

THE RECTOR'S DESK

Dear Friends of St. Francis Church,

I pray that you and your families are well! As she began to do last Sunday, and will continue to do the next, so also today our Holy Mother Church prepares us for Christ's Ascension, his departure for heaven. In today's Gospel, at the Last Supper, Our Lord comforts His apostles, telling them that it is expedient that He should go from them, to allow the coming of the Advocate, or "Paraclete". As Christ has been the visible advocate of God the Father; He promises to send the Holy Ghost, the invisible Advocate. We know from scripture that "every best gift, and every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights..." (Jas. 1:17). No gift is more perfect than the giving of the Holy Ghost, the Spirit of Truth: "...When He, the Spirit of Truth, is come, He will teach you all truth" (John 16:13).

Yet man can reject the truth revealed by God; the world today is in a crisis of truth. According to Fr. Kenneth Baker, S.J., "If we ignore or reject truth, our civilization will collapse. Society cannot endure if truth is rejected and lies take its place, because freedom and harmony among men is based upon truth" (cf. John 8:31-32). Because of the crisis of sin brought about by the widespread rejection of truth and of God, one hundred years ago yesterday, May 13, 1917, Our Lady appeared to the three children of Fatima — Lucia Santos, and Francisco and Jacinta Marto — for the first of her monthly visits there, through October of that year. On her first visit, Our Lady said to the children: "I come from heaven... Are you willing to offer yourselves to God and bear all the sufferings He wills to send you, as an act of reparation for the conversion of sinners?" To the children's reply that they were indeed willing, Our Lady told them: "Then you are going to have much to suffer, but the grace of God will be your comfort."

Let us be consoled and strengthened by Our Lady's words, and like those holy children, offer ourselves to God, and bear sufferings patiently for the love and conversion of sinners, seeking our comfort in God. So doing, we will be witnesses to God's truth, and will have the joy of hearing His voice, for He assures us: "Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice" (John 18:37). May the good God bless you and your families, and grant you His peace!

In the Joy of Our Lord, the Risen Christ,

Fr. McCambridge, F.S.S.P.



FRATERNITAS SACERDOTALIS SANCTI PETRI

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



St. Francis of Assisi Church

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

MAY 14-20, 2017

Rev. Fr. Jared McCambridge, FSSP, Rector

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LITURGICAL CALENDAR

SUNDAY, May 14, Fourth Sunday after Easter

8:30 am Members of St. Michael's Defense Guild
 10:30 am *Pro Populo*

MONDAY, May 15, St. John Baptist de la Salle, Confessor

7 am Doris Rowe+

TUESDAY, May 16, St. Ubaldo, Bishop & Confessor

8 am Doris Rowe+

WEDNESDAY, May 17, St. Paschal Baylon, Confessor

7 am Poor Souls+
 9 am (St. Joseph School grade 5 visit) Celebrant's intention

THURSDAY, May 18, St. Venantius, Martyr

8 am Celebrant's intention

FRIDAY, May 19, St. Peter Celestine, Pope & Confessor

5:15 pm Poor Souls+

SATURDAY, May 20, St. Bernardine of Siena, Confessor

8:00 am Poor Souls+

SUNDAY, May 21, Fifth Sunday after Easter

8:30 am Rita Kessler+
 10:30 am *Pro Populo*

Regular Mass Schedule (For exceptions, see above.)

Monday & Wednesday	7 am
Tuesday & Thursday	8 am
Friday	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. 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.

Coffee Social: After the 10:30 mass on Sunday

St. Martha's Guild

(Care of Altar, vestments and linens, flowers, and hospitality)

Next meeting: Tuesday, May 16, 7:00 pm

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

One Saturday evening per month, plus a monthly service activity, each as announced.

Altar Boys' Meeting (September-May)

Second Saturday of the month 9 am

Choir

Wednesday 6 - 7:30 pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Welcome to Newcomers and Visitors to St. Francis Church! Please join us downstairs for refreshments after the 10:30 am Mass.

Communion Confusion: At communion time, please use the main aisle to approach the altar, and the side aisles to return to your pews. Please do not use the small gap between pews as an aisle, as this can impede others attempting to return to their pews. Thank you for your kind assistance in this matter!

Ignatian Retreat for Men: Fr. James Buckley, FSSP, will give an Ignatian retreat for men, June 8-11, at Our Lady of Guadalupe Seminary. Please contact Mr. Dennis Kilcoyne, <business@fsspolgs.org>, for information and registration. The cost for the retreat will be \$195.00.

Mass Intentions: As the backlog of Mass requests has been caught up, Associates are once again able to request Masses to be celebrated for their intentions. There are envelopes in the vestibule for this purpose. Please deposit the envelopes in the mailbox outside the church office.

Children's Catechism classes will meet for the final time this school year this Monday, May 15.

Sign up for Church Cleaning for the month of May: The board in the downstairs hallway, between the kitchen and the dining room, has been designated the place for housekeeping information. Please visit that board, and sign up for cleaning duties. **There will be a new sheet posted each month to sign up for the current month, allowing for many volunteer opportunities throughout the year.** Please direct questions to the president of St. Martha's Guild, Miss Rebecca Montag: <rebecca@montagmfg.com> or (712) 480-0743. May God reward you!

First Friday Eucharistic Adoration will next be held Friday, June 2, 2017. 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!

Summer Etiquette Camp for Girls: Camp Mater Dei is a summer camp for girls 13-16 years of age, designed to teach girls how to model themselves after the Mother of God. Girls have the opportunity to meet other girls with similar interests, while having fun in the Black Hills of South Dakota. **The dates for Camp Mater Dei will be August 14—23, 2017.** Fr. Terrence Gordon, FSSP will be the chaplain again this year. The camp is sponsored by Immaculate Conception Church, the FSSP parish in Rapid City, South Dakota. For more information visit www.campmaterdei.weebly.com.

Please Pray for the Sick and Suffering: Elise Clarke, Debra Bergfeld, Jennifer Wachter, Shirley Bauer, Michael Ostry, Fr. Calvin Goodwin, FSSP, Patrick Hornback (brother of Mrs. Liz Feuerborn), Mr. Whitfield (father of Mrs. Nicolette Spicer), Ruth Phelan (mother of Mrs. Cindy Ecoff), Barbara McMeekin (mother of Mrs. Jennifer Butcher), Fr. Philip Gerard Johnson.

FINANCES

Collection for Sunday May 7:	\$1587.00
Collection counters May 14:	Dan Fix and John Quinto
Collection counters May 21:	Philip McNeely and Troy Butcher

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.