

Saint Francis of Assisi Church

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MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, Nov 11, 5:00 pm (English)

+ All deceased veterans

Sunday, Nov 12, 9:00 am (English)

+ For the sick members of our parish

Sunday, Nov 12, 12 noon, (Spanish)

Monday, Nov 13, 5:00 pm

Tuesday, Nov 14, 5:00 pm

+ Charlotte Trapasso, r/b the family.

Wednesday, Nov 15, 5:00 pm

Thursday, Nov 16, 5:00 pm

Friday, Nov 17, **NO MASS**

Saturday, Nov 18, 5:00 pm (English)

+ Virginia Pandolfo, (4th ann) r/b family.

Sunday, Nov 19, 9:00 am (English)

+ Mary Fazzino, (5th ann) r/b family.

Sunday, Nov 19, 12 noon, (Spanish)

32nd SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Nov 12, 2017

OUR WEEKLY OFFERTORY

Nov. 5, 2017 = \$3,000.00

Nov 5, 2016 = \$3,855.00

YTD (Year to Date)

2017 = \$64,581.00

2016 = \$60,835.00

THE SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEK IS FOR COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN.

WEEKLY CEREAL & CAN GOODS REPORT

47 lbs. & \$00.00

ATTENDANCE FOR

Nov 4 & 5, 2017

Sat. 5:00 pm = 62

Sun. 9:00 am = 99

Sun. 12 noon = 170

TOTAL = 331

REST IN PEACE

Liam Boyce, Lucy Berger, Ines

B. Cannata, Monsignor

Robert L. Brown

Msgr. "Bob" Brown was a great priest and I have had the privilege of knowing him my entire priesthood. He will be greatly missed by all, especially Bishop Cote.

HEALING PRAYERS FOR: Billy & Kathy Kowalski, Nar Scaia, Helen LoGuidice Bousquet, Ethan Heng, Robert Rau, Rick Csuhata, Joe Dorgan, Lydia Perez, Jack Romegialli, Mary Ann Milardo.

THANKS TO EVERYONE

As I write this on Friday morning at 7:30 a.m., The Angel Fair is tomorrow and it will be a great success, as it has been in years past. So many people work very hard to make it such an enjoyable experience. Today the parish center will be transformed into a work of art with Christmas as the theme, I think. I always look forward to parish events like this because they are such happy and uplifting affairs. I like to see people coming to our parish from all over the greater Middletown area and leaving with positive memories and perhaps some "treasures." I thank everyone who made this happen. It is a lot of hard work. God bless you and may the annual Angel Fair be a blessing to all.



THE PARISH BUDGET

When we sold the house on Blue Bird Lane we profited some \$176,000.00. We were rolling in dough, right? Wrong. We have this debt to the Diocese which is a heavy boulder around our necks. We also had to make major repairs to the church and the rectory, mostly all on the outside and minor repairs to the parish center. That was around \$90,000.00, when you add up everything. The front walk ways to the church are now completed. We still need to address the drainage around the church center, the floor in the church basement and down the road, a new roof on the rectory. But we are increasing our income every year and that is a very positive thing. As I have put in the bulletin this past few weeks, we really need \$4,000.00 a week in the offertory to be financially stable. We can never know when a bequest will come in and fund raisers can be "iffy." We have been blessed with consistent income from our fund raisers. Pray that this continues. The glass is half full and hopefully, as this year goes along, the water level will get higher.

GIFT PROGRAM - GENERATIONS IN FAITH TOGETHER

is a monthly bi-lingual religious education program which brings together children, parents and grandparents to learn about their faith and grow together as a family. The class meets from October to May between the 9:00 am and 12:00 noon Mass on Sunday, beginning with light refreshments at 10:00 am in the parish hall, with instruction running from 10:20 am - 11:50 am. This is a great opportunity to learn about the church and the teachings of Jesus in an engaging and interactive way. It also provides the opportunity for families who attend the different masses in the parish to get to know each other. The program is open to all, not just those preparing for sacraments, and not just active parish members. Please spread the word so this can be a successful and rewarding program. Registration is \$30.00 per family. Please contact Belky Santos to register or for more information 860-347-4684, ext. 20 office@saintfrancisofassisi.com or visit <http://www.saintfrancisofassisi.com/edu/> Please join us on the following dates: Sunday, October 29 Sunday, November 19 Sunday, December 17 Sunday, January 21 Sunday, February 25 Sunday, March 18 Sunday, April 8 Sunday, May 6.

ALL ARE WELCOME

Whatever your current status in the Catholic Church, whatever your current family or marital situation, whatever your past or present religious affiliation, whatever your personal history, age, background or ethnicity, immigration status, sexual orientation, whatever your own self-image or esteem, you are invited, welcomed, accepted, loved and respected at the Church of St. Francis of Assisi.



"2017 ADVOCACY AWARD GROUP PRESENTS CONCERT"

The **MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL VOCAL CHORDS** will present their 28th annual concert entitled "Songs of the Holiday" on Sunday, December 3rd at 2pm at Portland High School, 95 High St., Portland, CT under the musical direction of Gina Fredericks and assistant musical director, Jeanne Samolik.

Earlier this year, the Vocal Chords were awarded the 2017 Middletown Commission on the Arts Advocacy Award to honor their musical talent and outstanding contribution to the community. Thanks to you, we have been able to award over \$70,000 in scholarships to students pursuing a career in nursing or music.

Come and share in the joys of the season and help music resonate in your community. Tickets are \$20; call 860.347.2787 or 860.342.3120. Visit vocalchords20.org

PROJECT RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT WEEKENDS

~ If you are silently grieving or suffering from an abortion, experience the healing love of Jesus Christ on a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat. The weekend healing process is confidential and offers an opportunity to experience God's love, forgiveness and compassion. Upcoming weekends are: November 3-5 in Stockbridge, MA, call 413-452-0661; a Spanish weekend will take place in North Providence, Rhode Island November 17-19 call 401-351-7730 or visit the national website at www.rachelsvineyard.org.

"PROJECT RACHEL" is our Diocesan ministry for anyone seeking healing and forgiveness from an abortion. Priests in the Project Rachel ministry are there for you with God's Grace and Mercy. Call 860-861-4439. All inquiries are confidential.

VETERANS DAY is a U.S. legal holiday dedicated to American veterans of all wars. In 1918, on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, an armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities, was declared between the Allied nations and Germany in World War I, then known as "the Great War." Commemorated in many countries as Armistice Day the following year, November 11th became a federal holiday in the United States in 1938. In the aftermath of World War II and the Korean War, Armistice Day became legally known as Veterans Day.

KEEP IN CONTACT

If you know a parishioner who is now unable to attend mass for whatever reason, please call the office so we can send them a bulletin and bring them Holy Communion.

HISTORY OF VETERANS DAY

Veterans Day is a U.S. legal holiday dedicated to American veterans of all wars. In 1918, on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, an armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities, was declared between the Allied nations and Germany in World War I, then known as “the Great War.” Commemorated in many countries as Armistice Day the following year, November 11th became a federal holiday in the United States in 1938. In the aftermath of World War II and the Korean War, Armistice Day became legally known as Veterans Day.

ARMISTICE DAY

The Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28, 1919, marking the official end of World War I. Nonetheless, the armistice date of November 11, 1918, remained in the public imagination as the date that marked the end of the conflict.

One year later, in November 1919, U.S. President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed November 11 as the first commemoration of Armistice Day. The day’s observation included parades and public gatherings, as well as a brief pause in business and school activities at 11 a.m.

On November 11, 1921, an unidentified American soldier killed in the war was buried at Arlington National Cemetery near Washington, D.C. On the same day the previous year, unidentified soldiers were laid to rest at Westminster Abbey in London and at the Arc de Triomphe in Paris.

DID YOU KNOW?

Red poppies, a symbol of World War I from their appearance in the beloved poem "In Flanders Fields" by John McCrae, are sold in Canada and the United Kingdom on Remembrance Day to raise money for veterans or worn in the lapel as a tribute.

On June 4, 1926, Congress passed a resolution that the “recurring anniversary of [November 11, 1918] should be commemorated with thanksgiving and prayer and exercises designed to perpetuate peace through good will and mutual understanding between nations,” and that the president should issue an annual proclamation calling for the observance of Armistice Day.

By that time, 27 state legislatures had made November 11 a legal holiday. An act approved May 13, 1938 made November 11 a legal Federal holiday, “dedicated to the cause of world peace and to be hereafter celebrated and known as ‘Armistice Day.’”

In actuality, there are no U.S. national holidays because the states retain the right to designate their own, and the government can only designate holidays for federal employees and for the District of Columbia. In practice, however, states almost always follow the federal lead.

FROM ARMISTICE DAY TO VETERANS DAY

American effort during World War II saw the greatest mobilization of the U.S. Army, Navy, Marines and Air Force in the nation’s history (more than 16 million people); some 5.7 million more served in the Korean War.

In 1954, after lobbying efforts by veterans’ service organizations, the 83rd U.S. Congress amended the 1938 act that had made Armistice Day a holiday, striking the word “Armistice” in favor of “Veterans.” President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed the legislation on June 1, 1954. From then on, November 11 became a day to honor American veterans of all wars.

The next development in the story of Veterans Day unfolded in 1968, when Congress passed the Uniform Holidays Bill, which sought to ensure three-day weekends for federal employees—and encourage tourism and travel—by celebrating four national holidays (Washington’s Birthday, Memorial Day, Veterans Day and Columbus Day) on Mondays.

The observation of Veterans Day was set as the fourth Monday in October. The first Veterans Day under the new law was Monday, October 25, 1971; confusion ensued, as many states disapproved of this change, and continued to observe the holiday on its original date.

In 1975, after it became evident that the actual date of Veterans Day carried historical and patriotic significance to many Americans, President Gerald Ford signed a new law returning the observation of Veterans Day to November 11th beginning in 1978. If November 11 falls on a Saturday or Sunday, the federal government observes the holiday on the previous Friday or following Monday, respectively.

REMEMBRANCE DAY

Great Britain, France, Australia and Canada also commemorate the veterans of World War I and II on or near November 11th: Canada has Remembrance Day, while Britain has Remembrance Sunday (the second Sunday of November). In Europe, Great Britain and the Commonwealth countries it is common to observe two minutes of silence at 11 a.m. every November 11.

In the United States, an official wreath-laying ceremony is held each Veterans Day at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery, while parades and other celebrations are held in states around the country.

Veterans Day is not to be confused with Memorial Day—a common misunderstanding, according to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Memorial Day (the fourth Monday in May) honors American servicemembers who died in service to their country or as a result of injuries incurred during battle, while Veterans Day pays tribute to all American veterans—living or dead—but especially gives thanks to living veterans who served their country honorably during war or peacetime.

PRE-FAIR RAFFLE TICKET SALE 55" PHILIPS SMART TV

In an effort to increase our raffle profit, we will now begin selling tickets for our top raffle prize, a 55: Philips Smart TV, 4K, HDTV, LED, LCD. The donations for the tickets are 1 for \$5 and 3 for \$10.

Tickets will be sold after all weekend Masses beginning this weekend and will be sold until the Festival of Angels