

**Presider:** Let us pray for all victims of violence in our neighborhoods and our world, that they may know the consolation of Prince of Peace.  
Hear us as we pray...

**All: Empower us, Lord, as we discern your will.**

**Presider:** I now invite you to voice your own intentions.  
Hear us as we pray...

**All: Empower us, Lord, as we discern your will.**

**Presider:** May the wisdom of God help us to keep the needs of the faithful in Manville as our highest priority as we discern his will for our faith communities.

### *CLOSING PRAYER*

We thank you, Lord for our enthusiasm to achieve results. We thank you for the energy of our commitment. But we ask you, Lord, to imbue our dedicated hearts with a spirit of patience and endurance that corresponds to the gradual way in which your reign is realized among us. May this patient spirit save us from restlessness, agitation and frustration in our work and yield in us instead the peace of heart that frees us to see the fruits of your Spirit in our midst. We ask this through Jesus your Son who, in the power of the Spirit, reigns at your right hand for ever and ever. Amen.



## ***Renewing the Church in Manville***

***Prayer Service: August 27, 2012***

**Presider:** God, come to our assistance.

**All: Lord, make haste to help us.**

***Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.***

***As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.***

### *OPENING PRAYER*

**Presider:** Eternal Father, we praise you for sending your Son to be one of us and to save us. Look upon your people with mercy, and give us the Spirit of Jesus to make us one in love. May we be guided by wisdom and united in love us as we discern your will for the Church in Manville. Amen.

### *PROVERBS 2:1-11*

**All: God, open our hearts and minds with your wisdom.**

**Men:** My child, if you accept my words

and treasure up my commandments within you,  
making your ear attentive to wisdom

and inclining your heart to understanding;

if you indeed cry out for insight,

and raise your voice for understanding;

if you seek it like silver,

and search for it as for hidden treasures—

then you will understand the fear of the Lord

and find the knowledge of God.

**Women:** For the Lord gives wisdom;  
from his mouth come knowledge and understanding;  
he stores up sound wisdom for the upright;  
he is a shield to those who walk blamelessly,  
guarding the paths of justice  
and preserving the way of his faithful ones.  
Then you will understand righteousness and justice  
and equity, every good path;  
for wisdom will come into your heart,  
and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul;  
prudence will watch over you;  
and understanding will guard you.

**All: *God, open our hearts and minds with your wisdom.***

#### *SCRIPTURE (ROMANS 12:1-5)*

I urge you, then, brothers, remembering the mercies of God, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, dedicated and acceptable to God; that is the kind of worship for you, as sensible people. Do not model your behavior on the contemporary world, but let the renewing of your minds transform you, so that you may discern for yourselves what is the will of God -- what is good and acceptable and mature. And through the grace that I have been given, I say this to every one of you: never pride yourself on being better than you really are, but think of yourself dispassionately, recognizing that God has given to each one his measure of faith. Just as each of us has various parts in one body, and the parts do not all have the same function: in the same way, all of us, though there are so many of us, make up one body in Christ, and as different parts we are all joined to one another.

#### *REFLECTION (REV. MSGR. JOSEPH CELANO)*

#### *PRAYER FOR DISCERNMENT*

**All:** *God our Father, you have a plan for each one of us, you hold out to us a future full of hope. Give us the wisdom of your Spirit so that we can see the shape of your plan in the gifts you have given us, and in the circumstances of our daily lives. Give us the freedom of your Spirit, to seek you with all our hearts, and to choose your will above all else. Amen.*

#### *INTERCESSIONS (RESPONSE: **Empower us, Lord, as we discern your will**)*

**Presider:** Lord God, enkindle a deep desire in us for spiritual growth in our lives and give us an infectious enthusiasm for the future of the Church in Manville. Hear us as we pray...

**All: *Empower us, Lord, as we discern your will.***

**Presider:** Teach us trust and openness to your truth as we speak and listen to one another. Hear us as we pray...

**All: *Empower us, Lord, as we discern your will.***

**Presider:** Grant us a spirit of unselfish Christian service; that our actions on behalf of others may reach beyond our own concerns. Hear us as we pray...

**All: *Empower us, Lord, as we discern your will.***

**Presider:** Unite us as we seek consensus on what you desire for the Church in Manville. Hear us as we pray...

**All: *Empower us, Lord, as we discern your will.***