

THE RECTOR'S DESK

Dear Friends of St. Francis Church,

I pray that you and your families are well! I hope that you will find these considerations from today's Gospel helpful for spiritual growth, especially in the virtue of faith. They are the words of Fr. Gabriel of Mary Magdalen, O.C.D.

"A poor paralytic is presented to Our Lord; he probably had himself brought there to ask for bodily health, but in the presence of the purity and holiness which emanates from the Person of Jesus, he realizes that he is a sinner and remains confused and humiliated before Our Lord. Jesus has already read his heart, and seeing his faith and humility, He does not even wait for him to speak, but suddenly says to him with infinite kindness: 'Be of good heart, son, thy sins are forgiven thee' (*Gosp: Mt 9, 1-8*). The first and greatest miracle has taken place; the man is no longer a slave of Satan; he is a child of God. Jesus, who came to save souls, rightly healed the soul before the body.

"This miracle, however, does not please the scribes who, not believing in the divinity of Jesus, begin immediately in the secret of their hearts to accuse Him of blasphemy.... However, He wishes to use every means to soften them, so He gives them the strongest proof of His divinity. 'But that you may know that the Son of Man hath power on earth to forgive sins - then He said to the man sick of the palsy - "Arise, take up thy bed and go into thy house...." The miracle was striking and instantaneous. The word of Jesus effected immediately what it expressed. The words of God alone could have such power. But the scribes will not admit that they are defeated: when the heart is proud and obstinate, not even factual evidence is capable of moving it.

"Let us never say our faith is weak because we do not see or touch with our hand the truth which is proposed for our belief; let us rather admit that it is weak because our heart is not sufficiently docile to grace, nor entirely free from pride. If we want to have strong faith, let us be as humble and simple as children; if we wish to share in the gift of sanctification which was given to the paralytic, let us offer ourselves to Our Lord with contrite, humble hearts, thoroughly convinced that we need His help and forgiveness" (*Divine Intimacy*, pp. 943-944). May the good God bless you and your families!

In the Love of the Holy Family, Jesus, Mary, and Joseph,

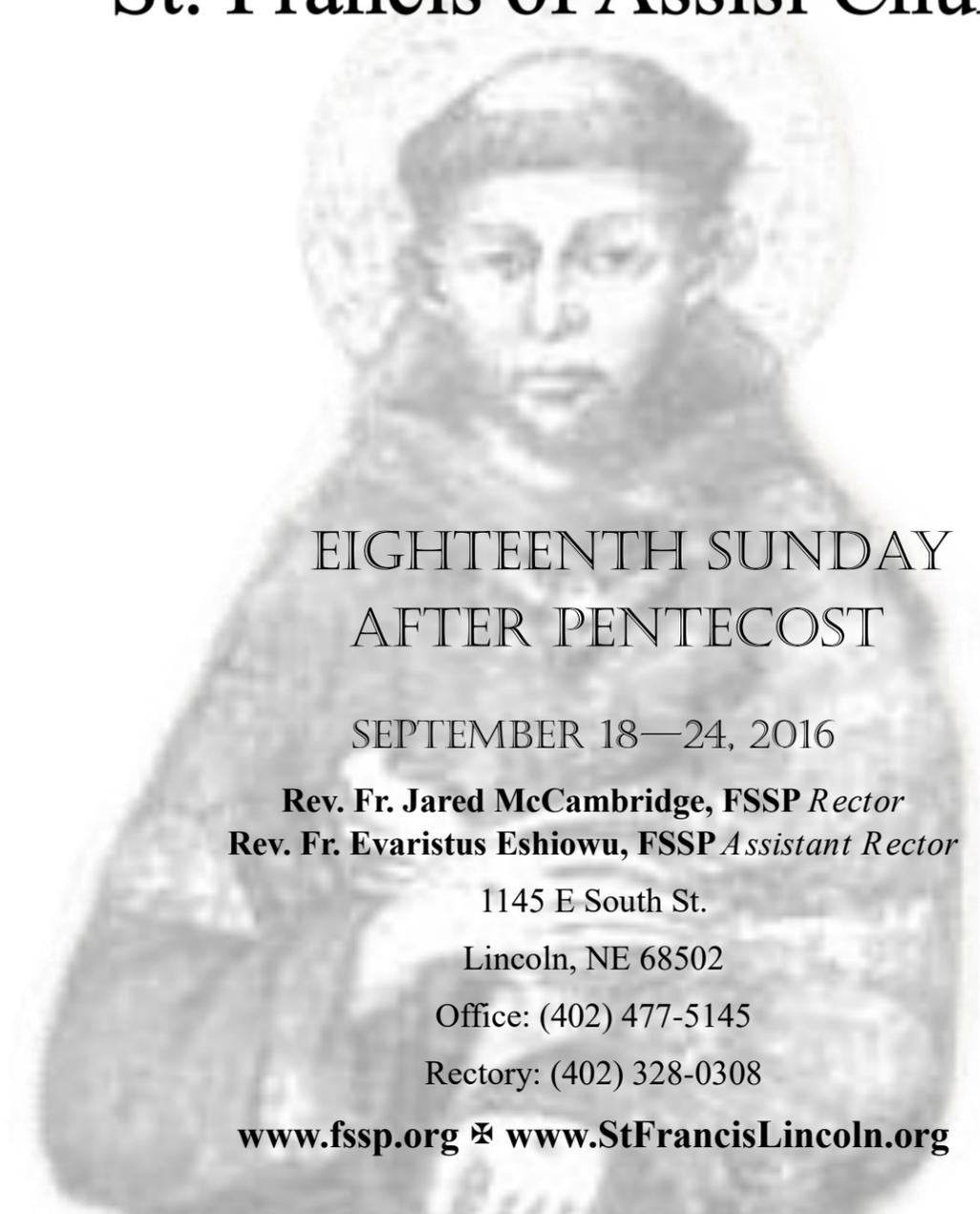
Fr. McCambridge, FSSP

FRATERNITAS SACERDOTALIS SANCTI PETRI

"Qui seminant in lacrimis, in exsultatione metent" (Ps 125, 5)



St. Francis of Assisi Church



EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 18—24, 2016

Rev. Fr. Jared McCambridge, FSSP Rector
Rev. Fr. Evaristus Eshiwu, FSSP Assistant Rector

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LITURGICAL CALENDAR

SUNDAY, September 18, Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

8:30 am Theresa Damasauskus+
10:30 am *Pro Populo*

MONDAY, September 19, St. Januarius & Companions, Martyrs

7 am Mr. Larry Rickert+
8 am Celebrant's Intention

TUESDAY September 20, Feria

7 am Doris Rowe+
12:10 pm Celebrant's Intention

WEDNESDAY, September 21, St. Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist (Ember Wednesday)

7 am Doris Rowe+
8 am Celebrant's Intention

THURSDAY, September 22, St. Thomas of Villanova, Bishop & Confessor

7 am Michael Bruns
12:10 pm Celebrant's Intention

FRIDAY, September 23, Ember Friday

7:00 am Doris Rowe+
5:15 pm Celebrant's Intention

SATURDAY September 24, Ember Saturday

8 am Jonathan Rowe+

SUNDAY September 25, Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

8:30 am Jonathan Rowe+
10:30 am *Pro Populo*

Regular Mass Schedule (For exceptions, see above.)

Monday & Wednesday	7 am, 8 am
Tuesday & Thursday	7 am, 12:10 pm
Friday	7 am, 5:15 pm
Saturday	8 am
Sunday	<i>Low Mass</i> 8:30 am <i>High Mass</i> 10:30 am

Confessions are heard one half-hour before each Mass (unless otherwise noted). Confessions will be heard at other times by a reasonable request.

The Rosary is prayed one half-hour before each Sunday Mass.

Sorrowful Mother Novena (Dolorosary):

Friday 6:30 pm

Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament:

First Fridays: 8 am—4:50 pm, Dolorosary at 4:30 pm, Benediction at 5:00 pm.

Other Fridays: Holy Hour at 6 pm, Dolorosary at 6:30 pm, Benediction at 6:50 pm.

First Saturday: Simple Exposition for fifteen minutes following Mass.

Altar Guild

As announced

Coffee Social: After the 10:30 mass on Sunday

Catechism for Children (October-May)

Monday 7 - 8 pm

Confraternity of Christian Mothers (September-May)

After Mass on the second Saturday of the month

St. John Bosco Youth Group

Not yet organized for this year.

Altar Boys' Meeting (September-May)

Second Saturday of the month 9 am

Choir

Wednesday 6 - 7:30 pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Welcome, Visitors to St. Francis Church! Please join us after the 10:30 mass for our Coffee Social.

Ember Day Cleaning: Fr. McCambridge was perhaps hasty in announcing last Sunday the change to a new plan for church cleaning, since there has not been sufficient time to establish such a plan yet. This Saturday will be a cleaning day; all are earnestly requested to help, beginning at 9 am. There is a good amount of outdoor work to do as well, including removal of several small trees, so men and young men are needed. (Volunteers to bring chainsaws encouraged!)

The St. Francis Church Picnic will be held next Sunday, September 25, 12:00 noon, with a new location: Roberts Park, at 56th and Sumner. There will be games for the children and the young-at-heart! Don't miss the pie contest! Anyone may enter a pie; judges will be objective and impartial (clergy and some gentlemen not related to contestants). Please come, and please sign-up by today!

Visit to Benedictines of Mary: Young ladies of St. Francis Church, twelve years and older, are invited to visit the Benedictines of Mary of Gower, Missouri, from Friday, October 7 through Sunday, October 9. Fr. McCambridge and some women of St. Francis will accompany the young ladies as they spend two full days getting a taste of the life of these Benedictines. We will depart Friday, mid-morning, and return Sunday, late afternoon. Please speak with Fr. McCambridge to sign up!

Women's Retreat: Fr. James Buckley, FSSP, will give an Ignatian retreat for women, Oct. 28-30, to be held at the Columban Fathers' Retreat Center in Bellevue, NE. Check in Friday at 6pm, with retreat ending Sunday by noon. Cost: \$150 (private room). Space limited; please register as soon as possible. Nursing infants welcome. Please contact Edie LaPlante for more details and to register: (402) 613-0569.

The St. Francis Children's Choir has begun its Wednesday classes and rehearsals in the church basement. Classes/Rehearsals are from 4-5:30pm, running through December, resuming in mid January. Cost is \$75 per student or \$150 per family. If you are in need of scholarship assistance, please speak with Fr. McCambridge. Please contact Nicholas Lemme to sign up: <nlemme@olgseminary.org >.

The 40 Days For Life Fall Prayer Vigil begins Wednesday, September 28 and ends on November 6. To date, 75 abortion facilities have closed following a 40 Days for Life Campaign outside their doors. Many babies have been saved from abortion, and abortion workers converted, because of this prayerful witness. There will be a kickoff for the vigil from 6:45 pm – 8:00 pm on Wednesday, September 28th at St. Peter's Catholic Church, 4500 Duxhall Dr. There will be speakers and prayers at St. Peter's Catholic Church, and weather permitting, we will walk to Planned Parenthood for closing prayers. Please bring a flashlight. Please sign up to participate by selecting an hour on www.40daysforlife.com/Lincoln or at St. Francis. We have been assigned the hours from 10:00AM – 2:00 PM on Wednesdays during the vigil.

Life Chain: Sunday, October 2, 2:30 – 3:30 p.m. Please join us for an hour of peaceful prayer along "O" Street. We will be praying for the dignity of life between 50th and 51st Streets on the North Side of "O" Street. For any questions, visit www.lincolnrighttolife.org.

First Friday Eucharistic Adoration: will next be held Friday, October 7, 2016. The sign-up sheet is posted in the vestibule. Please be generous in devoting your time in adoration of Our Lord, and in reparation to His Sacred Heart!

Please Pray for the Sick and Suffering: Debra Bergfeld, Jennifer Wachter, Jerry Vilda, Shirley Bauer, Michael Ostry, Ruth Phelan (mother of Mrs. Cindy Ecoff), Barbara McMeekin (mother of Mrs. Jennifer Butcher), Rev. Mr. Philip Gerard Johnson.

FINANCES

Collection for Sunday September 11:	\$2740.25
Collection counters September 18:	John Quinto and Frank Feuerborn
Collection counters September 25	Rex Mulholland and John Pepino

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI DRESS CODE

To dress becomingly for God and neighbor, and in keeping with the reverence due to the Blessed Sacrament, kindly refrain from wearing shorts, tee-shirts, tank-tops, revealing blouses, sleeveless or backless dresses, or form-fitting clothing of any sort. Please do let dresses and skirts fall below the knee. With due regard to time and circumstance, all are encouraged to wear decorous attire befitting sacred and divine worship.