



## Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time \* January 28, 2018

“The people were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority and not as the scribes.” Those gathered in the synagogue where Jesus taught had never heard anything like this before. They were used to the preaching of the well-educated scribes, but Jesus possessed something that those men lacked: authority. Instead of merely interpreting the laws of the prophets, Jesus presented a new vision, indeed, he shared the good news of the Gospel with his listeners.

We do not have the opportunity to stand in the presence of Jesus in the same way that those first-century Jews did, but nonetheless we can also stand in awe of his authority. His teachings are available to us through the sacred Scriptures that the Church has preserved and through the sacred tradition that the Church carries on. And in a special way, Christ's authority continues to inspire and guide us through the ministries of the papacy, episcopacy, and priesthood that Jesus established on our behalf while he was yet on earth. As Catholics, we have a special share in the astonishing authority of Jesus through the hierarchy of the Church. Although this structure is often misunderstood or misinterpreted, it is actually an authority rooted in service and modeled after Christ who told his apostles, "The greatest among you must be your servant" (Mt 23:11).

This humble exercise of authority is contrary to the worldly search for power. And whenever we find ourselves in a position of authority, we too should strive to lead and direct others in the true spirit of Christian love and service. Chances are, if we truly imitate Christ in this way, people will be astonished at what they see.

### St. Francis of Assisi Parish

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**Mary E. Parish, Parish Secretary**

**Carol Cicci, Director of Religious Education**

**Jenifer T. Bublak, High School Ministry**

**Mary J. Jurofcik, Safe Environment Coordinator**

**Weekend Mass Schedule**

**Saturday: 6:00 p.m. (Vigil)**

**Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.**

**Holy Day Mass Schedule:** Refer to bulletin

**Weekday Mass Schedule:** Monday-Saturday 8:30 a.m.

**No 8:30 a.m. Mass on Wednesdays.**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Daily: 9:00 a.m.

Saturday: 12:30 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. or by appointment

**Sacrament of Baptism:** Baptism is celebrated any Sunday at 12:15 p.m. Parents are required to attend a Preparation Class prior to the Baptism.

**Sick Calls:** Notify the Rectory for hospital visits or Communion to the sick or shut-ins.

**Bulletin deadline:** Monday at Noon

**Child Abuse Line:** 1-888-808-1235

### Flu and Mass Don't Mix

With flu season raging, I ask that you use simple common sense both in reception of the chalice at communion and in coming to church in the first place. It seems almost a daily occurrence for me that I go to shake hands with someone and they refuse because they are sick. It irks me because they've already contaminated others by coming and breathing the same air and touching the pews, missalettes, etc. It's not a sin to miss Mass because you're sick. Please consider both your own well being and the well being of others by staying home when you're not feeling well.

### Communion For the Homebound

If you are unable to attend Mass because of advanced age or you're recovering from surgery, or you don't go out in the winter, please call the Parish Office to get put on the list of Communion calls. I've come across people who haven't received the sacraments in a very long time — sometimes years — simply because they can't get out. Or somebody will die that I had no idea was even sick and I think, "I could have been bringing that person communion." One of my goals this year is to compile a comprehensive list at all three parishes so that we three priests can visit regularly, in addition to Eucharistic ministers. Sometimes, I'll hear, "But you're so busy and I don't want to bother you..." It's part of the job of the priest to visit the homebound and we really want to visit so please call the Parish Office to schedule a visit.

### Anointing Of the Sick

If you are going for surgery or are seriously ill, please consider receiving the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick. So many people remember the old understanding of the sacrament — prior to Vatican II in 1963 (!!!) — when the only time someone was anointed was right before death. That's part of the sacrament but there's also so much more. The great thing about the Sacrament of Anointing is that its benefits are limitless. In addition to having one's sins forgiven and other spiritual benefits, there can be physical healing from this sacrament too, if it's God's will that a person should recover. I've personally seen lots of great things happen from this sacrament. And you don't have to wait until you're dying to receive it. Certainly, any medical procedure requiring a hospital visit qualifies. There's a special prayer for the doctors and nurses who will be caring for you. Call the office and ask to be anointed or simply ask the priest when you come to Mass. We are happy to anoint you. Also, if you do know of someone who is dying, PLEASE DON'T WAIT UNTIL THE MOMENT OF DEATH to call the priest. While we are happy to come, with fewer of us, there's always the possibility that we aren't available at a particular moment. Please call AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE.

**A Family Perspective** - Today's gospel reminds us "unclean spirits" still haunt our families. These "spirits" thrive inside our grudges, punishing silence, impatience and abruptness. Today Jesus offers you the "authority" to cast out these spirits from your life and your family.

**Super Bowl Hoagie Sale** by Knights of Columbus - This weekend January 27/28, they will be taking orders for their famous hoagies. Loaded with meat and other goodies. \$9.00 each. The hoagies will be available for pickup on Saturday, February 3rd from 11 a.m. till 2:00 p.m. Just in time for your Super Bowl Party.

**First Friday Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** this Friday, February 2nd from 6 - 9 p.m. Come in and spend a few or many minutes, if only to say, "Thank you."

**Blessed Candles** for your home use are available beginning February 2nd, the Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas Day). Donation: \$2.00 for a box of two candles.

**Blessing of Throats**, for the Feast of St. Blaise, will be at the 8:30 a.m. mass, Saturday, February 3rd.

**St. Francis Blood Drive** Monday, February 19th, noon - 5:30 p.m. in Finley Hall. Join our Central Blood Drive Bank Donor Rewards program! Donate blood. Save lives. Get rewards. To make an appointment:

- ◆ Visit [centralbloodbank.org](http://centralbloodbank.org), click Make an Appointment and search with group code G0040239
- ◆ Download the Central Blood Bank Mobile App for your smart phone, or
- ◆ Contact Kathy Pitzer at 724-348-5361 to schedule an appointment.

Appointments recommended. Walk-ins welcome. Prepare for your Donation. Eat Well \* Stay Hydrated \* Bring ID. **Donate Blood. Save Lives.**

**Bingo** - Join us Tuesday for Bingo in Finley Hall. The Jack-pot will be \$1,175.00 in 55 numbers. The Magic Number will \$250.00, and the 2nd Magic Number will be \$63.00 plus this week's take. The 'All Nighter' game will be \$1,190.00 until it is won. Early Birds begin at 7:15 p.m., regular games at 7:30 p.m. This may be your lucky night!

**The Sanctuary Candle** burns before the Blessed Sacrament 24 hours a day. It is a symbol of the presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

If you wish to have the Sanctuary Candle burn for a special intention, please pick up the special envelope in the vestibule of the Church. Please mark the envelope with the name(s) you would like to be remembered, or a special intention and return it with a \$10.00 donation.

Each week we will publish in the bulletin the intention for that week. We cannot honor a particular week, but as the envelopes come in on a first come, first serve basis.

**Ministry Schedule - February 3/4**

**6:00 p.m. Saturday**

Ministers: Kovscek, Weisdack, Foster, Brucker,  
Checque, Deluliis, Wietrzykowski

Lector: S. McCormick

Servers: T., T., & T. Smida

**8:00 a.m. Sunday**

Ministers: Gallo, Durost, H. & M.A. Lassige, Schirra,  
Sherred, Banahasky

Lector: J. Valecko

Servers: I. & J. Gallo, A. Kolano

**11:00 a.m. Sunday**

Ministers: Bublak, Folz, S. & A. Parker, Battaglia,  
Hamilton, Trovato

Lector: V. Lombardi

Servers: V. Lombardi, Z. & Z. Bublak

**Prayer Blanket Ministry** - Sewers please turn in your prayer blankets by February 15th. If you sew and want to join this ministry please call Mary Jane at 724-344-2444, we would love to have you.

**Free Income Tax Assistance** is available again this year beginning Monday, February 5th through Friday, April 13th, 2018, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at Bible Chapel, 300 Gallery Dr., McMurray, PA 15317. (Closed Good Friday, March 30th.) Located 5 miles south of South Hills Village, west side of Route 19, adjacent to South Hills Chrysler-Jeep. Follow signs 0.4 miles to VITA entrance. Do not call the Bible Chapel. Questions, call IRS 1-800-829-1040. Volunteers will assist taxpayers with Federal, PA, and local wage tax returns, real estate/rent rebates, and PACE applications.

**Does God Die When You Turn 18?** A Men's Retreat, sponsored by the Men's Club of St. Benedict the Abbot Church (Ben's Men) February 9-10, 2018. The Retreat will be held at the Spiritan Center, Brush Run Rd., Bethel Park, PA 15102. Speakers: Rev. Adam Potter, Parochial Vicar and Rev. Robert Miller, Pastor, and a Guest Speaker to be determined. Pick up a brochure as you leave Mass today.

**St. Louise De Marillac Catholic School Open House** January 30th 6:30-8:30 p.m. New Student Registration Kindergarten - 8th Grade February 3rd, 9 a.m. - 12:00 noon. Schedule your tour today: call 412-835-0600 or www.stlouiseschoolpa.org.

**Marriage Moments** - Don't let obsessions distract you from being present to your beloved. How clean does the house really need to be? Hobbies are fun but can steal together time. Perfectionism can rob you of laughing together at your mistakes.

**Parenting Pointers** - "You are not your children! Your success as a parent does not depend on their success. Resist the urge to take credit for your child's successes, lest you also take the blame for their mistakes."



**Today, January 28, Fourth Sunday in Ordinary**

**Time** Dt 18:15-20/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9, [8]/1 Cor 7:32-35/Mk 1:21-28

6:00 p.m. (Sat.) For the People of the Parish

8:00 a.m. Ed Banahasky - Wife, Anna

11:00 a.m. Alex McCune - Dan & Carmela  
Coldren

**Monday, January 29, Weekday Mass**

**2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13/Ps 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [8a]/Mk 5:1-20**

8:30 a.m. Philip Schaner - Roseann Laughlin

**Tuesday, January 30, Weekday Mass**

**2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30--19:3/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [1a]/Mk 5:21-43**

8:30 a.m. Paul Owens - Jim & Nancie McNally

**Wednesday, January 31**

No 8:30 a.m. Mass at St. Francis

Mass at St. Benedict 8:30 a.m.

Mass at St. Isaac Jogues 9:30 a.m.

**Thursday, February 1, Weekday Mass**

**1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12/1 Chr 29:10, 11ab, 11d-12a, 12bcd [12b]/Mk 6:7-13**

8:30 a.m. Chuck Jaki - Bill & Sharon Frankel

**Friday, February 2, The Presentation of the Lord /**

**First Friday Mal 3:1-4/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10 [10b]/Heb**

**2:14-18/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32**

8:30 a.m. Ellen Brawdy - Todd, Denise &  
Maddox Miller

6:00 - 9:00 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration

**Saturday, February 3, Weekday Mass/St. Blaise**

**1 Kgs 3:4-13/Ps 119:9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 [12b]/Mk 6:30-34**

8:30 a.m. Martin, Mary, Thomas & Sr. Peggy  
Flaherty - Dorothy Flaherty Weldon

**Confessions after 8:30 a.m. Mass daily**

**Sunday, February 4, Fifth Sunday in Ordinary**

**Time Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. 3a]/1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/Mk 1:29-39**

6:00 p.m. (Sat.) Ruth Sarsfield - Mike & Iris Ferguson

8:00 a.m. Bill Miller - Rob & Sally Keeney

11:00 a.m. Joe Polacek - May

**"TO THE GLORY OF GOD"**

*The Flowers on our Altar today are presented*



*"In Loving Memory of  
Mae Bujko"*

request by Daughter Maureen  
Maguire



**Financial Overview**

|                        |              |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Needed/week.....       | \$8,687.65   |
| Last week .....        | \$5,451.50   |
| Deficit/Surplus.....   | (\$3,236.15) |
| St. Anthony Collection | \$2,228.00   |

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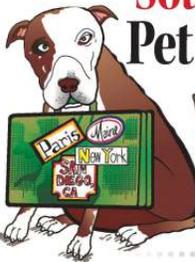
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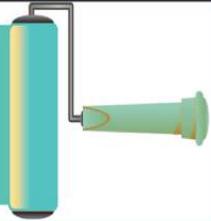
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