



Padre's Corner

July 16, 2017

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sir Alec Guinness was born in London, England on April 2, 1914 as World War I was breaking out. He died in West Sussex, England on August 5, 2000 as the September 11 attacks were being plotted. Starting in Shakespearean plays, he emerged into the film industry following the settling of World War II. Some of his film credits were "Oliver Twist" in 1948, "Lawrence of Arabia" in 1962, "Doctor Zhivago" in 1965, and starting in 1977 "Obi-Wan Kenobi" in the "Star Wars" series. He even played Pope Innocent III in the 1972 production of "Brother Sun, Sister Moon" (about the lives of Saints Clare and Francis of Assisi). His religious yearnings emerged with the Royal Navy during World War II, as he gave serious thought to becoming an Anglican priest (Episcopal Church in the United States).

Dr. Donald DeMarco, of Human Life International, goes on to describe the beginnings of Guinness becoming a Roman Catholic in the 1940's. As the war ended in 1945, he met Pope Pius XII who he described in this way. "I felt for the first time in my life that I had met a saint." He then became inspired by a particular phrase by G.K. Chesterton, who would likewise convert from the Anglican to Catholic tradition. Chesterton commented that "the Church is the one thing that saves us from the degrading servitude of being a child of his own time." DeMarco refers to the 1985 autobiography of Sir Alec Guinness, called "Blessings In Disguise," with this touching life anecdote : "In 1954 he was in France and playing the role of Fr. Brown in a movie released in the United States as "The Detective." When he was on his way back to his lodging, dressed in clerical attire, a young boy of seven or eight came up to him, held his hand tightly, addressed him as "mon pere" (father or priest), and kept up a non-stop prattle. Guinness did not dare speak to him "in case my excruciating French should scare him." Suddenly, with a "Bonsoir, mon pere," and a bow, he disappeared through a hole in a hedge. Guinness reflected "that a Church which could inspire such confidence in a child, making its priests, even when unknown, so easily approachable could not be as scheming and creepy as so often made out. I began to shake off my long-taught, long-absorbed prejudices."

His son, Matthew, then 11, was stricken with polio and paralyzed from the waist down. The future for Matthew looked doubtful. After dropping into a little Catholic Church several times, Guinness made a negative bargain with God. "Let him recover, and I will never put an obstacle in his way should he ever wish to become a Catholic." About **three months later**, Matthew was able to walk. Not too long after that, he could play football. At age 15, Matthew became a Catholic. DeMarco's comments concluded, "Guinness became a Roman Catholic himself in 1956."

Sadly, in recent decades much of the innocent thoughts conveyed by Guinness about the young boy met in the French film have been obliterated by the crisis that the Church has faced in the humanity of its clergy. Yet, there is still an appeal to the authenticity of Catholicism's teachings providing a segue way to interpreting life in general. Without dismissing the reality of the crisis, I have had a number of young men indicate interest in the priesthood (even here at Saint Francis of Assisi). While recognizing the humanity and imperfection of every priest, there is an attraction to an old adage that states: "The Church is not a museum of saints, but a hospital for sinners."

Had the human element been the primary factor, within the seminary system, determining my continuing toward priestly ordination in 1993 I would have stopped short of that vocational goal. The seminary priests were the good, bad, and ugly like any other organization composed of human beings. Intersecting again with the thought of Chesterton, the spirituality and sacramentality of the Church is what should embrace and hold us not an imperfect priest. God bless Sir Alec Guinness for his conversion story, obstacles aside.

Father Bill

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. July 17

7:00am Barbara Palumbo
By Mary Ann & Tony Farkas
Noon Alberta Splescia
By Friends & Family

Tues. July 18

7:00am Susan Randall
By Colleen & Michael Corizzo
Noon Barbara McDaniel
By Children

Wed. July 19

7:00am The Unborn
Noon Marie Herbison
(11th Anniv)
By Family

Thur. July 20

7:00am Pope Francis
Noon Olga Deagostino Meehan
By Daughters
Frances Schaffner
By Family

Fri. July 21

7:00am St Francis Parish
Noon Donald Barney
By Family

Sat. July 22

Noon John Geelan
By Family
4:30pm Jennie Deyo
By Jesse, Margaret & Family
Sabrina Campbell
By Christine D'Addio

Sun. July 23

8:00am June McKnight
By Barry & Jodi Schuyler
11:00am Rich Irons (L)
"Happy Birthday"
Alee Anderson
1st Birthday in Heaven
By Mallia Family



WEEKLY COLLECTON

July 1-2, 2017
1st Collection \$6,537.00
2nd Collection 1,249.00
TOTAL \$7,786.00

MASS ATTENDANCE

July 1-2, 2017
4:30pm 162
8:00am 186
11:00am 160
1:30pm 62
TOTAL 570

WEEKLY COLLECTON

July 8-9, 2017
1st Collection \$5,799.00
2nd Collection 1,792.00
TOTAL \$7,591.00

MASS ATTENDANCE

July 8-9, 2017
4:30pm 185
8:00am 155
11:00am 205
1:30pm 60
TOTAL 605

The 2nd Collection this week is for
ST. FRANCIS PARISH MINISTRIES



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



We will have in person registration for Religious Education classes on the following dates
At Sacred Heart Church
Sunday, August 20th 11:00am to 1:00pm
At St. Francis of Assisi Church
Sunday, August 27 10:30am to 12:30pm
and 1:00pm to 3:00pm
In the Religious Education Program Office
At Sacred Heart School building
Corner of Robinson Ave (Rt 9W) and Ann Street
Wednesday, August 30th
9:30am to 11:00am & 4:00pm to 6:00pm

HEALING MASS

There is a healing Mass today, July 16th at 4:00pm at St. Mary's Church, Route 9W in Marlboro with Fr. Richard Crawley as celebrant. For more info contact Toni at 914-456-7539.

TODAY

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Isaiah 55:10-11

Just as the rain and snow water the earth and make it fruitful, so does the word of God bring forth good seed.

Second Reading: Romans 8:18-23

Reminding all that the trials and sufferings of this life are "as nothing," Paul says that the glory we shall receive will overshadow all things.

Gospel: Matthew 13:1-23

Jesus tells the parable of the sower and the seed. The seed that landed on the footpath, on rocky ground, or among thorns withered and died; the seed that fell on good ground -- "the man who hears the message and takes it in" ... "bears a yield of a hundred-fold."

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday

Ex 1:8-14, 22; Mt 10:34—11:1

Tuesday

Ex 2:1-15a; Mt 11:20-24

Wednesday

Ex 3:1-6, 9-12; Mt 11:25-27

Thursday

Ex 3:13-20; Mt 11:28-30

Friday

Ex 11:10—12:14; Mt 12:1-8

Saturday

Ex 12:37-42; Jn 20:1-2, 11-18



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, Mary Hollenbeck, Donnie Ruckdeschel, Patrick Comyns, John Marullo, Jaddon Johnson, Rina & Richard Bozzone, Rebecca Pacella, Lena Biasini Zullo, Pam Kunert, Janet Coiteux, Vincent McParkland and Family, Jozef Froniewski, Teresa Centeno, Bobbi Hull, Mary Ann Fabiano, Angie Monaco, Emily Cooley and Frank Celeste

ST. FRANCIS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 16th - Bagel & Coffee Hour

July 19th - Eucharistic Adoration 5:00-6:00pm

July 21st - Youth Group 6:30pm in O'Connor Hall

July 22nd - Movie Night 6:00pm in O'Connor Hall

July 25th - Book Club 2:00pm O'Connor Hall

Aug 6th - Parish Picnic



BAGEL & COFFEE HOUR

Join us after the 8:00am Mass today for coffee and bagels in O'Connor Hall.



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](tel: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.



St. Francis Church will again be a host site for the Newburgh Enlarged City School District's *Summer Feeding Program*. Anyone **18 years and younger** can receive a **free lunch Monday thru Friday** between the hours of **10:30am and 12:30pm**. The program will run from **Wednesday, July 5th thru Friday, September 1st**.



Newburgh Summer Backpack Program

The Food Bank of the Hudson Valley in conjunction with our Deacon Jack Seymour Food Pantry will again be distributing backpacks of weekend meals to our local children. Backpacks will be distributed at our Food Pantry on **Fridays** from **10:30am to 12:30pm** from **July 7th thru August 12th**.



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



The Catholic Classics Book Reading Club

will meet here at St. Francis in O'Connor Hall to discuss the book "**Silence**" by Shusaku Endo and view the film by Martin Scorsese. 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. They will meet from **2:00pm to 3:30pm** on

Tuesday, July 25th – Discussion, publisher's notes and review of chapters 6-10

Wednesday, July 26th – Film viewing and follow up discussion of the Japanese Martyrs
Sessions **hosted by Margaret Sanchez** and **led by Fr. Bill**.



MOVIE NIGHT

On **Saturday, July 22nd** at **6:00pm** in O'Connor Hall we will be showing "Masterminds" – a hilarious action-comedy based on a true story of the 1997 Loomis Fargo Robbery in North Carolina. For pizza and refreshment ordering purposes, RSVP by Friday July 21st to Jeannine McCauley at jeanse59@yahoo.com or 914-263-0572.



FIFTH SUNDAY ROSARY PROGRAM

A Rosary Service for the 5th Sunday in July will be held here at St. Francis of Assisi Church **following the 11:00pm Mass** on Sunday, **Sunday July 30th**. All are invited to attend. Bring your prayer requests.

This program is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, Msgr. Henry O'Carroll Council #444. For more info please contact Ted Coughlin 845-913-5631 or Joe Coyle 845-561-7384.



Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties

is holding volunteer training sessions for all interested parties at their training site at 90 Crystal Run Road in Middletown on **Wednesdays** from **10:00am to 5:00pm** on **September 13, 20, 27** and **October 4, 11, 18, 25**. For more information please contact Debra Epstein at debrae@hospiceoforange.com or 845-565-4849. All interested community members are welcome and Hospice also extends this invitation to veterans, bilingual persons and snow birds.

ADVERTISER'S CORNER

Thank you

TO OUR BULLETIN

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK, **John Poggioli, Attorney at Law**, whose office is located at 79 Broadway in Newburgh. John has a general law practice and specializes in real estate closings and evictions. Call his office at 845-454-5252 for an appointment to discuss any legal questions.

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PILGRIMAGES

Fr. Bill is hosting two upcoming Pilgrimages

1) ALPINE CHRISTMAS ADVENTURE

December 4-14, 2017

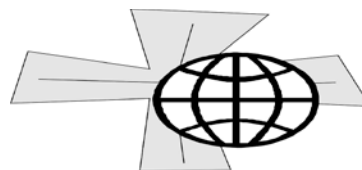
Visit Frankfurt, Freiburg, Lucerne, Innsbruck, Salzburg, Oberammergau, Neuschwanstein, Munich, Rothenberg and Heidelberg, featuring Europe's famous Chrstkindl Markets.

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.



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!