

Saint Francis Xavier Parish

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 7, 2018

REV. DENNIS M. DINAN, PASTOR
ABBY RODDEN, PARISH SECRETARY

OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY-FRIDAY 7:30AM-11:30AM
OR BY APPOINTMENT

TELEPHONE: (845) 252-6681

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WEB ADDRESSES: www.sfxnarrowburg.com
www.ollhuntington.com

EMAIL: sfxnarrowburg@gmail.com

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE: (845) 252-6681

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SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

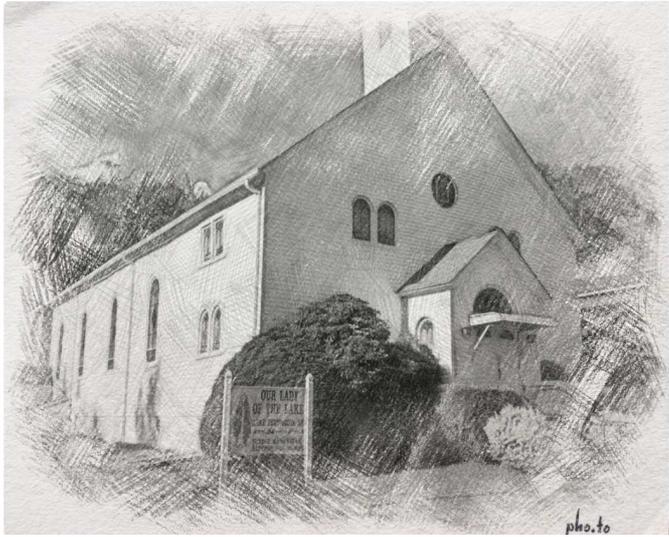
Regularly scheduled on available Sundays of each month after our last Mass. Arrangements can be made by contacting the Rectory. One godparent is required and must be 14, confirmed and a practicing Catholic, plus obtain a Sponsor Certificate from their parish. Only one male and one female godparent is permitted. Parents should be registered in the parish and meet with priests.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Arrangements should be made at least 6 months prior to wedding date. Marriage Preparation Conferences must be attended. Either the Bride or the Groom must be a registered parishioner or be associated with the parish. They must meet with the parish priest before a wedding date can be scheduled.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Grades K-8 meet Sundays. Contact the Religious Ed Office to register children. We ask families to be registered & involved parishioners. Children must be baptized. Parents & children are expected to attend Mass each week including summertime.



Founded 1809

Hail Stella Maris, God's own Mother blest!

Our Lady of the Lake Church

Rt 52, Lake Huntington

Masses

Sunday 8:30am
 Holydays of Obligation As Announced

Confessions & Daily Mass

At St. Francis Xavier



Founded 1890

"Be Great in Small Things"

St. Francis Xavier Church

151 Bridge St., Narrowburg

Masses

Saturday 4:30pm
 Sunday 11:00am
 Daily (Tuesday-Friday) 8:30am
 Holydays of Obligation As announced

Confessions

Saturday 4:00pm
 Or by appointment

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, OCTOBER 7, 2018 **FATHER DENNIS M. DINAN**

Dear Parish Family,

Do you know why Jesus can speak about marriage so authoritatively as he does in today's Gospel? Well, most importantly, he is our Creator. He, therefore, can do that. He is the foremost authority who can talk about it as it should be. He teaches us that a true spousal relationship cannot be broken. At the same time, it prevents remarriage. When questioned on the subject, Jesus responded, "*Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery*" (Mk 10:11-12). God does not unite people in an indissoluble bond with the option that the couple can call a halt to the marriage if things do not work out. They might physically separate. They might have to because of the failure of one or both persons to really make the marriage work. Many times there is abuse of some kind. They might get legally divorced. But they are still married in the eyes of the Church and before God. Of course, this always assumes that it was a valid Catholic wedding (for Catholics), or two (even non-Catholic) baptized Christians, as long as it was in keeping with regulations of their faiths, or for non-Christians, or a baptized and non-baptized person, whatever is consistent with what their faith teaches. For some (not Catholics), marriage by a Justice of the Peace will produce a valid marriage bond. In some cases, for baptized persons, it can also be a sacramental bond. If we examine any of the Gospel passages on this, we see Jesus is talking to non-baptized, namely those of the Jewish faith. So, it's not just about Catholics!

Also many people, after a divorce, seek an annulment. The procedure is not as difficult as many imagine. It is not costly, as most think. It now is free!—nice! in comparison to a civil divorce, lawyer fees, etc. Speaking of the annulment process, one idea must be dismissed; and that is: an annulment does not nor cannot break a marriage bond. An annulment is simply a judgment by the Church that, after a thorough investigation, a marriage never actually existed between two people. The following are examples which can either nullify a marriage (i.e. it won't actually take place and are grounds for annulment): 1) The inability to desire or have the required *intimacy* or to seek it with a person of the same sex just does not fit into God's plan and would not result in a valid marriage. 2) To not consent beforehand to *fidelity* with one's spouse can nullify the marriage. 3) To set conditions on the marriage, like a written pre-nuptial agreement, would be to not consent to *indissolubility*, and would be invalid. 4) To decide (deliberately will), by at least one person, before marriage, never to have children results in an invalid marriage. In light of this, it has also been argued that persons, who resort to artificial birth control or sterilization to the extent that a child is never conceived (i.e., the intent was never to conceive) during their marriage, would not be validly married. Obviously, this cannot be said of naturally sterile couples because they did not will, intend or produce this effect. Note: the emphasis on a person's intentions.

Marriage also cannot be coerced or forced. This means, a marriage entered because of circumstances surrounded by fear will normally dispel any notion of valid consent being given. It must be entered into freely. This means that one or both persons never intended to live the reality that the Church proposes to us as authentic "Christian Marriage" (or *intimacy*).

Besides intentions, which uncover the motive of why something is done, or a course of action is chosen, we also have the effects of our actions, which many times speak for themselves. Jesus told us, "*By their fruits you will know them*" (Mt 7:16). For instance, a Christian is called to produce good fruit, namely that which was seen in the life of their Master, who instructed us, "*I give you a new commandment: ... As I have*

loved you, so you also should love one another" (Jn 13:34). And so, as trees are known by their fruit, so also he said, "*This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another*" (Jn 13:35).

What is the fruit of marriage? It is called to produce deep, intimate, faithful, long-lasting relationships. It is called to produce a *spirit of love*, just as the intimate relationship between the Father and the Son produces a "Holy" Spirit of Love. It is called to be an aid to quench the forces of selfishness and concupiscence (the tendency towards sinful lust) that we all have inherited. It is called to be life-giving. As a tree produces its own kind of fruit, Marriage is called to be fruitful with children. It is not mentioned in our First Reading from the *Book of Genesis* today, which is the second creation account. In the first creation account, however, God tells the man and woman, after blessing them, "*Be fertile and multiply*" (Gen 1:28). Fertility and children always were intended as blessings. Children are from God, even if it's a surprise pregnancy! Yes, a child can thwart our plans, but we must ask ourselves, "Who are we living for?" Ourselves or God? "What are we living for?" Fruit or goods that will eventually perish?

In a newsletter from Dr. Scott Hahn's, *St. Paul's Center for Biblical Theology*, was a short study of today's readings. It cited how Jesus moves from a debate about marriage in the Gospel to the blessing of children. The conclusion, it said, was: "Children are the blessing the Father bestows on couples who walk in his ways, as we sing in today's Psalm." Can we conclude from this that a marriage is working because we see children? Hardly! But, it's a good indicator. Still, having children is something that is supposed to be done *responsibly*.

In the beginning of his encyclical, *Humanae Vitae*, Pope Paul VI, stated, "The most serious duty of transmitting human life, for which married persons are the free and responsible collaborators of God the Creator, has always been a source of great joys to them, even if sometimes accompanied by not a few difficulties and by distress" [*Emphasis mine*]. He also added that, "At all times the fulfillment of this duty has posed grave problems to the conscience of married persons" and said that this is a matter that the Church could not ignore, since it was "a matter which so closely touches upon the life and happiness of men."

A good understanding of marriage is vital to be able to understand God's plan for us. It shows what the plan of salvation is all about. Why? We can view it as a prerequisite given to us so as to learn how to enter an intimate relationship with Jesus Christ, a *spousal union*. We are invited to a "Wedding Feast" or the "Bridal Supper of the Lamb." We can see at the end of the *Book of Revelation* that God is calling us to enter into an unending *spousal relationship* with Jesus, to see that this must be the goal of our life. All other relationships in this life, marriages included (especially!), are preparations for what we must finally be able to do to find happiness and fulfillment. We are talking about eternal happiness, but it begins here. We can never form that relationship later if we do not start it here on earth. It's not possible to love the God we cannot see if we don't love the persons we can see (see 1 Jn 4:20). We are talking about a lasting, indissoluble relationship! Have we looked at our lives in this way? Saint Paul tells us, "*Eye has not seen, and ear has not heard, and what has not entered the human heart, what God has prepared for those who love him*" (1 Cor 2:9). So we cannot even imagine the blessings that the Father wishes to bestow in heaven on those who were willing to walk in his ways on earth!

God's Peace ☩
Father Dinan


40 DAYS FOR LIFE™
SEPTEMBER 26 – NOVEMBER 4

Please prayerfully consider being a part of the *40 Days for Life* campaign, where we maintain a prayerful and peaceful presence.

NEWBURGH PLANNED PARENTHOOD

136 Lake Street, Newburgh Campaign hours: 7 AM – 7 PM
Campaign Manager: Wendy Wood 845-820-4366 or 40DaysforLife.com/Newburgh

GOSHEN PLANNED PARENTHOOD

7 Coates Drive, Goshen Campaign hours: 7 AM – 7 PM
Campaign Manager: Veronica Murphy 845-551-8560 or 40DaysforLife.com/Goshen

The Office of Youth Ministry is holding NY Catholic Youth Day on Saturday, October 20 at the Westchester County Center. This year's theme will focus on Pope Francis' 2018 World Youth Day message from Luke 1:30, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God."

This event is open to all high school students.

Visit www.oymny.org/nycyd or call 914-367-8329

NEW YORK CATHOLIC YOUTH DAY

B BOLD

"DO NOT BE AFRAID,
MARY, FOR YOU HAVE FOUND
FAVOR WITH GOD."

LUKE 1:30

Mass Intentions

Saturday, October 6th

4:30pm -Joann Brennan
Requested by Al & Linda Smith

Sunday, October 7th

8:30am -Rosemary Barille
Requested by The Rosary Society
11:00am -Josephine Kelly
Requested by Betty Kelly & Family
-Enzo Cerrato
Requested by Wendell & Lillian Putz
-Deceased Members of Putz & Connolly Families
Requested by Wendell & Lillian Putz

Tuesday, October 9th

8:30am -George J. Johnson
Requested by Al & Linda Smith

Wednesday, October 10th

8:30am -Dr. Robert Lucas
Requested by Patty Moser & Judy Stringer

Thursday, October 11th

8:30am -Joseph Meyer
Requested by Peggy & Patrick Harrison

Friday, October 12th

8:30am -Our Parish Family

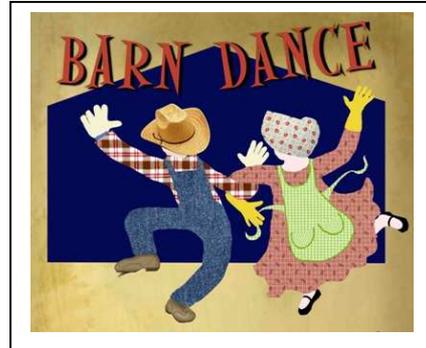
Saturday, October 13th

4:30pm -Charlotte Mills
Requested by Loving Family

Sunday, October 14th

8:30am -Fr. William Scully
Requested by The Rosary Society
11:00am -Dr. Robert Lucas
Requested by Patty Moser & Judy Stringer
-Marie F. Porter
Requested by Helen Barr Reith & The Reith Family

St. Anthony/St. Thomas Aquinas



When: Sunday, October 14 12-5pm

Where: St. Anthony's, Yulan

What: Family, food, and fun!

\$10/person or \$20/family

Collection

September 30, 2018

1st Collection

Our Lady of the Lake	\$362.00
St. Francis Xavier	\$1,084.00

Other

Our Lady of the Lake	\$52.00
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Total
\$1,498.00
Thank you!

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Genesis 2:18-24
Hebrews 2:9-11
Mark 10:2-16 or 10:2-12

Please Pray for our Parish Family

For the Sick: Peggy Bayly Lohmann, Dennis Falk, Barbara Walter, Gloria Saures, Ed Brennan, Amy Ernano, Clayton Snow, Barnabas O'Driscoll, Sean Sweeney, Jose Mabama, Ron Burke, Charlotte Mills, Carol Mash, Mary Cauvaris, Barbara Smith, Janine Perry, Hilde Bielfeld, Rosemary Barile, Helene Indelicato, Christine Mary Faggione, Tracy Larssen, Septemberr Totten, Madeline Sheans, Peggy Lee Romano, Mary Weiden, Mary Tresh, Ida Alvarez, and all those struggling with any kind of illness and suffering.

For the Deceased: Theresa Delaney, Helen Bunis, Maria Meyer, Pat Noble, Joseph Meyer, Gloria Ackermann, Eileen Dempsey, Martin Ferrick, Jacoba "Cobi" Campfield, George Johnson, Josephine Kelly, Joanne Barnes Brennan, Dr. Robert Lucas, Daniel Kelly, Fr. William Scully, Jean Salmeri, Barbara Smith, Mary Ann Janowsky, Helen Guttzeit, and all those who have gone before us.

For those Serving in the Military: SGT Vaughn Schlott USMC (TX)