



## PADRE'S CORNER

September 25, 2016

Cooperstown, New York is the setting for this reflection as I sit in a small country house just a mile from the baseball hall of fame. While church or a chapel is a spiritual place to reconnect with God and the faith, as we face the battles and blessings of life, we all need other more human yet still sacred spots to nestle in for hope and encouragement. This location, three hours from Newburgh, is such a special destination for me. In our dangerous times, after all, church doors are not open 24/7. Graciously, our outdoor prayer garden is. Such a garden is here in Cooperstown also, connected to the property I am staying in. Each of us has to find our earthly spots of rest, relaxation, optimism, friendship, and sense of God's goodness. If life is just running around or checking what people say about us on social media, we will burn out.

Vin Scully is coming much to mind these few days in Otsego County, the famous announcer starting in 1950 with the Brooklyn Dodgers and then to California in 1958 when the Dodgers moved to Chavez Ravine in Los Angeles. During that expanse of time, Scully would have known players from all the way back to 1905 with player Branch Rickey who died in 1965 (most famous for breaking the color barrier in baseball with the signing of Jackie Robinson in the 1940's, as a team executive with the Dodgers when his playing career came to an end) to 2016 athletes like Clayton Kershaw and former San Diego Padre Adrian Gonzalez. Vin is retiring this season, after being the Dodgers announcer for 67 years. I had the blessing of getting his autograph years ago while at Annunciation Church in the Crestwood section of Yonkers, through a parishioner who was a classmate of his at Fordham University in the Bronx. Vin sent me a personalized photo from Dodger Stadium, which has a spiritual value for me beyond the autograph. Scully is an articulate spokesperson for the game of baseball that he loves, which matters more to him than his personal fame as a legendary sports announcer. The game is bigger than him as a person. His announcing style was very different from that of announcers today, which is more brash and statistics oriented. Vin has a relaxed style filled with historical stories, humor, and gratitude for the people in our lives who have contributed to our makeup and success. He does not speak bravissimo or machismo, but human interest memories that touch the heart and mind as well as the soul. Scully never forgot his beginnings, deeply rooted in both family and his Catholic faith. Born in 1927, he went to Incarnation Church on West 175th Street in Washington Heights as a child, after the New York parish was established in 1928. In 1949, **twenty-two years later**, he would graduate from Fordham University in the Bronx (where I also received a master's degree in education within the calendar year of 2004). He walked the same grounds as legendary Green Bay Packers head coach Vince Lombardi, who played football at Fordham in the 1930's and even gave thought to the priesthood. Alas, that is another story for another time. Back to the roots of Scully, which he never forgot in the midst of his broadcasting success in Major League Baseball. His father Vincent, a traveling salesman for silk, died when he was four. His mother Bridget, born in Ireland before becoming an immigrant to America, took her young son to that fifth floor apartment in Washington Heights. The "Sports Illustrated" article reflected: "Scully's life path opened with clarity when he was eight years old. He crawled underneath the family's massive wooden radio console to hear broadcasts of college football games; he heard a crowd before he ever saw one. The sound, as he likes to tell it, washed over him like water from a shower head. He was hooked. When one day Sister Virginia Maria of the Sisters of Charity at the Incarnation School assigned her grammar class to write an essay on what they wanted to be when they grew up, Scully wrote enthusiastically of his dream to be a sports announcer." Vince remembered his parents and the religious sisters as the foundation for his life then and now. He would ponder: "So now, when I'm in the booth, Kirk Gibson (1988 World Series) hits a home run and the place goes bananas. I showed up, I sit there, and for that little moment I'm eight years old again." As your new pastor, I have many connections to the life of Vin Scully. I am also grateful to my parents, who adopted me as an orphan much as young Vince must have felt when at the age of four his dad died. I also thank the same Sisters of Charity order that taught Vince, and took care of me in that New York Foundling orphanage before I was adopted in 1960 (ten years after Scully began as Dodgers announcer). As in announcing, I also realize that the playing field of faith is not about me but about the bigger picture: us and God through homilies and reflections in the midst of stories, history, humor, and rich memories. Vin Scully teaches what the bigger point is ultimately about: gratitude to God and loved ones for all we have and will become. He said at the Fordham commencement address in 2000: "The world will try to clutter your lives and minds... Don't let the winds blow your dreams away or steal your faith in God... Be a bobbed cork: when you are pushed down, bob up... It is written that somewhere in every childhood a door will open, and there is a quick glimpse of the future. When my door opened, I saw a large radio on four legs in the living room of my parents' home... Above all, don't ever stop dreaming. Sometimes even your wildest dreams can come true... I'm not only getting this job to do a sport that I love, but then God's charity allowing me to do it for 67 years... I have a huge debt to pay in heaven - I hope when I get there - because the Lord has been so gracious to me all my life." I may just get an autographed baseball here in Cooperstown of Vin Scully before leaving in a few days. I want to be like him in my own way. How about you? Baseball will miss him, when his voice is heard no more during broadcasts. God bless Vince. **Father Bill**

# MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. Sept. 26

7:00am St Frances Food Pantry  
Volunteers  
Noon In Thanksgiving  
By Kawula Family

Tues. Sept. 27

7:00am City of Newburgh  
Noon John Nosek  
By Barbara Cathcart

Wed. Sept. 28

7:00am The Unborn  
Noon John Borka  
By Family

Thur. Sept 29

7:00am City of Newburgh  
Noon Souls in Purgatory  
By Kawula Family

Fri. Sept. 30

7:00am Vocations  
Noon Orlando & Maria  
Cosentino  
By Daughter Frances

Sat. Oct 1

Noon St Francis Parish  
4:30pm Anna Stenglein  
By Family  
Lynda Napravnik  
-Vessels  
By Doris & Tony Jaczko

Sun. Oct 2

8:00am Gus Welch  
By Joanne & John Tallarico  
Joan Villa  
By Rita Welch  
11:00am Caroline & James  
Walsh  
By Family  
Lynda Napravnik  
Vessels  
By Mary & Robert Wolf



## WEEKLY COLLECTON

September 17-18, 2016  
1<sup>st</sup> Collection \$6,944.00  
2<sup>nd</sup> Collection \$1,841.00  
TOTAL \$8,785.00

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

The 2<sup>nd</sup> collection this weekend is for our  
**GROUNDS UPKEEP**

## MASS ATTENDANCE

September 17-18, 2016  
4:30pm 165  
8:00am 153  
11:00am 235  
Total 553

The Chaplet of Divine Mercy is recited on Sundays  
at 10:40am before the 11:00am MASS



Our Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed  
Sacrament on Wednesday from 5:00pm to 6:00pm will  
be for the special intention of **THE UNBORN**

# Thank You!

Thank you to all who helped make Fr. Bill's Installation  
as Pastor a wonderful celebration. A special thank you  
to Fr. Daniel O'Hare, Regional Dean, who performed  
the installation and to all the visiting priests and  
deacons. Thank you to all who took part in the Mass,  
those who made the presentations of the signs of  
parish life and the the magnificent music provided by  
our choir and trumpeteer. We also thank the many  
Policemen, Firemen, EMT's and Military who attended  
the 11:00am Blue Mass to honor the memory of the  
15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of 9/11.

And we can't forget to thank the many volunteers who  
arranged and organized the wonderful reception for  
Fr. Bill and his family in our gym.



\*The 2016-2017 school year has begun. If you haven't yet registered your child/children please call Lynda Piper, our Religious Education Coordinator, at the Religious Education Office at 561-2589.

### ST FRANCIS

#### HIGH SCHOOL CONFIRMATION GROUP

The high school Confirmation group will begin on Friday, September 30, 2016 at 4:30pm until 6:00pm. We will meet in the St. Francis Convent, 153 Benkard Avenue. Entrance is off the back parking lot next to the parish office and rectory. The group is only for 9-12 graders who have not received Confirmation and are interested in doing so. Please speak to Sr. Laura if you have questions.

#### TEENAGE YOUTH GROUP

The teen age youth group (13-18 years old) will begin on Saturday, October 1, 2016 from 4:00pm to 6:00pm. We will meet in the convent meeting room of St. Francis Convent. Any questions please speak with Sister Laura. Young adults (college age and beyond) interested in coordinating the group and being part of the team please speak to Sr. Laura.

Young adult group (18-35 years old) will follow soon. Stay posted for dates and time.

#### MASS IN SPANISH

We will begin to have Mass in Spanish once a month at St. Francis Church. Our first Sunday Spanish Mass will be October 23, 2016 at 2:00pm. All are welcome to participate.



Sister Helen Marie Raynor, PBVM (60 years) and Sister Yliana Hernandez, PBVM (50 years) invite you to the Celebration of their Jubilees on Saturday, October 15, 2016. Mass will be celebrated at 1:30pm at St. Francis Church followed by light refreshments in O'Connor Hall. Please RSVP by September 25<sup>th</sup> by calling 845-567-0708 (number of adults/children).



**Food Pantry Hours:**  
Friday 9:00am to 12noon  
Saturday 9:00am to 12noon

In your goodness please bring **CANNED FRUIT** to Church next weekend to be distributed to the less fortunate thru our Food Pantry.

**The Food Pantry is no longer in need of egg cartons.**

#### **FROM THE FOOD PANTRY STAFF.....**

- \* The Elks of Newburgh is sponsoring a raffle and breakfast for the St Francis Deacon Jack Seymour Food Pantry. There will be **300 raffle tickets** sold at **\$50.00 each**.
- \* Each ticket entitles the holder to **2 breakfasts** on **Sunday, October 30<sup>th</sup>** between the hours of 8:00am and 12noon at the **Newburgh Elks Lodge located at 356 Washington Street**.
- \* There will be **5 - \$1,000 winners, 1 - \$500 winner and 2 - \$250 winners**
- \* All **proceeds** from the breakfast and raffle will **go to the St. Francis Deacon Jack Seymour Food Pantry**.
- \* Breakfast entry without a raffle tickets will cost \$10.00 per person.
- \* Raffle tickets can also be purchased after Masses.

**\* Raffle tickets are also available for purchase at the rectory.**

#### RECOVERY SUNDAY

Recovery Sunday is a national day of prayer for those suffering with addictions. Cardinal O'Connor first instituted Recovery Sunday in 1999 in the New York Archdiocese designating a weekend in September to pray for those with addictions and their families. Cardinal Dolan would like to reintroduce the tradition of Recovery Sunday in our Archdiocese by designating September 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> as the days we pray for the almost 20 million Americans who struggle with addictive illness.

#### SAINT PEREGRINE

14<sup>TH</sup> Annual Healing Mass in honor of St. Peregrine, patron of those suffering with cancer, to be held on Thursday, September 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm at the Chapel at Mt. Alvernia, Delavergne Avenue, Wappingers Falls, NY. There will be a blessing with a relic of Saint Peregrine and a Communal Rite of the Anointing of the sick followed by a social. For questions call 845-297-5706.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO  
Margaret & John Shevlin  
on their  
50<sup>TH</sup> Wedding Anniversary**



### PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Vincenza Secor, Aaron Stagliano, Kelly Stafford, Robyn McGraw, John Sabo, Andrew Costanzo, Marie Wiejak, 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, 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, Carmen DeCrosta, Parker, Jane Holloway, Dore Williams, Hank Kensing, Virginia Ranaudo, Sheryl McGrath, Landi Family, Michelle Ryan, Rosalind Morrison, Donna Delconte, Joan Ponesse, Jim Taylor, Marilyn Lennox, Bruno Marchatta.

### ITALY TRIP MEETING

Fr Bill has scheduled an informational meeting for the Italy Pilgrimage on Sunday, October 16<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm in O'Connor Hall.



The Catholic Daughters, Court Patricia #195 is holding a "Tisket-a-Tasket", basket party on Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup> in Gallo Hall at Sacred Heart School. Doors open at 6:00pm and calling starts at 7:30pm. Hot dogs, hamburgers and nachos will be available for purchase. Free desserts and coffee will be served. There will be door prizes and children's prizes. For any questions please call Maureen Kelly at 562-9462.



### HOOP SHOOT

The Newburgh Elks is sponsoring a Hoop Shoot-Free Throw Contest on Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> from 4pm to 6pm at the Elks Lodge at 356 Washington Street. IN Newburgh. This free event is open for boys and girls in 8-9 year old, 10-11 year old and 12-13 year old age groups. The Elks will also be collecting gently worn shoes and sneakers to be donated to people in need.

## ST. FRANCIS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Sept 25<sup>th</sup> – Coffee & Bagel Hour after 8:00am Mass
- Sept 27<sup>th</sup> – Bible Study 7:00pm O'Connor Hall
- Sept 28<sup>th</sup> – Eucharistic Adoration 5pm to 6pm in Church
- Oct. 9<sup>th</sup> - Ice Cream Social 12:30pm
- Oct 16<sup>th</sup> – Italy Trip Meeting 1:30pm in O'Connor Hall
- Oct 26<sup>th</sup> – Mass for Our Country 6:00pm
- Oct 30<sup>th</sup> – Food Pantry Breakfast Fundraiser
- Nov 19<sup>th</sup> – Holiday Open House 6:00pm in Rectory
- Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> – Tag Sale in O'Connor Hall

### ORANGE COUNTY LIFE CHAIN

Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> is *Respect Life Sunday* throughout the United States. Join the "Life Chain" in its 29<sup>th</sup> year. St. Francis Parish has been represented by prayerful pro-life parishioners every year since its beginning in 1987. Join in 90 minutes of silent prayer for the unborn, for mothers in crisis situations, mothers who have lost their children to abortion and for our nation. You'll be a light in a darkened world as you help to put an end to abortion through prayer.

Join the Life Chain on Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> from 2:00pm to 3:30pm on the south side of Route 211 in Middletown. For more information contact Charlie Alexander at 845-565-7599.

### OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH ROSETON, NY

is celebrating its 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with dinner and dancing for the afternoon of October 23<sup>rd</sup> at 1:30pm to 5:30pm at Novella's, 2 Terwilliger Lane in New Paltz. \$45.00 for adults and \$22.00 for children. For more information please contact Jean Marie LoPresti-Dayton at 236-4959 or Elaine Zamenicki at 236-9467.

### 40 DAYS FOR LIFE TAKE A STAND FOR LIFE

From September 28<sup>th</sup> to November 6<sup>th</sup> the Newburgh community joins with hundreds of other cities participating in peaceful vigil where we pray that with God's help we will mark the beginning of the end of abortion. The prayerull vigil will be held daily from 7:00am to 5:00pm at the Newburgh Planned Parenthood located at 136 Lake Street in Newburgh. For more information please contact Wendy Wood at 845-820-4366 or [ocrighttolife@gmail.com](mailto:ocrighttolife@gmail.com).

### 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: \_\_\_\_\_

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