

† † † **MASS INTENTIONS** † † †

**Monday, May 22**

**8:00 AM** Mother's Day Novena Mass

**Tuesday, May 23**

**8:00 AM** Health of Jeanette Borowski

Req. by Bill & Betty Taylor

**Wednesday, May 24**

**8:00 AM** Mitchell & Corrine Labuda

Req. by Adele Wisniewicz

**6:00 PM ASCENSION VIGIL MASS**

Members Of Our Faith Community

**ASCENSION THURSDAY, May 25**

**8:00 AM** + Thomas Sztaba

Req. by Patricia Sztaba

**12:00 PM** + Vernon Taylor

Req. by His Wife & Children

**6:00 PM** The Kurtz Children & Grandchildren

Req. by Mon & Dad

**Friday, May 26**

**8:00 AM** Albin & Leo Labuda

Req. by Adele Wisniewicz

**Saturday, May 27**

**8:00 AM** Birthday Wishes for Richard Michalek

Req. by Marie Gniewek

**4:00 PM** + Stephen Sikorski

Req. by Family

**Sunday, May 28**

**8:30 AM** + Phyllis Murphy

Req. by Carol Zablonki

**11:00 AM** + Della Newton

Req. by Daughter & Grandchildren

**6:00 PM** + Alice Pawloski

Req. by Mary Ann Herrington

**OUR FAITH COMMUNITY'S GIFT TO GOD**

**May 13/14, 2017**

**Attendance. .... 559**

**Regular Offering. .... \$5,387**

**Maintenance Collection..... \$90**

**Church in Latin America Collection. .... \$306**

**Regular Offering same Sunday last year ..... \$5,010**

*From Fr. Ross: Having completed our Paving Our Way Together Campaign, please remember that I am very aware of all the sacrifices you make and that what you contribute I consider as your offering to the Lord and something very sacred. Thank you for the continued support and generosity you offer to your parish family. May God bless you always.*

**ICON OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE**

St. Francis Parish has a traveling Icon of Our Lady of Guadalupe. *This week the Icon is in the home of Terry Dubey.*

**THE VIGIL CANDLE**

If you would like to make a donation (\$10) for a vigil candle in memory of someone (living or deceased) or for a special intention, please fill out the form below. It can be returned via the mail, parish office or placed in the collection basket at Mass. Each week there is one candle available for the Church and two for the Friary.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Intention \_\_\_\_\_

Friary

Church

Checks should be made payable to *St. Francis Church*

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK**



Marie Brittain, Patricia Brown, George Bussi, Michele Chmura, Gerald Davis, Jeffrey Garringer, Carol Gasinski, Lillian Hosie, Helen Jurewicz, Rita LaBasco, Alex Lissitschenko, Christine Lopinski, Donna Milks, Mary Jo

Monheim, Evelyn Rutkowski, Betty Schaefer, Jack Schultz, Terry Swift, Ed Szarowicz, Cynthia Towne, Daniel Weiss, Christopher Winkleman, and all others who are ill or suffering. *It is very important that the Parish Office be notified if a family member is in the hospital.* By law, the hospitals may no longer call the Church to inform us when someone is hospitalized. Please contact Sharon Gruver, our parish secretary, if you would like to place the name of someone on our *Sick List*. Unless we are notified otherwise, the names will remain on the list for one month.

**OPERATION STORM HEAVEN**

Operation Storm Heaven seeks to unite faithful Catholics throughout America and the World in the largest Rosary Crusade in History to implore God to open the floodgates of His Mercy. Please join us in praying the Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy We would like to invite your parish to join us in praying the Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy on the 1st day of every month. Our next rosary crusade is on:

Thursday, June 1, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. at

St. Mary of the Lake Church

4737 Lakeshore Rd, Hamburg, NY 14075

**HOLY NAME BINGO**

Wednesdays at 7:30 PM

Up to \$2,500 Progressive

Food, snacks & drinks available

Join us if you are able. Bring a friend or two





## CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

- May 22: **Friar's Day**—9:00 AM (Social Center)  
**Mass at Autumn View Nursing Home**—2:00 PM  
**Boy Scouts**—7:00 PM (Gym)  
**Liturgy Committee Meeting**—7:00 PM (Parish Office Meeting Room)
- May 23: **Bereavement Committee Meeting**—7:00 PM (Meeting Room 1)
- May 24: **Prayer Shawl Ministry**—10:30 AM (Library)  
**Feast of the Ascension / Holy Day of Obligation—Vigil Mass**—6:00 PM (Church)  
**Bingo**—7:30 PM (Social Center)
- May 25: **Feast of the Ascension / Holy Day of Obligation—Masses:** 8:00 AM, Noon, & 6:00 PM (Church)  
**Yoga**—10:00 AM (Meeting Room 1)  
**Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting (AA)**—5:30 PM (Meeting Room 1)
- May 26: **Sanctity of Life Ministry**—8:00 AM (Church)  
**Civil Air Patrol**—7:00 PM (Gym)
- May 27: **St. Vincent de Paul Collection**—4:00 PM Mass
- May 28: **St. Vincent de Paul Collection**—All Masses

### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Sincere thanks from the St. Vincent de Paul Society for your continued financial support. Your generosity each month helps us to lighten the burdens of our neighbors. It is your donations that make our work possible. Please remember us on the last weekend of each month, that we may continue bringing Christ's care and concern to others. If you know of anyone who is in need, please contact the office with the information, and the office will contact us.

### BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY NEW MINISTRY AT ST. FRANCIS

Please join our Pastoral Care and Social Outreach Committee on May 23 at 7:00 PM in Meeting Room 1 as we embark upon a new ministry that will at some time touch everyone's life! We are in the initial stage of this endeavor and are inviting parishioners to help us meet the needs of someone who is grieving. Our goal is to bring support, compassion; and sharing of pain. We are in need of YOU to bring new insights, to help us clarify our goals, and bring them to fruition. Please consider how you can make a difference when death reaches someone's door. Come see how you can help. Prerequisites: A warm, caring heart—we will provide the rest of the training.



### CALENDAR MEETING



The will be a Parish Calendar Meeting on Tuesday, June 13 at 7:00 PM in Meeting Room 1 in the Social Center. This meeting is for those who have meetings, events, classes, etc. scheduled on the parish calendar throughout the year. To view the calendar, go to the Parish Website and click on calendar. Feel free to bring your request to the meeting. As you know, most event dates already on the calendar are negotiable.

### HARVEST HOUSE BABY BOTTLE MINISTRY

Great job! With YOUR help, we were able to raise \$3,266.80 for Harvest House! This money will be used to help provide basic necessities for mothers who are not able to provide basic necessities for their children; things such as pajamas, car seats, cribs, and diapers. Each year, they minister to over 5,800 children in our community, thanks to YOUR generosity. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your donations.



### BASKETBALL CAMP

TWO basketball camps will be held at John F. Kennedy High School in Cheektowaga, June 26- 30 Ages 7-14:

Boys 9:00 - 12:00 Noon

Girls 1:00 - 4:00 pm

Cost for each camp is \$75 and includes a basketball and camp T-shirt (\$65 if paid by Fri June 2). For more information or to receive applications, please call Camp Director and Varsity Coach Tony Krupski at 891-6407



### NEW PARISHIONER RECEPTION

Join us as we welcome our new parishioners with a reception in the Library following the 11:00 AM Mass on Sunday, June 4. Newcomers will receive a special welcome gift. Everyone is welcome to join us for light refreshments and fellowship.



### MAY SHE REST IN PEACE

+ Joan Carbone was called home to the Lord and heaven last week. Our prayers and thoughts are with the family members at this time. May the Lord strengthen and comfort them with His peace and presence



### HAITIAN ART RAFFLE

Join us in bringing clean, safe drinking water to the people of Belot, Haiti by participating in the "Haitian Art Raffle". Five original Haitian works of art will be raffled. 100% of the proceeds will go to build a "community water station" in Haiti. Tickets are \$5.00 and will be on sale at all masses the weekend of June 10 and 11. Checks can be made out to "Churches in Action. Thank you.



**ASCENSION THURSDAY**  
**HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION**

This year the Feast of the Lord's Ascension is celebrated on Thursday, May 25 and is a Holy Day of Obligation. We will follow our regular Holy Day Mass schedule:



**Wednesday, May 24**  
 Vigil Mass at 6:00 PM  
**Thursday, May 25**

Masses at 8:00 AM, 12 Noon & 6:00 PM

**MEMORIAL DAY MASS/REMEMBRANCE**



For our Memorial Day remembrance Mass this year, we would like to read aloud the names of anyone dear to you who paid the ultimate sacrifice while in service to their country. Please call the office or drop a note in the collection basket with the person's name, rank and branch of service. Our Memorial Day Mass is scheduled for 9 AM on Monday, May 29. A flag ceremony will take place at 8:45 AM at the flag pole outside. Immediately following the Mass there will light refreshments in the Social Center.

***WE NEED YOU!***

***PLEASE THINK ABOUT BECOMING A(N):***



Altar Server ☩ Eucharistic Minister  
 Lector ☩ Greeter ☩ Music Minister



As we approach the end of the school year, with families traveling and being away, at times it is very difficult for Sharon to fill all the slots for our different ministries. **WE CAN REALLY USE YOUR HELP AND PARTICIPATION.** During this time of Spring, Easter and New Life, please consider serving your Faith Community as one of our liturgical ministers. ***Liturgical Ministries include: Lector, Eucharistic Minister, Altar Server, Music and Greeter.*** Serving in one these ministries is a real service to the Community and is also a way of participating more deeply and fully in the Mass. The more ministers we have, the less frequently one is called upon to serve. If you would like more information or would like to sign up to serve, please call the parish office or contact Fr. Ross.

**PAVING OUR WAY CAMPAIGN UPDATE**



\$564,152 Pledged or Contributed  
 \$550,904 Collected  
 566 Participants

**Inching Our Way To The Goal!**

**UPON THIS ROCK CAMPAIGN**



It is with great pleasure and pride and gratitude that we can announce that we have received a total of 198 gifts totaling \$342,807 which is 64% of our \$538,000 goal! As you know our Faith Community will receive 35% of the money collected from the Upon This Rock goal. As you know, we will be using our share to renovate and expand the parish vestibule. Where we are with the goal speaks of how generous we are and how dedicated and devoted we are to God and the Church.

Having completed the last phase of the Campaign promotion here at St. Francis, we are asking that you send any pledge cards or pledge payment for Upon this Rock directly to the Campaign Office:

**Upon This Rock**  
 PO Box 2570

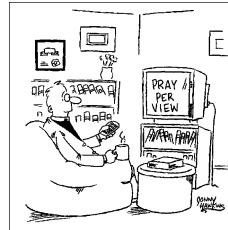
Buffalo, NY 14240-2570

Also, please send any Catholic Charities donations directly to the Catholic Charities Office:

**Catholic Charities Appeal**  
 PO Box 1311

Buffalo, NY 14240

**NEW CATHOLIC TELEVISION SHOW TO AIR!**



Bruce Downes a.k.a. *The Catholic Guy* launched his new TV show on April 1st. It is a great program that encourages and inspires Catholics to return to their faith, and helps strengthen those who have returned. Native of Australia, Bruce hopes to reach many people through his television show by speaking about his experiences and speaking the truth about the Catholic Faith. The show airs at 8:30 AM EST on: Direct TV CH: 371 or Dish CH: 258 or AT&T U-Verse CH: 565 or Verizon Fios CH: 288.

**CRYING ROOM BLUES AND RULES**

It has come to our attention that some adults (without children) who are in the Crying Room, complain to or about the parents of the little ones who might be "acting their age" and making a little noise. Please remember what Jesus said, "Let the little ones come to me."



**LOST AND FOUND**

A small piece of jewelry was recently found in the church. Please contact Fr. Ross for more information.

# *The Pearl of Great Price*

*(A Little Irritation Can Go A Long Way)*

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## The Oyster

There once was an oyster  
Whose story I tell,  
Who found that some sand  
Had got into his shell.  
It was only a grain,  
But it gave him great pain.  
For oysters have feelings  
Although they're so plain.

Now, did he berate  
The harsh workings of fate  
That had brought him  
To such a deplorable state?  
Did he curse at the government  
Cry for election,  
And claim that the sea should  
Have given him perfection?

No—he said to himself  
As he lay on a shell,  
Since I cannot remove it,  
I shall try to improve it.  
Now the years have rolled around,  
As the years always do,  
And he came to his ultimate  
Destiny, that is, stew!

And the small grain of sand  
That had bothered him so  
Was a beautiful pearl  
All richly aglow.  
Now the tale has a moral:  
For isn't it grand  
What an oyster can do  
With a just a morsel of sand?

What couldn't we do  
If we'd only begin  
With some of the things  
That get under our skin.

The kingdom of heaven  
is like a treasure hidden.

Matthew 13:44

