

MOUNT TABOR
GALILEE

From the cloud came a voice that said,
“This is my beloved Son,
with whom I am well pleased;
listen to him.”

MATTHEW 17:5

MARCH 8
2020

second Sunday
OF **Lent**

MORSELS & TIDBITS FROM THE PASTOR



Rev. Artur Sowa, Pastor

March 08, 2020

The St. Francis of Assisi Community is a welcoming Christian family.

We believe in Jesus Christ and are guided by the Holy Spirit and the example of St. Francis.

We gather to celebrate, to grow in the knowledge of our faith rooted in the Catholic tradition, and to recognize our responsibility to reach out to the world.

Sunday gospel in everyday English

Jesus took Peter and the brothers, James and John, and led them up a high mountain. His appearance changed from the inside out, right before their eyes. Sunlight poured from his face. His clothes were filled with light. Then they realized that Moses and Elijah were also there in deep conversation with him.

Peter broke in, “Master, this is a great moment! What would you think if I built three memorials here on the mountain—one for you, one for Moses, one for Elijah?”

While he was going on like this, babbling, a light-radiant cloud enveloped them, and sounding from deep in the cloud a voice: “This is my Son, marked by my love, focus of my delight. Listen to him.”

When the disciples heard it, they fell flat on their faces, scared to death. But Jesus came over and touched them. “Don’t be afraid.” When they opened their eyes and looked around all they saw was Jesus, only Jesus.

Coming down the mountain, Jesus swore them to secrecy. “Don’t breathe a word of what you’ve seen. After the Son of Man is raised from the dead, you are free to talk” (*from Matthew 17*).

Notes on the Scripture

Perhaps we can relate in some small way to this Transfiguration experience the Scripture presents today. Perhaps there has been a time or two in our lives when we have had a spiritual experience, when we experienced God’s healing, felt his mercy, or knew his presence was real. But then, maybe it went away. For most of us, we don’t spend the majority of our time “on the mountaintop” with these “dazzling” insights into who God is. Rather, we tend to walk a journey that is shrouded by mystery and dependent upon faith. At times, we may even second-guess the spiritual experiences of our past once they have “disappeared.” Possibly Peter, James, and John wondered if it had all been a crazy illusion. But when the Resurrection happened, they knew it was all for real. As we await the Resurrection this Lent, may we have the faith to believe that Jesus really has touched our lives and that he can lead us to eternal life.

Parish Mission

Mark your calendars for our Lenten Missions with Fr. Tom McCarthy. I invite you to join us for 3 wonderful presentations on March 22,23,24th at 7pm. Don’t miss this one!!!

Coronavirus (Covid-19)

The CDC has labeled the current Coronavirus outbreak as a serious public health threat but one where the immediate health risk to the general American public is considered low. By contrast, the flu virus is very active at this time of year. It is important to take preventive actions to reduce the risk of all viral transmissions.

First of all, please, pray for those infected by the coronavirus, (now renamed Covid-19 by WHO), in China and around the world, for those who care for them, for health specialists and authorities who are combating the spread of infection, and of course for all who at this time are feeling anxious, especially for those with friends and family in China and Italy.

Also, please, consider some adjustments, as we continue celebrate our liturgies. While it is our faith that the sacraments are means of grace and not of sickness, they are physically ministered, and we should take physical care. Therefore, here are some suggestions for all of us to consider:

Refrain from physical contact during the Sign of Peace (note: the Sign of Peace can be exchanged without physical contact)

- Refrain from receiving of Holy Communion via the chalice (we will still offer Communion via the chalice in the central aisle for any parishioners with celiac disease or sensitivity)
- Given the frequency of direct contact with saliva in the distribution of Holy Communion on the tongue, we invite all parishioners to receive Holy Communion reverently in open hands for the time being.
- Refrain from holding hands during the Lord’s Prayer.
- Refrain from using Holy Water fonts.

Jr. Artur Sowa

THIS WEEK AT ST. FRANCIS

Monday, March 09

- ◆ Bereavement Support Group, 7:00 pm (NR)
- ◆ Pray with Paint, 7:00 pm (UH)

Tuesday, March 10

- ◆ Corinthians / Book of James, 8:30 am (SFC)
- ◆ Cancer Support Group, 10:00 am (NR)
- ◆ Prayer Shawl, 12:30 pm (SFR)
- ◆ Religious Ed, Grades 1-8, 4:30 pm (SFC)
- ◆ Knights of Columbus Officer's Meeting, 6:30 pm (NR)
- ◆ Benediction & Adoration, 7:00 pm (CH)
- ◆ Religious Ed, Grades 5-8, 7:00 pm (SFC)
- ◆ Knights of Columbus, Business Meeting, 7:30 pm (GR)

Wednesday, March 11

- ◆ OA Meeting, 9:30 am (GR)
- ◆ Religious Ed (B), Grades 1-8, 4:30 pm (SFC)
- ◆ Bible Timeline, 7:00 pm (SFC)
- ◆ Calendar Meeting, 7:00 pm (GR)
- ◆ Corinthians / Book of James, 7:00 pm (SFC)
- ◆ Passion Play Practice, 7:00 pm (CH, SFR)

Thursday, March 12

- ◆ Mass, 7:45 am & 7:00 pm (CH)
- ◆ Calendar Meeting, 8:30 am (SFR)
- ◆ Bunco, 1:00 pm (GR)
- ◆ Men's Evening of Discipleship, 7:00 pm (NR)

Friday, March 13

- ◆ Stations of the Cross, 3:00 & 7:00 pm (CH)
- ◆ A.A. Meeting, 7:30 pm (NR)

Saturday, March 14

- ◆ Wedding Workshop, 11:00 am (CH)

Sunday, March 15 - Third Sunday of Lent

- ◆ Children's Liturgy of the Word during 9:00 & 10:30 am Mass (CH, GR)
- ◆ Third Grade Mass Lesson, 9:45 am (UH)
- ◆ Third Grade Mass & Coffee And..., 10:30 am (CH, GR)
- ◆ Engage, 11:30 am (UH)
- ◆ Passion Play Practice, 7:00 pm (CH, SFR)

SAVE THE DATE

Here at St. Francis of Assisi

WORD on FIRE **ENGAGE**



Better Understand God in 10 Minutes

- ◆ Give us 10 mins after 10:30am Mass
 - Learn about & connect* with Word on Fire Engage
- ◆ Stay a bit more for a 10 min [Bishop Robert Barron video!](#)
- ◆ Enjoy Coffee and Conversation
- ◆ Amazing content on [your device](#), whenever [you](#) want it!

(*) Hurry - Limited number of initial "connections" available. If this has "[Mass](#)" appeal, we'll get more! Regardless, we'll always have the video, coffee and more for every session!

Christ
Renews
His Parish



Women's 30 Hour Renewal Experience
Saturday March 14 - Sunday March 15
You can register in Nathax after all masses
or call Parish office 708-460-0042

To Register online visit: SFAOrland.org/Christ-renews-his-parish.html

FRIENDS OF ST. FRANCIS MAY CROWNING MAY 21, 2020

This year, the Friends of St. Francis Seniors Club Crowning of the Blessed Mother will be held on May 21 in the St. Francis Center Chapel.

This event is by reservation only.

A catered lunch is provided.
The cost is \$15.00 per person.

Cash or checks made payable to
St. Francis of Assisi.

Last date to reserve your seats is May 4th.
NO EXCEPTIONS!

HUMAN CONCERNS COMMISSION

Visit to Sacred Heart Parish Sunday, March 8, 2020

Meet at St. Francis Lower Level entrance facing Wolf Road at 10:15 a.m.
Return to St. Francis around 3:30 p.m.

Hopkins Park is one of the poorest communities in Illinois. Residents often have limited access and funds for everyday



items we take for granted. Also, they are in great need of the following items because they cannot get them on food stamps: toilet paper, paper towels, facial tissue, toothpaste, bars of soap, shampoo, laundry soap, adults diapers, baby diapers, Ensure and other nutrition drinks. These items can be dropped off at the parish office during normal hours (8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.) and/or in the Narthex before regularly scheduled masses. Please mark the items as “Sacred Heart Mission Donation.”

Join us for noon mass at the Mission on March 8, 2020. We leave from Upton Hall (lower exterior doors adjacent to the parking lot) at 10:15 a.m. We will be serving lite refreshment at our fellowship after mass. If you are interested, please contact Lynne Sparks at (312) 806-2224, or at LynneAnneSparks@icloud.com

Please note that some months we will make Saturday deliveries and some months we will attend Sunday Mass, host lunch and fill the pantry. Watch the bulletin for more information!



Easter Baskets For Parish Shut-ins And Holy Family Villa Residents

The Helping Hands Committee is hoping to bring a smile to the faces of our parish shut-ins and residents of Holy Family Villa this Easter with baskets donated by our parishioners.

These baskets may be filled with personal care items such as:

- Shampoo and conditioners
- Hand cream, combs and brushes
- Deodorant, toothpaste or dusting powder
- Note cards, magazines, or books
- Travel Kleenex packs
- Pretzels, cheese and crackers, and snacks
- Playing cards
- “Homemade” Easter Cards from your little ones

Use your imagination, be creative with your basket!!!

Mark your calendars - return baskets the weekend of March 21 and 22

Make sure to mark your basket “Male or Female”

Baskets will be distributed Holy Week

Questions? Contact Teri 708-478-0474

Thanks in advance for your generosity.

Lenten Fast for Creation Care

This Lent, consider a Lenten Sacrifice focused on Care for God’s Creation



Why a Lenten Creation Care Fast? Plastic waste is clogging landfills, waterways, disrupting ecosystems & poisoning food chains. **WEEK THREE:** The average American uses 156 water bottles/year. Limited demand means only a small portion of the plastic in your recycling bin gets recycled. Plastic takes centuries to degrade, breaks down into ever smaller pieces that harms wildlife when animals mistake for food. During Lent, let's sacrifice convenience in favor of protecting God’s wonderful gift to us of Creation.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
M A R C H	9	10	11	12	13	14	15

Plastic Fast - Use Less Disposables! Pick recyclable alternatives to plastic (i.e., — metal pop cans); Avoid fast food plastic containers and straws. Carry re-usable bottles, cups, utensils, and “to-go” containers. Use re-usable canvas shopping bags instead of plastic bags.

SWIFT SouthWest InterFaith Team
 2004 – 2020
 Celebrating 16 Years of Interfaith Harmony & Community Service!

SPEAKERS FORUM



ONE GOD. Three Faiths?

Christian, Muslim and Jewish Perspectives

DATE:
Sunday March 15, 2020

TIME:
Registration 2:30pm
Program 3:00pm–6:00pm

LOCATION:
Peace Memorial Church UCC
10300 W 131st St
Palos Park IL

SPEAKERS:
 Chaplain Tahera Ahmed
Muslim Perspective
 Pastor Adam Malak
Christian Perspective
 Rabbi Michael Balinsky
Jewish Perspective

SUNDAY, MARCH 15

~ DONATION DRIVE ~
 Bring along a non-perishable food item to donate to Respond Now

Christians, Muslims and Jews Working Together for Respect... Understanding... Religious Harmony

SWIFT is a Non-Profit Organization made up of synagogues, churches & mosques located in the South & South-West suburbs of Chicago.

www.swiftinterfaith.org (708) 253-2834
info@swiftinterfaith.org

 LIKE US ON facebook
 "SWIFT South West Interfaith Team"

Volunteers Needed To Assemble Easter Bags March 16, 2020

This Lent, encourage your family to give back to others and help support our Catholic Charities Ministry Easter Bag project.

We plan to assemble and share over 700 Easter bags this year. Bags will be delivered to children whose families visit the suppers and food pantries at St. Anne, St. Blasé and St. Christopher Parishes, as well as to children in these parishes' early learning programs.

We also create bags containing hygiene kits, socks, tee shirts, etc. which are shared with the homeless that Catholic Charities serves.

Please join us to work on this project on Monday, March 16th after the morning mass and/or at 6:30 p.m. in Upton Hall.

BRING THE FAMILY!

This project is so beneficial to hundreds of children, families, and men and women, and **WE NEED YOUR HELP IN MAKING THIS HAPPEN.**

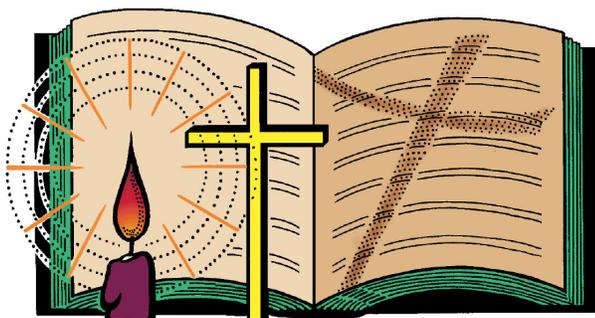
On behalf of those we serve, thank you for your support.

Any questions, contact Mary Pat Osoba at (mposoba@gmail.com) or Maureen Klouda at (vikingshockey9@comcast.net).

LITURGY COMMISSION

Initial Training for Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist St. Stephen Deacon & Martyr

Deanery E
 March 12, 2020, 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM
 Dr. Mary Amore, Presenter
 David Boyle, Contact, 708-342-2400



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JOIN US THIS LENT FOR OUR WEEKLY

ADORATION & RECONCILIATION

STOP BY FOR 15 MIN OR STAY THE WHOLE HOUR

TUESDAYS FROM 7PM – 8PM

PARISH LIFE COMMISSION



Pray with Paint

In our next session of Pray with Paint, we will use paint to print interesting papers.

Then, we will use those papers to decorate a journal.

The journal can be used as a diary, your meditations on scripture, a prayer journal, a planner or even a place for your recipes.

Anyone can do this!

Join the fun at 7 p.m., Monday, March 9th in Upton Hall.

Suggested donation for materials: \$10.

To register call the office, 708-460-0042. Questions? Call Sue Flanagan,

St. Francis Mom's Group Children's Stations of the Cross

March 14 at 10:00 AM in the church for a modified version of Stations of the Cross.



Worried your child will be a distraction? Don't be!

But Jesus said, "Let the children alone, and do not hinder them from coming to Me; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Matthew 19:14

Questions? Contact Alana Mitrovich
ammitrovich@gmail.com

ST. FRANCIS BOOK CLUB

The SFA Book Club meets the third Tuesday of the month at 1:00 pm in the Niehaus Room

The book selected for March 17, 2020 is **"Bowlaway"** by Elizabeth McCracken

The SFA Book Club always welcomes new members.

Upcoming books:

April 21, 2020 - **"The Tuscan Child,"** by Rhys Bowen

May 19, 2020 - **"The Witch Elm,"** by Tana French

THINK SPRING!!!!!!!!!!!!

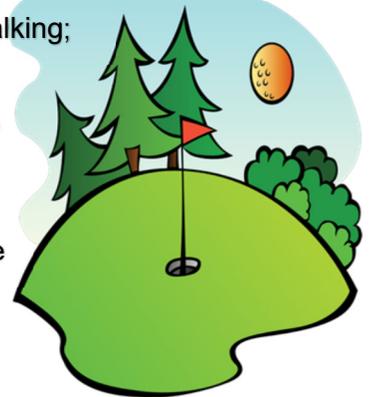
WANTED! Golfers - Men & Women - Experienced and Beginners

St. Francis of Assisi Golf League
Rolling Hill (SLCC - 9-Hole Course)
Monday Mornings - May 11 thru August 31
Tee Times Starting at 7:00 am

League Fee: \$45 for the Season (includes ending banquet & prizes)

Greens Fee: \$14 Walking;
\$26 Riding

TO REGISTER: Stop by the parish office with a check or cash or credit card or register on line on the parish website using your credit card.



Parish Mission

March
22-24





Fr. Tom McCarthy presents our
2020 Parish Mission

Our Restless Journey

Life - The restless journey towards God united in mind and heart.
Am I fighting or embracing the journey?

Evening 1 - *The Restless Journey - How am I entering the Restless Journey?*

How am I climbing a tree to see Jesus? How am I willing to say Yes when it is crazy to say Yes? Do I let fear control my life?

Evening 2 - *The Restless Journey - How am I being called into the Restless Journey?*

Am I awake enough to listen to the call? Sure, you want to go bowling? Change or fear? My choice!

Evening 3 - *The Restless Journey - How am I living out the Restless Journey?*

What does Elvis have to do with the Restless Journey? Do you know you turn smart when you turn 7 years old? Parrot, signpost or witness?

March 22nd 23rd & 24th

7:00 pm

Coffee and... will follow each evening



All Committee Chairs and anyone interested in Planning is encouraged to attend the upcoming calendar planning meeting.

Information for the upcoming July 1 – June 30 planning year will be distributed.

We have scheduled two dates for your convenience:
Wednesday, March 11th
7:00 pm
-or-
Thursday, March 12th
8:30 am

You need only attend one meeting.

St. Francis Art Show, April 18-24



If you draw or paint in any medium, please join other parishioners in a St. Francis Art Show. The art will be shown from **Saturday, April 18th to Friday, April 24th in Upton Hall.** There will be a reception on Friday, April 24th at 7 p.m. If you would like to show your work in this event, please call Sue Flanagan at 708-969-4898.



Chillin with the Knights

All Catholic Men 18 years or older Welcome!

Eat Chili... Drink Refreshments...
Learn about the Knights

Wednesday, March 18th
Upton Hall

7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

Whether you can give one hour per week ...
per month, or even per year ...
you can be a valuable member of the
St. Francis Knights of Columbus.

Moving?

Stay in touch

Please give the Parish Office your new address...



Adult Faith Formation

AROUND FOR AWHILE, by Fr. Ed Upton

I assume when you read this, I will have concluded my journey south and returned to Orland Park. Currently, I am enjoying warm weather and do not look forward to the final vestiges of winter. But, I look forward to my return to St. Francis. I miss you.

I am with three priest classmates - all retired. We take life slowly. Most evenings we stay home and cook. But there are nights when we visit friends; attend some of the local theatre presentations; or eat out. On the at home nights, we are entertained by Netflix or Amazon prime. Currently, we are focused on a series called the Americans. It has caught my attention.

The prime couple are a man and woman from Russia. As young people, they were recruited to be spies in America. They were to fit in. They speak perfect English; were forced to be married and act as a perfect American couple. This they do.

They have two children born to them - no one knows their true identity. They lead a double life. They report information

back to Russia. In this double life, they become friends with Americans who have jobs in security, and retrieve information from them. At times, they kill those who learn of their identity.

What caught my attention was the way in which they worked. The "ends justified the means". They are devoted to Russia, and truly believe all they are asked to do - from lying to murder - is ok because it is for the "motherland".

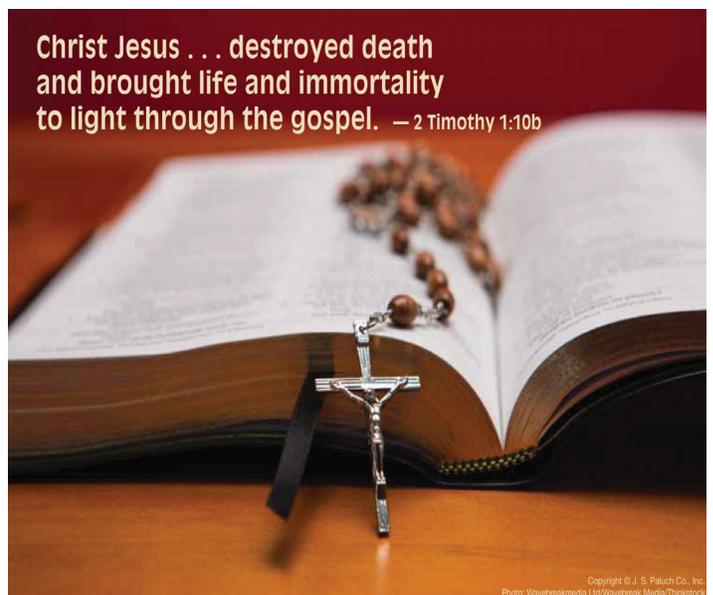
At times they feel remorse, but are committed

to their nation, and so all is justified.

It is only a TV show. During this lent, I wonder if this show offers us a reflective picture. It is easy to slide into their way of thinking. Maybe not as intense as this couple, but a way of thinking that justifies lying, theft, selfish behavior. We make excuses. I need to do this; no one gets hurt.

Lent is a time for reflection. Perhaps we have let a skewed way of thinking be a basis for accepting behavior not in accord with the Gospel.

Christ Jesus . . . destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. — 2 Timothy 1:10b



ART & THEOLOGY: My Ruminations on the Good, the True, and the Beautiful

By, Rev. Jay Suero

Something is "beautiful only because the delight that it arouses in us is founded upon the fact that, in it, the truth and goodness of the depths of reality itself are manifested and bestowed, and this manifestation and bestowal reveal themselves to us as being something infinitely and inexhaustibly valuable and fascinating." (Hans Urs von Balthasar)

True beauty draws us out of ourselves toward the transcendent. The more beautiful an encounter is, the more the divine presence is made manifest to us. Thus, there is none more beautiful than that of the Incarnation of Christ. My hope with my drawings is to point to that fundamental importance of beauty as a vehicle to journey into the mind of God.

Every month I will share an art piece of mine along with a description of the theological reflection that went into it so as to hopefully provoke theological reflection of our own.

On the Nature of Daylight

This is my rendition of Michelangelo's Pietà, one of my favorite sculptures/statues to meditate upon. This drawing was a reflection on the statue as well as on a particularly difficult experience I had when I was interning as a chaplain during the summer at Loyola Medical Center. It was one of my first nights on call with no one else and I had been paged about a baby who had been born prematurely and was in critical condition. I gathered my materials immediately and rushed to the location as I tried to keep my mind from unraveling.

By the time I got there the baby had passed and the mother was cradling her lifeless child in her hands. I had heard the parents were Muslim and so I didn't want to approach them yet without speaking to the nurse as to whether or not the parents were okay with a Catholic chaplain speaking with them. So while waiting for the nurse I stood by. I felt utterly helpless to offer any kind of comfort. All I could see was the mother's back with the father standing there trying to figure out how to comfort her as well. She was having her moment with her child and no one else, not even the father could penetrate that moment. I couldn't see the baby nor the mother's expression but I could feel the emptiness, the coldness, and the darkness that she held in her arms. I wanted desperately to bring light to her situation but eventually the nurse told me that the couple was not interested in speaking with a chaplain but rather had their own Imam or Muslim leader they wanted to talk to.



In this drawing, I wanted to capture that same experience by highlighting them through the use of color in my depiction of the Pietà. There are two sides to Mary. On one side, the light of the sun hits her back but as bright and vibrant as it is, it cannot penetrate to the other side. On Mary's front, there is coolness in blue colors in stark contrast to the orange and yellow colors on her back. There is, however, some yellow outlining Mary's face. Jesus, whose body is nearly entirely encapsulated and outlined by the bigger Mary, is also nearly empty of any color save for the glow of white on his face and the light touches of white that give definition to the body. The colors on her back symbolize my inability to bring light to the situation of the mother. The front colors symbolize the different world that the mother is in with her child as she embraces the emptiness in her arms. You could also say that that emptiness becomes a part of her as well as the void of Jesus' body which seems to be embossed into Mary. The highlights of white on Jesus' face, the faint white glow outlining his body, and the highlights of yellow on Mary's expression symbolize the hope and grace that I was not fully aware of in the moment where I wished to bring hope and grace to the mother. I felt helpless in that situation but just as God's love was at work when sin put Christ to death and was laid in his mother's arms in what would eventually result in the resurrection, God's love was also at work in that mother and child at the hospital to bring fruit to their situation as well even if I was unable to see it.

The title, *On the Nature of Daylight*, is a song composed by Max Richter and was used in the movie, *Arrival*. The song was played during very important scenes that give insight to the relationship between the mother and her child in the movie as well as give clues to a very surprising plot twist in the end. To explain this relationship without spoiling the plot, it illustrated the willingness of the mother to embrace and love her child even when she knew the suffering that would inevitably come along with it which struck me as a great theme of Mary because that is exactly what she went through with Jesus. To me it also connects back to the mother who lost her child because what I found out from the nurses was that this wasn't her first child. Her first child she lost due to a miscarriage and even though she knew that she could risk experiencing the same heartbreak and anguish if she lost her child again, she was still willing to bring another life into the world out of love. This song happened to be played as a prelude to Mass on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception when I had completed this drawing. I thought that it was only fitting that I title this piece after the song.

RESPECT LIFE

"We are facing an enormous and dramatic clash between good and evil, death and life, the "culture of death" and the "culture of life". We find ourselves not only "faced with" but necessarily "in the midst of" this conflict: we are all involved and we all share in it, with the inescapable responsibility of choosing to be unconditionally pro-life"

(The Gospel of Life 28).

Sunday Liturgy for CJB Athletic Program members, families on March 15

All are invited to participate in the **10:00 am Liturgy at St. Stephen Deacon and Martyr Parish** (17500 South 84th Avenue in Tinley Park) **on Sunday, March 15, 2020** for all CJB athletes and their families.

Student/Athlete's parents/guardians, if your son(s) and/or daughter(s) would like to **participate in the Mass during the opening precession, greeters,**

Email Tina Bugos, tbugos12@gmail.com or John Sobol, jfsobol@gmail.com by Monday, March 9, 2020 if your child wants to serve as a minister at Mass.

Seating for the group will be reserved.

Everyone is encouraged to display their school pride by **wearing their Cardinal Joseph Bernardin athletic uniform** or school colors.

KNOWLEDGE & PRAYER SERIES 2020

Upper Room Crisis Hotline



Nonjudgmental Spiritual and Emotional Support for Living Hope

A presentation by:
Sr. Mary Frances Seeley
Dr. Terrence Smith
Jean Haas

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2020 - 7:00 PM
OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL PARISH,
16043 S. BELL RD., HOMER GLEN IL

SPONSORED BY THE MULTI-PARISH RESPECT LIFE MINISTRIES OF
 St. Bernard's - St. Francis of Assisi - Our Lady of the Woods - St. Michael
 Our Mother of Good Counsel - Annunciation Byzantine Catholic



Letters from Heaven



Start with the letter in the shaded square. Draw a path from letter to letter to complete the Biblical statement. Move one square at a time, up, down, right, left and diagonally until all letters are used once. Ignore any black squares.

At the transfiguration, Jesus' face ...

N	U	S	L
S	E	I	E
H	H	N	K
	O	T	E

S _____

Answer: *shone like the sun*



Holy Thursday Water Team



Serve St. Francis Parish, The water team carries full pitchers of water to the foot washing stations, and then returns full bowls of used water to be disposed of. We are looking for 8-10 teens to participate and serve. You will only be asked to carry water

pitchers and bowls, you will not be washing feet. Contact Matt Toohill at sfyg@sfaorland.org or 708-460-0042

Passion Play 2020

Passion Play Participants

- ◆ Grow as a teen community
- ◆ Have Fun while putting together the passion play
- ◆ Learn Scripture and the details
- ◆ Deepening your faith
- ◆ Actively Living Your Faith
- ◆ Getting Closer to God
- ◆ Let your Acting Light Shine
- ◆ One Life Changing Experience

We will begin on Sunday, February 23, at 7:00 PM. Practices will be Sunday's and Wednesday's at 7:00 PM in the Church. We will conclude with performances on Palms Sunday weekend, April 4 & 5 at the 5:15, 9:00, and 12:00 Masses. **Students can earn up to 30 service hours for school.**



Sign up now and let your acting skills shine. Contact Matt Toohill at sfyg@sfaorland.org

REFLECTION FROM NCYC 2019

By, Matthew Toohill



The National Catholic Youth Conference, known as NCYC was first held in 1983. This past November 25,000 people gathered in Indianapolis for nineteenth. When I was in high school, I didn't know about NCYC, however, I think I would have really enjoyed, and greatly

benefitted from making the pilgrimage. God works in mysterious ways, and has led me to my fifth NCYC with forty six teen pilgrims.

There is a theme for each biennial pilgrimage, and this year it was Blessed, Broken, and Given. The Blessings at NCYC is being in an environment where everyone is intentionally working to make it possible for everyone to connect with God. With 25,000 pilgrims nothing happens perfectly, but the spirit of each individual keeps the focus on Christ, and off the small stuff.

Although there are many positives, and a lot of joy, we also admit that we are Broken. I have been heart broken since losing my Dad in the spring of 2019. I'm also broken due to my own sin, so on Saturday afternoon, I got in a long line to receive the sacrament of reconciliation. There was an entire ballroom of priests offering the sacrament, while I didn't have the pleasure of going to Fr. Jay, the Holy Spirit guided me to a Priest who let the grace of God flow through him. I followed my reception of the sacrament of confession with time in prayer in the adoration chapel. While praying, I had one of those experiences where I was in such peace and aware of God's love that I didn't want to leave. I reflected on the words of Peter at the transfiguration, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents MT 17:4 from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." MT 17:4-5

I would have liked to have stayed in that room to be in that moment forever, however, like Peter learned, I had to come down the mountain, and give what I received. To give to St. Francis a ministry for the high school teens so that they encounter Christ and grow in His love. To give to my wife the unconditional love only a husband can give. To give to the poor, the hungry, the homeless, and the unwanted the love of neighbor.

Christ blessed bread, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and continues to give it to his followers, and continues to give us his body and blood today which nourishes us body and soul. It was a pleasure to be on this pilgrimage with Cecilia, Charlotte, Hailey, Tess, Jim "Jimbo" Winters, Deacon Mike (D'Mike), Fr. Jay "FJ", and Peg "Nanna" Kolbash. May we all continue to "Go and make disciples," MT 28:19 because Christ Is Counting On You.



SICK RELATIVES & FRIENDS

Names of sick relatives and friends normally appear in the bulletin for 6 weeks. After six weeks, the names are written into our parish book of prayers for continued remembrance. At the request of the family, names will appear in the bulletin for a longer period.

Mariola Baron
John Brogan
Mary Calhoun
Rita Costanzo
Betty Devine
Thomas Doehler
Dylan Dryer
Ellie Feducik
Rochello Gonzalzo
Patricia Hebda
Helen Hennessey
Louis Kearns
Vera Kelly
Ruthann Koehler
Lorraine Kowalkowski
Virginia Lesnet
Debbie Lipien
Irene Musur
Giovanna Picciolini
Barb Radice
Dale Schuit
Lisa Simatz
Geri Solofra
Wally Stanis
Marge Stevens
Louis Tassone
Denise Umporowicz
Carl Walsh
Marian Ward
Richard Webster
Delphine Zielinski

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 07

5:15 PM William Arzbaecher, rq. by Family and Helen Capriglione, rq. by Jim & Cathy Arzbaecher, and Ed Nowak, rq. by CRHP 10 and Teresa Stepien, rq. by Ed & Maureen Krzyminski and Mary Jane Roy Daluddung, rq. by Family

Sunday, March 08 - Second Sunday of Lent

7:30 AM Marie Jeanne Skorup, rq. by Emil Skorup and Mary T. Foley, rq. by Mike & Tom Foley and Anthony Zambuto, Jr., rq. by Tony & Fran Zambuto and Josephine Ariola, rq. by nieces, Rose & Medeline and Fr. Idlephonse Skorup, OFM, rq. by Mark & Karen Ann Skorup

9:00 AM People of St. Francis

10:30 AM Jozef Krystyniak, Janina Krystyniak and Jozef Zdanowski, rq. by Krystyniak Family

12:00 PM Joyce March, rq. by Joseph March and David Redmond, rq. by Natalie Rickspoone

Monday, March 09

7:45 AM Susan Cava, rq. by Joseph March and Matt Prcernich, rq. by Ray & Barb Perisin

Tuesday, March 10

7:45 AM Maybelle McCann, rq. by Don & Rosemary Januszzyk

Wednesday, March 11

7:45 AM People of St. Francis

Thursday, March 12

7:45 AM People of St. Francis

7:00 PM People of St. Francis

Friday, March 13

7:45 AM People of St. Francis

Saturday, March 14

5:15 PM Elizabeth Richard Shinnars, rq. by Sally O'Rourke and Dan & Bridget O'Rourke and Sharon Hajik, rq. by Mike & Roxanne Zoladz and Edward Nowak, rq. by Family

Sunday, March 15 - Third Sunday of Lent

7:30 AM Louis Belski, rq. by Family and Anrita & Bill Owens, rq. by Dave & Mary Burns and Helen Capriglione, rq. by Ken & Madelyn Ziolkowski and Fr. Edward Skorup, rq. by Family

9:00 AM Schweiger & Norris Families, rq. by The Family and Ralph Tassone and Lillian Franks, rq. by Nancy, Susan & Family and Trudy Berg, rq. by Darlene Gonska

10:30 AM Rita Mary Lawless, rq. by Mary & Shawn McGinnis and Thomas Gallagher, rq. by Family and Cecilia Wolf, rq. by Family

12:00 PM People of St. Francis



*In Our
Thoughts
and Prayers*

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Dn 9:4b-10; Ps 79:8, 9, 11, 13; Lk 6:36-38

Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23; Mt 23:1-12

Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20; Ps 31:5-6, 14-16; Mt 20:17-28

Thursday: Jer 17:5-10; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 16:19-31

Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a; 17b-28a; Ps 105:16-21; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Ps 103:1-4, 9-12; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Sunday: Ex 17:3-7; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42 [5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42]

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

Please visit the St. Francis Liturgical Minister Web Terminal for the most up to date schedule or to volunteer.

	March 14 Saturday, 5:15 PM	March 15 Sunday, 7:30 AM	March 15 Sunday, 9:00 AM	March 15 Sunday, 10:30 AM	March 15 Sunday, 12:00 PM
Presider	Rev. Rich Young	Rev. Ed Upton	Fr. Jay Suero	Fr. Jay Suero	Rev. Artur Sowa
Deacon	VOLUNTEER NOW	Mike Kiley	VOLUNTEER NOW	VOLUNTEER NOW	Michael Pindelski
Sacristan	Elaine Erdman	Olga Bartell	Kathleen Biederman	Marjorie Curran	Laureen Pietranczyk
Lector	Cynthia Patrick (1) Pat Trebe (2)	Gerald Saletta (1) VOLUNTEER NOW (2)	Marilyn Nelson (1) Vincent Pryor (2)	Lynn Pajon (1) George Kaminski (2)	Warren Winker (1) Thomas Glynn (2) (sub requested)
Eucharistic Minister	Beth Bruozis Elaine Erdman Elizabeth Giron Lisa Kacerovskis Richard Klein Lorraine Martenson Alice Rzeszutko Richard Rzeszutko Vince Saavedra Martin Terpstra Rev. Rich Young VOLUNTEER NOW	Olga Bartell Kathleen Boland David Burns Daniel Faxel Lisa Freisleben Patricia Grasso Mike Kiley Amanda Tadros Rev. Ed Upton Dominic Zambuto	Steve Alessi Kathleen Biederman William Carroll Thomas Cech Nancy Celeski Patricia Flynn Kathleen Ostrowski Cheryl Pryor Sheila Ramsey Kim Reid Fr. Jay Suero Anthony Vassolo	Deborah Burzinski (sub requested) Susan Campagna Michael Curran Wendy Freer Gerardo L. Garcia Mary Greenan Karen Koehler Robert J. McGuire Sharon Moe Fr. Jay Suero Tricia Vidinich Brian Whiteford	Diane Budz Carlene Catalano Robert Long Mary Jo Noreikis Nancy Palacz Laureen Pietranczyk Michael Pindelski Margaret Sabadosa Rev. Artur Sowa Thomas Wiczorek
Altar Server	Julia Malysz Aaron Vales Ronan Vales	Mark Freisleben Nicole Freisleben Jack Tobin	Jimmy Piko Jeremy Pozen Jayden Tan	Anna Bianco Chris Vittori Gabi Vittori	Brendan Siemiawski Beck Stukel VOLUNTEER NOW
Usher	Nancy Sullivan (HU) Mike Zoladz Lawrence McGrenera Richard Roberts Jim Arzbaeher Renee Farrell	James Pedersen (HU) VOLUNTEER NOW VOLUNTEER NOW VOLUNTEER NOW	Keith Nelson (HU) Ann Carroll Lori Simard Roger Malinowski Linda Malinowski Peter Walsh	Kelly Struck (HU) Gregory Fifer George Kelley Jay Modelski Janice Ota James Ward	Jerry Ondrus (HU) Joan Ondrus VOLUNTEER NOW VOLUNTEER NOW

Parish Stewardship

	<u>03/01/2019</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Budgeted	\$ 23,480.00	\$ 821,800.00
Collected	\$ <u>24,117.00</u>	\$ <u>821,966.00</u>
Net	\$ 637.00	\$ 166.00
2019 Christmas Collection		\$ 162,741.00

Please consider signing up for electronic giving.

Go to our website, www.sfaorland.org and press the "Donate Now" button.

You can also use the yellow form in your envelope packet or call the office to sign up: 708-460-0042



**Mario Calzolaio
Rod Erdman
Sarah Halaburt
Sylvia Lucas
Patricia Mahoney
Luis Nobleza
Barbara Young
(mother of Fr. Rich Young, OSA)**

St. Francis of Assisi Parish Community

15050 South Wolf Road, Orland Park, Illinois 60467-3028

Website: <http://www.sfaorland.org> Parish office e-mail: parishoffice@sfaorland.org Parish phone: 708-460-0042

MASS SCHEDULE: Saturday - 5:15 PM; Sunday - 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM, 10:30 AM, 12:00 PM and Monday-Friday at 7:45 AM

REV. ARTUR SOWA, **Pastor**
(asowa@sfaorland.org)

REV. JAY SUERO, **Associate Pastor**
(jsuero@sfaorland.org)

REV. EDWARD F. UPTON, **Pastor Emeritus**
(edfupton@aol.com)

SR. GAEL GENSLER, OSF, **Pastoral Associate**
(ggenkler@sfaorland.org)

DEACON DANIEL CARROLL, **Permanent Deacon**
(dcarroll@sfaorland.org)

DEACON JOHN DONAHUE, **Permanent Deacon**
(jdonahue@sfaorland.org)

DEACON MICHAEL KILEY, **Permanent Deacon**
(mkiley@sfaorland.org)

DEACON MICHAEL PINDELSKI, **Permanent Deacon**
(mpindelski@sfaorland.org)

The Parish offices are located in the lower level of the church. Entrance is via the walkway at the west side of the church building. Hours 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM, Monday thru Friday. Evenings and weekends are by appointment. The Chapel is located at the north-east corner of the Church.

ADMINISTRATION Phone: 460-0042, Fax: 460-0136
Office Manager: Paula Belski (pbelski@sfaorland.org)
Director of Facilities & Operations: Jim Hahn (jhahn@...)
Parish Accountant: Kathleen Biederman (kbiederman@...)
Receptionists: Marge Curran (mcurran@...) & Ann Carroll (acarroll@...)
Comm. Coordinator: Allison Domenick (adomenick@...)
Liturgy Coordinator: Gina Vitucci (gvitucci@...)
Facilities Maintenance: Monika Czajczyk, Al Becker
P.T./Weekend Maintenance: Eric Franklin, Michael Higgins, Kevin Moe, Ryan Reid, Ryan Johnson
Bulletin Editor: Jill Hickey Topf (bulletin@sfaorland.org)

MUSIC Phone: 708-460-9831
Director: Leanne Stoterau (music@sfaorland.org)
Assistant Director: Anne Madden
Accompanist: James Draudt
Children's Choir Co-Director: Anne Hayes

Religious Education Cantor: Angela Reynolds (remusic@...)
Cantor for Parish Funerals, Weddings: Gina Vitucci

YOUTH MINISTRY
Phone: 708-460-0042
Youth Minister: Matt Toohill (sfyg@sfaorland.org)

The Religious Ed Offices are located in the St. Francis Center, up the hill, west of the church. Religious Ed office hours ar Monday thru Thursday, 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM. The Religious Ed offices are closed on Fridays.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
15010 Wolf Rd., Orland Park, IL 60467
Phone: 708-460-0155; **FAX:** 708-460-5086
Dir: Mary Kay Burberry, ext. 240 (mkburberry@sfaorland.org)
Coordinator: Jackie O'Malley, ext. 242 (jomalley@...)
Office Manager: Maureen Krzyminski, ext. 244 (mkrzyminski@...)

CARDINAL JOSEPH BERNARDIN (CJB) SCHOOL
9250 W.167th St., Orland Hills, IL 60487
Phone: 708-403-6525
Interim Principal: James P. Antos
Web page: www.cjbschool.org

REGISTRATION Become a registered member of the parish by completing a registration form which is found in Church.

BECOME A CATHOLIC - R.C.I.A. The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. Anyone interested in becoming a Catholic, please contact the parish office at 708-460-0042

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM Baptism usually takes place on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Sundays of the month at 1:30 PM. Prior to the Baptism, parents need to call the office to make arrangements. A baptismal conference will be set up with the parents.

CARDINAL JOSEPH BERNARDIN CATHOLIC SCHOOL Our elementary Catholic regional school is located on the campus of St. Elizabeth Seton parish at 167th & 94th Ave. For registration information, contact the school at 708-403-6525.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION Sessions are held on alternating Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays for Grades K-8, and on Saturdays for Grades 1-8, at the St. Francis Center (on the hill). Grades K-4 meet from 4:30 to 6:00 PM and grades 4-8 meet from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. Saturday sessions meet from 8:30 - 10:00 AM. Children's Liturgy of the Word meets on Sundays during the 9 & 10:30 AM Masses for children 4-year-olds to 4th grade, September-April. Call 708-460-0155 for more information.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION Communal celebration of the Sacrament will be held during Advent and Lent. Individual confessions are heard on Saturdays at 11:30 AM - 12:00 PM.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE Weddings need to be scheduled at least 4-6 months in advance upon approval of a priest. Couples are reminded to secure the church date before the reception hall. Please check our website for more details.

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK Anointing is celebrated every Monday, immediately after the 7:45 AM Mass. Those of advanced age or suffering from a chronic or serious illness are invited to be anointed. A priest is available to offer the Sacrament whether the ill person is at home or in the hospital. Please call 708-460-0042.