

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Mass Intentions

Saturday, July 14

4:30pm Dolores and Norman Iacuele
Requested by family

Sunday, July 15

8:00am Mass for the People
10:00am Marjorie Cook
Requested by D. Smith
12:00nn Nat Turco
Requested by family

Monday, July 16

7:00am Maria Fezzuoglio
Requested by Parcheski family

Tuesday, July 17

7:00am Helen & Howard Carr
Requested by Fred & Arlene Robinson

Wednesday, July 18

7:00am Beverly Walters
Requested by Parcheski family

Thursday, July 19

7:00am Ronald Lee Nocito
Requested by Posillo family

Friday, July 20

7:00am Beverly Walters
Requested by Boyle family

Saturday, July 21

4:30pm Special Intention for the
50th Wedding Anniversary of
Wendall & Magdalen Futch

Sunday, July 22

8am Chi Thi Anna Tran & Thanh John Ha
Requested by family
10:00am Anne Walsh
Requested by Betty Ann Hogan
12:00nn Louis & Mark Cicerone
Requested by D. Smith



St. Romuald Chapel Mass Intentions

Saturday, July 14

5:30pm For the souls in Purgatory

Sunday, July 15

8:00am Grace & John Carpinelli
Requested by family
10:00am Michael & Kay Fahey
Requested by a friend

Saturday, July 21

5:30pm John, Margaret & John (Jr.) Reale
Requested by family

Sunday, July 22

8am Margaret & James Ferry
Requested by Dr. Edward T. Ferry
10:00am Jeanne Dorie Marvin
Requested by Kathleen Dwyer



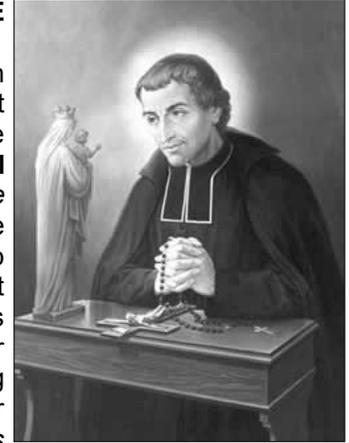
For Your Information

SANCTUARY LAMP

This week's sanctuary lamp at St. Francis Church burns for a Special Intention for Prayers Answered by Maria Silva.

TOTAL CONSECRATION TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Saint Louis Marie de Montfort, an eighteenth-century French priest popularized a special devotion to the Blessed Mother known as "Total Consecration." In his book *True Devotion to Mary*, Saint Louis de Montfort rightly argued that in order to grow closer to Christ, we should first grow closer to Mary, who always leads us more easily and more surely to her Son. Just as she did at the Wedding Feast at Cana, our Blessed Mother instructs us: "Do whatever [Jesus] tells you" (John 2:5). The process of consecration to Mary involves thirty-three days of prayer, leading up to the formal act of giving oneself over the care and protection of the Blessed Mother. On December 12, 2011, over thirty members of St. Francis and St. Romuald publicly consecrated themselves to our Blessed Mother. **Members of our parish are again invited to work with Fr. Joe to make their consecration on Wednesday, August 22 (the Feast of the Queenship of Mary) at a Holy Hour in Saint Francis Church at 7PM.** If you're interested in learning more about this beautiful devotion (or if you would like to *renew* your consecration), please call the rectory (783-4411) ASAP. The period of daily preparatory prayers will begin this **Friday, July 20.**



WEEKLY PARISH SUPPORT— July 1 & 8

July 1st:

Budget envelopes (368 used)	-	\$5,720.00
Loose Donations	-	\$1,795.00
Online Giving (11 donors)	-	\$ 191.00
Total Budget	-	\$7,706.00
Monthly envelopes (240 used)	-	\$3,547.50
Online Giving Monthly (2 donors)	-	\$ 60.00
Total Monthly	-	\$3,607.50

July 8th:

Budget envelopes (386 used)	-	\$7,234.00
Loose Donations	-	\$2,064.00
Online Giving (12 donors)	-	\$ 251.00
Total Budget	-	\$9,549.00
Mission Co-op Collection	-	\$6,781.00

This weekend's second collection is the Ongoing Maintenance Fund offering for July. As always, thank you for your continued generosity to the parish.

JULY 15, 2012

From the Pastor....

First, I'd like to mention what a pleasure it was to welcome Father Felix Atindah to our parish last weekend to make a mission appeal on behalf of his Archdiocese in Kisumu, Kenya. He was very appreciative of the fact that you received him with such great warmth and generosity. I was, as always, very proud of our parish family. Elsewhere in this bulletin, Father Joe has prepared a reflection on Father Felix's visit.

Recently Father Joe and I sent a letter of congratulations and best wishes to students who graduated from high school in June. Our list was based on our religious education records so it is quite likely that there are some who did not receive the letter. I certainly want them to feel included. Our hope is that wherever they go from here, they will continue to practice their faith regularly and that they will stay informed about our parish by "liking" us on Facebook (facebook.com/stfranciswakefield) and by taking a moment to send us their email address (saintfrancis00@aol.com). Those who are staying in the parish or attending college locally are encouraged to stay involved with the programs in our parish, especially our young adult group. On Sunday, August 12 at the 10:00 AM Mass in our church, after the homily, college-bound students will be invited to come forward for a special blessing. Any students planning to attend should let us know by calling the rectory at 783-4411. Please be sure to keep our young men and women in your prayers.

A couple of weeks ago I thanked you for your generosity to the diocesan Catholic Charity Appeal and I indicated that we nearly made our parish goal. Since then, I was very happily surprised to learn from the diocesan office that they received a couple of substantial contributions directly from our parishioners bringing our grand total to \$104,076.00 – more than \$1,000 over goal!! So thank you again. Also, we owe a great debt of gratitude to **Gerri Marsocci** who coordinated the Appeal in our parish. She has spent many hours every week since March recording donations, making deposits and keeping the records. I can't thank her enough for her assistance in making the Appeal such a great success.

Finally, a word of welcome to our summer residents both at St. Francis and St. Romuald Chapel. You are an important part of our parish community and it is great to have you with us during these weeks of summer. Whether you are here for the summer or year-round, I hope that you will enjoy a beautiful, relaxing summer season.

Msgr. Theroux

Be sure to check out the following sites to keep on top of all the happenings in the parish:

<http://stfranciswakefield.com> or
<http://facebook.com/stfranciswakefield>



This Week

Sunday, July 15

7-9:00pm Youth Group (Upper Room)
7:00pm AA (HBH)

Monday, July 16

7:30am-12nn Adoration
11-12nn Divine Mercy Cenacle close
out Adoration at St. Francis
7-8:30pm Praise Rehearsal (FGC)

Tuesday, July 17

6:30-9pm Fra Angelico Institute—Icon
Writing Workshop (HBH)

Thursday, July 19

Steubenville East Cookout & Overnight
with Youth Group from Pennsylvania
sponsored by St. Francis Youth Group
(FGC)

7:00pm Men of St. Joseph (Lower
Room)

Friday-Sunday, July 20-22

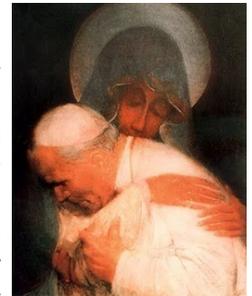
Steubenville East at URI—Please keep
our youth in your prayers this weekend!

Saturday, July 21

4:30pm At the evening Mass we'll have
a blessing of the icons written at the Fra
Angelico Institute for the Sacred Arts
Icon Writing Workshop

POPE JOHN PAUL ON CONSECRATION TO MARY

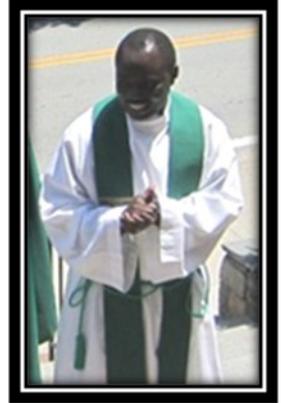
Pope John Paul the Great read *True Devotion to Mary* by St. Louis Marie de Montfort as a young man and it greatly influenced his spirituality. The pope would later say: "Reading this



book was to be a turning point in my life...This Marian devotion has since remained a part of me. It is an integral part of my interior life and of my spiritual theology." Pope John Paul was consecrated to Mary, as his motto well attests: "Totus Tuus," meaning, "Totally Yours" in reference to the Blessed Virgin. **Please consider making this Act of Consecration with other parishioners on the Feast of the Queenship of Mary, August 22, at 7PM in St. Francis Church. Call the rectory ASAP for information!**

LESSONS FROM FATHER FELIX

Last weekend, our parish community had the privilege of hosting Fr. Felix Atindah from the Archdiocese of Kisumu in Kenya. Aside from his own inspiring witness of faith and priestly zeal, Fr. Felix offered a snapshot of the Church in Kenya. We wanted to share several of the insights that Fr. Felix shared with us.



The Parish Church

The absolute center of the lives of Kenyan Catholics is the parish church (recall that Fr. Felix's own parish community is also called "Saint Francis of Assisi"). It is where the people *instinctively* go at the most important moments of their lives: during times of intense joy and during times of intense crisis. For the people Fr. Felix serves, the parish church is like a small piece of heaven set down in the midst of the world. To receive Jesus in the Eucharist is the highlight of the week. The idea that somehow worship of Jesus can be separated from parish life is inconceivable in Kenya.

Time for God

The average homily in Kenya takes about thirty minutes. Because many people cannot read, the homily is carefully prepared by the celebrant to catechize the people in the truths of the faith. In addition to the vibrant singing and the reverential liturgical dancing that takes place at every Mass, Kenyans are accustomed to spending at least an hour and forty-five minutes in church, and often Mass extends beyond two hours! When Fr. Felix began a new parish assignment, he was conscious of the time, trying to finish Mass within an hour. After a few weeks, the people sent a delegation to their new pastor. "Father," they said, "we are in no rush! ***We have come to pray!***" The Kenyan people give God the gift of their time and their attention. The importance of communal prayer and communal adoration of God is a hallmark of the Catholic faith in Kenya.

Persecution

The Church in Kenya is being persecuted by radical Islamist groups. Fr. Felix pointed out that for many who persecute the Church, the greatest act of faith is to kill a Christian. During Fr. Felix's visit to the United States, two churches were bombed on July 1, killing a total of seventeen people. Fr. Felix indicated that the Kenyans believe that they were protected from even further violence by the presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Without his sacramental presence, Fr. Felix maintained, there would have been more deaths.

Suffering

Because of unstable or corrupt government, lack of education and extreme poverty, the lives of the Kenyan people are marked by intense suffering. The people who worship at Fr. Felix's parish often have suffered violence from police brutality, have lost loved ones to violence, have been diagnosed with debilitating or degenerative diseases, or have found themselves without work or unable to work. As a suffering people, the image of the crucified takes on a greater meaning. Fr. Felix indicated that the Kenyan people are deeply devoted to the cross of Jesus. They take comfort in a God who saves us not *in spite of* but precisely *through* suffering. They see in the crucified Jesus a friend and a companion in the midst of loss.

Joy

Despite their experience of suffering, our Catholic brothers and sisters in Kenya are profoundly joyful! Fr. Felix said: "***My people come to church to celebrate! It is the only thing in their lives they can celebrate. People who dance and sing and cry tears of joy at Holy Mass may not know where their next meal will come from, and yet they are happy!***" The Church in Kenya teaches us in the West that the greatest witness to the power of the Gospel is joy! The faith lived with joy and vibrancy is the best proof of the liberating power of the Gospel!

Your parish priests were deeply moved by the witness and sincerity of Fr. Felix. We know that many of you were as well, as indicated by your generous donations to Fr. Felix's orphanage. Please continue to pray for him and for his important ministry, as well as for the continued growth of the Church in Kenya. May we be inspired to rededicate ourselves entirely to Christ and his Holy Church, that we too may be signs of the hope and joy of the Gospel!