



ONSTAGE AND OFFSTAGE ON THE WATERFRONT

Jesus left the house, and went down to the water (cf. Saint Matthew XIII:1) on 10 July 2017 for this summer's first Mass on the Waterfront, and He's now making His way back home (hopefully with a boat load of passengers) to our absolutely beautiful church at 37 South Ocean Avenue.

The summer on the Waterfront was truly one to remember. With help from the pleasant weather provided by our Heavenly Father, and a refurbished Grover's Dock featuring a wall display of Freeport's *Past to Remember with Gratitude* compliments of the Freeport Memorial Library, it seemed that this year's Mass on the Waterfront series brought *home* more people than ever before. Counted amongst those people were Priests familiar to us from both the present (Father Arcoleo and Father Alessandro) and the past (Father Jerome Ackah and Monsignor Ralph Sommer), as well as Father Thomas Colucci, a visiting Priest from the Archdiocese of New York (and a classmate of Father Alessandro). And on the other side of the Altar could be found residents of Toronto, California, New Jersey, Connecticut, and Queens, as well as people from Rockville Centre, Merrick, Baldwin, Oceanside, and Freeport.

In addition to our eight regularly scheduled Sunday Masses, summertime memories on the Waterfront were also provided by Our Holy Redeemer during our fourth annual *Wednesday Night Concerts on the Mile* series! Coordinated by our Director of Music, Michael Crouse, this year's offering brought back *Emily Rachel* (thank you for the "Shake"), the *Buddah Big Band* (who got Father Arcoleo on the dance floor for the first time in nearly twenty years), the *Paul Joseph Quartet* ("We make plans and God laughs". A good time was had by all!) the *Tribunes* (Happy 52nd Anniversary Sandy and Mike), and *These Three Tenors* (twenty-three years old and better than ever). Yet it was this year's first time performance of *A Night in Vienna* featuring our beloved organist and his wife (Philip and Olga Petkov), members of our 11:30 A.M. Mass-choir, Father Alessandro and the children's choir that made *coming home* a real family affair both on and off the stage!

The onstage memories of which I write would never have gotten the Sunday morning or Wednesday night spotlight if it wasn't for the offstage contributions of family members such as Judy Germaine and the Ushers of Our Holy Redeemer, Our Holy Redeemer's Altar Servers and their parents, Sacristans Braulio Cacao and Matthew Hermann, Joann Flaherty, Dianne Ryan and her photographs, Cynthia Gillen at the coffee and doughnut station, Cathy Vodopivic at the Wednesday donation box (thank you Summer Concert Series Donors. Donations are being accepted for next year's Concert Series), Efraim for his Wednesday chair arrangements, Larry Vodopivic and Phil Brendel at the sound board, and Michael Crouse who in addition to coordinating and performing in the Wednesday Night Concert Series, provided music and song with members of our children's choir at Mass on the Waterfront!

On behalf of all those who helped to make *coming home what it's all about* this summer on the Waterfront, and until (please God) Our Holy Redeemer *leaves the house and goes down to the water* (ibid.) next year: "so long farewell auf wiedersehen goodbye."

**YOUR YouTube VIDEO
SELECTION OF THE WEEK:**

So Long Farewell

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qy9IfjQopU>

