



Padre's Corner

April 22, 2018
Fourth Sunday of Easter

Liverpool, England in 1960 gave birth to a musical group of John Lennon, Paul McCartney, Ringo Starr, and George Harrison called the Beatles. The "British Invasion" of the group took place in 1964, with the help of the audiences reached on the "Ed Sullivan Show" out of Manhattan. Their influence on musical history in song and movies needs no further analysis. Even young people today are familiar with the group name. I recall as a young teenager in the early 1970's seeing "Yellow Submarine" at the now-defunct Fox Theater in Hackensack, New Jersey. With high school graduation in Bogota of 1977, their final song as a group "The Long and Winding Road" spoke volumes to me about the meaning and memories of life. How relationships, places, dreams, and possessions must often come to an end.

There was also a wintry day on December 8, 1980 when I went for a new tire at a Firestone dealership also in Hackensack. Radio reports shocked and stunned us, waiting for our cars, that Lennon had been murdered outside his Manhattan residence. Faith was very important to me at that point early in my life. While saddened by this senseless tragedy, I recalled years later comments he made in 1966 when the popularity of the Beatles was seemingly unstoppable. In an interview with British reporter Maureen Cleave, Lennon brazenly said:

"We're more popular than Jesus now; I don't know which will go first - rock n roll or Christianity. Christianity will go. It will vanish and shrink. I needn't argue about that; I'm right and I will be proved right. Jesus was alright but his disciples were thick and ordinary. It's them twisting it that ruins it for me." Religious circles and even the Vatican did not take kindly to these remarks, creating a media firestorm.

Despite the harsh realities of what other people may say that offend our faith, there is a song that Lennon inspired that I think of with regard to him. "Eleanor Rigby" was recorded in 1966, based on a true story by the same name of a maid who died at the age of 44 in 1939. That was the same year that the Nazi's under Hitler invaded Poland, ushering in the courageous Winston Churchill as prime minister of England. Lennon and McCartney attended a parish church festival in 1957, yards away from the graveyard where Eleanor was buried. The church was Saint Peter's in the Woolton section of Liverpool. A verse in the famous song would play: "Eleanor Rigby died in the church, and was buried along with her name. Nobody came. Father McKenzie wiping the dirt from his hands as he walks from the grave. No one was saved... Writing the words of a sermon that no one will hear."

In terms of a spiritual reflection, one other song comes to mind. Lennon and McCartney released another gem in 1966 called "Nowhere Man," again during the turbulent 1960's of the Vietnam War and political assassinations. In a world today of much indifference to organized religion with its inherent spiritual truths, ponder these words from the song. "He's a real nowhere man sitting in his nowhere land, making all his nowhere plans for nobody. Doesn't have a point of view, knows not where he's going to. Isn't he a bit like you and me? He's as blind as he can be, just sees what he wants to see. You don't know what you're missing nowhere man, the world is at your command." In 1967 the group released "Fool on the Hill," later further popularized by Sergio Mendes and Brasilia 66 in 1968 (the year of the Robert Kennedy and Martin Luther King murders). Some of those lyrics: "Day after day alone on a hill, the man with the foolish grin is keeping perfectly still. But nobody wants to know him, they can see that he's just a fool. And he never gives an answer. But the fool on the hill sees the sun going down, and the eyes in his head see the world spinning around." In a Ripley's "Believe It or Not" segment, this whole reflection come during a return ride from wintry Cooperstown when "Nowhere Man" played on the radio.

What is my spiritual point for today? No matter how lost, foolish, misguided, nowhere, attacked we are for our faith teachings on life, economically challenged, internationally threatened, saddened, and bewildered we each can be, God is still there as the wind beneath our sails. He will never abandon us, in good times or bad. He waits as we seek and rediscover Him.

Father Bill

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. April 23

7:00am Souls in Purgatory
Noon Jonnah John Ungab
By Algene Ungab

Tues. April 24

7:00am All Priests & Deacons
Noon World Peace

Wed. April 25

7:00am Our Politicians
Noon Rose Natovich
(14th Anniv)
By Family

Thur. April 26

7:00am Our Military
Noon Richard Barden
By St Francis Food Pantry
Volunteers

Fri. April 27

7:00am Susan Randall
By Mary Randall
Noon Military Families

Sat. April 28

Noon Marion Miller
By Helen Miller
4:30pm Salvatore & Mercedes
Strano
By Aldo & Susan Strano

Sun. April 29

8:30am Mary Lee Lancaster
By Palm Weavers
11:00am Dan & Helene Kerin
(50th Wedding Anniv)
By Family
Erick Nedwetzky
By Parents



WEEKLY COLLECTION

April 14-15, 2018

1st Collection \$ 4,986.00
2nd Collection 1,388.00
TOTAL \$ 6,374.00

MASS ATTENDANCE

April 14-15, 2018

4:30pm 160
8:30am 130
11:00am 132
1:30pm 104
Total 526



Fr. Bill Damroth will be celebrating his 25th Anniversary as a priest next month. He was ordained on May 15, 1993. To honor this special milestone occasion Fr. Bill will celebrate Mass at St. Francis of Assisi Church at 6:30pm on Tuesday May 15th.

Following Mass a reception with light refreshments will be held at Gallo Hall at Sacred Heart School.

ALL ARE WELCOME

The 2nd Collection this week is for
ST FRANCIS PARISH MINISTRIES



Eucharistic
Adoration

Our Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament this Wednesday from 5:00pm to 6:00pm is for the intention of THE UNBORN.



An evening of Adoration, Praise and Worship at Mt. St. Joseph Chapel, 64 Presentation Way in New Windsor on Tuesday, April 24th from 6:30pm to 8:30pm.
(Rescheduled from March 13th snow storm)



SAVE THE DATE

Sacred Heart-St. Francis REP will be hosting MEGA SPORTS VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL on July 9th thru July 13th at the Religious Education Building. More information to follow.



We need you. Our youth need you. If you are over the age of 18 and are out of high school please consider being an adult youth leader. Please contact Sister Laura Urbano 347-207-5020 if interested in becoming an adult youth leader for either junior high or high school.

TODAY
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading: Acts 4:8-12

Peter explains to the elders that his healing of a cripple was done in the name of Jesus Christ. He reminds the elders that they crucified Jesus, but God rose him up so that all people could be saved in his name.

Second Reading: I John 3:1-2

John expresses amazement at the fact that God allowed us to be called his children. Although we are unsure exactly what we will be after this life, we do know that we will see God as he is and be like him.

Gospel: John 10:11-18

Jesus speaks of a shepherd working only for pay, with no real concern for the sheep being well cared for. But Jesus is our shepherd and would lay down his own life for all those in his flock. God loves him for his willingness to sacrifice himself for the sake of all God's children.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday

Acts 11:1-18; Jn 10:1-10

Tuesday

Acts 11:19-26; Jn 10:22-30

Wednesday

1 Pt 5:5b-14; Mk 16:15-20

Thursday

Acts 13:13-25; Jn 13:16-20

Friday

Acts 13:26-33; Jn 14:1-6

Saturday

Acts 13:44-52; Jn 14:7-14



PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Vincenza Secor, Aaron Stagliano, Marie Wiejak, Ashley Barco, Agnes Casey, Rose Marie Michalowski, Carol Brown, Luzia Araujo, Celio Thomaz, Rosalie Nogay, Rose Jurik, Robert & Helen Osborn, Rachael Neugebauer, Maureen Kelly, James R. Purpura, Jane Pustola, Frances Dolan, 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 Mc Parkland and Family, Jozef Froniewski, Teresa Centeno, Bobbi Hull, Emily Cooley, Frank Celeste, Amy Finnegan, Brian Hanrahan, Toni Loparco Shepardson, Donald (Leed) Zubawicz, Louise McHugh, Alex Galant, Evelyn Kawula, Taylor Fogel, Jake Tigar, Paul Neugebauer, Julia Vecchio, Eileen Burke, Michelle Ryan, Abigail Means, Ann Bouche, Vanessa Rivera, Elizabeth Rich-Provenzano, and Jim Formato.



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

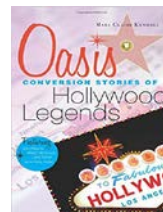
The Msgr. Valastro Activity Center
319 Broadway in Newburgh

In your goodness please bring **BOTTLES OF JUICE** 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 Mr. Bourdage before showing up at the pantry, please.

TRUCK DRIVER NEEDED

The Pantry is in need of a volunteer to drive a 26 foot truck (no special license is required) which you would pick up at Budget, go to the Food Bank in Cornwall to pick up our order, drive to the Food Pantry to deliver our order, then drive the truck back to Budget. **No lifting is involved. Needed every 3rd Wednesday.** Call **Paul Zalanowski 845-234-8564** for more details.



OASIS - CONVERSION STORIES OF HOLLYWOOD LEGENDS

Anyone interested in purchasing a copy of this book which is autographed by author Mary Claire Kendall please stop by the rectory and pick up a copy. The cost is \$10.00



APRIL IS "PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS MONTH"

Please show your support to the Hudson Valley SPCA by visiting their **"Blooming DEALS Resale Store"** located at **436 Route 94** in **New Windsor**.

You can also drop off any type of pet supply into our PAW PRINTS box located in the back of the church. Suggestions for items most needed are pet food (dry or moist), paper towels, cleaning supplies, garbage bags, pet toys and used blankets and sheets. Thank you for helping these homeless animals.



**NORA CRONIN
PRESENTATION ACADEMY**

is sponsoring A Spicy Spring Evening filled with Mambo, Latin Jazz, and Entertainment featuring the music of the **TITO PUENTE JR, LATIN JAZZ ENSEMBLE** on **Saturday, May 12th** with Special Guest...**The Latin Jazz Express** . The event will be held at the Ritz Theater' s Historic Green Room, 107 Broadway in Newburgh. **\$100 Tickets** includes 8pm Reserved table concert seating (+6:30 Pre-concert Meet & Greet, Dance Lesson, & Hors d'Oeuvres, in the Safe Harbors Lobby) **\$50 Tickets** includes 8pm Reserved table concert seating + hors d'Oeuvres. **\$25 Tickets** General Concert/Dance admission only. To order tickets please call 1-800-838-3006 or at <https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event3339037>.



The next meeting of the St. Francis Senior Citizen Group will be held in O'Connor Hall on **Wednesday, May 2nd** at **12:30pm**. Our **guest speaker** is Newburgh City Historian, **Mary McTamane**y. Do come, bring a friend, bring your lunch and be prepared to enjoy each other's company



Movie Night

Our next movie night will be held on Saturday, May 12th at 6:00pm in O'Connor Hall. We will be showing "THE SCARLET AND THE BLACK" starring Gregory Peck, Christopher Plummer and Sir John Gielgud. The true story of Monsignor Hugh O'Flaherty, a courageous Irish priest working in the Vatican during the German occupation. He devotes all his time and energy to hiding refugees and Allied POWs from Nazis, building a network of hundreds of people to help him with his efforts.

For refreshment ordering purposes please RSVP to Jeannine McCauley 914-263-0572 or e-mail her at jeanse50@yahoo.com .



Golden Jubilee Wedding Mass

The Archdiocese of New York's Golden Jubilee Wedding Mass will take place on Sunday, June 3rd at 2:15pm at St. Patrick's Cathedral. This mass, for couples celebrating 50 years of marriage in 2018 will be celebrated by Cardinal Timothy Dolan. To register to obtain tickets please call the rectory at 561-1317. Registration will close on Monday, May 14th.

UPCOMING PILGRIMAGES

Hosted By:
Father Bill Damroth

NORTHERN NATIONAL PARKS

Featuring Yellowstone National Park
and Grand Teton National Park
August 24-31, 2018

ICELAND'S MAGICAL NORTHERN LIGHTS

February 14-20, 2019

GREEK ISLES CRUISE & EUROPE

Including The Passion Play pf Oberammergau
May 13-23, 2020

ICELAND'S MAGICAL NORTHERN LIGHTS

Discover Iceland, a land and culture forged by fire and ice. Steaming lava fields and massive glaciers sculpt mountains and valleys, leaving thundering waterfalls and plunging fjords.

The Collette Travel Agency will be here on **Monday, May 14th** at **6:00pm** in **O'Connor Hall** at to do a presentation on our Iceland pilgrimage.

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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