LIFE (Learning In Faith Experiences) … My father cracks me up! So many times when he sees or calls me, he’ll ask me if I remember what I was doing, say, 180 days ago, or 22 months ago, or he’ll make a statement like: in 5 months, I work and 5 days it will be Christmas. Or he might ask what was happening in the world at different intervals (or is it increments)? Most times, I am glad that I have no clue what information will come back at me from this font of information. But I do know that whenever Dad asks me that pointed question it has to do with things, people and events that are important to him. I, too, share in this craziness – or passion – of his, depending on perspective! So, you might be asking is she really getting to a point? This weekend is the 28th Anniversary of my Grandmother’s death. She was one of the most beloved and influential people in my life and I cannot believe that she has been apart from us so long. On the other hand it doesn’t seem possible that it’s been 28 years! Although physically absent, Grammy is thought of very often and brought up in many conversations. A few months back when everyone seemed to be doing their spring planting, my neighbor gently arranged her many plants making for great curb appeal. When I walked by to enjoy her arrangement, I was greeted by a beautiful potted calla lily plant; my Grandmother’s favorite flower! In that moment I knew that my Grammy was present and reaching out to me, and my heart was overflowing with gratitude, warmth, and a peacefulness. My neighbor’s calla lilies are visible from the windows in my bedroom and living room – Hi Grammy! Author Susan Tholoe, in Opening to Miracles writes: “A short time after my mother’s death, I was talking to a friend about Mother’s last few days. A moment after I told her that Mother had wished she could fly away like a bird and never come back,’ a tiny hummingbird came to the window where it had wished she could ‘fly away like a bird and never come back,’ a tiny hummingbird came to the window where it hovered, looking directly at me for several seconds. The hairs stood up on my arms and tears came to my eyes. I felt as if the little bird were giving me a message from Mother – reassuring me that ‘Even though you can’t see me, I am with you.’ The adult in me could chalk it all up to coincidence, but my miracle-loving child firmly believes it was a heavenly note.” No matter if it’s been a day, week, month, or many years since the passing of your loved one(s), remember to be the hopeful and miracle-loving child open to heavenly notes of ALL kinds. (Corlette M. Savaria, LIFE Coordinator)

The St. Vincent de Paul Conference of St. Lucy’s Church helped dozens of families in the first half of this year, providing thousands of dollars to help our most vulnerable neighbors with rent, utilities and other basic needs. During these unusual and difficult times, we are seeing an increase in need and decrease in donations. The Conference is currently in danger of depleting its funds. SVDP relies on the generosity of donors and talents of its members to continue its vital work. You can support SVDP with your cash or check donation in the collection boxes in the Church Narthex (entrance) by becoming a benefactor with a tax-deductible donation given directly to the Conference. To learn more about giving and membership opportunities, contact us at stlucysvdp@gmail.com.

During this time the Rectory Office prefers to accept visitors by appointment. Thank you for your understanding.

The office is still waiting...if you haven’t updated your St. Lucy’s Parishioner registration®. If you have, THANK YOU! Please email (stlucysoffice@gmail.com) or call the rectory at 847-6153 ext. 201 to provide up-to-date information for your household. Possible changes/updates for your household may include:
* School, grade, age of each child (for 2020-21 year);
* Phone # - perhaps you no longer have a landline, or now have multiple cell phone #’s;
* Email address;
* Adult children 18+ years of age residing with you and working; what is his/her occupation;
* Adult child 18+ residing with you while attending college; provide name of college/university and level;
* Adult child is no longer living locally;
* Recent additions to your household, i.e., births, adoptions, relatives living with you;
* Change in marital status.

Support for the Parish…
Re: Maintaining Budgets and Making Donations.
Those who have been making donations and maintaining their budgets during this time have been a godsend. Thank you!! These are basically 4 weeks for all to do so.

**Attend Mass and put your donation in the collection basket.
**Mail your envelopes to the Parish Office: 909 West Main Rd., Middletown, RI 02842
**Drop your envelopes and donations off by putting them in the black lockbox at the front door of the Rectory
**Go On-line to our Website stlucy.org, click the Giving link, then click on Parish Giving, and follow the prompts to make a one-time gift or a recurring donation.

Regretfully we are not able to accept any more food donations at this time. We will let you know when we are able to do so again.

Parish Facebook Page and Website (www.st.lucy.org)

Bible Study: each Tuesday in the Parish Center immediately following Morning Mass. We will be covering part 2 of Scripture in the Nicene Creed. All are welcome.

Community Action Committee (CAC)
The CAC is again responding to address the needs of Child & Family Services for “Back to School Supplies” for middle/high school students. Any type of school supply appreciated. Past donations have been STURDY backpacks, calculators, binders, notebooks, pens, pencils, highlighters, etc. Please place items in the blue bin(s) marked school supplies for Child & Family Services in the Church narthex. As usual, thank you for your continued support! Please note: During these unprecedented times due to Covid-19 virus, you may feel more comfortable making a monetary donation or gift card. If so, please make check payable to St. Lucy’s and be sure to mark “C&F school supplies”. You may mail to the church, or place in the collection basket.

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Charity is the cement that unites communities to God and individuals to each other, so that he who contributes to the union of hearts in a community binds it indissolubly to God.

St. Vincent de Paul

The next Mass for the intentions for those in Recovery will be held at St. Barnabas Church at 5pm on Sunday, July 26. All are welcome. It will also be streamed on YouTube.