



PADRE'S CORNER

August 14, 2016

A wonderful nun gave me this reflection about spiritual fitness : " If you can start the day without caffeine or pep pills, if you can be cheerful ignoring aches and pains, if you can resist complaining and boring people with your troubles, if you can understand when loved ones are too busy to give you time, if you can overlook when people take things out on you when through no fault of yours something goes wrong, if you can take criticism and blame without resentment, if you can face the world without lies and deceit, if you can conquer tension without medical help, if you can relax without liquor, if you can sleep without the aid of drugs --- Then you are probably a dog. "

Human beings cannot escape the troubles and turmoils of existence, that simmer within the mix of blessings and rich memories. Our religious faith teaches us to the core of our soul that a relationship with God, through prayerful sacraments and wholesome fellowship, is the spiritual method toward coping with the madness of our times. The madness touches economics, politics, terrorist groups, relationships, illness, and even organized religion. When we substitute that heavenly relationship with persons, places, and things to fill the whole of aches or emptiness we will be sorely disappointed. God alone can fill that whole we all perceive deeply inside, with all of its hurt and loneliness, that seems to have dimensions the size of a crater. When religious faith is thrown out the window, anything goes. I recently read about a man from Tokyo, Japan who bought a female doll for \$4000 (yes four thousand) to be his " partner. " This desperate soul recalled : " She never betrays. I'm tired of modern, rational humans. They are heartless. For me, she is more than a doll. Not just a silicon rubber. She needs much help, but still is my perfect partner who shares precious moments with me and enriches my life. " He takes " dolly " for dates in the town.

Wow ! I get it that human relationships can be tough and stressful. My priesthood does not spare me from that reality. But, when dolls or even machines replace legitimate human contact our lives are missing a spiritual encounter that goes to the heart of the matter. When life revolves around texting, Skype connections, Facebook, and Twitter as an alternative to concrete in-the-face contact we are diminished as human beings. Parish life here at Saint Francis of Assisi and in other churches requires such close interaction for the sacraments, Masses, courses, groups, prayer, and festivals. However, I see society here and abroad avoiding spiritual intimacy in favor of the dolls and machines. A childhood friend of mine, who is a philosopher, summed it up precisely with these thoughts : " The absence of saying hello, offering the peace of Christ or the occasional hug or handshakes after mass, seem to leave an emptiness or feeling of loneliness. of participating in Mass as a congregation, not receiving the Holy Eucharist and Blood of Christ or the physical contacts that makes Mass an important part of one's livelihood. Maybe it's just the way we were raised. I wonder sometimes

I suppose one could say that we don't need to actually attend Mass to offer God our thanks, prayers and supplications, but I would debate that strongly. There's just something about being in the presence of the Lord, in the house of God about the electronic world of make-believe, as I like to call it. Yes, there is so much information available for one person to consume, but how trustworthy is that information. As in the Wizard of Oz, " don't pay attention to that man behind the curtain, " when in fact many people post things in the electronic world so that someone will pay attention to them. The days of in-person meetings seems to be slowly fading away like the rotary dials on a telephone, or the pay-phones which used to dot the city streets. Instead we have tele-meetings, IM sessions, meeting places over the phone, e-communicator, Facebook, Sirius and Linked-in to name a few. Sadly, it seems as new generations come on board, the social skills and ability to communicate become worse... So what is in store for the next generation? Learning how to use emotion-cons or how to chit-chat using the least amount of letters and symbols ? Yes, welcome to the machine. Perhaps the scariest part of the electronic world of make-believe is that we trap ourselves in an unending commitment to respond and be part of that world... We receive an email or instant message, we have the compulsion to reply. We receive a phone call, we call back or instantly text or leave voice-mails. We can't walk down the streets anymore without seeing someone texting or chatting on the phone or simulating a bovine with a Bluetooth stuck to their ear. Even at my current parish, when the lector welcomes our congregation, the first thing spoken, " to prepare ourselves for worship, please silence your cell phones. " The world of Yankees baseball legend Babe Ruth, who I wrote about last week, was quite different ninety years ago in the 1920's from today. He gave a chalice and priestly vestments to Saint Angela Merici parish, near the old Yankee Stadium, in honor of his parents. That world required close spiritual participation in the church, as our times do today. **God nourish us. Father Bill**

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. Aug. 15 Assumption

7:00am Andrew Heitman
By Loving Friends
Noon Craig Mac Farland
By Wife

Tues. Aug. 16

7:00am The Unborn
Noon Our Politicians

Wed. Aug. 17

7:00am All Travelers
Noon Vincent Denisi
By Mom Frances

Thur. Aug. 18

7:00am Vocations
Noon Eric Nedwetzky
By A Friend

Fri. Aug. 19

7:00am Pope Francis
Noon St Francis Parish

Sat. Aug. 20

Noon Our Nation
4:30pm Ann & Anthony Farkas
By Mary Ann & Tony Farkas
Thomas Popowick
By Jesse, Margaret & Robert Deyo

Sun. Aug. 21:

800am Fasciano Family
By Rocky & Mary Jane D'Elicio
Stuart Menzies
By The Therrien Family
11:00am Nancy Geelan
By Family
Joseph Vitale
By Wife & Family

Weekly Collection

August 6-7, 2016
1st Collection \$6,393.00
2nd Collection \$ 907.00
TOTAL \$7,300.00

Our sincere thanks for your generosity and support of our Parish. God bless each and every one of you....always

The 2nd collection this weekend is for
MAINTENANCE & REPAIRS

MASS ATTENDANCE

August 6-7, 2016
4:30pm 195
8:00am 167
11:00am 225
TOTAL 587



Our **Holy Hour** with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Wednesday from 5:00pm to 6:00pm will be for the special intention of **ALL TRAVELERS**.

The **Chaplet of the Divine Mercy** is recited on **Sundays at 10:40am before the 11:00 am Mass.**

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

August 15TH

Because the Holy Day falls on a Monday this year it is NOT a Holy Day of Obligation.

PRAYER FOR MARY

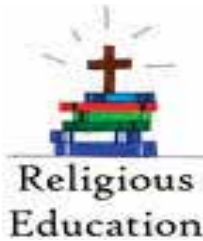
Almighty and eternal God,
who hast taken up into the
glory of Heaven,
with body and soul,
the Immaculate Virgin Mary,
Mother of thy son.
Grant us, we pray,
that we may always strive
after heavenly things and
thus merit to share in her glory.
AMEN

*****MARK YOUR CALENDARS*****
MASS FOR OUR COUNTRY
On **Wednesday, October 26th**, following our Eucharistic Adoration, Fr Bill will celebrate a special Mass for the intention of our country



FLOWER MEMORIAL

The Flowers in the Sanctuary this weekend are
"In Loving Memory of Dorothy Detz."
"Happy Birthday Mom"



Religious Education Program News

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

The opening for the 2016-2017 school year is in one month away. Now is the time to think about also registering your children for religious education classes.

For registration forms or for more information please call Lynda Piper, our Religious Education Coordinator, at the Religious Education Office at 561-2589.

Register your child **now** to secure the day and time most convenient for you.



Food Pantry Needs

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

In your goodness please bring **BAND AIDS AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES** to Church next weekend to be distributed to the less fortunate thru our Food Pantry.

Suggestions for school supplies that the children are required to have at the start of the school year include: primary ruled composition notebooks, wide ruled marble composition books, sharpened pencils (non mechanical), 3x5 blank index cards, wide ruled loose leaf paper, large rubber erasers & eraser tops, Fiskars pointed or blunt tip scissors, glue sticks (no liquid glue), double pocket plastic folders, 1 inch 3 ring binders and 24 pack Crayola crayons.



FOOD PANTRY FUNDRAISER
OUR FOOD PANTRY IS SPONSORING A
RAFFLE AND BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER.



On Sunday, October 30th from 8:00am to 12:45pm there will be a breakfast at the Newburgh Elks Building on Washington Street in Newburgh. Also, 300 raffle tickets will be sold at \$50.00 each. There will be 5 \$1,000 winners, 1 \$500 winner and 2 \$250 winners. Each raffle ticket purchased admits 2 people to the breakfast. Breakfast without the raffle ticket is \$10 per person. All profits go directly to the Food Pantry.

The breakfast menu will include: eggs, pancakes, sausage, bacon, toast, coffee and tea. Tickets will be available soon along with additional information.



PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Vincenza Secor, Aaron Stagliano, Kelly Stafford, Robyn McGraw, John Sabo, Andrew Costanzo, Marie Wiejak, Rose, Stephen Sabo, Ashley Barco, Jean Kaiser, Tom Scalzo, Nora Bricker, Gary Lake, Genevieve Pilch, Agnes Casey, Brianna Barker, Keith Webber, Jake Bryan DeStefano, Rose Marie Michalowski, Meryl Chatham, Vincenturia Cullen, Amy Meyer, Vinnie Yonnone, Grace Keller Peacock, Mary Corwin, Jean DeCicco, Don Hughes, David Jennings, Robert Johnson, Karen Wells, Marcia McKay, Victoria Palkovic, Elaine Pietrzak, Maureen Luzzi, Joyce Poponiak, Corrine Gammino, George Vecchio, Jr, Carol Brown, Teresa Centeno, Matthew Gallagher, Luzia Araujo, Celio Thomaz, Sherry Collins, Rosalie Nogay, Richard and Rina Bozzone, Antonio Troia, Cody Favoino-Finkbeiner, Marie Louis, Sacha Samuel George, the Koch Family, Frank Pietrzak, John Marullo, Rose Jurik, Robert & Helen Osborn, Manuel DiNapoli, Jennie Serrano, Eddie Koza, Barbara Woloszyn, Gary McGraw, Rachael Neugebauer, Patricia Denniston, Arlene Dietrichsen, Maureen Kelly, Deacon Larry Kawula, Abigail Ryan, Debra Thurston, Toby Persico, Alexis Johnson, Barry Johnson, James R. Purpura, Bob Smith, Tom Kingery, Bud Smith, Amy Finnegan, Jane Pustola, Justin, Peter, Rita, Janice Ruggiero, Angela, Wayne, Abbie K., Dominick Denisi, Sebastian Denisi, Pam Denisi, Linda Hummel, Joseph Michalowski, Joann Quicksell, Frances Dolan, Daniel D'Elicio, Fr. Fred Kempferi, Hazel Yonnone, Carmen DeCrosta, Parker, Jane Holloway, Dore Williams, Hank Kensing, Virginia Ranaudo, Sheryl McGrath, Robert Landi, Michelle Ryan, Rosalind Morrison

FR BILL'S INSTALLATION MASS AS PASTOR

AND

ANNUAL BLUE MASS TO COMMEMORATE THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF 9/11

Sunday, September 11th

11:00am Mass

Reception to follow Mass in our school gym

All are invited to attend

AED – CPR TRAINING CLASS

A certified instructor will be here at St Francis Church on Tuesday, August 23rd at 2:00pm in O'Connor Hall to give a training class on Automated External Defibrillator aka AED and CPR use. The 4 hour long course will cost \$40.00. A card certificate will be issued after completing the training class.

Let us touch the dying, the poor, the lonely and the unwanted.

Mother Teresa

ST. FRANCIS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Aug 16th – Bible Study, 7pm, O'Connor Hall
Aug 17th – Eucharistic Adoration 5pm to 6pm in Church
Aug 20th – Movie Night, 6pm, O'Connor Hall
Aug 21st – Coffee & Bagel Hour, O'Connor Hall
Aug 20th & 21st – St Francis History display in O'Connor Hall
Aug 23rd – AED-CPR Training 2:00pm O'Connor Hall
Aug 25th Hockey Player Jim Dowd to give presentation and sign autographs
Sept 11th – Fr Bill's Installation as Pastor
Sept 18th – Parish Picnic
Oct 26th – Mass for Our Country 6:00pm
Oct 30th – Food Pantry Breakfast Fundraiser
Dec 3rd – Tag Sale in O'Connor Hall



JIM DOWD – NHL HOCKEY PLAYER

...who played for the New Jersey Devils, Philadelphia Flyers and New York Islanders will be here at St. Francis on Thursday, August 25th in O'Connor Hall at 7:00pm to give a presentation on sports, and also nutrition as a representative of ID Life Supplements. After his presentation Jim will be available to sign autographs and answer questions. All are welcome to attend.



MOVIE NIGHT

On Saturday, August 20th at 6:00pm we will be showing the movie "*The Song of Bernadette*". Pizza and light refreshments will be served. Please contact Jeannine McCauley at jeanse50@yahoo.com or 914-263-0572 if you plan to attend.

CARDINALS STEWARDSHIP APPEAL

THANK YOU to our most recent donor Ms Mary Ellen Leimer.

Thank You!

FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

The Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal is vital in sustaining all the good that we do for the church in New York.



FLOWER MEMORIALS

are now available for anyone wishing to memorialize a loved one, honor someone or in thanksgiving to God for favors granted. Arrangements which will be placed in the sanctuary cost \$35 and can be ordered by calling the Rectory at 561-1317.



It's that time again!!! Our St. Francis Annual Parish Picnic will be held on **Sunday, September 18th** starting at **1:00pm** at the Cronomer Valley Fire Department on 296 North Plank Road (Route 32) in Newburgh.

Back by popular demand, **The Phase 5 Oldies Dance Band**, so bring your dancing shoes.

Tickets at the door - \$10 Adult, \$5 children over 12 and \$25 Family. Children under 12 are free. 50/50 drawing and door prizes.

If you would like to volunteer with set up, cooking, serving or clean up please contact Jim at 562-5927.

PILGRIMAGES

Plans have been finalized for two pilgrimages hosted by Fr. Bill in 2017.

1) **Spain Pilgrimage** for 11 days, April 24th thru May 4, visiting Lisbon, Fatima, Salamanca. Avila, Madrid, Lourdes Montserrat and Barcelona.

2) **Alpine Christmas Adventure** for 11 days, December 4th thru 14th visiting Frankfurt, Freiburg, Lucerne, Innsbruck, Salzburg, Oberammergau, Neuschwanstein, Munich, Rothenberg and Heidelberg. Brochures are located in the back of the church. To register or for additional information please call the rectory 561-1317.

TAG SALE

On December 3rd Food Pantry Volunteers Kitty Bernard and Margaret Miller will host a tag sale to benefit St. Francis Church. If you are doing some fall cleaning or clearing out your closets and cupboards of unwanted items which you would like to donate please call the rectory at 561-1317 to make arrangements to drop off items.

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: _____

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!**

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