Church of Saint Philip Neri Pennsburg, PA 18073

October 2, 2016



Rev. Robert A. Roncase, Pastor

Rev. Raymond W. Smart, retired; resident

Deacon Michael J. Franks

Deacon Mark J. Meinzer, Business Manager

Rev. Edmond J. Speitel, Pastor Emeritus

Rev. John J. Scarcia, Retired Pastor

Shirley Misiak, Office Manager

Catherine E. Faust, Director of Music

Wendy Benner, Coordinator of PREP/Religious ED

Tom Dewees, Director Catholic Family Life Center

Diane Cunningham, Adm. Assistant CFLC

Anita Fuhs, Youth Minister

Sister Patricia Kelly, M.S.B.T., Parish Outreach

Parish Phone Numbers:

7.733.2572
5.679.7839
5.679.2237
5.679.8116
5.679.2282
5.679.6490

Fax Numbers:

Rectory	215.679.0386
Religious Education/PREP	215.679.8370
Catholic Family Life Center	215.679.8370

Church & Rectory Address:

1325 Klinerd Rd; Pennsburg 18073

Hours: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM **Email Address:** smisiak@spnparish.org

Website Address: www.spnparish.org

Religious Education Office address & hours:

26 E. Sixth Street, East Greenville, PA 18041 Monday & Friday: Offices are closed Tuesday & Thursday: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm Wednesday: 12:00 pm - 8:00 pm prep@spnparish.org Email address:

Neri Center Address

575 Main Street, East Greenville, PA 18041

Catholic Family Life Center Address

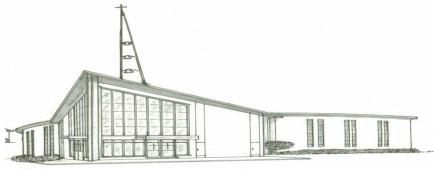
26 E. Sixth Street, East Greenville, PA 18041

Email address: tdewees@spncflc.org Website Address: www.catholicfamilylifecenter.com

Youth Ministry Office hours: (East Greenville) Tuesday & Thursday: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm Wednesday: 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm Email address: youthministry@spnparish.org

ROSARY: Prayed in the Chapel

Saturday after the 9:00 AM Mass Monday at 1:00 PM



EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

1st Friday from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM in the Chapel, followed by Benediction.

FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS

For a floral arrangement to be placed at the altar, please call the rectory.

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday - Vigil Mass - 5:00 PM Sunday - 7:30 AM; 10:00 AM; 5:00 PM Holy Day Masses as announced

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE - St. Anne Chapel

The Chapel is open Monday thru Saturday until 7:00 PM for your visits to the Blessed Sacrament.

Daily Mass is celebrated in the Chapel attached to the rectory: Monday - 5:00 PM

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday - 8:00 AM Saturday - 9:00 AM

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays: 4:00 - 4:45 PM

Sundays: 9:15 - 9:45 AM; 4:15 - 4:45 PM or: at the Rectory BY APPOINTMENT anytime.

BAPTISMS: Please call the Rectory to schedule 2nd Sunday Baptisms are held at the 10 AM Mass 3rd Sunday Baptisms are held at 11:30 AM

SPONSORS: Sponsors for Baptism and Confirmation need to be at least 16 years of age, to be confirmed, attend Mass weekly, and if married, be in a valid marriage.

PRE-JORDAN CLASSES

Call the Rectory Office to schedule.

MARRIAGES

Arrangements should be made at least SIX MONTHS before the date of the wedding.

NEW PARISHIONERS

Welcome to your new home! Please stop by or call the rectory between 9:00 am -4:00 pm to fill out a registration card.

SHUT-INS

Please call the Parish Outreach Office.

SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call the Rectory.

OUR PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

We are the Catholic Parish Community of St. Philip Neri. answering Christ's call discipleship through Word, Sacrament and Service. We proclaim God's hope and love to all.

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

The Mass Schedule is in effect until further notice. It will be evaluated in January, 2017.

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 PM

Sunday Masses: 7:30 AM; 10AM; 5PM

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

The scheduled Confession times will be in effect These times will be until further notice. evaluated in January, 2017.

Confession (Reconciliation) can be arranged for any time by calling the rectory to make an appointment.

SCHEDULED CONFESSION TIMES

4:00 PM - 4:45 PM Saturdav's: Sunday's: 9:15 AM - 9:45 AM 4:15 PM - 4:45 PM

Serving at Mass Extraordinary Ministers

Oct. 9 Lectors

Bob Ellis

5:00 pm - Dawn McCausland

Courtney Highleyman

Priest Deacon Linda Benko Diane Kennedy

7:30 am - Christine Adelsberger

Steve Adelsberger

Priest Deacon

Barbara Jaruszewski

Lori Brozena

10:00 am - Andrew Souder

Theresa Walker

Priest Deacon Alicia Tryon Ed Tryon Terry Quatrani Christine Kemp Matt Horvath Judy Horvath Rose Anderson

Mary E. Paulk

Mary Souder Luke Verna

C. Mullanev

E. Quatrani

5:00 pm - Sharon Shaak Priest

Deacon

Mary Goodfellow

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

TBD

October 2, 2016

Monday, October 3

9:00 am - 5:00 pm - Adoration in Chapel

5:00 pm - Helen Burke, (Raymond & Jill Fitch)

Tuesday, October 4, Saint Francis of Assisi

9:00 am - 7:00 pm - Adoration in the Chapel

8:00 am - Elizabeth Brinckman,

(Rose Devitt & Joanna Zappala)

Wednesday, October 5

9:00 am - 7:00 pm - Adoration in the Chapel

8:00 am - Edward Reed,

(Bob & Barbara Schwind)

Thursday, October 6, Saint Bruno;

Blessed Marie Rose Durocher

9:00 am - 7:00 pm - Adoration in the Chapel

8:00 am -

First Friday, October 7

10:00 am 7:00 pm - Adoration in the Chapel

9:00 am - Margaret & Joseph Harvey,

(Fr. Roncase)

Saturday, October 8

10:00 am - 4:00 pm - Adoration in the Chapel

9:00 am -

5:00 pm - Michael Higgins, (Guy & Robin Piza)

Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 9, 2016

7:30 am - For the living and deceased Members of the Parish.

10:00 am - Erik Crotzer; Anna & Stanley Melcher, (Terry & Wendy Benner and daughters)

5:00 pm - Helen Burke,

(Bob & Dawn Ellis)

FIRST FRIDAY

October 7th is First Friday. Mass is in Church at 9:00 AM. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in Chapel from 10AM - 7PM.

Please commit to spend some time with Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

GREETER SCHEDULES

The Greeter Schedules are available in the small room near the Vestibule for those who do not have computer access.

WE INVITE YOUR PRAYERS

For the sick, those in hospitals, nursing homes, also for their caregivers; and all those we hold close in our hearts.

Please pray in particular for: Michael Quigley.

For those who have died, and in particular for, Margaret "Maggie" Narducci & Kathryn Talbot, grant them eternal rest and peace.

Give a St. Philip Neri Memorial Gift!

For a donation of \$35 or more, there is a beautiful Folder recording the gift and donor to be presented to the family.

In memory of **Helen Mensch**; requested by: Gayle & Tom Cichocki.

In memory of **Helen Burke**; requested by: George Schurr; Raymond & Jill Fitch; and Kathryn & Louis D'Alessandro.

In memory of **Margaret "Maggie" Narducci**; requested by: The Elizabeth Ministry of SPN.

In memory of **Leo Salatino**; requested by: Mary R. & Jim Giambrone.

In memory of **Kathryn Talbot**; requested by: Holy Rosary Group of Red Hill.

We also have **Living Memorials** for those special occasions in life.

OCTOBER 2016:

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Monday - October 3

Adoration in the Chapel: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Tuesday - October 4

Adoration in the Chapel: 9:00 am - 7:00 pm

 $\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Boy Scouts} & & 7:00 \text{ pm Parish Hall} \\ \text{Hoagie pickup} & & 12:00 \text{ pm -} 6:00 \text{ pm Parish Hall} \end{array}$

Wednesday - October 5

Adoration in the Chapel: 9:00 am - 7:00 pm Garden Club 5:00 pm

Pre-Jordan Baptismal class 7:00 pm Rectory PREP/RELIGIOUS ED 6:30 pm CFLC

Thursday - October 6

Adoration in the Chapel: 9:00 am - 7:00 pm

Bible Study
7:00 pm Neri Center
Men's Basketball
RCIA (covering Chapters II & III)
8:00 pm Parish Hall
6:30 pm Rectory

Friday - October 7

First Friday Mass at 9:00 am in Church Adoration in the Chapel: 10:00 am - 7:00 pm Bible Study 10:00 am 1

Bible Study 10:00 am Neri Center Frontier Girls: Fall Camp Weekend at Boulder Woods

Saturday - October 8

Adoration in the Chapel: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Breakfast setup 7:00 am Parish Hall

Sunday - October 9

Parish Breakfast 7:00 am - 12:30 pm Parish Hall Children's Liturgy of the Word at the 10:00 am Mass Knights of Columbus Meeting 7:30 pm Rectory Little Church 10:00 am Parish Hall Men's Basketball 8:00 pm Parish Hall

PARISH NEWS

AT LARGE PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

SPN Parish Council At-Large Members welcome any questions or comments you may have.

Tony Bauer ajbauer337@gmail.com

Ray Carr bigdaddy2530@gmail.com

Matthew Fuhs matthew.fuhs@comcast.net

Karen Katrinak karenkat1@verizon.net

Bill Robinson wcrobinson2@hotmail.com

Theresa Walker cheg1978@comcast.net

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

September 27, 2015 September 25, 2016 Envelopes: \$5,488.00 \$ 5,587.50 Online: 2,086.00 1,175.00 1,435.00 Loose: 622.00 Children: 44.00 3.00 Total: \$ 7,329.00 \$ 9,111.50

Special Second Collections:

October 2016

For those who do not receive Sunday collection envelopes or if you are an On-Line giver, the following second collections are:

All Souls; Mission Sunday, 100th Anniversary.

ONLINE GIVING

Go green with St. Philip Neri Church by signing up for **Online Giving**.

Online giving is a secure and personalized way to give to the parish. It also can stand on its own as a means of a donation or can be used in conjunction with your offering envelopes.

You have the option to keep receiving your regular offering envelope packets if you wish. (www.spnparish.org)



UPCOMING SENIOR CLUB EVENTS:

Oct. 19th: Trip to Penns Peak Real Diamond

Oct. 26th: Halloween Party;

Margaret Harner on Ghost Houses

of Boyertown.

Nov. 16th: Thanksgiving Luncheon

Dec. 2nd: Day trip to American Music

Theatre Christmas Show

Dec. 14th: Seraphims Choral Group from:

Saint Mary's School

THANK YOU

The SPN Senior Club would like to thank **EVERYONE** who in **ANY WAY** contributed to the Basket Bash, our first Fundraiser!

It is difficult to find the words to express how pleased we were with the generosity of our Parish and the Upper Perkiomen Community. Because of the generosity of so many, our Basket Bash was a **HUGE SUCCESS**!

Please accept our heartfelt gratitude and thanks.

SPN Senior Club Board

DORNEY PARK TICKETS

In case you forgot . . . tickets are still for sale at SCRIP table before and after all Masses or call Rectory Office. Cost is \$30 each - all ages. Good thru 10.27.16 which features the Halloween Haunt.

SPN CATHOLIC FAMILY LIFE CENTER

UPCOMING EVENTS:

October 16:

FAMILY FUN FEST

(October Fest & Pig Roast)

check out Flyer in today's Bulletin.

Members of the CFLC will be selling tickets before and after Masses this weekend only.

Join us for an afternoon of fun for the entire family.

The CFLC is seeking several book loving volunteers to help in our Joyful Heart Library & Lounge.

Call Tom Dewees at 215.679.2237 for additional information.

ST. PHILIP NERI PARISH BREAKFAST

All-You-Can-Eat Buffet

Sunday, October 9 ... 7AM - 12:30 PM

Scrambled eggs . bacon . sausage.

Chipped beef. Home fried potatoes.

Pancakes. cereal . toast

Milk . coffee . hot tea . 2 juices

Omelette Station: prepared to order - always with a minimum of 4 different ingredients.

Pancakes: Plain and a specialty.

Make your own Waffles:

Fix'n Bar: yogurt, granola, fresh fruit

Homemade baked goods for sale & also ... Homemade Egg Rolls for sale!

For every 100 sold breakfasts, one FREE will be given away!

Seniors (60 & up): \$8.00 Adults (11-60) 9.00 Ages 4 - 11: 5.00 4 & under: 1.00

checks and major credit cards are accepted.



The 40 Days for Life Campaign is a nationwide life-saving event which runs through November 6, 2016.

This campaign consists of prayer, fasting and peaceful prayer vigils outside Planned Parenthood locations in an effort to protect the lives of unborn children and extend a hand of mercy to the men and women harmed by abortion.

This is a great opportunity to respond to the Holy Father's invitation to live the spiritual and corporal works of mercy during this Holy Year. We invite you to stand with other local churches and peacefully pray for 1 hour at the Planned Parenthood Facility in Norristown. St. Philip Neri's scheduled day in Saturday October 22nd from 8:00AM to 8:00pm. Signup sheet and related information can be found on St. Philip Neri's web Page (www.spnparish.org) under Parish Ministries, Respect Life Ministry. We are hoping to have at least 2 people per hour praying and carpooling is encouraged! If you have any questions, please contact Mark Nunan at marknunan@dejazzd.com.

Thank you for helping to build a culture of life! You can also signup for daily devotionals at www.40daysforlife.com/norristown

COME-N-GO BINGO

St. Philip Neri Parish Hall FREE Admission

Saturday – October 22, 2016

Doors open at 6:00 pm

Games begin at 6:30 pm

Cost: \$.25/game

50/50 cash pots and

special bonus & gift prize pots.

Menu: hot/cold foods & drinks

If you bring a non-perishable item to benefit Open Link, you play two free games of Bingo!

Sponsored by: KOC 6614 More info call: 215.679.6405

FALL CLEAN UP

Date: October 22

Time: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

(rain date: October 29)

Can you help out for a few hours? The Garden Club of St. Philip Neri will be cleaning up the Church grounds and many hands are needed.

Call Lee Johnson: 215.679.6309 if you should have any questions.

Coffee and donuts will be provided.

WE REMEMBER MASS

We pray for, and are united with our families and friends who have died during the past year. We are united with them through the Communion of Saints.

We remember them. We remember with them. Our annual Remembrance Mass will be celebrated on <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>November 15th</u> at 7:00 pm in the Church.

All are welcome to come and celebrate the lives of our deceased in this Mass of Remembrance. A reception will follow in the Parish Hall.

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

Vocation Office for Diocesan Priesthood

Mary's "yes" changed the world. Be generous to Jesus. Consider the Priesthood. www.HeedtheCall.org.

Office for Child and Youth Protection SESSIONS:

10.11.16 Our Mother of Consolation in Phila. at 7PM

10.12.16 Our Mother of Consolation in Phila. at 9AM

10.18.16 Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Doylestown 6:30PM

10.25.16 St. Ignatius in Yardley at 7PM

10.27.16 St. Elizabeth in Uwchlan at 7PM

10.29.16 St. Matthew in Philadelphia at 9AM

11.10.16 St. Isidore School in Quakertown at 6:30PM 11.26.16 St. Matthew in Philadelphia at 9AM

Sessions are approximately 2.5 hours in length.

Register at www.virtus.org or: 215.587.2466

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CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

You're invited to step away from everyday life for a day of inspiration and renewal at the Catholic Women's Conference, "Mother of Mercy, Make Our Hearts Like Yours!" on Saturday, October 29th, from 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown.

Nine dynamic Speakers address all facets of the feminine genius and its influence on the total woman - mind, body and spirit - in creating a Heart of Mercy.

This special day includes something for every woman - married, single and consecrated, featuring a Spanish track, Youth Track for teen girls and American Sign Language Track.

Find more information and registration at: CatholicWomensConference.org.

DO YOU KNOW YOUR TRIBUNAL?

The Tribunal is a group of specially qualified Catholics whose responsibility is to come to the help of people who have experienced divorce and who may wish to remarry in the Catholic Church. When a divorce occurs, the Catholic Church always seeks to balance two realities. One is the unbreakableness of the bond of marriage. This is God's law. It cannot be broken by human intervention. On the other hand, the Church is concerned about the spiritual welfare of the people involved. Was this a true marriage? Even though a Catholic marriage was celebrated, was there perhaps some deficiency in the consent of the parties involved? The annulment procedure addresses this problem.

If you are divorced and want to marry in the Church or remarried outside the Catholic Church, please telephone the Tribunal Office at: 215.587.3750.

AREA PARISH NEWS

CEMETERY NEWS

The Fall Cleanup of the Saint Aloysius and Holy Trinity cemeteries will begin on Monday, October 17, 2016. ALL must be removed prior to Monday, October 17th or it will be removed in preparation for the Thanksgiving and Christmas Holidays by staff. Any questions call Deacon George Harmansky at 610-326-5877.

Straight Talk about Annulments

Thursday, November 3, 2016 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM

Saint Maria Goretti Church 1601 Derstine Road, Hatfield For more information or to register, please contact director aff@stmariagoretti.net

AREA NEWS

METANOIA YOUNG ADULTS

Upcoming Events:

Friday, October 7: METANOIA goes to Festival of Praise @ St. Norbert's Parish, Paoli, 7:30 PM

Tuesday, October 11: Bible Study at Corpus Christi Parish in Lansdale at 7:30 PM.

Friday, October 21: Pumpkin Carving Social Night at Member's Home, Lansdale at 7:30 PM. (bring your own pumpkin & contact us for address).

Tuesday, October 25: Holy Hour at Mary Mother of the Redeemer Parish, North Wales at 7:30 PM.

VIAL OF LIFE

The first thing responders want to know is your list of VIALS. The Vial of Life will speak for you if you cannot communicate for yourself. Meet with an Undergrad Registered Nurse who as experience with EMS training to fill out your Viral of Life medical information form. Tuesday, October 4th or Thursday, October 6th one-on-one appointments scheduled from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM located at The Open Link, East Greenville. Appointments REQUIRED.

Call: 215.679.6550.

What to bring:

All your medications; questions you may have about your medications; list of current and past medical conditions; allergies to any medications and doctor's name and number.

Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2016

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

The pro-life banner covers all life

Cardinal Joseph Bernardin of Chicago called life a "seamless garment," referring to the "tunic without seam" stripped from Jesus at his Crucifixion to remind us that a pro-life position is broader than vigorously protecting the life of the unborn. He called people to also oppose capital punishment, euthanasia, economic injustice, and unjust war. In an election year, one may wish to vote on the basis of a single issue, but the Catholic citizen should prayerfully and thoughtfully consider the whole picture. Pope Francis said, "Politics . . . though often denigrated, remains a lofty vocation and one of the highest forms of charity, inasmuch as it seeks the common good." Vote for those who embody this vision.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Habakkuk* 1:2-3; 2:2-4; 2 *Timothy* 1:6-8, 13-14; *Luke* 17:5-10 (141). "We have done what we were obliged to do."

MONDAY, OCTOBER 3

Refugees in search of Samaritans

We live in the midst of a terrible refugee crisis. Migrants by the millions are fleeing war, drought, famine, dead-end economies, drug gang violence, and terrorism. Yet, as Jessey Carey points out in *Relevant magazine*, nearly half of Christians recently polled expressed fear about the idea of refugees coming into the United States. One only needs to tune into political coverage to hear distrust and even hostility in

discussions about refugees. But our faith tradition is clear on the mandate to help the stranger, the foreigner, to remember that we too were once "strangers in a strange land." Don't just *admire* the Good Samaritan who stopped to help someone he had been taught was the "enemy." *Be* that good Samaritan!

TODAY'S READINGS: Galatians 1:6-12; Luke 10:25-37 (461). "A Samaritan traveler who came upon him was moved with compassion at the sight."

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4

MEMORIAL OF FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Sing a hymn of creation

Francis is a saint for all seasons, without a doubt, but never more so than in this age of global warming and climate change. In 1979, Pope John Paul II declared Saint Francis the patron saint of ecology. In 1990, he said that Francis "offers Christians an example of genuine and deep respect for the integrity of creation. . . . As a friend of the poor who was loved by God's creatures, Saint Francis invited all of creation—animals, plants, natural forces, even Brother Sun and Sister Moon—to give honor and praise to the Lord." Be a friend of the environment on this day dedicated to its patron.

TODAY'S READINGS: Galatians 1:13-24; Luke 10:38-42 (462). "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things. There is need of only one thing."

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5

Meet at the corner place

If you want to get to know someone better or discuss something with a friend, you find a comfortable setting where you can talk. It's no different when you want to talk and listen to God. You find a site that feels inviting and secure so that it's easier to tell God what's on your mind and in your heart. Religious educators suggest a "prayer corner" with some sacred objects and a copy of the Bible (CCC 2691). If you don't already have one, make a prayer corner somewhere in your home.

TODAY'S READINGS: Galatians 2:1-2, 7-14; Luke 11:1-4 (463). "One day, Jesus was praying in a certain place."

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6

MEMORIAL OF BLESSED MARIE-ROSE DUROCHER

You are called to be a saint!

At 18, Rose Marie Durocher began to act as housekeeper for her brother, a priest. Her generosity and kindness earned her the nickname, the "Saint of Beloeil" (a district near Montreal). Later she formed a community of sisters using her natural compassion, intelligence, strong will, and common sense. You'd recognize such a woman on the street as a saint, not because of a halo but by the good she does. You are called to be nothing less than a saint like her. Saints are not made first by piety, but by walking in Christ's footsteps and abandoning what gets in the way. You can do that much, can't you?

TODAY'S READINGS: Galatians 3:1-5; Luke 11:5-13 (464). "God chose us in Christ to be holy before him."

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7

MEMORIAL OF OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

Blessed are you

It's one of the most memorable visits in history: An angel greets a young girl and says, "Blessed are you among women." And so she is, because Mary trusts God's word to her will be fulfilled. In this she follows in the footsteps of her great father in faith, Abraham. But Mary's not just a follower. She's also a leader, offering her maternity to the church as the first best example of discipleship. When we pray the Rosary, we study in the school of Mary. Spend a decade (of the Rosary) with your Mother today.

TODAY'S READINGS: Galatians 3:7-14; Luke 11:15-26 (465). "Those who have faith are blessed along with Abraham who had faith."

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8

Joy is a holy mystery

Good news arrives at our doorstep, out of the blue and marvelous. A beloved visitor comes to lend support, enfolding us in a happy embrace. A baby is added to the family circle, buoying up our hearts. A child shows the first signs of promise, and we're in awe of what the future may hold. One who seemed lost to us is gratefully restored, and we all learn important lessons from the separation. These are the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary. Consider praying them this week in honor of Rosary Month.

TODAY'S READINGS: Galatians 3:22-29; Luke 11:27-28 (466). "Blessed is the womb that carried you ..."



ADULT: \$20 | CHILDREN: \$10

FAMILY PLAN: \$50

2 ADULTS & 2 CHILDREN

FRESH ROASTED PIG CHICKEN POTATO FILLING VEGETABLES HOT BAKED BEANS SAUERKRAUT GARDEN SALAD ROLLS & BUTTER BEVERAGES SUN. OCT. 16, 12-5PM

Wine & Beer Garden

NOT INCLUDED IN TICKET PRICE, MUST BE PURCHASED SEPARATELY

Music by the Media Oompah Band

Children's Games Face Painting Bounce House 50/50 Drawing

Tickets must be purchased in advance by October 1st.
Please call 215-679-2237 for Tickets!

FROM THE DESK OF SISTER PATRICIA KELLY, M.S.B.T.

From the May 23 - 30 issue of America Magazine article on "Values and Voting". (continued)

PEACE: It is the notion of one human family that has driven the vision of Pope Francis to overcome separation and bring people to the Peace Table. It is this same vision that has led the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops to advocate for renewing diplomatic relationships with Cuba and reaching agreement with Iran on its Nuclear capability. Diplomacy, negotiation, and most important as Pope Francis insists, dialogue, are far better that hostility and separation.

Divisions of people create fear and negativity and shroud the goodness in every human heart. The Berlin Wall, for instance, perpetuated the artificial separation of two peoples creating tension and political conflict - a cold war. Aware of the history, as Pope Francis recently said, we do not need more walls. A wall between Mexico and the US would speak loudly of our inability to resolve issues like immigration, our country's insatiable appetite for drugs, the ensuing corruption and violence and the unraveling of education in Latin America.

In his visit to the Central African Republic, the Pope raised the consequential role of weapons merchants who do lucrative business in supplying death machines to opposing military factions that do not have the common good at heart. In addition, the world still faces the specter of nuclear weapons that could evaporate Mother Earth. These threats to our humanity demand Christian, as well as common sense responses

ECONOMY: "What are we going to do about the poor?" Pope Francis asked in a response to an invitation to the Davos Conference on economic activity in January. His position is well grounded in the Gospels, in the cultural heritage of South America, and in the Catholic Church's "preferential option for the poor."

He urged Congress to "keep in mind all those people around us who are trapped in a cycle of poverty. They, too, need to be given hope. The fight against poverty must be fought consistently and on many fronts, especially in its causes". He added: "It goes without saying that part of this great effort is the creation and distribution of wealth". The right use of natural resources, the proper application of technology, and the harnessing of the spirit of enterprise, are essential elements of an economy that seeks to be modern, inclusive and sustainable.

As we engage in these issues, we identify with David as we battle with Goliath. There are 62 billionaires in the world who have the total wealth of 3.6 billion people, approximately half the world's inhabitants, combined. Furthermore, the lack of education, joblessness, hunger, malnutrition, poor health, inadequate housing, lack of proper sanitation, corruption, poor government, etc. that the poor endure, seem almost insurmountable. But our Christian convictions tell us we should engage without hesitation or fear.

It is frustrating then, that our options for advancing the common good are so limited in the current political environment. Neither party advocates the entirety of our Christian ethic. But our response must be practical, pursued through a party or candidate with whom, from our perspective, we can attain much of what is at stake for the common good. It is also necessary to transcend partisan limitations and join in common cause. In doing so, we pursue that path, enlightened by the Gospel, which recognizes the inherent value of each human person and renders to that person the life and dignity to which he or she is entitled as a child of God.