

Sunday of Divine Mercy

April 28, 2019

Rice Bowl checks made out to your Church are due today. Please drop in the offertory basket.

Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus consist of a group of men within our local faith communities. As part of our mission, we are charged with serving the needs of our local churches and congregations. If you are interested in learning more and/or would like to join this organization, there will be a meeting on May 6 at St. Peter at 6:30 in the conference room.

Lobby for Life

Lobby For Life Day in Albany is this Wednesday the 1st. After the passage of the Reproductive Health Act, it is critical that we have a large turnout and very important that we have a large group from Delaware County as there is a new Senator from that District, Jen Metzger, who voted for this Act and needs to hear from us. Also there is a strong effort to get physician-assisted suicide passed as well as paid surrogate motherhood.

Bus seats are still available: pickup at Sacred Heart Church, 27 Harper Street in Stamford at 7:30 am with a drop near the New York State Museum. We will walk to the Legislative Office Building to hear speakers. [Lunch: bag lunch or fast food.] We will then visit our legislators. Tickets for the bus: \$20 for individuals

\$10 each for families of three or more

To reserve a seat please call 652.4055.

Rosary on Sundays

Please join the recitation of the Rosary:

8:50 am before St. Peter's 9:30 am Mass

10:40 am before St. John's 11:15 am Mass

Reflections on the Gospel

Part of the mystery of Jesus' Resurrection is that He appeared to His disciples not as a spirit but in bodily form. We do not know exactly what this form was like. When Mary of Magdala first encountered the risen Jesus, she did not recognize the figure standing before her until Jesus spoke her. In Luke's Gospel, the disciples walking on the road to Emmaus did not recognize Jesus until He broke bread with them. We know from various readings that in His resurrected body, Jesus was no longer bound by space; He appeared to the disciples in spite of the locked door, and yet, on this resurrected body, the disciples could still observe the marks of His Crucifixion.

In the Gospel, Jesus greets His disciples with the gift of peace and the gift of the Holy Spirit. Jesus also commissions His disciples to continue the work that He has begun. As Jesus was sent by God, so too does Jesus send them. This continuity with Jesus' own mission is an essential element of the Church. Jesus grants the means to accomplish this mission when He gives His disciples the gift of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit binds us together as a community of faith and strengthens us to bear witness to Jesus' Resurrection.

Jesus' words to His disciples highlight the integral connection between the forgiveness of sins and the gift of the Holy Spirit. Forgiveness and reconciliation are gifts to us from Jesus. With the grace of the Holy Spirit, we can share these with others--another aspect of what it means to be Christ's Church.

Thomas, the disciple who doubts, represents the reality of the Church that comes after the first community of disciples. All but the first disciples of Jesus must believe without seeing. We may doubt the news that Jesus, who was crucified, buried, appeared to His disciples. It is part of our human nature to seek hard evidence that the Jesus who appeared is, indeed, the same Jesus who was crucified. Through the gift of the Holy Spirit, we are among those who are blessed for we have not seen and yet have believed.

Loyola Press

Rosary Society

If you would be interested in being part of a Rosary Society at St. Peter, please contact Kathleen at 746.8170 or childofgod57@delhitel.net.

Marriage Moments Susan Vogt

"Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them."

John 20:23

In any marriage there are times that we hurt each other - - perhaps inadvertently but sometimes out of anger or selfishness. Forgive each other lest your love die.

Parenting Pointers Susan Vogt

Greet everyone you see today with a smile. It does not take any time or money. It is easy. All you have to do is remember to do it! Challenge your child to join you in this "game" for one day. Help each other remember.

Rachel's Vineyard

Healing the pain of abortion.

A Rachel's Vineyard Retreat weekend is an opportunity to experience God's love and healing in a safe environment. There will be a Retreat on the weekend of May 17 to 19 at Carondelet Hospitality Center in Latham. The cost of \$195 includes room, meals, and materials -- financial assistance is available if needed.

For information/register: 518.222.1160, 607.353.0039, or rachelvineyardalbany@yahoo.com.

Family Perspective Bud Ozar

Jesus connects Peace and Forgiveness in the Gospel. In our families we will only experience Peace to the extent we forgive one another. Peace is purchased with the currency of Forgiveness. When we allow our anger and pride to lock out others, we also lock out Peace and Harmony.

Reconciliation Saturday at St. John
3 to 3:30 pm.

Faith Formation Make-A-Meal Project

The Faith Formation program was able to make 18 meals of lasagna and sausage and pepper sandwiches, which we gave out to people in the community. We were also able to work with the Missionary Alliance church in Downsville to distribute them to people outside of the St. John community too.

Thank you to everyone for their donations and the volunteered time to prepare the meals.

The Feast of Mercy

During the course of Jesus' revelations to Saint Faustina on the Divine Mercy, He asked on numerous occasions that a feast day be dedicated to the Divine Mercy and be celebrated on the Sunday after Easter. The liturgical texts of the 2nd Sunday of Easter concern the institution of the Sacrament of Penance, the Tribunal of the Divine Mercy, and are thus already suited to His request. This Feast, which had already been granted to the nation of Poland and been celebrated within Vatican City, was granted to the Universal Church by Pope John Paul II on the occasion of the canonization of Sr. Faustina on April 30, 2000.

Dominican Retreat Center 518.393.4169

May 3-5: Women's Retreat: "The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love." Gal 5:6b The weekend schedule is varied and flexible to meet individual needs & includes conferences, worship services, opportunity for private consultation/companionship with any of the staff as well as free time. \$205 (\$190 for 65 years of age & over)

Director: Sister Marilyn R. Vassallo