

## THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD MAY 13, 2018

**The St. Ann “APP”:** Associate Pastor’s Perspective - One of the Catholic school memories I most cherish is the annual May Procession that our parish held during the week leading up to Mother’s Day. Even as a moody middle-school student, I didn’t really mind dressing-up in my uniform and returning to school in the evening to process around the perimeter of our church and school while praying the Rosary and singing Marian hymns. The parade of flowers and candles, the younger ones in Communion dresses and suits, and the gaggle of parents standing curbside in order to take photos of the procession said to us instinctively that something important – something special – was happening here. It really wasn’t about crowning a statue, though. In and of itself, the practice would be nearly idolatrous. What the May Procession said to us as Catholics is that the Blessed Mother was God’s gift to us. She who said “Yes” to the Lord’s will throughout her life taught us to do the same, and in honoring her motherhood, we were honoring her Son, our Savior. After all, her heart always pointed the way to Jesus, from the stable in Bethlehem to the wedding feast at Cana and ultimately to the hill on Calvary. As we celebrate Mother’s Day this weekend, may we take some time to thank our Lord not only for His own Mother’s role in our lives but also for our own moms, both living and deceased. Oftentimes, it has been they who were our first teachers of the faith, and it was they who – like Mary – pointed the way back to God if and when we went astray. They have prayed for us, sacrificed for us, and loved us unconditionally. As one poet once said: How can we deny the existence of a loving, merciful God when all around us the world is uplifted by the tender love of our mothers? This past Tuesday, as our own St. Ann’s students participated in the school’s May Procession, I prayed that our young Catholics – the present and future of our Church – would always experience a love for Mary in their own lives. May they know that they can always count on her to hear their prayers and guide them on life’s journey. After all, just as our own mothers and grandmothers would, Our Lady never stops reaching out to us, loving us unconditionally. Happy Mother’s Day to all those special women who show us the way to God.

**THE CHURCH CELEBRATES A NEW MARIAN FEAST DAY** - Recently, the Holy Father, Francis, decreed a new Memorial in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Memorial, titled, MARY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH, will be celebrated each year on the first Monday after Pentecost Sunday. This year the celebration of this Mass will take place on Monday, May 21<sup>st</sup>. The title, “Mother of the Church” or “Mater Ecclesia” in Latin, was formally adopted by Blessed, Pope Paul VI during the Second Vatican Council(1962-1965) to signify the integral relationship between the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the baptized as followers of Christ. The title comes from the Fourth Century when it was first used by St. Ambrose of Milan. So, if you come regularly to daily Mass, you may hear prayers and readings from this new Memorial from the altar on May 21<sup>st</sup>, but you might not yet find it in the already published Missalette for this year. Now, that’s brand new!

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ST. ANN’S SCHOOL – WE ARE PROUD TO ANNOUNCE** that *St. Ann School's Early Childhood Program, PreK3, PreK4, and Kindergarten received designation as an Early Childhood Program of Distinction through the Middle States Commissions on Elementary and Secondary Schools. We are the first school in the nation to receive this honor! This shows that the school demonstrates its dedication to early childhood education through a rich, child-centered philosophy and best practices focusing an exploration, questioning, creativity and social-emotional development as well as literacy and numeracy. Middle States Programs of Distinction provide validation of a school's accomplishments in specific areas of expertise, enhancing a school's prestige and promoting its reputation as a top-tier institution. Middle States Programs of Distinction serve as models for schools throughout the world. We are very proud of our model! St. Ann School also received a recommendation for reaccreditation of our school program by Middle States for the next 7 years. The Visiting Team was most impressed with our school program and our dedication to our mission of academic excellence, service, while guiding our students to lead as disciples of Jesus Christ. Thank you to you, our parishioners, for your prayerful and financial support of the school.*

*–Mrs. Stacy Solomon, Principal* 1

## Mass Intentions

### **Saturday May 12 (SS Nereus & Achilleus)**

8:00 A.M. Tom Wertz

5:00 P.M. Henry, John & Jimmy Mauk

### **Sunday May 13 Mother's Day**

7:30 A.M. Parishioners

9:30 A.M. Dolores Karpinski

11:30 A.M. Timothy Ryan

### **Monday May 14 (Saint Matthias)**

6:30 A.M. Bob Krouse

8:00 A.M. Braun & Mooney families

### **Tuesday May 15 (Saint Isidore the Farmer)**

6:30 A.M. Patsy Corsini

8:00 A.M. Dorothy & John Doordon

### **Wednesday May 16**

6:30 A.M. R. Franklin Balotti

8:00 A.M. Mildred Nash

### **Thursday May 17**

6:30 A.M. Cornelius Lehane

8:00 A.M. Francis Menton

### **Friday May 18 (Saint John I)**

6:30 A.M. Margaret McKinley

8:00 A.M. Patsy Corsini

### **Saturday May 19**

8:00 A.M. Harris/Montague families

5:00 P.M. Margaret & Conrad Faulkner

### **Sunday May 20**

7:30 A.M. Intention of Fr. Richard Jasper

9:30 A.M. M/M Leopold Hopfner

11:30 A.M. Deceased members of the BVM Sodality

*Pray for the sick, shut-ins and elderly of our Parish.*

**The Chapel of Divine Mercy** is open **6am to 10pm, 7 days a week** with the Blessed Sacrament exposed. Can you offer an hour of your time? Visit [www.adorationchapel.org](http://www.adorationchapel.org) to sign up. You can also call Chris at 584-1422 or Nan at 656-8438.

**Offertory for the weekend of April 29<sup>nd</sup> was \$11,102.00. As always – thank you for your kind and generous support to St. Ann's.**

**ST. ANN'S PRAYER LINE** – to place a name or special request on the prayer line call Joe or Shirley Ackerman at 384-7513 or email [joeshirl7@comcast.net](mailto:joeshirl7@comcast.net).



## HOLY MOMENTS



*Pray for the repose of the soul for our recently departed, buried from our church:*

**JENNIE MUSACCHIO**

### **WE CONGRATULATE LORLAI GRACE...**

**daughter of Chris and Alicia Marchesani** who was welcomed into the Christian community through Baptism.

**Congratulations to Callie Freda and Connor Smeader** - High school seniors from our parish who received the St. Francis de Sales Award for outstanding scholarship leadership, service and citizenship from Bishop Malooly in a diocesan convocation on May 2<sup>nd</sup> at Holy Angels Church. They were among 80 high school seniors selected from eight Catholic high Schools in our diocese.

**NEWS FROM PAT WALKER - PREP....** Our Religious Education Program is now in summer recess. Registration forms have already gone out for the 2018-19 school year and I ask that you return them as quickly as possible. I want to thank the catechists, the children and their parents for their dedication, hard work and loyalty to our PREP program! We pray for the safety of our families over these summer months. We hope to see you at Mass on the weekend - there is never a recess from learning about Jesus!

**NOTICE TO PARENTS OF CHILDREN ENTERING 1ST GRADE** - Attendance of 1st and 2nd grade Religious Education Classes is a MANDATORY REQUIREMENT in order to receive First Holy Communion in the 2nd grade. Be sure to register your first grader for classes this year.

**Hospital Visitations** – Make sure to call the Rectory at 654-5519 if you are in the hospital and would like a priest to visit.

**The second collection next weekend is for the Diocesan Priests Retirement Fund.**

**St. Ann's School Openings** – Are you looking to send your child/ children to St. Ann's for the 2018-19 school year. Spots fill up quickly! For info contact school at 654-6567 or email the rectory at [stannschurch@stannwilmington.com](mailto:stannschurch@stannwilmington.com).

**FOOD FOR GOD'S CHILDREN** - The food placed in the Knights of Columbus bins in the vestibule of our church by our parishioners is delivered each week by the Monsignor John DEWSON Council 13821, Knights of Columbus, to the Food Pantry of Saint Paul Church, 4th & Jackson Streets, Wilmington. Their most requested foods are:

- Black Beans
- Canned Fruit
- Bottled Fruit Juices
- Powdered Milk (Dry Milk) in packs that make 1 quart. 10 one quart packages may be purchased for \$6.38 at WALMART.

Other foods are most welcome. The most requests for food come during the warmer weather of the year. We all need our daily food, as do the poor, who seek our aid. Please help those less fortunate. May God bless you for your continued generosity!

**SAVE THE DATE – The Catholic Charity’s truck will be in our parking lot on the weekend of June 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. All gently used clothing and small appliances are welcome!**

**Mass for Vocations** – A gathering to support discernment and encourage a response – Saturday, May 26<sup>th</sup> at 11am – Cathedral of St. Peter, 400 N. West Street in Wilmington. Join us, families, individuals, youth groups, school groups, religious education classes, priests, and more!

**Religious Vocations** Forty days after His resurrection, Jesus ascended to the right hand of the Father, strengthening our hope of being with God for eternity. Priests and religious bear witness to that hope through vows and promises of consecration. Is God calling you to live your life that way? If you think so, call or write Father Norm Carroll, Diocesan Director of Priestly and Religious vocations at [vocations@cdow.org](mailto:vocations@cdow.org) or 573-3113. Be sure to visit the website [www.cdow.org/Vocations](http://www.cdow.org/Vocations).

**City of Wilmington Annual Senior Health & Fitness Day** – The plans are for a City-wide celebration for senior citizens at Christina Park, located on 4<sup>th</sup> and church Streets on Wednesday May 23<sup>rd</sup>. If you would like to participate, you must complete an Activity Registration Form and return it to the Dept of Parks and Recreation by May 17<sup>th</sup>. For more info or to get the form, call 576-3810 or email [sbaker@wilmingtonde.gov](mailto:sbaker@wilmingtonde.gov).

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** – The 3<sup>rd</sup> Musical at St. Ann’s Church and School is slated for April of 2019 and we have some “shoes” to fill! Open opportunities are in choreography and set design. If you are interested and want more info, contact Jane at the rectory – 654-5519 or email [imatyger@thesaintannschool.org](mailto:imatyger@thesaintannschool.org). It will be an amazing and rewarding experience!

**Are you missing out on an opportunity to donate to St. Ann’s?** Many employers generously offer matching gifts for your contributions or volunteer time to St. Ann’s parish. This is a fantastic opportunity for you to support your parish at no cost to you! Check with your employer to see if this is available. Thank you to some of the companies that have matched donations for their employees to our church: **Boeing, Verizon, RBC Wealth Foundation, JP Morgan Chase, NYSE Euronext Foundation and PJM Interconnection.**

**St. Helena’s Parish Outreach - GET CONNECTED TO RESOURCES TO HELP YOU AGE IN PLACE AT HOME:** Presented by Saint Francis LIFE, Griswold Home Care and Delaware Hospice. Tuesday, May 22, 2018 at 10 AM in St. Helena’s Masci Hall (old school building – 210 Bellefonte Ave) Refreshments will be served. Sponsored by St. Helena’s Parish Social Ministry. For additional information, please call 302-0325.

**Coming Up:**

5/14		School Spirit Week
5/15	9:15am	Spanish School mass
5/16	7pm	Choir
5/17	6pm	Sports Banquet
5/17	7:30pm	SVDP Meeting
5/18	10am	Kentmere Mass
5/22	6pm	Band & Children’s Choir Concert
5/23	7pm	Choir
5/25		School Field Day
5/25	11am	PreK Mother’s Day Lunch
5/25	12pm	School dismissal



**Happy Mother’s Day to all of our St. Ann’s Mothers and those visiting with us today!**