



Padre's Corner

May 13, 2018
Ascension of the Lord

"Where can the weak find a place of firm security and peace, except in the wounds of the Savior? Indeed, the more secure is my place there the more He can do to help me. The world rages, the flesh is heavy, and the devil lays his snares, but I do not fall, for my feet are planted on firm rock. I may have sinned gravely. My conscience would be distressed, but it would not be in turmoil, for I would recall the wounds of the Lord: He was wounded for our inequities. What sin is there so deadly that it cannot be pardoned by the death of Christ? And so if I bear in mind this strong, effective remedy, I can never again be terrified by the malignancy of sin." So reflected Saint Bernard of Clairvaux (1090-1153), the famed Cistercian order abbot of France. He was canonized a saint by Pope Alexander III in 1174. Bernard knew much about the human struggle with sin, often himself jumping into ice water when he experienced temptations against the flesh. Jesus is the ultimate understanding force of human nature, weakness, and discouragement.

On the January pilgrimage to Israel with fifty parishioners this incredible side of our Savior was dipped into with the toes of our faith (at the Jordan River plus the Sea of Galilee, where He was baptized and spoke parable lessons of spiritual prowess), even at the Dead Sea where thousands of years ago the multitudes turned against the ways of the Lord. To see and embrace the sacred spots that Jesus visited Himself was beyond awesome, literally walking on the paths that His feet once touched. The message of mercy that Saint Bernard referred to was endearing during this Middle East excursion. Observed was the cave spot of His birth in Bethlehem, healing miracles at the pools of Bethesda, the grounds of the decaying palace of King Herod (who was jealous of the Baby Jesus and His followers), path of the stations-of-the-cross in Old Jerusalem, and the spectacle of the Crucifixion with burial at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. There was also the special experience of riding a camel, animals deriving from ancient times that Jesus would have observed like we did recently in the Holy Land.

Israel is a complicated area today torn by the same tensions and hatreds which He likewise saw. Shortly before our trip there was an outbreak of new tensions which threatened to reduce the size of our group. Thankfully cooler heads prevailed, so the rich memories unearthed would not be curtailed. Another spectacular series of spots visited was the site of the first miracle performed by Jesus at Cana of Galilee (church is built on top of the ancient catering hall, where couples in pilgrim groups visiting once again can renew their vows), and to an ancient synagogue in Capernaum built on top of an earlier structure Jesus once studied in (located mere yards from the home of Saint Peter's mother-in-law, where there is evidence of early worship and Masses).

When Jesus was walking the dusty roads of Jerusalem to the martyrdom hill of Golgotha, the sights and sounds of human voices and commerce would have been quite similar past and present. The visitors to the Western or Wailing Wall, the one remaining piece of the temple destroyed by the Roman Army in 70 AD, had opportunities to genuinely pray in a region that Jesus likewise frequently interacted with. While it is true that one can experience the words and actions of Jesus solely through the Scriptures, without going to the Holy Land, experiencing where He lived and breathed has a special allure to it. What emerged by the end of the pilgrimage was an appreciation for the faith handed down to each of us by our predecessors.

The Franciscan order, beneficiaries of the one collection per year for these holy territories, preserve these holy sites for pilgrims of today. They are to be commended for this courageous and demanding work of mercy. There are also the memories of many stray dogs and cats that we were able to greet and feed to a certain extent. Had I been able to take them all home to New York I would have. The same for two little kittens in Cuba last August, obviously separated from their mother, who I still think of and pray were rescued by some good people. Amazing God above please bless us.

Father Bill

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. May 14

7:00am Mary F. Miller
By Daughters Helen & Marion
Ann & Anthony Farkas
By Mary Ann & Tony Farkas
Noon Mother's Day Novena

Tues. May 15

7:00am Mother's Day Novena
Noon Deacon Peter Haight
By Kawula Family
6:30pm Fr. Bill Damroth
25th Jubilee Mass

Wed. May 16

7:00am Mother's Day Novena
Noon Mr & Mrs Nick Di Napoli
By Niece Clotilda
Zofia Wilkanowska
By Granddaughter Krystina

Thur. May 17

7:00am Marion Miller
By Helen Miller
Noon Mother's Day Novena

Fri. May 18

7:00am Mother's Day Novena
Noon Mary & Joseph Vitay
By Mary Ann & Tony Farkas

Sat. May 19

Noon Mother's Day Novena
4:30pm Rocco Pacella Jr &
Thomas Di Donato
By Shirley Pacella

Sun. May 20

8:30am Anna & Alex Yuhas
By Bill & Marion Pushman
Steve Jaffee (2nd Anniv)
By Wife Mary
11:00am Barbara Pavlik
By Husband & Children
John J. Abbruscato
By Kathy Alfano



WEEKLY COLLECTION

May 5-6, 2018

1st Collection \$ 5,104.00
2nd Collection 1,190.00
TOTAL \$ 6,294.00

MASS ATTENDANCE

May 5-6, 2018

4:30pm 162
8:30am 136
11:00am 147
1:30pm 138
Total 583

The 2nd Collection this week is for
MAINTENANCE & REPAIRS



Our **Holy Hour** with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament this **Wednesday** from **5:00pm** to **6:00pm** is for the intention of **OUR FRST HOLY COMMUNION STUDENTS.**

HEALING MASS

Our Lady of Fatima Church on Route 32 in Plattekill
on Sunday May 20th at 4:00pm
All are invited



VIRTUS TRAINING SESSION

Nancy Sporbert from the Archdiocese Safe Environment Office will conduct a Virtus Training workshop on Tuesday, **May 29th** at **6:30pm** in **Gallo Hall of Sacred Heart School.** It is advisable to pre- register on the Archdiocesan website <http://www.archny.org/virtus>. If you need help registering please contact Sr. Laura at 347-207-5020.

Anyone who intends to work with the Youth Ministry must attend this session if they have not completed their Virtus Training.



Our children will receive First Holy Communion at the 11:00am Mass next weekend. Please keep them in your prayers as they welcome the Lord into their lives.

TODAY
THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11

Jesus had appeared many times to His disciples after His resurrection. On this final occasion, Jesus' departing message is that they will soon receive the Holy Spirit to strengthen them in their work. No sooner does He say this, he is taken up to heaven before their eyes.

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:17-23

Paul prays that God may grant wisdom and enlightenment to the Ephesians so that they may know the great hope to which they are called. Every power has been given to Christ who now reigns in heaven. He is the "head of the church, which is His body."

Gospel: Mark 16:15-20

Jesus told His disciples to go and spread the gospel to every creature, to the world. Jesus also spoke of the signs that will accompany those who believe in Christ. After He spoke with them, He was taken into heaven and took His seat the right hand of God.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday

Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; Jn 15:9-17

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

Acts 20:28-38; Jn 17:11b-19

Thursday

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

Friday

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

Saturday

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



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, Vanessa Rivera, Elizabeth Rich-Provenzano, Jim Formato, Paul O'Herron and Michael Peter Antonelli



COFFEE & BAGEL HOUR

Join us for coffee and bagels after the **8:30am Mass** next **Sunday, May 20th** in O'Connor Hall.



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 **ONE POUND PACKAGES OF RICE** 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.

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 3rd Wednesday.** Call Paul Zalanowski 845-234-8564 for more details.



Held in Honor of Konrad Mann
Sunday, May 20 - 10:00am to 4:00pm
Storm King Engine Company

233 Hudson Street

Cornwall-on-Hudson, NY

Appointments appreciated call 1-800-933-2566.

Walk-ins also welcome

Konrad, husband and father of two children was diagnosed in January with Acute Myeloid Leukemia and is receiving chemotherapy and blood transfusions at Westchester Medical Center. Please support this cause.

LIVING OUR FAITH
SENIOR BREAKFAST

The Adult Faith Formation annual breakfast will be held on Saturday May 19th in Galo Hall at Sacred Heart School immediately following the 9:00am Mass in the Church Chapel. For anyone who has not yet called Sacred Heart Rectory to make a reservation, we ask that you do so by Monday, May 14th.



Sacred Heart Annual Italian Feast

Honoring Our Lady of Mt. Carmel and St. Anthony will be held on June 1, 2 and 3. The tradition is over 100 years old and is a great family event. There will be good food, music and fun for the kids.

Hours are **Friday, June 1st 6pm to 10pm**

Saturday, June 2nd 12noon to 10pm

Sunday, June 3rd 1pm to 6pm

On Sunday, June 3rd, there will be the traditional procession with the statues around the streets of the church culminating at the Feast site. Fr. Justin Cinnate, O Carm from the National Shrine of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel will celebrate the noon Mass and lead the procession.

****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 14th at 6:00pm** in **O'Connor Hall** to do an informational presentation on our Iceland pilgrimage.

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 25th at 7:00pm, May 26th at 7:00pm and May 27th at 12 noon**. Tickets are \$10.00. For questions please call Fran Lego at 845-569-3494.

TO THE MOON AND BACK

Sacred Heart School is hosting their annual Cash-n-Cocktails fundraiser on **Saturday, May 19th 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.

*Mothers are where life begins
and love never ends*



Sacred Heart School, New Windsor at St. Joseph's Campus, 148 Windsor Highway would like to invite you to our open house on **Wednesday, May 16th at 6:00pm**. Come tour our school, meet our teachers and learn how to receive Financial Assistance towards tuition. For questions e-mail msheathershs@gmail.com or 845-561-1433.

APARTMENT FOR RENT

Newly renovated, two bedroom, 1st floor apartment with wood floors and deck in back located at 138 Benkard Avenue. \$1,000/month. Electric and heat are separate. First/last/security to move in, Call 845-219-6850 for an appointment

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 of Oberammergau

May 13-23, 2020

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*

