

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JULY 2, 2017



When I was a young boy, my family would travel to upstate Pennsylvania to celebrate the Fourth of July with my grandmother. As we drove up through the two-lane country highway, we passed many large parcels of farmland on which were growing row upon row of planted cornstalks. Deep green in color, the plants were flowing in the summer breeze and somehow, for me, they became a symbol of the national holiday that was approaching, so-called in the homegrown rural parlance as "Independence Day". I believe it was the popular and folksy expression about the corn's growth that I would hear from the local farmers that made the budding shoots an icon of the season - "Knee high by the Fourth of July." If the stalks were up to one's knee by the July holiday then the harvest promised to be a good one, presuming, of course, there would be good weather in the weeks before the end of the season.

The Fourth of July arouses patriotic sentiments and familiar customs that authenticate its inimitable native importance. We proudly display the Stars and the Stripes on the posts of doors and frames of windows. We gather with family and friends to picnic with hamburgers, hot dogs, corn-on-the-cob, potato salads, watermelon and many other summer delectables, not to mention apple pie. We applaud at parades and firework spectacles and cheer - or boo - during the course of neighborhood sports tournaments. And many include among their holiday tradition, a period of public worship in church or a time of private prayer in a place that fosters their spiritual longings. Our Founding Fathers gave evidence of their conviction that our American way of life is grounded in a religious soil that maintains its vibrancy and sustainability. For example, George Washington gives testimony to the religious framework of our heritage by stating boldly that "While we are zealously performing the duties of good citizens ..., we certainly ought not to be inattentive to the higher duties of religion. To the distinguished character of Patriot, it should be our highest glory to add the more distinguished character of Christian." One of his compatriots and successor to the Office of President, Thomas Jefferson, a man who claimed Christianity as his religion, but practiced it in somewhat obscure ways once pondered: "God who gave us life gave us liberty. And can these liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are a gift of God?" Have a wonderful Fourth of July holiday and thank the Lord for the gifts we treasure as citizens of the "land of the free and the home of the brave."

Fr. Nick

"All of us can attain to Christian virtue and holiness, no matter in what condition of life we live and no matter what our life work may be."

St. Francis de Sales

We welcome the recently baptized:

**Joshua Chase Collier
Addison Elizabeth Tusi**



Monday,	7/3		
6:45 AM	HELENE DI FRANCESCO	FAMILY	
8:00 AM	MARGARET & FRANK SCHIAVELLI	MARY DI VIRGILIO	
Tuesday,	7/4	INDEPENDENCE DAY	
8:00 AM			
Wednesday,	7/5		
6:45 AM			
8:00 AM	ELDA & FRANCESCO DEL SIGNORE	VITALE FAMILY	
Thursday,	7/6		
6:45 AM	EDWARD GRANT	NIECE	
8:00 AM			
Friday,	7/7		
6:45 AM	MICHAEL ANDREOLI	FAMILY	
8:00 AM			
Saturday,	7/8		
6:45 AM			
5:30 PM	JOSEPH RYBICKI, SR.	WIFE	
Sunday,	7/9		
7:00 AM	PARISHIONERS		
9:00 AM	LOIS J. DE VINCENTIS	FAMILY	
11:00 AM	JOSEPH SPITELLE	SPITELLE FAMILY	



Next Sunday's Readings

1st Reading:

Zechariah 9:9-10

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalms 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13-14

2nd Reading:

Romans 8:9, 11-13

Gospel:

Matthew 11:25-30

"God's Plan for Giving"

OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR 06/25/17

TOTAL OFFERTORY COLLECTION:	\$12,196.25
Budget:	\$12,000.00
Actual vs. Budget This Week:	+\$ 196.25
Percent Difference This Week:	+ 1.6%
Total Difference Fiscal Year to Date:	-\$33,201.48

Thank you for your sacrifice of tithing!

In your charity, please pray for
Justine Mataleno-Clerc
and all the deceased of St. Anthony's.

Independence Day



In observance of Independence Day, the parish office will be closed Monday & Tuesday, July 3rd and 4th. The only Mass offered on Tuesday, July 4th, will be held at 8:00 AM. Have a Happy Holiday!

Your Prayers and Support Requested

Karen Berman	Carter Biondi	Helene Black
Roger Chao	Anita Dauphin	Nicky DeAngelo
Mary T. DiBiasco	Attilio DiGiacobbe	Tommy DiVirgilio
Joanne Dover	Eddie Ellis	Lisa Furjanic
James Ganey	Bonita Della Rocca Jodz	Elizabeth Laraway
Chelsie Marra	Grace Marie Mataleno	Bill McNabb
Nick Mercantini	Isabelle Meredith	Patricia Ogonowski
Kelly Panella	Jack Paradee	Kim Resnick
Charles Rosenberg, Sr.	Jimmy Silicato	Larry Silvestri
Nancy Sosnowski	Albert Vietri	Robert Walton
Rev. Nicholas R. Waseline, OSFS		Christopher White, Jr.

...and all the sick of St. Anthony's Parish.

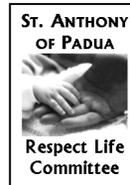
Catholic Forum

Listen to Catholic Forum every Sunday morning at 10:05 a.m. on WDEL 101.7 FM, 1150 AM and www.wdel.com. Next Sunday, July 9th, Kevin Lowry, author of the book, "How God Hauled Me Kicking and Screaming into the Catholic Church" will be interviewed. For photos, information regarding upcoming guests, podcasts and more, "Like" Catholic Forum on Facebook at www.facebook.com/catholicforum. Listen to past episodes of Catholic Forum online at cdow.org/communications, or search "Catholic Forum" on Apple Podcasts or iHeartRadio podcasts.

100th Anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima Pilgrimage!!

The Legion of Mary, Wilmington Curia invites you to attend their Pilgrimage to the National Blue Army Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima at 674 Mountain View Road East, Asbury, NJ 08802 on Saturday, July 29, 2017. The bus will be leaving at 8 AM from St. John the Beloved Church, 907 Milltown Road, Wilmington, and return approximately 6:30 PM. The event will include talks, Mass, Rosary, Adoration, etc. The cost will be \$30.00 per person. To reserve a bus seat contact: Sally Rogers at [302-563-1490](tel:302-563-1490) or Kay Malone at [302-239-2259](tel:302-239-2259) by Sunday, July 16, 2017. Make check payable to Wilmington Curia and mail to: Sally Rogers, 107 Loretta Lane, Bear, DE 19701.

Respect Life: Fact of Life



There are between one and two million infertile and fertile couples and individuals who would like to adopt children.

Second Collection

Next weekend, July 8th and 9th, the scheduled second collection will be to benefit the Trinity Dome, Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

Online Giving



Giving is easy while you are away this summer. Download the Online Giving app on your mobile device, search for our parish and begin giving. Your support during summer months helps sustain our parish. Go to OLGapp.com and click on the app store for your device.

Annual Catholic Appeal

If you have given to this year's campaign, please know that your participation is gratefully appreciated. If you have not yet done so, please consider supporting this important effort with a pledge or one-time contribution. Annual Appeal pledge cards are available in church.

Jesus House

Monday evenings, Continuing Series on the Second Monday of each month - 7:00 to 8:30 pm, Evenings of Reflection, Common Threads: God and Therapy, Weaving the Wisdom of God into our Daily Lives Jesus House Prayer and Renewal Center, 2501 Milltown Rd, Wilmington, DE 19808, [302-995-6858](tel:302-995-6858). Retreat Leader, Dr. Christopher Hyde, PhD. will discuss techniques to help us enrich our approach to both the difficulties and joys of life. A freewill offering of \$15/evening is suggested but, if you are interested, please come regardless. All offerings go to support the programs of the Jesus House. Please visit our website (jesushousecenter.org) or call our office for more information, weekly topics or to register.

Sicily Trip!

10 Day - Small Private Group tour of Sicily, October 11-20, 2017. First Class Hotels and most Meals including, \$3,099.00 per person. Call Mary Jane at Fillmore Travel [215-688-6833](tel:215-688-6833).

St. Francis de Sales



Every week, on the first page of each bulletin, we devote a small space to inspirational things that St. Francis de Sales said or wrote. In choosing the material used, we always try to select concise, pithy, one or two-sentence quotes. Here, however, we'll share some longer thoughts of Francis de Sales, Patron of the Diocese of Wilmington, and the model saint of the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales. Our parish has been administered by the Oblates since its founding in 1924.

"God desires that we should be saved. We, too, need constantly to desire what God desires. God not only means us to be saved, but actually gives us all we need to achieve salvation. So, we are not to stop at merely desiring salvation, but go a step further and accept all the graces God has prepared for us, the graces constantly offered to us. It is all very well to say, "I want to be saved." It is no use merely *saying*, "I want to take the necessary steps." We must actually *take* the steps. We need to make a definite resolution to take and use the graces God holds out to us. Our wills must be in tune with God's. Because God wants us to be saved, we should want to be saved. We should also welcome the means to salvation that God intends us to take...that is why general acts of devotion and prayer should always be followed by particular resolutions."

"Think of the little children who, with one hand hold fast to their father, while with the other, they gather berries. If you handle the goods of this world with one hand, you must also always hold fast with the other to your heavenly Father's hand, and turn toward Him from time to time to see if you are pleasing Him. Above all, be sure that you never leave His hand and His protection, thinking that with your own two hands you can gather more or get some other advantage."

"Undertake all of your duties with a calm mind and try to do them one at a time. If you try to do them all at once, or without order, your spirits will be so overcharged and depressed that they will likely sink under the burden and nothing will be done."

St. Francis de Sales

Vocations

In today's Gospel, Jesus says to his apostles "Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." In every generation, God calls some people to leave behind the lives they're used to and to follow Him along a different path. Might He be calling you to embark upon the road to priesthood or religious life? If you think so, please call or write Father Norm Carroll, Diocesan Director of Priestly and Religious Vocations (302-573-3113 or vocations@cdow.org). Be sure to visit our website: www.cdow.org/vocations!

Vocations

2017 Quo Vadis Days for High School and College students will be **Thursday, July 27** to **Saturday, July 29** in Malvern, PA. This event offers a time of prayer, fraternity, sports, and recreation focused on the life and ministry of the Priesthood. You will spend three days with other young men who have the same interest and aspiration in life. Is God calling me to be a Priest? For more info and to register online: cdow.org/vocations. Registration deadline is July 9th.

Music Notes

Join us for the next in our series of Summer Pop Up Concerts, or what we like to say, Popsicle Concerts. Next one is schedule for July 9th. Enjoy an ice cold Popsicle at the conclusion of the music. Pop Up Concerts are come as you are, hair curlers, fuzzy slippers and all. Sit where you want. Move around if you want. Ask questions and laugh out loud. These mini concerts are one hour long and loads of fun. Help show your support of our young and old singers and musicians by attending. Enjoy an easy afternoon of all kinds of music and enjoy an ice cold Popsicle and watch your tongue turn blue. Concerts are at 3 PM.

Annual St. Joseph Parish Carnival - Middletown

Tuesday, July 18 thru Saturday, July 22. Exciting rides, games and nightly entertainment under the big top! Special children's game area. Nightly raffles. Delicious meals in our air-conditioned Parish Hall beginning at 5:30 pm, Tuesday - Friday. Outdoor dining, rides and games begin at 6:00 pm nightly. FREE admission and parking. More information, call the Parish Office at 302-378-5800, or visit www.stjosephmiddletown.com.

Not Carnivalled Out Yet?

We are happy to announce that this year's Annual Fatima Fair will be from Monday, July 10th to Saturday, July 15th 2017. This will run nightly from 6:00pm to 10:00pm on Our Lady of Fatima Parish Grounds. There will be something for everyone! We have everything from great rides, fun games, ice cream and fantastic food. Please join us.

