

**SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 28, 2017**



SATURDAY, MAY 27, 2017

5:30 P.M. Helene Shenesko
Mary Luciani
Charlene Fiorella-Izone
Marie Verzillo
Vivencio & Leonor Umiten

SUNDAY, MAY 28, 2017

7:30 A.M. Parishioners
Rocco Florio
Irene Reichwald
Cecelia Sagan
10:00 A.M. Dorothy & Frank Orofino
Shirley & Roy Parian
Stella Eagen
12:00 P.M. Theresa Quatrone
Charlene Izone

MONDAY, MAY 29, 2017

8:00 A.M. Nigel Hutchinson

TUESDAY, MAY 30, 2017

8:00 A.M. Elena Sutula

THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 2017

8:00 A.M. Walter Donnelly

FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 2017

8:00 A.M. PARISH PURGATORIAL
Jeffrey Colardo

SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 2017

5:30 P.M. Margharita Davis
Mary Luciani
Thomas Butler

SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 2017

7:30 A.M. Parishioners
Tillie & Arthur Bullett
Marie & William Moran
Ann Booth
10:00 A.M. Ricardo Glorioso
Ramuel Pascua
Pietra Emmolo
John Fusco
Raymond Dietz
12:00 P.M. Robert Domenica
Adam Vieira
Elizabeth Wood

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK: Mary Carton Jacob Hicks Ron Moebius
Nina Margossian Veny Hongo Frank Sanclementi
Gary Ragusa Reva Zanetti Joan Deblasio
Baby Michael Soojian Jan Hongo Susan Nichols-Boggio
Baby Ryder Sasso Carmela Fusco Frank Morici
Frances De Maria Dorothea King Jerome Foray
Gabe Bellantoni Millie Farina Eileen McPartland
Rosemary Liebman Cenelia Soto Gertrude Tindoc
Stacey Caropreso Sharon Acquire Noah Lorencovitz
Sister Marie Louise Silverio Conte Barbara Kincaid
Rosemary Pannone Virginia Taylor Tom Guzowski

DECEASED: Our Deceased Loved Ones

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday - \$5,474.00

Thank you for your continued support.



Dear Friends in Christ:

“Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said: I pray for them. I do not pray for the world, but for the ones you

have given me...” *John 17:1-11a*

Today's gospel shows Jesus in prayer. Jesus intercedes for the Apostles and the entire Church. Jesus intercedes for his followers.

In the Gospel we see how important for Jesus was His prayer. In the Acts we see how important prayer was for his Apostles.

We read in Acts that after Jesus ascended, the Apostles returned to the upper room and there they remained in prayer with the disciples and women including Mary the mother of Jesus. We could say it was the first Novena. They were praying for the coming of the Holy Spirit as Jesus had told them to do. This reminds us of the importance of prayer. A day without prayer is a day without Christ. If we do not have daily contact with Christ through prayer I wonder can we really call ourselves Christians or followers of Christ?

We do not think often enough of the importance of prayer. Our body needs air to breathe and we need time in prayer with Christ every day. If we stop breathing, we die; if we stop praying we die spiritually.

If at first prayer is difficult, do not give up; continue to pray until it becomes a joy for you. There are many ways to pray; find a way to pray that brings you into intimate contact with God every day.

Prayer is not just saying words but a heart to heart conversation with God. Prayer is a conversation with God. Have this conversation with God every day. Five minutes, ten minutes is not even beginning. I am convinced that God desires us to spend a substantial amount of time in prayer with him every day.

Therefore, prayer means withdrawing from the world, turning off the TV, and instead giving time to God. If possible, a family would pray together. Praying together is the most beautiful thing a family could do. There is nothing more beautiful you could do as a family than to pray together. You go out for meals together sometimes and that is a lot of fun but that is nothing compared to praying together. That is what makes you beautiful.

Between Jesus' Ascension and Pentecost, the Apostles, disciples, and women were like a big family praying. If they needed to pray, how much more do our families need prayer. Remember the well-known words of the famous Irish priest, Fr. Patrick, Peyton, “the family that prays together stays together.” Between Jesus' Ascension and Pentecost, the apostles, disciples, women, and Mary were like a big family praying together. If they needed to pray to prepare for Pentecost how

much more do our families need prayer. "The family that prays together stays together."



Ascension of Jesus Christ

Easter is about life; new and permanent life with God; life bursting triumphantly from the tomb, though for almost all, it was not immediately recognized.

These disciples had seen a It and been through a lot. They had known moments of triumph, and moments of suffering. They were chosen witnesses to the resurrection. And now as they stood with him on this mountain top, he slowly began to rise and disappear from them. In shock, they hung around until prodded to move on and assemble in prayer to await the Holy Spirit.

Perhaps this image of Jesus' ascension is like the space shuttle from Cape Canaveral or a medieval picture of the crucified feet hanging beneath the clouds; but the point not to be missed is the symbolism of mountains consistent in the Bible

It was Noah who spoke with God after the flood landing on Mt. Ararat. It was Moses who received the Commandments on Mt Sinai. It was Elijah who received the call to prophecy on Mt. Carmel;

Jesus likewise was transfigured on Mt. Tabor, crucified on Mt. Calvary, and now manifests his universality and glory on the Mount in Bethany.

This doctrine of the Ascension is about Jesus reunification with the Father, but ours as well. He says: "I must go. I am going to prepare a place for you. But if I do not go, I cannot send the Holy Spirit."

At the same time that Jesus says he must depart, He promises that I am with you always until the end of time. His presence with us is both in the Eucharist and in Baptism in the power of the Holy Spirit.

It is the Spirit who gives life. To be alive means more than taking up bodily space in this world. To be alive means that my life has been changed because I have come to know Jesus in the scriptures, the sacraments, in the depths of my heart and the heart of others

Jesus adds: "Because I have full authority; I can send you forth with every assurance that your mission will be successful Because I have full authority my presence will never desert you."

This commissioning is for every Christian; we cannot in faith neglect it, particularly in our times; even if it fills us with feelings of dread and insecurity we need to take to heart this final promise.

Christ did not just disappear. He ascended with promises in which we believe, which we expect and in which we share wonderful hope for today and the future.

LADIES GUILD

The Ladies Guild will hold a closing meeting until they resume in the Fall, with a dinner on June 5th at 7PM in the church hall (this is a time change).

CHAPEL RENOVATION

The renovation to the chapel is now complete. For those parishioners who would like to help toward the cost of the renovation, there is still time. These can be either Memorials or Gifts-whatever the giver chooses. Please call the rectory at 973-835-0480 for more details if needed.

DIAPERS FOR BABIES

Anyone who has had a child knows how expensive diapers, wipes, and formula have become. The **Knights of Columbus** would like to remove this obstacle to the choice for life by providing much needed economic assistance.

St. Francis Council K of C has decided to hold a "Diaper Drop" at St. Francis parish to collect diapers, wipes, and formula. We plan on giving these items to Birth Haven, a pregnancy care center, located in Newton, NJ.

Items will be collected until Father's Day weekend (June 18th). We would like St. Francis parish to be the surrogate fathers to children saved from abortion.

Drop off is in the church Narthex. Any questions, call Frank La Sala, FDD-PGK at 973-839-8399.

KIDNEY NEEDED

There is a parishioner in our parish who needs, most of all, your prayers, but who is in need of a kidney. Sometimes just knowing of a need or talking about it, brings amazing results. So, in your conversations, you may want to bring this topic up because you never know whose ears that this story falls upon, might be the lifesaving ones. But, above all, prayers are priceless.

Thank you and God bless you.

FIRST COMMUNICANT

Congratulations to Brian Mann who received the Sacrament of First Holy Communion on May 21, 2017 at 7:30 AM Mass.
GOD BLESS YOU!

St. Philip Neri

Feast Day: May 26

Saints can be fun people too! Philip Neri was born in Florence in the year 1515, one of four children. He had a very cheerful personality even as a little child; his family called him "Pippo buono," which means, "good little Phil". He was very popular because he was a joy to be around.

Philip could have become a businessman, but he decided to devote his life and unique gifts to God. He studied philosophy and theology for a few years, then spent 13 years as a layperson actively engaged in prayer and ministry. This was a very unusual thing to do at the time – to serve the Church full time as a lay person.

Everyone, from beggars to cardinals, enjoyed being with Philip. He rapidly gathered many lay people around him and they met as an informal prayer and discussion group, and also served poor people in Rome. Philip was extremely helpful in bringing people back to the Church and helping them understand that the Church must look at itself from time to time and make changes if necessary to be sure it is staying true to the teachings of God.

At the urging of his confessor, Philip was ordained a priest. Soon, he became an outstanding confessor himself. He was

always able to offer counsel in a charitable manner and often with a joke. He was also just a fun-loving person. He sometimes led what we would call "field trips" to other churches. He liked to have picnics and do a bit of singing on the journey. Some of Philip's followers also became priests and lived together in community that he founded. This community was called the Oratory. Their way of life included a daily afternoon service of four informal talks, with hymns and prayers. The great composer Giovanni Palestrina was one of Philip's followers.

Philip Neri died on the feast of Corpus Christi in 1595. He was beatified in 1615 and canonized in 1622. His characteristic virtues were humility and gaiety. He is often referred to as the "third apostle of Rome" (after St. Peter and St. Paul).

St. Philip Neri is the patron saint of joy. Feeling a bit sad today? We all have those days and here's one thing we can do about it: ask for the intercession of St. Philip. He will be very happy to help.

"THANK YOU"

I came to St. Francis last weekend to solicit signatures against cruel and ineffective experiments against cats and dogs. I sincerely thank Fr. Greg for providing this opportunity to help the animals St. Francis loved so much.

I express my gratitude for the overwhelming number of parishioners who signed petitions and went on line to protest. Also to those who gave me pens when mine ran out and took petitions home to copy and mail, may Saint Francis smile upon you.

In our cruel and corrupt society where life is not valued in any form, all of you stand out as a personification of the true essence of Jesus Christ.

May God Bless You All,

Barbara Caruso -Start II – Animal Rescue Group

ANNIVERSARY MASS

All couples in our parish who are celebrating their 25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 50th or any year beyond their 50th anniversary this year, are invited to renew their Marriage Vows at the 10 AM Mass on Sunday, June 25, 2017.

If you plan to celebrate with us, please fill out the form below and drop it in the collection basket or at the rectory. We ask those celebrating their anniversary to invite your family and friends to the Mass and reception afterwards.

Reservation deadline is June 19th.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY RESERVATION

Names: _____

Telephone No.: _____

Anniversary year: 25th – 30th - 35th – 40th – 45th - 50th –
beyond 50th

(Please circle year)

Approximate number of family/friends attending _____
(not including anniversary couple)



CONGRATULATIONS TO THOSE JUST MARRIED AT ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH

**Jonathan Tavarez
&**

Jennifer Rossi

Saturday, May 20, 2017 at 2:30 PM

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Religious Education News for September, 2017

Registration for Religious Education classes for September, 2017 is now in progress.

Attention:...Religious Education Parents.....

Registration forms for the 2017-2018 school year have been distributed to all families presently registered in the program. Please return forms as soon as possible.

New Registrations:...Children who are new to the parish or who are entering First (1st) Grade in the public schools in September, should also register at this time. Registration forms are at the rectory or by calling the CCD office 973-835-1946.

First Holy Communion Program requires two (2) years of religious education classes starting with 1st grade.

ROSARY NOVENA

Saturday, June 3rd at 11 AM in the Chapel. Fr. Lance will be the celebrant.

LAKELAND NURSING HOME SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 2017

Pat Demarest & Hatima Omolon

LECTORS

SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 2017

5:30 P.M. Ted Luciani

SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 2017

7:30 A.M. Jay Markot

10:00 A.M. John McMurray

12 NOON Armando Haro

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 2017

5:30 P.M. Frank & Sandy Polglaze

SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 2017

7:30 A.M. Linda & Jim Hartigan

10:00 A.M. Diane Drew & Melissa Rivera

12 NOON Barbara Garruto & John Arendas

ALTAR SERVERS

SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 2017

5:30 P.M. Sean Moebius & Peter Sutula

SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 2017

7:30 A.M. Danielle Reid

10.00 A.M. Christopher Marren & Sebastian Wojtowicz

12 NOON Aaron Manalili & Angelique Salcedo

St. Francis Knights of Columbus

are offering

A Wing

and a Prayer

for Father's Day

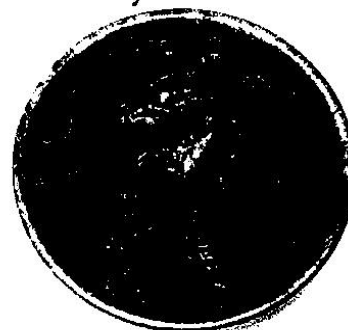
Get Dad some chicken wings for Father's Day
(or treat yourself)



Wings are pre-cooked and refrigerated,
just heat to your liking and serve.

- 6 wings \$6.00
- 12 wings \$12.00
- 24 wings \$22.00

Choice of Sauce: BBQ, Honey Mustard, or Buffalo
Blue Cheese is available \$1.00 extra



Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

Cash _____

Check _____ Made payable to St. Francis KofC #2617

Deadline for orders is Wednesday June 14. Orders to be picked up on Father's Day June 18
8 am to noon in the Church Hall.

Orders can be phoned into either: Paul 973 835 4692 or Jim 973 248 0225

You may email your order to Paul: pnt1103@hotmail.com

Orders may be cancelled by Friday June 16. Orders placed but not picked up will still be charged.

The St Francis Knights of Columbus thank you very much.