



## LET'S UNTIE THE NOT (ASK, KNOCK, SEEK)

If "it is good that we are here" (at 37 South Ocean Avenue and 175 Woodcleft Avenue), then why do people choose **not** to be here? That is a question best answered **not** by the Pope, Cardinals, Archbishops, Bishops, a Bishops' Conference, Monsignors, Pastors, Priests, Deacons, Mother Generals, Mother Superiors, Religious Women and Men, Theologians, Catholic School Principals, Seminary Professors, Seminarians, Sunday Mass-goers, daily Mass-goers, ... people who *are* here, but rather the question needs to be answered by the people who are **not** here.



It is estimated that even though nearly 100% of Baptized Catholics identify themselves as Catholic (once a Catholic always a Catholic – even when following another way), nearly 80% of them do not attend Sunday Mass on a weekly basis. They are (as so often identified by Sunday Mass-goers) **CAPE-Catholics**: people who go to Mass for *Christmas, Ashes, Palm, and Easter*, **CEO-Catholics**: people who go to Mass on *Christmas, Easter, and Other* days during the year, or inactive Catholics: those whom Bishop Barres in his Letter for Lent 2017, asked us to invite back *home* to the Power of the Word of God, the Power of the Sacrament of Penance, and the Power of the Catholic Mass.

Since my arrival as Our Holy Redeemer's tenth Pastor on 25 July 2008, one of my main objectives has been to **seek** and find the 80%, **knock** on their doors, and **ask** them to *come home* "where *coming home* is what it's all about"; convinced as I was and am, that the way to meet the everyday demands placed upon the time, talent, and treasure of the Church is to get people to see for themselves "how good it is that we are here." And while (as noted in the *Faith and the Offerings at Holy Mass* Page in today's bulletin) we have seen an increase in Mass-attendance at Our Holy Redeemer, there is still "room in the Inn" for your parents, your spouses, your children, your siblings, and your neighbours.

Please, as you prepare your return to Sunday Mass with help from prayer and perhaps a visit to a friendly website at [www.usccb](http://www.usccb), [www.ewtn](http://www.ewtn), or a friendly Twitter account @DailyMass, be sure to also **seek** out a member of the 80%, and when you **find** them: **knock** on their door; and when they **open** it, **ask** them why they aren't part of the 20% who **receive** every Sunday of the year. Their answers can then be used at 37 South Ocean Avenue and 175 Woodcleft Avenue in Freeport, 11 Gale Avenue in Baldwin, 196 West Centennial Avenue in Roosevelt, 2323 Merrick Avenue in Merrick, or at any other Catholic Church to **untie the not**.



**Remaining 2017 Masses at 175 Woodcleft Avenue:  
6 August, 13 August, 20 August, 27 August**