



Mass Intentions Pentecost Sunday May 14, 2016

Saturday – May 14th – Pentecost Sunday

Sat Vigil: 4:00PM – John S. and Mary L. Kocis
by Daughters
7:00PM – Sue Sidor (B)
by The Pahula Family

Sunday – May 15th

8:30AM – Heinz “Opa” Wendland
By Nin Snyder
10:30AM – Vincent Rivetti
by Sister, Marie Jacoby

Monday – May 16th – St Simon Stock

8:00AM – Claire Norton
by Betty Cunningham

Tuesday–May 17th – St Paschal Baylon

8:00AM – Ann and Glen Oswald (WA)
by Daughter, Louise

Miraculous Medal Novena after Mass

Wednesday – May 18th – St John I

6:00PM – Donald N. Knarr
by Ed and Eileen Erhlacher

Thursday – May 19th – St Crispin of Viterbo

8:00AM – Health of a Parishioner
by Barbara Karp

Friday – May 20th – St Bernadine of Siena

8:00AM – Bob Spengler and Bernadine Wehr
by Ann and Dale

Saturday – May 21st –

St Christopher Magallanes and Companions

8:00AM – All St John Fisher Parishioners

The Most Holy Trinity

Sat Vigil: 4:00PM – August DiLiberto (A)
by Jim and Carmela Meyer
7:00PM – William and Julie Dinbokowitz (WA)
by Daughters, Linda, Joan and Donna

Sunday – May 22nd

8:30AM – Angeline Burda (A)
By Steve and Margie Burda
10:30AM – Irene McAuliffe (B)
by Children



Pray the Rosary each Sunday:
8:15AM and 10:15AM

PASTOR'S CORNER

A Time for Choosing

The “actors” are familiar now to us – Clinton, Trump, Sanders, and they dominate the audience’s attention as they fence near the footlights at the front of the stage. Those operating the lights, cameras and microphones highlight their every whimsical thought on twitter, or the audience’s feelings in polls, and then encourage the stage-play with a navel-gazing “dialogue” about “what the other guy said about you.” Many of us have grown weary and even jaded by the whole event; eager to leave the show behind and get back to our own lives. Before we do that – vote or not vote, and get back to our lives, let’s take another look at the whole shebang.

Looking past the actors and their scripts, let’s start taking in the scenery and backdrop for the play. Look closely in the dimmer light – away from the spots, to the artwork, the furniture, the view from the painted window, the walk-on actors for the “crowd” scenes, the props – does any of it look familiar to us? I think it should. What is happening on stage is the real distraction, isn’t it? What’s happening behind the actors is that we are experiencing an avalanche of choices about who we are and who we want to be, of what human life and existence is about, and about the goals of any or all of life. It is a time for making many choices, and the worst choice of all is “stay out of it” and, making no choice at all, getting back to our own lives.

The big questions about ourselves, our world, our universe, never leave us. We can, and to some extent must, go on with our personal lives each day; but ignoring the bigger questions makes it impossible to make the best choices for ourselves and those we love in our everyday lives. For example, we all know real life is busy – filled with deadlines, bottom lines, waiting lines, etc..., but if we fail to go to work to make the money to pay the electric bill, life doesn’t get simpler. No, in fact, such a disconnect with the “big picture” means more busy-ness we never needed in the first place. Or again, suppose I keep using my credit card to purchase what I want and need, but never do more than the minimum payment, then my real choices going forward in life begin to diminish and become few.

Any of us can “miss the forest for the trees” now and then, but what if we, as citizens of a representative republic, keep being discouraged from

making choices by the actors presented every 2, 4, or 6 years? What if we walk away from making the choice or keep making an ill-informed choice because we aren't willing to put in the effort and sacrifice the time to make well-informed decisions based on the whole scenery and backdrop? Well then, we lose the little freedoms we have left.

This is a time for choosing. Because it's a presidential election year? – no, because who we are as human beings, human persons, and the value and dignity of each of us is behind and under the election choices with which we are entrusted by our children's children. This isn't the Eagles vs the Cowboys, folks, just picking our favorite team doesn't answer any of the bigger questions.

Come, Holy Spirit, and with your seven-fold gifts rekindle our minds and hearts in the love of God and the knowledge of Christ Jesus. Amen.
We must CHOOSE to be free or freedom will cease,
Fr. Eric.



PENTECOST

On this morning, fifty days after Easter, a mighty wind blew through Jerusalem and the flame of the Holy Spirit came down upon the disciples gathered together. It settled on each one of them and kindled within them the divine fire, a fire of love capable of transforming them. Their fear evaporated, they felt their hearts filled with new strength, their tongues were loosened and they began to speak freely in such a way that everyone could understand the announcement that Jesus Christ had died and was risen. We do not grow in knowledge by locking ourselves into our own ego, but only in an attitude of profound inner humility do we become capable of listening and sharing in the "we" of the Church.

~Pope Benedict XVI, *Magnificat*, May, 2016



Desserts for Father Eric's 25th Anniversary

We are requesting your dessert specialties for Father Eric's celebration. Make your favorite treat and bring it with you to the Northampton Community Center on June 5th. If you are unable to attend, but would like to offer a "goodie", please call Peggy McCarty at 610-264-0307, to arrange for her to pick it up. Thank you!



Flowers were placed on the altar last weekend in memory of **Charles H. Albert** by his family.

Young at Heart

The next meeting of St John Fisher's Young at Heart will be held on **Wednesday, May 25th**, at **1:00pm** in the Parish Hall.

The next Casino trip to the Mohegan Sun will be on **Friday, May 27th**. The bus leaves the Church Parking Lot at 10:00am. The price is \$22.00 per person.

For more information, call Bill Molchany, 610-264-0920.

NOTICE

Due to the emphasis on privacy and the sharing of information, the hospital patient information systems are unreliable. Therefore, as a precaution, please do not presume that St John Fisher Rectory knows your loved one is in the hospital. If you would like a loved one visited, please call the rectory, 610-264-1972, and leave a message as to the name of your loved one, which hospital be specific), and a room number if it is known at the time. Thank you for your help in this matter.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION



Plate Collection

\$4,646.00



NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE

	Servers	Lectors	E.Ministers
4:00PM	A.Gorr D.Gorr	B.Molchany	Deacon Jack
7:00PM	S.DeLong L.Ruda	J.Englert	Deacon Jack
8:30AM	D.Popovic M.Popovic	E.Snyder	J.Druckenmiller
10:30AM	A.Urban G.Parise	B.Petro	F.Hutterer

DIOCESE OF ALLENTOWN TO HOST FATIMA STATUE

The historic, world-famous International Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be coming to the Diocese of Allentown at two locations: **Sunday, June 12th**, at **Our Lady Help of Christians** in Allentown at **3:00pm**, and **Monday, June 13th** at **St. Joseph Villa Chapel in Reading** (Adjacent to Alvernia University) at **1:00pm**. Join us for a talk about the Statue and Message of Fatima with Adoration, Rosary and Benediction. Call 610-289-8900, X-21, or visit cle@allentowndiocese.org. All are welcome!



HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS

If you have a loved one who is homebound or in a care facility and unable to attend Mass, please call the rectory at 610-264-1972 to schedule a pastoral visit for Communion and a blessing.

VIKETTES BASKETBALL CAMP

Any current 6th, 7th and 8th grade girl interested in attending Allentown Central Catholic's Girls Basketball Camp should email mkoppcchs@gmail.com. Camp will be held **June 13th to the 16th, from 9:30am to 2:30pm** at St Joseph the Worker Gymnasium, Orefield.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Clipping Box Tops is an easy way for you to help **Good Shepherd Catholic School**. Box Tops are worth 10¢ and they add up to cash for the school.



To help, look for pink Box Tops on products, clip them, and place them in the Box Top box located at both entrances to the church. If you have any questions, please contact Diana Rutt at 610-348-5716.

Good Shepherd Catholic School

Now enrolling new students for the 2016 – 2017 school year. New Students Welcome! Full day Kindergarten through Grade 8, as well as, Preschool and Pre-K programs for 3 and 4 year old children are offered. Extended care is available. Call 610.262.9171 to schedule your family tour or email mrs poccia@ptd.net today.

Shepherd Gift Cards can be purchased on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:00am to 12:00pm, and Wednesday evenings from 5:00pm to 7:00pm in the lobby.

SAINT SIMON STOCK



Although little is known about Simon Stock's early life, legend has it that the name Stock, meaning "tree trunk," derives from the fact that, beginning at age twelve, he lived as a hermit in a hollow tree trunk of an oak tree. It is also believed that, as a young man, he went on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land where he joined a group of Carmelites with whom he later returned to Europe. Simon Stock founded many Carmelite Communities, and he helped to

change the Carmelites from a hermit Order to one of mendicant friars. In 1254 he was elected Superior-General of his Order at London. Simon Stock's lasting fame came from an apparition he had in Cambridge, England, on July 16, 1251, at a time when the Carmelite Order was being oppressed. In it the Virgin Mary appeared to him holding the brown scapular in one hand. Her words were: "Receive, my beloved son, this scapular of thy Order; it is the special sign of my favor, which I have obtained for thee and for thy children of Mount Carmel. He who dies clothed with this habit shall be preserved from eternal fire. It is the badge of salvation, a shield in time of danger, and a pledge of special peace and protection." The scapular consists of two pieces of cloth, one worn on the chest, and the other on the back, which were connected by straps or strings passing over the shoulders. Lay persons usually wear scapulars underneath their clothing; these consist of two pieces of material only a few inches square. There are elaborate rules governing the wearing of the scapular: although it may be worn by any Catholic, even an infant, the investiture must be done by a priest. And the scapular must be worn in the proper manner; if an individual neglects to wear it for a time, the benefits are forfeited. The Catholic Church has approved eighteen different kinds of scapulars of which the best known is the woolen brown scapular, or the Scapular of Mount Carmel, that the Virgin Mary bestowed on Simon Stock. www.catholic.org