



PADRE'S CORNER

March 6, 2016

Saint Francis of Assisi 800 years ago developed a reputation of both holiness to the path of God and a respect for His animal kingdom. This is why the prayer cards of this revered saint depicts illustrations typically of birds, squirrels, and deer. Our parish reflects the attachment to Francis, chosen name of our Pope, with many bird-feeders on our grounds to attract the melodic sounds of birdsong. In the near future, a group of parishioners will unveil an "Assisi Prayer Garden" behind the rectory garage adjacent to the parking lot. Benches, trees, bushes, flowers, feeders, and outdoor stations-of-the-cross will convey nature-loving scenes and themes that would make Francis smile from heaven. Among the many dimensions of parish life I wish to integrate at Saint Francis is this aspect of real love for the cats, dogs, gerbils, rabbits, turtles, birds and fish from God. Organizations in our modern world setting that bring this fraternal love of His animal kingdom, such as the SPCA (Society of Protection Against Cruelty of Animals), deserves our utmost respect. Located nearby in New Windsor, this wonderful apostolate respects the animals that come to its doors with a "no kill policy," unlike most other shelters. If no one adopts these innocents as pets, they are free to live out the rest of their lives in loving habitats able to roam with ample food and water plus resting beds. Their needs for cash donations, food, blankets, pet store gift cards, and other staples of existence are constant. Working with other volunteers from our parish, including music director Des Abbruscato, I would like to encourage support for the SPCA on our parish grounds through donation boxes and pamphlet information year round. This will be a perpetual commitment from our caring parish.

My family in previous decades dating back to my youth always had pets, which certainly influenced my later attitude toward this part of God's kingdom. The rectors I had in the seminary system both had dogs as pets. In 1992, as a summer seminarian at Saint Mary's north on 9W in Marlboro, I stayed with the late Monsignor Edward Dugan who served many decades in Harlem. He had a dog named Dana, who often was at daily Masses in the small chapel at the feet of the good padre. Dugan was devoted to his dog, as many other priests are who are blessed to have a pet. When he died a few years after my 1993 ordination, he was buried at the parish cemetery in Marlboro. One week later Dana died, probably heartbroken that his human face of God was gone. They are buried next to each other in the cemetery. When I die some day, I would like my cat and dog buddies to be with me on this side of eternity. Some of my cats are in feline heaven (Spooky plus Charger 1 both from an Elmsford shelter, and Blackie who I found in single digit temperatures during a Staten Island evening walking back from a recently - closed cinema after he came to my leg cold and hungry as well as fearful before I scooped him up for his new home), while others are here with me in Newburgh (Moondoggie saved by the above - cited SPCA from a Manhattan kill shelter plus cat rescues Charger 2, Friar, Rivers, and kitten Gidget also from the SPCA). I close with this tender story from Starpulse.com. "Six-year-old Shane stood with his parents in the veterinary office while spending the last few moments with his beloved dog who had been battling cancer. His parents observed him wondering if he understood what was about to happen. His dog passed away peacefully and everyone conversed about how humans usually outlive their pets. Shane looked up and said 'I know why.' Startled, his parents and the veterinarian looked over at Shane. Shane continued, 'People are born so they can learn how to live a good life - like loving everybody all the time and being nice. Right? Well, dogs already know how to do that, so they don't have to stay as long.' Let us work together to help these innocents given to us as gifts from God, by helping noble animal rescue groups like the SPCA in New Windsor. Peace. Father Bill

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. March 7, 2016

7:00am Today's Young Adults
Noon John Barcia
 By Charles, Pat & Carol Smith

Tues. March 8

7:00am Our Parish's Future
Noon Veronica Natovich Family
 (16th Anniv)

Wed. March 9

7:00am Married Couples
Noon Deceased Members of the Prekel & Piontec Families
 By Ron & Fran Soltis

Thur. March 10

7:00am The Elderly
Noon Walter Marvel
 By Wife & Family
Jane and Joe James
 By Barbara & Ed McDaniel

Fri. March 11

7:00am The Sick

Sat. March 12

4:30pm **Albert Delessio**
 By Cerone & Strand Families
Virginia & Theresa Cook
 By Frank Cook

Sun, March 13

8:00am **Mary Hoffmann**
 (30th Anni)
 By Nick & Helene Stagliano
 11:00am **Rose Grossholz**
 (1st Anniv)
 By Ron & Fran Soltis
Margaret Trizinsky
 By Loving Family

Weekly Collection 

February 27-28, 2016
 1st Collection \$5946
2nd Collection...\$1325
TOTAL...\$7271

Our sincere thanks for your generosity and support of our Parish. God bless each and every one of you....always

The 2nd collection this weekend is for **CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES**

MASS ATTENDANCE
 February 27-28, 2016

4:30pm	200
8:00am	166
11:00am	<u>248</u>
Total	614

Lenten Stations of The Cross Every Friday evening during Lent at 7 pm thru and including, February 12 thru Good Friday.

The Chaplet of the Divine Mercy is recited on Sundays at 10:40 am before the 11 am Mass

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JUST A REMINDER there is no longer a 5:30pm Mass on Mondays. There is now a Noon mass on Mondays. The Mass intentions from the 5:30pm Mass have been moved to the Noon Mass intentions.



**Food Pantry Needs**

Looking for volunteers to take cardboard to the Transfer Station on 17K in the Town of Newburgh to be recycled. If you are interested please call Paul or Linda Zalanowski at 845-561-6406.

**Food Pantry Hours:**

Friday 9:00am to 12noon  
 Saturday 9:00am to 12noon

**FOOD FOR THE POOR**

In your goodness please bring one pound packages of Pasta and Sauce to Church next weekend to be distributed to the less fortunate thru our Food Pantry.

**CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS** will be meeting at 7 pm on March 9 in Gallo Hall at Sacred Heart School in Newburgh (please note change of meeting location. The palm weavers will be using the activity center.) There will be a Lenten talk and selection of nominating committee for new slate of officers. New members are always welcome. For more info: Call Maureen Kelly at 562-9462

**OPUS DEI..** March 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. A night of recollection and confession. Most Precious Blood Church, 56 Walnut Street, Walden, NY



**ST. FRANCIS HAPPENINGS !!**

March 9, Wednesday evening at 7:30 pm, Renowned, Harpist, Lisa Radakovich Holserg, will present an evening of Lenten Prayer and Musical Reflection in our Church.

March 15 St. Francis Church will be hosting the Tuesday evening Mission, 7-9pm. This night's topic will be "God's Mercy". Joint Mission of City of Newburgh Churches is March 14thru March 17.

April 10, Sunday afternoon at 2 pm. Mark your calendars: Dedication of our Food Pantry. More info to follow.



*Our Prayers* for the Sick:, Vincenza Secor, Aaron Stagliano, Kelly Stafford, Robyn McGraw, John nz Sabo, Andrew Costanzo, Marie Wiejak, Rose, Stephen Sabo, Ashley Barco, Jean Kaiser, Tom Scalzo, Nora Brickter, Gary Lake, Genevieve Pilch, Agnes Casey, Brianna Barker, Keith Webber, Jake Bryan DeStefano, Rose Marie Michalowski, Meryl Chatham, Vincenturia Cullen, Amy Meyer, Vinnie Yonnone, Grace Keller Peacock, Mary Corwin, Jean DeCicco, Don Hughes, David Jennings, Robert Johnson, Karen Wells, Marcia McKay, Victoria Palkovic, Elaine Pietrzak, Maureen Luzzi, Joyce Poponiak, Corrine Gammino, George Vecchio, Jr, Carol Brown, Teresa Centeno, Matthew Gallagher, Luzia Araujo, Celio Thomaz, Sherry Collins, Rosalie Nogay, Richard and Rina Bozzone, Antonio Troia, Cody Favoino-Finkbeiner, Marie Louis, Sacha Samuel George, the Koch Family, Frank Pietrzak, John Marullo, Rose Jurik, Robert & Helen Osborn, Manuel DiNapoli, Jennie Serrano, Eddie Koza, Barbara Woloszyn, Gary McGraw, Rachael Neugebauer, Patricia Denniston, Arlene Dietrichsen, Maureen Kelly, Jason Suchowiecki, Deacon Larry Kawula, Abigail Ryan, Debra Thurston, Toby Persico, Alexis Johnson, Barry Johnson, James R. Purpura, Bob Smith, Tom Kingery, Bud Smith, Amy Finnegan, Janice Suchowiecki, Jane Pustola, Justin, Peter, Rita, Janice Ruggiero, Angela, Wayne

**Are your looking for help?** Experienced young adult, certified in CPR & First Aid, willing to assist in: child care, senior care, light housekeeping, organizing and animal care. References available. Please speak to Annette in Security for further information. 845-633-2844

**THESE POOR ANIMALS CAN'T HELP THEMSELVES...**Please support our new efforts in helping the homeless animals in donating pet food, pet articles, or monetary donations. Kindly check out the SPCA Wish List in the back of the church.

**LENTEN PALM WEAVING**

There will be a day session which will be Monday thru Friday from 10:00am to 2:00pm (Bring your lunch).The evening session will be from 6:30pm to 9:00pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays We will be meeting every Wednesday in O'Connor Hall at 10:00am from now until Palm weaving starts, making bows, stringing beads and getting things ready. Tentative date is last week in February or the first week in March.

**PLEASE COME JOIN US.**

Contact for daytime session: **Rachael 565-2246** or **Ann 562-7137**. Contact for evening session is **Pat pgrimm@hvc.rr.com**.

**THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 444**

invites you to their  
**COMMUNION BREAKFAST**

Open to all Sunday, March 13, 2016 at St. Patrick's Church, 55 Grand St. Mass at 10:30 am. Brunch to follow at 11:45 am at Temple Hill Tavern in New Windsor. Prices: \$23/adults, \$10/ages 6-10, 5 and under FREE. Prepaid reservations needed by March 5, 2016 to JoeCoyle (845)561-7384

The guest speaker is Christopher Bell, Director and Co-Founder with Fr. Benedict Groeschel, CRF of Good Counsel Homes & Hope For Homeless Pregnant Women.

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**HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE.**

**RECONCILIATION MONDAY, March 21  
CONFESSIONS**

**3:00 pm – 4:30 pm and 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm**

**HOLY THURSDAY**

**Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:00 pm**

**GOOD FRIDAY**

**Celebration of the Lord's Passion 3:00 pm  
Stations of the Cross 7:00 pm**

**HOLY SATURDAY**

**Blessing of Easter Foods 11:00 am  
Easter Vigil 7:00 pm**

**EASTER SUNDAY MASS**

**8:00 am and 11:00 am**

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## 11 DAY PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY & AMALFI COAST

October 31 – November 10, 2016  
Hosted by Father Bill Damroth

Visiting Florence, Assisi, Sorrento, Pomeii,  
Monte Cassino, and Rome !

Only \$2899 per person from New York  
**TOUR INCLUDES:** Roundtrip Air from New York, First Class/Select Hotels, Most Meals, Services of a Professional Tour Director & Comprehensive Sightseeing. All hotel service charges, portorage, entrance fees and more!  
For a brochure & more information contact Fr. Damroth:

Tel: (718) 887-5065  
Email: [padrebill59@yahoo.com](mailto:padrebill59@yahoo.com)



**Cancer is the second leading cause of death in New York State.** Cancer Prevention Screenings help to detect cancer early, when treatments can be more successful. If having no insurance is a barrier to preventative care, the YWCA's Cancer Services Program Orange County (CSPOC) can help. No cost Breast and Cervical cancer screenings for eligible women 40+ in age and no cost Colorectal cancer screenings for eligible women and men 50+ are available through the CSPOC. The CSPOC will coordinate appointments with participating providers. Please call for information, :845-561-8050, ext 15.

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Forty Days of Life

kicked off their 7th Campaign on February 6th, 2:00PM in O'Connor Hall
The Campaign runs from February 10 – March 20th.
Prayerfully consider standing to Pray at the local abortion facility: Newburgh Planned Parenthood
136 Lake St. Newburgh
Campaign Hours – 7:00am – 7:00pm
Campaign Manager – Wendy Wood 845-820-4366
ocrightrighttolife@gmail.com

THE CARDINALS STEWARDSHIP APPEAL

The 2016 Cardinals Stewardship Appeal has begun. Our parish goal is \$39,500. Your gift to The Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal is vital in sustaining all the good that we do for the church in New York.

THANK YOU to this week's donors: Mr. & Mrs. Edward Beach, Mr. & Mrs. George Czinkota Mr. & Mrs. Frank P. Gerbes, Jr., Mr. Douglas Harris, Mr. Steve Immitt, Mr. & Mrs. Richard Kelly, Mr. & Mrs. Edward Lastowski, Mr. & Mrs. Jack Miller, Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Pola, Mrs. Jane Pustala, Mrs. Howard Scofield. **Please remember to make your donation today!**

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**Our Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Wednesday from 5 pm to 6 pm will be for the special intention of PEACE..**

### FREE RELIABLE TAX PREPARATION

This service is available to all individuals, seniors and families right here in our neighborhood. For an appointment call 2-1-1 or 800-899-1479 between 9am and 7pm to schedule your appointment

**BECOME A MEMBER OF OUR PARISH TODAY \_  
\_YES! I want to register as a member of St. Francis of Assisi Parish and receive offertory envelopes.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Fill out and drop in the Offertory Collection or mail to St. Francis of Assisi Church, 145 Benkard Avenue, Newburgh, NY 12550.....and *Welcome!*