



Padre's Corner

July 23, 2017

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Clive Staples (CS) Lewis was born on November 29, 1898 in Belfast, Ireland and died on November 22, 1963 in Oxford, England. He died the exact same day as President John F. Kennedy who was assassinated in Dallas, Texas. Recently I saw a play on the life of Lewis at the Acorn Theater on 42nd Street in Manhattan, entitled "C.S. Lewis Onstage: The Most Reluctant Convert." Actor Max McLean, who I met after the production, was masterful in depicting the transition in life for Lewis from a philosophical position of atheist to Christian. He saw the horrors of World War I in England, which escalated when the United States declared war on Germany come April 6 in 1917.

(As an aside, the Knights of Columbus established recreation huts for the allied troops in Europe as a place of respite and companionship. From "Columbia Magazine," these words of solace also to soldiers from England: "Soldiers needed a respite from the war; they needed Mass and the sacraments. The Knights of Columbus came to the rescue, providing a major service with recreation centers, which became known as huts...No soldier or sailor had to pay a cent for anything the Knights gave them, nor would any free-will offering on their part be accepted by the secretaries who ran the huts. They gave everything free to whomever walked in, with no questions about religion, race or rank. The uniform was all that mattered. In the huts, soldiers had the opportunity to attend Mass, go to confession, hear a music recital, see vaudeville entertainment or watch a movie. They could attend a dance, write letters home... The Knights provided 1,800 tons of stationary, or read a book from the library.") He thought long and hard about the soldiers buried in church cemeteries, encouraging him to closely examine the meaning of life within the scope of human behavior.

Max McLean wrote for the play program: "In 1950, C.S. Lewis received a letter from a young American writer expressing his struggle to believe Christianity because he thought it "too good to be true." Lewis responded, "My own position at the threshold of Christianity was exactly the opposite of yours. You wish it were true; I strongly hoped it was not. Do you think people like Stalin, Hitler... Would be pleased on waking up one morning to find that they were not their own masters... That there was nothing even in the deepest recesses of their thoughts about which they could say to Him, "Keep out! Private. This is my business. "Do you?... There first reaction would be as mine was rage and terror.

"Though baptized in the Anglican Church of Ireland, Lewis drifted away from his faith until he began to look closely at human pain. Wartime radio broadcasts gave order to his essays and reflections on the Christian life producing books such as Mere Christianity, A Grief Observed, The Problem of Pain, The Screwtape Letters, and The Chronicles of Narnia. His mother Flora (1862-1908) was the daughter of an Anglican priest in Ireland. At the age of four, he experienced grief firsthand when his dog Jacksie was killed by a passing car. The death of his mother, health woes, and life disillusionment led to his abandonment of the faith as a teenager, while becoming enchanted by the occult. Serving with the British Army during World War I convinced Lewis there could not be a loving God, with such horror and bloodshed. Author friends such as Yeats, the Catholic Tolkien and later Catholic Chesterton encouraged him back to the faith in the 1920's after the World War was over.

In 1929, Lewis wrote: "I gave in, and admitted that God was God, and knelt and prayed: perhaps, that night, the most dejected and reluctant convert in all England." He would often ask: "How could a good God allow pain to exist in the world?" Before his death, and conversion to the Catholic understanding of the Eucharist as the Real Presence of Christ, Lewis reflected: "I believe in Christianity as I believe that the Sun has risen, not only because I see it but because I see everything else." He is buried in Holy Trinity Church in Oxford, England. Lewis is courageous to me because he overcame many life adversities and intellectual arrogance to find God. This harsh and indifferent world needs his message.

Father Bill

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. July 24

7:00am Thomas J. Connelly Sr.

By Kathie & Jim Thompson

Noon Susie Craccihilo

By Carmela & David Rupp

Tues. July 25

7:00am Pope Francis

Noon David Herbison

By Family

Marceliano Velez, Jr.

By Andy Civale

Wed. July 26

7:00am Mark Anthony Michon

By Aunt Chris

Noon Lynn Jamroc

By Natalie Quick

Paul Vinett

By Andy Civale & Nancy Stupple

Thur. July 27

7:00am Anne Morgan

By Diane Vernoooy and

Patty & Chuck Smith

Noon Richard Douglas

By Csubak Family

Patrick J. DeLuca

By DeLuca Family

Fri. July 28

7:00am St Francis Volunteers

Noon St Francis Parish

Sat. July 29

Noon Patrice Henderson King

By Sister Paula & Family and

Roxanne & Isabella Valenzano

4:30pm Dominic Parisi

By Sandy Parisi & Family

John & Nancy Squillini

Sun. July 30

8:00am Jim Stankiewicz

By Pat & Joe Grimm

11:00am Margaret Angelo

By Daughters

James & Elvira Crudele

By Children



WEEKLY COLLECTON

July 15-16, 2017

1st Collection \$ 5,912.00

2nd Collection 1,703.00

TOTAL \$7,615.00

MASS ATTENDANCE

July 15-16, 2017

4:30pm 165

8:00am 180

11:00am 205

1:30pm 57

TOTAL 607

The 2nd Collection this week is for
AIR CONDITIONING



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



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

SACRED HEART SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

Sacred Heart School is accepting enrollment for Pre-K thru 8th grade for the 2017-2018 school year. Please call **845-561-1433** for appointments or stop by for a tour at 148 Windsor Highway in New Windsor. You can apply directly at applycatholicschoolsny.org Please visit our website <https://shsnewburgh.org>. We are looking forward to our upcoming school year and would love for you to be a part of it!

TODAY

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Wisdom 12:13, 16-19

This passage from the Book of Wisdom addresses itself to God, giving praise and thanksgiving for his mercy.

Second Reading: Romans 8:26-27

Paul indicates that since people are, in general, unaccustomed to the manner of praying, of speaking directly to God, the Holy Spirit will intercede for them.

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-43

According to Matthew, Jesus speaks of the "reign of God" in three parables: the man who soweth good seed, the mustard seed, and the yeast. In each parable, Jesus demonstrates that once the "reign of God" had been established, it grew and spread.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday

Ex 14:5-18; Mt 12:38-42

Tuesday

2 Cor 4:7-15; Mt 20:20-28

Wednesday

Memorial Ex 16:1-5, 9-15; Mt 13:1-9

Thursday

Ex 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20b; Mt 13:10-17

Friday

Ex 20:1-17; Mt 13:18-23

Saturday

Ex 24:3-8; Mt 13:24-30



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'Elcicio, 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 25th - Book Club 2:00pm O'Connor Hall
July 26th - Book Club 2:00pm O'Connor Hall
July 26th - Eucharistic Adoration 5:00-6:00pm
July 28th - Youth Group 6:30 pm O'Connor Hall
Aug 6th - Parish Picnic Church Grounds

POSITION AVAILABLE... Seeking an energetic individual to manage the front desk of a doctor's office in Stoney Point. Hours are Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8:00am to 6:00pm. If interested call Dr. Donna at 845-947-3737.



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

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](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.

SUMMER FEEDING PROGRAM – Free lunch for children 18 years or younger, Monday thru Friday from 10:30 am to 12:30pm in O'Connor Hall thru Sept. 1st.

BACKPACKS 4 KIDS – Backpacks filled with weekend meals for our local children distributed at our Food Pantry on Fridays from 10:30am to 12:30pm thru August 12th.



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.



**Sunday, August 6th
12noon until 5:00pm**

on the grounds here at St. Francis.

The **Pizza Shop and River Grill**

will have pizza, sausage and peppers,
hot dogs and hamburgers for sale.

Mr. Cannoli and the Funnel Guy

will have cannoli's, ices and funnel cakes
also available for purchase.

Music by **DJ Ming,**

Bocce Court & Photo Booth

Dunking Booth & Face Painting.



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
Scorese. 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.**

Friends

God created friends

to make the world a warmer place-

To give a little breather

from life's rapid busy pace.

They bring on smiles and laughter,

help to talk a problem through,

discuss the latest news

and let you air a point of view.

They understand your feelings-

are never less than caring-

God created friends

for all the special joys of sharing



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.

ADVERTISER'S CORNER

Thank you

TO OUR BULLETIN

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK, **BROOKS FUNERAL HOME**

located at 481 Gidney Avenue in Newburgh. See owners
Mike or Linda Brooks or their director John Crofoot for expert
and compassionate care when having to planning a funeral.
They can be reached at 845-561-8300 to answer all your
funeral concerns.

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Healthy Orange Farmers Market

Tuesdays

July 11th thru October 24th

10:00am to 2:00pm

141 Broadway between Landers and Johnston Streets.
Fresh vegetables and fruits, herbs, honey, eggs, and
baked goods. For more information contact Meg Oakes
at 845-360-6691.

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: _____