



## Padre's Corner

January 28, 2018

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790) took to his burial place at Christ Church in Philadelphia many witty remarks. One such nugget of wisdom was: "There are three things extremely hard: steel, a diamond, and to know one's self." From poet Najwa Zebian: "These mountains that you are carrying, you were only supposed to climb." Famed comedian Joey Adams: "Do not worry about avoiding temptation. As you grow older it will avoid you." Saints in the annals of Catholic history also have contributed profoundly toward the discourse of wisdom and spirituality. Saint Ignatius of Antioch (martyred by Emperor Trajan in 107 AD) spoke futuristically with these sentiments, spoken gracefully under pressure and threats. "No earthly pleasures, no kingdoms of this world can benefit me in any way. I prefer death in Christ Jesus to power over the farthest limits of the earth... I no longer take pleasure in perishable food or in the delights of this world. I want only God's bread." From the Jesuit priest martyr Saint John De Brebeuf (massacred on the grounds of Auriesville, New York during the day of March 16, 1648): " My God, it grieves me greatly that you are not known, that in this savage wilderness all have not been converted to you, that sin has not been driven from it. My God, even if all the brutal tortures which prisoners in this region must endure should fall on me, I offer myself most willingly to them and I alone shall suffer them all." During my retreats of 1994 and 1995, I went to those sacred grounds of Auriesville, using my imagination and faith to go back nearly 350 years when these works of religious devotion and courage were exemplified. How much this heroism is required for our tense times.

Northvale, New Jersey is located in the Bergen County sector of the Garden State. On October 16, I went to a quaint bookstore to attend a brief lecture and book-signing of "Fox and Friends" co-host Ainsley Earhardt. She has written two inspirational slim books about the wide-eyed innocence of little children. Under the titles "Through Your Eyes" and "Take Heart My Child", this cable television news journalist offered a combination to the listeners of her country upbringing in South Carolina plus her deep Christian faith to the presentation. Her words also reflected a deep respect for our country, its flag, and the political institutions taking on the arduous task of navigating America through the turbulent waters of modern world history. Raised by parents that demanded weekly church attendance and work outside of schooling at a young age, Ainsley was quite clear that she has sought the help of God in her career aspirations with such diligence that should those career choices interfere with that faith she would renounce that fame and fortune. She praised the work of every person, including a sister that is a teacher and a brother in sales departments. When I had the chance to approach this female mountain of faith, she engaged me in conversation for nearly ten minutes. I spoke of my vocation as a priest to her, life as a baby beginning in an orphanage, and the challenges of running two parishes in a gritty part of the City of Newburgh. In my autographed books Ainsley wrote to me: "Father Bill, you are so special. God clearly had a big plan for your life. Thank you for sharing Christ's love. Love, Ainsley."

The thoughts on speciality, big life plans, and bringing His love to others is not just my calling but that of all parishioners. In a world of explosive political theater, glee with destructive gossip to fill the scandal pages of tabloids alongside mass media, storms that destroy large properties of Cuba to Puerto Rico and Florida through Texas, forest fires engulfing Northern California including the Santa Clara home of famed "Peanuts" artist Charles Schulz, a dictator 6000 miles away from the United States continuously threatening to destroy America, technology increasingly displacing the economic livelihoods of many, sudden medical diagnosis that could upend any of our lives without warning, and the raw brutality of human interaction such faith of media persona like Ainsley is refreshing to observe in action. To not be embarrassed by our faith, but to be animated by it in thought and action is the grace offered to us by this very Jesus we purport to follow, warts and sins as well. Seeking His mercy and love is what we are about.      **Father Bill**

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Mon. Jan. 29

7:00am Our Veterans  
Noon St. Francis Parish

### Tues. Jan. 30

7:00am The Sick & Dying  
Noon Public Servants

### Wed. Jan. 31

7:00am The Homebound  
Noon George J. Vecchio Jr.  
By LFSD Most Holy Rosary  
Chapter

### Thur. Feb. 1

7:00am Our Natiion  
Noon Patrick J. Deluca  
(1<sup>ST</sup> Anniv)  
By Deluca Family

### Fri. Feb. 2

7:00am Our Politicians  
Noon Harold Hardy  
(25<sup>th</sup> Anniv)  
By Daughter Ann

### Sat. Feb.3

Noon City of Newburgh  
4:30pm Joan Murphy  
"Health & Blessings"  
Jos. & Elizabeth Farina  
"Health & Blessings"

### Sun. Feb. 4

8:30am William McCartney  
By Family  
11:00am Ralph Puglielle  
By Wife & Children  
Gino Basini  
By Family



### WEEKLY COLLECTION

January 20-21, 2018  
1<sup>st</sup> Collection \$ 6,005.00  
2<sup>nd</sup> Collection 1,781.00  
TOTAL \$ 7,786.00

### MASS ATTENDANCE

Jan. 20-21, 2018  
4:30pm 193  
8:30am 170  
11:00am 185  
1:30pm 115  
Total 663

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection this week is for  
**SNOW REMOVAL**



Our **Holy Hour** with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament this **Wednesday** from **5:00pm to 6:00pm** is for the intention of **WORLD PEACE**.

### **HOSPITAL MINISTRY**

We are in need of a Eucharistic Minister to serve at St. Luke's-Cornwall Hospital on the first and second Tuesday of each month. If interested please contact Suzanna Campora at 561-5162 for details.



### **HOLY HOUR at MT. ST. JOSEPH**

Join the Sisters of the Presentation for a little time away from your daily routine to reflect and be with the Lord in a quiet place. Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> from 3:45 to 4:45pm there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Sister's Chapel located at 64 Presentation Way, New Windsor. Come for an hour or for any part of the hour. All are welcome. For questions or directions please call 845-401-8531.



### **PRE-K AND KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE**

Sacred Heart School, New Windsor at the St. Joseph Campus would like to invite you to our Pre-K and Kindergarten Open House on **Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>** at **6:00pm**. Tour our school and meet with our teachers to get curriculum overview for our 2018-19 school year.

Hope to see you there!

### **EMMAUS MINISTRY**

If you have lost a child – no matter the age – and still suffer terrible grief, the Emmanus Mnistry can help you. A day long retreat will focus on the grieving process. All are welcome. The next retreat is February 24<sup>th</sup> at the Church of the Magdalen in Sleepy Hollow NY from 9:30am to 7:30pm. Cost is \$25/person, \$40/couple. Register at [www.emfgp.org/2018archny.org](http://www.emfgp.org/2018archny.org). or contact Sue DiSisto at 646-794-3191.

## TODAY

### FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

#### First Reading: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Moses explains to the people that a prophet will come from among them, and that they should listen to this prophet's words, for God has told him of this prophet. God also tells Moses that anyone who pretends to speak in his words, or speaks in the name of other gods shall die.

#### Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:32-35

Paul tells the Corinthians how an unmarried man or woman is able to devote to God without concern for the needs of a spouse. Paul explains themselves fully so that God wants to help them promote good and devote themselves more fully to God.

#### Gospel: Mark 1:21-28

As Jesus was teaching, a man with an unclean spirit came to the synagogue and asked if Jesus had come to destroy them. Jesus ordered the spirit out of the man, who shrieked violently as the spirit departed. The people were amazed at the authority he had over the spirit.

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

#### Monday

2 Sm 15:13-14, 30, 16:5-13; Mk 5:1-20

#### Tuesday

2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30-19:3; Mk 5:21-43

#### Wednesday

2 Sm 24:2, 9-17; Mk 6:1-6

#### Thursday

1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12; Mk 6:7-13

#### First Friday

Mal 3:1-4; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

#### First Saturday

1 Kgs 3:4-13; Mk 6:30-34



### PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Vincenza Secor, Aaron Stagliano, Marie Wiejak, Ashley Barco, Agnes Casey, Rose Marie Michalowski, Carol Brown, Luzia Araujo, Celio Thomaz, Rosalie Nogay, Rose Jurik, Robert & Helen Osborn, Manuel DiNapoli, Rachael Neugebauer, Maureen Kelly, James R. Purpura, Jane Pustola, Frances Dolan, Parker, Jane Holloway, Donna Delconte, Joan Ponesse, Jim Taylor, Marilyn Lennox, Bruno Marchatta, Anne McClellan, Louis Arbia, Dottie Rodriguez, Maureen Sullivan, Frank D'amaro, 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 Mc Parkland and Family, Jozef Froniewski, Teresa Centeno, Bobbi Hull, Emily Cooley, Frank Celeste, Amy Finnegan, Brian Hanrahan, Toni Loparco Shepardson, Donald (Leed) Zubawicz, Louise McHugh, Alex Galant, Evelyn Kawula, Taylor Fogel, Jake Tigar, Paul Neugebauer, Julia Vecchio, Eileen Burke, Michelle Ryan, Abigail Means, Ann Bouche and Vanessa Rivera.

**APARTMENT FOR RENT** – 138 Benkard Avenue across from St. Francis Church. 3 bedroom, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, electric & heat are not included, first, last and one month security required. Call 845-29-6850 for appointment.



### Food Pantry Hours:

Friday 9:00am to 12noon

Saturday 9:00am to 12noon

at our new location

The Msgr. Valastro Activity Center

319 Broadway in Newburgh

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.

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 Mr. Bourdage before showing up at the pantry, please.

### THE BACKPACK PROGRAM

The Backpack Program has begun. Anyone interested in volunteering to help with this program should speak to one of the Food Pantry members.

### HELP NEEDED

The Food Pantry is looking for help on Wednesdays unloading their Food Bank Delivery. If you can give us a few hours helping on Wednesday afternoons at 1:30pm please stop by our new location at 319 Broadway. We would be most grateful.

A driver is needed for Thursdays at 11:00am to pick up donations at Shop Rite in Vails Gate. If you can help please call Paul Zalanowski at 845-234-8564.

### **FREE RELIABLE TAX PREPARATION**

Your taxes can be prepared for free by IRS Certified Volunteers and is open to individuals, seniors and families. For an appointment call 2-1-1 or 1-800-899-1479, 7 days a week from 9:00am to 7:00pm.



### **FURRY FRIENDS MINISTRY**

Twice a year, Fr. Bill visits the Hudson Valley SPCA to bring the contributions you have given in food, supplies and monetary donations. With Fr. Bill's last visit he not only brought abundant donations of food and supplies but was able to present **\$1,127.00** in donations because of your generosity, and it's all because of you. **THANK YOU!!** We hope that your generosity continues FUR-ever.



### SUPER BOWL PARTY

The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring their Annual Super Bowl Party on Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup> starting at 4:00pm in O'Connor Hall. \$5 per person or a food donation to share. Football pools, games for the kids and 50/50 raffle. To RSVP or questions please contact Bill Kuntz at 201-697-9920.



Newburgh Chamber Music will present *Swing and the Great American Songbook* featuring jazz pianist Vinnie Martucci on Sunday, February 4, 2018 at 3:00pm at St. George's Church, 105 Grand Street in Newburgh. Tickets are available at the door or on line at [www.newburghchambermusic.org](http://www.newburghchambermusic.org). Adults \$25 and students \$5. St George's is handicapped accessible with parking across the street.



St. Francis Seniors will meet on February 7<sup>th</sup> at 12:30pm after the 12noon Mass in O'Connor Hall. All are welcome.



### VALENTINE'S DINNER DANCE

.....Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup> from 6:30pm to 10:30pm at Temple Hill Tavern and Catering, 171 Temple Hill Road in Vails Gate. \$35 per person paid in advance (\$40 at the door). Cash bar. Featuring music by DJ Ming. Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, Council 444. For more info or to make your reservation please call Bill Kuntz at 201-697-9920.

### AUTHOR REPRISES SPY WEDNESDAY BOOK READING & SIGNING

This Spy Wednesday - March 28, 2018 - author Mary Claire Kendall will once again grace us with her presence and read from and sign copies of her book "Oasis: Conversion Stories of Hollywood Legends" in O'Connor Hall at 6:00pm. Learn about the fascinating stories of healing and recovery through the Catholic faith of some of Hollywood's biggest stars including Alfred Hitchcock. Gary Cooper, Bob Hope, Mary Astor, John Wayne, Ann Southern, Jane Wyman, Susan Hayward, Lana Turner, Betty Hutton, Ann Miller and Patricia Neal. She will also give us a glimpse of some of the stars she is writing about in Oasis II including Hattie McDaniel, Babe Ruth and Alec Guinness. Copies of Oasis I will be sold this year at the discounted price of \$10 per copy.

## PLEASE NOTE

### SCANDINAVIAN & ST. PRTERSBBURG CRUISE

Deposits are due **NOW** for the September Cruise. NAWAS, our travel agency, has called to tell us that once the ship sells out NAWAS will be informed and those waiting to sign up will be denied.

### UPCOMING PILGRIMAGES

Hosted By:  
Father Bill Damroth

SCANDINAVIA & ST. PETERSBURG CRUISE  
On Board the NCL Norwegian Breakaway  
September 21- October 3, 2018



Copenhagen (Denmark), Warnemunde (Germany), Tallinn (Estonia), St. Petersburg (Russia), Helsinki (Finland), Stockholm (Sweden)  
Starting at \$3,049 per person including airfare. includes roundtrip air from New York, Cruise taxes, port charges and transfers between airport/hotel/pier.

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NORTHERN NATIONAL PARKS  
Featuring Yellowstone National Park  
and Grand Teton National Park  
August 24-31, 2018

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ICELAND'S MAGICAL NORTHERN LIGHTS  
February 14-20, 2019

**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**