mary K. Connerton, Eva B. Mello
 Sunday, September 10
 8:00am (O) Robert Edward
 10:30am (O) George and Helen Leeber, Paul R. Brown (20th Anniversary), Robert Brown (30th Anniversary)
 5:00pm (O'N) St. Lucy's Parishioners

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

The St. Lucy Rectory and Offices will be closed on Monday, September 4th in observance of the Labor Day holiday.

Reminder: The Liturgy Committee will meet Tuesday, September 5 at 3pm.

CHURCH SUPPORT – August 26/27, 2017
Weekly Collection \$5976.00
The second collection next weekend will be for the Reduction of the Parish Debt. The Balance of the Parish Debt as of 8/24/17 is \$69,839.71.
Thank you for your continuing generosity.

Sr. Priest Retirement Fund: After decades of faithful service, many retired priests continue to serve where they are needed, while others require assisted living, or nursing home care. Since priests are paid a very modest wage, they cannot rely upon Social Security to make ends meet. No longer able to rely upon parishes for basic living needs, senior priests depend on support from this challenged fund. Your generosity will make a difference in the lives of many who have served faithfully for many years in ministry – some of whom continue to serve well after their ‘retirement.’ The collection is also our way of saying “thank you” for that service. At Masses on September 16 & 17, our parish will join others throughout the Diocese in a special second collection in support of the Senior Priest Retirement Fund. Please consider a generous donation in support of our senior priests. To learn how this fund benefits senior priests or to make an online donation, please visit www.srpriestri.org. Thank you for your support of this worthy endeavor.

FOCUS: MINISTRY
 Stay tuned for upcoming events which will show you how to be good stewards of your time and talents here at St. Lucy's.

FORMED: Catholic Faith On Demand: On August 28 we celebrated the feast of one of our greatest saints – St. Augustine of Hippo. Watch a movie of his life this week: **Restless Heart**. Registering is easy and FREE! Go to formed.org and register using the parish code **B84KHM**. Email Jane at jjparrillo@yahoo.com with questions or help registering.

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.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE: St. Lucy Parish is part of the St. Vincent de Paul Society! Our conference is in the beginning stages and we are looking for new members! If you would like to help those in need within our community, this opportunity is for you. If you are at all interested in learning more about this Society, visit www.svdpusa.org or www.svdpri.org for more information. An orientation is being offered on Saturday, Sept. 16 from 8:30 to 3:30 at St. Joseph's Church in Hope Valley and is open to us potential St. Vincent de Paul conference members of St. Lucy parish! If interested in 9/16 Orientation, call 847-6153 ext. 222, leaving your name and phone number.

All Saints STEAM Academy has openings in grades Pre-K- 8. All Saints offers an affordable Catholic education for children in Newport County. Schedule a tour and learn about the exciting programs in technology and the arts we offer our students. For more information call 848-4300.

Would you like to become a Catholic or do you know someone who does? RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) will begin in September. Classes are every Wednesday evening from 7-8pm in the Parish Center. Please contact Jane Parrillo at jjparrillo@yahoo.com to register or for more information.

The Diocesan Office of Marriage Preparation and Enrichment is sponsoring the Annual Wedding Anniversary Celebration honoring couples of the Diocese who will be celebrating their 25, 40, 50, and over 50 years of marriage in 2017. The celebration will be held on Sunday, Oct. 15 at 1pm at the Cathedral of SS. Peter & Paul in Providence. This is the last week to contact St. Lucy's Rectory in order to register.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK
 Monday: 1 Thes 4:13-18/Lk 4:16-30
 Tuesday: 1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11/Lk 4:31-37
 Wednesday: Col 1:1-8/Lk 4:38-44
 Thursday: Col 1:9-14/Lk 5:1-11
 Friday: Mi 5:1-4a /Mt 1:1-16, 18-23
 Saturday: Col 1:21-23/Lk 6:1-5
 Sunday: Ez 33:7-9/Rom 13:8-10/Mt 18:15-20

RESPECT LIFE UPCOMING EVENTS:
A Day of Remembrance: Please join with others on Sept. 9 from 10 to 11am at the Guardian Angel Plot – Baby Land at the Gate of Heaven Cemetery, 550 Wampanoag Trail, Riverside, for this special and prayerful event dedicated to all babies that have died from an abortion, a miscarriage, stillbirth, and early infant death. It will include reflections, the Rosary and other prayers for all the babies. This event is being held simultaneously with the National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children. For more information, contact Carol Owens at 421-7833 x218 or email cowens@dioceseofprovidence.org. **40 Days for Life** begins its Fall Campaign on Wednesday, Sept 27 and will continue through Sunday, Nov. 5. Go to the website at 40daysforlife.com/providence to sign up or for further information.

Middletown/Newport Knights of Columbus will be hosting a **Comedy Night** at 7pm on Sept. 30 at 7 Valley Rd., Middletown. Don't miss **The Portuguese Kids** with their debut in Middletown, RI. Tickets are only \$30 which includes Hors d'oeuvres and can be purchased online at portuguesekids.com or call 835-1135. Special Musical guest Alex Gomes will be performing at 7pm followed by the comedy show at 8pm. The Knights of Columbus uses a portion of the event proceeds to help local Aquidneck Island charitable organizations.

Visiting the Sick: Please notify Sr. Sheila at 847-6153 (x205) when a family member is in the hospital.