

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

April 24, 2016



ANNOUNCED MASSES

If you wish to bring up the gifts for a Mass being said for your loved one(s), please see the Usher before Mass.

Vigil (Sunday) Mass – April 23

5:00 PM Joseph Giachinta

Sunday, April 24 – Fifth Sunday of Easter

8:30 AM James C. Tompkins

10:15 AM *St. Joseph's* – All the People of the Parish

12:00 PM Joseph Giachinta

Monday, April 25 – Saint Mark, Evangelist

8:15 AM All the People of the Parish

Tuesday, April 26 – Easter Weekday

8:15 AM All the People of the Parish

Wednesday, April 27 – Easter Weekday

8:15 AM Patrick Lahey

Thursday, April 28 – Saint Peter Chanel, Priest and Martyr; Saint Louis Grignon de Montfort, Priest

8:15 AM George Filipich

Friday, April 29 – Saint Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church

8:15 AM Nina Filogomo

Saturday, April 30 – Saint Pius V, Pope

8:15 AM All the People of the Parish

Vigil (Sunday) Mass – April 30

5:00 PM Raymond and Julia Gallagher

Sunday, May 1 – Sixth Sunday of Easter

8:30 AM Dimon and Robert Nicolosi and the Cirillo Family

10:15 AM *St. Joseph's* – All the People of the Parish

12:00 PM Timothy John Meehan

MEMORIALS

The **Sanctuary Candle** this week is burning in loving memory of Nancy A. Tompkins, James C. Tompkins and the Tompkins Family donated by Chuck and Paula Tompkins. The candle will burn from April 24th through April 30th.

CHOIR REHEARSALS

Adult Choir rehearsals are held on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 pm in the choir loft. New members are welcome at all weekend Masses. If you would like to sing, please come to a rehearsal or call Jeffrey V. Lutz at 228-5612.

GRAYMOOR PRAYER GROUP

Increase your time in prayer. The Graymoor Prayer Group, following the Medjugorje prayer format, meets Thursday evenings, 7:30 to 8:30 pm at the Spiritual Life Building 6th floor Chapel. Prayer facilitator – Diana Roda: 424-4175.

INTERCESSORY PRAYERLINE

Call in your intercessions • Marian Shrine (Divine Mercy) Stockbridge • 800-804-3823

PLEASE PRAY

For the sick and suffering, especially

Lucy Abbatine	Wesley Ann McGovern
Lucas Boesch	Merna Mendelson
Robert Broughal	Todd Morris
Michael Brusco	Joseph Nowakowski
Kathleen Clements	Inelda O'Keefe
Carmine Comberiat	Neilan Pierce
Joseph C. Etta	Vivian Pisanelli
Bill Flaherty	Phillip Rossignol
William Freeman	Melissa Castro-Santos
Joseph Hoda	Miguel Santos
Elizabeth M. Hynes	Jerry Sima
Geoff Lyons	Sally Singh
Kathleen Manganello	Ralph Torres
Mary Marion	Frank Volkmann
Paula Martino	Lidia Watrud

and for all our dearly departed, especially

Joseph Dragicevich

that the fighting among nations cease, that vengeance end and lasting peace begin, and for all of our prayers in our book of petitions.

MONTH'S MIND

Joseph Dragicevich – March 30th

We remember our loved ones who have died one month following their passing on to eternal life.

READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

Monday:	1 Pt 5:5b-14; Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17; Mk 16:15-20
Tuesday:	Acts 14:19-28; Ps 145:10-13ab, 21; Jn 14:27-31a
Wednesday:	Acts 15:1-6; Ps 122:1-5; Jn 15:1-8
Thursday:	Acts 15:7-21; Ps 96:1-3, 10; Jn 15:9-11
Friday:	Acts 15:22-31; Ps 57:8-10, 12; Jn 15:12-17
Saturday:	Acts 16:1-10; Ps 100:1b-3, 5; Jn 15:18-21
Sunday:	Acts 15:1-2, 22-29; Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8; Rv 21:10-14, 22-23; Jn 14:23-29

WEEKEND OF APRIL 17, 2016

REGULAR WEEKLY COLLECTION – \$5,592

Thank you for your generosity.

MASS ATTENDANCE

	Adults	Children	Total
Saturday, 8:00 pm	112	8	120
Sunday, 8:30 am	102	12	114
St. Joseph's Chapel Sunday, 10:15 am	53	6	59
Sunday, 12:00 pm	92	18	110
Total	359	44	403

SPECIAL CONFESSION TIMES FOR THE YEAR OF MERCY

**At Our Lady of Loretto Church
Mondays • 7:00-8:00 pm**

"Jesus receives you: He will receive you with so much love. Be courageous, and go to confession."

– Pope Francis

The Holy Year of Mercy
December 8th, 2015 – November 20th, 2016

Special Collection Next Weekend: AID TO THE CHURCH IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

Next week we will take up a special collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. This collection supports Catholic organizations that provide affordable shelter and training for seminarians in a region that still struggles with the effects of Soviet rule. By providing pastoral care, catechesis, and funding for building renovations, your donations help to restore the Church and build the future in the region.



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

At Our Lady of Loretto • Every Monday • 7:00-8:00 pm
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament remains as it is with individual prayer time, but specific groups are being identified for certain Mondays so they can come together to focus in prayer for a specific intention...

- Apr 25th – The Knights of Columbus
- May 2nd – The unborn and persecuted Christians
- May 9th – Teenagers in our Parish
- May 16th – Parish choir and musicians

OUR LADY OF LORETTO PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

"Handing on the Faith"

845-265-3718 ★ ollfaithformation@gmail.com

CLASSES THIS WEEK

Wednesday, April 27th, 2016

Grades 1 to 5 – 3:30 to 5:00 pm

Grades 6 and 7 – 6:30 to 8:00 pm

1ST HOLY COMMUNION FAMILY RETREAT AND REHEARSAL

Sunday, May 1st • 1:30 pm

*Please pray for our 2nd Graders who will receive the
Sacrament of First Holy Communion on Saturday,
May 7th at 10:00 am.*

MAY CROWNING OF MARY, OUR BLESSED MOTHER

Sunday, May 8th • 8:30 am Holy Mass in the Church
1st Communion children wear their 1st Communion
clothes and participate in a special way

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION FOR THE 2016-17 SCHOOL YEAR

Registration information for the 2016-17 school year has been mailed to all families currently enrolled in our Religious Education Program. If you did not receive the information, or are new to the program, please call or stop by the Parish Office to register your children for next year's classes. Thank you!

Children of our Parish 4th Grade and up

We are in need of more Altar Servers for the Sunday Masses:

**10:15 am at Saint Joseph's Chapel
12 Noon at Our Lady of Loretto**

Please consider serving the Lord on the Altar!
If interested, call the Parish Office at 265-3718.

GOD SQUAD NEWS

Last Meeting of the Year

Sunday • May 1st • 6:30 to 8:00 pm
In the Parish Hall

PRAYER MEETING

Thursday, April 28th • 7:45 pm

St. Patrick's Parish Center • 137 Moseman Road •
Yorktown Heights, NY • (914) 737-4286

Join us to praise God in song, hear His Word in Scripture, and share what God is doing in our lives. Guest speaker Fr. Anthony Sorgie will speak on:

**A Church of Mercy
During the Year of Mercy**

This prayer meeting is sponsored by the Catholic Charismatic Prayer Groups of Northern Westchester and Putnam. All are welcome to attend.

**SOLEMNITY OF
THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD
A Holy Day of Obligation**



We celebrate the Ascension of the Lord on Thursday, May 5th. It is a holy day of obligation. Mass for the Ascension will be celebrated at Our Lady of Loretto Church on:

**Wednesday, May 4th at 5:00 pm and on
Thursday, May 5th at 8:15 am and 7:30 pm.**

The Catholic Catechism summarizes three important theological aspects of the Ascension concisely:

- Christ's Ascension marks the definitive entrance of Jesus' humanity into God's heavenly domain, whence he will come again (cf. Acts 1:11); this humanity in the meantime hides him from the eyes of men (cf. Col 3:3).
- Jesus Christ, the head of the Church, precedes us into the Father's glorious kingdom so that we, the members of his Body, may live in the hope of one day being with him for ever.
- Jesus Christ, having entered the sanctuary of heaven once and for all, intercedes constantly for us as the mediator who assures us of the permanent outpouring of the Holy Spirit (665-667).



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
Loretto Council #536**

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

The Knights are awarding two scholarships to college-bound high school seniors who best exemplify the principles of the Knights of Columbus.
(see to the right for more details).

PHILIPSTOWN FOOD PANTRY DELIVERY

Today • Sunday • April 24th

The Knights of Columbus are collecting food and other items, including diapers, toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, cleaners and paper towels, for the Philipstown Food Pantry this weekend, April 23rd and 24th.

Please leave donations in the cry room. Thank you for your generosity!

To join, email our Membership Director, Phil D'Amato:
phildamato55@gmail.com.
Information can also be found at KofC536.com.

PHILIPSTOWN COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

**Thursday, May 5th, 2:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Our Lady of Loretto Parish Hall**

1-800-933-2566 or www.nybloodcenter.org

Donors are reminded to maintain their hemoglobin level with iron rich food: red meat, broccoli, dried apricots, baked potato, cooked beans, wheat germ, egg noodles, sesame and pumpkin seeds.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SCHOLARSHIP
APPLICATION**

The Knights of Columbus was founded in 1881 by Roman Catholic priest Michael J. McGivney in New Haven, CT. His idea was to create a fraternal order, based on the tenets of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism, whose goal was to help its members and community during difficult economic times. The Order continues to do this work today in our community and around the world.

Through the generous support of parishioners from Our Lady of Loretto, St. Joseph's and the diligent work of the Knights, each year the Loretto Council #536 of the Knights of Columbus awards two scholarships to college-bound high school seniors who best exemplify the principles of the Order.

In order to be eligible for a scholarship, a graduating senior must be a resident of the greater Philipstown community and be accepted to an accredited post-secondary institution. Our Lady of Loretto and St. Joseph's parishioners and families of any Knight of Columbus will be given preference. Applicants are required to write an essay (up to 300 words) describing how, through their actions and efforts, they live the values of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism which contributes to their faith, family, community and school.

The Knights of Columbus Scholarship Committee will select awardees. The scholarship dollar amount is \$500 for each.

Applicants for the scholarship must include the following information along with their essay:

1. Name, Address and Home Phone
2. Current high school
3. Post-secondary school
4. Probable college major
5. A list of in-school academic/social/athletic activities (offices held, honors, letters, etc).
(Include number of years, estimated hours of involvement and titles if any)

An interview of the applicants may take place prior to awarding the scholarships.

When completed, please return all documents to the guidance office or mail them to:

Loretto Council Knights of Columbus
P.O. Box 241
Cold Spring, NY 10516

**All applications must be submitted and/or post
marked by Monday, April 25th, 2016**

EUCHARISTIC MIRACLE IN POLAND

Legnica, Poland, April 18th – The Catholic News Agency and EWTN News reported that a bleeding Host that “has the hallmarks of a Eucharistic miracle” was approved for veneration in Poland over the weekend. On Christmas Day 2013, a consecrated Host fell to the floor, the bishop said. It was picked up and placed in a container with water. Soon after, red stains appeared on the host. The final medical statement by the Department of Forensic Medicine found: “In the histopathological image, the fragments were found containing the fragmented parts of the cross striated muscle. It is most similar to the heart muscle.” Tests also determined the tissue to be of human origin, and found that it bore signs of distress.

POPE: JESUS IS THE ONLY DOOR TO ETERNAL LIFE

Vatican City, April 18th, 2016 – The Catholic News Agency and EWTN News reported that speaking at morning Mass at the Santa Marta residence, Pope Francis urged the faithful to seek salvation through anyone but Jesus alone, because he is the only way into heaven. “The Lord thus clearly says: you cannot enter eternal life by any entryway that is not the door – that is not Jesus,” the Pope said during his April 18th homily, according to Vatican Radio’s translation. “He is the door of our life – and not only of eternal life, but also of our daily lives.” If we do not make decisions “in the name of Jesus” – who is the door – we attempt to do so through a “smuggler’s hatch,” he said.

Pope Francis referenced Sunday’s Gospel on the Good Shepherd. “He who does not enter the sheepfold by the door,” but who tries to enter another way, “is a thief and a robber,” he said. “There is no other” door than Christ. Jesus used “simple images” that people at the time could relate to, such as the shepherd, he said. They therefore understood when Jesus said the only entrance was through the “gate of the sheep pen.” On the “path of life, the life of every day,” we need only follow Jesus, the shepherd, and we will never be misled, the Pope said. “Those who follow Jesus do not err!”

Pope Francis said those who seek guidance from the likes of fortune tellers, for instance, are not following Jesus. In such an instance, “you follow another, who shows you another way, a different way.” Rather: “Jesus shows the way forward: there is no other who can show the way.” The Pope cited Jesus’ warnings against following those who claim to have the way of the Messiah. “Do not listen. Do not hear them. I am the way.” “Jesus is the door and also the path: if we follow Him we shall not go astray.”

The sheep “follow Him because they know his voice,” Pope Francis said. Moreover, the way to distinguish the voice of Jesus from “bandits, who seek to destroy and deceive you,” is to find look to the Beatitudes. “Should someone make to teach you a way contrary to the Beatitudes, know that such a one is one who has entered through the window: it is not Jesus!” Another clue as to whether the voice is from Jesus is whether it “speaks of the works of mercy,” he said. The third indication that the voice is Jesus is that it “teaches you to pray the Our Father.” Pope Francis concluded: “May the Lord make us understand that this is Jesus, this is the icon of Him: the pastor who leads, who shows the way, and teaches us to listen to His voice.”

HUMILIATIONS CAN ‘OPEN THE HEART’, AS THEY DID FOR SAINT PAUL

Vatican City, April 15th, 2016 – The Catholic News Agency and EWTN News reported that Pope Francis encouraged Christians to embrace the humiliations that God allows in our lives to draw us closer to him and open our hearts, just as Saul did after he was knocked down on the road to Damascus. The Holy Father focused his homily on the famous conversion story of St. Paul, as Saul became known, who was knocked down while traveling on the road to Damascus to hunt down more Christians to persecute. Although Saul was “a strong, brave young man, zealous in his faith,” he was one “with a closed heart” who “did not want to hear about Jesus Christ” and went so far as to seek out Christ’s followers to persecute them, Pope Francis said. While on his way to find more Christians, “suddenly a light from heaven flashed about him” and Saul was thrown from his horse where, the Holy Father said, he “understood the truth; he understood that he was not a man as God wanted, because he created us, all of us, to be on our feet, heads held high.”

Saul heard the voice of Christ addressing him asking, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?” Then Christ instructs him to “get up and go.” After his fall, Saul humbly allowed himself “to be guided” by another to Damascus because he had been blinded. It was this “humiliation” that became “the path to open the heart” which allowed him to “be converted to the Lord Jesus,” the Roman Pontiff said. He explained that “when the Lord sends us humiliation or allows humiliation to come to us, it is precisely for this reason: so the heart may be opened, may be docile.” However, Christ did not leave Saul on the ground, nor does he expect us to stay there when we are knocked down. In this account we see a lesson in conversion, the Holy Father said, explaining that with humbling experiences, “the Lord is able to change hearts and make a hard, stubborn heart become docile to the Spirit.” After a fall we first must rise, because “a Christian must be on his feet with his head held high.”

A Christian must also “let yourself be led,” just as Paul did when he “let himself be led like a child; entrusted himself to the hands of another, whom he did not know,” when he came to Ananias, the man who God chose to use to restore Saul’s sight and baptize him. Even with all the different players in this account, the “main character” in all this is the Holy Spirit, whom the Pope called the “protagonist of the Church who leads the People of God.” Pope Francis concluded saying that this conversion story affects all of us since we all “have hardness of heart,” just as Saul did. “Let us ask the Lord to make us see that this hardness knocks us to the ground; may he send us the grace and also – if necessary – humiliation so as not to remain down but rise, with the dignity with which God created us, which is the grace of a heart open and docile to the Holy Spirit.”

Pray with great confidence, with confidence based on the goodness and infinite generosity of God and upon the promises of Jesus Christ. God is a spring of living water which flows unceasingly into the hearts of those who pray.

– St. Louis De Montfort