PASTOR’S LABOR DAY MESSAGE

Dear People of St. Anthony of Padua Parish,

September beckons us back to our standard Parish schedules: school activities, council and committee meetings, YAC events, RCIA, etc. Truly, we are a Catholic community blessed by God with many favors, graces, and resources: our proud heritage and rich traditions, our extensive and well-maintained Parish properties and the services that are available in and from them (albeit the condition of Fournier Hall), two excellent and growing schools, numerous faithful, loyal, and very active parishioners, the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales, and a reasonably secure financial footing. The caliber of our strength is measured in the depth of faith we share and experience, especially each week, in the celebration of the Eucharistic Liturgy. We have a great deal to be thankful for.

We are a fourth generation Parish. In ten years, we will observe the 100th anniversary of our apostolic foundation. Discernibly, St. Anthony of Padua Parish is on the threshold of renewal. The death of Father Roberto Balduccelli, OSFS is a significant crossroad for the parish as a whole and a personal transition for many individuals. His funeral was a celebration of his life and ministry and a tribute to the tremendous impact that his leadership and this Parish have had, not only in the religious realm of the city of Wilmington, but on the social, political, and cultural life of an entire Tri-state region. Father’s passing represents a shift in perspective, perhaps even a re-focusing of our so-called “parish paradigm.” Some have commented: “I can’t imagine St. Anthony’s without Father Robert.”

The recent Parish survey was conducted to gather information from each parishioner about the strengths and weaknesses of the Parish. It, too, represents renewal. Just by the fact that the survey response was substantial indicates that parishioners are interested and invested in the welfare of the Parish. Even while the results of the survey are still a work-in-progress, it is apparent that people are anxiously awaiting its outcome. I assure you that a good report will be published once the tabulation and analysis are complete.

The outstanding mainstay of the Parish, one of its strongest elements, has been its ability to recognize the signs of the times and respond to them with commitment and creativity. I don’t doubt our ability to continue in like fashion as we adjust to the changes that are taking place within the parish and those that are occurring exteriorly, which impact the current life of the parish. The neighborhood is different; the youth of the parish seek a relevant, authentic expression of Catholicism; the Church has changed and will continue to do so, especially with the fresh vision offered by Pope Francis; recent Church scandals have resulted in new policies that insures a safe environment for all people, especially children and vulnerable persons and have led to new procedures for managerial, operational and financial transparency; technology and social media have reshaped the way we live our lives; multiple life-style options have made a difference in the way we organize and prioritize our choices; a climate of individualism and relativism, for good or bad, influence our values and attitudes. All of these factors have had a profound effect on us. We are a product of our time. Consequently, the needs and the culture of the Parish are evolving; new methods of meeting both are certainly called for – methods that are grounded in Christian principles of stewardship, community, worship, and service. We must remain true to the clarion call of our Parish Mission: To be rooted in a tradition of dedicated, loving service to God and to each other as we experience the presence of Jesus Christ on our journey to salvation.

Thank you for your love of this Parish and for your willingness to embark on a faith-filled response to the signs of the times and a hopeful renewal toward a strong future.

Sincerely yours,

Rev. Nicholas R. Waseline, OSFS
“Heaven and earth are not distant enough to separate the hearts which our Lord has joined.”

St. Francis de Sales

In your charity, please pray for
Lucille M. Firmani
and all the deceased of St. Anthony’s.

Hands Together

On the weekend of October 26th/27th, our parish will participates in the diocesan Mission Cooperative Plan and we will welcome Father Chris Beretta who helps the missions in Haiti. The Missionary Cooperative plan assigns a mission group to every parish to speak about the work of our Church in other parts of the world and to remind us that our Church is fundamentally a Mission Church. Our diocesan mission office assigned Hands Together – a Catholic mission outreach working in Haiti – to share with us news of how our Church continues to help the poorest of the poor.

The Church in Haiti is struggling to bring God’s love to the many hurting people and we are the comfort. In Haiti, there are 7 million people in an area smaller than Maryland. Seventy percent of these cannot read, and 85% live below poverty level. In slum areas, 4 out of 5 children do not reach the age of five, and nationally 1 in 3 children suffer from chronic malnutrition. The hurricanes in 2004 and 2008, along with the devastating January 12, 2010 earthquake, have left Haiti severely damaged and in desperate need of our prayers and support.

Hands Together runs free schools, medical clinics and nutrition programs in Cite Soleil, providing 10,000 daily school meals and helping thousands of people who struggle to survive. Their work among the violence and savage poverty here is founded upon the Catholic social teachings of the dignity of human life and a preferential option for the poor. Hands Together embraces a clear ethic of life based on Catholic teaching that proclaims God’s infinite and absolute love for us. About one-third of Hands Together’s mission work supports educational, health, charity, and developmental projects in the Diocese of Gonaives where more than 1 million live in abject poverty.

Father Chris Beretta is a faithful volunteer for Hands Together who makes service trips to Haiti and gives mission talks at parishes in the United States.

Annual Picnic

Christ Our King will host its Annual Parish/Alumni/The Yard and Friends Picnic and Fundraiser on Sunday, September 22nd. Join us for the 11:00 a.m. Mass with picnic to follow till 3:00 p.m. Reservation forms can be found on the website www.christourkingcatholicchurch.org or contacting the Parish Office at 302-762-4140 ext. 100. Deadline is September 15th.
Your Prayers And Support Requested

Rita Archangelo
Leonnea Bondoc
Michael Carr
Michael Cutrona
Tommy DiVirgilio
Pat Gallagher
Dahlia Inzillo
Burmano Joswick
Grace Marie Mataleono
Anthony Carl Morelli, III
Joan Plantoni
Robert Pierce
Cheryl Richards
Fred Santow
Diane Setting
Judy Sullivan
Albert Vietri
Andrea Younger
Carter Biondi
Kayden Boomer-Tew
Raffaella Ciabattoni
Leon DeAscanis
Carl Ferrara
Helen Gallo
Joe Janvier
Beth Kotowski
David McGinness
John O’Brien
Gale Pierce
Richard Poppitt
Harry Richards
Ginny Schenck
Wendi Setting
Valerie & Family
Robert Walton
Anne Bogle
Louis Calvarese
Pamela Coleman
Rinaldo DiBattista
Suzie Ferretti
Sofia Gianisiracusa
Helen Johnston
Pat Longobardi
Terese McMahon
Daniel J. Petrucci
Louis Pierce
Joe Prucino
Colleen Rivers
Quinto Serio
Larry Silvestri
Vera Toto
Mariah Watson

Andrea Younger

...and all the sick of St. Anthony’s Parish.

Catholic Forum


Mass in Remembrance of 9/11

All are invited to St. Hedwig Church, S. Harrison & Linden Sts., Wilmington, Wednesday, September 11th, 7:00 p.m., as Bishop Francis Malooly joins us in celebrating a twelfth anniversary memorial Mass in honor of all those who lost their lives on 09-11-2011. For information visit www.sthedwigde.org or call (302)594-1400.

Saint Francis Foundation 5K

Walk/Run

Join us for a fun-filled morning while supporting Saint Francis Hospital's greatest needs, including its Outreach Programs! The 5th Annual Saint Francis Foundation 5K will be held on Sunday, September 29th at the Life Center on Wilmington’s Riverfront. Registration begins at 7:30am, Mass at 8 and race start at 9. This year’s event will once again feature premium performance running jackets for ALL paid participants, awards for overall best runner, top runners and walkers by age category, kid’s corner and much more. For more information, please contact the Foundation office at 302-575-8270 or gkennedy@che-east.org. Register online today and save 302-575-8270 or gkennedy@che-east.org. Register online today and save www.races2run.com, $22.00 until 9/22; $25 same day.

Labor Day

Please note that the Parish Office and Grade School will be closed Monday, September 2nd in observance of the holiday. On Monday, Sept. 2nd, the only Mass of the day will begin at 8:00 AM. The Religious and lay staff at St. Anthony’s wish everyone a happy holiday!

Order Sons of Italy

PRINCE OF PIEDMONT LODGE #475

***PIG ROAST***

Saturday, September 14th – 1:00 — 7:00 PM
Piedmont Parking Lot—6th & Lincoln
Music, Food, Draft Beer, Soda, Cash Bar
(Must be 21)
Advance tickets--$35.00-At the Gate--$40.00
Call: Frank Serio—328-0696
Jim Lemmon—379-3911

BIC in Seaford!

Building Intercultural Connections (B.I.C.), a program developed by the U.S. Bishops’ Conference to provide church leaders with cultural training for the growing diversity in the Church, will be presented on Sunday, September 22 commencing at 11:00 AM with a multi-cultural mass, luncheon, and entertainment. The event will take place at Our Lady of Lourdes, Seaford, Delaware, and conclude at 6:00 PM. The outstanding curriculum is thought provoking and challenging. One recent participant stated that BIC is the, "most informative and honest conference I have ever attended." Admission is free. A $5.00 donation will be requested for a magnificent multi-cultural lunch. This conference is for clergy, religious, lay leaders, liturgists, educators, outreach coordinators, and all interested faithful. To register or seek further information, contact Br. Chris Posch, ofm at (302) 655-0518 or chrisposch@gmail.com, or go to the diocesan web site www.cdow.org, scroll to the lower right under News/Upcoming Events and click BIC. The registration deadline is September 9. Space is limited, so register today.

Remaining Festival Food Items

For Sale Next Sunday

Want to have the delicious tastes from the Festival available year round? Here is your chance! The following food items (fresh frozen immediately after being cooked) remain from this year’s Festival and are available for purchase. Prices listed are per item. The items will be available for purchase & pickup at church after the 9AM Mass on Sunday, 9/8. Payment may be made in cash, check (payable to St. Anthony’s Italian Festival), or via credit card (Visa/MasterCard/Discover).

- $15 - 31 1/2 trays of porkette
- $10 - 6 2 lbs. boxes of onion rings
- $10 - 4 4 lbs. boxes of mozzarella sticks
- $5 - 11 large bags of broccoli rabe
- $25 - 4 full trays of par boiled sweet sausage
- $25 - 3 full trays of par boiled hot sausage

Vocations

You can worry about the priest shortage in our Church today – or you can do something about it – join the Diocesan Vocations Guild. The Guild is open to Catholics from within or with ties to the Diocese of Wilmington who pray for, encourage and support the bishop, priests, religious, deacons and seminarians of the diocese. The objectives of the Guild are achieved through prayer, service and the affirmation of the importance of the priesthood, diaconate and the religious life to the mission of the diocese. For more membership information, contact Mary Ann Peirson at 302-573-3113 or mpeirson@cdow.org.
Monday, Sept. 2 through Sunday, Sept. 8

(All events listed in the Parish Calendar are in church unless otherwise noted.)

Rev. Roberto Balducelli, OSFS
Third Pastor of St. Anthony’s

Olive Wood Carvings From The Holy Land
St. Anthony’s will welcome Bethlehem Christian Families (BCF) to the parish the weekend of September 7-8. This group creates handcrafted carvings made with olive wood native to the Holy Land. Products offered include nativity scenes, crucifixes, and depictions of the Last Supper, among others. The proceeds from the sales benefit the Christian families living in that region. These families depend on income from tourism for their livelihood. However, in light of recent upheaval in that part of the world, their income has been greatly reduced due to diminished levels of tourism. The group now travels to the US to sell their products at Christian churches in our country. Proceeds raised are returned to the craftspeople who created the items. Please consider supporting this worthy cause! If you have any questions please feel free to visit the BCF website at: www.holylandcarvings.com or to email them at: emanbarhoum@gmail.com

Spaghetti Dinner Co-hosted by
40 Days For Life & Rachel’s Vineyard
Saint Faustina – Messenger of Mercy, a one-woman drama about the Divine Mercy Saint, comes to St. Helena’s Parish, 602 Philadelphia Pike, Wilmington (Masci Hall) on Saturday, Sept. 7th. Nancy Scimone portrays St. Faustina. The evening will benefit Rachel’s Vineyard of Wilmington (a post abortion healing program) and 40 Days for Life. The event begins with 5:00 PM Mass, followed by a spaghetti dinner, a talk by Fr. John McFadden, veteran pro-life activist, and the drama. Tickets are $20. Reservations are required due to limited seating. Please call Lorie (302-994-8861) for reservations and details.

What Do Catholics Believe and Why?
Please join the parishioners of St. Joseph on the Brandywine parish as we embark on an exploration of the groundbreaking series Catholicism. The series includes ten lessons, which our parish will present over the next three years. The first session will be on Wednesday, September 18, in the Family Center. To give as many people as possible the opportunity to view this important series, we will present each lesson during both afternoon (12:45 to 2:15) and evening (7 to 8:30 p.m.) sessions. The first lesson, “Happy Are We: The Teachings of Jesus,” focuses on Jesus as the Son of God and his stunning invitation to a unique way of life. Advance registration is appreciated but not required. Contact Loretta Carlson (302.836.5883 or lcarlson@tree-tech.com) to register or with questions. For directions to St. Joseph on the Brandywine in Greenville, go to our Web site: stjosephonthebrandywine.org.

Catechists Needed: Substitutes
Do you want to share your faith with the young people of our parish? The religious education program (P.R.E.P.) is looking for people willing to teach our parish children ages 6-12 when the teachers need to take a Sunday morning off. Classes begin at the end of September and will be held most Sundays after the 9am mass from 10:05am to 10:55am. If you are interested or would like to learn more, please call Patty Roach at 421-3700 ext 100.

P.R.E.P. Registration/Re-registration
If you have not registered your child for PREP/CCD classes for the upcoming 2013-2014 school year, please do so as soon as possible. Registration forms are available at the Rectory on Monday, Thursday and Friday from 8am – 4pm. You could also have the form emailed to you. Please contact Patty Roach at 302-421-3700, ext 100 or by email at proach@stanthonynet.org.
PASTOR’S INVITATION TO MINISTRY

With the beginning of the back-to-Fall Parish schedule, I invite all our parishioners to consider joining the ranks of active Parish Ministries. There are many men and women who are already involved and more would be a welcome addition to the work of the Lord. While serving on the Parish Ministerial teams might seem like an act of volunteerism, it is actually quite different than that. The Church is for all, of all, and by all. More than an organization or an institution, the Church is the presence of Christ in each of us. Taking an active role in the weekly celebration of worship is an exercise of service to each other and a means to personal holiness and conversion. Consider the opportunity to deepen your faith by joining the men and women who already serve in the ministries described herein. Call the rectory (421-3700) if you would like to be included in the baptismally active members of St. Anthony of Padua Ministry.

PARISH MINISTRIES TO CONSIDER

By reason of Baptism, each member of the parish is entitled to become actively involved in the various ministries of the community. Listed below are those ministries that are available to our parishioners. The mission of any parish remains vital to the extent that its members step forward and offer their time and personal gifts through ministerial involvement. Participation in parish ministry is a faith-growing experience for oneself and a life-giving gift to one’s brothers and sisters gathered in Christ.

EUCHARISTIC MINISTER – Assist with the distribution of Communion at Mass and bring Communion to parish homebound (one or the other, or both). Serve as one who graciously offers the Supper of the Lord.

LECTOR – Proclaim the Word of God at the Eucharistic Liturgy. Speak the prophetic message of the Lord to the parish.

CANTOR or CHOIR – Lead the parish in song during the Eucharistic Liturgy. Draw the parish to sing with the choirs of angels.

MINISTER OF HOSPITALITY – Greet parishioners and visitors arriving for Mass and distribute missalettes, Parish Bulletins, other relevant literature. Welcome others in the name of the Lord.

ALTAR SERVER – Young people of the parish serving Mass for Sundays, Funerals and Weddings.

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT – Decorating the Church for holidays and special occasions. Embellish the Temple of the Lord in all its splendor.

HOUSEHOLD MINISTRY – Caring for the appearance of the Church after each Mass by clearing pews and shrines of papers, securing votive candles in canisters, etc. Honor the holy ground upon which the Lord is present to his people.

USHERS/OFFERTORY MINISTERS – Assisting parishioners and visitors with seating, collecting the offertory, attending to activity in the aisles and pews, assisting handicapped worshipers with simple needs. Accept the holy sacrifice of the people and present it to the Lord of the Holy of Holies.

SUNDAY-SOCIAL HOSTS/HOSTESS – Assisting with the serving of refreshments after 11:00 Mass for socials on the first Sundays of the month. Bring people together as an extension of Parish fellowship.

SUNDAY SACRISTAN – Setting up for Masses on Sundays and returning vestments and vessels to the closets and cabinets after Mass. Prepare the Church for the coming of the Lord.