June 28, 2020
Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Parish Office: 973-835-0480 / 0489
Fax: 973-835-3277
Email: stfrancis@optonline.net / frgregg@optonline.net
Website: stfrancishaskell.org
C.C.D.: 973-835-1946

We extend a warm welcome to all our parishioners, all new members and guests celebrating with us today.

We are a Catholic Community, rooted in the Trinity, sustained by the Eucharist and the Word of God, called to witness, to serve and to educate.

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Religious Education Office / 973-835-1946
Mrs. Maryann Marren, Coordinator
Mrs. Betty Norton, Secretary

Youth Ministry / 973-835-0480
Our youth ministry is open to all Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Grade students. Come join us.

Religious Devotions

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena is on Monday after 8:00 am Mass
Novena Prayers in Honor of the Blessed Mother and St. Anthony: Are said every Tuesday after 8:00 am Mass
Prayer Group: Meets at 11:00 am - every Thursday
Adoration: Every Friday after Mass
Divine Mercy: Daily recitation of Chaplet after Mass

Ministries

Join the various ministries and associations:
Ministry of Lector, Eucharist, Usher, Altar Server, Respect Life and Lazarus Ministry, St. Francis Ladies Guild, Emmaus Prayer Group, Youth Group, Carnival, Knights of Columbus and other volunteers associated with the Church of St. Francis of Assisi.

Parish Membership

You are invited to join our parish family. We are committed to meeting the needs of all members. Please register by contacting our Parish Office. (Please notify the Parish Office of change in address or phone number and if you are moving out of the parish.)

Parish Council [Trustees & Finances]
Mr. Ron Morano • Mrs. Claire Kressaty • Mr. Dale Ostrander
Mr. Tom Luciani • Mr. Bill Boswell

Mass Schedule

Weekends
Saturday: 5:30 pm
Sunday: 7:30 am,
10:00 am & 12:00 noon

Weekdays & Holy Days
See schedule in bulletin.

R.C.I.A.: Anyone interested in an update of their faith or wanting to become Catholic, call the Parish Office.

Ministry of the Sick and Elderly: For the confined, elderly and/or shut-in, be they at home or in the hospital, please call the Rectory. Holy Communion is offered to any person permanently or temporarily homebound. For the seriously sick and dying contact the Rectory immediately.
THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
JUNE 28, 2020

SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 2020
5:30 P.M. George Macognone
Deceased Members of the Renick Family
John McMurray

SUNDAY, JUNE 28, 2020
7:30 A.M. Parishioners
Leonard Schneider, Jr.
Lorraine Rega
John Jay Ackerman
10:00 A.M. Redencion Glorioso
Roy & Shirley Parian
Frank & Dorothy Orofino
Rocco Tarulli
12 NOON Eileen McPartland

MONDAY, JUNE 29, 2020
8:00 A.M. Joan P. Ruhno

TUESDAY, JUNE 30, 2020
8:00 A.M. Ann Cademartori

THURSDAY, JULY 2, 2020
8:00 A.M. Frank & Anne Morici
Julien Raoul
Kay Quinn Janosek

FRIDAY, JULY 3, 2020
8:00 A.M. PARISH PURGATORIAL
Theresa Callamari

SATURDAY, JULY 4, 2020
5:30 P.M. Jared Fisher
Robert Weigand
John Carolan

SUNDAY, JULY 5, 2020
7:30 A.M. Parishioners
Raymond Nyhuis
10:00 A.M. Joseph Negrini, Sr.
Jose Veneracion
Jan Gesla
Ralph Cortellessa
12 NOON Deceased members of the Wick Family

Pray daily for our servicemen and women serving their country.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:
Mary Carton    Jacob Hicks    Estella Soto
Ava Rae Nebbia   Matthew Polifonte    Lois Maskley
Gary Ragusa   Herman Koenig    Evelyn Means
George Link   Michael Soojian    Valentina Manuele
Susan Nichols-Boggio   Kevin Kerrigan    Ryder Sasso
Mike Tidaback    Robert Moreno    Lydia Rivera
Jerome Foray   Loretta LaSala    Infant Ronan Suatoni
Richard Barnett   Manuel Esguerra    Kenny Sequeira
Robert Nebbia   Christopher Berry    Frank Polglaze
Sharon Acquaire    Noah Lorencovitz    Florence Grim
Josephine Venezia   Richard DeFalco    Alex Coronel
Geraldine Kearns    Alice Roslund    Alejandro Salcedo
Bernie Shushan    Jean’na Wojik Post    Patrick Keegan
Jason Skorubski    Jessica Skorubski

DECEASED: Sister Annette Marie Lucchese

WEEKLY COLLECTION
Sunday, June 21, 2020 - $3,494.00
Thank you for your continued support.

WEEKLY REFLECTION
Dear Friends in Christ,
“Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me”

In order to be a disciple, we must be willing to give up everything for Jesus. Following Jesus requires commitment and faithfulness, even if our parents choose not to follow the Lord. If and when we are faced with the painful choice of loyalty to family versus loyalty to Jesus, we must choose Jesus. Even if our family members disown us—or worse—for being Christians, we must follow Christ. It is in this sense that we are “hating” our family. Jesus’ command to “hate father and mother” requires us to prioritize our relationship with Jesus over our relationship with parents, siblings, and other family members.

Of course, it is right to love our family members, and we want them to love and follow God. Elsewhere, Jesus confirmed the fifth commandment that we honor our fathers and mothers. And St. Paul sternly warned that “anyone who does not provide for their relatives, and especially for their own household, has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever” (1 Timothy 5:8). Jesus’ statement that we “hate” father and mother must be seen in relation to the whole of Scripture. His point is not that we are to be heartless toward our families, only that we must love Him more.

Jesus is not teaching an emotional hatred of one’s parents any more than He is teaching self-hatred. Many Christians will never have to make the painful choice of turning their backs on their family in order to follow Christ. But, around the world, there are many other Christians who face shunning, disowning, or persecution from their families. These believers, if they are to be true to Christ, are forced to live in a way perceived as “hateful” toward their “father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters”.

All believers are called to acknowledge the lordship of Christ and show Him preference over all earthly
ties. Those who must sacrifice earthly relationships have this promise: “No one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age: homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields—along with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life”.

**VOTIVE CANDLES**

A young parishioner asked me why are we lighting votive candles? That was a good question. In the Roman Catholic Church, candles are placed before a statue of Jesus or of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Often, in older or traditional churches, this will be before an altar. Candles used may vary from long, taper-type candles to oil candles, wax or electric. Votive candles are either placed in holders or just on a platform in front of the statue.

Lighting a candle is a prayer, a sign of God's presence among us. Light and fire are rich symbols in sacred scripture and in Church life. Jesus said: 'I am the light of the world; anyone who follows me will not be walking in the dark, he will have the light of life.' (John 8:12) At Baptism we receive a lighted candle as the priest says, 'Receive the Light of Christ.' Lighting a candle symbolizes sincerity and determination to bring personal problems or concern for others before God. It also symbolizes our union with Christ, the light of the world. Candles can also be lit in thanksgiving.

The candle consuming itself is a representation of sacrifice.

While we carry on our daily duties, the lighted candle burns as a constant prayer. The candle 'keeps vigil' in the church while we cannot be present. Although we may go far away from the candle we continue our prayers.

Our lighted candle joins with those left by others as a visible sign of the combined prayers for the community. Many small lights together make for a greater brilliance, representing the needs in our community of faith.

Candles are lit for prayer intentions. To "light a candle for someone" indicates one's intention to say a prayer for another person, and the candle symbolizes that prayer. Many times, "a board is placed nearby with names of those for whom prayer is requested." A donation box sometimes is placed near a votive candle rack in order that Christians lighting the votive candles can help defray the cost of votive candles.

In our parish we use electric and votive candles. Please remember this form of prayer for the deceased and living family members and friends. They deserve it.

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

The 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The First Reading is from the Second Book of Kings (4:8-16a). Here, we have a story about the prophet Elisha, the protégé of Elijah, being invited into the home of a well-to-do lady because she enjoyed their conversations about God and the Covenant. This became a routine whenever Elisha was in that area.

So, to further the relationship, she prepares a room for him with the approval of her husband so that Elisha might have a fitting place to stay. In return, Elisha asks her husband if there was some way that he could show his appreciation. The husband asked for prayers for the woman because she was barren. Elisha did more than that; he promised her that with the year she would have a son. The essence of this story is that each of the characters is acting in accordance with God’s will and their relationship with God.

The Responsorial Psalm is (89:2-3. 16-19). This beautiful prayer is one that the lady in the first reading might have prayed because it is in line with her thinking. The Psalm, in general, is a song of praise, thanksgiving and personal well-being for “people who know the joyful shout in the light of your countenance.”
The Second Reading is from St. Paul’s Letter to the Romans (6:3-11). Pay attention to the first line of this passage; “Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?” What it is saying (in more common language) is that if we are truly Christians, that is, followers of Christ, then we should conform everything we say and do to be in accordance with His teachings and His will, or else His death, for us, would have been in vain.

The Gospel Reading is from the Gospel of Matthew (10:37-42). This passage, if taken out of context, is pretty strong language. In is, Jesus is not saying that you can’t love family members and friends; rather He would be the first to encourage that. However, here He is talking about setting priorities in our relationships and possessions. If they are in line with His will for you then He will bless your love and actions.

THE GLORIA
Immediately after the Penitential Rite in the Mass, we switch gears and join the angels in song! This is when we sing the Gloria. The Gloria begins with a scene from the Christmas story in Luke chapter 2. “And, suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying: ‘Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.’” Not only are we singing along with the angels, we once again quoting Scripture in the Mass! From there the Gloria closely mirrors the Kyrie, when we ask Jesus to “have mercy on us…receive our prayer…have mercy on us.” And we finish with yet another affirmation of the Blessed Trinity. “You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

You’ll notice that the Gloria is left out of Advent and Lent, as these are more penitential seasons. The Gloria is sometimes call the “Great Doxology.” The word is called the “Great Doxology” for its use in the Mass, and because we got it right from the mouths of angels!

EUCARITIC ADORATION
On this first weekend of July, we celebrate our Independence! What a better time than now, as our Churches re-open, to thank God for the privilege of being able to come before Him in praise, adoration and thanksgiving!

As we emerge from this pandemic, we pray in thanksgiving for all the doctors, nurses and essential workers in hospitals and nursing homes, for all the First Responders, for all those essential workers in food store and sanitation and delivery services and all those who put their lives on the line to help others during these uncertain times. We also pray for all those who are ill and recovering, and those who have passed away during this time.

What better way to do this than to spend some time with Jesus in Adoration!! We will be resuming our OVERNIGHT ADORATION on Friday, July 3rd at 7PM through Saturday, July 4th at 9:30 AM, There will be a 10:00 AM Mass in the Church continuing our First Saturday Novena Mass to Our Lady of Fatima and to celebrate the Birth of our Nation. This will be followed by the Patriotic Rosary thanking God for the many blessings He has showered on us and praying for the needs of our country.

Sign- up sheets are in the Narthex. Won’t you join us? One or many adorers can sign up for any given time. Please include your name & phone number (noting home or cell) so that we can contact you to confirm your time and give you the entry code.

For the safety of the adorers, NO ONE will be permitted entry who has not signed up and been given the code. Please do not attempt entry before 9 AM if you have not signed up for Adoration. The Church will be open at 9:30AM for those who wish to make an unplanned visit. Many thanks to those who have signed up.

LECTORS
SATURDAY, JULY 4, 2020
5:30 P.M. Martha Bisaccio
SUNDAY, JULY 5, 2020
7:30 A.M. Hatima Omolon
10:00 A.M. Judy Moran
12 NOON Linda O’Connell
WELCOME BISHOP SWEENEY!

Bishop-Elect Sweeney, who is 50 years old, will become the 8th bishop of Paterson next month. He grew up in the Whitestone neighborhood of Queens and was a member of St. Luke’s parish. From 1984 -1988, he attended Cathedral Prep where he was an all-star player on the baseball team, excelling as an infielder, outfielder, and pitcher. While he had hoped to pursue a professional career in baseball, he felt called to enter the seminary after receiving a B.A. in philosophy from St. John’s University in 1992.

In 1997, Bishop Thomas Daily ordained Sweeney a priest for the Diocese of Brooklyn. He was assigned as parochial vicar to the parish of St. Nicholas of Tolentine in Jamaica, Queens and then to Our Lady of Sorrows in Corona, Queens. In 2004, Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio named Sweeney the Vocations Director of the Diocese of Brooklyn. Sweeney is fluent in Spanish, having studied the language both in the Dominican Republic and Costa Rica.

Our new Bishop comes to us with a solid understanding of what it takes to be a parish priest in this day and age. He has developed many programs that have helped draw youngsters to the church and keep them involved. Although he’s been an extremely busy and hard-working parish priest, he still finds time to share his love of baseball… and he’s a passionate Yankees fan. Looks like our Diocese has hit a home run!