

The Goodnewsletter

*A Newsletter for Members of St. Ann, St. Vincent de Paul
& St. Patrick Parishes*

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A NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR . . .

On June 20th, our first parish meeting was held in the Family Center. There were some 55 people in attendance.

To prepare for the parish meeting a survey was posted on the parish website and available for parishioners to answer. Some submitted an available paper survey. The results are posted on the parish web site and will remain available for anyone to consult throughout the year. Some 58 persons answered the survey. The results ran to some 50+ pages. A synthesis of the material will be posted on the website soon. However, I urge everyone to read the survey responses. All of the responses were well thought out and cogently expressed. There seems to be a remarkable consensus on many matters and a thoughtful disagreement on others.

At the parish meeting, fortunately, it turns out; I was not able to present a synthesis of the survey because I could not hook up my laptop to the projector. As a happy consequence the conversation among the participants begins right away, based upon what they wanted to express and not as a response to my presentation. The conversation was spirited and fruitful. Participants focused on three overriding issues: faith formation, stabilizing our financial situation, and outreach in general but particularly to youth and young adults. A variety of views were expressed and differences were very respectfully expressed and received. Several members of our parish and finance councils were present and took part in the conversation and both groups are in the process of selecting which of the various suggestions—from the meeting and the survey—to focus on during the year.

There was an extended conversation—reflected also in the survey—about religious education of our youth. It quickly was pointed out that we would be better served to speak in terms of *faith formation* as this implies a life-long deepening of our understanding of our faith for all ages and involves not only book learning but experiential opportunities as well. For example, it was noted that a great deal of learning about the faith occurs by participation in the youth choir, and during Mass as lectors and altar servers.

The parish council, meeting after the parish meeting, strongly endorsed this approach. As a result, a meeting was planned for the end of August to which anyone in the parish was invited to begin designing a faith formation program for all ages and interests. These efforts will of course be ongoing and anyone is free to “jump in” at any time.

The finance council, in their subsequent meeting, also discussed the parish meeting and the survey results and is planning ways to respond.

There were several suggestions from both the survey and the meeting that can be acted on without a great deal of effort. Others will require time to craft appropriate responses.

Overall, the general feeling expressed was that the survey and the open meeting were both good attempts at involving parishioners in the ongoing development of the parish by providing an opportunity for fresh ideas, constructive criticism, widespread participation and transparency.

~Msgr. John

Editor's Note

by Deb Kuni

Well our summer months are dwindling away. The Summer Festival is behind us. Most of us are looking forward to the fun fall events in the Berkshires and surrounding states. Fairs, festivals, comfort food!! Okay, that's not really an event, but I bet a lot of us still look forward to it.

In this issue of our tri-parish Goodnewsletter we have updates from our Circle of Friends, Religious Education (now called Faith Formation), the Summer Festival and more. Deacon Dan has provided us with some great articles to increase our faith awareness.

Lorry Decorie has written a fun article on the various hats among our religious history. Be sure to check it out starting on page 3.

I hear from Fr. Richard every few weeks and he assures me that he is missing Lenox and all the great people he has met here and wants you all to know that he appreciates how welcome you made him feel in the short 4 months he was here. When his 8 months stint is up around February, who knows, he may get assigned here again!

So enjoy this issue and keep us in mind when you need to get the word out or have something to share!

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To the people of St. Ann, St. Vincent dePaul, and St. Patrick parishes:

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU

As I leave the Berkshires after only four months here, I go with a deep and profound gratitude for the love, kindness, and support that all of you have shown to me. I will be forever grateful for the welcome that you also offered to my Golden Retriever, Angel. I now ask for your prayers that God will bless both me and the people I am called to serve in Ware. Be assured of my prayers for all of you. My new address is:

St. Mary Church
60 South Street
Ware, MA 01082-1619
413-967-5913
God bless you!
With my love,

-Fr. Richard



St Patrick Cemetery Project

Thank you to all who have completed and returned the Burial Record Form. From those forms we were able to update our permanent records. If you have not filled in and returned the form, there are copies in the back of the Church or you can request them by calling the rectory at 413 232-4427. Any information you can supply regarding relatives and/or friends buried in St Patrick's Cemetery, is good information.

Thank you.

CLERICAL HATS

“IF THE HAT FITS...”



For those born in the 20's, 30's and 40's, the memory of seeing their parish priest walking from the rectory to the church to say Mass dressed in a long black cassock with a three cornered biretta on his head, was a common sight. The black hat with a fuzzy pom-pom on top is a rare sight today in the USA but the red version is still worn by cardinals in conclave.

The biretta may have had its origins as a hood atop a rough cloak worn by the privileged few. In 1268 the wearing of hats by clergy was forbidden unless they were on a journey. Their heads were to be uncovered in church and in the presence of their superiors. Higher graduates of universities were exempted.

The biretta, as we know it, began as a soft skull cap with a small tuft which evolved into three peaked ridges due to the manner it was picked up with the fingers. Fifteenth century drawings depict university dignitaries, cardinals in conclave and preachers addressing assemblies in such caps. By the 16th century, the privilege of wearing caps was extended to lower grades of the clergy; gradually the color became the distinguishing characteristic, cardinals wore red and bishops wore violet. Birettas are worn in procession, when seated and when the priest is performing any act of jurisdiction as reconciling a convert and in the past when giving absolution.

Modern birettas vary in shape depending on the local styles, E.G. German, French and Spanish birettas have four peaks. Roman custom proscribes tassels. American priests are rarely seen in a biretta or even the long black cassock.



The small round skull cap or zucchetto is more familiar to modern Americans as it is the hat of bishops, cardinals and popes. It is worn in its own right or under a biretta. Red designates a cardinal, even if they are members of an order, e.g. Franciscan. Violet is for bishops and of course white is the papal designation.

Bishops and cardinals wear their zucchetto at Mass but remove them during the Canon. A bishop will remove it when giving benediction.

Zucchettos don't appear before the 13th century. The camauro is the papal zucchetto first found in 15th century art and sculpture but it was red velvet and bordered with ermine, and it may be large enough to cover the back of the head and ears.

Popes may bestow the privilege of the zucchetto to abbots or other dignitaries but is normally restricted to white linen.



The mitre, another hat of bishops, cardinals and popes and has many styles, e.g. when bishops attend a general council or a solemn pontifical act, they wear a plain linen mitre while cardinals may wear a simple damask silk.

The three types of mitres are: Mitra Simplex, Mitra Pretiosa and Mitra Auriphyrygiata. The simplex is white silk or linen and entirely without ornamentation. The fringe on the lappets is red. The Simplex is worn on Good Fridays, at funerals and at the blessing of the candles on Candlemas-day; also in general council and for solemn pontifical acts. The bishop removes the mitre when praying the oration at Mass, when conferring Holy Orders and at the Canon. This is in keeping with Corinthians 11:4, "...that a man should pray with uncovered head."

ST. ANN FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM

This year 24 children made their First Holy Communion on May 7th. The church was filled with friends and families witnessing this Holy Day, as Msgr. John J. Bonzagni celebrated Mass. A reception was held at the Family Center, sponsored by the First Grade class. I would like to thank their teachers, Karen Léger, Joanne Lane and Kathy Face, for preparing the students for this day.

We are in need of three teachers and a few aids for next year's classes. A teacher's responsibility is to prepare lessons and activities for the students. There are teacher's manuals that can be used for instruction as well as student books or materials. The kindergarten teacher would teach 1 class a month during the 9:45 a.m. Mass on a Sunday. The first grade teacher would meet with their class twice a month. The second grade teacher and aids would meet most Sundays from 8 a.m. until the 9:45 a.m. Mass. They are responsible for preparing the students for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion.

Monsignor Bonzagni, the CCD Board and I will make changes to next year's faith formation program. Father will be sending a letter to all year's families along with a registration form. We plan to celebrate the upcoming year with a Mass on Sept. 18, at the 9:45 a.m. Mass. Following Mass there will be a coffee hour when we will explain the new programs, times, and schedules.

Peace,
Joan Davis

Circle of friends By Carol Kirby



As many of you already know, "Circle of Friends" is a group of caring volunteers from St. Ann, St. Vincent de Paul and St. Patrick parishes who assist at funeral receptions when the family of a parishioner has requested the use of the family center for a reception following a funeral. We continue to have new members join our group. Everyone joins for a different reason. Some of the members we have spoken with are joining because they have gone through the loss of a loved one and they know how difficult it is and want to help other families. There have been times when parishioners have called and said they know the grieving family very well and they would like to help with the funeral reception and because their experience at the reception was so meaningful they continue to stay and become members of the group and help with funeral receptions for other parishioners.

Recently, we had a very rewarding experience. After assisting at a funeral reception, one of the immediate family members of the parishioner that passed away asked if they could join the Circle of Friends. They knew how much their family had appreciated the support of the members of the group. Both the men and women members of our group agree it is a very rewarding experience to assist the families at the funeral reception.

We have increased the number of volunteers in the group so each member will not have to assist at every funeral reception. If you are interested in joining the Circle of Friends, please contact parish council community outreach commission member Carol Kirby at 637-2188.

We would like to thank all the St. Ann parishioners for the wonderful comments in the recent survey regarding the Circle of Friends.

May God bless you.

New Genesis

You may be wondering “what exactly is this ‘New Genesis’ program” we’ve read and heard about recently at Mass? The mission of New Genesis is to bring dignity, respect and wholeness to individuals of different abilities and their families within our parish communities. It all began when two parents of adult children with different abilities were comparing notes about how their children were not connected with their church community. As parents of young women with special abilities, it was sometimes difficult to know whether they would be welcome to attend a church event or even church.

An opportunity presented itself when at a St. Patrick’s Church Parish Council meeting we were challenged to come up with ideas for a Tri-Parish Mission Week. Remembering our conversation, it was suggested that a possible event would be to invite individuals of special abilities living in group homes in the community, as well as those living at home, to a social event to meet and get to know parishioners from our parish communities. A tri-parish committee called New Genesis was formed with representatives from each parish along with site managers from group homes. Our deacons Dan Romanello and John Zick joined in with the blessing and support of Msgr. John Bonzagni and Priest in Residence, Fr. Richard Bondi. In an effort to be welcoming to all those in need in our communities, our events are non-denominational, social events. Spirituality will need to come later from within.

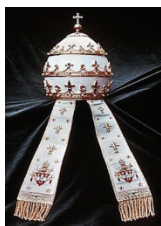
We are delighted that our kick-off event on May 22, at St. Ann’s Parish Center was a great success with 55 individuals in attendance. The afternoon began with our guitarist playing and everyone singing “Alleluia” and continued with a sing along, dancing and refreshments for all. Feedback tells us it was a “rousing event”. Conversations were inviting and accepting, and it was enlightening to witness everyone joined as one community. Fr. Richard’s wonderful dog, Angel, joined in meeting and greeting everyone. We would like to thank all who assisted, attended and opened their hearts to our community at this special event. We would also like to express our gratitude to the Circle of Friends for all their support and participation in the party. Thank you also to the Knights of Columbus for supporting the snacks for the event.

If you are interested in joining the New Genesis Committee, know someone with different abilities who would like to join our programs, or would like information about future events please contact Maren Jacobs (St. Ann or St. Vincent de Paul), at 637-1365 or Dolores Rocha (St. Patrick) at 698-2223.



-The New Genesis Committee

Hats continued from page 3



The Tiara often referred to as the “beehive crown” has been seen less and less in modern times perhaps in an attempt to reduce the “pompous and wealthy” connotations as many of them are heavily jeweled.

The tiara was not always a three layered crown nor is it even a liturgical item. It is only worn for processions and ceremonial functions. The pope, as Bishop of Rome, wears a mitre for papal liturgical functions.

The first mention of the tiara was in the reign of Pope Constantine, 708-15, and until the tenth century it was a helmet-like cap made of a white material. It is not known when it became ornamented. The first reference to “tiara” was in 1099; under Pope Boniface, 1294-1303, it became richly ornamented. Lappets appeared at this time but were black in color and were so until the 15th century. The 13th and 14th century seemed to be the prime time for the tiara. There has been no change in its design since the 15th century.

SACRAMENTAL SERIES – PART 6

Deacon Dan Romanello, KM

Sacraments are outward, visible signs instituted by Christ to impart grace to those who truly believe in Him.

Holy Orders

According to the Catechism of the Roman Catholic Church, Holy Orders is the sacrament through which the mission entrusted by Christ to his apostles continues to be exercised in the Church until the end of time - thus it is the sacrament of apostolic ministry. The sacrament includes three degrees:

Episcopate (Bishop)

Presbyterate (Priest)

Diaconate (Deacon)

In the phrase “Holy Orders”, the word “holy” simply means “set apart for some purpose.” The word “order” (Latin: ordo) designates an established body with a hierarchy, and ordination means legal incorporation into an ordo. Therefore, a holy order is simply a group with a hierarchical structure set apart for ministry in the Church.

The sacrament of Holy Orders differs from the 6 other Roman Catholic sacraments in several ways. The first is that Holy Orders only can be administered by a bishop – he alone has the power to ordain priests and deacons. The second is that the sacrament of Holy Orders is not received all at once. When we are baptized, we are completely baptized by the single pouring of water. When we are confirmed, we are completely confirmed in a single ceremony.

Holy Orders, however, is given in degrees through the successive steps of diaconship, priesthood, and bishopric. At each stage, as in every sacrament, there is a celebration of grace and an imprinting of a character upon the soul that calls one to deeper communion with Christ and His Church.

Episcopate

Bishops are chosen from among priests in the Catholic Church and usually are leaders of territorial units called a diocese or see. Ordination as a bishop confers the grace to sanctify others as well as the authority to teach the faithful and bind their consciences. Bishops who fulfill this function are known as ordinaries because they have what canon law calls ordinary rather than delegated authority for a diocese.

Because of the grave nature of this responsibility, all episcopal ordinations must be approved by the Pope. A bishop is ordained to the episcopate by another Bishop (in practice, three or more bishops). He stands in a direct, unbroken line from the Apostles, a condition known as “apostolic succession.”

Ordination to the episcopate is considered the completion of the sacrament of Holy Orders. Even when a bishop retires from active service, he remains a bishop since the ontological effect of Holy Orders is permanent.

Presbyterate

The second level of the Sacrament of Holy Orders is the priesthood. Since no bishop can minister effectively to all of the faithful in his diocese by himself, priests act, in the words of the Catechism, as “co-workers of the bishops.” They exercise their powers lawfully only in communion with their bishop, and promise obedience to their bishop at the time of ordination.

The chief duties of the priesthood are the preaching of the Gospel and offering all sacraments of the church with the exception of Holy Orders and Confirmation. With special permission from the bishop, priests may confer the sacrament of Confirmation as unusual circumstances warrant.

All priests and deacons are incardinated in a diocese or religious order. Parishes within a diocese are normally in the

Sacraments cont. from page 6

charge of a priest known as the parish priest or pastor.

Diaconate

The third level of Holy Orders is the diaconate. Like priests, deacons report directly to the local Bishop and promise obedience to him. Deacons normally are assigned to one or more parishes and assist pastors on a daily basis in a broad range of pastoral and liturgical activities.

The ministry of the deacon is described as threefold service of the Word, Liturgy and Charity. Ministry of the Word includes proclaiming the Gospel during Mass, preaching and teaching. His liturgical duties include various parts of the Mass proper to the deacon, including being an ordinary minister of Holy Communion and proper minister of the chalice when Holy Communion is administered under both species kinds. Ministry of charity involves service to the poor and socially marginalized.

Deacons, like bishops and priests, are ordinary ministers of the Sacrament of Baptism and can serve as the church's witness at the sacrament of Holy Matrimony. Deacons also may preside over funeral rites outside of Mass; preside over various services such as Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, and give certain blessings.

Eligibility for the Sacrament

The Sacrament of Holy Orders can be validly conferred only on baptized men. This follows the example set by Christ and His Apostles who strictly chose men as their successors and collaborators. A man cannot demand ordination. Rather the Church has the sole authority to determine eligibility for the sacrament.

As the Catechism of the Catholic Church notes, the essential rite of the sacrament of Holy Orders for all three degrees consists in the bishop's imposition of hands on the head of the ordinand. He offers a specific consecratory prayer asking God for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and his gifts proper to the ministry to which the candidate is being ordained.

Other elements of the sacrament, such as holding it in the Bishop's cathedral during Mass and celebrating it on a Sunday are traditional but not essential.

THE YEAR OF DIVINE MERCY AND GOSPEL OF LUKE

Deacon Dan Romanello, KM

2016 has been designated by Pope Francis as The Jubilee Year of Mercy. Beginning on December 8th of last year – the feast of the Immaculate Conception – and ending on November 20th, these special months provide a formal invitation to extend uninhibited love, kindness and generosity to others. It's a time in which the Holy Father calls us to open our hearts wide in caring for all of our human brothers and sisters, especially the poor, the sick and the socially marginalized. Furthermore, this Year of Mercy is an opportunity for each one of us to personally experience the incredible, endless mercy of our Lord.

Encountering God's mercy provides us with the wonderful chance to enter into an intimate engagement with Him. Such a blessed encounter truly can transform our daily lives, relationships and work, and enhance our ability to embrace and experience all of life in a deeper, more meaningful way.

What is the meaning of mercy? Our Roman Catholic faith defines mercy as the disposition to be kind and forgiving. While founded upon compassion, mercy differs from compassion in an important way – it's the act of putting our feelings of sympathy into action by a readiness to assist – to help anyone in need - especially those in need of pardon or reconciliation.

Clearly, the exemplar of mercy for us is our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The canonical gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John all contain numerous examples of his teachings on the matter of loving and serving others proactively, unselfishly and without limitation. One gospel in particular, the Gospel according to St. Luke,

has traditionally deserved the title “the Gospel of Mercy”. Also known as the Gospel to the Gentiles, it portrays our Lord as the God who calls all of us to Him rather than just his people Israel – his love and care extends to all.

The theme of God’s merciful love skillfully ties the entire book of Luke together from beginning to end - mercy is its predominant motif. Secondly, the gospel contains a number of parables unique to Luke that highlight the all-inclusive, merciful love of God. These well-known scriptural passages include, but are not limited to, The Parable of the Good Samaritan in Chapter 10 and the Parable of the Prodigal Son in Chapter 15. St. Luke places special emphasis upon the universal scope of the Lord’s divine mercy, depicting it as a distinctive characteristic of the Kingdom of God dawning upon the world through Jesus Christ. Notice that the opening chapter of Luke’s gospel begins with two great canticles in praise of Divine Mercy - the Magnificat and Benedictus. Canticles are hymns or songs of praise. The Magnificat (Canticle of Mary – Luke 1:46-55) essentially is a hymn of thanksgiving to the God of mercy - a god of steadfast love and faithfulness. The Benedictus (Canticle of Zechariah - Luke 1:68-79) faithfully continues this theme of God’s benevolence and unbounded mercy.

The fundamental message of God’s Mercy is simple. It is that the Lord loves us – all of us. Further, he wants us to recognize that His mercy is greater than our sins so that we will call upon Him with trust; receive His mercy; and let it flow through us to others. Thus, all will come to share His joy. How can we show others the genuine, unlimited mercy of God? We say that God is compassionate but we ignore the poor. We acknowledge that God loves us unconditionally and has mercy on us yet we hold grudges against our friends. We profess our deep concern for mankind but fail to feed the hungry, console the sorrowful or clothe the naked.

How can we better recognize and care for the most marginalized in our society. Perhaps we might adopt the Divine Mercy formula below as a means of informing our behavior and actions, and help us to authentically reflect God’s mercy in our everyday encounters.

- Ask for His Mercy. God wants us to approach Him in prayer constantly, repenting of our sins and asking Him to pour His mercy out upon us and upon the whole world.
- Be merciful. God wants us to receive His mercy and let it flow through us to others. He wants us to extend love and forgiveness to others just as He does to us.
- Completely trust in Jesus. God wants us to know that the graces of His mercy are dependent upon our trust. The more we trust in Jesus, the more we will receive.

In closing, the words of Pope Francis in his Urbi et Orbi message on Easter 2013 are most instructive. The Holy Father proclaimed that:

God’s mercy can make even the driest land become a garden, can restore life to dry bones (cf. Ez 37:1-14). ... Let us be renewed by God’s mercy, let us be loved by Jesus, let us enable the power of his love to transform our lives too; and let us become agents of this mercy, channels through which God can water the earth, protect all creation and make justice and peace flourish.

2nd GRADE TEACHER NEEDED FOR CCD

Another school year is about to begin.
Our religious education program is in dire need of a teacher for Second Grade. Classes are preparing to begin and we have no teacher in place for our 2nd grade kids. If you can spare an hour a week to help us, please call Joan Davis at 841-5021 or the rectory office at 637-0157.

SUMMER FESTIVAL UPDATE

We have had another successful summer festival at Saint Ann's thanks to all of our fabulous parishioners. With months of planning and preparation all of our events were perfectly executed. Pat Neri helped spread the word by reaching out to our neighboring parishes with bulletin notices as well as newspaper announcements.

As I arrived early Saturday morning, Carol Kirby and her team of ladies were already busy laying out tantalizing pies, delectable cakes, and exquisite pastries. These homemade delights were a real crowd pleaser. Thank you to everyone who baked for us!

Our first 5k family fun run drew in a crowd of all ages. Shannan Reber coordinated all of our runners with her creative start/finish line and at the sound of the blow horn the runners took off like a flash of light. Joe Healy kept everyone well hydrated with the help of cold water springs' generous water donation.

Sylvia Zygawski was busy all weekend with the beautifully crafted theme baskets and cash raffle tickets. Each basket had its own charm and will be certain to make the winners smile with delight. Bob Romeo drew in the crowd with the excitement of the live auction while Bob Baumann and the Knights of Columbus served up lunch under the big tent. The Morley family had a full house at the kid's carnival with lots of great prizes for the children. The bounce house brought hours of joy and laughter.

The kitchen was bustling with action as our team of talented folks prepared for the evening's family fiesta. Thanks to Nejaime's for allowing us to utilize their space for storage. Our tables were lovely dressed with linens donated by Aladco and fresh flowers from several of our parishioners. The sweet sound of Jeanne Laurin and John Sauer filled the night air as folks enjoyed the spread from the Tex-Mex buffet. A special thank you to Big Elm Brewery and Furnace Brook Winery for providing adult beverages throughout the evening. Donna Piretti and Hanna Keator took movie night to the next level turning the family center basement into a drive in movie theater, with cardboard cars for all of the kids along with popcorn donated by the 99 restaurant. I can't thank our cleanup crew enough for sweeping in and taking care of business at the end of the night!

Sunday morning greeted folks with the sweet smell of maple syrup at our pancake breakfast offered by Fran Marinaro and the team from UNICO. It was so nice to watch the children of our parish serve guests as they arrived for their breakfast. Msgr. Bonzagni had a full house under the big tent for morning Mass as the sun decided to greet us through the last of the rain clouds. Our children's choir out did themselves with their glorious voices, once again.

Thanks to Laura Cestone and our friends at Scoop for donating the ice cream for our ice cream social. What a perfect way to wrap up our festival!

A very special thank you to our counting team, Lorry & Clyde Decorie and Barbara Bilyeu. Thank you for for keeping track of all of our financials, from the underwriting letter to counting all of the proceeds from each event.

The collaboration of efforts from everyone involved has been absolutely amazing. We are truly blessed to be part of such a loving and caring community. Thank you, Susan Love, for coordinating all of the volunteers and standing by my side throughout all of the planning. Christa Ames and her incredible organizational skills kept everything in order, thank you for leaping in right after your return from vacation! It was an honor to be this year's festival chairperson, the support and friendships created through this experience are gifts I will always treasure.

Peace always,

Valerie Lanfair, chairperson

2016 Summer Festival





The Pope is perhaps one of the most well-known figures in the world, and as the leader of the Catholic Church, he is the epitome of goodness and holiness. Most of us know Pope Francis as the guy who travels in a bulletproof car, shakes hands and blesses members of the public as he goes along, but there's more to him than meets the eye.

1. Pope Francis was born on 17th December 1936.
2. He was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina.
3. He first became a priest in 1969, but did not become Pope until 2013.
4. No other Pope in Catholic history has had the name Francis, and he is also the first Jesuit to be elected as Pope.
5. The world knows him as Francis, but his real name is Jorge Mario Bergoglio. He chose the name Francis in honour of St. Francis of Assisi, a Catholic friar born in 12th century Italy.
6. In his pre-priest days, Pope Francis used to enjoy dancing the tango with his then-girlfriend.
7. While some may think he studied Theology, Pope Francis actually studied for a Master's Degree in Chemistry and used to teach the subject in high schools.
8. Back in Buenos Aires, he worked as a bouncer in a bar – a far cry from the Vatican!
9. At the time of his election, medical professionals were worried about the health of Pope Francis. The missing lung which caused their concern was removed way back when he was a teen, but he is in very good health now.
10. His Holiness isn't one to sit back and get waited on hand and foot, choosing rather to cook his own meals. He's a big fan of cooking, and rumour has it that one of his speciality dishes is paella.
11. Pope Francis certainly isn't new to the papal world. When Pope Benedict XVI won the election in 2005, Pope Francis was a runner-up.
12. As loving and caring as he seems, we're not entirely sure about his stance on the issue of gay marriage. In 2001, he visited AIDS patients, going so far as to wash and kiss their feet. However, he has openly stated that gay marriage isn't included in 'God's plan', and caused a bit of uproar in 2015 when he allegedly had a secret meeting with Kim Davis, a Kentucky clerk who was jailed for refusing to marry same-sex couples.
13. Pope Francis likes to keep up with the modern world, and tweets to over 7 million Twitter followers on a

News From Our Parish Nurse



As summer speeds by, and what a glorious one so far, we have slathered on sunscreen and enjoyed our beautiful Berkshire Hills. Whether it be going to farmers markets, hiking in Kennedy Park, sitting on the lawn of Tanglewood or walking around town. We have been taking advantage of all the venues that the area has to offer. If only the season could last a little longer!!

But as cooler days and nights creep in our tendency will be to eat less fresh fruits and veggies, see less of each other and slowdown a bit, MAYBE lessen our fitness minutes. There are some remedies for this winter mode.

Berkshire Grown offers people an opportunity to shop for local products all under one roof right before the holidays. As always, Guido's has fresh everything to eat healthy year round.

As for exercise the Parish Center has a few programs to keep you moving. Tap Dancing in the basement will resume on September 9th It is geared for the novice who has dancing feet and music in their heart. A three mile walk through town is always on Tuesdays at 8:30. We have been seen walking through rain storms in the wind or snow. Friday mornings at 9 Kim Conley leads us through a yoga/Pilates lesson. It's a way to work your way back into regular exercise.

I truly believe that socialization is important to good mental health and the monthly woman's lunch is a great place to meet and chat with old friends or to make new ones. The first one of the season will be on Sept. 12th. Please join us at noon.

I would like to offer a new program. It is in fashion right now to color so I thought we could try an adult coloring book gathering. Maybe it will be a hit or maybe we will decide not to continue but it is worth a try.

Please be on the lookout for these programs this fall. I'd love to see you all at one or all of them. It is a great feeling to take time and come together.

-Dianne Romeo

Diocesan Pilgrimage Day to Mark

Jubilee Year of Mercy

Bishop Rozanski has invited all members of the Catholic Community in western Massachusetts to a local Pilgrimage Day marking the **Jubilee Year of Mercy**. The event is free and will take place **Sat. Sept. 10, starting at 10 a.m. at Camp Holy Cross in Goshen.**

The day will feature many spiritual activities including talks, reconciliation, Chaplet of Divine Mercy, a celebratory Mass with Bishop, as well as time to enjoy the beautiful grounds. Children and young adults are welcome, and weather permitting, swimming and boating activities will be available on the lake. The day is free. Bring a picnic lunch or hamburgers and hotdogs will be available at a nominal charge.

To register or learn more about the day, go to the diocese website: www.diospringfield.org or call 413-452-0559 and leave your name, phone number and number of adults and children who will be attending. Brochures are also available at the entrances of the church and family center.

St. Ann Cemetery Records

I want to stress the importance of the cemetery plot form on the next page. Many of you may remember that a few years back, I started a project to improve our cemetery records. Over the last 100+ years, our cemetery cards were not kept up as accurately as they could and should have been. So, I have been trying to account for as many burials and as many plot owners as I can.

It really all comes down to one thing: I need everyone who is reading this article, to ask themselves if they own a plot, have family who own a plot, or know of anyone in their family who has been long since buried in a plot at St. Ann Cemetery. Also if you or they have already filled out the form on the next page and sent it in to me.

If you answer yes to any of those questions, if you haven't already done so, I need you to complete the form on the next page with as much information as you know, and return it to the office. Even if it isn't your immediate family, fill a form out with what information you can. The information of who is buried in a plot is very key to the success of this project. I am cross checking all of our old cemetery cards against the new information that comes in, to be sure I can account for every grave and every person in our cemetery.

I can't do it without your help, so please take a moment and complete the form on the next page. You can place it in the collection basket, mail it, drop it off, whatever works! I have extra forms if you need them. Thank you in advance for any help you can offer! -Deb

Pope Francis cont. from page 8

regular basis. For the Francis fans out there, you can follow him @Pontifex and receive his words of wisdom on your Twitter homepage.

14. The papal leader speaks fluent Spanish, Italian and Latin, and doesn't struggle too much with English, German, Ukrainian, French and Portuguese either. A man of many talents (or should we say languages?)!
15. Pope Francis wouldn't say no to a game of football, since he's quite a fan of the sport. He still supports the San Lorenzo football team from his home town in Argentina. He has also been gifted many football shirts, and now has rather a large collection.
16. The Bible isn't the only book he enjoys delving into. In fact, he has read *The Lord of the Rings* and various other books by J. R. R. Tolkien.
17. He is currently a citizen of three different countries; Argentina, Italy and Vatican.
18. Rather than bask in his new-found fame as leader of the Catholic Church, Pope Francis decided to live in a small guest house in the Vatican, rather than the traditional apartments in which previous leaders resided.
19. In 2013, the same year he was elected as Pope, he was named as *Time's* 'Person of the Year'. He was chosen for this title because of the influence that he had already had in the short space of time as leader.
20. Pope Francis has been given many extravagant gifts over the years, and one of them was a Harley-Davidson motorcycle. However, rather than keeping it for his own pleasure and adventures, he sold it off and used the money to benefit homeless people. What a saint!

St. Ann Cemetery Burial Record

Section _____ Grave # _____ # of plots owned _____

Contact Info:

Your Name: _____

Your Mailing Address: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Are you the current contact name and phone number responsible for this grave? ___yes ___no

If no, please provide us with whom you think that name, address and phone number should be.

Name _____ Phone _____

Addr. _____

Family name of original purchaser of grave(s) _____


Please list the names and birth and death dates of all of your family members known to be buried at St. Ann Cemetery:

1. _____ Birth Date: _____
Death Date: _____
2. _____ Birth Date: _____
Death Date: _____
3. _____ Birth Date: _____
Death Date: _____
4. _____ Birth Date: _____
Death Date: _____
5. _____ Birth Date: _____
Death Date: _____
6. _____ Birth Date: _____
Death Date: _____
7. _____ Birth Date: _____
Death Date: _____
8. _____ Birth Date: _____
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9. _____ Birth Date: _____
Death Date: _____
10. _____ Birth Date: _____
Death Date: _____
11. _____ Birth Date: _____
Death Date: _____
12. _____ Birth Date: _____
Death Date: _____
13. _____ Birth Date: _____
Death Date: _____

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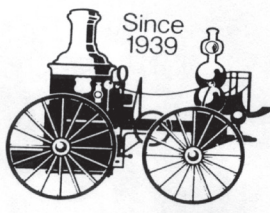
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