



Padre's Corner

February 25, 2018
Second Sunday of Lent

Darryl Strawberry, Lew Carpenter, and Bobby Doerr are professional athletes that were bestowed with great physical gifts from God. Strawberry was an awesome baseball player in the 1980's and 1990's for the New York Mets (1986 World Series team), New York Yankees, and the Los Angeles Dodgers. On November 14 he gave a lecture about his life in Northvale, New Jersey which I had the blessing to attend. Despite his raw and innate abilities, an internal emptiness like an enormous cavity destroyed a career with addictions that could have gone much longer. He battled with marijuana, cocaine, and even heroin as destructive and inadequate ways to fill this emptiness. There were also the self-esteem issues revolving around dysfunctional family realities that opened up the interior holes that engulfed him in drug abuse. His conversation explicitly stated that religious faith in God, plus the support of a loving wife, were the anchors to get him back on track. In a book about Darryl's life called "Don't Give Up On Me," the team of physicians that co-authored the book had this to say: "Darryl had to find love for himself. He had to forgive himself for all his transgressions and wipe the slate clean if he was ever going to fend off the addictive shackles of his life. He had to believe in himself, and fully understand his worthiness on this planet. He had to believe that God had a plan for him. Darryl had a lot of work ahead of him."

Lew Carpenter was a football running back in the 1950's first for the Detroit Lions, and then under the legendary coach Vince Lombardi with the Green Bay Packers in the 1960's. Head trauma, now a major issue for the National Football League, led to his diagnosis among many with "chronic traumatic encephalopathy" or "CTE." Later a coach for a number of other teams, the brain trauma left holes of a different type in his life including personality changes. His daughter Rebecca spoke of his life in lower Manhattan at the "Cinema Village" at East 12th Street on November 15. I had the chance to speak to her about this compelling issue, in the context of our shared Catholic faith. She reflected: "That's when I realized how much of my adult life had been spent trying to fill in the gaps to make my father whole... Our story just happens to take place in the world of football. There are a lot of us who had a parent who was a mystery, and we can't move on until we solve it." Lew died on November 14, 2010.

Bobby Doerr died on November 13 at the age of 99 in Junction City, Oregon. He was the final living link to Major League Baseball players who performed in the 1930's, having started with the Boston Red Sox in 1937. He played nine times in the All Star game, and appeared with Boston in the 1946 World Series against the St. Louis Cardinals. Born in Los Angeles, California in 1918 Doerr's father was a lineman in the telephone company or the Bell System (as was my father after he retired from the New York City Fire Department in 1979). He played with Ted Williams in the Pacific Coast League in San Diego in 1936. Living during the Great Depression and the many holes it pierced in the lives of many people, Doerr recalled that his generation "didn't quit at things, and that was just a way of life. In those days, I don't think anyone ever got too complacent. Even after I played ten years of ball, I still felt like I had to play well or somebody might take my place. I hustled and put that extra effort in all of the time."

Three lives in three different parts of the United States, all talented athletes that once had the limelight and fan applause. The physical ability to play at high standards in professional sports was once their meal ticket, until aging and time rendered those skills undeliverable. When the adulation stopped and the athletic abilities atrophied, their wholeness was drawn into question and scrutiny. When much of what we are is stripped away what is left? Suppose we loose our jobs, health, marriages, friendships, cars, possessions, and real estate forcing us to answer the same question? God is still there as our foundation stone, as promised on the sacred day each of us was baptized. Even if we lose persons, places, and things God does not disconnect from us. He will love us into everlasting life where pain, holes and death are no more. Father Bill

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. Feb. 26

7:00am Vocations
Noon Souls in Purgatory

Tues. Feb. 27

7:00am Susan Randall
By Mary Randall
Noon Costello & Hughes
Families
By Eileen Dietz
Patricia Earley
(16th Anniv)
By Husband Jack & Daughter
Nancy

Wed. Feb. 28

7:00am Pope Francis
Noon Those with Disabling
Diseases

Thur. Mar. 1

7:00am Our Youth
Noon John J. Sheehan
By Cathy & Michael Burke

Fri. Mar. 2

7:00am Shirley Policano
By Paul & Linda Zalanowski
Noon St. Francis Parish

Sat. Mar. 3

Noon Manny DiNapoli
By John & Kathy Marullo
4:30pm Albert Delessio
(9th Anniv)
By Mary & Family
Susan Randall
By Mary Butler

Sun. Mar. 4

8:30am Nicholas Stagliano Sr.
(24th Anniv)
By Nick & Helene Stagliano
11:00am Sodano & Scarangella
Families
By Mona & Sam Sodano



WEEKLY COLLECTION

February 17-18, 2018

1st Collection \$ 4,784.00

2nd Collection 1,487.00

TOTAL \$ 6,271.00

Ash Wednesday \$ 590.00

MASS ATTENDANCE

February 17-18, 2018

4:30pm 235

8:30am 70

11:00am 135

1:30pm 130

Total 570

The 2nd Collection this week is for
HEATING



Our Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament this Wednesday from 5:00pm to 6:00pm is for the intention of THOSE WITH DISABLING DISEASES

St Francis Seniors March 7th meeting will take place at 12 noon at Grace United Methodist Church, 468 Broadway for their Weekly Wednesday Lenten Program. Lunch will be provided for a nominal fee.



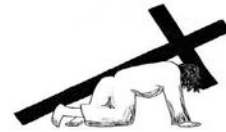
STATIONS OF THE CROSS FRIDAYS

St Francis Church 5:30pm

Sacred Heart Church 7:00pm

Spanish - Via Crucis - viernes

7:00pm



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The Franciscan Friars of the Renewal will also be doing Stations of the Cross with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Friday evenings at 7:00pm at St. Mary's Church, 180 South Street in Newburgh. Confessions will be available in both English and Spanish.



DID YOU KNOW?

During Lent "the altar should not be decorated with flowers, and musical instruments may only be played to give necessary support to the singing", except for the 4th Sunday of Lent, Laetare (Rose) Sunday.

So you may notice more chanting and accapella signing in the next few weeks.....and if the spirit moves you, please feel free to join in!

TODAY
SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

First Reading: Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18

God ordered Abraham to take his beloved only son to Moriah and offer him as a sacrifice. Abraham built an altar and took out a knife to sacrifice his son Isaac. But God called out to him and told him of blessings that would be bestowed on him and his descendants because he had been willing to do what God had asked.

Second Reading: Romans 8:31b-34

Paul reminds the people that God did not spare his only Son, but gave him up for the sake of all people. This proves God views us all as his children, and that no person can harm or condemn us because God will protect us.

Gospel: Mark 9:2-10

Jesus led Peter, James and John up a high mountain, where he conversed with Elijah and Moses. A voice proclaimed "This is my Son, my beloved. Listen to him." Then Jesus was alone and warned them not to tell anyone what they had seen until he had risen from the dead.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday

Dn 9:4b-10; Lk 6:36-38

Tuesday

Is 1:10, 16-20; Mt 23:1-12

Wednesday

Jer 18:18-20; Mt 20:17-28

Thursday

Jer 17:5-10; Lk 16:19-31

First Friday

Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

First Saturday

Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32



PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Vincenza Secor, Aaron Stagliano, Marie Wiejak, Ashley Barco, Agnes Casey, Rose Marie Michalowski, Carol Brown, Luzia Araujo, Celio Thomaz, Rosalie Nogay, Rose Jurik, Robert & Helen Osborn, Rachel Neugebauer, Maureen Kelly, James R. Purpura, Jane Pustola, Frances Dolan, 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, Mary Hollenbeck, Donnie Ruckdeschel, Patrick Comyns, John Marullo, Jaddon Johnson, Rina & Richard Bozzone, Rebecca Pacella, Lena Biasini Zullo, Pam Kunert, Janet Coiteux, Vincent Mc Parkland and Family, Jozef Froniewski, Teresa Centeno, Bobbi Hull, Emily Cooley, Frank Celeste, Amy Finnegan, Brian Hanrahan, Toni Loparco Shepardson, Donald (Leed) Zubawicz, Louise McHugh, Alex Galant, Evelyn Kawula, Taylor Fogel, Jake Tigar, Paul Neugebauer, Julia Vecchio, Eileen Burke, Michelle Ryan, Abigail Means, Ann Bouche, Vanessa Rivera and Elizabeth Rich-Provanzano.



Food Pantry Hours:

Friday 9:00am to 12noon
Saturday 9:00am to 12noon
at our new location

The Msgr. Valastro Activity Center
319 Broadway in Newburgh

In your goodness please bring **JELLY** 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 Mr. Bourdage before showing up at the pantry, please.



The spring campaign being held February 14th thru March 25th is a peaceful, highly focused, non – denominational initiative that focuses on 40 days of prayer and fasting, peaceful vigil at abortion facilities and educational outreach with the goal of protecting mothers and their children from abortion. **Vigil location:** on the public sidewalk outside of Newburgh Planned Parenthood, 136 Lake Street in Newburgh. **Vigil Hours:** 7am to 5pm daily. For more information please contact Wendy Wood at 845-820-4366 or visit ocrtl@ocrighttolifeny.com.



PALM WEAVING

Our Palm Weavers will start their sessions on Monday, February 26th in O'Connor Hall.
Daytime schedule - Mon thru Fri 10:00am to 2:00pm
e-mail neug1@verizon.net or call 565-2246
Evening Schedule – Tues & Thurs 6:30 to 9:00pm
e-mail pgrimm@hvc.rr.com

Anyone wishing to help:

Weavers (we will teach), Trimmers (you only need to know how to use scissors), Decorators, Baggers, Counters (keeping a count of the amount of pieces made) and Helpers (helping out where needed).

LENTEN SOUP SUPPER

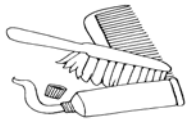
Bishop Dunn's Annual Soup and Bread Supper will be held on Wednesday, **February 28th at 6:00pm** in the **school gym**. Please join them and share a variety of homemade soups and breads, for the cost of a regular everyday meal, to benefit St. Patrick's Soup Kitchen. The evening will also feature a short prayer service as we remember the less fortunate For more information please contact Susan Trieste at 845-569-3494 or Susan.trieste@bdms.org.





LEASE JOIN US

Court Patricia #195 is hosting a Morning Lenten Reflection on Saturday, March 10th in O'Connor Hall from 9:00am to 12:30pm. We will begin with light refreshments followed by a program "The Gospel of Luke – a Portrait of Jesus" presented by Sr. Virginia Wilkinson, PBVM. Sister will help us take a fresh look at the teachings, miracles, and parables found in Luke's Gospels and explore the insights into the Jesus of Nazareth, his person, his mission and his Passion. Bring your Bible. We will end with 12noon Mass in Church. All are invited. Please RSVP to Helene Kerin at 561-8329 so we can plan accordingly.



HYGIENE DRIVE

The Newburgh Enlarged City School District is holding a Hygiene Drive from February 9th thru March 12th for the 745 youth considered homeless who are enrolled in the district. **Help Us To Help Them.** Items needed are bar soap, tooth brushes and tooth paste, deodorant, shampoo and conditioner, laundry detergent pods, brushes, combs, feminine hygiene products and chap stick. The district **CANNOT** accept razors or mouth wash. Also needed are elementary aged underwear and sweatpants. **Drop Off At.....**

St. Francis Church Entrance

Saturdays Feb 10, 17, 24, Mar 3, 10 - 3:30 to 5:30pm
Sundays, Feb 11, 18, 25, Mar 4, 11 - 8:00am to 2:30pm

St. Francis O'Connor Hall

Mondays Feb 12, Mar 12 - 9:00am to 10:00am
Fridays, Feb 9, Mar 2, 9 - 2:30pm to 4:00pm

DEVOTION TO ST. COLLETTE

The 11th annual Mass, blessing with her relic and devotion to St. Colette, patroness of couples seeking to conceive, expecting mothers and sick children will be held on **Tuesday, March 6th at 7:00pm** (snow date Thursday, March 8th) at the Monastery of St. Clare, 70 Nelson Avenue. Wappingers Falls, NY. For more information please contact Sister Mary Michael, OSC at 845-297-1685.



HOLY HOUR AT MOUNT ST. JOSEPH

Join the Presentation Sisters for a little time away from you daily routine and be with the Lord in a quiet place. On **Friday, March 2nd from 3:45 to 4:45pm** there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Sisters chapel at 64 Presentation Way (off Jackson Avenue) in New Windsor. Come for an hour or for any part of the hour. All are welcome. For question call 845-401-8535.



The Newburgh Elks will host its **Annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration** on **March 17th** starting at **1:00pm** at their lodge at 356 Washington Street. Irish food, drinks and music all day. \$5,000 Pot of Gold tickets available for \$50.00 For more information please contact Michael Kerin at 914-489-4661.



The Knights of Columbus, Council 444 will hold their annual Communion Breakfast on **Sunday, March 18th**. Mass will be celebrated at **St Francis Church** at **11:00am**. Immediately following Mass a late breakfast will be held at the Powelton Club. All are welcome. Adults \$30.00, Children 6 to 10 years \$10.00 and children 5 and younger are free. For reservations please contact Joe Dennis at 845-728-1214 or Joe Coyle at 845-561-7384. (NO Tickets sold at the door).

PLEASE NOTE

Deposits are due by **March 9th deadline** for The Northern National Parks trip on scheduled for August 24th-31st.

UPCOMING PILGRIMAGES

Hosted By:

Father Bill Damroth

NORTHERN NATIONAL PARKS

Featuring Yellowstone National Park
and Grand Teton National Park

August 24-31, 2018

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**ICELAND'S MAGICAL NORTHERN LIGHTS**

February 14-20, 2019

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

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

Cell 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**