August 16, 2020
Twentieth 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.

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.)

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.

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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.

BAPTISM: Parishioners are welcome to have their children baptized at St. Francis of Assisi. Please call the rectory for an appointment to discuss the arrangements.

SACRAMENT OF PENCE: Saturday: 4:30-5:00 pm or at other times upon request.

MARRIAGE: Arrangements to be made at least 1 year in advance by calling the Parish Office.

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.
TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
AUGUST 16, 2020

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 2020
9:00 A.M. Intentions of Regan & Mary Jean Wick & Family
5:30 P.M. Frances Pasquariello
Ralph Cortellessa
Sr. Annette Luchesse, OSF

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16, 2020
7:30 A.M. Parishioners
Thomas Sullivan
10:00 A.M. Ralph Cortellessa
Sinfioriana M. Raz
12 NOON Joan Provenzano

MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 2020
8:00 A.M. Anthony Cafarella

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2020
8:00 A.M. Grace Garbarino

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 2020
8:00 A.M. Gene Buckley

FRIDAY, AUGUST 21, 2020
8:00 A.M. Theresa Casazza

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22, 2020
5:30 P.M. John Carolan
Thomas Migliorino
Intentions of Fred Zehend

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 2020
7:30 A.M. Parishioners
Walter Donnelly
10:00 A.M. Roy & Shirley Parian
Frank & Dorothy Orofino
Rocco Tarulli
12 NOON Dan & Charlotte Bolen

Pray daily for our servicemen and women serving their country.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:
Mary Carton Jacob Hicks Estella Soto
Avia 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 Lorencovitiz Florence Grim
Josephine Venezia Richard DeFalco Alex Coronel
Geraldine Kearns Alice Roslund Alejandro Saucedo
Bernie Shushan Jean’na Wojik Post Patrick Keegan
Elizabeth Marren Jessica Skoruski Marianne Dorn
Michael Gotti Bob Delventhal

DECEASED: Deceased from Covid-19 Virus

WEEKLY COLLECTION
Sunday, August 9, 2020 - $2,682.00
Thank you for your continued support.

WEEKLY REFLECTION
Dear Friends in Christ,
Each of today’s Scripture Readings speaks of the universal nature of God’s salvation. It is not limited to the Jews only, His chosen people, but also extends to the gentiles & foreigners. God is the God of all nations and He moves the fence to include all people.

The Gospel Reading of today From St. Matthew provides yet another insight into the universality of God’s offer of salvation. Here, we have an account of Jesus and the Canaanite woman, which is one of the very rare encounters of Jesus with the Gentiles.

Jesus was approached by a Canaanite woman abounded in love for her daughter who was tormented by a demon. She pleaded her case with him. Her persistence and astuteness is rewarded by Jesus. Clearly, this event signals the inauguration of a new era, a new covenant of grace based on faith in Jesus rather than adherence to the Law. The act of healing in the gospels is always a sign that the Messianic era has been inaugurated in the person of Jesus. So, the healing of the Canaanite woman proclaims that the era of the Messiah has finally dawned in Jesus, with the full implications of a prophetic word that offered salvation indiscriminately to all.

Now, we are the followers of Christ and we believe in our salvation through Jesus Christ. What is our view regarding salvation of others? Is there salvation outside the Church? All the three Scripture Readings of today tell us that God intends...
salvation to be available for all persons. It is a truth of the Catholic faith that Jesus Christ, as God made man, offers through his teaching and through his death and resurrection the way to salvation for all peoples.

Though limited in historical time, his teaching, life, death and resurrection have a universal effectiveness and application. He moves the fence and includes all and invites us to do the same. He does not make distinction based on ethnicity, religion, gender, social class, or economic standing. What really matters is believing in Him and obeying His commandments. These are the criteria by which we will be judged. The joy of the Kingdom of Heaven awaits all who are faithful to him.

**Laudato Si and the Eucharist**

“Everything is connected,” Pope Francis tells us in his 2015 encyclical Laudato Si: On Care for our Common Home (English: Praise Be to You). In particular, as Pope Benedict said, caring for the earth and caring for one another go together. He called them the “ecology of nature” and “human ecology” stating “there is an inseparable link between peace with creation and peace among men.” Pope Francis tells us how we need to see things: “We human beings are united as brothers and sisters on a wonderful pilgrimage, woven together by the love God has for each of his creatures and which also unites us in fond affection with brother sun, sister moon, brother river and mother earth.” (Laudato Si) Jesus had a remarkable relationship with creation: He calmed the storm (Mt 8:23-27), multiplied the loaves and the fish to feed the five thousand (Mt 14:13-21) and performed countless other miracles. It seems that creation was responsive to Him, at peace with Him, its brokenness was mended, and it even became abundant to his hands.

Jesus said to His disciples, “Do this in memory of me.” Do we ever think that among the many lessons He was teaching us at that moment one of them was how to treat creation? Handle it with love and thanksgiving. In every Mass, Jesus is among us. He offers himself and the whole of creation of God with joy and thanksgiving, and we join in His offering. By bringing the gifts of bread and wine to the altar to be offered to God, we’re acknowledging that all of creation has been given to us by God; we are saying thank you; we are acknowledging that we’re not masters of the earth, it’s God’s earth and we are asking Jesus to feed us and teach us how to live as true and faithful children of God.

The Mass is not just about Jesus and me as an individual, nor even about Jesus and us as a community: it’s about humanity and the whole of creation being taken up to God in and through the loving sacrifice of Christ. The ecological crisis prompts us to see links between the Mass and all that God has made. It is a spiritual crisis, and the Mass is the key to our response as Catholics. As Pope Francis says, the Eucharist is a “source of light and motivation for our concerns for the environment, directing us to be stewards of all creation.”

(Laudato Si) Eucharist and Ecology, Msgr. Paul McPartlan

**PRAYER**

Almighty and all-merciful God, lover of the human race, healer of all our wounds, in whom there is no shadow of death, save us in this time of crisis; grant wisdom and courage to our leaders; watch over all medical people as they tend the sick and work for a cure; stir in us a sense of solidarity beyond all isolation; if our doors are closed, let our hearts be open. By the power of your love destroy the virus of fear, that hope may never die and the light of Easter, the triumph of life, may shine upon us and the whole world. Through Jesus Christ, the Lord risen from the dead, who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen. Holy Mary, health of the sick, pray for us. St Joseph, guardian of us all, pray for us.
OUR AMERICAN SAINTS
Saint Marianne Cope
Feast Day - January 23
(January 23, 1838 – August 9, 1918)

Though leprosy scared off most people in 19th-century Hawaii, that disease sparked great generosity in the woman who came to be known as Mother Marianne of Molokai. Her courage helped tremendously to improve the lives of its victims in Hawaii, a territory annexed to the United States during her lifetime (1898).

On January 23, 1838, a daughter was born to Peter and Barbara Cope of Hessen-Darmstadt, Germany. The girl was named after her mother. Two years later the Cope family emigrated to the United States and settled in Utica, New York. Young Barbara worked in a factory until August 1862, when she went to the Sisters of the Third Order of Saint Francis in Syracuse, New York. After profession in November of the next year, she began teaching at Assumption parish school.

Elected provincial in 1877, Mother Marianne was unanimously re-elected in 1881. Two years later the Hawaiian government was searching for someone to run the Kakaako Receiving Station for people suspected of having leprosy. More than 50 religious communities in the United States and Canada were asked. When the request was put to the Syracuse sisters, 35 of them volunteered immediately. On October 22, 1883, Mother Marianne and six other sisters left for Hawaii where they took charge of the Kakaako Receiving Station outside Honolulu; on the island of Maui they also opened a hospital and a school for girls.

In 1888, Mother Marianne and two sisters went to Molokai to open a home for “unprotected women and girls” there. The Hawaiian government was quite hesitant to send women for this difficult assignment; they need not have worried about Mother Marianne! On Molokai she took charge of the home that Saint Damien de Veuster had established for men and boys. Mother Marianne changed life on Molokai by introducing cleanliness, pride, and fun to the colony. Bright scarves and pretty dresses for the women were part of her approach.

Mother Marianne died on August 9, 1918 and was beatified in 2005 and canonized seven years later. The government authorities were reluctant to allow Mother Marianne to be a mother on Molokai. Thirty years of dedication proved their fears unfounded. God grants gifts regardless of human shortsightedness and allows those gifts to flower for the sake of the kingdom.

Courtesy of Franciscan Media

THE GOSPEL

Unlike the first two readings at Mass, the congregation stands for the reading of the Gospel. This is to show our great reverence for the Gospel. Before the Gospel is proclaimed, the congregation makes the sign of the cross over their forehead, lips, and heart. We pray that God’s word will always be on our mind, on our lips, and in our heart. The word gospel means “good news.” The four Gospel accounts – of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John – contain the story of the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. While lay people read the first and second readings, only a deacon, priest or bishop can proclaim the Gospel at Mass. They are part of the preaching ministry of the Church, with authority handed on to them through the Sacrament of Holy Orders.

Some parishes have a separate book which contains only the Gospel readings – the Book of the Gospels. This is often very ornate and sometimes bound with a cover made of precious metals. After proclaiming the Gospel, the priest will reverence the book by kissing the page, a practice which goes back many centuries.

At the end of the reading, the priest will say, “The Gospel of the Lord.” And, as Jesus is present in His word, the congregation replies, “Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.”

LECTORS
SATURDAY, AUGUST 22, 2020
5:30 P.M. Dom Cortellessa
SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 2020
7:30 A.M. Erika Reid
10:00 A.M. Chris Marren
12 NOON Mary Avella
A very persistent foreign woman begged Jesus to heal her daughter. She had great faith in Jesus. Jesus said “Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.”

Jesus accepted the foreign woman and her faith. Today, Jesus expects us to welcome foreigners and their faith to our communities. Our churches are called **Faith Filled Communities**. On a separate sheet of paper draw a picture of what your church, or “faith filled community” looks like.

**Don’t forget to add some people!**