



Mass Intentions Seventh Sunday of Easter May 7, 2016

Saturday – May 7th – Seventh Sunday of Easter

Sat Vigil: 4:00PM – All Mother's Day Intentions
7:00PM – All Mother's Day Intentions

Sunday – May 8th

8:30AM – All Mother's Day Intentions
10:30AM – All Mother's Day Intentions

Monday – May 9th – St Pachomius

8:00AM – Carl & Yvonne Rieker - 62nd Anniversary
by Family

Tuesday – May 10th – St Damien de Veuster

8:00AM – Delight M. Casciano
by Mary Nederostek and Frank Schwartz

Miraculous Medal Novena after Mass

Wednesday – May 11th – St Francis of Girolamo

6:00PM – The Poor Souls in Purgatory
by Irene Vomero

Thursday – May 12th – Ss Nereus and Achilleus

8:00AM – Charles H. Albert (B)
by Family

Friday – May 13th – Our Lady of Fatima

8:00AM – Louis A. Yurasits
by St. Elizabeth Credit Union

Saturday – May 14th – St Matthias

8:00AM – All St John Fisher Parishioners

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



Sunday:

8:15AM and 10:15AM

PASTOR'S CORNER

Ever Disappointed in God's "Response" to Your Prayers? Read This.

Bishop Robert Barron wrote in *Catholicism*,

...petitionary prayer is one of the most fundamental ways that we raise our minds and hearts to God. It is also the commonest form of prayer in the Bible. Every major scriptural character all pray in this way; they all ask God for things. There is something, of course, primal and elemental about this kind of prayer: "O God, please help me! O Lord, save my child!"...the paradigmatic prayer that Jesus taught us – the Our Father – is nothing but a series of petitions, and Jesus urged his followers, again and again, to persevere in prayer: "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you" (Mt 7:7).

...When we speak of petitionary prayer, dilemmas and anomalies emerge that have puzzled religious thinkers for centuries. If God cannot change, what is the point of asking him for anything? And if God is omniscient, what is the point of telling him what you need? Keep in mind that the same Jesus who told us to ask and ask again also informed us that God "knows what we need before we ask." ...Parents hear petitions from their children constantly, persistent requests for things, some good and some quite bad – and decent parents know what their child needs long before she asks for it. But none of this conduces a parent toward stifling those requests or pronouncing them useless – even if he is obliged frequently to respond negatively. God...like a good parent he delights in hearing our requests – and like a good parent, he does not always respond the way we would like him to.

Saint Augustine offers another perspective on our dilemma. God wants us to ask, seek, and petition persistently not in order that he might be changed but that we might be changed. Through the initial refusal to give us what we want, God compels our hearts to expand in order to receive adequately what he wants to give us.

...Saint Thomas Aquinas provides what I take to be the richest theological framework for petitionary prayer when he speaks of God praying through us.

...A very good example of this dynamic is the liturgical prayer for the feast of

St. Monica (Augustine's mother); "Lord, you graciously received the tears of Monica for the conversion of her son Augustine." ...it does not say that the tears of Monica moved God to act or compelled him somehow to change the structure of his providence; it says that God accepted those tears in coordination with granting the grace of conversion to her son, implying that God himself was effectively crying through the tears of Monica.

God bless our mothers whose prayers for us and others are the very tears of God! Ladies, please keep praying for us all!

Fr. Eric.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION



Plate Collection	\$4,519.00
Ascension Thursday	\$ 997.00



NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE

	Servers	Lectors	E.Ministers
4:00PM	D.Sullivan J.Shaul	B.Petro	J.McAllister
7:00PM	A.Gorr D.Gorr	J.Yanek	P.McCarty
8:30AM	M.Popovic S.Popovic	B.Molchany	Deacon Jack
10:30AM	H.Heffner N.Ruda	J.DeLong	Deacon Jack

MOTHER'S DAY FLOWERS



At all Masses for Mother's Day this weekend, **May 7th and 8th**, the **Pennsylvanians for Human Life** will be selling live flowers for their annual fundraiser. Honor Mom in a special way this Mother's Day. Your generosity helps fund buses to the March for Life, Mary's Shelter,

"Generation Life" speakers in Diocesan schools, Pro-Life billboards, Educational material at the Fair Booth, etc. Please support their only fundraiser with a lovely gift for every Mom.

SANTA'S WISH-LIST

HO! HO! HO! Christmas in spring! We would like to thank one of our parishioners for their gift of **\$1,000.00**. Any Santa gift made, at any time of the year, to the ongoing renovations of our parish is greatly appreciated!



OUR LADY OF FATIMA



This feast commemorates the first of six appearances of the Blessed Virgin Mary to three Portuguese shepherd children in 1917. Mary exhorted them to "Pray, pray very much. Make sacrifices for sinners. Many souls go to hell, because no one is willing to help them with sacrifice." On her third appearance, she showed the children a vision of hell as a state of eternal pain and despair. She asked that Russia be consecrated to her Immaculate Heart. "In

the end my Immaculate Heart will triumph," she reassured the children. On October 31, 1942, Pope Pius XII consecrated "the whole world torn by bitter strife" to the Immaculate Heart.

Magnificat, May 2016

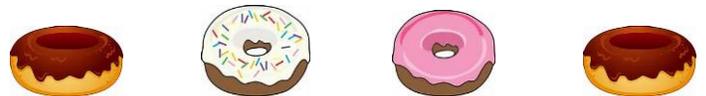


Flowers were placed on the altar last weekend from our First Communion Class: In honor of **Morgan Elizabeth Druckenmiller**; and in loving memory of **Richard Fedor** by Roma Fedor, Kim Sivonda, Nicole Weller and **Marley-Paige Mina Hosni**; and in loving memory of **Joe and Helen Billie**, and **Charles and Marge McCarty** from Kendall Ann Billie.



BAPTISM

We welcome **Ronan Thomas Heeps**, son of Theodore Lawrence and Kara Ann (Donnelly) Heeps who was baptized, and is the newest member of our family of God at St John Fisher Parish.



DONUT SUNDAY

Next Sunday, May 15th, is **Donut Sunday**. Thank you to **Mary and John Daub** who is sponsoring this month's event. Please stop by after the **8:30AM and 10:30AM Masses** for some coffee, tea, and some donuts!

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.

Brought to Perfection with Mary

The Blessed Virgin lets the rays of her grace shine on all and gives all a share in it. Hence we read in Sir 24:18-19: *Come over to me, all you who desire me, and you will be made full by the things which I bring forth: for my spirit is sweet, more than honey. Come over, namely, from the emptiness of the world, to me, that is: who is full of grace. Come over from the error of the world to me, because I have virtue. Or: Come over from the pleasures to me, because I love chastity. And you will be made full by the things which I bring forth, namely, by the spiritual gifts of graces: you will not receive too little, but evidently much, for it says: My spirit is sweet, more than honey, because the Blessed Virgin is kind and merciful to all.*

Thus Saint Bernard says: "The Blessed Virgin opens her bosom of mercy to all, and all people receive from her abundance: the sick receive care; the sad, consolation; the sinner, pardon; the just, grace. Even more, God's Son receives the substance of the flesh, so that there would be no one who would hide away from her warmth."

~St. Thomas Aquinas
Magnificat, May, 2016

2nd Annual Women's Retreat

The Second Annual Women's Retreat will be held on **Tuesday, May 17th, from 6:30pm to 8:30pm** in Good Shepherd Catholic School gym. The Keynote Speaker will be **Sister Lisa Valentini**, who is a Missionary Sister of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus and is a well-known and respected inspirational speaker. To attend, please call 610-262-9171.

St. John the Baptist Church 924 N. Front St, Allentown

May Daze Dance with the Steel City Band with Bobby Molchan on **Saturday, May 14th, from 7:00pm to 10:00pm**. Tickets are just \$5.00, and it includes snacks.

Saints Who Were Mothers

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton (1207-1231)

Elizabeth was the niece of Saint Hedwig. In order to secure a political alliance, Elizabeth's father sent her at the age of four to the splendid castle of Wartburg in Thuringia, to be raised alongside her future husband, Ludwig. At fourteen, she married Ludwig, who had inherited his father's throne. The young queen was noted for her generosity. In famine, she gave away the entire stores of the castle. When criticism arise, Ludwig deflected it. He supported his wife's efforts for the poor, telling her, "Dear Elizabeth, it is Christ whom you have cleansed, nourished, and cared for."

When Elizabeth was only twenty, Ludwig died of the plague. While she was yet grieving, Elizabeth's brother-in-law turned her and her three small children out of the castle. Leaving her children in the care of others, Elizabeth struggled to survive. Finally, with the help of family members, she was able to secure a portion of her inheritance.

In 1228, Elizabeth entered the Franciscan Third Order. In Saint Francis, Elizabeth had found a charism that spoke to her own deep love of poverty. In Marburg, she founded a hospice for the sick and the marginalized. She worked there until she died in 1231, at the age of twenty-four. Elizabeth's influence was felt throughout Europe. Until the Reformation, pilgrims flocked continually to her tomb in Marburg.

Loving Father, through the intercession of Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, may I see Christ in the face of the poor.
Magnificat, May 2014, Vol. 16, No.3

IN THE WORDS OF ...

"The greatest destroyer of peace is abortion because if a mother can kill her own child, what is left for me to kill you and you to kill me? There is nothing between."

~Mother Theresa