



## Padre's Corner

April, 29, 2018  
Fifth Sunday of Easter

Southwestern Germany, the state of Baden-Wurttemberg, is famous for the Black Forest containing spectacular scenery in Western Europe. On the Alpine journey last December, my travel group stayed there on a snowy night at an inn that looked like a Swiss Chalet. A huge outdoor cuckoo clock on its grounds welcomed us each hour with the cuckoo bird and a couple greeting each other for a dance. While there our group was given a tour of a cuckoo shop, with brief explanations of its mechanics and origins. The clocks come in many sizes with numerous themes, going way beyond the standard bird bellowing out its hourly cuckoo chorus. The colors and story lines of life could be found in these individual handmade pieces. What struck me was how fragile the clocks are, despite their beauty and simplicity. Warranties were only for two years. Could that be an appropriate analogy to the life of each person: beautifully crafted by the creative hand of God yet made fragile by the stresses and futilities that often strike.

There is no official founder of the cuckoo clock, but what is known is that its mechanical origins apparently arose out of the Black Forest in the middle 1700's. That type of dating puts its invention around the time of the establishment of the United States in 1776. Sales of the clock were found throughout the Christmas Market destinations of Germany, Austria, and Switzerland.

The 1850's have been identified as the period of time when the popularization of exporting cuckoo clocks around the world began. Inside of the clock the use of electromagnets and weights prompt the call of the bird, though we learned on the tour that breakdowns requiring maintenance are frequent. I saw keenly the analogy to the human body, beautifully made but broken down by sickness and the emotional challenges of life. Though historians make tentative claims that rudimentary cuckoo clocks may have been discovered by the nobleman Philipp Hainhofer (1578-1647) in Augsburg, Germany and further enhanced in subsequent decades, the novelty and mass development cannot be pinpointed until one century later in the Black Forest region of Germany.

Amazingly a Catholic priest by the name of Father Markus Fidelis Jack was able to identify such clock origins in the Black Forest, in an 1810 book he wrote called "Descriptions of the Industry and the Traffic of the Black Forest." He reported: "the cuckoo clock was invented in 1730 by a clock-master Franz Anton Ketterer from Schonwald (word meaning beautiful or Black Forest ). This craftsman adorned a clock with a moving bird that announced the hour with the cuckoo-call. The clock-master got the idea of how to make the cuckoo-call from the bellows of a church organ." Though this story has its detractors, it is the accepted version in the Black Forest which is heavily Roman Catholic. The debate reminds me of the divergent stories about the beginning of the game called baseball circa 1839: was it in Cooperstown, New York or Hoboken, New Jersey or elsewhere?

There are critics perhaps wondering what in the name of God does an analysis of cuckoo clocks have to do with our religious life of prayer and sacrament. While understanding those sentiments of query and bewilderment, perhaps I can explain in a coherent and non-cuckoo way. Francis of Assisi, our patron saint for the unified parishes including Sacred Heart, was considered crazy or even cuckoo by many of his contemporaries in 1200's Italy. He chose a religious calling over the wealthy household of merchants he was born into, methodically disrobing from his expensive garments in a public square to the shock and awe of his visual observers. He attracted followers to the Franciscan way by stories of analogy, obviously bizarre to some but quite meaningful to others. Cuckoo clocks would not have been his metaphor to Christ, as they were not invented yet. Such aforementioned clocks represent in my mind the cuckoo, fragile, harsh, discouraging, blessed, holy, wholesome, and cohesive moments of life weakened by our failures and emboldened by our faith. Happy Cuckoo Clock Day! To those critical or not remember me in prayer to the Lord.

Father Bill

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Mon. April 30

7:00am Charlie Messina  
"Health and Blessings"

By Staff

Noon Jonnah John Ungab

By Algene Ungab

### Tues. May 1

7:00am Sick and Dying

Noon Robert N. Duffus III

By Jack Earley

### Wed. May 2

7:00am All Public Servants

Noon Souls in Purgatory

### Thur. May 3

7:00am Kim Geisinger  
"Health and Blessings"

By Linda & Paul Zalanowski

Noon Edward Trizinsky

By Wife, Loretta and Family

### Fri. May 4

7:00am Andrea Murphy

By Catholic War Veterans #386  
Newburgh/New Windsor

Noon Msgr. Ignatius Bialdiga

56<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

By Parish

### Sat. May 5

Noon Charlie Messina  
"Health and Blessings"

By Staff

4:30pm Olga DeAgostino-  
Meehan

By Daughters

Jen Fayo & Millie  
Tornatore

By Lastowski Family

### Sun. May 6

8:30am Stella Irwin

By Family

Adam Rehey 37<sup>th</sup> Anniv.

By Nick & Helene Stagliano

11:00am John and Stephanie  
Naclerio

By Family



### WEEKLY COLLECTION

April 21-22, 2018

1<sup>st</sup> Collection \$ 5,333.00

2<sup>nd</sup> Collection 1,585.00

TOTAL \$ 6,918.00

### MASS ATTENDANCE

April 21-22, 2018

4:30pm 180

8:30am 149

11:00am 148

1:30pm 123

Total 600



Fr. Bill Damroth will be celebrating his 25<sup>th</sup> Jubilee Anniversary as a priest next month. He was ordained on May 15, 1993. To honor this special milestone occasion Fr. Bill will celebrate Mass at St. Francis of Assisi Church at 6:30pm on Tuesday May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Following Mass a reception with light refreshments will be held at Gallo Hall in Sacred Heart School.

**ALL ARE INVITED**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection this week is for  
Catholic Church in Central and Eastern Europe



Our Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament this Wednesday from 5:00pm to 6:00pm is for the intention of THE SOULS IN PURGATORY.

### Youth Ministry

We need you. Our youth need you. If you are over the age of 18 and are out of high school please consider being an adult youth leader. Please contact Sister Laura Urbano 347-207-5020 if interested in becoming an adult youth leader for either junior high or high school.

**TODAY**  
**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**First Reading:** Acts 9:26-31

Paul the Apostle came to Jerusalem, where the other disciples were afraid of him. Then they learned that the Lord had spoken to Paul and he had preached openly in Damascus. When they learned that someone wanted to kill him, they protected him because they fully believed he had converted.

**Second Reading:** 1 John 3:18-24

John clearly states that we must love one another. All people who believe in Jesus Christ can show their faith only through their actions. If people believe in Jesus and love one another as he commanded us, they prove that they are true believers in Christ.

**Gospel:** John 15:1-8

Jesus compares himself to a vine, and compares his father to the vine-grower. He explains how God prunes the barren branches so that the rest might yield more fruit. He reminds them that apart from himself, his followers could not bear fruit

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday**

Acts 14:5-18; Jn 14:21-26

**Tuesday**

Acts 14:19-28; Jn 14:27-31a or, for the Memorial,  
Gn 1:26—2:3 or Col 3:14-15, 17, 23-24; Mt 13:54-58

**Wednesday**

Acts 15:1-6; Jn 15:1-8

**Thursday**

1 Cor 15:1-8; Jn 14:6-14

**First Friday**

Acts 15:22-31; Jn 15:12-17

**First Saturday**

Acts 16:1-10; Jn 15:18-21



**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, 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'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 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, Vanessa Rivera, Elizabeth Rich-Provenzano, Jim Formato and Paul O'Herron.



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

**The Msgr. Valastro Activity Center**  
**319 Broadway in Newburgh**

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

**TRUCK DRIVER NEEDED**

The Pantry is in need of a volunteer to drive a 26 foot truck (no special license is required) which you would pick up at Budget, go to the Food Bank in Cornwall to pick up our order, drive to the Food Pantry to deliver our order, then drive the truck back to Budget. **No lifting is involved.** Needed every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday. Call Paul Zalanowski 845-234-8564 for more details.

**LIVING OUR FAITH**  
**SENIOR BREAKFAST**

Once again this year, Adult Faith Formation is planning a senior breakfast on Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. The breakfast, to be held in Gallo Hall in Sacred Heart School, will begin following the 9:00am Mass in the church chapel. Msgr. Peter Tran Van Phat will give a talk and Larry De Gregorio will entertain with a humorous monologue. There will be hot and cold food and plenty for those who wish to take some home after the breakfast. Please call Sacred Heart Rectory, 561-2264 if you plan to attend.

**TO THE MOON AND BACK**

Sacred Heart School is hosting their annual Cash-n-Cocktails fundraiser on **Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup>** from **7:00pm to 10:30pm** at their St. Joseph Campus, 148 Windsor Highway in New Windsor. Each **\$100 ticket** admits two to the cocktail party where there will be a live band, beer, wine and appetizers at which time the **three \$5,000 winners** will be picked. For tickets contact Mary Gould 914-805-2332 or Dr. Gina Cook 845-541-4126. For more information please email [ginacookdds@gmail.com](mailto:ginacookdds@gmail.com).

**"Find new ways to spread the word of God to every corner of the world."**

Pope Francis

## TITO PUENTE Jr. LATIN JAZZ ENSEMBLE

Nora Cronin Presentation Academy is sponsoring a Spicy Spring Evening filled with Mambo, Latin Jazz, and Entertainment featuring the music of the **TITO PUENTE JR, LATIN JAZZ ENSEMBLE** on **Saturday, May 12<sup>th</sup>** with Special Guest...**The Latin Jazz Express** . The event will be held at the Ritz Theater' s Historic Green Room, 107 Broadway in Newburgh. **\$100 Tickets** includes 8pm Reserved table concert seating (+6:30 Pre-concert Meet & Greet, Dance Lesson, & Hors d'Oeuvres, in the Safe Harbors Lobby) **\$50 Tickets** includes 8pm Reserved table concert seating + hors d'Oeuvres. **\$25 Tickets** General Concert/Dance admission only. To order tickets please call 1-800-838-3006 or at <https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event3339037>.

### *The Addams Family*

Bishop Dunn Memorial School Drama Club is presenting the play, *The Addams Family* at Aquinas Hall Theater at Mt St Mary College on May 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm, May 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm and May 27<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon. Tickets are \$10.00. For questions please call Fran Lego at 845-569-3494.



The next meeting of the St. Francis Senior Citizen Group will be held in O'Connor Hall on **Wednesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 12:30pm**. Our **guest speaker** is Newburgh City Historian, **Mary McTamane**y. Do come, bring a friend, bring your lunch and be prepared to enjoy each other's company.



The Summer Program at Nora Cronin Academy needs your help. We have an exciting academic and enrichment program planned for the students of NCPA. With your support we hope to bring the girls to the 911 Museum and Memorial for a group tour, and to purchase fiction and non-fiction books for our 6,7,and 8 grade literary circles. This year we have 45 girls in the program. Adonation of \$50 will cover the cost of one girl, however we gratefully accept any amount. To donate please make check payable to NCPA-Summer Your Leadership Academy (SYLA) and mail to Dr. Cathy Squillini, 69 Bay View Terace, Newburgh, NY 12550.



### SAVE THE DATE

Sacred Heart-St. Francis REP will be hosting **MEGA SPORTS VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** on **July 9<sup>th</sup> thru July 13<sup>th</sup>** at the Religious Education Building. More Information to follow.



## APRIL IS "PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS MONTH"

Please show your support of the Hudson Valley SPCA by visiting their "BloomingDEALS Resale Store" located at 436 Route 94 in New Windsor. You can also drop off any type of pet supplies into our PAW PRINTS box in the back of the church. Suggestions for items most needed are pet food (dry or moist), paper towels, cleaning supplies, garbage bags, pet toys, and used blankets and sheets. Thank you for helping these homeless animals.

### UPCOMING PILGRIMAGES

Hosted By:

Father Bill Damroth

#### NORTHERN NATIONAL PARKS

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

#### ICELAND'S MAGICAL NORTHERN LIGHTS

February 14-20, 2019

#### HIGHLIGHTS OF ENGLAND & SCOTLAND

Visiting Stonehenge, Salisbury, Bristol, Bath, Stratford Lake District, Edinburgh, York Oxford and London  
March 11-21, 2019

#### GREEK ISLES CRUISE & EUROPE

Including The Passion Play pf Oberammergau  
May 13-23, 2020

### ICELAND'S MAGICAL NORTHERN LIGHTS

Discover Iceland, a land and culture forged by fire and ice. Steaming lava fields and massive glaciers sculpt mountains and valleys, leaving thundering waterfalls and plunging fjords.

**The Collette Travel Agency** will be here on **Monday, May 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm** in **O'Connor Hall** to do an informational presentation on our Iceland pilgrimage.

### 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*