



Padre's Corner

May 28, 2017
Seventh Sunday of Easter

Two years before Babe Ruth died on August 16, 1948 he reflected on the seriousness of life, and the spiritual guideposts taught to him by the Xaverian Brothers at Saint Mary's Industrial School in Baltimore, Maryland. In part, "I strayed from the Church, but don't think I forgot my religious training. I just overlooked it. I prayed often and hard, but like many irrepressible young fellows, the swift tempo of living shoved religion into the background. So what good was all the hard work and ceaseless interest of the Brothers, people would argue? You can't make kids religious, they say, because it just won't take. Send kids to Sunday School and they too often end up hating it and the Church. Don't you believe it. As far as I'm concerned, and I think as far as most kids go, once religion sinks in, it stays there - deep down. The lads who get religious training, get it where it counts - in the roots. They may fail, but it never fails them. When the score is against them, or they get a bum pitch, that unfailing Something inside will be there to draw on... Somewhere inside will be a solid little chapel."

The Sultan of Swat or Great Bambino continued, "In December, 1946, I was in French Hospital, New York, facing a serious operation. Paul Carey, one of my oldest and closest friends, was by my bed one night. "They're going to operate in the morning, Babe," Paul said. "Don't you think you ought to put your house in order?" I didn't dodge the long, challenging look in his eyes. I knew what he meant. For the first time I realized that death might strike me out. I nodded, and Paul got up, called in a Chaplain (the late Monsignor John Byrne, who I would often confer with in my minor seminary days of 1987-1989), and I made a full confession. As I lay in bed that evening I thought to myself what a comforting feeling to be free from fear and worries. I now could simply turn them over to God."

The seriousness of life, recently conveyed in a teenager angst film entitled "Before I Fall", served almost as a modern parable in 2017 from the Babe Ruth story nearly seventy years ago. The plot was about an attractive female high school senior student who has a great future destiny plotted out for herself, until she begins to experience dreams about a tragic accident awaiting her soon on her final day of life. The dreams shift her into a spiritual zone, whereby she grows to appreciate the important family and friends in her existence. Life becomes more than a party, career success, and having fun. Even the March issue of "Reader's Digest" explored this important theme in a column called "Finish This Sentence: The One Thing I'd Save In A Fire Is." Here are some of the responses: "My three dogs, four birds, three turtles, and two goldfish... My wife. She's my cook, housecleaner, shopper, my life... The clock my great-grandparents received on their wedding day, December 15, 1887... My journals. Nothing else tells the story of my life like they do... The gorgeous quilt made by my church-lady friends while I had chemotherapy. It would remind me that I had gone through difficult times before... My parent's marriage certificate. It holds the bonds of my family together... "

Now we try to apply these life stories and experiences to our personal lives, with the grace and help of Almighty God. In a world of economic insecurity, terrorist threats, social tensions in the political realm, health woes, dysfunctional relationships, painful ruptures in marriages, depleted encounters with fake friends, cruelty, and other ailments we all need the Godly wisdom that George Herman Ruth speaks of above. Our future decisions with persons, places, and things must be determined and refocused in the spiritual realm through our prayer and sacramental life. Theological thinker Max Anders concludes this philosophical reflection with these inspiring written utterances: "The thoughtful believer recalls God's faithfulness in the past when confronted by any new threat. Part of spiritual maturity is a strong sense of one's own history."

The sufferings of life, which I also experience as a priest acutely with verbal attacks against my very best efforts, establishes a foundation of graced-faith. Father Bill

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. May 29 Memorial Day
7:00am Helen Crudele
By Susan Dabroski
9:00am Cemetery Mass
Noon Deceased Military

Tues. May 30
7:00am Mary F. Miller
By Daughters Helen & Marion
Noon Alberta Splrescia (L)
"Health & Blessings"
By Mary King

Wed. May 31
7:00am Joseph Smiehorowski
By Como Family
Noon Special Intention
By Mary King

Thur. June 1
7:00am John & Nancy Squillinii
Noon Anthony Pagano
By Yonnone Family

Fri. June 2
7:00am Susan Randall (L)
"Health & Blessings"
By Mary Randall
Noon World Peace

Sat. June 3
Noon Evelyn Mariani
By Family
4:30pm Anna Schaffner
By Family
Erick Nedwetzky
By Parents

Sun. June 4
8:00am D'Elicio Family
By Rocky & Mary Jane D'Elicio
11:00am Craig Mac Farland
By Wife
Bill & Rose Hurley
By Asane Family



WEEKLY COLLECTON

May 20-21, 2017
1st Collection \$ 6,845.00
2nd Collection \$ 1,567.00
TOTAL \$ 8,412.00

MASS ATTENDANCE

May 20-21, 2017
4:30pm 175
8:00am 185
11:00am 500
1:30pm 52
TOTAL 912

The 2nd Collection this week is for
SOLIDARITY FUND FOR THE CHURCH IN AFRICA



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

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



MEMORIAL DAY...

HONORING ALL THOSE
WHO SERVED

*Memorial Day was first observed on May 30, 1868,
when flowers were placed at the graves of Union and
Confederate soldiers. On this day we honor all who
have died in service of our nation*

God of power and mercy,
you destroy war and put down earthly pride.
Banish violence from our midst and wipe away our
tears,
that we may all deserve to be called your sons
and daughters.
Keep in your mercy those men and women
who have died in the cause of freedom
and bring them safely
into your kingdom of justice and peace.
We ask this though Jesus Christ our Lord.
R. Amen

Memorial Day Masses will be celebratred at
7:00am and **12noon** in Church.
Outdoor Mass will be celebrated
at **9:00am** at **Mt St Francis Cemetery** on Union
Avenue. Please bring your lawn chairs.
In case of rain Mass will be held in Church.

TODAY
SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading: Acts 1:12-14

After Jesus ascended into heaven, the eleven apostles returned to Jerusalem and prayed in the upstairs room. With them were some women and Mary, the mother of Jesus.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 4:13-16

Christians are exhorted to rejoice in suffering because through suffering, they share in the life of Christ.

Gospel: John 17:1-11a

This is a continuation of Jesus' prayer at the Last Supper. He tells the Father that he has made his name known, that he has finished the work his Father has given him, and that he wishes now to share in the glory at his side.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday

Acts 19:1-8; Jn 16:29-33

Tuesday

Acts 20:17-27; Jn 17:1-11a

Wednesday

Zep 3:14-18a or Rom 12:9-16; Lk 1:39-56

Thursday

Acts 22:30, 23: 6-11; Jn 17:20-26

First Friday

Acts 25:13b-21; Jn 21:15-19

First Saturday

Morning: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; Jn 21:20-25



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

in observance of the Memorial Day holiday

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

The Pantry no longer needs egg cartons

Thank you to those who donated

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.

THE RECTORY OFFICE

WILL BE CLOSED

Monday, May 29th

For the Memorial Day Holiday

ST FRANCIS UPCOMING EVENTS

May 29th - Memorial Day Mass at Cemetery 9:00am

May 31st - Eucharistic Adoration 5:00 to 6:00pm

June 7th - Senior Meeting after 12noon Mass

June 11th - Bagel Hour after 8:00am Mass



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, Michael Rosenburg, 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, Jr, Jaddon Johnson, Rina & Richard Bozzone, Rebecca Pacella, Lena Biasini Zullo, Pam Kunert, Janet Coiteux, Vincent McParkland and Family, Jozef Froniewski, Teresa Centeno and Bobbi Hull.



HELP YOUR NEIGHBOR

We have some people in our parish who would like to share a ride with someone from their area going to Mass on Saturday/Sunday. If you need a ride **OR** would be willing to give someone a ride to Mass, please call the rectory at 561-1317 with your name and telephone number.



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 on **Sunday, June 18th from 10:00am to 3:00pm** (rain date is June 25). Pre-Registration is \$20.00, Registration Day of Show is \$25.00 and Vendor Spots are \$30.00. There will be Trophies, Best in Show and People's Choice Awards along with Goodie Bags. For more information or questions contact Ken Ryan 845-565-8015, Charlie Smith 845-561-8647 or Dan Keenan 845-562-9353.

REGISTRATION

Sacred Heart School is now accepting registration for Pre K - 8th grade for the 2017-2018 school year. Please call 845-561-1433 for an appointment or stop by for a tour at 148 Windsor Highway in New Windsor. You can also apply at www.ApplyCatholicSchoolsNY.org.



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

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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 at 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.



FLOWER MEMOIALS

Flower Memorials are available for anyone desiring to memorialize a loved one, honor someone or in Thanksgiving to God. The cost is \$35.00 for each arrangement of flowers to be placed near or on the altar. Please call the rectory 845-561-1317 to reserve your date.

NORA CRONIN PRESENTATION ACADEMY.... is asking for **sponsors** for its **Summer Youth Leadership Academy (SYLA), July 3-28**. Last year's program was a success in large part from the generosity of the parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi Church. We hope you will be able to support our 45 students again this year. A **donation of \$50.00** will allow a girl to participate in the following off-site activities: trip to Ellis Island/Statue of Liberty and a performance of the musical "Annie" at the Westchester Broadway Theater. Please make checks payable to: NCPA/SYLA and mail to Nora Cronin Presentation Academy, 69 Bay View Terrace, Newburgh, NY 12550, attention Cathy Squillini. Thank you for your generosity in giving these girls the opportunity to experience history and culture.

ADVERTISER'S CORNER

Thank you

TO OUR BULLETIN

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK, **Dr. Paul Collins,**
Optometrist at Jules Vision Center, located at the Newburgh Mall, 1401 Rote 300 in Newburgh. Call Jules Vision Center at 845- 566-9179 for your expert eye exam and contact lens and quality eye ware needs. You can also check them out at julesvisioncenter.com.

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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.

GLORIFIED ON EARTH

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!