



## Padre's Corner

May 21, 2017  
Sixth Sunday of Easter

Saint Benedict of Nursia lived from 480 to 547 AD. The founder of monasticism in Western Civilization, his rules became the foundation of spiritual thought in subsequent centuries for religious communities being established. Benedict was likewise inspired by Saint Anthony the Great (251-356), who authored spirituality from the deserts of Egypt for the Eastern Roman Empire. As a teenager, Benedict was disturbed by the immorality of Rome and decided to live as a monk hermit in a Subiaco region cave remote from Rome. Attracting spiritual followers, he established Monte Cassino in 529. (During the November trip to Italy, our group of 103 pilgrims went to Monte Cassino. Destroyed by bombing raids during World War II, the monastery was rebuilt in subsequent decades as a testimony to the strength of the regional people's faith.)

A prayer attributed to Saint Benedict emotes this verse: "Gracious and Holy Father, give us the wisdom to discover You, the intelligence to understand You, the diligence to seek after You, the patience to wait for You, eyes to behold You, a heart to meditate upon You, and a life to proclaim You, through the power of the spirit of Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

"Extending the decadence and internal moral rot of Ancient Rome to modern day America, there are many religious-minded people who believe there is a similar decay in both centuries and world powers. Historically, there have been moments of religious groups leaving areas where they were physically or legally persecuted. Examples would be the Mormons leaving New York for Utah, the Pilgrims fleeing England for America, Christians leaving the Middle East because of terrorists, Jews seeking the Holy Land for refuge in 1948 to freely practice their faith, and Catholics facing emotional harassment in the United States because of Church teachings on life beginning at the moment of conception and marriage being between a man and a woman. Understandably, finding a place to avoid such persecution is linked to the human need to survive. The passing of the decades is abundant with such human flows of movement, observed in our modern times also. The Amish of Pennsylvania come to mind, attracting outsiders by their simple lifestyles dependent on the grace of God.

Called the "Benedict Option", there are small communities in America inspired by the vision of the saint from 1500 years ago. One such Benedictine monastery town is in Hulbert, Oklahoma. Founded in 1999, there are roughly 100 people immersed in its spiritual schedule which starts with morning Mass at seven. These settings emulate villages in medieval Europe, where towns shared similar faith groups and values. Mark Wheeler left San Diego, California in 2004 for this monastery with his wife and five children. He commented: "Our goal in moving here was to form our children's conscience and intellect in a particular way, without society taking that authority from us... The larger populated areas seem to have rejected the Christian culture and the Christian message." Father Abbot Anderson of the monastery reflected: "It's not the Middle Ages anymore. But, there is some analogy between the end of the Roman Empire and a new civilization starting out around monasteries."

On further personal analysis, perhaps this "Benedict Option" has more sway over us who take the faith seriously than we may initially think. I left a career with New Jersey Bell Telephone in order to live my faith more deeply as a priest. By pastoring in this turbulent area of Newburgh, the peaceful setting of an Oklahoma monastery is not my domain. Those of you who worship at Saint Francis of Assisi come out of a strong faith, aware of the same neighborhood challenges that I see.

On a recent cruise to Florida and Mexico, celebrating the music of the 1970's, the need for religious thought in these cultural dimensions of excess drinking also has its place. An original singer of the group Ambrosia was touched by my high school graduation story of searching for life meaning, through their 1976 song "Holding Onto Yesterday." An employee of an art auction on the ship cruise asked me to bless she and her boyfriend, who was an officer on-board. If I were cut off from society, those spiritual opportunities would never happen. You have that same power in your life, in your homes and business offices.

**Father Bill**

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Mon. May 22

7:00am Michael Stein  
By Estate of Luke Stein  
Noon Doug McCauley  
(10<sup>th</sup> Anniv)  
By Wife Jeannine

### Tues. May 23

7:00am The Poor of Newburgh  
Noon Bertha Benish  
By Son Eddie

### Wed. May 24

7:00am Susan Randall (L)  
Health & Blessings  
By Mary Randall  
Noon Louise Sawoska  
(4<sup>th</sup> Anniv)  
By Henry  
5:30pm St. Francis Parish

### Thur. May 25

7:00am Prayers Answered  
By Therrien Family  
Noon Nicholas Valentine  
By Sam & Gloria Yonnone  
5:30pm St. Francis Parish

### Fri. May 26

7:00am St. Francis Parish  
Noon Dave & Louise Carnright  
(Anniv)  
By Mary King

### Sat. May 27

Noon Katrice Ewanich & Tom  
Keane on their Wedding Day  
4:30pm Augie Pirilo  
By Wife & Sons  
Louis J. Tallerico  
(1<sup>st</sup> Anniv)  
By Children Carol & Ralph

### Sun. May 21

8:00 June Mc Knight  
By Michael & Colleen Corizzo  
Paul & Rachael Neugebauer  
(56<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniv)  
11:00am Charles Willette  
By Kathleen & James Peloso



### WEEKLY COLLECTON

May 13-14, 2017

1<sup>st</sup> Collection \$ 7,468.00  
2<sup>nd</sup> Collection \$ 1,721.00  
TOTAL \$ 9,189.00

### MASS ATTENDANCE

May 13-14, 2017

4:30pm 185  
8:00am 200  
11:00am 240  
1:30pm 60  
TOTAL 685

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection this week is for  
ST. FRANCIS PARISH MNINSTRIES



Our Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on  
Wednesdays from 5:00pm to 6:00pm is **CANCELLED** on  
Wednesday, May 24<sup>th</sup> due to the Ascension Thursday Vigil  
Mass.



Congratulations to all our Communion Students  
who will be receiving the the Lord's gift of the  
Eucharist for the first time today at our 11:00am  
Mass. Please keep them in your prayers.

## ASCENSION OF THE LORD

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Masses at St. Francis

Wednesday, May 24<sup>th</sup>

5:30 pm Vigil

Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup>

7:00am

12noon

5:30pm

THE RECTORY OFFICE

WILL BE CLOSED

Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup>

For the Memorial Day Holiday.

**TODAY**  
**SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**First Reading: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17**

Philip preaches to the people of Samaria, who accept his word after witnessing the miracles he performs. Peter and John pray that they will receive the Holy Spirit.

**Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:15-18**

Christians are urged to remain steadfast in their allegiance to Christ, giving evidence always of gentleness and hope.

**Gospel: John 14:15-21**

In his words to the apostles at the Last Supper, Jesus promises to send them a comforter, a Paraclete, the Spirit of truth, who will be with them always.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Sunday**

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17; 1 Pt 3:15-18; Jn 14:15-21

**Monday**

Acts 16:11-15; Jn 15:26—16:4a

**Tuesday**

Acts 16:22-34; Jn 16:5-11

**Wednesday**

Acts 17:15, 22—18:1; Jn 16:12-15

**Thursday**

Acts 1:1-11; Eph 1:17-23; Mt 28:16-20 or where the Ascension is transferred to the following Sunday:

Acts 18:1-8; Jn 16:16-20

**Friday**

Acts 18:9-18; Jn 16:20-23

**Saturday**

Acts 18:23-28; Jn 16:23b-28



**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK**

Vincenza Secor, Aaron Stagliano, Marie Wiejak, Ashley Barco, Agnes Casey, Rose Marie Michalowski, George Vecchio, Jr, Carol Brown, Luzia Araujo, Celio Thomaz, Rosalie Nogay, Rose Jurik, Robert & Helen Osborn, Manuel DiNapoli, Rachael Neugebauer, Maureen Kelly, James R. Purpura, Jane Pustola, Joann Quicksell, Frances Dolan, Daniel D'Elicio, Fr. Fred Kempferi, Carmen De Crosta, Parker, Jane Holloway, Donna Delconte, Joan Ponesse, Jim Taylor, Marilyn Lennox, Bruno Marchatta, Anne McClellan, Louis Arbia, Dottie Rodriguez, Michael Rosenburg, Maureen Sullivan, Frank D'amario, Amanda Keane, Tom (Manay) Conroy, Gertrude Poland, Rita Froehlich, Brian Scott Monahan, Chelsea Dunderdale, Susan Randall, Mary Hollenbeck, Donnie Ruckdeschel, Patrick Comyns, John Marullo, Carol Brown, Jr, Jaddon Johnson, Rina & Richard Bozzone, Rebecca Pacella, Lena Biasini Zullo, Pam Kunert, Janet Coiteux, Vincent McParkland and Family, Jozef Froniewski, Teresa Centeno and Bobbi Hull.

**REGISTRATION**

Sacred Heart School is now accepting registration for Pre K - 8<sup>th</sup> grade for the 2017-2018 school year. Please call 845-561-1433 for an appointment or stop by for a tour at 148 Windsor Highway in New Windsor. You can also apply at [www.ApplyCatholicSchoolsNY.org](http://www.ApplyCatholicSchoolsNY.org).



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

The Food Pantry will be closed  
**Friday, May 26<sup>th</sup>**  
**Saturday, May 27<sup>th</sup>**  
in observance of the Memorial Day holiday

In your goodness please bring **JELLY** to Church next weekend to be distributed to the less fortunate in our area thru our Food Pantry.

**The Pantry no longer needs egg cartons**

Thank you to those who donated  
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](tel:845-863-6504). All students need to pre-register with Curt Bourdage before showing up at the pantry, please.

**ST FRANCIS UPCOMING EVENTS**

**May 21<sup>st</sup>** - First Communion 11:00am  
**May 24<sup>th</sup>** - Eucharistic Adoration - cancelled  
**May 27<sup>th</sup>** - Movie Night 6:00pm in O'Connor Hall  
**May 28<sup>th</sup>** - Bagel Hour after 8:00am Mass  
**May 29<sup>th</sup>** - Memorial Day Mass at Cemetery 9:00am



**GIVE/SHARE A RIDE**

We have some people in our parish who would like to share a ride with someone from their area going to Mass on Saturday/Sunday. If you need a ride **OR** would be willing to give someone a ride to Mass, please call the rectory at 561-1317 with your name and telephone number.



The Knights of Columbus Council #444 is hosting their **7<sup>th</sup> Annual Msgr. Henry O'Carroll Memorial Car Show** at Sears at the Newburgh Mall, 1401 Union Avenue, Route 300 in Newburgh on **Sunday, June 18<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am to 3:00pm** (rain date is June 25). Pre-Registration is \$20.00, Registration Day of Show is \$25.00 and Vendor Spots are \$30.00. There will be Trophies, Best in Show and People's Choice Awards along with Goodie Bags. For more information or questions contact Ken Ryan 845-565-8015, Charlie Smith 845-561-8647 or Dan Keenan 845-562-9353.



Bishop Dun Memorial School Drama Club will present **"Anything Goes"** on Friday, **May 26th at 7:00pm**, Saturday, **May 27th at 7:00pm** and Sunday, **May 28th at 12:00pm** at the Aquinas Hall Theater located at Mt. St. Mary College. Tickets are **\$10.00** and can be purchased at the door. For more information please contact 845-569-3494.



**FLOWER MEMOIALS**

Flower Memorials are available for anyone desiring to memorialize a loved one, honor someone or in Thanksgiving to God. The cost is \$35.00 for each arrangement of flowers to be placed near or on the altar. Please call the rectory 845-561-1317 to reserve your date.



**MOVIE NIGHT**

On **Saturday, May 27th at 6:00pm** in O'Connor Hall, we will be showing **"Heaven Knows Mr. Allison"** starring Robert Mitchum and Deborah Kerr. Set during WWII, a marine and a nun are stranded on a Pacific Island living a life of constant peril hiding from Japanese troopers. A surprising blend of suspense and humor. For pizza and refreshment ordering purposes, please RSVP by Friday, May 26th to Jeannine McCauley at [jeanse50@yahoo.com](mailto:jeanse50@yahoo.com) or 914-263-0572.

**FINDING PEACE IN A TURBULENT WORLD WITH THE GUIDANCE OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI**

Experience a week long special connection through the teachings of St. Francis of Assisi at the **Mariandale Retreat and Conference Center** in Ossining, NY. The retreat runs from **Sunday, July 16th** at 5:00pm thru **Friday, July 21st** at 1:00pm. Our pastor, **Fr. Bill Damroth** will be the facilitator. Cost is \$475 per person. For reservations call 914-941-4455 ext 106 or e-mail [Knoreika@ophope.org](mailto:Knoreika@ophope.org). Visit their website at [www.mariandale.org](http://www.mariandale.org).

***"Let every family be a welcoming place of goodness and peace for children and the elderly, for the sick and the lonely, for the poor and the needy."***

Pope Francis

**ADVERTISER'S CORNER**

*Thank you*

TO OUR BULLETIN ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK, **Rhonda Rios, Partner/Broker of Five Star Realty Group Int'l** whose office is located at 40 Willow Lane in New Windsor. Whether you are buying or selling a house and need expert advice, call Rhonda at 845-863-4488 for an appointment to discuss your needs.



**PILGRIMAGES**

Fr. Bill is hosting two upcoming Pilgrimages

**1) ALPINE CHRISTMAS ADVENTURE**

**December 4-14, 2017**

Visit Frankfurt, Freiburg, Lucerne, Innsbruck, Salzburg, Oberammergau, Neuschwanstein, Munich, Rothenberg and Heidelberg, featuring Europe's famous Chrstkindl Markets.

**2) THE HOLY LAND**

**January 8-17, 2018**

Visit Haifa, Tiberias, Nazareth, Bethlehem and Jerusalem. Walk where Jesus walked in Jerusalem and visit the Mount of Olives, the Garden of Gethsemane and Mt. Zion. Also visit the Church of the Nativity, Shepherd's Field, the Sea of Galilee and the sites of the Sermon on the Mount and the miracle of the loaves and fishes.

Brochures are located in the back of the church and at the sacristy door entrance. For questions please call the rectory 845-561-1317.



**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!**