

† † † **MASS INTENTIONS** † † †

Monday, July 17

8:00 AM + Josephine DeChristopher
Req. by Norb & Sue Woods

Tuesday, July 18

8:00 AM + Daniel E. Balcerak
Req. by His Mother

Wednesday, July 19

8:00 AM Members Of Our Faith Community

Thursday, July 20

8:00 AM + Vernon Taylor
Req. by Wife & Children

Friday, July 21

8:00 AM + Thomas Sztaba
Req. by Patricia Sztaba

Saturday, July 22

8:00 AM + Irene Granica
Req. by Elaine Granica

4:00 PM + Joseph Hertlein
Req. by Family

Sunday, July 23

8:30 AM + Casimier Czamara
Req. by MaryAnn DuKane

11:00 AM + Vernon Taylor
Req. by Wife & Children

6:00 PM + Shirley Gutierrez

Req. by Janice Mikolajczyk & Sheila Weppner

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.

OUR FAITH COMMUNITY'S GIFT TO GOD

July 8/9, 2017

Attendance 558

Regular Offering \$5,553

Maintenance Collection..... \$1,096

Regular Offering same Sunday last year \$5,551

From Fr. Ross: 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.

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



IF YOU OR A LOVED ONE IS ILL

If you or someone in your family is ill, homebound, in the hospital or a nursing home, please let us know. We have members of our Faith Community who would love to visit and bring Holy Communion. Fr. Ross is also available to celebrate the Anointing of the Sick. However, we need you to call us. Too often we find out after the fact. We also have a Monthly Newsletter that we send out to those who cannot join us at church. Again, please give us a call!



COLLECTION FOR THE HOLY FATHER

Next weekend, through the Peter's Pence Collection, we unite with the Holy Father as he reaches out to our brothers and sisters suffering the effects of war and violence, natural disasters, and religious persecution. We stand in solidarity with Catholics all over the world to support the charitable works and outreach of the Holy See.

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 Mary Bannister.*



CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

- July 19: **Prayer Shawl Ministry**–10:30 AM (Library)
Bingo–7:30 PM (Social Center)
- July 20: **Yoga**–10:00 AM (Meeting Room 1)
Darien Lake Field Trip–10:00 AM
Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting (AA)–5:30 PM (Meeting Room 1)
Civil Air Patrol–7:00 PM (Gym, Meeting Room 1)
- July 21: **Sanctity of Life Ministry**–8:00 AM (Church)

VOCATION BIBLE SCHOOL FOR THOSE ENTERING GRADES 1-5

Our Catholic Vocation Bible School is a place to learn about the different vocations that God might be calling us to. Join us as we explore the vocations of Priesthood, Marriage, and Religious life and Lay Ministry. There will be fun games, skits, prayer time, and so much more as we dive deeper into our Catholic Faith and learn about what Jesus might be calling us to!

Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.-Noon
August 7-11

St. Francis of Assisi Parishioner rate:
 \$15/child, \$25 for two or \$35 for 3 or more.

Non-parishioner rate:
 \$25/child, \$40/for two or \$50 for 3 or more

Register Early-space is limited.....

(Please make checks payable to St. Francis of Assisi)

Questions contact our Faith Formation office at 627-3357

CHURCHES IN ACTION - UNDIES SUNDAY

While enjoying the summer don't forget Churches in Action's Undies Sunday! Back to school sales are a great time to stock up on men's, women's and children's socks and underwear for our annual mission to supply the area's shelters with these important essential items. September will once again be our collection month and we hope that you will support those needing our support!



VACATION TIME IS HERE

Many of you will be traveling during the summer months. Once again we ask you to save those miniature toiletries which are provided in hotel or motel rooms. Please donate only unopened items. Items will be used to help those in need. There will be a box in the vestibule of the church to place your donations. Thank you for your help.

2018 MASS BOOK OPENS ON JULY 28

The 2018 Mass Book will be opened for Mass Intentions on Friday, July 28 from 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM in the Social Center in Meeting Room I. We will accept one (1) intention per Mass.



Initially, the Masses will be limited to 4 per person per year; two weekend Masses only. This will not exclude you if (during the year) you need a special Mass card for someone who recently died. After August 1 you may come to the Parish Office. The 2018 Mass Book runs from January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018. Masses must be requested in person. No phone calls please. You will be attended to on a first come first serve basis.

CONGRATULATIONS



Mount Mercy Academy is proud to announce that Molly McLaughlin from St. Francis of Assisi Parish received 1st Honors on The Third Quarter Honor Roll.

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS AT MASS

Did you know that you may request to present the gifts at Mass? All you need to do is approach a "Greeter" and tell them you would like to present the gifts; you don't have to wait for them to come to you! There are three (3)



gifts, so depending on the number in your group you may need to join with someone else. So, please don't hesitate to speak with a Greeter, and request to carry the gifts, especially if you have requested the Mass Intention.

PARISH WEBSITE



If you haven't done so as yet, please check out our parish website at st.francischurch.us. There is a lot of information about our Faith Community and all this is happening here at St. Francis.

Your suggestions are welcome.

HOLY NAME SOCIETIES

FAMILY DAY AT THE BALLPARK

The Diocesan Union of Holy Name Societies Family Day at the Ballpark will be held on Sunday, July 30 at Coca-Cola Field starting at 1:05 PM. Tickets are only \$7.50. The Buffalo Bisons vs. The Louisville Bats. For tickets please call Raymond (716) 847-2201 or (716) 847-2203.



SPIRITUAL LIBRARY

Don't forget to visit our Spiritual Library during our regular office hours and the "Library on Wheels" in the church.

DURING THESE DAYS OF SUMMER...



Please give some prayerful and thoughtful consideration to 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 fill out the form below and return it to the parish office or place it in the collection basket along with your weekly offering.

We really can use your help! It will help you too!

Name: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

I am interested in and/or would like more information about serving as a:

- Eucharistic Minister Lector
- Altar Server Greeter Music

Thank you for your prayerful consideration of this calling.

UPON THIS ROCK UPDATE



As mentioned last week, we have received a total of 236 gifts totaling \$356,167 which is about 66% of our \$538,000 goal!

Where we are with our goal speaks of how generous we are and how dedicated and devoted we are to God and the Church. Thank You! Those of you who have made a pledge, you will be, or currently are, receiving payment information from the Upon This Rock Office. **Please do not send your payments to the parish. Please send payments to:**

**Upon This Rock
PO Box 2570
Buffalo, NY 14240-2570**

This will expedite processing and avoid many preventable errors through the payment process. Thank you again for your pledge and cooperation in following this payment procedure.

TROUBLE WITH STAIRS?

If you would like to come to the parish office but have difficulty with stairs, please call ahead and we can make arrangements for you to go to the side of the library. There is an upper level in the library where you can take care of your business with Sharon or meet with Fr. Ross, etc.



AS YOU MAKE YOUR PLANS...



When it comes to the meaning of our lives and how we want others to remember us, a will can shape our legacy in a way that speaks of what we have valued most in this life. It gives us the

opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to those people, communities and organizations that have helped shape our lives. When we think of a will, what comes to mind first is our spouse, our children and those who have been a special part of our lives. We can also include those institutions or communities that have helped us and have also been a special part of our lives, such as our Faith Community. Please remember your Parish Family in your planning.

BAPTISMS

We usually have our Baptisms on the last weekend of the month. If you have a newborn and would like more information, please call the parish office for our *Baptismal Guidelines*. If you have any questions, please contact Fr. Ross.



PARISH FUNDRAISER

@Smile. Amazon.com

All are invited to support our Parish by shopping at **Smile.Amazon.com**. Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to our Parish. AmazonSmile is the same Amazon online shopping store we are all familiar with: Same products, same prices, same service.



For more information click on the link <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/16-0844300> to get started. If you already have an account with Amazon simply change to "supporting" St. Francis of Assisi Church and 0.5% of all your purchases will automatically be donated to St. Francis Parish. If you are new to Amazon simply go to the bottom of the page and click on create an account.

NOTICE TO OUR MINISTERS

We are so grateful to you for your dedicated and devoted service to God and our Faith Community. If it happens that you are not able to serve at your assigned Mass, please make sure that you try to find a replacement. If it happens to be a last minute situation, please call Fr. Ross. Don't forget that the current Ministry Schedule can always be found on our parish website (stfrancischurch.us). Again, thank you.





All Are Called to Lead!



REFLECTIONS FROM FR. ROSS

Part of our calling as baptized and confirmed Christians is to lead others. The areas of our leadership might differ, but all are important. I came across the following *ABC's of Leadership*.

Attitude: Attitude, even more than circumstances, can determine whether we succeed or fail in what ever we do. We are to be positive, filled with faith and hope.

Bible: You will never lose your sense of direction if you use the Bible as your guide. Saturate yourself with Scripture.

Character: We are to be persons of integrity. Say what you mean, mean what you say. Let your deeds match your creeds, and your behavior your belief. Ralph Waldo Emerson's statement is worthy of careful thought: "What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us."

Determination: The difference between success and failure, between the impossible and the possible, lies in determination. Difficulties erode in the presence of fierce determination.

Enthusiasm: Cultivate enthusiasm. When times are tough, the chances slim, the odds long, enthusiasm will always propel forward. The spirit of enthusiasm lifts us (and those around us) during low times. Enthusiasm adds vigor to all things and helps build community.

Failure: Expect some. It comes to every person, sooner or later. Don't let it demoralize you. Rather, let the failure strengthen you, toughen you, mobilize you. Think about Washington Irving's observation: "Little minds are tamed and subdued by misfortunes, but great minds rise above them."

Gratitude: Never fail to show appreciation. Gratitude strengthens relationships, energizes colleagues, and fortifies friendships. "Always be joyful... No matter what happens, always be thankful" (1 Thess. 5:16, 18).

Hope: Always let your hopes, not your hurts and handicaps, shape your future. Clare Booth Luce wisely observed, "There are no hopeless situations in life; there are only people who have grown hopeless about them."

Influence: A person leaves all kinds of foot prints when they walk through life. Some you can see, while others are invisible: the help given; the words spoken, the jokes, the gossip that has hurt others, encouragement. Do your best to leave behind a legacy of positive influence.

Joy: Spiritually balanced leaders live with joy. They know that life is a glorious gift; they allow themselves to be dizzy with joy and grateful for the many blessings that flow their way. Also, they rejoice in the success of others.

Kindness: Toward others, always be charitable, courteous, decent, gracious, hospitable, and thoughtful. Kindness reaches minds, touches hearts, and changes lives.

Learn: "There is only one corner of the universe where you can be certain of improving, and that's your own self," wrote Aldous Huxley. Spiritual leaders are lifetime learners.

Money: Money brings you food, but not appetite; medicine, but not health; acquaintances, but not friends; servants, but not faithfulness; days of joy, but not peace and happiness. Keep money in proper perspective.

Nip: Spiritual leaders know the wisdom of nipping things in the bud, of catching things in the early stages, and thus preventing major issues from emerging. Deal with the difficult while it is still easy. Solve large problems when they are still small.

Opportunity: Every adversity contains opportunity. When Edmund McIlhenny returned from the Civil War in 1865, his sugar fields and salt works were ruined. One of the few things left were some hot Mexican peppers that had re-seeded themselves in the kitchen garden. McIlhenny, living hand to mouth, started experimenting with the ground peppers to make a sauce that would liven up his bland diet. His creation today is known as Tabasco sauce. A century later, his product is still sold the world over.

Perseverance: With ordinary talent and extraordinary perseverance, all things are attainable. Spiritual leaders understand this.

Quiet: Be certain to give yourself ample times of quiet. God shapes mind and heart through silence and solitude. Wrote Trappist monk Thomas Merton, "It is in deep solitude that I find the gentleness with which I can truly love my brother and sister."

Respect: Effective spiritual leadership always involves respect for others. Spiritually mature leaders listen respectfully even when the speaker is offering a different view point. Leaders need a core sense of confidence that allows them to be comfortable receiving input, including disagreement, from others. The best leaders are neither wimps nor arrogant."

Struggle: Life is not always smooth sailing. Nor do things move in predictable patterns. There will be stormy times—occasions when the unexpected, even the disastrous, occurs. Strong leaders are prepared to struggle through hard times.

Trustworthy: While Jim Copeland was CEO of the multibillion-dollar Deloitte Touche accounting firm, those who worked closest with him admired him for his trustworthiness. He demanded that Deloitte audit every expense report he turned in. Copeland, a Southern Baptist deacon and Sunday School teacher, ended each year by writing a \$500 personal check to the company to cover his personal use of the copy machine.

Universe: Permit the magnitude and majesty of the universe to remind you of God's vastness.

Values: Those who lead effectively have values beyond mere materialism. They are more focused on family, friends, colleagues, and their relationship with God than on building empires.

Words: Choose them carefully. What you say can inspire or injure, hurt or heal, wound or win over.

X: The letter "X" is the mathematical symbol for the unknown. Those who lead are not intimidated by the unknown. In spite of uncertainty, they move forward into uncharted waters, trusting God.

Yearn: Strongly desire to continue thinking, learning, growing, developing, expanding. Keep challenging yourself. Yearning should never end.

Zoom: Learn to zoom in on what's important and what's not. Separate the trivial from the urgent, the necessary from the superfluous. Be a spiritual leader who sees the bigger picture.

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