

# St. Paul the Apostle Parish



## Lincoln Park

**Fr. Leonard F. Villa, Pastor**  
**Fr. George Valliamthadathil, M.S.F.S.**  
**Deacon Rudolph Teng**  
**Deacon Thomas Barbagallo**

### Masses

Saturday 9:00 AM      Sunday Vigil 5:00 PM  
Sunday 7:45 AM, 9:15 AM, 10:45 AM, 12:15 PM  
Latin Mass 1:30 PM, first three Sundays  
2:30 PM fourth Sunday of the Month.  
Weekdays 9:00 AM  
Holy Days 6:45 AM, 9:00 AM, 7:30 PM

**Rectory** 602 McLean Ave., Yonkers, NY 10705  
Tel: 914-963-7330  
Fax: 914-963-1952

### Religious Education Office

Jackie Barton - Coordinator of Religious  
Education  
602 McLean Ave., Yonkers, NY 10705  
Tel: 914-965-9333

### Sacrament of Baptism

Sundays at 2:45pm except the 4th Sunday of  
each month by appointment

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 4:00-4:45 PM. Anytime requested.

### Sacrament of Marriage

Six months advance notice is mandatory.  
Marriage preparation course required.  
Call rectory for appointment.

### Sacrament of the Sick

Call the rectory for attention to home-bound

### Parish Registration

Contact the rectory

### Parish

Website: [www.stpaulyonkers.org](http://www.stpaulyonkers.org)  
E-mail: [stpaulyonkers@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulyonkers@gmail.com)

### Parish Meetings

Monday 6:45 PM St. Paul's Folk Dance  
Tuesday 7:30 Legion of Mary  
Tuesday 8:00 PM Prayer Group  
2nd Tuesday 8:00 PM Men's Group  
Wednesday 7:00 PM A.A. Open Meeting  
Thursday 7:00 PM A.A. Beginners  
Thursday 8:00 PM A.A. Closed Meeting  
Thursday 7:00 PM Al-Anon  
1st Friday 9:30-11:00 Adoration  
1st Friday 7:00 PM Holy Hour  
Friday 7:30 PM Boy Scouts  
Saturday 9:30 AM Religious Educ. PreK-8  
Sunday 7:00 PM A.A. Open Meeting

### Pregnancy Hot Line

Tel: 800-640-0767



# FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## JULY 14, 2024



<b><u>Intention:</u></b>	<b><u>Requested by:</u></b>
<b><u>Saturday</u></b>	<b><u>July 13, 2024</u></b>
5:00 Joseph Montalvo	Family & friends
<b><u>Sunday</u></b>	<b><u>July 14, 2024</u></b>
7:45 John & Jimmy Lynch	M/M K. O'Sullivan
9:15 Nora Kilgarriff	Mary
10:45 John & Annie J. Ward	Children
12:15 Rosanne Snyder (living-Bday)	Katrina
1:30 For the People of the Parish	
<b><u>Monday</u></b>	<b><u>July 15, 2024</u></b>
9:00 Gilbert DeLeon	Teng family
12:00 Antonia Grullon	Mike & Iden Goodwin
<b><u>Tuesday</u></b>	<b><u>July 16, 2024</u></b>
9:00 Msgr. Charles Bidgood	Snyder family
<b><u>Wednesday</u></b>	<b><u>July 17, 2024</u></b>
9:00 Souls in Purgatory	A friend
12:00 Ralph Howard	Eileen Slattery
<b><u>Thursday</u></b>	<b><u>July 18, 2024</u></b>
9:00 Juan Carlos Guaqueta	Negma Sulaiman
12:00 Brian Bergen (Bday mem)	Bergen family
<b><u>Friday</u></b>	<b><u>July 19, 2024</u></b>
9:00 Ethelwaldo Teng	
<b><u>Saturday</u></b>	<b><u>July 20, 2024</u></b>
9:00 Greg Callozzo (living)	St. Paul's Rel Ed
12:00 Ozzy Maldonado	Mike & Iden Goodwin
5:00 William Bruno	Patricia Kohl
<b><u>Sunday</u></b>	<b><u>July 21, 2024</u></b>
7:45 For the People of the Parish	
9:15 Nora, Maria & Catherine Cafferky	Mary
10:45 Edward Hayes	Joan Hayes
12:15 Norah Tulick	Orosz family
1:30 Mike Goodwin (living-Birthday)	Iden

Michael Curtin, Richard Lyons, Grace Lyons, Ayanah Audrey Naron, Denyse Guariglia, Irene DiGenno, Rene Laino, Barbara Dallow, Martin Beirne, Deirdra Fallon, Cresvic Flores, Kathleen Sage, Pattiann DePescio, Waldina Pineda, John Ritter, Isiah Digsby, Joseph Molack, Daryl Patrimonio, Mary Gilligan, Antone Flores, Victor Fierro, Timothy O'Connor, Valentina Rakaj, Maureen Pastor, Pete Coppa, and Silverio Palmieri.



Please remember in prayer all those who died this week, especially, Mercedes Fernandez Bernebe, Lois Powers, Bienvenido Caminero, Romeo B. Arana, Mary Byrne, and those who mourn them.

**LECTORS:**

July 13 <sup>th</sup>	5:00 J. Kinney	
July 14 <sup>th</sup>	7:45 S. Abraham	9:15 J. Barton
	10:45 A. Urgola	12:15 V. Rahiman



**STEWARDSHIP: Week of July 7, 2024**

1 <sup>st</sup> Collection	\$5,031
2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection	\$1,537
Shrines	\$188
Online Giving	\$2,600
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$9,356</b>

Thank you for your continued support of our Parish and its many needs. Your financial generosity for the upkeep of our Parish buildings and programs is essential and greatly appreciated. To sign up for WeShare go to [stpaulyonkers.org](http://stpaulyonkers.org) and click "Online Giving". *Thank you for your generosity!*

# The Papal Audience with Comics: On God and Jokers



*"I can laugh When things ain't funny A haha-happy-go-lucky me" Paul Evans 1960*

**He that dwelleth in heaven shall laugh them to scorn; the Lord shall have them in derision Psalm 2:4**  
Sung in Handel's *Messiah* Part 2 (Tenor Recitative)

At the website of the famous Vatican commentator (Vaticanista), Sandro Magister there was a letter from a distinguished scholar of the Fathers of the Church, Leonardo Lugaresi, concerning the papal audience with comedians. Here it is edited:

*Dear Magister,*

*Your latest article, dedicated to "Francis superstar on the theater of the world", urges me to make a marginal consideration - but perhaps of some use to delve deeper into the problem you highlighted - ...To comedians, the Pope said: "Can we laugh at God too? Of course, and this is not blasphemy, we can laugh, as we play and joke with the people we love. [...] It can be done but without offending the religious feelings of believers, especially the poor." What to think of this statement, certainly well-intentioned, which will undoubtedly have received the enthusiastic approval of all the audiences who listened to it? I would say it is true: the world can laugh at God, but in a much deeper, more demanding and dramatic sense than Francis' captivating joke suggests.*

*The "homo religiosus" (the religious man/woman) trembles in horror at the mere idea that we can laugh at God: he has always known that God is first and foremost terrible and when he manifests himself in all his majesty for man the only alternative to terror is awe, a sentiment also echoed by the author of the Letter to the Hebrews, when he writes: "It is terrible to fall into the hands of the living God!" (10:31). It is therefore not God that man can laugh at, but rather himself; it is God, on the contrary, who can laugh at man and his awkward misery.... Even in the philosophical tradition, man can laugh at himself, but not at God, learning to look at himself with irony, especially when he takes himself too seriously in playing his part on the stage of the Theater of the World. He therefore laughs at the powerful, as the God of the Bible does from above: "The kings of the earth rise up and the princes conspire together. [...] Those who inhabit the heavens laugh at it, the Lord mocks them from above" (Psalm 2:2-4). But he also laughs at the philosopher himself, who falls into the well because he is looking at the stars, ...Or the beautiful woman who, no longer young, and no longer beautiful, paints herself all over to look like one young and beautiful again and for this reason becomes, ...ridiculous and pathetic at the same time.*

*Power, wisdom and beauty, as idols, are not spared from the laughter of man, even of the religious man, who for his part can even treat with irony the "professionals of the sacred" in their way of relating to the divine, ... But not at all about God, you can't joke with Him and about Him. I therefore dare not think of how many religious men of our time would react hearing the Pope say that we can laugh at God "as we play and joke with the people we love", and to add that the only limit is to do so "but without offending the religious feelings of believers, especially the poor;" which, if you think about it, from a religious point of view makes the matter much worse, because it shows a respect for man which is instead denied to God. ... It is true, however, that with Christ everything changes. The incarnation, passion and death of the Son is a culturally shocking event that we will never finish breaking down, because in it God puts himself in the position of being mocked by men.*

The question "can we laugh at God?" from that moment, in fact, receives an affirmative response, which however, in the first and insurmountable instance, has not the humorous and light-hearted value typical of the friendly or family banter to which the pope seems to refer to, but rather the dramatic sense of divine "kénosis" (self –emptying) (Philippians 2 :7), in the acutely inappropriate form of God's ability to laugh, that is, his exposure to ridicule by men. You can laugh at God, in the sense that men were given the opportunity to do so, and actually did: The first time in a courtyard of Jerusalem, when "the governor's soldiers led Jesus into the praetorium and gathered the whole force around him. They stripped him, made him wear a scarlet cloak, plaited a crown of thorns, placed it on his head and placed a reed in his right hand. Then, kneeling before him, they mocked him: 'Hail, King of the Jews!'. Spitting on him, they took the reed from his hand and struck him on the head" (Matthew 27, 27-30). You cannot reflect enough on the fact that in the Christian story of the passion and death of Jesus his sacrifice is carried out within the form of two fundamental institutions of human culture, the trial and the spectacle, however operating in them a paradoxical reversal of roles which profoundly changes the meaning. (The trial becomes spectacle and the spectacle of the Cross become the trial)

The death of Christ, in fact, is the outcome of a criminal trial, in which, however, it is the accused and not the judge who proclaims the truth. The role of accused, and then of condemned although (or because) innocent, is assumed by the Son of God, that is, precisely by the one who is the true judge of human history. That trial and that death, however, are also a show, a theatrical representation, tragic in itself, but, as we have seen, ready to descend to the comic register of a military farce of the type in which Pilate's (or Herod's) soldiers, according to Luke) subjected Jesus. Here, again, God leaves his rightful place, that of the divine spectator who contemplates the "theatrum mundi" (theater of the world) from above, and takes on the role of actor. Actor in a drama of salvation in which the freedom of God and the freedom of man meet and struggle... which is absolutely serious, but also always susceptible to being turned into "ludus", that is, entertainment, in the eyes of an audience of disengaged spectators, who watch it as if on television, munching popcorn. In this sense, there is a lightning-fast note from Luke regarding the crucifixion, which has always impressed me: "The people stood and watched" (23:35).

Christ is therefore the "true antagonist", as Clement of Alexandria calls him, who comes into the world to perform before men the only performance that can save them, but the tremendous seriousness of his sacrifice is not at all preserved by comic contamination. He depends on the spectators, he depends on the world. As Augustine splendidly says, "if it is irreligion that is watching, he is a great joke; if it is faith that is watching, a great mystery." Like the comedian, by coming into the world, the Son of God subjects himself to the possibility of ridicule, he also takes into account being treated like the Jesus in James Ensor's painting, "The Entry of Christ into Brussels," which seems to me to be the most brilliant pictorial representation of Christianity in the contemporary world..... **The man who testifies to his Christian faith among the men of today "may really have the impression of being a clown", a ridiculous relic of the past, but he must run this risk to the end.** (emphasis added)

[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/1/1a/James\\_Ensor\\_%281888-1889%29\\_-\\_Intrede\\_van\\_Christus\\_in\\_Brussel.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/1/1a/James_Ensor_%281888-1889%29_-_Intrede_van_Christus_in_Brussel.jpg)

Today, more than ever, being Christian therefore also means accepting the "ridiculous part" that the world assigns to us, but challenging it about this. So yes, the world can "laugh at God" and also at us who, behind Him, subject ourselves to its mockery; but precisely for this reason the reality, from the Christian point of view, cannot be resolved by a pleasant praise of humor, which in the West pleases everyone and offends no one, or worse in the promotion of a "Buddy Christ" like that of "Catholicism Wow!" satirized in "Dogma", a film from twenty-five years ago that perhaps has not lost its relevance. On the stage of the theater of the world, this is not the role that belongs to the Christian, whoever he is, whether the Pope or the least of the lay faithful.

<https://www.diakonos.be/ridere-di-dio-quello-che-il-papa-non-ha-detto-nel-suo-incontro-con-i-comici/> (END)

Finally here is an interesting entry from St Thomas Aquinas' *Summa Theologiae* (Summary of Theology) especially the remark in Objection 3 to the question "whether there be an excess of play?" The remark is: ...it is related in the *Lives of the Fathers* (ii. 16; viii. 63) that is was revealed to the Blessed Paphnutius **that a certain jester would be with him in the life to come.** (emphasis added) St Thomas replies: ...Wherefore the occupation of play-actors, the object of which is to cheer the heart of man, is not unlawful in itself; nor are they in a state of sin provided that their playing be moderated, namely that they use no unlawful words or deeds in order to amuse,... if a man spends too much on such persons, or maintains those comedians who practice unlawful mirth, he sins as encouraging them in their sin. ST, II-II, question 168, article 3

## Become a member of the



The Legion of Mary is the largest apostolic organization of lay people all over the world, in which Catholic men, women and youth sanctify themselves through prayer and apostolic work in union with Our Lady under the guidance of a priest. Members can be Active (must attend meetings) or Auxiliary (no meeting attendance required) – all Catholics are welcome to join.

For more information, please contact Kathy Scott 347-835- 9259, Margaret Keane 516-375-9764 or attend a meeting: Tuesdays at 7:30pm in St. Paul School building

## FORMED

**Bible Study and More!** Go to [stpaulyonkers.formed.org](http://stpaulyonkers.formed.org) and register which gives you access to quality Catholic on line programs, movies, audios, and books. Today on her Memorial listen to: *St. Kateri Tekakwitha: Lily of the Mohawks* or Daily Reflections: Feast of St. Kateri Tekakwitha. Tuesday is the Memorial of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel. Watch: *No Greater Love: A Unique Portrait of the Carmelite Nuns, or The Seventh Chamber: Edith Stein*. Listen to: Truth to Inspire: *St. Teresa of Avila*. Also Watch: *Saint Bonaventure of Italy*.

St. Paul's Prayer Group meets in person in the Cafeteria on Tuesdays, at 8:00 PM. All are welcome.



Registration for Religious Education is open. You can register through our website or pick up forms in back of Church. Forms can be dropped in the collection basket or mailed.

**Fight the Pandemic of Pornography.** A resource to combat addiction to pornography is [strive21.com](http://strive21.com). Its mission is to free people from porn. STRIVE is an experience unlike any other with its 21-Day Porn Detox. Experience powerful videos and challenges delivered daily to help you break free from pornography for good.

Catholic Widows and Widowers of Yonkers will hold their next meeting on Thurs, July 18th, 1:00pm, at St. Ann's Church, Father Anthony Hall, 31 College Place, Yonkers. New members always welcome. Info: 914.423.5331.

St. Augustine Church, Route 9, Ossining, will have their 47th Annual Festival on Wednesday, July 24, through Saturday, July 27 from 6:00 – 11:00 PM. Come and enjoy the delicious food, rides provided by Blue Sky Amusements, air-conditioned casino, games of skill, music by T.C. Entertainment, our famous White Elephant tent and much more. Free admission and parking! For further information, please visit our website at [StAugNY.org](http://StAugNY.org).

The Church of St. John the Evangelist and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church of White Plains will hold its annual "Festa Italiana" on July 13<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> on the Church grounds of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church at 92 South Lexington Avenue, White Plains, NY 10606. Sat. 5:00 - 11:00 pm and Sun. 2:00 pm – 9:00 pm.



the **CARDINAL'S**  
ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL  
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The 2024 Cardinal's Appeal is in progress. Our parish goal is \$50,000. Every gift/pledge is important no matter what the size. We are currently at \$41,197 or 82.4% of goal. You can give online at the parish website and there are Appeal envelopes in the back of the church. Thank you for your generosity.



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