



PADRE'S CORNER

October 30, 2016

British author Albert Pine died in 1851. Before going to the pearly gates, he once wrote about everlasting life "What we do for ourselves dies with us. What we do for others and the world remains and is immortal." Life is beautiful we can all agree on, a sacred gift from God starting in the womb of our mother and flowing like the ocean breeze into the composite of what we are today. We are a unification of body, soul, and spirit ebbing with talents and abilities that God placed into each unique human being that He created.

That being said, we know that our existences are beset at times with conflict and adversity that can be quite painful. I am not exempt from that as a priest, experiencing far more people grief than most would be aware of. Gratefully, most of my encounters are pleasant. The challenges of being a pastor dovetail both dimensions in the twilight zone. How encouraging to read about the battles great saints also went through. Saint Augustine (354-430 AD) reflected many centuries ago in a sermon: "The day I became a bishop, a burden was laid on my shoulders for which it will be no easy task to render an account. The honors I receive are for me an ever present cause of uneasiness. Indeed, it terrifies me to think that I could take more pleasure in the honor attached to my office, which is where it's danger lies, than in your salvation, which ought to be its fruit. This is why being set above you fills me with alarm, whereas being with you gives me comfort. Danger lies in the first; salvation in the second. To be honest with you, my obligations involve me in so much turmoil that I feel as though I were tossed by storms on a great ocean."

We all experience this heaviness of responsibility. I certainly feel it as a pastor, with the myriad of diverse human personalities engulfing my life. Most are good, some not so good. Running a parish, I am forced to a certain extent to embrace spiritually anyone coming through the parish doors. Most people have far more abilities and options to be more exclusive. Some of the encounters, as we can read in the words of Augustine, are like little crucifixions that I must offer to God. To be under a constant microscope in every thought, word, and action is quite complex and difficult. This is why some leave the priesthood at times, not wanting the scrutiny anymore. I continue to embrace my calling despite the challenges, knowing full well that the grace and privilege of God sustains me. You also experience similar challenges in the tumultuous world of family life, responsible for human beings both physically and spiritually. The tiny crosses you must also bear are sustained by that same spiritual relationship with the divine that I purport to have. Now for another example of persevered strength from the past annals of saints history. Saint Gregory lived in Rome, Italy from the years 540-604 AD. He became Pope on September 3, 590. He also reflected the human challenges we all must face, through the lens of faith. "Since I assumed the burden of pastoral care, my mind can no longer be collected; it is concerned with so many matters. I am forced to consider the affairs of the Church and of the monasteries. I must weigh the lives and acts of individuals. I am responsible for the concerns of our citizens. I must worry about the invasions of roving bands of barbarians, and beware of the wolves who lie in wait for my flock. I must become an administrator lest the religious go in want. I must put up with certain robbers without losing for patience, and at times I must deal with them in all charity. With my mind divided and torn to pieces by so many problems, how can I meditate or preach wholeheartedly without neglecting the ministry of proclaiming the Gospel? " I would like to humbly propose that our Christian duties cannot be executed correctly without the help of God, which we receive in exchange for our prayer and sacramental life. Our weaknesses in the overall scheme of humanity curtail our capabilities to live well: God must pick up the slack for our path of endurance. I cannot be a pastor without His guiding light, and pulling our parish ship safely to shore.

The same dynamics apply in your world of raising families, going to work each day in a changing corporate world, and facing the same world landscape battles I must endure. The brilliance of the history display, in the hallway leading to the Cardinal O'Connor Hall, proves that generations of parishioners before us have successfully completed the spiritual paths you and I now embrace. As author Beryl Markham uttered in "West With the Night" these words, I conclude this philosophical treatise. " If a man has any greatness in him, it comes to light - not in one flamboyant hour, but in the ledger of his daily work. "May God bless our collective endeavors. **Father Bill**

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. Oct. 31

7:00am Blessing for Fr. Bill and his Pilgrims while in Italy
Noon Donald Trump
By A Parishioner
5:30pm Souls on Purgatory

Tues. Nov. 1

7:00am Janina & Jerzy Prochowska & Marta Lis
By Jolanta & Monica Hacker
Noon Deceased Members of the Schaffner Family
By Family
5:30pm Souls in Purgatory

Wed. Nov. 2

7:00am All deceased members of St Francis Parish
Noon PFC Leon Wilkanowska
By Chris

Thur. Nov. 3

7:00am St Francis Parish
Noon All Souls Novena

Fri. Nov 4

7:00am All Souls Novena
Noon Lorraine Barton

Sat. Nov 5

Noon The Unbrn
4:30pm All Souls Novena

Sun. Nov 6

8:00am All Souls Novena
11:00am Eric Nedwetzky
By Kevin & Marge Allen



WEEKLY COLLECTON

October 22-23, 2016
1st Collection \$6,389.00
2nd Collection \$1,498.00
TOTAL \$7,887.00

*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
HEATING

MASS ATTENDANCE

October 22-23, 2016
4:30pm 205
8:00am 188
11:00am 330
Spanish 2:00pm 55
Total 778



Our **Holy Hour** with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Wednesday from 5:00pm to 6:00pm will be for the special intention of **Our Country**.

The Chaplet of Divine Mercy is recited on Sundays at 10:40am before the 11:00am MASS

ALL SAINTS DAY Tuesday, November 1st A Holy Day of Obligation

Masses at St. Francis will be
5:30pm Vigil Mass
7:00am
12noon
5:30pm

The 2017 MASS BOOK

Is now open
Rectory Hours 9:00am to 3:00pm

MASS IN SPANISH

Our very first Spanish Mass was a success. We had 55 people in attendance. Our thanks go to Fr. Bill for celebrating the Mass and Sr. Laura for organizing the Mass. A special thank you goes to our organist Desiree Abbruscato and soloist Norma Hannigan for the beautiful music. Our next Spanish Mass will be on Sunday November 20th at 2:00pm.

Teen Youth Group

We are looking for teens between ages of 13-18 to join our Youth Group. Our kickoff activity will be a **movie afternoon**, followed by **pizza** and **refreshments** on Sunday, **November 13th** from **4:00 to 6:00pm** in O'Connor Hall. Come and join the fun, we look forward to seeing you there!

HIGH SCHOOL CONFIRMATION GROUP

The high school Confirmation group meets on Fridays, 4:30pm until 6:00pm in the St. Francis Convent, 153 Benkard Avenue. Entrance is off the back parking lot next to the parish office and rectory. The group is only for 9-12 graders who have not received Confirmation and are interested in doing so. Please speak to Sr. Laura if you have questions.

Adult Catechisis

Any adult who has not received their sacraments and would like to do so, please see Sr. Laura or leave your name at the Rectory, 561-1317



PRAYER S FOR THE SICK

Vincenza Secor, Aaron Stagliano, Kelly Stafford, Robyn McGraw, John Sabo, Andrew Costanzo, Marie Wiejak, Rose, Stephen Sabo, Ashley Barco, 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, Abigail Ryan, Debra Thurston, Toby Persico, Alexis Johnson, Barry Johnson, James R. Purpura, Bob Smith, Tom Kingery, Bud Smith, Amy Finnegan, 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, Fr. Fred Kempferi, Carmen DeCrosta, Parker, Jane Holloway, Dore Williams, Hank Kensing, Virginia Ranaudo, Sheryl McGrath, Landi Family, Michelle Ryan, Rosalind Morrison, Donna Delconte, Joan Ponesse, Jim Taylor, Marilyn Lennox, Bruno Marchatta, Anne McClellan, Robert Vance, Rose Mitchell

ST. FRANCIS SENIOR GROUP

Our newly established senior group under the direction of Sr. Gloria had 14 people attend its first planning meeting. The next meeting will be **Wednesday, November 2nd at 12:30** (after the 12 noon Mass) in O'Connor Hall. Bring your own bag lunch, beverages and dessert will be provided. All seniors are invited to join. Come and be a part of the group.

We have a Blog, a Website and Facebook.
FOLLOW US ON.....

Blog - The Inherent Good
Website - St Francis Church
Facebook - Thoughts of Assisi
Click on the any of the above to go to the site



Food Pantry Hours:
Friday 9:00am to 12noon
Saturday 9:00am to 12noon

In your goodness please bring **ONE POUND BAGS/BOXES OF RICE** to Church next weekend to be distributed to the less fortunate thru our Food Pantry.

The Food Pantry will be **closed** Friday, **November 11th** and Saturday **November 12th** for Veteran's Day weekend.

The Food Pantry will be **closed** Friday, **November 25th** and Saturday, **November 26th** for the Thanksgiving weekend

TODAY'S THE DAY

The **Breakfast** fundraiser for the Deacon Jack Seymour Food Pantry from **8:00am to 12noon** at The Elks Lodge, 356 Washington Street in Newburgh. **\$10.00** per person. If you have **purchased a raffle ticket** entry for two is **free**.

ST. FRANCIS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Oct 30th - Food Pantry Breakfast Fundraiser 8am-12pm
Nov 2nd - Senior Meeting 12:30pm in O'Connor Hall
Nov 2nd - Eucharistic Adoration 5pm-6pm in Church
Nov 13th - Youth Group 4pm-6 pm in O'Connor Hall
Nov 19th - Holiday Open House 6pm in Rectory
Nov 20th - Bagel & Coffee Hour after 8am Mass
Nov 20th - Spanish Mass 2pm
Dec 3rd & Dec. 4th - Tag Sale in O'Connor Hall



Please join us for our Second Annual Holiday Open House at our Rectory on **Saturday, November 19th** from **6:00 to 8:30pm**. Last year so many people were gracious enough to donate appetizers and desserts and we welcome that again this year.

We have a sign-up sheet in the back of the Church for people attending and also for those who wish to donate.

THE CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY

On Monday, November 14th Sr. Virginia Wilkinson of the Presentation Sisters will take us through **Matthew 25: The Corporal Works of Mercy** 2016 edition She will look at the human face of those in society most in need and explore the role justice plays in our living out the corporal works of mercy. She will discuss the challenges of our call to clothe the naked, welcome the stranger, visit the imprisoned and shelter the homeless examining the root causes of some of these societal ills and ways to advocate on behalf of those in need.. Sister Virginia will present **two sessions** in O'Connor Hall **10:30am to 12 noon** and again at **7:00pm to 8:30 pm**.



On **Saturday December 3rd** from 9:00am to 2:00pm and **Sunday, December 4th** from 9:00am to 1:00pm Food Pantry volunteers Kitty Bernard and Margaret Miller will host a tag sale to benefit St. Francis Church. Due to the generosity of so many of our parishioners we have an overabundance of goods and will **no longer be able to accept donations.**

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

We will be collecting shoe boxes filled with toys for Operation Christmas Child from November 1st thru November 13th. These boxes will be distributed all over the world to children in war torn areas. Brochures are in the back of the Church, explaining the project and also have the "Girl" "Boy" labels for the boxes. Bring your filled boxes and leave them at the altar railing steps by November 13th. For any questions or more information please call Suzanne Campora at 561-5162.



CASINO BUS TRIP

On Tuesday, November 15th, VFW Post 1161 and CWV Post 386 will co-host a bus trip to the Sands Casino in Bethlehem, PA. Departure is 8:30am from the Newburgh Wal-Mart parking lot. The bus will depart for home at 4:30pm. Cost is \$35.00 per person. Each will receive a **\$30.00 Free Slot Play** and a **\$5.00 Food Coupon** plus a **chance to win the trip free.** For Reservations or more information please call John Raszcewski at 845-562-3705.

PRAYER TO ST. FRANCIS

*Lord, make me an instrument of your peace,
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
Where there is sadness, joy;*

*O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
To be consoled as to console;
To be understood as to understand;
To be loved as to love
For it is in giving that we receive;
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.*



CARDINALS STEWARDSHIP APPEAL

Thank you to our most recent donor Mr & Mrs John Rios

Thank You!

FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

The Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal is vital in sustaining all the good that we do for the church in New York.

PILGRIMAGES

Plans have been finalized for two pilgrimages hosted by Fr. Bill in 2017.

1) Spain Pilgrimage for 11 days, April 24th thru May 4, visiting Lisbon, Fatima, Salamanca. Avila, Madrid, Lourdes Montserrat and Barcelona.

2) Alpine Christmas Adventure for 11 days, December 4th thru 14th visiting Frankfurt, Freiburg, Lucerne, Innsbruck, Salzburg, Oberammergau, Neuschwanstein, Munich, Rothenberg and Heidelberg.

To register or for additional information please call the rectory 561-1317.

HEALING SERVICE

On Wednesday, November 2nd at 7:00pm at St. Joseph's Church in New Windsor there will be a Healing Service celebrated by Brother Paul Miller OFS from the Divine Mercy Center in New Jersey. All are welcome to attend.

*Life is the gift of God,
thus only to be taken by God.*
St. Thomas Aquinas



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: _____

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E-mail Address: _____

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