

bogonewTHIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 5, 2019



SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2019

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

SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2019

7:30 A.M. Parishioners
John & Rosemarie Englehardt
10:00 A.M. Francis Legutko
Saint Joseph's Day Intentions
12:00 P.M. Rose Gerace
Enrique Burgaleta
Cristino C. Cui, Sr.

MONDAY, MAY 6, 2019

8:00 A.M. Carmella Fricke

TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2019

8:00 A.M. Clementine & Gregorio Destito

THURSDAY, MAY 9, 2019

8:00 A.M. Victor Colson, Jr.

FRIDAY, MAY 10, 2019

8:00 A.M. Robert Means

SATURDAY, MAY 11, 2019

5:30 P.M. Mothers of the Parish

SUNDAY, MAY 12, 2019

7:30 A.M. Mothers of the Parish
10:00 A.M. Mothers of the Parish
12:00 P.M. Mothers of the Parish

**Pray daily for our servicemen and women
serving their country.**

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Mary Carton	Jacob Hicks	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	Jordan Soroko
Dorothea King	Jerome Foray	Sister Annette
Manuel Esguerra	Frank Michaelson	Norberto Marin
Cenelia Soto	Robert Nebbia	Christopher Berry
Sharon Acquaire	Noah Lorencovitz	Jessica Skorubski
Florence Grim	Anton Grim	George Macagnone
Alex Coronel	Alice Roslund	Kathleen Kiley
Ann Cervino	Bernie Shushan	Jean'na Wojcik Post

DECEASED: Our Deceased Loved Ones

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday, April 28, 2019 – \$4,479.00
Thank you for your continued support.



WEEKLY REFLECTION

Dear Friends in Christ,

"Do You Love Me More than These?"

John 21:15-25

Today's passage comes right after one of those, in which the resurrected Jesus appears to his disciples while they are fishing and guides them to a jackpot catch. Then he calls them all together around a charcoal fire and breaks bread with them, making himself known to them over a meal.

That leads into our scripture today, which focuses on the disciple Peter. To understand the significance of this repetitive conversation, you have to remember Peter's history and his last appearance in John's gospel. Peter is the one who declares that Jesus is the Messiah; Peter is the one who dares to step out of the boat and walk on the water toward Jesus; Peter is the one who says at the Last Supper, "Even if everyone else may flee, I will never desert you." Peter was a man of great faith, to whom Jesus says in Matthew's gospel, "I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven."

In the high priest's courtyard, Peter denied Jesus 3 times. The famous three-fold denial. It's tempting to bash Peter and disparage him for not living up to his promise. Didn't he say he would never desert Jesus? What kind of person would say that and then deny even knowing Jesus? But I'm not ready to string Peter up by his thumbs just yet, because I know I'm just as guilty of violating my own promises.

When our young people make their confession of faith and are baptized, they promise to do things like resist temptation, be faithful in their worship attendance and readily share the good news of Jesus Christ with others. How well do any of us fulfill those promises? Peter's denial is more well-known – as if the event itself weren't bad enough, it's recorded in all four gospels, just so we don't miss it. But we've all promised things to God on which we haven't delivered. In our moments of faith and our moments of doubt, we are no different than Peter.

After his shameful denial around a charcoal fire, Peter does show up again, around another charcoal fire. Only this time he's not being asked if he knows Jesus, but if he loves him. This is the first time Jesus and Peter have met since the denial, but Jesus doesn't upbraid him for his past failures. Instead, he asks him about his present and future commitment.

This three-fold expression of Peter's love for Jesus effectively cancels out Peter's three-fold denial. And Jesus does it in a way that his purpose is unmistakable.

"DOUBTING THOMAS"

On that first Easter Sunday, after Jesus has appeared to Mary in the garden, he goes to the room where the rest of his disciples are holed up. And he says "peace be with

you". And they believe. But one disciple was missing. Thomas wasn't there when Jesus came back.

Thomas arrives and all the other disciples tell him Jesus was just here. Thomas tells them, "Unless I see it for myself, and can touch his wounds, I won't believe."

But the next week, he is there again. He's with them, and he still hasn't seen Jesus. And all of a sudden the same thing happens. Jesus appears and tells Thomas to put his hands on his, and feel the wounds from the nails. And he does. And he believes. Jesus asks him, "Do you believe because you have seen me?" And he tells him, "Blessed are those who do not see yet believe."

I've always felt bad for Thomas. He was asked to do what the other disciples didn't have to do. He had to believe sight unseen. Probably any of the others would have had the same struggle. And yet, we all know Thomas as "doubting Thomas". I wonder how long after this happened did it take for the other disciples to call him that.

Most of us understand what it is to live between faith and doubt. We think of faith and doubt as opposites. But that's not really true. Faith and apathy are more opposite than faith and doubt. But doubt is often a key part of the journey of faith. It's a stop along the way that most of us make more than once. And when we find ourselves there, it's not an indication of us being bad Christians or disbelievers. It's a sign that we are taking our relationship with God seriously enough that we are letting ourselves be honest, and we are letting ourselves start a journey without knowing exactly sure where we are going.

Thomas was like that. As much as he is "doubting Thomas", he's also known to millions as Saint Thomas. Christian tradition holds that he set sail for India and was the first to spread the Christian there. In the end his doubt, his desire to know Jesus for himself, was what brought him faith. And that faith gave him the strength to bring that message to so many others. And if you go to India today, St. Thomas is the one who didn't just doubt, but who believed, and who helped others to do so as well.

Doubting Thomas may have become a saint, but what hope is there for me, or for you?

We all doubt. At least all of us who see faith as a journey, and not a one time stop. Our faith gets shaken, we question it, we wonder why Jesus doesn't appear to us when everyone around us seems to have seen him. We may even feel a bit ashamed of our doubt. I wonder if Thomas did that first week. Why couldn't he just accept what the others said? Why did he have to see for himself? I wonder if the next Sunday he thought about not going back. He wasn't "one of them" anymore. He was the doubter. The one who hadn't seen.

Maybe he went back because he thought maybe, just maybe, Jesus would come again. For whatever reason, we went back to that community in his hour of greatest

doubt, just like many of you come here every week, and that day Jesus showed up and he believed.

Doubt can be the thing that propels us to faith.

It can be what shakes us up. It can be what pushes us out of the doors of our once comfortable places and into a new, and better, world. Doubt can be the ticket that starts our journey to new life. It can be a sign not of the absence of God, but of God working in us to do something new.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE – SATURDAY JUNE 8, 2019

**Our spiritual director
and guide will be Fr.
Greg. Please save the
date!**



We are traveling by modern, air conditioned motor coach equipped with a restroom.

Departure is from St. Francis at 8 AM, returning by approximately 5 PM the same evening. Our journey will take us to:

National Shrine of St. John Neumann - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

St. John Neumann, the only American born man to be canonized a saint, was a bishop of Philadelphia during one of the great immigration booms. At the Shrine, we will attend Mass concelebrated by Fr. Greg, with relic veneration and novena afterwards. There will be free time to pray, and tour both the upper church and Shrine (lower church). The dining area has been reserved for us so we may enjoy our lunch together as a parish family. There is a gift shop if you would like to browse.

National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa - Doylestown, Pennsylvania

The beloved miraculous icon of Our Lady of Czestochowa is housed in the Monastery of Jasna Góra in Czestochowa, Poland. According to tradition, the icon was painted by Luke the Evangelist, and was brought to Poland in 1382. Most of all it is a home of **our Mother, Mary**, who loves us and always leads us to Her Son Jesus Christ. The National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa houses a reproduction of the Black Madonna icon of Czestochowa. There are many beautiful side altars, mosaic murals, and more. Fr. Greg will guide us through the Shrine and share his insights about this holy place. There is a large gift shop with a

great variety of religious items, and there is a modern vending machine area. Bring your own box lunch.
SEATING IS LIMITED. YOU MAY PURCHASE YOUR SEAT AT THE PARISH OFFICE. THE COST IS \$35 PER PERSON. FAMILY AND FRIENDS ARE WELCOME. PLEASE JOIN US! MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW.

PARISH HAPPENINGS

May 6th Ladies' Guild Meeting 7:30PM
 May 11th Faith Renewal Holy Hour – 4:30PM
 May 18th First Holy Communion
 May 19th Pancake Breakfast – Church Hall
 June 8th Trip to St. John Neumann Shrine in Philadelphia
 June 8th Clothing Drive 9AM – 2PM

DIAPER DROP

Anyone who has had a child knows how expensive diapers, wipes, and formula have become. The Knights of Columbus would like to remove this obstacle to the choice for life by providing much needed economic assistance.

St. Francis Council K of C will hold a “Diaper Drop” at St. Francis parish to collect diapers, wipes, baby food and formula. We plan on giving these items to The Lighthouse, a pregnancy care center, located in Wayne, NJ.

We will start collecting item on Mother’s Day weekend (May 12th) and finish on Father’s Day weekend (June 16th).

We would like St. Francis parish to be the surrogate fathers to children saved from abortion.

Drop off will be in the church narthex. Any questions, call Frank La Sala, FDD-PGK at 973-839-8399.

FAITH RENEWAL HOLY HOUR

Join us on May 11th for our monthly Faith Renewal Holy Hour filled with adoration, contemporary music, meditation and prayer at 4:30PM followed by our Faith Renewal Mass at 5:30PM. Let us all come together and enter the mystery of our Lord’s presence in the Eucharist and personally encounter Jesus Christ. Our Faith Renewal Mass is for those who prefer an upbeat, more lively worship experience. We would like you to become involved with our Faith Renewal Team and help us come up with new and wonderful fellowship events. We are looking for talented musicians, either vocally or an instrument, who would like to share their talents. To get involved with this ministry, please email us at stfrancisfaithrenewal@gmail.com or follow us on facebook @St.FrancisFaithRenewal. Help us grow our new ministry!

LADIES’ GUILD

St. Francis Ladies’ Guild will hold their May meeting on Monday, May 6th in the church hall at 7:30PM. All ladies of the parish are welcome to attend.

HELP WANTED

Help wanted for experienced lawn maintenance person. Please call [973-248-2793](tel:973-248-2793).

A young woman is in need of a place to live from May 27th – Aug. 23rd (dates may vary) during her internship at Camfil in Riverdale. If you have an extra room in our home and can help her out, please reply to Emily @ 612-224-6733 or Emily.schubert@camfil.com
 Please only female or married couple reply. Thank you.

ADDITIONAL EASTER FLOWER REMEMBRANCES

IN MEMORY OF	REQUESTED BY
Judy McBride	Vincent McBride
Walter Allard, Margaret & George, Pat & Stella, Jack, Joe, Jim, Dottie & Alvernia, All in need of your love and mercy, Deceased Friends & Family	Marge Allard

LAKELAND NURSING HOME SCHEDULE SUNDAY, MAY 12, 2019

Martha Bisaccio & Margaret O’Neill

LECTORS

SATURDAY, MAY 11, 2019

5:30 P.M. Pat Demarest & Dom Cortellessa

SUNDAY, MAY 12, 2019

7:30 A.M. Jason Velante
 10:00 A.M. Judy Moran & John McMurray
 12 NOON Mary Avella & Henry Mendoza

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

SATURDAY, MAY 11, 2019

5:30 P.M. Maria Invernon & Lois Bonaceto

SUNDAY, MAY 12, 2019

7:30 A.M. Sue Raoul & Gina Martellacci
 10:00 A.M. Olympia Luciani
 12 NOON Barbara Garruto & Joe Darlington

ALTAR SERVERS

SATURDAY, MAY 11, 2019

5:30 P.M. Sean Moebius & Tim Kenny

SUNDAY, MAY 12, 2019

7:30 A.M. Elizabeth Reid
 Hayden Whitaker - Currie
 10:00 A.M. Jonathan Hogue
 12 NOON Jon-Karlo & Joseph Villacis

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