



Sister Lucia, one of the three children from Portugal who saw in Fatima the Blessed Mother in a 1917 apparition, uttered these prophetic words some time before her death in 2005 at the age of 97 : " The final battle between the Lord and the reign of Satan will be about marriage and the family. Don't be afraid, because anyone who works for the sanctity of marriage and the family, will always be fought and opposed in every way, because this is the decisive issue. However, Our Lady has already crushed its head. "

A perusal of the worldwide landscape does establish the fact that family life, in our modern culture, is deeply attacked by secular and cultural attitudes with an opposing falsehood. Human life from the moment of conception is considered a quaint holdover of thought from the past, before modern medical " enlightenment " reconfigured the facts. Abortion is a scourge of our times, that has allowed conception (whether we live or die as a baby) to be a matter akin to playing Russian roulette. Mother Teresa of Calcutta once opined that no country that legally destroyed the unborn child could expect economic blessings or peaceful times. I have been perturbed for many decades of the notion that you and I were deemed worthy of birth, but that this human right has been denied to vast amounts of other human beings. Why us and not them ? Those babies robbed of their birth rite are certainly in heaven, through the Church teachings of baptism by blood and desire. They are praying from eternity for the parents that conceived them, interceding to God for mercy and forgiveness. I have met many mothers who deeply regretted their decision to abort, and I do assure them of that fact that their unborn children will save them paradoxically by their innocence.

We cannot deny the seriousness of our times, and the challenges that Christians and others of good will predictably will face in the decades ahead. Movies, songs, and literature promote attacks against traditional family values as a necessary cocktail of choice in contemporary times. The lies of overpopulation permeate influential thought. Any honest individual who flies by plane around America, and the international continents, can easily see the vast amount of potentially habitable and untouched land waiting to be occupied by human feet. The realities of an anti-life philosophy go back many decades, in terms of being a legal force. Margaret Sanger (1883-1966) was the original voice of this corrupted notion of human life, going back nearly a century ago to the early 1920's. Sanger said in " Women and the New Race " from 1920 that " The most merciful thing that a large family does to one of its infant members is to kill it. ". In " Pivot of Civilization, " circa 1923, she referred to minorities and immigrants as " ... Human weeds, reckless breeders, spawning human beings who never should have been born. " In 1914, from " The Woman Rebel : No Gods, No Masters, " Sanger (God forgive her) spewed out about Christian organizations (YMCA/YWCA) as being " brothels of the spirit and morgues of freedom. " In the same book and year of 1914, she defined the Catholic Church as an entity to " enforce subjugation by turning woman into a mere incubator. " When abortion was legalized in the United States in 1973, pro-life musicians " Seals and Crofts " recorded a touching song called " Unborn Child. " Their career plummeted after the release of this song. This life issue is a critical component of the upcoming presidential election as well. Despite the dark clouds of these realities, we are called to be strong and courageous followers of Jesus. This is why at Saint Francis of Assisi Church we are working together to create healthy family ministries around youth groups, scripture courses, prayer gardens, devotions to the saints and Virgin Mary on the road to Christ, movie nights of inspirational films that portray each human life in beautifully eloquent terms, and an openness to the immigrants of our Benkard Avenue neighborhood to further expand the dynamics of parish life. This is all for the glory of God, not my ego or yours. Indeed we live in arduous and tough times, constantly challenging the good hearts of our parish family. Thankfully, the plan of God will prevail as cited by Sister Lucia of Fatima. The evil plans of Margaret Sanger 100 years ago and the sinister organizations she spawned will fail, and go into the dustbins of forgotten history for the evil goals they once perpetuated. God help us. Father Bill

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. June 13

7:00am Julie Guzman
By Margaret
Noon Patricia Zambito
By Elsie Beauchamp

Tues. June 14

7:00am A Special Intention
By M. King
Noon Tom Tulve
By Elaine Lee

Wed. June 15

7:00am The Unborn
Noon Debra Bozzone
By Donna Fanning

Thur. June 16

7:00am Dominick Grieco
By Children & Grandchildren
Noon Louis Talerico
By Friends of Family

Fri. June 17

7:00am Mary & Joseph Vitay
By Mary Ann & Tony Farkas
Noon Lizzie Rogers
By St. Francis Food Pantry Friends

Sat. June 18

Noon Barbara Walters
By Mary Oster
4:30pm Special Intention
By Ida & John Barcia
John J. Crudele
By Family

Sun, June 19

8:00am Fathers Day Novena
11:00am Ann & Anthony Farkas
By Mary Ann & Tony Farkas
Priscilla Rogers
By Michael & Colleen Corizzo

Weekly Collection 

June 4-5, 2016

1st Collection \$6725.00
.....2nd Collection.. \$ 711.00
TOTAL...\$7822.00

Our sincere thanks for your generosity and support of our Parish. God bless each and every one of you....always

The 2nd collection this weekend is for
MAINTENANCE FUND

MASS ATTENDANCE

June 4-5, 2016
4:30 pm 185
8:00 am 156
11:00 am 285
Total 626

The Chaplet of the Divine Mercy is recited on Sundays at 10:40 am before the 11 am Mass
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Our Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Wednesday from 5 pm to 6 pm will be for the special intention of Fathers.  
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Eucharistic Ministers needed to serve at St. Luke's Hospital during the week. If you are interested in helping, please call Suzanna at - 845-561-5162



Food Pantry Hours:

Friday 9:00am to 12noon
Saturday 9:00am to 12noon

FOOD FOR THE POOR

In your goodness please bring **ONE POUND PACKAGES OF PASTA & SAUCE** to Church next weekend to be distributed to the less fortunate thru our Food Pantry.

ON SEPTEMBER 11th A Pancake Breakfast and Raffle sponsored by the Elks Club to help support the Deacon Jack Seymour Food Pantry

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RECTORY OFFICE NEW SUMMER HOURS

Monday thru Thursday 9:00 - 3:00 pm
Friday 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

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CAMP VERITAS 2016

Camp Veritas is a one-week play and pray sleep away summer camp for teens going into 7th to 12th grades. It will be held at three USA locations in 2016; July 23-30 at Mt. Saint Mary College in Newburgh, NY, July 31-August 6th, 2016 at Summit Lake Camp in Emmitsburg, MD and August 14-20, 2016 at Camp Lakota in Wurtsboro, NY. More details and enrollment forms for campers and volunteers (18 & over) can be found at www.campveritas.com.

ST. FRANCIS HAPPENINGS !!

June 18 6:00 pm Movie Night – “The Garden of Allah with Marlene Dietrich and Charles Boyer.

June 26 **Coffee and Bagel Hour IS CANCELLED** for June.. but look for our upcoming July date.

July 2 Birthday Blessings at all masses

July 8 (Friday evening) Night Under the Stars. Mass at 7 pm , Blessing of our new Prayer Garden, followed by an outside movie with toasted marshmallows, smores, & popcorn... Weather permitting.

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Our Prayers for the Sick:, Vincenza Secor, Aaron Stagliano, Kelly Stafford, Robyn McGraw, John nz Sabo, Andrew Costanzo, Marie Wijek, Rose, Stephen Sabo, Ashley Barco, Jean Kaiser, Tom Scalzo, Nora Brickter, Gary Lake, Genevieve Pilch, Agnes Casey, Brianna Barker, Keith Webber, Jake Bryan DeStefano, Rose Marie Michalowski, Meryl Chatham, Vincenturia Cullen, Amy Meyer, Vinnie Yonnone, Grace Keller Peacock, Mary Corwin, Jean DeCicco, Don Hughes, David Jennings, Robert Johnson, Karen Wells, Marcia McKay, Victoria Palkovic, Elaine Pietrzak, Maureen Luzzi, Joyce Poponiak, Corrine Gammino, George Vecchio, Jr, Carol Brown, Teresa Centeno, Matthew Gallagher, Luzia Araujo, Celio Thomaz, Sherry Collins, Rosalie Nogay, Richard and Rina Bozzone, Antonio Troia, Cody Favoino-Finkbeiner, Marie Louis, Sacha Samuel George, the Koch Family, Frank Pietrzak, John Marullo, Rose Jurik, Robert & Helen Osborn, Manuel DiNapoli, Jennie Serrano, Eddie Koza, Barbara Woloszyn, Gary McGraw, Rachael Neugebauer, Patricia Denniston, Arlene Dietrichsen, Maureen Kelly, Deacon Larry Kawula, Abigail Ryan, Debra Thurston, Toby Persico, Alexis Johnson, Barry Johnson, James R. Purpura, Bob Smith, Tom Kingery, Bud Smith, Amy Finnegan, Jane Pustola, Justin, Peter, Rita, Janice Ruggiero, Angela, Wayne, Abbie K., Dominick Denisi, Sebastian Denisi, Pam Denisi, Linda Hummel, Joseph Michalowski, Joann Quicksell, Frances Dolan, Daniel D'Elicio, Fr. Fred Kempferi, Hazel Yonnone, Carmen Dacrosta Parker Jane Holloway, Dore Williams, Hank Kensing, Virginia Ranaudo, Sheryl McGrath

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CONGRATULATIONS TO MARIE GIDA – the May winner of \$246 in our Monthly 50/50 Raffle Club. Get your envelope in for our next drawing in June.

YOU DID IT !!! 101%

Cardinals Stewardship Appeal..

THANK YOU .Mr. & Mrs. Richard Gerbes and Ms. Margaret Ray.

The Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal is vital in sustaining all the good that we do for the church in New York.

We have now reached our goal... any further contributions will go to help our parish.

Thank You!

FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

NIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #444

June 11th Knights Yard Sale will be held on, 8 am to 3 pm at the Council building, on 53 Old Little Britain Rd..

June 24 - Hudson Valley Knights of Columbus Charity Ball at 6:30 pm at St. Mary's Council in Fishkill. \$45 pre-paid by May 31 please. Proceeds will be going to Special Olympics. For information on any of the above events, please contact Grand Knight Ken Ryan at 845-667-1582. The Knights of Columbus are always looking for new members.



HELPING THOSE IN NEED

If there is anyone asking for money around our church outside of Mass, please refrain from doing so. Be generous in giving to our Food Pantry. That is where and how we can assist those who are truly in need. The Deacon Jack Seymour Food Pantry assists with dignity and privacy. Helping people in need is our responsibility as Christians; and donations to our Food Pantry is the best way to support this need. Those who have been approaching parishioners are recipients of the Food Pantry. Thank you.

Continuous Kindness for Cats & Canines

Back by popular demand by so many generous animal lovers, we now have a continuous 'little furry friends ministry'. This will be helping the New Windsor SPCA..A no-kill pet shelter. Please notice the blue "pet food bowl" as our way to help "feed" a good cause. And the "heart paws decorated" box for any type of pet supplies you wish to donate



Did you know? ...A German Shepherd guide dog led her blind companion through the entire 2100 mile Appalachian Trail.

**PHOTO BOOK OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH
TO GO ON SALE THE LAST WEEKEND IN JUNE.**

This book was compiled to offer the parishioners of St. Francis the ease of identifying the various religious statues and sacramentals used in the Church, as well as the figures in the stained glass windows and the saints and apostles seen in "The Final Judgement" mural above the Sanctuary. This book was originally printed for the 100th anniversary of the parish but now has been updated through 2015. If anyone were to order this book through the company, the cost would be \$115.86 (plus tax, shipping & handling). However, Fr. Bill has been able to arrange a special price for our parish at \$70. Jim Formato, author of the book will be available as well as the book (for viewing) after all masses during the weekend of June 25th & 26th. Payment is expected at the time of ordering (cash or check made out to St. Francis Parish). This would make an excellent historical memory book for your family!

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**WHAT A FUN AFTERNOON**

**THANK YOU TO SO MANY PEOPLE**

who made the Annual Parish Dinner a huge success. THANK YOU to all who brought food & beverages, to all who help set up, to all who cooked and served, to all who stayed to clean up. And a special thank you to Jim & Kathy Purpura who made this all happen.

A full house of people enjoyed an afternoon with good food, good fellowship, good music and had a good time.

**Our St Francis Family is the best !!**

**FLAG DAY CEREMONY**

Newburgh Elks #247 will be conducting a Flag Day Ceremony on Sunday, June 12 at 3 pm at Washington Headquarters. We will also be doing a Flag Retirement Ceremony for any Flags that you have that need to be retired. MaryKay Messenger will be leading us in the singing of our National Anthem. This event is free to the community. Please contact Michael Kerin for details at 914-489-4661

**MOVIE NIGHT - JUNE 18 - 6 pm**

On Saturday; June 18<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm, we will be showing the movie, "The Garden of Allah:. Pizza and light refreshments will be served. Please contact Jeannine McCauley at [jeansey50@yahoo.com](mailto:jeansey50@yahoo.com) or 914-263-0572 if you are planning on attending.

**The Catholic Daughters** will be meeting for Mass on Wednesday, June 15 at 7 pm at Sacred Heart Church in Newburgh. Installation of officers & reception of new members will take place. There will be a short business meeting following at Msgr. Valastro Activity Center. Please note date change as our meeting room will not be available due to the Italian Feast. New members are always welcome .For further information, please call Maureen Kelly at 562-9462.

**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: \_\_\_\_\_

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!*

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