



**“ Little House on the Prairie ” was the source of my spiritual reflection last weekend, and a few more concluding thoughts continue this time around. An episode that aired on January 23, 1978 was entitled “ I Remember, I Remember. ” TV.Com summarized the drama in this way : “ On the evening of their anniversary, Charles is stuck in the middle of nowhere with a broken wagon wheel. While Caroline and the girls wait at home - with a special celebration dinner all prepared - Caroline passes the time by reminiscing with her daughters about her youthful beginnings with Charles. ” Human love in the context of faith was a prime element of the episode, with all of its inherent pains and joys. Any of us who have had the experience of such love, and I have, realize it can be both extremely painful and wonderfully memorable. One poignant scene for this 1978 episode was a country barn dance, where young men and women would often meet with the hope of eventual marriage, where Charles fails to show up because of other jealous male suitors who beat him up. An angry Caroline does not realize this at the time, and she miserably departs the dance with a broken heart. Communication and forgiveness restore the harmony necessary for both of them to reunite in love once again. Marriage between Charles and Caroline will be the will of God. I have been talking much in recent weeks about human relationships because they are the essence of parish life, being the source of numerous blessings and occasional sufferings. When imperfect human beings come together in faith, there will always be disappointments and inconsistencies. They are microcosms of our complicated relationship with God, wanting to serve Him yet often falling way short because of our sinfulness ( referred to as “ concupiscence ” by the Church ). The key is to get back onto our feet, despite our failures inherent within human nature. With my one year anniversary at Saint Francis of Assisi on May 4, the “ Little House ” episode cited today is appropriate because of its own anniversary reflection. Abundant blessings emerge deeply, as I contemplate what we have done together in this period of time. We have worked hard together to get this parish humming like a fine-tuned car. Making this a dynamic parish with many ministries has been a developing goal, with the occasional human interferences. United by the Holy Spirit behind our backs, we will prevail through the storms of parish life. With all of the goodness happening, I deeply believe that Satan will do all in his evil powers to thwart our efforts. Satan hates goodness and will work overtime to destroy it. As the spiritual leader of Saint Francis, this evil force will work overtime on me to create emotions of discouragement and unworthiness. This is why I need to be diligent with my prayer life and sacramental participation. The “ Saint Michael the Archangel ” prayer is for all of us because of the persons, places, and things Satan will use to annihilate what is good and pure. My friends, we are all engaged in a daily spiritual battle which can produce some incredibly painful sufferings. I have had my fair share of these struggles, and continue to experience them. In recent weeks, so many wonderful parishioners have reminded me of my goodness and importance to the future of Saint Francis. I want to remind you also of your spiritual importance to me which I deeply value. Like Charles and Caroline Ingalls, we connect in faith for the greater good of our Catholic faith. God bless and protect us one and all. Father Bill**

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Mon. May 2**

7:00am College Students  
 Noon Perry Bunyar  
 By Elizabeth Ocskay &  
 Linda Frank

**Tues. May 3**

7:00am For Families  
 Noon Barbara Paolini  
 (6<sup>th</sup> Anniv.)  
 By Family

**Wed. May 4**

7:00am Priest Vocations  
 Noon Edward Trizinsky  
 (7<sup>th</sup> Anniv.)  
 By Wife, Loretta & Family

**Wed. May 4 (cont)**

6:00 pm The Ascension of the  
 Lord (vigil)

**Thur. May 5**

7:00am Helene Kerin  
 By St. Francis Parish  
 Noon Walter Marvel  
 By Wife & Family  
 5:30 pm The Ascension of the  
 Lord

**Fri. May 6**

7:00am Andrew Lasek  
 By Family

**Fri May 6 (cont)**

Noon Fred Giametta  
 (10<sup>th</sup> Anniv.)  
 By Glen Giametta

**Sat. May 7**

Noon The Sick  
 4:30pm Jen Fayo & Millie  
 Tornatore  
 By Lastowski Family  
 Theresa Gleeson  
 By Maria & Bill

**Sun, May 8**

8:00am Mother's Day Novena  
 11:00am Eugenia Evans  
 By Michael & Colleen Corizzo

*Weekly Collection* 

April 23-24, 2016

1<sup>st</sup> Collection \$5724.21  
 .....2<sup>nd</sup> Collection.. 1700.00  
 TOTAL...\$7424.21

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

The 2<sup>nd</sup> collection this weekend is for  
 The Church in Central & Eastern Europe

**MASS ATTENDANCE**

April 23-24, 2016  
 4:30 pm 200  
 8:00 am 136  
 11:00 am 225  
 Total 561

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

Eucharistic Ministers needed to serve at St. Luke's  
 Hospital during the week. If you are interested in  
 helping, please call Suzanna at -845-561-5162



**Food Pantry Hours:**

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

**FOOD FOR THE POOR**

In your goodness please bring Canned  
 Vegetables to Church next weekend to be  
 distributed to the less fortunate thru our Food  
 Pantry.

**ITEMS FOR THE POOR**

The Food Pantry is in great need of health aids such  
 as soap, shampoo, toothpaste, tooth brushes, and  
 deodorant. We will be requesting these items over  
 the next few weeks to help supply the needy.

**A THANK YOU FROM DEACON JACK**

I want to thank everyone for the wonderful honor  
 you bestowed on me on Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup>.  
 Everything was simply wonderful - the dedication  
 ceremony, family and friends, food, and even the  
 weather!! It is so heartwarming to see how my  
 vision of helping the needy has grown into what it  
 is today. You should all be proud. A big  
 heartfelt THANK YOU to everyone who was a part  
 of this most memorable day! May God continue to  
 Bless Us All.  
 With love and prayers,  
 Deacon Jack

## **ST. FRANCIS HAPPENINGS !!**

May 1 First Holy Communion at 11 am mass

May 2 & 4 Sr. Virginia walks us through Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'*: On care of our Common Home.

May 7 & 8 Birthday Blessings at all our Masses

May 12 Francine Boucher will present "Witness of Jehoval", a great and informative 58 minute film.

May 14 Movie Night 6 pm Featuring the Warner Brothers Movie, MAX

May 15 Coffee and Bagel Hour after the 8 am Mass. Great place for coffee and conversation.

May 16 Lady of Fatima special mass 5:30 pm

May 18 Confirmation of our young adults 6 pm

June 5 Save the Date !! *Annual Church Dinner* at Cronomer Valley Fire House, Town of Newburgh...more details to follow.

### **CASH –N-COCKTAILS**

#### **An Enchanted Evening at Sacred Heart School**

May 21 from 7 pm to 11 pm. Each ticket admits 2 guests to the cocktail party which includes live entertainment, beer, wine, soda, and appetizers!. Only 300 tickets will be sold at \$100 each with 3 cash prizes: Grand Prize is \$10,000, 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize is \$2,500, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize is \$1000. Presence is not required to win. Please contact Mary Gould at 914-805-2332 or Dr. Gina Cook at 845-541-4216 or email [ptosacredheart@gmail.com](mailto:ptosacredheart@gmail.com) for further information. It's going to be a fun evening.



*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, Abbie K., Dominick Denisi, Sebastian Denisi, Pam Denisi, Linda Hummel, Joseph Michalowski, Joann Quicksell, Frances Dolan, Daniel D'Elicio, Mary Ann Keenan

A new ministry is being formed – The St. Francis of Assisi Historical Society, headed by Al Certo. If you have any interest, or have St. Francis or Newburgh memorabilia that you would like to donate, please contact the Rectory.

Sr. Virginia Wilkinson, PBVM, will walk us through *Pope Francis' encyclical Laudato Si': On care for our common Home*. Through input, group discussion, and prayer, we will explore of our interconnectedness with creation and help to slow climate change by our wise choices and advocacy Monday, May 2 7 pm – 8:30 pm and Wednesday, May 4 – 10 am – 11:30 am. Both sessions will be in O'Connor Hall.

### **MOVIE NIGHT MAY 14<sup>th</sup> - 6 PM**

**On Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm, we will be showing the movie "MAX", a precision trained military dog serving in Afghanistan. It's s story of friendship, mystery and excitement. Pizza and light refreshments will be served. Please contact Jeannine McCauley at [jeansey50@yahoo.com](mailto:jeansey50@yahoo.com) or 914-263-0572 if you plan on attending.**

The St. Francis Flames Dart Ball Team (2016 Good Fellowship Champions!) is in need of three men for next year's season. If you are free on Thursday evenings from September thru April and can throw a dart 25 feet, give us a call. This is an exciting baseball dart game with great fellowship and great fun. No obligation. Call Tom Flagler for more information 845-564-5725.

### **Our Lady of Fatima – The Pilgrim Virgin Statue**

Our parish has been blessed to receive the Pilgrim Virgin Statue on Monday, May 16. There will be a special Mass at 5:30 pm. The Custodian of the statue, here in the United States, will talk about the message of Fatima. Many miracles and signal graces have been reported where the statue has traveled.

**This Sunday at the 11 am Mass, our second grade REP students will be receiving their First Communion. Please pray for our students as they celebrate this very important step in their Sacramental lives.**

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**The Catholic Daughters** will be meeting on  
Wednesday, May 11, 2016 at 7 pm in Sacred Heart  
Church in Newburgh. We will have our traditional  
May crowning of the statue of the Blessed Mother –  
followed by the recitation of the rosary. A short  
business meeting to follow at Msgr. Valastro  
Activity Center. New members are always  
welcomed. For further information, please call  
Maureen Kelly at 562-9462

**WE ARE AT 59% OF OUR GOAL FOR  
THE CARDINALS STEWARDSHIP APPEAL**

The 2016 Cardinals Stewardship Appeal is still  
going on. 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 Ms. Doris Jaczko, Mr. & Mrs. Jim  
Purpura, Mr. & Mrs. James Shanley, and  
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Yano.

. **Our goal is \$39,500** and so far we have reached  
\$24,421.21. We are more than half way there.

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO MAKE YOUR  
DONATION TODAY..**



**COUPLES CELEBRATING THEIR 50<sup>TH</sup> WEDDING ANNIVERSARY**

anytime during 2016 are invited to attend the Annual  
Golden Wedding Jubilee Mass with Cardinal Dolan at  
the Cathedral of St. Patrick, Saturday, June 25<sup>th</sup> at 1:30  
pm or Sunday, June 26<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 on, Pre-registration is  
required. Please contact the rectory at 561-1317 for  
registration. The closing date to register for the Mass is  
Tuesday, May 24, 2016. This event is sponsored by the  
Family Life/Respect Life Office of the Archdiocese of  
New York.

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**Ascension of the Lord  
Holy Day Mass Schedule  
May 4<sup>th</sup> Vigil Wednesday 6:00 pm  
May 5<sup>th</sup> Thursday 7:00 am Noon 5:30 pm**

**Witnessed of Jehovah**

**May 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm, O'Connor Hall**

This 58 minute film helps you know what to say  
instead of "Sorry, We're Not Interested!" Francis  
presented Pope Pius and The Holocaust this past  
February to rave reviews. This promises to be  
equally as great and informative.

The parish is in receipt of a donated Automated External  
Defibrillator aka AED. Class instruction for CPR and the  
use of the AED will be scheduled upon the registration of  
the first 8 – 10 persons. The course will be conducted  
by a certified instructor at a cost of \$30-\$40 per person.  
Card certificates will be issued upon completion of this  
course, which will be approximately 4 hours in length.  
Date of the course will be set in the very near future.  
Please call the Parish with your name and contact info at  
845-561-1317.

**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: \_\_\_\_\_

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