

# ST. FRANCIS de SALES CATHOLIC CHURCH

321 NORTH CHURCH STREET • ROBESONIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19551



## PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Edward J. Essig, M.Div. ————— Pastor  
Alison Snyder ————— Director of Education  
Christina Kopinski ————— Administrative Assistant



## SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil ————— 5:00 pm  
Sunday ————— 8:00 am & 10:30 am

**HOLY DAY & WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE:** Since times may vary, please check the weekly Mass schedule inside the bulletin.

**SPIRITUAL CARE OF THE SICK:** Please contact the office when a parish member has been admitted to the hospital or has become home bound. Upon request, the Sacrament of Anointing will be celebrated and Holy Communion will be brought monthly.

**RECONCILIATION:** Saturday at 4:00 - 4:45 pm. At any other time by appointment.

Phone  
610-693-5851

Fax  
610-693-5852

Church E-mail  
stfrancisrob82@verizon.net

Pastor's E-mail  
pastor.essig@aol.com

Website  
www.stfrancisrob.org

Office Hours  
Monday - Thursday:  
8:30 am - 1:30 pm  
& CLOSED Fridays

Diocesan Victim  
Assistance Coordinator

Ms. Wendy S. Krisak,  
M.A., NCC, LPC

Direct Telephone:  
800-791-9209

Diocesan Safe  
Environment Coordinator

Sister Meg Cole,  
S.S.J., M.S., LMFT

Telephone:  
610-332-0442 Ext. 2019

## THE MISSION OF ST. FRANCIS de SALES PARISH

*Guided by the gentle spirit and practical teachings of St. Francis de Sales, we strive to "Live Jesus" in our daily lives. We proclaim the Gospel, celebrate the Holy Eucharist, and are nourished through prayer, worship, love, and service to others. Together we are building a community that brings joy to our faith and light to the world, which one day will become the City of God.*

**BAPTISM:** The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated during Mass or on Sundays after the 10:30 Mass. Parents are asked to contact the parish office to arrange a time for preparation and to schedule the baptism.

**CONFIRMATION AND EUCHARIST:** Each child must have received a full year of religious education at St. Francis prior to beginning the sacramental preparation classes.

**MARRIAGE:** In order that the requirements for marriage preparation may be fulfilled, couples are to contact the parish office at least six months before the desired wedding date.

**NEW MEMBERS:** Please register at the office, or pick up a form in the back of the church. We are delighted to welcome you.

**WILLS AND DONATIONS:** Please consider designating St. Francis de Sales Parish in your last will and testament so that the blessings the Lord has given you can continue to build His Kingdom here on earth.



## March 29, 2020 ✕ 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent

### Mass Schedule for the Week:

#### Saturday, March 28, 2020

5:00 PM Rosemary Deegan

#### Sunday, March 29, 2020 ~ 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent

8:00 AM Our Parishioners

10:30 AM John Gaupp

#### Monday, March 30, 2020

9:00 AM

#### Tuesday, March 31, 2020

9:00 AM Anna Zubris

#### Wednesday, April 1, 2020

**NO PUBLIC MASS  
AT THIS TIME**

9:00 AM Julia Savitsky

#### Thursday, April 2, 2020

12:00 PM Joseph T. Savitsky

#### Friday, April 3, 2020 ~ FIRST FRIDAY

9:00 AM

#### Saturday, April 4, 2020 ~ FIRST SATURDAY

9:00 AM

5:00 PM John Milia

#### Sunday, April 5, 2020 ~ Palm Sunday

8:00 AM John Graupp

10:30 AM Joseph Rusnak

*Please know that Fr. Ed will celebrate Mass privately every day for the intentions and well-being of the flock entrusted to his care.*



### ~ Living Flame ~

Will burn the week of March 29, 2020

For the Special Intentions of:

*Living Family Members of the Savitsky Family*

### Pray For Our Sick

Lucille Anderson, Virginia Bagnato, Edward Bellina, John Binder, Jim & Joan Bross, Rosemary C., Rick & Wren Dillon, Mary Ann Flemming, Judith Goelz, Maria Graupp, Nicholas M. Headley, Lorraine Held, Mark Hyde, Joe Kluscarits, Robert Koch, Leslie Livinghouse A. Pawelski, Pat Snyder, Andrew Strangarity, Peggy Swope, Edwin Zeltzer

### Let us pray for our priests:



March 29 Rev. Msgr. Edward R. DeSantis, M.Div.

March 30 Rev. Bruno Dongo, A.J.

March 31 Rev. Anthony M. Drouncheck, M.Div.

April 1 His Holiness Pope Francis

April 2 Bishop Alfred A. Schlert

April 3 Bishop Emeritus Edward Cullen

April 4 Rev. Ladislaus J. Dudek

### Spiritual Thought:

*If God is for us, who is against us? (Rom. 8:31)*

If I am on God's side, then He is also on my side. I can stand with courage against the whole world. True devotion makes people brave and courageous, sure of their victory.

Mighty God, strengthen me in Your grace. Let nothing be able to harm me and everything contribute to my good.



### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

#### Sunday

*Ez 37:12-14; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45*

#### Monday

*Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62; Jn 8:1-11*

#### Tuesday

*Nm 21:4-9; Jn 8:21-30*

#### Wednesday

*Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Jn 8:31-42*

#### Thursday

*Gn 17:3-9; Jn 8:51-59*

#### First Friday

*Jer 20:10-13; Jn 10:31-42*

#### First Saturday

*Ez 37:21-28; Jn 11:45-56*



## Our Return to the Lord

Week of March 22, 2020

UNAVAILABLE

During this time of social distancing and health safety, let us remember one another in prayer and help each other in ways that we can. As our parish carries on her mission of 'Live Jesus' in the weeks and months ahead, please remember her need of your continued financial stewardship. Thank You! Saint Francis de Sales, Pray for us! Mary, Health of the Sick and Comforter of the Afflicted, Pray for us!



**Coronavirus (Covid-19) update:** Bishop Schlert, after consultation with public health officials, announced that the **Public Celebration of Mass has been suspended in all parishes, schools, and diocesan institutions, until further notice.**

OPEN CHURCH - While the public celebration of Mass is NOT permitted at this time, the Bishop asks Pastors to have their Church open for extended hours of private prayer so that the faithful can make visits. Adoration is encouraged during this time, with simple reposi-tion.

**the church will be open daily from 9am - 7pm for private adoration.**

**Also, the Sacrament of Confession will be available every Mon, Tue, & Fri from 9:30am - 10:30am and 6pm - 7pm.**

**Office Hours:  
Monday-Thursday, 9am- noon**



OFFERING COUNTERS

We are currently in need of forming additional two-person teams to count our weekend Mass offerings. This ministry is one more way of living out the Call of Stewardship for our parish and it would be asking for a once per month commitment. If you are interested in volunteering to become a Sunday Offering Counter, please contact the parish office at 610-693-5851 or email us at [stfrancisrob82@verizon.net](mailto:stfrancisrob82@verizon.net).

## A Prayer for Protection in Time of Pandemic

O Mary, you always brighten our path as a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, at the Cross, took part in Jesus' pain while remaining steadfast in faith.

O loving Mother, you know what we need, and we are confident you will provide for us as at Cana in Galilee.

Intercede for us with your Son Jesus, the Divine Physician, for those who have fallen ill, for those who are vulnerable, and for those who have died. Intercede also for those charged with protecting the health and safety of others and for those who are tending to the sick and seeking a cure.

Help us, O Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who took upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows, so as to lead us, through the Cross, to the glory of the Resurrection.

Amen.

Under thy protection we seek refuge,

*O Holy Mother of God.  
In our needs, despise not our petitions,  
but deliver us always from all dangers,  
O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.*

*Adapted from the prayer of Pope Francis  
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS*

## 2020 Community Church

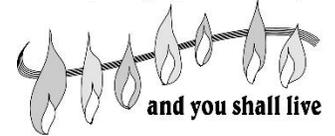
### Blood Drive Schedule

The Robesonia Community Blood Drive (through the Miller-Keystone Blood Center) takes place once a quarter and rotates among the following four churches:



- Tuesday, April 14 from 2 to 7 PM at St Francis de Sales Church
- Saturday, June 20 from 8 AM to 12 Noon at St Paul's United Church of Christ
- Tuesday, September 22 from 2 to 7 PM at St Daniel's Lutheran Church
- Thursday, December 10 from 2 to 7 PM at Trinity Lutheran Church

We invite you to consider donating the gift of life, as Christ teaches us there is no greater love than for one to give of their own life for one another. Please contact Teresa Mohler at 610-858-3015 if you or someone you know wants information on donating at any of these drives.



## FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

### First Reading: Ezekiel 37:12-14

This reading is a loving promise that the Lord will put His spirit into his people and will let them live.

### Second Reading: Romans 8:8-11

Paul reminds the Romans that they are not people of the flesh but people of the Spirit because the Spirit of God dwells in them.

### Gospel: John 11:1-45

In great detail, John tells the story of the raising of Lazarus to life. Upon learning of the death of Lazarus, his dear friend, Jesus goes to comfort Martha and Mary. After proclaiming, "I am the Resurrection and the Life," Jesus goes to the tomb of Lazarus and restores him to life.



Rather than talk about what Francis de Sales has to say about living in the Spirit of God, we shall allow him to speak – or, in this case – to write for himself.

OBLATES OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES  
Wilmington-Philadelphia Province

*"To live according to the spirit means to think, speak and act according to the virtues which reside in the spirit and not according to the senses and feelings which reside in the flesh. We must use and master the latter and not live according to them; but the spiritual virtues must be nurtured and all the rest made subject to them."*

*"What are the virtues of the spirit? There is faith, which shows us the truths that are not accessible to the senses; hope, which makes us strive for things unseen; charity, which makes us love God above all things and our neighbor as ourselves, not with a sensual, natural or selfish love but with a love that is pure, firm and changeless, being grounded in God."*

*"The spirit, which relies on faith, grows in courage when it is hemmed in by difficulties, for it knows well that God loves, supports and helps those who are needy, provided they fix their hope in God. Human reason, by contrast, wants to know everything that is going on because it imagines that nothing in which it cannot have its say is any good; the spirit, on the other hand, cleaves to God and often says that whatever is not of God does not really matter..."*

*"Living according to the spirit means doing the actions which the spirit of God asks of us, saying the words and thinking the thoughts that God wants. And when I say saying the words and thinking the thoughts that God wants, I am referring to your willed thoughts. I am miserable and so I don't feel like talking: parrots do as much. I feel miserable, but since charity demands that I should talk I will do it. That is what people who live in the spirit do. I have been slighted so I grow cross: peacocks and monkeys do as much. I have been slighted and rejoice: that what the apostles did. So to live according to the spirit is to do what faith, hope and charity teach us to do, whether in things temporal or things spiritual."*

*"Live wholly to the Spirit; live gently and in peace. Be quite confident that God will help you, and in all that happens, rest in the arms of God's mercy and goodness. May God be your all forever."*

The Spirit is alive and well in us, active in our lives, shaping our attitudes, impacting our actions. This is obvious to those people we encounter every day.

Well, isn't it?

(These quotes are taken entirely from a letter written in April or May 1616, to Sister Marie-Aimee de Bloney, Mistress of Novices at the Visitation at Lyons, France. It is found in Selected Letters of St. Francis de Sales. Translated with an Introduction by Elisabeth Stopp. Published in 1960 by Harper & Brothers)

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