



Saturday, October 24 (St. Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop:

BVM)

9:00 am Mr. & Mrs. Alessi | Tierney Family

5:00 pm Virginia Rosch + | Peggy Nanney

Sunday, October 25 (30th Sunday of Ordinary Time)

9:00 am For the Parish

11:30 am Avon J. Newkirk + | Harriett L Holly

Monday, October 26

8:30 am Mary Chin + | Margaret Hunt

Tuesday, October 27

8:30 am Anne King + | Margaret Hunt

Wednesday, October 28 (Saints Simon & Jude, Apostles)

8:30 am Duane LaFortune + | Margaret Hunt

Thursday, October 29

8:30 am Lourene Ray + | Margaret Hunt

Friday, October 30

8:30 am Mary Ellen Corrigan + | Margaret Hunt

Saturday, October 31

9:00 am Dolores O'Donoghue + | Margaret Hunt

5:00 pm William Hay + | Margaret Hunt

FROM THE DESK OF FATHER LEWIS

When you listen to the media report on the Church, be very careful. The media reports everything from a political, worldly perspective. Why is this a problem? Simple. The Church isn't a political party. Our Church is the living, breathing Body of Christ pouring out grace, healing, mercy, and truth into our world today. The Church will never change moral law or truths of our faith because the Church will never contradict Jesus, the Apostles, the Scriptures, and Tradition. So, when figures in the media say, "The Pope said something! Finally, the Church is changed! The Bible was wrong! Everything taught before was wrong!" – recognize that the media is probably just trying to sell news. We, as mature members of the Body of Christ, cannot allow our faith and her teachings to be shaken or confused by news reports.

When does a pope speak with authority? The pope is entrusted by Jesus with the position of teaching on faith and morals. He exercises his authority through official Church documents, official Church pronouncements, and clear statements where he is intentionally exercising his authority. Interviews given by the pope are not declarations of Church teaching nor dogmatic statements. An interview is an opportunity for us to get to know the pope as a person and maybe learn some of his personal opinions, but they are never places where he would seek to teach authoritatively and certainly not a vehicle for changing the teachings of the Church.

In an interview, the pope said that people who struggle with homosexuality should not be rejected from their families and churches. The pope also offered an opinion on what are called "civil unions." What was he talking about? In Argentina, Pope Francis thought it might be good to permit a legal arrangement between any two people whereby they could exercise particular legal responsibility for one another, share insurance, bank accounts, or file taxes jointly. There was nothing necessarily sexual about a civil union – it was simply a way to provide a particular legal relationship to benefit two people. A "civil union" might be between a brother and sister, mother and daughter, or two non-related people of the same sex. The pope, in his personal opinion, has held that such an arrangement might be a good thing to permit people who are unmarried. Again, both statements above were in an interview – and they were his personal opinion.

The news media took the pope's words and implied that he had officially redefined Church teaching. Suffice it to say – The pope did not change Church teaching, nor did he intend to. In his official capacity, our Holy Father has repeated time and again that God himself defined marriage as a permanent covenant between a man and a woman. God himself has defined the truths of sexual morality and what it means to be chaste. Pope Francis often reminds us of this teaching with great pastoral love. But that doesn't sell newspapers – so, you don't hear much about it.

We keep Pope Francis in our prayers and welcome opportunities to learn about his personal opinions, which generally come from a kindly, pastoral heart. More importantly, though, we are grateful when the pope seeks to exercise his ministry as Vicar for Christ and lead and guide the Church in an authoritative, official, clarifying way. (That doesn't happen in interviews.) Be at peace. Neither the gates of Hell, nor the wiles of the media, will prevail against our Church.

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL AND THOSE WHO CARE FOR THEM:

Duffy Askin Family, Bradley Baker, Evan Beck, Pat Brooke, Counihan Family, Phil Eppard, Martin (Red) Fahey, Walter Harley, Lukas Hjort-Tyson, Hoehl Family, Art Grenier, Mary Gressett, Bert Latimer, Tonya Lee, Ralph Loveless, MacMannis Family, Lina Maralit, Jennifer Whipple-Marciano, Leondre Massey, Denise McHale, Grace Mueth, Nancy Palmedo, Deborah Pritts-Murray, Joe Norris, Shannon O'Connell, Matthew Pineda, Father Michael Quill, Barbara Ruf, Robert Wayne Saul III, Dolores Steinhilber, John Tierney, Elijah & Marilyn Thorne, Eva Thorne, Nellie & Ruth Wade, Suzanne Walters, Shawn & Tommy Webb, Dineen Whipple, Bee Duncan, Alma Streicher, Shoko Ferguson, Ryan Murray, and Patrick Baggott

Retired Priest 2nd Collection

The Retired Priests of the Archdiocese of Washington Collection is November 7 and 8 this year. Our priests touch our lives in many ways: they baptize our children, comfort us in the confessional, witness our marriage vows and hold our loved ones hands as the Lord calls them home. Let us come together to help provide care and housing for our retired priests so they can live their retirement in dignity. There are four ways you can support the Retired Priests Collection this year:

- Envelope. Please use the envelope mailed to you earlier this month, the envelope in the pews or the envelope provided by the parish/Our Sunday Visitor.
- Online: Please visit adw.org/rpc to support the collection online.
- Text: Please text "Priest" to (301) 231-1816. A text with a link to a secure form will be sent back to you to complete your generous gift for this important collection.
- QR Code: Please scan the QR code below with your mobile phone to make a gift online.



2020 Religious Education

The 2020 - 2021 Religious Education and First Communion Preparation will be offered by the Missionaries of Charity, the order founded by St. (Mother) Teresa of Calcutta. Confirmation prep for St. Philips takes place on First Fridays beginning at 6:00 PM led by April King. For more information or to sign up, please visit www.stphilip.net/religious

World Mission Sunday 2020

Thanks for your participation! Thank you for answering, "Here I Am, Send Me" to your baptismal call to witness for mission on World Mission Sunday! Our parish offered \$314.75 to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith for the missionary work of the Church – a real blessing for the Missions! Please continue to pray for missionaries, and for the people to whom they bring the "Good News" of Jesus. May God bless you for your generous missionary spirit!

Remembering St. Philip's School's early years, part XIII

The first St. Philip's Annual Golf Tournament was held for several years, beginning in 1979. After Deacon Dante Ross died suddenly in 1989, the tournament resumed and was renamed the Dante Ross Memorial Golf Tournament, a major fund-raiser for the Dante Ross Scholarship Fund. The fund has been used since then to award cash scholarships to three of our students and one for a student attending a Catholic highschool.

On May 31, 1992, St. Philip's Parish celebrated its 35th anniversary. Among the honored guests was our first principal, Sr. Celeste.

Some years ago Margo Clark taught guitar at the school. She also directed a guitar folk group for the Friday Children's Mass. Later, TyJuana Morris, Paul Leary and Margaret Leary led the singing at the Mass and directed the Christmas program.

Service projects are an important part of education. Recent projects have included Math-a-thon for St. Jude's Hospital and Sandwich Day when students bring extra sandwiches which are delivered to SOME (So Others Might Eat).

In 1990 Mary McHale, the librarian, began The Newbery Readers, a book discussion group for interested students in grades 5-7. In 1995 Margaret Vilky became an assistant librarian. At that time the Library boasted more than 6,000 books, 950 filmstrips and videos, library machines, and a library information bulletin board in the hall. Over the years, hundreds of volunteers checked books in and out, shelved, typed catalog cards and read to students. Mrs. McHale retired in 1999.

Adoration Evenings at St. Philips

Saint Philip's offers a weekly Adoration every Wednesday beginning at 4:00 pm and continuing until 8:00 pm in the church.

Offertory Summary for October 17 & 18
Parishioner Contributions: \$ 4,386.75