



PADRE'S CORNER

February 5, 2017

Traditions help each of us to find meaning in a complex world, affording us the opportunity to comprehend and sort out what is important from what is not. Despite the recent terrorist attacks on Christmas markets in Berlin, Germany the call to not submit to these evil forces is reinforced by this sacred sense of tradition. Stephen Nissenbaum, author of "The Battle for Christmas," recalled "that type of longing has always underpinned the Christmas spirit. People have always looked backward at the magical hold Christmas had over them as children, or generally to a time they perceive as simpler. People have always been looking for something real in a changing modern world." Reading from the Sacred Scriptures also derives its roots from history and meaningful interpretations. "The Freeman's Journal" begun in Cooperstown, New York 208 years ago recalled this gem from 1816. "Advertisement - Lost on the Road between Pierce's Tavern in Perth and Cooperstown , a subscription for Scott's Family Bible covered with pasteboard. Any person who may have found the same, will oblige the owner by leaving it at H. & E. Phinney's Bookstore Lemuel Jewell, November 9, 1816." A famous movie also serves that spirit in the name of tradition.

On the second weekend of this past December, I went to the 70th anniversary celebration of the iconic film "It's A Wonderful Life." Released in movie theaters back in 1946, audiences barely came and critics panned this eventual classic. My family has ties to the film: my great grandmother's cousin was the late actor Thomas Mitchell who played Uncle Billy in the film (lost the money at the bank). Released in the aftermath of World War II, director Frank Capra (a Catholic) was apparently inspired by the Finger Lakes town of Seneca Falls (where the festival was held) to be the backdrop of Bedford Falls. The bridge, school, streets, shops, library, churches, and homes all have parallel links to what could be found in the film. Capra (1897-1991) wrote, without realizing that this film would become a traditional holiday favorite, "My films will explore the heart not with logic, but with compassion. I will deal with the little man's doubts, his curses, his loss of faith in himself, in his neighbor, in his God... I will show the overcoming of doubts, the courageous renewal of faith, and the final conviction that of himself he can and must survive and remain free... Improving the individual and bringing a more hopeful outlook on life to him is the only way that you can improve the nation, and ultimately the world. It is the individual that must be built up in his beliefs, his hopes and his aspirations and then as a matter of course you will find the new world we all talk about developing in the larger way... People are seeking spiritual and moral reassurance, and if the movies can't supply this, they will be serving no worthwhile purpose...It's A Wonderful Life sums up my philosophy of film-making. First to exalt the worth of the individual. Second to champion man - plead his causes, protest any degradation of his dignity, spirit, or divinity. And third, to dramatize the viability of the individual...Yes, let others make films about the grand sweeps of history. I'd make mine about the bloke that pushes the broom...I read the original idea - a few typewritten pages bound in Christmas covers. It was the story I had been looking for all my life! Small town. A man. A good man, ambitious. But so busy helping others, life seems to pass him by. Despondent. He wishes he'd never been born. He gets his wish...The conflict: devour thy neighbor versus love the neighbor. The weapons: a bankful of money against a houseful of love...I think that every man's picture is in a sense an autobiography. You put them all together and you've got the man's autobiography pretty well there somewhere. As an immigrant kid coming over here (from Italy) I liked the common people, and you know, I wanted to sing their songs. To show that each man's life touches so many other lives. And that if he isn't around it would leave an awful hole. You are the salt of the earth. And It's A Wonderful Life is my memorial to you." I met the three surviving children from the film: Karolyn Grimes (Zuzu), Carol Coombs (Janie), and Jimmy Hawkins (Tommy). All three of them conveyed their faith to me, with Grimes and Hawkins both being Catholics while Coombs was a Protestant school teacher. They were promoters of traditions building up society, much like what parish life should likewise do. Receiving their autographs and posing in photographs with them were important to me, as was soon thereafter receiving a postal issue 1962 signature of Capra. My mother once told me of an aunt in a troubled pregnancy, at the time of the film, who watched it and saw her pregnancy in a whole new positive way as her unborn child was ready to spring onto planet earth. The point of the film and our faith is that each and every person is of full value in God's eyes no matter their economics, talents, faults, possessions, looks, countries of origin, or health. We thank Him.

Father Bill

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. Feb. 6

7:00am Joseph Zmudzinski
By Family
Noon Andrew Lasek
By Brother Mark

Tues. Feb. 7

7:00am Frank Fabiano
By Mary Ann Fabiano & Family
Noon World Peace

Wed. Feb. 8

7:00am Susan Randall
"Health & Blessings"
By Mary Randall
Noon William Cathcart
2nd Anniv
By Wife Barbara & Family
Barbara Paolini
By Brother Eddie

Thur. Feb. 9

7:00am City of Newburgh
Noon William Hurley
By Gloria & Sam

Fri. Feb. 10

7:00am Alex Dengler
By Michael & Cathy Detz
Noon Margaret Hardy
5 years in Heaven
By Daughter Ann
Francis Rich
By Rich Family

Sat. Feb. 11

Noon Pope Francis
4:30pm Deceased Members of
Middlehope Fire Dept.
By Eva & Ed Cosman
Alexandria Anderson
By Mark & Cheri Mallie

Sun. Feb. 12

8:00am Albert Pushman Jr.
By Bill & Marion Pushman
11:00am Kenneth I. Gill
By Karyn & Johnathan Wontz



WEEKLY COLLECTON

January 28-29, 2017

1st Collection \$6,461.00
2nd Collection \$1,253.00
TOTAL \$7,714.00

*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
PARISH MINISTRIES

MASS ATTENDANCE

January 28-29, 2017

4:30pm 200
8:00am 165
11:00am 265
Total 630

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

SPANISH MASS

Starting today, **February 5th** our Mass in Spanish
will be celebrated weekly at **1:30pm**.
All are welcome



Religious Education

- The Sacred Heart-St. Francis
- - Religious Education Program
-
- Classes are now being held
at our new location:
The San Miguel Academy
• at St. Francis School
on 245 Renwick Street.
-
- ****Monday, Jan. 30th**
- 4:30pm to 6:00pm
****Monday, Jan. 30th**
- 6:30pm to 8:00pm
****Tuesday, Jan 31st**
- - 5:00pm to 6:15pm
- ****Wednesday, Feb. 1st**
- - 6:00pm to 7:30pm



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



PRAYERS 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, 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, Linda Hummel, Joseph Michalowski, Joann Quicksell, Frances Dolan, Daniel D'Elicio, Fr. Fred Kempferi, Carmen De Crosta, Parker, Jane Holloway, Dore Williams, Sheryl McGrath, Michelle Ryan, Rosalind Morrison, Donna Delconte, Joan Ponesse, Jim Taylor, Marilyn Lennox, Bruno Marchatta, Anne McClellan, Louis Arbia, Dottie Rodriguez, Michael Rosenberg, Maureen Sullivan, Frank D'amario., Amanda Keane, Tom (Manay) Conroy, Gertrude Poland, Rita Froehlich, Brian Scott Monahan, Chelsea Dunderdale, Barbara Pavlik, Bill Mowry, Susan Randall and Mary Hollenbeck.

In order to update our Prayers For The Sick List.....if you find you no longer need to be on our Prayer List or have placed someone's name on our List that can now be removed, please contact the rectory at 561-1317.




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

In your goodness please bring **CANNED FRUIT** to Church next weekend to be distributed to the less fortunate in our area thru our Food Pantry.

The Food Pantry is once again asking for **empty egg cartons** that can be used for their bulk egg delivery.

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](tel:845-863-6504).

 **CONGRATULATIONS TO.....**
Kathy K. Woods the January winner of **\$255.00** in our Monthly 50/50 Raffle. Be sure your envelope is in for our next drawing in February.

ST FRANCIS UPCOMING EVENTS
Feb 5th - Spanish Mass 1:30pm
Feb 5th - Super Bowl Party 4:00pm O'Connor Hall
Feb 8th - Eucharistic Adoration 5:00 to 6:00pm
Feb 10th - Valentines Dinner Dance
Mar 8th - Senior Meeting 12:30pm O'Connor Hall

CORONA SELF-HELP CENTER
 Corona Self Help Center (D.A.) is an organization that works with individuals and families suffering from substance abuse problems **free of charge**. D.A.'s recovery programs are drug-free residential settings, with treatment stages reflecting increased levels of personal and social responsibilities. With an approach similar to other 12 step programs, D.A. particularly serves those in most need. All D.A. representatives are former drug addicts who have found a new lease on life because of the spiritual component and programs offered to them by D.A. Representatives will be **speaking at all the masses today**, transmitting their message of life and prevention, and offering t-shirts made by its members to raise funds in support of their cause.





FLOWER MEMORIALS

The flowers in the sanctuary this week are
**“In Memory of Bill Cathcart
on his 2nd Anniversary”**
By Wife Barbara & Family



The Catholic Daughters, Court Patricia #195 will be meeting on **Wednesday, February 8th at 7:00pm** in the Msgr. Valastro Activity Center at Sacred Heart Church in Newburgh. New members are always welcome. For further info please call Maureen Kelly at 562-9462.



Super Bowl Party

The Knights of Columbus, Msgr. Henry O’Carroll Council #444 is hosting their 2nd Annual Super Bowl Party, today in O’Connor Hall starting at **4:00pm**. \$5.00 per person or food donation to share. There will be games for the kids, football pools and a 50/50 raffle. Please RSVP to Bill Kuntz at 201-697-9920.



ST. VALENTINE’S DAY DINNER DANCE

The Knights of Columbus, Msgr. Henry O’Carroll Council 444 and St. Francis Church are hosting a Buffet Dinner Dance on **Friday, February 10th from 6:30pm to 10:30pm** at **The Temple Hill Tavern & Catering** located at 171 Temple Hill Road in Vails Gate, NY. Cost is \$30 per person/\$35 at the door. Featuring music by DJ Ming and a cash bar. For reservations call Bill Kuntz at 201-697-9920 or St. Francis Rectory at 845-561-1317 by February 3rd.

POSITION AVAILABLE

The Nora Cronin Presentation Academy in Newburgh has an opening for a Director of Development. If you are interested in this position please send a cover letter and a resume to Joanne O’Brien at joanneob28@gmail.com.



FREE, RELIABLE TAX PREPARATION

Your taxes can be prepared for free right in your neighborhood. This service is for individuals, seniors and families and is sponsored by the AARP Foundation and the Hudson Valley Cash Coalition. For an appointment please call 2-1-1 or 1-800-899-1479. Calls are accepted 7 day a week from 9:00am to 7:00pm.

PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

St. Michael the Archangel,
defend us in battle.
Be our defense against the wickedness and
snares of the Devil.
May God rebuke him, we humbly pray,
and do thou,
O Prince of the heavenly hosts,
by the power of God,
thrust into hell Satan,
and all the evil spirits,
who prowl about the world
seeking the ruin of souls. Amen..



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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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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