



SATURDAY, July 4, 2009 VIGIL: Fourteenth Ordinary Sunday
 8:00 AM ☩ All Souls in Purgatory req by Mary Yando
 4:00 PM ☩ John Antonovitch req by Mary & Cornelia Sullivan
 ☩ George Opalenik req by Theresa St. Mary

SUNDAY, July 5, 2009 Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 8:00 AM ☩ John & Helen Wallace req by Lee Wallace
 ☩ John E. Whelihan req by Jim & Nancy Wright
 10:30 AM ☩ Edward Lattrell, Sr. 9th ann req by Alice & Edward Lattrell
 ☩ Ann McGrath req by the Noga family

MONDAY, July 6, 2009
 8:00 AM ☩ Deceased member of the Leo DeBlois family req by Lee Wallace

TUESDAY, July 7, 2009
 8:00 AM ☩ Richard Shakarian req by Chris McGinnis
 ☩ Frances Pierrepont req by Katina Pierrepont

WEDNESDAY, July 8, 2009
 8:00 AM ☩ For our Seminarians and an increase in vocations in the Springfield Diocese req by Rita Gallagher

THURSDAY, July 9, 2009
 8:00 AM Morning Prayer

FRIDAY, July 10, 2009
 8:00 AM ☩ Morning Prayer

SATURDAY, July 11, 2009 VIGIL: Fifteenth Ordinary Sunday
 4:00 PM ☩ George Opalenik req by the Ray Bushey family
 ☩ Deceased members of the Guillotte family

SUNDAY, July 12, 2009 Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 8:00 AM ☩ Stephen Tarnawa req by the Christ family
 ☩ Richard Shakarian req by Aunt Jennie
 10:30 AM ☩ Laurie Como, 17th ann, Gary Borowski 22nd ann req by Dan & Linda Drewniak & family
 ☩ Lester & Janine Olearczyk req by Ann Nowak & family



Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his native place and among his own kin and in his own house." So he was not able to perform any mighty deed there, apart from curing a few sick people by laying his hands on them.

- Mk 6:4-5

*Readings for July 11-12, 2009
 Am 7:12-15/Eph 1:13-14/Mk 6:7-13*

Religious Vocations Corner – Yes, absolutely! We should stand up for what we believe in. No, Positively! We will not always succeed. Yes, certainly! It is more important to try than to succeed. No, Jesus did not look successful on the Cross. Yes, you could give it a try by responding to that inclination toward His priesthood or religious life. Call Fr. Gary Dailey at 413-452-0816 or E-Mail: g.dailey@diospringfield.org.

The Pastor's Thoughts...

-When I was newly ordained there was an housekeeper who would say: "The 4th of July, summer's over!" I always thought that was a rather depressing thought in that it just was beginning. I do hope you are enjoying this holiday weekend and these wonderful weeks of summer.

-Some of my thoughts last week were in regards to our Generations of Faith Program and how important it is to the life and vitality of our parish. Several weeks ago, Deacon Bill and I attended a worship given by Bob McCarty, the Executive Director of the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry. It was an extremely interesting workshop which offered a lot to think about and affirmed a lot to be grateful for here at St. Francis. His talk began by citing a PEW STUDY: U.S. RELIGIOUS LANDSCAPE SURVEY 2008 which reported that:

- Congregational membership is shrinking
- Believers, not belongers?
- Religion-less spirituality
- Privatized, individualistic
- 44% of adults have changed their religious affiliation since birth
- Growth of religious minorities
- American mobility
- Interfaith marriage
- 16% of adults are unaffiliated

We Catholics have a 68% retention of membership, Mormons 70% and Jews 76%.

It was noted that the "difference" is to be found in engagement! This is to be understood as a strong emotional connection to the parish, a sense of belonging to a community and this is more than mere involvement in the sense of "doing." Engagement is important because more often than not, it leads to spiritual commitment. "In most cases, belief does not lead to belonging, belonging leads to belief." Spiritually committed individuals are much more likely to exhibit the outcomes of serving; giving and life satisfaction...the underlying finding is that "very many religious congregations and communities of faith in the U.S. are failing rather badly in religiously **engaging** and **educating** youth." "Catholic teenagers tended to be particularly inarticulate about their faith...On most measures of religious faith, belief, experience and practice, Catholic teens as a whole show up rather weak." The reason why Catholic Youth are doing so poorly is because "Catholic teenagers significantly reflect the relative religious laxity of their parents!"

Church historian, R. Scott Appleby of Notre Dame University states that: "...no previous generation of American Catholics inherited so little of the content and sensibility of the faith from their parents, as have today's Catholic youth...The challenge of Catholic education and formation in our media-driven, cyberspace age is no less than this: older Catholics must be restored to, and younger Catholics introduced to, a sense of Catholicism as a comprehensive way of life."

From these reflections you can appreciate with me how important and on target our Generations of Faith Program is as it reaches out not only to our youth, but more importantly to parents and our older membership. Parent involvement is key and hence our #1

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FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

*In Gratitude to God for His many gifts,
the members of this parish have returned
the following resources in support of the parish
and its ministries...*

The Sunday Collection for was	No Figures were
Weekly Sunday Average	Available at
Weekly Sunday Goal	Press Time
Mortgage & Expansion Collection for	No Figures
Monthly Mortgage & Expansion Goal	Available
Missionary Cooperative	No Figures Available

Eucharistic Adoration and Visitation - The Adoration Info Line number is 323-6272 Extension 6. Please, always call just before coming in for your hour to see if Adoration has been closed due to extreme cold or bad weather. The Adoration Chapel (entrance around the rear of the church) is open to all parishioners for a visit before the Blessed Sacrament. Hours of Adoration are 8:00 AM – 10:00 PM Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. If you would like to be a part of our Adoration program, either as an assigned adorer or substitute, please call Pam at 323-7416. **The following hours are in need of an Adorer: Tuesday 12 Noon – 1:00 PM and Tuesday 1:00 – 2:00 PM.**

Liturgical Roles

Weekend of July 11-12, 2009

Lectors

4:00 PM McKeon
8:00 AM Miffitt
10:30 AM Abuselmi & Roux

Ministers of the Eucharist

4:00 PM Abraham, Beaupre, Carney, Synnaczyk, J. & T. Rakouskas, Yvon
8:00 AM Crosby, Dubois, Fontaine, Kielbasa, McGinnis, Moran, Ricardi
10:30 AM Belanger, Fedora, Groux, Lawrence, Letendre, L. & G. Racicot

Altar Servers

4:00 PM A. Muraczewski, J. Mazza, G. Terry
8:00 AM J. & J. Holdsworth
10:30 AM R. & D. Racicot, C. & N. Drewniak

St. Francis of Assisi Food Pantry is in need of powdered drinks, juices and ice tea. We gratefully accept and appreciate all your donation.

Lord, Thou knowest my cares and my fears. Help me to turn them all over to Thee, Who has promised to give rest to our souls. Grant to me now a restful spirit and a peaceful mind, and in quietness and confidence and faith to find new strength.

Amen



Brick Corner – We would like to thank the following parishioners who have “purchased a brick” for our new church, either in their name or in the name of a loved one: Kay and Bob Williams – In Honor of the Birth of Baby Clare Oberly.

Thank you for your support and please remind your friends that they, also, can “buy a brick”. They are only \$10.00 each.

Executive Summary of the June 2, 2009 Pastoral Council Meeting

- Family Life reported that the Helping Hands ministry has 15 members and that they are expanding their services to include taking people to church and cooking for them. The widow and widowers group will not meet during the summer. This year for the Crop Walk, the commission will just collect money rather than try to organize walkers. Family Life’s many other ministries are continuing their work. The Vocations commission will join with the Spiritual Life commission to organize something to honor the Pope’s decision to have this year (beginning in June) be a year that we pray for priests. Commissioning Mass (Volunteer Mass) for those who offer their services to the parish will be on October 6th at 7 PM. Tag Sale will be August 29th; Ray Coulombe is the director this year. Donations will be accepted August 1-24th.

Pro-Life Corner – Life, the first right: “We hold these truths to be self-evident: That all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness.” From today’s first reading, Ezekiel 1: “Hard of face and obstinate of heart are they to whom I am sending you.” Deliver the pro-life message with the healing attributes of God’s grace.

Knights of Columbus Members – the July 14th pre-meeting dinner will be served at 6:00 PM and the regular meeting will be at 7:00 PM. The menu is barbecued hamburger, hot dogs, salads, dessert and beverages. There is no charge for the dinner, but donations are appreciated.



The Pastor’s Thoughts...(cont.)

goal as a parish should be:

- +To make faith formation, mentoring and skill-building for parents family-friendly, accessible, effective and ubiquitous.
- +Provide a steady stream of resources to parents to empower them to be the primary evangelizers and religious educators of their children.
- +Capitalize on sacramental moments and
- +Help parents integrate faith formation, prayer, Christian service, Sunday worship as regular, normal, non-negotiable components of family life.

God bless our efforts and make them fruitful!

Fr. Vern

JULY 5, 2009

Michael Sweeney Prayer Line

From June 22nd through June 25th, 2009 the following intentions were added to our already long list of requests for prayers. Won't you please join us in praying for them all.

Renewed intention for healing for Lillian

Prayers are requested for a man and for his care giver

Prayers are requested for John and for Lynn who have been recently diagnosed with cancer, for healing and peace and support for their families.

For a safe and enjoyable trip to Virginia for Matthew

Prayers are requested for new born Liam and for his mother, Erin

Healing for Lennie after a heart attack

Thanksgiving for healing for Bill

Prayers for successful surgery for Ray B. 7/1

Thanksgiving for the life of T.B. Please pray for the repose of his soul and for his family and friends in their bereavement.

Thanksgiving for all God's Graces and His answers to the requests of the prayer line. If you would like to have the prayer line members pray for you or a loved one, please call Chris McGinnis, 323-6622, Louise Groux, 323-4046 or Marion Masse, 323-7169.

Parish Tag Sale Update – Donations will be accepted beginning August 1st in the Pine Room of the Parish Social Center. Please do not leave any donations before August 1st. Volunteers are needed to receive, inspect and pack items throughout the month of August. The sale will be on August 29th, rain or shine. Please contact Tag Sale Chairman, Raymond Coulombe (323-7224) to volunteer or for any other information.

Confirmation photos on line – Check out the parish website at www.stfrancistown.org to view photographs of the May 30th Confirmation Ceremony and our forty eight 2009 Confirmandi. Click on "What's New" and then select "Confirmation Pictures."

Thank You – "Team Sandy" would like to thank those who purchased chocolate covered strawberries for the Relay for Life. \$401 was raised for the American Cancer Society. Thank you for your help and generosity.

From The Diocesan Review Board – To report an incident of church related sexual misconduct call Patricia Finn McManamy, Diocesan Director of Counseling, Prevention and Victim Services at 413-452-0624 or 800-842-9055.

*With Malice toward none;
With charity for all;
With firmness in the right
As God gives us to see the right,
Let us strive on to finish the work we are in;
To bind up the nation's wounds;
To care for him who shall have borne the battle,
And for his widow,
And his orphan –
To do all which may achieve and
Cherish a just and lasting peace
Among ourselves,
And with all nations.*

Abraham Lincoln

From his second Inaugural Address
March 4, 1865