

Liturgies and Mass Intentions ~ Week of June 24, 2018

Sunday, June 24

9:00 am – Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

11:00 am – Michael Monseur (John Canty)

Monday, June 25

No Mass

Tuesday, June 26

6:00 pm – Bill Hottinger (Jack Olson)

Wednesday, June 27

6:00 pm – For the Success of the Capital Campaign

Thursday, June 28

6:00 pm – For the Success of the Capital Campaign

Friday, June 29

6:00 pm – Family of Lorna M. Lisk (Thom Lisk)

Schedule of Sunday Liturgical Ministries

Thank you for your willingness to serve to make our Mass Successful
Ministers of Hospitality (Greeters)

June 24 – 9 am – Louis Schulte, Jeanna Diederich

11 am – Gretchen Rivera, Andy Randel

July 1 – 9 am – Bob Ariss, Stephanie Good

11 am – John Nunn, Maryellen O'Shaughnessy

Servers

June 24 – 9 am – Steve Hillyer, 11 am – OPEN

July 1 – 9 am – Steve Hillyer, 11 am – Gaetan O'Brien

Crucifers (Cross Bearers)

June 24 – 9 am – Susan Kyanko, 11 am – OPEN

July 1 – 9 am – Susan Kyanko, 11 am – Julie Byrne

Lectors

June 24 – 9 am – Joyce Schneider, Cecilia McAdams

11 am – Gary Snyder, Tim Feran

July 1 – 9 am – Jarret Chirafisi, Katherine Kriedermann

11 am – Gary Snyder, Tim Feran

Eucharistic Ministers

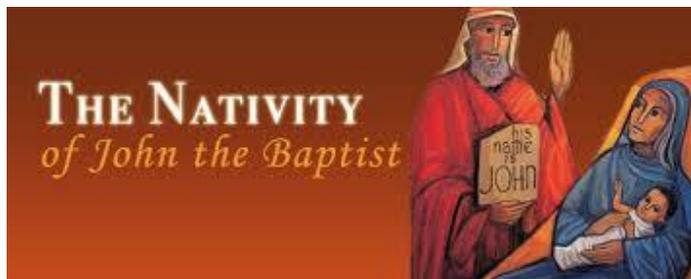
June 24 – 9 am – L. Celebrezze, Frank Conway, Frank Schneider

11 am – Mark Coleman, Sandy Glasner, Sue Cruickshank

July 1 – 9 am – J Capestany, F Schneider, MA Kerscher

11 am – Louisa Celebrezze, Joanna Nunn, Lori Toczczak

Gluten "Free"/Low Gluten Hosts...are available for those who wish to receive them. If you would like to receive a low-gluten host at Communion, please notify one of the greeters before Mass. This will allow us to observe and maintain safety protocols for those who are sensitive or allergic to gluten.



Calendar of Events at St. Francis of Assisi Parish

Please check the St. Francis website for the full calendar of events

Sunday, June 24

- ▶ 10:00 am – Creation Care Meeting
- ▶ 2:00 pm – Secular Franciscan Order
- ▶ 6:00 pm – Adult Faith Formation Cookout

Monday, June 25

- ▶ 7:00 pm – Saint Vincent DePaul Meeting

Tuesday, June 26

- ▶ 12:00 pm – Flytown Women
- ▶ 6:00 pm – Caregivers Support Group @ Panera Bread
- ▶ 7:00 pm – Stewardship Meeting

Parish News and Information

St. Francis of Assisi Adult Faith Formation – This evening, Stewardship Council will hold a cook-out at 6:00 pm in the Parish Hall for all those interested in being members and/or creators of our Adult Faith Formation groups. We are excited to fulfill the parishioners' requests for such gatherings and hope you will come with your ideas to bring us all into a closer relationship with God. We know "seasoned Catholics" and "newly formed Catholics" will find a loving community of pilgrims and seekers! Please RSVP so we can estimate the number of hamburgers, hot dogs and other goodies to buy. (Andy Randel 614-471-5305 or andy402randel@yahoo.com)



Caregiver's Support Group - Our Parish Family has quite a few members with chronic or critical illness, which means there are at least as many caregivers. There are also probably many more who are caregivers that we don't know about who are taking care of their family members or others. So, we started a Caregivers support group at St. Francis.

I belong to a caregiver's support group and it has made such a difference. We have built up a caring relationship with each other. I find it so reassuring that I am not alone in the journey. We encourage and listen when things are not going well and celebrate the little victories along the way. We share our experiences and suggestions handling physical and emotional struggles.

We have an initial group of 7 who are very positive about the need of a group to walk this journey together. We will be sharing our insights, experiences, struggles and faith with the certain hope of going back home with a renewed spirit.

To accommodate varying schedules, we have decided to have two meeting times a month. Individuals can come to one or both. We will meet the 4th **Tuesday** of the month at the Panera on 3rd Ave. (888 West 3rd.) at 6:00. The next one will be this **Tuesday June 26th**. Also, we will meet on the **second Sunday** of each month at 12:00 in the Church Hall. The next one for that Sunday gathering will be **July 8th**. Please spread the word to any parishioner you think might be interested in this support. Questions call Mary Ann Kerscher 614-457-1314 or napaker@wowway.com

The next meeting of the St. Francis Book Discussion Group will be on July 15 after the 11:00 Mass. We will be discussing *The Home for Unwanted Girls* by Joanna Goodman. All are welcome.

Gospel Reflection ~ June 24, 2018

At John's birth, Elizabeth's neighbors rejoiced with her over God's great mercy in granting the child, and on the eighth day, the child is named and incorporated into the people of Israel by the sign of the covenant – circumcision – etched on his body (Genesis 17:1-12). Luke narrates the Baptist's infancy alongside that of Jesus, and the parallel texts are rich in theology. The birth of John to Elizabeth is a prelude to the Messiah's birth; one child announces the presence of another. The boy's name, John, "the Lord has shown favor," foreshadows another name, that of Jesus, "the Lord saves." Elizabeth's maternity prepared for the maternity of the Mother of God. John's mission anticipates and inaugurates Jesus' mission. It is not that the first is characterized by penance and the second by messianic joy. Luke presents a single purpose in two phases, according to God's plan of salvation – two chapters of the same history. Just as early morning darkness makes way for dawn, the precursor opens the path for the Messiah's coming. It is necessary for darkness to diminish so the day may increase.

Ever since the prophecy of the last of the prophets, Malachi, (some 400 years) the prophets had been speechless. Nine months before the events of this reading, an angel made his announcement to the priest Zechariah in the Temple, and the incredulous man reasoned with the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years" (Luke 1:18). The event described in today's story, around the circumcision and naming of the newborn baby, fascinated the parents and instills the fear of God in the neighborhood – two typical reactions before mystery. Zechariah's tongue was tied until he wrote the child's God-given name, "John," on the tablet. Then his silence was broken and (not included in this reading) Zechariah intoned the canticle: "Blessed by the Lord, the God of Israel, for he has visited and brought redemption to his people" (1:68-79).

Some three months before the birth of John, his mother received the visit from her cousin, who had just received the angel's announcement of the birth of her divine Son. Within Elizabeth's womb the child danced in front of Mary, the Ark of the Covenant, joyful, with full confidence, will point out the youth from Nazareth and announce that he is the Messiah.

Today's solemnity, which (in the northern hemisphere) occurs near the longest day of the year, just as the daylight is beginning to diminish, is linked to our celebration on December 24-25. Then, just as daylight is at its shortest span, we celebrate the birth of Jesus, the Light of the world. What we celebrate on the cosmic clock, we apply to our own lives. The prophet's voice announces, "he must increase; I must decrease" (John 3:30). The self-absorbed, sacrosanct "I" diminishes, while the life of Christ, the Light of the soul and of the world, grows. Today mercy is born, so that later the Messiah can take possession of souls destined to enjoy an eternal friendship with God.

Source: Workbook for Lectors, Gospel Readers, and Proclaimers of the Word.

Next Week's Readings

Wisdom 1:13-15, 2:23-24
2 Corinthians 8:7, 9, 13-15
Mark 5:21-43



Around the Diocese

The Seasons of Hope Bereavement Ministry, sponsored by the North High Deanery to help anyone suffering from a loss of a loved one, begins its summer session on Sunday, June 24 with the first of six meetings on consecutive Sundays at Columbus St. Thomas More Newman Center, 64 West Lane Avenue. The program is a Catholic Christ-centered support group that includes scripture, prayer, reflection and sharing. It is offered four times a year for six weeks. Summer sessions run through Sunday July 29. Registration each week is from 1:30 to 1:55 p.m. followed by the group sharing session from 2 to 4 p.m. Questions may be directed to Karen Droll of the Newman Center at kdsdroll@gmail.com or Michael Julian of Columbus Immaculate Conception Church at mjulian@columbus.rr.com.

Huge Yard Sale - Rain or Shine

LOTS OF FURNITURE, HOUSEHOLD ITEMS, ELECTRONICS and MUCH MORE!!!

Saturday, **June 30th 8:00 am - 3:00 pm** **St. Mary Magdalene Church, 473 S. Roys Ave., Columbus OH 43204**
Food and Drinks and so much more

Join Catholic Times columnist Mary van Balen and Rick Hatem, international retreat leader, for an evening of reflection and a day-long retreat, *Journeys of Compassion: A Response to Life's Challenges and Opportunities* on Friday, June 29, 7-9pm and Saturday, June 30, 9am-4pm. Both events will be held at the Martin de Porres Center located at St. Mary of the Springs, 2330 Airport Dr., Columbus OH 43219. Saturday's retreat will complement Friday's reflections, but both sessions are complete in themselves.

For more information, visit the Speaking page on van Balen's website (www.maryvanbalen.com), contact her at maryvanbalen@gmail.com, or contact Rick Hatem at rickhatem@gmail.com.

Capital Campaign

Honoring the Past, Serving the Present, Preserving God's Gift for the Future - Our goal for this campaign is \$292,000 and to date we have \$206,485 paid. Thank you to those who have responded so generously. The pew that was removed and reconditioned as a sample of the work to be done is back. Please take a moment and look it over and provide us your feedback by making comments on the cards located by the pew and placing in the comment box.

Bishop's Annual Appeal

Your gift to the 2018 Bishop's Annual Appeal is vital to the success of this diocesan wide campaign. Our parish goal is \$23,501.36. Thank you to those families that have made a gift or pledge. If you have not yet made your gift to this year's appeal, please consider doing so in the days ahead. Please pray for the success of the Appeal and remember no amount of giving is too small. To date, we have \$11,489.36 pledged/paid, which is 49% of our goal, with 22% of our parishioners participating.

Bulletin Submission

Due to the 4th of July Holiday, next week's bulletin will be sent to the printer a week early. So, if you have any announcements for either July 1 or July 8, please submit them to the parish office by Wednesday, June 27. Thank you!