



Padre's Corner

June 25, 2017

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Catholicism is a word that means "universal", and animates how we define not only our past and present but the future awaiting us in everlasting life. Our thoughts, words, and actions as well as persons, places, and things that intersect with our existence are all refined and explained through our faith in Jesus. We reinforce this spiritual approach through the sacramental system, prayer, and continuing education. Our parishes provide the memories, experiences, and human connections that theoretically reinforce this faith dimension.

Movies of say the 1940's, like the "Bells of Saint Mary's," reflected a culture of religious commitment in the midst of World War II and the aftermath of the Great Depression from 1929 through the war. Vocations of priests, sisters, and brothers were plentiful as was an abundant presence in the church pews and parish schools. Closures were rare as the immigrant base, mostly from Europe, expanded at a steady pace. Newburgh was the recipient of many immigrants in the early 1900's, which resulted in national parishes. Sacred Heart welcomed the Italians, Saint Mary's the wealthier classes, Saint Patrick's the Irish, and Saint Francis of Assisi the Eastern Europeans. The city was defined as all-American by "Life Magazine" in the early 1950's. Only one decade later all of the above-cited numbers began to reverse, and thus began a decline in religious observance. Laws that strengthened family life to keep marriages intact were abrogated, and the protection of human life from conception was altered by the 1966 legalization of abortion in California. New York legalized this human form of terrorism three years later in 1970. With less children born and fewer marriages intact, the roadmap for future vocations to the priesthood and religious life was set in motion.

The devastation stares us in the face today. The Archdiocese of Boston had 2,500 priests fifty years ago in the middle 1960's. There are less than 300 today, marking a 90 % decline in available clergy. Many of the parishes have closed as a result. With less foreign priests allowed entrance to America, because of enforced immigration laws as a result of terrorist fears, the recipe for decline of religious observance has been further stirred. Then there are the financial numbers adversely affected as the nationalities of parishes change, and the unwillingness of upcoming generations to support the Church the way previous generations have. (Many times in my priesthood couples getting married have fought me over the modest charges of the parish for a wedding. They have no problem forking over thousands of dollars for receptions, limousines, photographers, florists, and honeymoons. But, when the parish asks for a few hundred dollars some of these couples have a hard time breathing. Increasing numbers do not go to church, further cutting down on parish revenue. Again, no problem forking over a hundred dollars with tips for a meal out but maybe a dollar or two for the church collection. These observations are real, not imagined by me.)

These dramatic changes over the past five decades is why many archdiocesan structures, including New York, are increasingly closing or merging parishes. I thank the Lord, here at Saint Francis of Assisi, for the generosity of so many. However, the future trends for many of the parishes are not good compounded by the acute shortage of priests. In the Archdiocese of New York there will be a huge wave of retirements over the next few years, exhilarating the downward trends. Priestly burnout can be a factor for those in administration, like me, and result in few priests remaining in parishes at the retirement age of 75 (which is why we are so lucky to have Father Peter in our presence, who turns eighty later this year). Please pray for the priests today. We are scrutinized and criticized as if we are superhuman. We are not. Only Jesus was.

Father Bill

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. June 26

7:00am Ralph Corizzo
By Colleen & Michael Corizzo
Noon Maureen Kelly
By St. Francis Food Pantry

Tues. June 27

7:00am City of Newburgh
Noon Edith O'Brien
By Gloria & Sam Yonnone

Wed. June 28

7:00am Joseph Smiehorowski
By Pat Porvaznik & Family
Noon Vocations

Thur. June 29

7:00am All Priests
Noon The Ill & Suffering

Fri. June 30

7:00am St. Francis Parish
Noon Mc Daniel Family
By Ed & Barbara McDaniel

Sat. July 1

Noon Pope Francis
4:30pm Ralph Corizzo
By Colleen & Michael Corizzo
John Kavanagh
(32nd Anniv)
By Family

Sun. July 2

8:00am June McKnight
By Rich & Mary Irons
Patrick Lewis
(10th Anniv)
By Mom
11:00am Rose Mitchell
By Tom & Cookie Flagler
Beverly Barney
By Edith Rostanzo



WEEKLY COLLECTON

June 17-18, 2017

1st Collection \$ 6,159.00
2nd Collection \$ 1,795.00
TOTAL \$ 7,954.00

MASS ATTENDANCE

June 17-18, 2017

4:30pm 125
8:00am 180
11:00am 211
1:30pm 75
TOTAL 591

The 2nd Collection this week is for
GROUNDS UPKEEP



Our Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Wednesday from 5:00pm to 6:00pm is for the intentin of VOCATIONS.

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

2017 SUNNER RETREAT

Sunday, July 16th – July 21st

*FINDING PEACE IN A TURBULENT WORLD
WITH THE GUIDANCE OF
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI*

Fr. Bill Damroth will be leading a Spiritual Retreat the Mariandale Retreat and Conference Center majestically set on 61 acres overlooking the Hudson River in Ossining, NY. This retreat will be a time to Relax, Re-center, Re-connect, Meditate, Pray and Experience Nature. There will be an evening of "Dances of Universal Peace", singing and dancing, Yoga and Fr. Bill's signature Movie Nights. Cost is \$475 which is all-inclusive. Register online at www.mariandale.org or contact Karen at 914-941-4455 ext. 106 or e-mail knoreika@ophope.org.



NOTES FROM THE CHOIR LOFT.....during the summer months, we will be reciting the Gloria and the Lord's Prayer for the Sunday Masses in "Ordinary Time". In the fall we will return to singing all the parts of the Mass.

Even though there will be less music during the summer months we still welcome any parishioners who enjoys singing to come up to the loft and sing with our choirs. For more information please contact our music director, Desiree at 845-541-0769.

TODAY
TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Jeremiah 20:10-13

Because the prophet Jeremiah foretold disaster for Jerusalem, he was denounced. But Jeremiah trusted in the Lord and overcame his persecutors.

Second Reading: Romans 5:12-15

Paul explains to the Romans that Adam's sin brought death to all, but Christ's gift of himself brought grace and life.

Gospel: Matthew 10:26-33

In authoritative and encouraging words, Jesus urges the apostles to fear nothing -- only him who can destroy the soul. Telling them "every hair of your head has been counted," he promises that "Whoever acknowledges me before men I will acknowledge before my Father in heaven."

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday

Gn 12:1-9; Mt 7:1-5

Tuesday

Gn 13:2, 5-18; Mt 7:6, 12-14

Wednesday

Gn 15:1-12, 17-18; Mt 7:15-20

Thursday

Vigil: Acts 3:1-10; Gal 1:11-20; Jn 21:15-19

Day: Acts 12:1-11; 2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18; Mt 16:13-19

Friday

Gn 17:1, 9-10, 15-22; Mt 8:1-4

First Saturday

Gn 18:1-15; Mt 8:5-17



PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Vincenza Secor, Aaron Stagliano, Marie Wiejak, Ashley Barco, Agnes Casey, Rose Marie Michalowski, George Vecchio, Jr, Carol Brown, Luzia Araujo, Celio Thomaz, Rosalie Nogay, Rose Jurik, Robert & Helen Osborn, Manuel DiNapoli, Rachael Neugebauer, Maureen Kelly, James R. Purpura, Jane Pustola, Joann Quicksell, Frances Dolan, Daniel D'Elicio, Fr. Fred Kempferi, Carmen De Crosta, Parker, Jane Holloway, Donna Delconte, Joan Ponesse, Jim Taylor, Marilyn Lennox, Bruno Marchatta, Anne McClellan, Louis Arbia, Dottie Rodriguez, Maureen Sullivan, Frank D'amario, Amanda Keane, Tom (Manay) Conroy, Gertrude Poland, Rita Froehlich, Brian Scott Monahan, Chelsea Dunderdale, Susan Randall, Mary Hollenbeck, Donnie Ruckdeschel, Patrick Comyns, John Marullo, Carol Brown, Jaddon Johnson, Rina & Richard Bozzone, Rebecca Pacella, Lena Biasini Zullo, Pam Kunert, Janet Coiteux, Vincent McParkland and Family, Jozef Froniewski, Teresa Centeno, Bobbi Hull and Mary Ann Fabiano



SAVE THE DATE

Our Church Picnic will be held on **Sunday, August 6th** from **12noon** until **5:00pm** on the grounds here at St. Francis. Food vendors, music, games and more. Come sit under the tent and join in the fellowship and fun with other parishioners.



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

In your goodness please bring **PERSONAL CARE ITEMS such as soap, deodorant, toothpaste, shampoo etc.** to Church next weekend to be distributed to the less fortunate in our area thru our Food Pantry.

If you are involved in a church and/or Newburgh School program and your child needs **volunteer hours**, the Food Pantry will coordinate service hours through Curt Bourdage at **845-863-6504**. All students need to pre-register with Curt - Bourdage before showing up at the pantry, please.



St. Francis Deacon Jack Seymour Food Pantry is selling raffle tickets. This is our major and only fundraiser for the year. All proceeds go to support the Food Pantry. The donation is \$20.00 per ticket and six prizes will be awarded.

- 1st Prize - \$1,000
- 2nd Prize - \$500
- 3rd Prize - \$500
- 4th Prize - \$500
- 5th Prize - \$250
- 6th Prize - \$250

The drawing will be held on **August 6th** at our Church Picnic. Tickets can be purchased at the rectory between the hours of 10:00am and 2:00pm. Thank you for your continued support of our Food Pantry.



The Knights of Columbus Council #444 is hosting their **7th Annual Msgr. Henry O'Carroll Memorial Car Show** at Sears at the Newburgh Mall, 1401 Union Avenue, Route 300 in Newburgh this weekend **Sunday, June 25th** from **10:00am to 3:00pm** (rain date is July 2nd). Pre-Registration is \$15.00, Registration Day of Show is \$20.00 and Vendor Spots are \$30.00.

This year there will be the addition of **motorcycles** and **trucks** to the show.

There will be Trophies, Best in Show and People's Choice Awards along with Goodie Bags.

For more info or questions contact Ken Ryan 845-565-8015, Charlie Smith 845-561-8647 or Dan Keenan 845-562-9353.

What you hear...
proclaim



from the housetops.



FLOWER MEMORIAL

The flowers on the altar this weekend are in "Thanksgiving for a Successful Surgery" Given by the **Stagliano Family**



The **Catholic Classics Book Reading Club** will meet here at St. Francis in O'Connor Hall from **2:00pm to 3:30pm** on **July 11, 25 and 26** to discuss the book "Silence" by Shusaku Endo and view the film by Martin Scorese. This story is about two Portuguese Jesuit priests in seventeenth century Japan who travel to a country hostile to their religion and are captured and forced to watch their Japanese Christian brothers lay down their lives for their faith. The sessions will be **hosted by Margaret Sanchez** and **led by Fr. Bill**.



WEEKLY OFERTORY COLLECTION ENVELOPES

To make it more efficient to record our weekly envelopes we ask that you please **DO NOT** use any tape or staples when sealing your envelopes.



Come and be a part of the **ST. FRANCIS YOUTH GROUP**

ALL Junior and High school students are welcomed

Meet **Friday** evenings **6:30pm to 8:00pm**

In O'Connor Hall at St Francis Church

For questions or more information please contact **Sr. Laura** at the Rectory, 845-561-1317



St. Francis Seniors will meet the **second Wednesday** of the month on **July 12th** at **12:30pm** after the 12noon Mass in **O'Connor Hall**. There will be a guest speaker, **Laura Cormier**, a Certified Master Walk 15 Instructor. Walk 15 is an indoor aerobic program – come learn the benefits and techniques of Walk 15. All are welcome.

ADVERTISER'S CORNER

Thank you

TO OUR BULLETIN

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK, **AA STATUARY &**

WEATHERVANE, located at 5270 Route 9W in Newburgh. With the summer weather upon us enhance your flower garden or lawn with a beautiful decorative statue or birdbath. **AA** also carries a large display of weather-vanes. To view some of their unique selections visit them at www.RedrockGardenCenter.com and www.Statuary-Weathervane.com. Receive a 15% discount on your purchase with their ad on our back cover.



PILGRIMAGES

Fr. Bill is hosting two upcoming Pilgrimages

1) **ALPINE CHRISTMAS ADVENTURE**
December 4-14, 2017

Visit Frankfurt, Freiburg, Lucerne, Innsbruck, Salzburg, Oberammergau, Neuschwanstein, Munich, Rothenberg and Heidelberg, featuring Europe's famous Chrstkindl Markets.

2) **THE HOLY LAND**
January 8-17, 2018

Visit Haifa, Tiberias, Nazareth, Bethlehem and Jerusalem. Walk where Jesus walked in Jerusalem and visit the Mount of Olives, the Garden of Gethsemane and Mt. Zion. Also visit the Church of the Nativity, Shepherd's Field, the Sea of Galilee and the sites of the Sermon on the Mount and the miracle of the loaves and fishes.

Brochures are located in the back of the church and at the sacristy door entrance. For questions please call the rectory 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: _____

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!