PADRE'S CORNER

October 23, 2016

Saint Basil the Great was a bishop from Caesarea, Cappadocia. He lived from the years 329-379. Exercising his ministry in modern-day Turkey, he fought against ancient religious heresies such as Arianism (taught that Jesus did not exist from the beginning, basically nullifying the precepts of the Holy Trinity). Born into family wealth, Basil was educated in Athens to develop expertise in the legal and teaching professions. Inspired to repent by the bishop Eustathius of Sebaste, he wrote: "I had wasted much time on follies and spent nearly all of my youth in vain labor, and devotion to the teachings of a wisdom that God had made foolish. Suddenly, I awoke as out of a deep sleep. I beheld the wonderful light of the Gospel truth, and I recognized the nothingness of the wisdom of the princes of this world." Ordained a priest in 365 and a bishop five years later, Basil gave away his family wealth to open up soup kitchens and hospitals for the poor (akin to the food pantry of our parish).

At the start of the new season of the National Football League, torn by the dissensions of players disrespecting the flag during the national anthem, Saint Basil had some rich insights to reflect upon with regard to how we spend our earthly time and money. "You are going to leave your money behind you here whether you wish to or not. On the other hand, you will take with you to the Lord the honor that you have won through good works...Do you not see how people throw away their wealth on theatrical performances, boxing contests, mimes and fights between men and wild beasts, which are sickening to see, and all for the sake of fleeting honor and popular applause? ... You avoid meeting people, in case you might be forced to loosen your purse-strings even a little... A poor man you certainly are, and destitute of all real riches; you are poor in love, generosity, faith in God and hope of eternal happiness. "

All of us , especially me, should shudder and shake while reflecting on these words of wisdom. Some are stingy about helping others and even supporting their parish, but have no hesitancy about forking over lots of money at a restaurant or a ball game. The mighty finger of the Lord points at me also. Recently I went to a concert at Radio City featuring the Electric Light Orchestra, a popular musical group during the 1970's when I was in high school. Additionally, there were some Padres baseball games and a Chargers football game in San Diego during my excursion to family and friends in Southern California. If the questions of Saint Basil 1700 years ago were relevant, they certainly are today as the media in its various shapes and forms influence human thought and behavior in an even more intense way.

Basil challenged people generations ago, and today in 2016, to offer serious contemplation to these significant spiritual realities. Is faith or entertainment more important in life for each of us? Is money used selfishly or generously? Is cash lavishly used for restaurant meals out and lots of possessions, while being applied in a miserly way to spiritual goods including parish life? Through a spiritual life of prayer and sacramental participation, each of us can find that core value out of which springs the eternal truths that Saint Basil begets with his words of Godly wisdom. Walking Moondoggie at night enlightens my thinking on these truths, as I witness the loyalty and loving presence of my pet friend. While many clergy may deny that our pets have souls, I beg to differ with them. Our pets love us unconditionally in ways that most other human relationships cannot hold a candle to. I am sure that Saint Basil would concur with this point. There is certainly nothing wrong with going to concerts and ball games. If there is, I am in deep trouble. The challenge is not letting these earthly entities to be more important than our spiritual destinies. We pray to God for the grace to know the difference between both paths. I deeply need that grace from Him. Father Bill

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. Oct. 24
7:00am Peggy O'Boyle
By Margaret O'Dea-Arnold
Noon Lorraine Barton
By Henry Sawoska

Tues. Oct. 25
7:00am Gerard Chrinian
By Margaret Arnold & Heidi Fahl
Noon Elizabeth Schimkosky
By Buscemi Family

Wed. Oct. 26
7:00am Our Politicians
Noon Peggy O'Boyle
By Margaret O'Dea Arnold
6:00pm Mass for our Country

Thur. Oct. 27
7:00am Marg. & William O'Dea
By The O'Dea Family
Noon Marian "Pat" Seymour
By Deacon Jack & Family

Fri. Oct. 28
7:00am Souls in Purgatory
Noon Arthur E. Fitch
By Formato & Rolfs Family

Sat. Oct. 29
Noon Francis W. Indzonka
By Catholic War Veterans
Post 386
4:30pm Marie Orsini (1st Anniv)
By Niece Barbara & Family
Bernard Kirshner (50th Anniv)
By Kirshner Family

Sun. Oct. 30
8:00am James Patrick Magan
By Linda & Paul Zalanowski
Deceased members of the Santori & Negri Families
By Elena Negri
11:00am Carol Bivona
By William J. Larkin III

WEEKLY COLLECTON

October 15-16, 2016

1st Collection	**$6,606.00**
2nd Collection	**$1,380.00**
TOTAL	**$7,986.00**

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 **WORLD MISSION SUNDAY**

MASS ATTENDANCE

October 15-16, 2016

4:30pm	**233**
8:00am	**192**
11:00am	**320**
Total	**745**

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** AND **BLESSINGS FOR THE ITALY PLGRIMAGE.**

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

2017 MASS BOOK

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

A beautiful way to remember someone on the anniversary of their death, if they are ill, or if they have died. Many times we forget that a Mass can also be offered for the living on the occasion of a special moment in their life or when they are sick.

FIFTH SUNDAY ROSARY PROGRAM

Sponsored for all the local parishes by the Msgr. Henry O'Carroll Council #444, Knights of Columbus. The Rosary service for the 5th Sunday in October will be held here at St. Francis of Assis Church **following** the **11:00am Mass** on **Sunday October 30th**. All are invited to participate. Bring your prayer requests

MASS IN SPANISH

We will begin to have Mass in Spanish once a month at St. Francis Church. Our first Sunday Spanish Mass is today, **October 23rd**, 2:00pm. All are welcome to participate.

MASS FOR OUR COUNTRY

This **Wednesday, October 26th** Father Bill will be celebrating a **Mass for OUR COUNTRY** at 6:00pm in our Church followed by a candlelight Rosary in Our Prayer Garden (weather permitting).

A PRAYER FOR AMERICA

Father in Heaven,
we, the people, in the land of the free
and the home of the brave,
desperately need You.
Oh that we would leave our ways
of seeking to be blessed
and instead seek to bless others.
We beg for guidance and wisdom
for our leaders.
We ask You to protect our land
from enemies, both within and without.
And we praise You for the freedom we have through
the blood of Your Son.
May your plan be the desire of our nation.
AMEN

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.

Teen Youth Group

We are looking for young people between ages 13-18 years old to be a part of the youth group. We will meet on Sundays in O'Connor Hall from 4:30 – 6:00pm. Look forward to seeing you there**!**

40 DAYS FOR LIFE
TAKE A STAND FOR LIFE

Until November 6th the Newburgh community joins with hundreds of other cities participating in **peaceful vigil** where we pray that with God's help we will **mark the beginning of the end of abortion**. The prayerful vigil will be held daily from **7:00am to 5:00pm** at the Newburgh Planned Parenthood located at 136 Lake St. in Newburgh. Please only stand in the public right away outside of Planned Parenthood For more information please contact Wendy Wood at ocrighttolife@gmail.com.

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

CLOTHING BIN

Please note that we **no longer** have the Clothing Bin for donating unwanted clothes in our Church parking lot. **Thank you** to all who have so generously donated their gently used, no longer wanted items.

COAT DRIVE

Marlboro High School Honor Society is collecting new and gently used coats to be distributed to the needy in our area. Students will be at St. Francis before and after the 11:00am Mass on Sunday October 23rd to accept donations**.**

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

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. All seniors are invited to join. Come and be a part of the group.

"Today, we need to see the light of hope and to be men and women who bring hope to others"

Pope Francis

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 PACKAGES OF PASTA AND SAUCE** to Church next weekend to be distributed to the less fortunate thru our Food Pantry.

LAST CHANCE

TO BUY YOUR RAFFLE TICKET

Breakfast is next weekend

* The Elks of Newburgh is sponsoring a raffle and breakfast for the St. Francis Deacon Jack Seymour Food Pantry. There will be **300 raffle tickets** sold at **$50.00 each.**
* Each ticket entitles the holder to **2 breakfasts** on **Sunday, October 30th** between the hours of 8:00am and 12noon at the **Newburgh Elks Lodge located at 356 Washington Street in Newburgh..**
* There will be **5** - $1,000 winners,\
  1 - $500 winner and
  2 -$250 winners
* All **proceeds** from the breakfast and raffle will **go to** the **St. Francis Deacon Jack Seymour Food Pantry**.
* Raffle tickets can be purchased after Masses.

Raffle tickets are also available for purchase at the rectory.

Don't want to buy a raffle ticket.....you can still attend the breakfast. Entry is $10.00 per person

The Knights of Columbus, Council #444 would like to thank the parishioners for their support of the Columbus Day Ball held on October 9th. The ball was a great success with many good wishes for "Knight of the Year" Greg Gaetano. There were many local clergy and dignitaries in attendance. The 3 winners of the Treasure Chest Raffle were 1st prize Emma Gasparini, 2nd prize Carolyn Martini and 3rd prize Kevin Petraca.

ST. FRANCIS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Oct 23rd – Spanish Mass 2:00pm in Church
Oct 26th - Eucharist Adoration 5pm-6pm in Church
Mass for Our Country 6"00pm in Church followed by candlelight Rosary in our Prayer Garden
Oct 30th – Food Pantry Breakfast Fundraiser
Nov 2nd – Senior Meeting 12:30pm in O'Connor Hall
Nov 19th – Holiday Open House 6:00pm in Rectory
Nov 20th – Bagel & Coffee Hour after 8:00am Mass
Dec 3rd – 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.

OUR DRINKING WATER

A community information meeting regarding the PFOS Contamination of our Newburgh drinking water will be held at the Newburgh Armory Unity Center, 321 South William Street from 7:00 to 9:00pm on Tues., Oct. 25th

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.**

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!*

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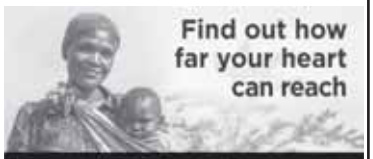
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