



Padre's Corner

AUGUST 6, 2017

TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

In recent weeks "Padres Corner" has looked at the spiritual courage of others including an author, actor, religious sister, and bishop. This week I suggest finding courage within you and me to find that faith-filled energy to live for God. One more metaphor from the animal kingdom and history playing itself into the present, before arguing for that communal and individual case. When Deacon Tony of Saint Joseph's in New Windsor and I walk at Downing Park, we discuss politics and church life as we see it. We are also very observant of the world around us, naturally-speaking. He often finds pennies on the ground with his hawk eye, which we agree to split. So far in 2017 we have each earned ten cents in our walking pilgrimages.

One breezy morning we heard, in the pond, the flapping energies of a goose whose wings at first glance seemed to be possibly injured. As we paused, something far more dangerous was at play that got us to panic about how to help this animal wonder. His wings were caught in seaweed, and the flapping wings could not disengage from the suffocating seaweed. Drowning was imminent we thought, but did not know how to proceed. Suddenly a photographer emerged, grabbed a big rock, and threw it spot-on upon the seaweed. Walt Disney must have been pleased from heaven, friend of the animal kingdom in his real-life adventure documentary series from the 1950's, as the goose sprung free. A hungry crane in the distance seemed indifferent or disappointed, while other geese were more focused on their existence rather than the calls for help from their peer. A set of human guardian angels, including the photographer, took concerned interest into its plight. I include Deacon Tony and myself because we alerted the photographer, who approached us not clear about what was happening. The point is another taking an interest in the seaweed of life that we all can fall into such as areas of health, relationships, finance, fears, disappointments, spiritual dilemmas, worldwide news events, or moral struggles in our turbulent day and age. Now to the grit of the matter.

During World War II in Europe citizens at work or in school would often hear trains in the distance, that in peaceful times would be a historical throwback to the days of over a century ago before the advent of automobiles. But, those were not years of bliss or clear human fraternity. They were tumultuous periods of war and concentration camps. Listeners knew the purpose of those trains, and the unspeakable horrors about to take place when they came to a camp station stop. The 2008 film classic "Boy in the Striped Pajamas", vividly conveyed the tense drama of this sordid moment in human history. Voices of protest against the genocide by the Nazi's were suppressed or stalled by fears, and the serious risk of retribution in return. However, there were courageous people (sisters, nuns, priests, brothers, parishioners) who defied the odds to hide and otherwise protect the Jews, gypsies, diseased of mind or body, and Christians caught in the seaweed of trauma and horror.

Fast forward seventy years to 2017, and there is a call of courage for each of us as there were during those dark days of World War II (plus all the other difficult episodes of human history). Cardinal Carlo Caffarra, archbishop emeritus of Bologna in Italy and the Pontifical Council for the Family, grimly cited the 100th anniversary of the Blessed Mother's apparitions to the three Fatima children including the late Sister Lucia: "What Sister Lucia said in those days is being fulfilled in these days of ours". She wrote to him two decades ago in a letter, "the final battle between the Lord and the kingdom of Satan will be about marriage and family. Do not be afraid, because anyone who works for the sanctity of marriage and family will always be fought and opposed in every way, because this is the decisive issue. However, Our Lady has already crushed his head."

Despite my own imperfections and yours, we are all called to be courageous about these issues of family life. How does God define marriage and human life? A man and woman, and human life from the moment of conception is how He and His Church defines such pivotal matters. Not an easy stance in rapidly decadent times against those positions of faith. I get criticized at times for speaking too much on these issues. I speak not self-righteously, but fully aware of historical moments like the war seventy years ago when voices of courage were few and rare. We are supposed to learn from history or we will repeat its errors. Will you not join me in our efforts for strong parish family life, and speaking for the unborn child who has no one to protect her or him often in pregnancies in the ways your mother and mine did for us? May the Holy Spirit in the Triune Godhead make us courageous.

Father Bill

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. Aug. 7

7:00 Mary & Joseph Vitay
By Mary Ann & Tony Farkas
Noon Gaetana DiPalma
By Paula & John O'Connell

Tues. Aug. 8

7:00am John Barcia
By Wife Ida
Noon Josephine Puccio
By Nephew Eddie

Wed. Aug. 9

7:00am Charles & Kyoko King
"Special Intention"
By Mary King
Noon Mary McGrath
By Michael & Colleen Corizzo

Thur. Aug. 10

7:00am Phil & Eileen Kamrass
"Belated Anniversary"
By Mary King
Noon Beverly Barney
By Roberta & Jan Nowak

Fri. Aug. 11

7:00am Mass of Thanksgiving
to St. Anthony
By The DeLuca Family
Noon Paul King
"Special Intention"
By Mary King

Sat. Aug. 12

Noon City of Newburgh
4:30pm Craig McFarland
By Wife
Dina Berardinelli
(30th Anniv)
By Aunt Carol & Uncle Johnny

Sun. Aug. 13

8:00am Josephine & Albert
Pushman
By Bill & Marion Pushman
Patrick Pacenza Jr
By Colleen & Michael Corizzo
11:00am Angela & Salvatore
Immitt (45th Anniv)
By Steve Immitt



WEEKLY COLLECTON

July 29-30, 2017
1st Collection \$ 6,789.00
2nd Collection 1,503.00
TOTAL \$8,292.00

MASS ATTENDANCE

July 29-30, 2017
4:30pm 175
8:00am 176
11:00am 225
1:30pm 72
TOTAL 648

The 2nd Collection this week is for our
RESTORATION & ENDOWMENT FUND

Envelope Reminder....while you are enjoying the summer sun and activities while on vacation, don't forget your church here at home. **Your help is still needed** to meet our current expenses.



Our **Holy Hour** with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Wednesday from 5:00pm to 6:00pm is for the intentin of **THE CITY OF NEWBURGH.**

*****TODAY'S THE DAY*****



Sunday, August 6th
12noon until 5:00pm

on the grounds here at St. Francis.
The **Pizza Shop** and **River Grill** will have pizza, sausage and peppers, hot dogs and hamburgers for sale.
Mr. Cannoli and the **Funnel Guy** will have cannoli's, ices and funnel cakes also available for purchase.
Music by **DJ Ming**,
Bocce Court & Photo Booth
Face Paining& Dunking Booth
COME JOIN THE FUN!!!!

ST. FRANCIS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Aug 6th - Parish Picnic - Church Grounds

Aug 6th - Spanish Mass 12:30pm

Aug 9th - Eucharistic Adoration 5:00-6:00pm

Aug 11th - Youth Group 6:30 pm O'Connor Hall

Aug 15th - Feast of Assumption – Holy Day

Aug 19th - Bagel Hour

TODAY

TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

First Reading: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

Daniel depicts God as a judge with many people standing before him. He also describes a man who came to him, and was given power over all other people. This power is described as everlasting and never to be destroyed.

Second Reading: 2 Peter 1:16-19

Peter discusses how the disciples witnessed Jesus being honored and spoken to by God, fulfilling all the prophecies. He also reminds us that these prophecies were God's words, delivered through a person moved by the Holy Spirit.

Gospel: Mt 17:1-9

Jesus took three of his disciples to a high mountain, where Elijah and Moses appeared and spoke to him. Peter suggested they make three tents, one each for Jesus, Moses and Elijah. While he spoke, a voice came from a cloud saying, "This is my Son, the beloved one; listen to him." The disciples became very afraid and fell to their knees. Jesus told them to rise and not to be afraid. As they looked up, they saw only Jesus. As they left the mountain, Jesus warned the disciples not to mention this until he had risen from the dead. Although they did not understand, they obeyed.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday

Nm 11:4b-15; Mt 14:13-21

Tuesday

Nm 12:1-13; Mt 14:22-36 or 15:1-2, 10-14

Wednesday

Nm 13:1-2, 25—14:1, 26-29a, 34-35; Mt 15:21-28

Thursday

2 Cor 9:6-10; Jn 12:24-26

Friday

Dt 4:32-40; Mt 16:24-28

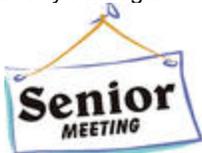
Saturday

Dt 6:4-13; Mt 17:14-20



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, 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, Maureen Sullivan, Frank D'amario, Amanda Keane, Tom (Manay) Conroy, Gertrude Poland, Rita Froehlich, Brian Scott Monahan, Chelsea Dunderdale, Mary Hollenbeck, Donnie Ruckdeschel, Patrick Comyns, John Marullo, Jaddon Johnson, Rina & Richard Bozzone, Rebecca Pacella, Lena Biasini Zullo, Pam Kunert, Janet Coiteux, Vincent McParkland and Family, Jozef Froniewski, Teresa Centeno, Bobbi Hull, Mary Ann Fabiano, Angie Monaco, Emily Cooley, Frank Celeste, Jennifer Jones and Amy Finnegan



There will be **NO** Senior Meeting during the month of August.



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

In your goodness please bring **SCHOOL SUPPLIES, such as pens, pencils, notebooks, binders, paper, backpacks, etc.** to Church next weekend to be distributed to the less fortunate in our area thru our Food Pantry.

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**. All students need to pre-register with Curt - Bourdage before showing up at the pantry, please.

SUMMER FEEDING PROGRAM – Free lunch for children 18 years or younger, Monday thru Friday from 10:30 am to 12:30pm in O'Connor Hall thru Sept. 1st.

BACKPACKS 4 KIDS – Backpacks filled with weekend meals for our local children distributed at our Food Pantry on Fridays from 10:30am to 12:30pm thru August 12th.



We will have in person registration for Religious Education classes on the following dates
At Sacred Heart Church
Sunday, August 20th 11:00am to 1:00pm
At St. Francis of Assisi Church
Sunday, August 27 10:30am to 12:30pm
and 1:00pm to 3:00pm
In the Religious Education Program Office
At Sacred Heart School building
Corner of Robinson Ave (Rt 9W) and Ann Street
Wednesday, August 30th
9:30am to 11:00am & 4:00pm to 6:00pm



MID-HUDSON INTER-PARISH BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

If you are grieving from a significant loss of a family member or close friend and would like to take part in our Catholic faith-based, inter-parish bereavement program, we will be meeting on Tuesdays from September 5th through October 24th. If you are interested contact Deacon Thomas Neppi tneppi@verizon.net or home #845-562-1341, or cell #845-541-0421 or contact Beverly Austin bevaustin09@gmail.com or 845-245-4143.



**ST FRANCIS of ASSISI
PRAYER MINISTRY**

We are pleased to announce the start of our St. Francis Prayer Ministry whose mission will be to pray for parishioners' requests for their families and friends. We pray for anyone who has needs for healing, thanksgiving or special intentions. We can use many willing members to join us in prayer for the requested needs of our parish family.

Denise Morgan will head up our Prayer Ministry and can be contacted at tibill12@aol.com to submit your name and e-mail address to **be a part of the prayer team.**

Beginning **August 15th** you can send your prayer requests to Denise who will relay them to our prayer team members.



WELCOME

Alexa Riley Balbuena Jaslyne Flores
Jameson Esai O'Neill Stella Sofia D'Alfonso
Willow Ann Miranda Vincent Michael Zappone

who were baptized last month into our St. Francis of Assisi parish family. May they continue to receive God's blessings and grace.



CONGRATULATIONS

Daniel Stepantschenko & Lindsay Murray
Tyler Prokosch & Maryssa Babicz

who were married last month at St. Francis Church.

QUINCEANERAS

CONGRATULATIONS

Giselle Ochoa
Giselle Sotelo

Who celebrated their Quinceanera in the month of June.



Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court Patricia #195 will meet at **7:00pm on Wednesday, August 9th** in the Msgr. Valastro Activity Center. School supplies will be collected for the St. Francis Food Pantry. New members are always welcome. For further information please call Linda DeWeitt at 845-565-7837.



MOVIE NIGHT

.....is cancelled for the month of August.

ADVERTISER'S CORNER

Thank you

TO OUR BULLETIN

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK, **MOREHEAD HONDA**, car dealership. If you are in the market for a new car, stop in and see them at 1000 Auto Park Place in Newburgh. Questions.... ..all them at 845-561-3800..

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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.

******* PLEASE NOTE *******

If you are planning to go on Fr. Bill's Alpine Adventure Pilgrimage to Switzerland, Austria and Germany on December 4-14, deposits are due **NOW**. Our travel agent needs to line up the flights, rooms, etc. for the trip.

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: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell 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*.