

4th Sunday of Easter

May 3, 2020



From Fr. Bob's Desk...

So, how's everybody doing?

As I was wondering what to write about this week, what was stirring in my mind is to 'check in' with everybody. Hopefully, some of these questions might stir something inside you to help, or maybe motivate you to attend to something that you may have let slide a bit....

We're all stressed out about staying home – are you making life easier or more difficult for those with whom you live? That's for you kids, too!!

Are we attending to our prayer life? We certainly have more time on our hands to do so, right? What about trying something new? Praying the Rosary? Centering Prayer? Meditation? I saw a meme recently on Facebook that was very apropos. It said, "God sometimes I just don't have words, and I'm so happy you can read my heart!" This is important to know – God doesn't rely on our eloquence or manner of speech... He relies on our hearts – nothing more.

For you married couples – are you remembering that your relationship is primary? Sometimes, as couples age, they forget that their husband or wife is their number one priority – not their kids, grandkids or parents – but each other. And for you newlyweds or "medium" weds – this is a good reminder for you too! From that primary, marital relationship, the strength to honor all those other relationships will spring forth!

Are you attending to your own mental health? Depression, sadness, moodiness, addiction are all out there waiting to get their "thin edge of the wedge" into your own mind and body. Be aware of the signs! Call for help if you need to or want to! Expressing in words, out loud, is a very healing thing – and sometimes we just try to keep it all in...and that rarely does anybody any good. Getting those feelings out of your body through words is a marvelous way to be in touch with your own good mental health. You might discover that you need a little 'extra' help.

What about the Eucharist? We know that this "fast" from the Eucharist is painful for you – it is likewise painful for us. Years ago, I travelled to Lourdes, France, on pilgrimage. While attending mass in the Piux X Chapel, there were thousands in attendance – very remarkable. When communion time happened, it was like a stampede! I inquired afterward why the people were so brazenly rushing, bumping and pushing to get to communion? The response was, "because in most parts of the world, people receive communion but once a year, because of the priest shortage." So, offering a bit of our "fast" for the solidarity with these people, I think would be a timely practice just now.

Know that as we transition as a parish, you are all kept very close in loving prayer.

All events that were regularly scheduled in the Parish Center have been cancelled until further notice.

If you had an event scheduled, please notify Caitlin Kendrick at ckendrick@stfrancissolanus.com and verify if you are interested in rescheduling when the Parish Center is re-open or if you would like a full refund. We are sorry for any inconvenience this has caused!

Reminder:

The Parish Office is closed to walk-in traffic during this time!

Mass Intentions

May 4 Monday	3:00 P.M.		May 8 Friday	3:00 P.M.	Tena Rubison
May 5 Tuesday	3:00 P.M.		May 9 Saturday	3:00 P.M.	Carl Bernhardt
May 6 Wednesday	3:00 P.M.	Beth Potter & Robin Carre	May 10 Sunday	9:30 A.M.	Sharon Waterkotte, Bill Brink & Charles & Jeanette Carlson
May 7 Thursday	3:00 P.M.				

****Please send Mass intentions to bulletin@stfrancissolanus.com****

Daily Mass is offered every day at 3:00 p.m. & Sunday Mass is at 9:30 a.m. on our Parish Website at www.stfrancissolanus.com



Ways To Give:

While we are aware that you are strapped, we ask you to support the parish to the best you can. There are several ways of giving:

- Sign up to give on-line by going to the parish website:

www.stfrancissolanus.com and follow the prompts. It's easy and it's safe.

- Text to Give: Send text to 217-388-5240. Follow the prompts.
- Send your envelopes in the US mail. Our mail gets delivered daily.
- Drop your envelopes through the slot in the BIG RED College Street door.

Thanks so much to all.

God bless you!

NEW WAY TO GIVE TO ST. FRANCIS

We are keeping up with technology! With 97% of smartphone users texting at least once a day, our parish has decided to add the option to give via text. You can text an amount to **217-388-5240**, and your transaction will be processed through the Online Giving account associated with the phone number. If your phone number is not recognized, you can continue without an account, associate your number with an existing account, or create an account.

April Parish Support

(as of 4-28-2020)

Church /School	\$24,409.00
YEAR TO DATE	\$1,046,797.55
Budgeted	\$1,184,400.00
DIFFERENCE:	-\$137,602.45

Gene Grawe Update

Just a quick note to let everyone know what's going on with the Gene Grawe Fund during this COVID-19 pandemic.

1. The Gene Grawe Fund office in St Peter's Church will remain closed until we're told we can re-open by civil and church authorities.
2. While our office is closed, please maximize your use of ShopWithScrip.com instant ecards and reloads paying with PrestoPay. If you're not yet enrolled in ShopWithScrip.com, please find on our website, the **how-to article** on enrolling. We are monitoring our email and will send you the enrollment code as soon as we see your email.
3. If you have any GGF local merchant bills that you want to pay, just put the invoice and check (payable to the Gene Grawe Fund) in an envelope and slide it under our office door in the lobby of St Peter's Church. The church is open during the day.
4. The 2020-2021 School Year Scholarship Awards announcement event previously scheduled for this coming Tuesday has been canceled. Instead, we will be emailing parents their student's tuition award amount next week. Please be patient as it will take us a few days to get them all sent out. If you haven't received your amount by next Friday, May 1, 2020, check your spam filters first, then email us at Info@GeneGraweFund.org.



CATHOLIC CHARITIES
COPE Line
217-321-8343

Here to listen....here to help



Are you feeling stressed
or overwhelmed?

Maybe you just need
someone to talk to.

We can help.

#CopingWithCOVID

A new and free service for people living in the 28 county Springfield diocese. Our therapists will provide a **Calming, Optimistic, Professional and Empathetic** ear to those experiencing situational stress and anxiety related to COVID-19. The **Catholic Charities COPE Line** is not formal therapy or an emergency hotline. However, you will be referred for a conversation with a qualified Catholic Charities mental health professional who can help you. You will be asked to leave your name, phone number, town, and the daytime hours you are available for a call. There are no fees, enrollment forms, or application processes. To schedule an appointment call 217-321-8343.

Eligibility is restricted to the 28 county service area of Catholic Charities Diocese of Springfield in Illinois. As with all Catholic Charities programs, this service is open to the public including people of all faiths, race, age, and individual circumstances.

If you are experiencing an immediate mental health crisis, please call 911.

For more information about Catholic Charities visit cc.dio.org

formed.org

Now is a perfect time to become more familiar with what formed.org has to offer, 24 hours a day.

A sampling of what you can access on the formed.org site--

The Saints and Heroes Collection--10 animated videos for children

Brother Francis Collection--11 animated videos for children about the Catholic faith

The Adventures of Carlos Caterpillar--12 animated videos for children about being your best self

Extraordinary Stories about Solanus Casey for Children--10 short episodes in video by children

Anima for Youth--3 video episodes with Bishop Donald Hying

Me and My House--10 Catholic Parenting videos with Patrick Sullivan

Pass It On--15 video presentations for parents who want to equip their children well for their life journey

Grieving With Great Hope--5 videos--a grief support program and healing ministry

by John and Sandy O'Shaughnessy

PLUS 109 movies, videos, and documentaries about the Catholic faith, saints, both historic and modern-day,

PLUS 92 Audio dramas, audiobooks and audio talks

PLUS access to 80 e-books, fiction and non-fiction, for adults, teens, and children

PLUS many, many opportunities for prayer at home--

Rosary recitations, Divine Mercy Chaplets, Stations of the Cross, Lenten reflections, Masses, Bible Studies, faith formation, and more.

Make signing in to formed.org a part of your weekly or even daily routine.

Not signed up??

This is a FREE gift from the Parish!!

Visit FORMED.org

Click "Sign Up"

Select "I Belong to a Parish or Organization"

Type in "St. Francis Solanus"

then click on "St. Francis Solanus" from the list

Enter your name and email-- and you're in!

Available on your web browser,

iOS, Android and TVOS, Roku, Amazon Fire, and AndroidTV

Parish Photo Directory It's That Time!!

Interested in helping?

Can you believe it's been four years since we last did a pictorial parish directory.

We're gearing up to do this once again, and are looking for a few volunteers to coordinate with Lifetouch.

We will begin the process in August due to the brief pause that Lifetouch has had from the COVID-19 shut-down!

If you like organizing things and helping arrange appointments, please let Fr. Bob know-
rjbarko@gmail.com or call the parish office 222-2898.

Did You Know

There is a mail slot on the south side of the Rectory office in the big red door to drop off your mail/envelopes or mail for the school.

2020 Parish Picnic

We regret to inform that due to COVID-19 we are unable to have the parish picnic this year.

We hope everyone will be safe and healthy and look forward to a great Parish Picnic next year.

Food Pantry Info:

We are in need of shampoo and dish soap. If you would like to help with this, you may bring your items to the pantry when you come to volunteer or you may leave bread at the North entrance to the Parish Center. There is a container for this outside the doors.

Reminder: St Francis Community Assistance Food Pantry is open for anyone in need. Please call 217-430-1025 to request assistance.

Easter Meal Boxes

St Francis Community Assistance is currently putting together meal boxes for Easter for parishioners only. If you are in need of this service please contact Diane Andrew no later than Thursday, April 2.

A Note From the D.R.E.

For those parishioners who took the prayer sheep and chalices that the 2nd and 3rd graders made for their First Reconciliation and First Communion, please hold on to the cards until restrictions have been lifted and public masses resumed. Or, you are welcome to drop them in the mail slot of the red doors of the rectory anytime or in the collection basket when masses resume.



St. Francis Solanus School

Retiree Appreciation

Card showers are being planned for two St. Francis Solanus School employees retiring at the end of the school year. Mrs. Vicky Mitchell will retire after 43 years as a teacher. Mrs. Judy Patterson will retire after serving 20 years as a school secretary. Please join us in congratulating these ladies with cards, notes, drawings, or letters. Send your well wishes to:

Mrs. Vicky Mitchell or Mrs. Judy Patterson
c/o St. Francis Solanus School
1720 College Avenue
Quincy, IL 62301

****NEW DEADLINE****

FACTS Tuition Applications

QCES Foundation recommends that families wanting to apply for financial aid with tuition have their personal financial information entered into FACTS by Thursday, April 30th. Later applications will be accepted, but money may not be available.

St. Francis Preschool

There are still openings for the 3 & 4 year old preschool for the 2020-2021 school year. If interested or you have any questions, please email Jen Spohr, Teacher, at jspohr@stfrancissolanus.com.

School Registration Info

Please return the Financial Information form (**Pink Sheet**) to the Parish office as soon as possible. **Either in the mail or drop off in the mail slot at the Rectory - by May 1st.**

Registration Fees - Due to the economic situation, you may be having financial difficulties paying the fees. Please email Sue at sholbrook@stfrancissolanus.com and we will make arrangements to handle registration fees on a case by case basis. We are here to help you during this difficult time. We will be extending early-bird fees Registration Fees until June 1.

School Lunch Next Week: May 4-8

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

No School