

ST. FRANCIS de SALES CATHOLIC CHURCH

320 NORTH CHURCH STREET • ROBESONIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19551



PASTORAL STAFF

Very Rev. Thomas P. Bortz, V.F., M.Div. ----- Pastor
Rev. Zachary R. Wehr, M.A., M.Div.----- Assistant Pastor
Rev. Philip J. Maas, M.A., M.Div. ----- Assistant Pastor
Deacon Rick Lanciano----- Permanent Deacon
Deacon Ed Sanders----- Permanent Deacon
Deacon Tom Devaney ----- Permanent Deacon
Alison Snyder ----- Director of Education
Christina Kopinski----- Administrative Assistant

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

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

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
tbortz@allentowndiocese.org

Website
www.stfrancisrob.org

Office Hours
Monday - Thursday:
8:30 am - 12 noon
& CLOSED Fridays

Diocesan Victim
Assistance Coordinator

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

Direct Telephone:
800-791-9209

Diocesan Safe
Environment Coordinator

Pamela J. Russo, MSW, MS
Secretary for Youth Protection
Diocese of Allentown
1515 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive
P.O. Box F
Allentown, PA 18105-1538
610-871-5200, Ext. 2204
610-871-5211 (Fax)
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



March 19, 2023 ✕ The Fourth Sunday of Lent

Mass Schedule for the Week:

Sat., March 18, 2023~ Fourth Sunday of Lent

5:00 PM Kevin & Cindy Snyder

Sunday, March 19, 2023 ~ Fourth Sunday of Lent

8:00 AM Stanley Okonski

10:30 AM Micky McCarthy

Sat., March 25, 2023~ Fifth Sunday of Lent

5:00 PM Our Parishioners

Sunday, March 26, 2023 ~ Fifth Sunday of Lent

8:00 AM Richard Ehrenreich

10:30 AM Special Intentions: Gloria Areiza

Pray For Our Sick

Edward Bellina, John Binder, Rosemary C., Mary DeLong, Joseph Disabella, Savannah Ferrell, Dennis & Mary Ann Flemming, Judith Goelz, Nicholas M. Headley, Karen Houck, Rose Howard, Mark Hyde, John Jones, Leslie Livinghouse, Walter Muir, Joe Noll, Pat Snyder, Andrew Strangarity, Tom Suchon, Eleana Wilson

Lector & Server Schedule

Saturday, March 25th

5:00 PM ~ Servers: Callahan Lector: Gaston

Sunday, February 26th

8:00 AM ~ Servers: Tulli Lector: Carman

10:30 AM ~ Servers: Quinlvan Lector: Fullam

Parish Schedule

This weekend – Relief Collection for Turkey & Syria

Sunday, March 19 @ 11:45 am ~ Youth Easter Egg Hunt

Thursday, March 23 @ 10:00 am ~ Adoration

10:00am - Exposition

10:00am – 12 Noon - Adoration.

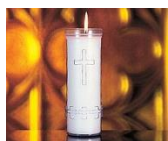
12 Noon - Mid Day Prayer and Benediction

Sunday, March 26 @ 9:00 am ~PREP

Spiritual Thought

"When Charity is deeply rooted in the soul it shows itself exteriorly: there is so gracious a way of refusing what we cannot give, that the refusal pleases as much as the gift."

St. Therese of Lisieux



~ Living Flame ~

Will burn the week of March 19, 2023

In Loving Memory of John Milia

Laetare

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.

Be joyful, all who were in mourning;

Exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

The Fourth Sunday of Lent traditionally has been known as *Laetare Sunday*, so-called from the first word of the antiphon at the Introit (Entrance Antiphon). *Laetare* (Rejoice), taken from the Latin translation of Isaiah 66: 10-11, sets a joyful tone of joyful anticipation of the Easter mystery, as does the suggested use of rose colored vestments. Likewise, the music may bear a more joyful tone and, where appropriate, flowers may adorn the altar.



Readings for the Week

Sunday

1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41

Monday

2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22;
Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a

Tuesday

Ez 47:1-9, 12; Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday

Is 49:8-15; Jn 5:17-30

Thursday

Ex 32:7-14; Jn 5:31-47

Friday

Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday

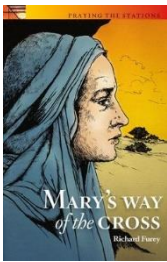
Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38

Sunday

Ez 37:12-14; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45

Our Return to the Lord

Week of March 12, 2023 ~ \$ 4,338.00



Any women of our parish who would be interested in volunteering to lead the Mary's Stations [HERE](#) on Good Friday, April 7 @ 7:00 PM, are asked to notify SFDS office.

ALL are welcome to attend!



Signups are encouraged for Sammy's Steaks Food Truck to be prepared – whether dining in or taking out - and available on the side table in the narthex. Sammy's Steaks accepts all forms of payment. Baked goods will be available in the basement – be sure to stop by!

FOR
LENT
FOR LIFE

4th Sunday of Lent ~

SHARING SUCCESS

Most people in Turkana, Kenya raise livestock, and a few are farmers. But the hot and dry climate makes this work difficult—and climate change is making it even harder. Rebecca and Lotiang participated in a Catholic Relief Services program that installed a water well and taught them new farming techniques. They can support their family with their crops and are teaching others in their community what they learned. How can you use your skills and knowledge to help others?

Visit crsricebowl.org to learn more.

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BOWL



We just heard another of those wonderful stories found in John's Gospel. Each story is told to teach us something, to get us to look deeper into life. This is a story of light and sight - about not seeing the light, being afraid to see the light, seeing the light, and tragically refusing to see the light.

Jesus, the light of the world, gives sight to the man who has been blind from birth. The waters of the pool of Siloam wash away the muddy earth from his eyes, and he sees - an obvious reference to the waters of Baptism.

It's hard to believe that the Pharisees could be so obstinate in their refusal to believe what the man reported to them. They are blinder than the man ever was. Even the parents are afraid to believe their own son's story, for fear of being put out of the synagogue.

The Gospel points out that Jesus wasn't only interested in the man's bodily sight. He came to give him "saving sight" - the fullness of faith in him as God's Son and Savior of the world. The man's belief in Jesus cost him his place in the synagogue.

The final scene of the story shows us the tragedy that is unfolding. Those who took great pride in their religious sight are not open to the light that Jesus brings. They are the truly blind.

Each of us from time-to-time shares in the various attitudes displayed in the Gospel story. Sometimes we are like the man born blind and Jesus must give us sight. Sometimes, like the Pharisees, we're reluctant to see his workings in those around us. Like the man's parents, we can be afraid to acknowledge the light of Christ because others may criticize us, or worse, reject us. The Gospel is encouraging us to live faithfully by the light that Jesus gives us.

The conclusion of the Gospel is a warning: there are no privileged people in the community of faith. Jesus is the source of the light by which we all see. If we choose to be our own light, we risk eternal blindness.

May each of us have the courage to examine our own way of seeing and again choose Jesus as our light.

<https://www.oblates.org/sundays-salesian-feed/fourth-sunday-of-lent-march-19-2023>

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ACCEPT GOD'S CHALLENGE

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to the priesthood or
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~ Fr. Tim McIntire, OSFS ~
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