

**SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY**  
**APRIL 28, 2019**



**SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2019**

5:30 P.M. Vincent "Jim" Spina  
Msgr. Paul Knauer  
Patricia A. McCormick  
Intentions for Safe Travel  
Sebastian Lentini

**SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 2019**

7:30 A.M. Parishioners  
Frances & Anthony Yavorosky  
Emilia & Michael Gorzelany  
Antonio, Louise & Mary Casazza

10:00 A.M. Roy & Shirley Parian  
Frank & Dorothy Orofino  
Rocco Tarulli

12:00 Noon Concetta "Tina" Pecorelli  
Elaine Arendas  
Intentions of the Sorrentino Family

**MONDAY, APRIL 29, 2019**

8:00 A.M. Deuencia Hernandez

**TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 2019**

8:00 A.M. Albert Assidio

**THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2019**

8:00 A.M. Alice Zabriskie  
John Bisaccio

**FRIDAY, MAY 3, 2019**

8:00 A.M. PARISH PURGATORIAL

**SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2019**

5:30 P.M. Eleanor Leppin  
Vincent "Jim" Spina  
Mary Luciani  
In Thanksgiving for Prayers

**SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2019**

7:30 A.M. John & Rosemarie Englehardt

10:00 A.M. Francis Legutko  
St. Joseph's Day Intentions

12 NOON Rose Gerace  
Enrique Burgaleta

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

Mary Carton Jacob Hicks Barry Bach Estella Soto  
Ava Rae Nebbia Matthew Polifonte William Pannone  
Gary Ragusa Alex Haines Evelyn Means  
George Link Michael Soojian Valentina Manuele  
Susan Nichols-Boggio Kevin Kerrigan Ryder Sasso  
Mike Tidaback Robert Moreno Larry Ferry  
Dorothea King Jerome Foray Sister Annette  
Manuel Esguerra Frank Michaelson Norberto Marin  
Cenelia Soto Robert Nebbia Christopher Berry  
Sharon Acquire Noah Lorencovitz Jessica Skorubski  
Florence Grim Anton Grim George Macagnone  
Alex Coronel Alice Roslund Kathleen Kiley

Ann Cervino Bernie Shushan Jordan Soroko  
**DECEASED:** Deceased Parishioners

**CHURCH MEMORIALS**

**Church Altar Candle** in memory of Elaine Arendas  
requested by William Morrison.

**WEEKLY OFFERING**

Easter Sunday, April 21, 2019 – \$17,507.00  
Thank you for your continued support.

**WEEKLY REFLECTION**

**The Resurrection Changes Everything**

Jesus is the risen King who is victorious over death, recognized by His disciples, validated by Scripture, and enthroned over all creation. That truth changes our faith, theology, and life. The resurrection also changes our practical living. The resurrection isn't just a doctrine to believe, but a truth should change our behavior.

Think about the most famous person who died recently, someone whose death made every newspaper and television news broadcast. Imagine a few days later as you watch your favorite news station, a breaking news alert interrupts. The anchor explains that this famous person has come back to life! The nation is in shock. As you change the channel, you discover this news is the subject on every station. You go to work and everyone is talking about it. You browse the internet, and everyone is posting and blogging about it. This is monumental. This is impossible. This has never happened before! Or has it?

If we aren't in awe of the resurrection of Jesus as a historical event, we may only see it as a fairytale. The resurrection is scientifically impossible, but historically true. The resurrection is history-making, earth-shaking, life-transforming, and eternity-changing truth. You may believe it, but do you understand how it changes your life?

**Jesus' resurrection changes our conversations**

Two of Jesus' disciples walk together down a seven-mile stretch of road, having a conversation. It was about the resurrection of Jesus, obviously the most shocking news they had ever heard. A stranger began to walk with them (Jesus incognito), and they were astounded to learn this man had apparently not heard about the resurrection. Notice that their conversation wasn't just about the details of the resurrection, but also about who He was supposed to be, His life, His death, and what it all meant. The truth of the resurrection is just as shocking today as it was the day it occurred. Don't treat the resurrection as some cold truth you've always heard. Do not allow your understanding and presentation of the gospel to be about the death of Jesus alone. Let Jesus' resurrection change your conversation. Talk about it this week with the same excitement as if it just happened.

### **Jesus' resurrection changes our witness**

As Jesus revealed His true identity to His disciples, He taught them a very important truth. His gospel presentation explains how their lives will change because of that truth. "Repentance and forgiveness should be proclaimed in His name to all nations, beginning with Jerusalem" (Luke 24:47). Don't miss this - repentance does not just mean to turn away from sin. That is only part of the truth. Repentance also means turning to Jesus. Forgiveness means that God will not hold His judgment against us for our sin because Jesus has been judged in our place. "Nations" means that there is not one person on earth who does not need to hear about the gospel of salvation through Jesus.

Repentance and forgiveness should not be whispered, muttered, or mumbled. Witnessing lost people turn from their sin and to Jesus is a joy. Telling sinners who feel the weight, guilt, and shame of their sin about Jesus should be our pleasure. Jesus says that repentance and forgiveness are to be proclaimed because this is the news that people are dying to hear. The nations are looking for ways to relieve their guilt and shame for sin that only the gospel can bring. Let the resurrection change your witness by proclaiming its truth.

### **HISTORY OF THE MESSAGE AND DEVOTION TO DIVINE MERCY**

The Message of the Divine Mercy that St. Faustina received from the Lord was not only directed toward her personal growth in faith but also toward the good of the people. With the command of our Lord to paint an image according to the pattern that Sr. Faustina had seen, came also a request to have this image venerated, first in the Sisters' chapel, and then throughout the world. The same is true with the revelations of the Chaplet. The Lord requested that this Chaplet be said not only by Sr. Faustina, but by others: "Encourage souls to say the Chaplet that I have given you."

The same is true of the revelation of the Feast of Mercy. "The Feast of Mercy emerged from my very depths of tenderness. It is my desire that it solemnly be celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the fount of My Mercy."

These requests of the Lord given to Sr. Faustina between 1931 and 1938 can be considered the beginning of the Divine Mercy Message and Devotion in the new forms.

Through the efforts of St. Faustina's spiritual directors, Fr. Michael Sopocko, and others — including the Marians of the Immaculate Conception — this message began to spread throughout the world.

However, it is important to remember that this message of The Divine Mercy, revealed to St. Faustina and to our present generation is not new. It is a powerful reminder of who God is and has been from the very beginning. This truth that God is in His very nature Love and Mercy Itself, is given to us by our Judeo-Christian faith and God's self-revelation. The veil that has hidden the mystery of God from eternity was lifted by God Himself. In His goodness and love God chose to reveal Himself to us, His creatures, and to make known His eternal plan of salvation. This He had done partly through the Old Testament Patriarchs, Moses and the Prophets, and fully through His only Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. In the person of Jesus Christ, conceived through power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary, the unseen God was made visible.

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### **Jesus reveals God as Merciful Father**

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The Old Testament speaks frequently and with great tenderness about God's mercy. Yet, it was Jesus, who through His words and actions, revealed to us in an extraordinary way, God as a loving Father, rich in mercy and abounding in great kindness and love. In Jesus' merciful love and care for the poor, the oppressed, the sick and the sinful, and especially in His freely choosing to take upon Himself the punishment for our sins (a truly horrible suffering and death on the Cross), so that all may be freed from destructive consequences and death, He manifested in a superabundant and radical way the greatness of God's love and mercy for humanity. In His person as God-Man, one in being with the Father, Jesus both reveals and is God's Love and Mercy Itself.

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### **The message of God's Love and Mercy is especially made known by the Gospels.**

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The good news revealed through Jesus Christ is that God's love for each person knows no bounds, and no sin or infidelity, no matter how horrible, will separate us from God and His love when we turn to Him in confidence, and seek his mercy. God's will is our salvation. He has done all on our behalf, but since He made us free, He invites us to choose Him and partake of His divine life. We become partakers of His divine life when we believe in His revealed truth and trust Him, when we love Him and remain true to His word, when we honor Him and seek His Kingdom, when we receive Him in Communion and turn away from sin; when we are mutually caring and forgiving

### **PARISH HAPPENINGS**

|                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| April 28 <sup>th</sup>                | Divine Mercy – 2PM in the Church                |
| May 3 <sup>rd</sup> – 4 <sup>th</sup> | Overnight Adoration                             |
| June 8 <sup>th</sup>                  | Trip to St. John Neumann Shrine in Philadelphia |

## OUR STAINED GLASS WINDOWS: TREASURE AND TRUTH

During medieval times, very few people could read. Installing stained glass windows in churches became a very useful and beautiful way to teach them about the Bible. These windows would show images highlighting the most important stories in Salvation History. Saints were often depicted too, and this served to help people struggling on their Christian journey. The windows in our church are there to inspire us; to teach us spiritual truths. They also remind us of our great Catholic heroes, the saints. Stained glass windows are full of details, and each detail is there for a reason. Maybe today, as we admire the light shining through them, we could think about their many colors. Did you know that each color has a special meaning?

**Red** represents the blood of Christ, it indicates strong emotions such as love or hate; it serves as a reminder of Jesus' suffering and sacrifice, it also often associated with the martyrdom of saints.

**Blue:** the color of the sky symbolizes heaven, hope, sincerity, and piety. The color is often associated with the Virgin Mary.

**Green:** the color of grass and nature is an indication of spring, growth and rebirth, life over death; it symbolizes faith, immortality, and contemplation.

**Violet:** symbolizes love, truth, passion, and suffering.

**White:** the color that represents chastity, innocence, and purity is often associated with God.

**Yellow:** although the color is sometimes used to symbolize treachery, such as in depictions of Judas, it is more widely used to indicate the halo of saints, or the Gates of Heaven and to symbolize divinity, power and glory.

**Purple:** it is believed that Christ wore purple before His crucifixion so the color has come to symbolize suffering and endurance; purple is also used to depict royalty or God the Father.

**Gray:** a symbol of humility and mourning, it also represents the immortality of the spirit.

**Brown:** the symbol of spiritual death and renunciation of worldly things.

**Rainbow:** symbolizes union and God's covenant with humanity.



## PARISH PILGRIMAGE...

On Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup> to visit the National Shrine of St. John Neumann, Philadelphia, PA and the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, Doylestown, PA. The airconditioned motor coach will depart from St. Francis and return the same evening. Call the rectory to purchase your seat for the trip. \$35 per person. More details to follow.

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

May is the month that is dedicated to Our Lady. What better way to honor her than by spending some time with her Son!

We will be holding overnight **Eucharistic Adoration** from 7 pm on Friday, MAY 3rd through Saturday, May 4th at 10:30 am followed by the 1st Saturday Mass to Our Lady at 11 am and the Patriotic Rosary, praying for the needs of our country. Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex. Won't you join us!!

One or many adorers can sign up for any given time. Please include your name & phone number (noting home or cell) so that we can contact you to confirm your time and give you the entry code.

For the safety of the adorers, NO ONE will be permitted entry who has not signed up and been given the code. Please do not attempt entry before 9 AM if you have not signed up for Adoration. The Church will be open at 9 AM for those who wish to make an unplanned visit.

## LAKELAND NURSING HOME SCHEDULE SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2019

Maria Invernon & John Minnett

### LECTORS

#### SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2019

8:00 P.M. Annick Vasquez & Lynn Magnini

#### SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2019

7:30 A.M. Erika Reid

10:00 A.M. Annie Rivera & Sue Kummer

12 NOON Linda O'Connell & Fred Ackerly

### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

#### SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2019

5:30 P.M. Pat Demarest & Martha Bisaccio

#### SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2019

7:30 A.M. Hatima Omolon & Sandy Weigand

10:00 A.M. Melissa Rivera & Agnieszka Zak

12 NOON Debbie Ackerly & Brenda McWeeny

### ALTAR SERVERS

#### SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2019

5:30 P.M. Peter Sutula & Kevin Bruenjes

#### SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2019

7:30 A.M. Danielle Reid & Collin O'Keefe

10:00 A.M. Kelly Frisina & Mackenzie King

12 NOON David Ackerly & Aaron Manalili

# Pancake Breakfast



*Sponsored by St. Francis Knights of Columbus*

Time: 8:00 am to 12:00 pm

Date: May 19, 2019

Place: St. Francis of Assisi Church Hall

## **BREAKFAST INCLUDES**

**Pancakes - Bacon - Sausage**

**Scrambled Eggs - Diced Potatoes**

**Juice - Coffee - Tea**

**(Chocolate chip pancakes available)**

**\$8.00 per adult**

**\$4.00 per child (8 & under)**

**FIRST COMMUNICANTS - FREE!!**

## **For Tickets Contact:**

Pete Kramer 973-839-5731 or

available at Door