

**August 30, 2015**  
**Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary time (B)**

**From The Desk of Msgr. Corrigan:**

Fr. Virgilio Competente will be leaving us on Tuesday. Officially retired last year, he has been in residence at St. Mary's rectory this past year. He will be returning to his home in the Philippines where he was ordained a priest in 1967. He served as parochial vicar at Philip Neri, in the Bronx 1983-1994 and Holy Trinity, Manhattan 1981-1983. He has been our parochial vicar since 1994. He was incardinated into the Archdiocese of New York in 2000 and therefore is entitled in his retirement to all benefits that the Archdiocese offers to its priests. We thank him for his twenty years of service to our parish. I personally thank him for our friendship of twenty-one years. As Cardinal Dolan wrote in his letter to Fr. Virgilio: "A priest's retirement is canonical, in that it applies only to an assigned ministry. We never retire from the priesthood. The church, therefore, will continue to count on your daily prayers in the Liturgy of the Hours and the holy Sacrifice of the Mass." I am sure Fr. Virgilio will continue to pray for us.

Our parish finally reached its goal in the Cardinal's Stewardship Campaign with a \$200.00 pledge in the past week. I thank all who made a pledge and hope that you will fulfill your pledge. It seems to be getting harder for us to reach our goal of \$32,000.00

The Archdiocese plans to have a "Capital Improvement Campaign" beginning in 2016 or 2017. The last similar campaign was in 2007. At that time we were able to raise enough money to install our air conditioning system for the church. I will propose to our Parish Council that our project for this campaign will be to repair all the wooden frames that hold our stained glass windows. Most of our stained glass windows are in good shape (they are worth well over a million dollars). The problem is the wooden frames that hold the windows. They are disintegrating. Fixing or replacing the frames is going to be expensive. I don't think we have a choice.



**COLLECTION:**

The collection for last Sunday, August 23, 2015 was \$3,147.00

The second collection this Sunday, September 6, 2015 will for the Catholic New York Newspaper.



**Food Collection:** please be mindful of those in need when grocery shopping this week. Our monthly food collection next Sunday will go to those in our community in need. Thank you for your generosity.

**Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time:** As we gather today in God's presence, we are reminded by the scriptures of the purpose of our gathering. Our celebration is not an end in itself, but must lead to lives that respond to God's call. As Saint James says today, we are to be "doers of the word and not hearers only" May our prayers today be for the grace to respond to god's invitation with our lives.








**In the first reading, Deuteronomy 4:1-2:** Moses prepares the people to cross into the Promised Land. They have the potential to become a great nation.

**Responsorial Psalm, Psalm 15:** "The one who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord"

**In the second reading, James 1:17-18:** James tells us that anything truly good is a gift of God. A person honors God by caring for the poor and avoiding evil.

**In the Gospel, Mark 7:1-8:** Jesus is portrayed as the official interpreter of the Jewish law. He opposes rigid and narrow explanations.

**Need help caring for yourself or someone else, but not sure where to turn with questions about:**

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**Question of the Week:** How careful am I in fulfilling my religious obligations? Does my concern or lack of concern to fulfill those obligations bring me closer to God or put God at a distance.



**Pope Francis:**

**Reading the Gospel each day helps us to overcome our selfishness and to follow Jesus**

our Teacher with dedication.



**Religious Education News:**

- ❖ Registration has been extended to August 31, 2015.



- ❖ We need teachers and helpers for our religious instruction school on Saturday mornings. Please consider volunteering for this most important mission. If you are interested please call the rectory (914) 963-0156.