



## Padre's Corner

April 8, 2018  
Divine Mercy Sunday

Albert Goodwill Spalding was born 168 years ago in 1850 to familial lineage of Byron, Illinois. As a young man he made five dollars per week in a grocery store, while honing his baseball pitching skills. On a snowy Cooperstown, New York evening three months ago in the historic Tunnichiff Inn built in 1802 I learned more about this fascinating man. Spalding used his God-given abilities in baseball as a player, managing ability in reframing how a team performs, and business savvy to create an organized outlook toward life to enhance these talents in the worldwide community. In the spiritual realm this cohesiveness enables each of us to fluidly and systematically arrive at a deeper understanding of God. Spalding pitched for the Boston Red Stockings from 1871-1875, and then as player/manager for the Chicago White Stockings throughout 1876 and 1877, In his seven year career, when pitchers would play regularly minus between-game rest, he had a 252-65 record good enough for an all-time best winning percentage of .795. He retired on August 31, 1878.

Albert also entered into a business partnership with his brother J. Walter and mother Harriet in the creation of a store in Chicago, Illinois on February 3, 1876 (two years before his retirement from baseball). The investment to start the store was \$800, funded by Harriet. The store office desk had this inscription: "Everything is possible to him who dares." The store specialized in sporting goods such as balls, uniforms, shoes, equipment, caps, stockings, and bats. By 1885 the company had expanded to diverse locations including New York, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Denver, Minneapolis, Philadelphia, Omaha, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, and Washington D.C.

A.G. Spalding died on September 9, 1915 at the age of sixty-five. Spalding combined reason, common sense, and experience to develop a code ethic of life that we as Christians engage to understand our spiritual relationship with God more deeply. About establishing a sporting goods company, he recalled: "I had for a good while felt the need of some sort of hand protection for myself. For several years, I had pitched in every game and had developed severe bruises on the inside of my left hand. For every ball pitched it had to be returned, every swift one coming my way from infielders, outfielders or hot from some bat must be caught or stopped, some idea may be gained of the punishment received."

In 1911, Albert wrote a book called "Base Ball: America's National Game." One paragraph reflected a gem of wisdom, creativity, and worldly insights. "I never struck anything in business that did not seem a simple matter when compared to complications I have faced on the Base Ball field. A young man playing Base Ball gets into the habit of quick thinking in most adverse circumstances and under the most merciless criticism in the world - the criticism from the (fans in the) bleachers. If that doesn't train him, nothing can. Base Ball in youth has the effect, in later years, of making him think and act a little quicker than the other fellow." So how does the nineteenth century story of A.G. Spaulding help us in the spiritual life realm? How does a human being born in 1850 help us 168 years later?

Shortly after Spalding died in 1915, the "Sporting News" baseball newspaper commented in this way: "Indeed, of such variety was Spalding's work in and for the game that it is difficult to determine in which particular part he was the greatest. As a pitcher his record will stand for all time. As a manager few equal his achievements, as a club owner he ranked among the real big and broad minded men in that circle. As a manufacturer of baseball paraphernalia he had a grasp on the needs of the sport that was wonderful and his purveying had much to do with the spread of the sport, for he made it possible for every youth in the land whose inclination turned toward to fit himself with a big league bat or ball or glove at nominal cost. " In 1939, Spalding was elected to the first inductee class in Cooperstown for the Baseball Hall of Fame. Like Spalding each of us at Saint Francis of Assisi and Sacred Heart of Newburgh have the same ability to pool our talents, experiences, insights, faith, grittiness, failure, success, histories, memories and tenacity to change the world and our youth for generations to come. 1.68 centuries ahead those human beings may grow closer to God as they inspect what we each did in His name today. We are all part of history past, present, and future. When united with the plan of God we can throw a Spalding ball into those future centuries composed of our faces, lives, and faith experiences.

Father Bill

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Mon. April 9

7:00am John & Nancy Squillini

Noon Ida Barcia

By Jesse & Margaret Deyo

**Jonnah John Ungab**

By Algene Ungab

### Tues. April 10

7:00am Ferdinand Miller

(57<sup>th</sup> Anniv)

By Helen & Marion Miller

Noon Oscar Zillig

By Eileen Dietz

### Wed. April 11

7:00am Pope Francis

Noon St Francis/Sacred Heart

Parishes

### Thur. April 12

7:00am City of Newburgh

Noon John Pratt

By Anna Pratt & Children

### Fri. April 13

7:00am Shirley Policano

By Paul & Linda Zalanowski

Noon Maureen Kelly

"Health & Blessings"

### Sat. April 14

Noon Tim O'Halloran

By Morgan Family

4:30pm Mary & Maria McGraw

"Health & Blessings"

**Ida Barcia**

### Sun. April 15

8:30am Andrew Wassi

By Bill & Marion Pushman

11:00am Michael & Rose Waldts

By Family

**Irene Torres**

By Her Girls



### WEEKLY COLLECTION

March 31- April 1, 2018

1<sup>st</sup> Collection \$ 14,218.26

2<sup>nd</sup> Collection 1,748.00

TOTAL \$ 15,966.26

### MASS ATTENDANCE

March 31 - April 1, 2018

Holy Saturday Vigil 293

8:30am 280

11:00am 385

1:30pm 296

Total 1,254

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection this week is for  
**ELECTRIC**



Our **Holy Hour** with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament this **Wednesday** from **5:00pm to 6:00pm** is for the intention of **VOCATIONS**.



### **SAVE THE DATE**

Sacred Heart-St. Francis REP will be hosting **MEGA SPORTS VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** on **July 9<sup>th</sup> thru July 13<sup>th</sup>** at the Religious Education Building. More information to follow.

## **EASTER AT ST. FRANCIS**

Thank you to all who made our Holy Week and Easter Sunday services so special this year.

Thank you to Fr Bill and Fr. Bejoy, who presided over all our services and Bill Morgan and Charlie Messina who set up for the beautiful liturgies and Masses. Thank you to all who decorated our church with all the beautiful flowers.

Thank you to our Altar Servers, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers and Ushers who assisted at all the services.

And, a special thank you to our Music Ministry who provided the magnificent music for Holy Week and Easter Sunday.



On Sunday **April 15<sup>th</sup>** Sacred Heart Church is hosting a **Family Mass** at **10:00am** for students and parents of the REP Program . Please Join Us!

### **FIRST COMMUNION STUDENTS AND PARENTS**

The **First Communion Retreat** will be held on **Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup>** after the Family Mass at 10:00 at Sacred Heart Church. The retreat will be held at the Sacred Heart-St. Francis Religious Education building. One adult must accompany their child for the retreat and must bring **tacky glue** for the family banner and a **bag lunch** for both the student and parent. For questions please contact Lynda Piper at the REP Office at 561-2589.

**TODAY**  
**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**

**First Reading:** Acts 4:32-35

This passage describes the actions of the first community of Christians. They were of "one heart and one mind." They had no rich or poor among them, for they shared all necessary items with one another.

**Second Reading:** I John 5:1-6

John explains that we become God's children by believing in Jesus. When we love God and concern ourselves only with pleasing God, our faith is strong enough to conquer the evil in our world.

**Gospel:** John 20:19-31

Jesus appeared to the disciples despite locked doors, breathed on them so that they could receive the Holy Spirit, and gave them the power to forgive sins in his name. Thomas, who was not present, refused to believe without seeing Jesus for himself. Jesus appeared again when Thomas was present, and told him, "Blest are they who have not seen and have believed."

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday**

Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38

**Tuesday**

Acts 4:32-37; Jn 3:7b-15

**Wednesday**

Acts 5:17-26; Jn 3:16-21

**Thursday**

Acts 5:27-33; Jn 3:31-36

**Friday**

Acts 5:34-42; Jn 6:1-15

**Saturday**

Acts 6:1-7; Jn 6:16-21



**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK**

Vincenza Secor, Aaron Stagliano, Marie Wiejak, Ashley Barco, Agnes Casey, Rose Marie Michalowski, Carol Brown, Luzia Araujo, Celio Thomaz, Rosalie Nogay, Rose Jurik, Robert & Helen Osborn, Rachael Neugebauer, Maureen Kelly, James R. Purpura, Jane Pustola, Frances Dolan, Parker, Jane Holloway, Donna Delconte, Joan Ponesse, Jim Taylor, Marilyn Lennox, Bruno Marchatta, Anne McClellan, Louis Arbia, Dottie Rodriguez, Maureen Sullivan, Frank D'amario, Amanda Keane, Tom (Manay) Conroy, Gertrude Poland, Rita Froehlich, Brian Scott Monahan, Chelsea Dunderdale, Mary Hollenbeck, Donnie Ruckdeschel, Patrick Comyns, John Marullo, Jaddon Johnson, Rina & Richard Bozzone, Rebecca Pacella, Lena Biasini Zullo, Pam Kunert, Janet Coiteux, Vincent Mc Parkland and Family, Jozef Froniewski, Teresa Centeno, Bobbi Hull, Emily Cooley, Frank Celeste, Amy Finnegan, Brian Hanrahan, Toni Loparco Shepardson, Donald (Leed) Zubawicz, Louise McHugh, Alex Galant, Evelyn Kawula, Taylor Fogel, Jake Tigar, Paul Neugebauer, Julia Vecchio, Eileen Burke, Michelle Ryan, Abigail Means, Ann Bouche, Vanessa Rivera and Elizabeth Rich-Provenzano



**Food Pantry Hours:**

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

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

**Located at**

**The Msgr. Valastro Activity Center**

**319 Broadway in Newburgh**

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

If you are involved in a church and/or Newburgh School program and your child needs **volunteer hours**, the Food Pantry will coordinate service hours through **Curt Bourdage** at [845-863-6504](tel:845-863-6504). All students need to pre-register with Mr. Bourdage before showing up at the pantry, please.

**TRUCK DRIVER NEEDED**

The Pantry is in need of a volunteer to drive a 26 foot truck (no special license is required) which you would pick up at Budget, go to the Food Bank in Cornwall to pick our order, drive to the Food Pantry to deliver our order, then drive the truck back to Budget. No lifting is involved. Needed every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday. Call Paul Zalanowski 845-234-8564 for more details.

**Online Giving - WeShare Update**

If you are subscribed to electronic giving and have not signed on to your WeShare account since the February transition from Parish Pay, please do the following to verify your account:

- \* Full name
- \* Home address
- \* Email address
- \* Phone number
- \* Our parish name and city

WeShare will then send you an email to allow you to reset your password and access our donation site.

Please note that, for security reasons, the link will expire 24 hours after receipt of the email.

If, for some reason, the information that you provided does not match with WeShare's records, a representative from LPI will call you to resolve any issues.

WeShare can also be contacted directly at (800) 950-2611. Thank you for using the online giving system and supporting our parish.



### YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

We have completed the survey and have made the goals for our youth ministry. We will have youth ministry nights for grades 7 and 8 (junior high) on the first and third Friday night of every month from 6:30 to 8:00pm, and for high school grades 9 thru 12 on the second and fourth Sunday night from 6:00 to 8:00pm. Our goal is to begin in full swing in September 2018.

So right now we are entering the second phase of training for adult leaders who will guide and participate in these nights with our young people. There will be two teams, one for junior high and the other for high school. The Domus training session for adult youth leaders will be on April 19<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 to 8:30pm in the Sacred Heart/St. Francis REP building on 9W and Ann Street (24 Robinson Avenue, the former Sacred Heart School building). All persons who will be involved in youth ministry are required to take the 3 hour Virtus Safe Environment Session, The date will be announced shortly.

We need you. Our youth need you. If you are over the age of 18 and are out of high school please consider being an adult youth leader. Please contact Sister Laura Urbano 347-207-5020 if interested in becoming an adult youth leader for either junior high or high school.



**THE PASSION PLAY OF OBERAMMERGAU**  
Fr Bill is hosting a pilgrimage to the **Greek Isles and Europe** on **May 13-23, 2020**. The highlight of the trip will be the Passion Play of Oberammergau which dates back to 1633 when the Black Plague swept Europe. The people of Oberammergau took a solemn oath that if God spared them, they would present a day long play depicting the last week in the life of Christ. To this day they have kept their promise and every ten years the citizens of Oberammergau perform their passion play with the same love and devotion they have shown for over 380 years. Today the play takes place on an open-air stage with a covered auditorium seating 4,700 against a beautiful backdrop of towering Alpine mountains. Other places of interest the tour will be visiting are Athens, Mykonos, Ephesus, Patmos, Crete, Santorini, Corinth, Munich, and Salzburg. Because the play sells out quickly and is on a first come, first served basis we are accepting reservations now.



The Sisters of the Presentation invite you to a pre-Earth Day prayer service: "Water: Our Sacred Gift" to be held at Masterson Park at Washington Lake on Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 - 3:00pm. Masterson Park is located on Route 207 across from Sun Rise Broadcasting, 661 Little Britain Road in New Windsor. All are welcome. Questions? Please call 845-401-8531..



Catholic Daughters, Court Patricia #195 will meet at **7:00pm** on **Wednesday, April 11<sup>th</sup>** in the Msgr. Valastro Activity Center. New members are always welcome. For further information please call Linda DeWitt at 845-565-7837.

### SACRED HEART SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Sacred Heart School @ St. Joseph's Campus, 148 Windsor Highway in New Windsor would like to invite you to their Open House on **Wednesday, April 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm**. Come tour our school, meet our teachers and learn how to receive Financial Assistance towards tuition. For questions call 845-561-1433

**UPCOMING PILGRIMAGES**  
Hosted By:  
Father Bill Damroth  
**NORTHERN NATIONAL PARKS**  
Featuring Yellowstone National Park  
and Grand Teton National Park  
August 24-31, 2018  
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**ICELAND'S MAGICAL NORTHERN LIGHTS**  
February 14-20, 2019  
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**GREEK ISLES CRUISE & EUROPE**  
Including The Passion Play of Oberammergau  
May 13-23, 2020

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

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_