

# 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

Secretary, Youth Protection  
Pamela J. Russo, L.S.W., M.S.

610-871-5200 ext. 2204  
[prusso@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:prusso@allentowndiocese.org)

## 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.



## April 19, 2020 ✦ Sunday of Divine Mercy



### Mass Schedule for the Week:

#### Saturday, April 18, 2020

5:00 PM Pearl McCarthy

#### Sunday, April 19, 2020

8:00 AM Our Parishioners

10:30 AM Margaret Doohan

#### Monday, April 20, 2020

9:00 AM

#### Tuesday, April 21, 2020 ~ St. Anselm

9:00 AM

#### Wednesday, April 22, 2020

**NO PUBLIC MASS**

9:00 AM Lois Schaab

**AT THIS TIME**

#### Thursday, April 23, 2020 ~ St. George

12:00 PM

#### Friday, April 24, 2020 ~ St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen

9:00 AM

#### Saturday, April 25, 2020

5:00 PM Carol Sabinsky-Baumann

#### Sunday, April 26, 2020

8:00 AM John M. Stoudt

10:30 AM Our Parishioners

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

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 reposicion.

Our Church will remain open daily from 9:00 am – 6:00 pm for private adoration.  
PLEASE NOTE OUR OFFICE IS CLOSED until the 'Stay-Home' order is lifted.  
If you need to contact us, please do so by way of phone (610-693-5831) or email (office) [stfrancisrob82@verizon.net](mailto:stfrancisrob82@verizon.net) or (Fr. Ed) [pastor.essig@aol.com](mailto:pastor.essig@aol.com)  
Thank you!

### Pray For Our Sick

Lucille Anderson, Edward Bellina, John Binder, Jim & Joan Bross, Rosemary C., Rick & Wren Dillon, Joseph Disabella, Mary Ann Flemming, Judith Goelz, 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:

April 19 Rev. Joseph S. Ganzer, M.Div.  
April 20 Rev. Angel Garcia-Almodovar, M.Div.  
April 21 Rev. Andrew N. Gehringer, M.Div.  
April 22 Rev. Robert J. George, M.Div.  
April 23 Rev. John M. Gibbons, M.Div.  
April 24 Rev. David C. Gillis, M.Div.  
April 25 Rev. Joseph Glexiner, M.S.C.



### Spiritual Thought:

Jesus said to the Twelve, "Do you also wish to leave Me?"  
(Jn. 6:67)

*What does God lose if I leave Him? Nothing. He does not need me. But I lose everything if I stray away from Him – everything for time and eternity. And what does this do to me?*

*My God, You are my happiness and my life. Let me always be near You and let me serve You faithfully, even though sometimes I may not succeed in seeing and understanding You.*



### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

#### Sunday

Acts 2:42-47; 1 Pt 1:3-9; Jn 20:19-31

#### Monday

Acts 4:23-31; Jn 3:1-8

#### Tuesday

Acts 4:32-37; Jn 3:7b-15

#### Wednesday

Acts 5:17-26; Jn 3:16-21

#### Thursday

Acts 5:27-33; Jn 3:31-36

#### Friday

Acts 5:34-42; Jn 6:1-15

#### Saturday

1 Pt 5:5b-14; Mk 16:15-20



## Our Return to the Lord

Week of April 12, 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. You may continue mailing or dropping off your envelopes OR you can now donate **ONLINE** directly from our website by clicking on the green DONATE tab. Thank You! Saint Francis de Sales, Pray for us! Mary, Health of the Sick and Comforter of the Afflicted, Pray for us!

### *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, who, 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*

### *Condolences*

- † St. Francis de Sales Parish asks you pray for the soul of our parishioner, **Maria Graupp**, who passed away. May God welcome Maia into eternal life and peace, and may the Graupp family experience God's consolation and strength.



Knights of Columbus and their families are encouraged to join in praying the Divine Mercy Novena beginning on Good Friday.

During the 1930s, Jesus revealed the depths of His merciful love for mankind to a Polish nun, St. Faustina Kowalska. After her death in 1938 at age 33, Sister Faustina's diary became a manual for the Divine Mercy devotion, and from it came a nine-day series of prayers intended to be offered starting on Good Friday, in preparation for the Feast of Divine Mercy (the Second Sunday of Easter).

This novena was given by Jesus particularly to St. Faustina Kowalska (Diary, 1210-1229). For each of the nine days, our Lord gave her a different intention — a different group of souls — which He wanted her to bring to Him in prayer. The Lord Jesus promised: "By this novena, I will grant every possible grace to souls" (Diary, 796).

Pope John Paul II, who in 2000 canonized St. Faustina and established the Divine Mercy Sunday for the universal Church, said, "Those who sincerely say 'Jesus, I trust in You' will find comfort in all their anxieties and fears" (Krakow, Poland, June 7, 1997).

Join brother Knights and the faithful worldwide in praying this novena and invoking God's mercy in this time of global pandemic. Download the prayers from our church's Bulletin page and join the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy, St. Faustina's religious order, online to pray the novena at 3 p.m. EDT daily on [YouTube](#) and [Facebook](#) from the Saint John Paul II National Shrine in Washington, D.C. The live daily broadcasts will also be available on demand after the initial broadcast at 3 p.m.

Finally, please mark your family calendars for April 19, starting at 3 p.m., to tune in and participate in a special Divine Mercy Sunday Mass offered by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William Lori at the Baltimore Basilica, where Father Michael McGivney was ordained a priest. The broadcast will also include the praying of the Divine Mercy chaplet following Mass.



## ***SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY***

With the reading of Peter's First Letter, we are invited to join the whole Church in offering praise to our heavenly Father for his great mercy, shown to us in the death and resurrection of Jesus.

Through God's mercy, we draw new life from the resurrection of Jesus and partake already in eternal life. Through his mercy, we already possess an imperishable inheritance. We are also reminded of the cost of this new life - the death of Jesus on the Cross - a death we too must share in. This new life that we celebrate will pass repeatedly through the cycle of death to new life. Each new suffering that we experience can lead us to a new experience of Jesus' resurrection.

We have been encouraged to appreciate the description of the early Jerusalem community as a model for our own experience as a faith community. We all know from our experience that these expectations are not easily achieved. Each of us individually and all of us together must learn to share all things in common - including suffering, patience, forgiveness, and love. All of these are the marks of the crucified Jesus that we must learn to bear in order to bring about the transformation needed to live as Jesus calls us to live.

The ability to do all this must rest on faith that Jesus lives within and among us and shares the power of his death and resurrection with us. The signs of Jesus' scars are the human weaknesses we see among us. In those scars we can learn to acknowledge "My Lord and my God" as Thomas did.

The glory of resurrection is to be revealed through the weakness of human flesh. The hope held out to us by our faith reaches beyond reality and expects more than what is seen and what seems possible. This hope brings us through the daily deaths we need to experience to new glory and wonder at the power of the Lord Jesus to transform those who are willing to be transformed.

There is a cost to living as the Jerusalem community lived - the daily cost of dying to our self-interest and selfishness. But the cost is nothing compared to the joy and strength we can be for one another in a loving community of faith and hope. Our willingness to accept the daily death required to live our common life opens us to sharing in an ever-deeper way in the risen life of Jesus. May we praise the great mercy of our God by letting Jesus live in us more fully each day.



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