

### *From the Pastor's Desk*

We have all heard the line in scripture where Jesus says: "whatever you ask the Father in my name he will give you."

Yeah, well we've all asked God for something—in Jesus' name even!—and we received nothing.

We've even tried going through his mother Mary—still nothing.

We've cajoled, promised, sacrificed—still waiting.

So what's the point of prayer?

Maybe it's what we're expecting in prayer that's off. In his new book **Nine Essential Things I've Learned About Life**, Rabbi Harold Kushner writes: "It isn't God's job to make sick people healthy. That's the doctors' job. God's job is to make sick people brave, and in my experience, that's something God does very well. Prayer is not a matter of begging or bargaining. It is the act of inviting God into our lives so that, with God's help, we will be strong enough to resist temptation and resilient enough not to be destroyed by life's unfairness."

So maybe we have to take a look at what we are asking of God in prayer and what we are expecting of God. As we begin this last week of the Easter season, let's re-consider what we are seeking of God in our lives and re-focus our prayer on what we know in our hearts is true joy: God's grace to face the challenges of life with an attitude of hope and a spirit of compassion. May our prayers seek not things but grace; may our joy be complete not in what we gain but what we give; may what we ask in Jesus' name be worthy of his name.

**Do not wait to live the same year 75 times and call it a life.** Stuck in a rut? Need help? Please call on a Stephen Minister to help you out. **Kathy Walker is standing by. Give her a call at 703-221-4312 and then press 4 or email [kwalker@stfrncis.org](mailto:kwalker@stfrncis.org) to start living the life you were born to live.**



**James Dumoulin, Troop 1390 Life Scout, Eagle Scout Project:** New or "Gently Used" Sports Equipment and Outdoor Activity Drive to benefit St. Francis House on **May 14th-15th and 21st- 22nd.** Boxes will be located in the vestibule for your generous contribution of these items: basketballs, footballs, kickballs, soccer balls, small orange cones, baseballs, bats, gloves, helmets, bases, Frisbees, jump ropes, sidewalk chalk, and bubbles. Donated items will be distributed to children and families in need in Eastern Prince William County through St. Francis House. **Please note: No bikes, skateboards, Razors, electric scooters, shoes or clothing.**



**A women's Cursillo weekend will be held at Missionhurst on May 19-22, 2016.** If you are interested in attending or sponsoring someone, please call **Pequette Schwerin, at 703-590-8492 or email [atwislady@comcast.net](mailto:atwislady@comcast.net).** For more information, please access [arlingtoncursillo.org](http://arlingtoncursillo.org).



Congratulations to the following young people of our parish who received First Eucharist on Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>. We are so proud and happy to welcome you!

- Emmanuel Alvarez Reynoso*
- Bessy Avila*
- Bryan Castaneda*
- Jennifer Castaneda*
- Linda Castaneda*
- Mikaelah Cuevas-Castillo*
- Giselle Cui*
- Gabriel Estrada*
- Gianna Flynn*
- Jamie Garcia*
- Alyssa Giovinazzo*
- Dominick Giovinazzo*
- Elizabeth Gonzalez*
- Moises Gonzalez*
- Haley Jalis*
- Mackenzie Jordan*
- Diego Martinez-Blanco*
- Emmanuel Mayorga*
- Isabella Mayorga*
- Kenneth Munoz*
- Kerry Munoz*
- William Murphy*
- Joseph Ngante*
- Sandra Perez Castaneda*
- Joselyne Perez*
- Uriel Rico*
- Latifah Roberts*
- Emilio Rodriguez-Munoz*
- Marcello Rodriguez-Munoz*
- Jonathan Salgado*
- Steven Salgado*
- Ashley Santos Osorio*
- Glenda Santos Osorio*
- Daniela Sequiera*
- Kiara Sequiera*
- Charlize Torchiani*
- Adam Vila*

**St. Francis House Corner**

Thanks to the donations from all our parishioners we were able to provide food for **70** families this week. Because of the increase of families in need We are in need of:

- Canned Fruit
- Hamburger Helper
- Peanut Butter and Jelly



For more information, please call **Francia at 703-221-6344**.  
Thank you for your continuing support.



**Thank you very much to all our parishioners for all the support and donations.** All the help that we have been able to provide to all the Refugees and their families

would not have been possible without your kind support.

**Boletín Semanal**

**Despensa de Comida de La Casa de San Francis**—gradecemos a todos nuestros parroquianos por todas sus ofrendas a la Despensa de Comida; con sus donaciones pudimos ayudar a **70** familias. En estos momentos estamos necesitados de **Hamburger Helper y Fruta En Latas**. Muchas gracias por sus donaciones. Para mas información contactar a la Señora Salguero al **703-221-6344**.

**Charlas Bautismales**—Las próximas charlas bautismales en español serán las siguientes fechas:

- Viernes, mayo 20
- Viernes, Junio 17

**Las charlas bautismales son a las 7:00pm en la librería de la escuela.** Para más información por favor llamar a la Señora Salguero al **703-221-6344**.

**Escuela Bíblica de Vacaciones**—las inscripciones para la Escuela Bíblica de Vacaciones (VBS) están abiertas! VBS se celebrará del 20 de junio al 24 de junio, desde las 9:00 am-12:30 pm en el Centro Parroquial. Las inscripciones están abiertas a todos los niños de 4 años para entrar en sexto grado. Adultos y adolescentes voluntarios ven y únete a la diversión! Las inscripción y formas de voluntariado están en el vestíbulo de la Iglesia y también en nuestra pagina de internet. Para mas información por favor contactar a la oficina de **ER 703-221-4978 o Sharon Gardner al [gardners.vbs@gmail.com](mailto:gardners.vbs@gmail.com)**.

**Social Justice: Franciscan Action and Advocacy (FA&A)**

Our **Anti-Human Trafficking Committee** (engaged in action, awareness and advocacy efforts in the fight against human trafficking) is meeting **this Wednesday, May 11th**, at **7 p.m.** in the **Grade 6 Classroom**.

**Other upcoming meetings:** Our **Respect Life Committee** (advocating for the consistent ethic of life from conception to natural death) is meeting on **Saturday, May 21st**, at **11:45 a.m.** in the **St. Catherine Room**. Our **Care for Creation Committee** (focused on environmental work/ integral ecology) is meeting on **Sunday, May 22nd**, at **9 a.m.** in the **Br. Juniper Room**. Our **Franciscan Action and Advocacy Council (FAAC)** is meeting on **Saturday, May 21st**, at **9:30 a.m.** in the **St. Catherine Room**. (FAAC meetings are only open to council members. Parishioners are encouraged, however, to submit questions or ideas for FAAC discussion or consideration.)

On **Wednesday, May 18th**, at **7 p.m.**, **St. Mark Catholic Church** in Vienna is conducting a panel discussion titled "One God, Three Paths: Working Together Toward Peace and Justice." The program features clergy of Judaism, Islam, and Christianity. The panel members will discuss two fundamental questions: how peace and justice flow from the beliefs of each tradition; and how ordinary believers can engage in actions to promote peace and justice. For more information, please contact Ann Ramish at [ramishteam@outlook.com](mailto:ramishteam@outlook.com).

For more information on any of the above and/or to get involved in justice/advocacy, please visit the FA&A section on the parish website (<http://www.stfrancis.org/welcome-introduction/>) and/or contact Rob Goraieb, O.F.S. at [rgoraieb@stfrancis.org](mailto:rgoraieb@stfrancis.org) or 703-221-3127, ext. 228.

**ST. FRANCIS MEN'S GROUP**

Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday, May 10, 2016 at 7:30 PM in Br. Juniper Room**—At that time we will have a presentation by a member of the parish's Franciscan Action and Advocacy Council on the topic of Human Trafficking.

All men of the parish are welcome. For more information please contact **Tony Mercogliano at [amercogliano@gmail.com](mailto:amercogliano@gmail.com) or 571-332-7048**.

If you or a family member is in the **hospital or homebound**, please call the parish office if you would like a visit from one of the friars. The hospitals are not permitted to give out the names of patients, so the only way we will know if you are in the hospital is if you or a family member informs us.



**LEAVING IT BETTER  
THAN YOU FOUND**

**SPONSOR OF THE WEEK**

We would like to thank  
**Abigail Miller, Attorney at Law**  
for sponsoring an ad in our weekly bulletin.

### Faith Formation Office

Phone: 703-221-3127 Fax: 703-221-3246  
Office Hours: Monday—Thursday: 8:00 am—2:00 pm  
Friday: 8:00 am—1:00 pm

### Religious Education Calendar

May 8	NO RE—Happy Mother's Day
12	Thursday RE Session
15	Sunday RE Sessions I&II
19	Thursday RE Session— <u>Last RE Thursday</u>
22	Sunday RE Sessions I&II— <u>Last Sunday RE</u>

**Please Pray For** All those who are sick: Elena Brazil O'Donnell; Anna Paglio; Lorraine Autobus; Mary Hayden; and Kurt Nagel.

**And for those recently deceased:** Celine Nebbia (Aunt of Joan Matochik); Mary Bryant (Mother of Debra Zolp); Catherine Saccoccia (Mother of Ken Saccoccia); and Robert Sweeney (Father of Valerie Cathell).

**Please pray for the following who are serving abroad in harm's way:** Tyler Jones, Bo Bosak, Joseph Sheridan, Jeffrey Miller, Jeffrey Monken, James Moore, Kyle McVay, Kyle Traylor, Kasey Eggie, Eustaquio Castro-Mendoza, Marc Gendron, and Darryl Saungweme.



### Important Dates—Confirmation 2016

**Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup> (6:30pm or 8:00pm)**—Confirmation Rehearsal

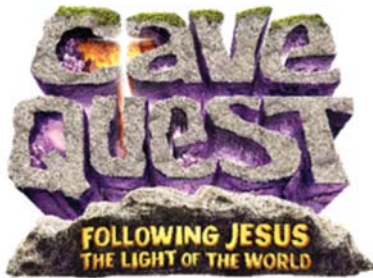
- 6:30pm—St. Francis School, Thursday RE, CYM
- 8:00pm—All Sunday RE sessions, Homeschool

**Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup> (10:00am or 2:00pm)**—Confirmation

- 10:00am—St. Francis School, Thursday RE, CYM
- 2:00pm—All Sunday RE sessions, Homeschool

**Enrollment for Cave Quest Vacation Bible School (VBS) is now open!** VBS will be held **June 20<sup>th</sup>—June 24<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am-12:30 pm in the Parish Center.**

It is open to all children ages 4 years to entering 6th Grade. Adults and teens—volunteer and join the fun! Do you have little ones (under 4 years) at home? They can join in the nursery as you volunteer. Registration and Volunteer forms are in the foyer at Church and also available on the website. **Questions? Please the contact RE Office at 703-221-4978 or Sharon Gardner at [gardners.vbs@gmail.com](mailto:gardners.vbs@gmail.com).**



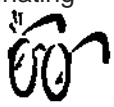
### Mass Intentions on Sunday, May 15, 2016

5:30 PM	Mother's Day Novena †Stewart Theodore Raddigan †Pat Bardello †Hazel Orisini
7:30 AM	†Mike Martinelli
9:00 AM	†Charles Wright Myer †R.C. Day †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik
10:30 AM	Mother's Day Novena †Robert Sweeney
12:15 PM	†Joyce and †Don McVay †Geralde Bigalke †Michael Creegan †Maria Lourdes Bassig †Ricardo Catindig †Aiden Palconit †Clara Kennedy
1:45 PM	Misa en español
5:30 PM	People of the Parish

### Are You New to the Parish??? Welcome!!

Registration forms are available on the tables in the vestibule, from the parish office or from the parish website [www.stfrncis.org](http://www.stfrncis.org).

The **Lion's Club** has **2 donation drop boxes located on the window sill in the vestibule.** Please consider donating your used eyeglasses to the Lion's Club. Your unwanted glasses will help someone see better. Thank you for always being so generous.



If you are moving/changing your address, please notify the office so we can keep our records up-to-date. If you are changing your phone number because you are using a cellular phone and/or forgoing your land phone, the office would also like that information. Please call us at 703-221-4044. Thank you.

**Baptismal Preparation Class**—Our next class will be held this **Sunday, May 8, 2016 from 1:30p.m.—2:00p.m.** in the Br. Juniper Room.



**Hearing Assistance Earphones** are available for those who would like sound amplification. They have been checked and are functioning well. See one of the friars or come to the sacristy before Mass.

### Follow us on:

Facebook: *St. Francis of Assisi Church*  
Twitter: @StFrancisVA  
Instagram: *stfrancischurchva*





## alleluia Liturgies For The Week

<b>SUNDAY,</b>	<b>May 8—7th Sunday of Easter</b>
5:30 PM	†Marion Richmond †Palmira Coimbra †Mildred Ruth Malley
7:30 AM	Mother's Day Novena
9:00 AM	†Dorothy Gallagher †Laura Garcia-de-Quevedo †Dr. Anthony Mancuso †Nora Gallagly †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik †Irene Eastvedt †Marie Newman †Flor Rodriguez †Teodosia Herrera †Vilma Zelvaggio
10:30 AM	Otella Creegan †Arthur Thompson
12:15 PM	†George Beck †Donna Bowman Olds †Antoinette Yagelski †Mildred Ruth Malley †Clara Kennedy †Michel Gaspard
1:45 PM	Misa en español
5:30 PM	People of the Parish
<b>MONDAY,</b>	<b>May 9—Easter Weekday</b>
8:45 AM	Mother's Day Novena †Joseph Carhart Souls In Purgatory
<b>TUESDAY,</b>	<b>May 10—Easter Weekday</b>
8:45 AM	Mother's Day Novena †Phyllis Dumoulin †Vivian Deal
<b>WEDNESDAY,</b>	<b>May 11—Easter Weekday</b>
8:45 AM	†George Beck Mothers's Day Novena †Margaret Buckley †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik †Kathryn Gonsorcik
<b>THURSDAY,</b>	<b>May 12—Easter Weekday</b>
8:45 AM	Mother's Day Novena
<b>FRIDAY,</b>	<b>May 13—Easter Weekday</b>
8:45 AM	†Thomas and †Beverly McClutchy †Fr. Alexius Mulrenan, O.F.M. †David Bertocci †Fr. Conti Mother's Day Novena
<b>SATURDAY,</b>	<b>May 14—St. Matthias, Apostle</b>
4:00 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation

## Readings for the Week of May 8, 2016

<b>Monday</b>	Acts 19:1-8; John 16:29-33
<b>Tuesday</b>	Acts 20:17-27; John 17:1-11a
<b>Wednesday</b>	Acts 20:28-38; John 17:11b-19
<b>Thursday</b>	Acts 22:30, 23:6-11; John 17:20-26
<b>Friday</b>	Acts 25:13b-21; John 21:15-19
<b>Saturday</b>	Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; John 15:9-17; Genesis 11:1-9 or Exodus 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ezekiel 37:1-14 or Joel 3:1-5; Romans 8:22-27; John 7:37-39; Genesis 11:1-9; Exodus 19:3-8a, 16-20b; Ezekiel 37:1-14; Joel 3:1-5; Romans 8:22-27; John 7:37-39
<b>Sunday</b>	Acts 2:1-11; 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Romans 8:8-17; John 20:19-23 or John 14:15-16, 23b-26

**Bishop's Lenten Appeal**

Only a few weeks left.

**We are \$14,200 short of our goal.**

Please consider making a donation if you have not already done so.

The **Rosary Guild** meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month. Please join us **Tuesday, May 10th** from 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the **St. Clare Room**. All are welcome. For more information, please call Otella Creegan at 703-221-4692.

**Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion**

There is one workshop remaining for new Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, which will be held on:

**Saturday, May 14, 2016** at **Our Lady of Hope (in the upper church)** in Potomac Falls.

The time frame for the workshop will be from **10:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon**.

To register for the workshop or if you have any questions, please contact **Chanel Marquis** at 703-221-4044, ext. 222 or [cmarquis@stfrncis.org](mailto:cmarquis@stfrncis.org).

**AMS Pilgrimage Mass**

The Marine Memorial Chapel and The Fr. Vincent Capodanno Council of the Knights of Columbus (KofC) is sponsoring a bus trip to the Basilica of the National Shrine to attend the 22nd Annual Memorial Mass that will take place on **May 15th at 12pm in the Upper Church of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception**. The Archbishop of the Military Services Diocese, Archbishop Broglio will be the principal celebrant. **All are welcome, please reserve your seat on the bus by phone, text, or email to PGK Keith Matheson at 727-637-2489 or [K.matheson@yahoo.com](mailto:K.matheson@yahoo.com).**

# Happy Mother's Day