

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH

912 SEVENTH STREET, MOUNDSVILLE, W. VA. 26041

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Kindness

and truth shall meet;

justice and peace shall kiss.

Truth shall spring
out of the earth,
and justice shall look
down from heaven.

Psalm 85:11-12

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August 9, 2020 • Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

In Matthew's Gospel, Peter often serves as a representative of Jesus' other disciples, and of all who strive to follow Jesus. When Peter desires to imitate Jesus by walking on the water in the middle of the storm, maybe wishing to show how strong his faith is, he encounters his own limitations and his need to be rescued by Jesus. Jesus then says to Peter, with tenderness as well as with challenge, "O you of little faith." Jesus accepted the fragile and limited faith of Peter and the other disciples and loved them unconditionally.

The early church identified with Peter, as people with a "little" faith. Their faith was not fully mature, nor as extraordinary as others' faith might seem to be. But they knew that their faith, however small or imperfect, was real and true. We might remember that our own "little" faith is cherished by God. God loves us as we are, and always seeks to form us toward a fully mature Christian life of faith.

GROUNDED IN GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

Today's passage from Saint Paul's letter to the Roman begins an extended reflection, in Chapters 9–11, of Paul's coming to

terms with the mixed but generally negative reception of his fellow Jews toward his proclamation of Christ. He was concerned for the Jewish people certainly, but also for the members of the early church, who were both Jew and Gentile. His primary concern was that their Christian faith should always be grounded in God's faithfulness. So Paul rejected any notion that God somehow had abandoned Israel or God's covenant with them.

As Catholic teaching confirms, especially in the Second Vatican Council, the Church shares with the Jewish people in the tradition of God's faithfulness. We are to acknowledge and repent of the Church's participation and complicity in the darkness of anti-Semitism, both in the past and today. We pray continually with and for the Jewish people as our sisters and brothers in faith.

Today's Readings: 1 Kgs 19:9a, 11–13a; Ps 85:9, 10, 11–12, 13–14; Rom 9:1–5; Mt 14:22–33

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LIVING pandemic

personal reflections from our parishioners about managing life during difficult times

Ann Hudson: Her Story

“Never question God, and you’ve got to learn to pray. Don’t let anyone ever tell you differently.”

This is Ann Hudson, who has served many roles during her 88 years—one of them as a longtime member of our parish pierogi group.

“Independent” is how she’s described.

“... always was,” says Ann.

Faith and resolve have brought Ann through a constellation of life challenges. Widowed at age 38 with a young daughter to raise, she found her strength to become the breadwinner.

That journey deserves its own account. “I always knew how to take care of myself,” is how she sums it up. This also has helped her throughout life to sustain others in need.

Self sufficiency worked against her, however, when pandemic changed the world.

“I immediately put myself under quarantine,” says Ann. “I believed I would get it. ... they kept saying it kills old people. ... I wouldn’t even step onto my porch.”

For nearly three months, Ann did little else but clean house and watch “pandemic TV.”

She describes herself during this time as panicky, disgusted, and bored.

“I love people, but I lost touch. Loneliness was just terrible.”

It took a heart attack in June to break Ann free. Ongoing treatment confirms sustained stress triggered the attack.

“I did it to myself,” she admits.

Ann is back to “living for today,” but she knows she was forced there. She needed reminded, she says, that God decides when we die.

“He has one purpose for all of us, and when that is over he takes us,” says Ann. “Not knowing what that is or when we are finished is hard. ...but you can’t delay it—won’t work. You have to go live.”

Now, when stress creeps in, she takes a short walk or a car ride. She’s also glad for visitors—on her porch, of course.

*The
Sanctuary
Candle*
beside the tabernacle
burns this week to
honor
Don Gordon
from the Gordan Family

Masses for the Week

AUG. 8 4:00 P.M.	SATURDAY L. Richard Lewis & Deceased Lewis Family Members <i>(Teresa Vermeulen)</i>
AUG. 9 8:00 A.M.	SUNDAY Deceased Healy Family Members <i>(Rose & John Hess)</i>
10:00 A.M.	Mary Ann Barnes† <i>(Veronica DiCola)</i>
AUG. 10 8:00 A.M.	MONDAY Don Gordon† <i>(Carolyn Gordon)</i>
AUG. 11 8:00 A.M.	TUESDAY Chris & Terry McDonald <i>(Christian McDonald)</i>
AUG. 12 8:00 A.M.	WEDNESDAY Living & Deceased Members Joachim Dinh Hoc & Maria Mai Duom Family <i>(Tuyet Dinh)</i>
AUG. 13 8:00 A.M.	THURSDAY Family of Joseph Dang Ngoc Thai <i>(Tuyet Dinh)</i>
AUG. 14 8:00 A.M.	FRIDAY Family of Joseph Pham Thu Dang <i>(Tuyet Dinh)</i>
AUG. 15 4:00 P.M.	SATURDAY Debra Yost <i>(Cecilia Salines)</i>
AUG. 16 8:00 A.M.	SUNDAY Stephanie Eddy† <i>(Dwight & Leann Hanshaw & Family)</i>
10:00 A.M.	Marilyn Neidhardt† <i>(Joan & Wayne Lemasters)</i>

REV. THAT SON NGOC NGUYEN, PASTOR

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSIONS):
Sat. 3:30 p.m. or any other time upon request.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:
By appointment. Contact the parish office at least six months before the date of the marriage. Pre-Cana is required.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:
By appointment. The diocese requires instructions beforehand for parents or guardians. Contact the parish office.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (PSR):
Sundays during the school term at 9:00 a.m. to 9:50 a.m. for Grades 1-12.

REGISTRATION AND CHURCH SUPPORT:
Parishioners should be properly registered at the parish office.

Church Office Phone: 304-845-1593
Church Hall Phone: 304-845-9238
Xavier Hall Phone: 304-845-7080
Rev. That Son Cell: 408-858-7467

Email: sfxmoundsville@comcast.net
Website: sfxmoundsville.org

MASS SCHEDULE:
Weekends: Saturday - 4:00 p.m.
Sunday - 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m.
Weekdays: Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m.
Holy Days: 8:00 a.m., 7:00 p.m.

**PRAY FOR OUR
PARISHIONERS
& FRIENDS**



Prayer Request: Jim Campbell, Joseph Grampa, Ronnie Hill, Eleanor Smith, Mary Coffield, Jim Conner, Thomas Sullivan, Sara Walters, Bobby Kleinedler, Anna Mae Veronis Holiday, Wanda DeTemple, Mary Ann Barnes, Jane Klug, Sami Wilson, Bill Fowkes.

Homebound: Semon & Phyllis Prado, Rachel Kerekes, Doris Murphy, Deanne Ferraro.

Nursing Home: Ron Jaworski, Bill Tennant, Helen Remke, Bertie Gaughenbaugh, Barbara Meyer.

SPECIAL REMINDERS

- * To those who are troubled and infirm and cannot make it to Mass, be reassured you are not forgotten. You remain a vital part of our parish family. We are offering Mass intentions for you throughout this time.
- * We are briefly delayed in our rebooting of online giving. Information and details are coming your way soon!

LECTORS

Aug. 15 4:00 p.m. **A. Wise**

Aug. 16 8:00 a.m. **R. Hess**

10:00 a.m. **C. McDonald**

WEEKLY OFFERING JULY 26, 2020

Envelopes:	\$1,774.00
Loose Offerings:	\$383.00
Church Repair:	\$15.00
Xavier Hall:	\$60.00
Diocesan Collection	\$10.00
Attendance	106

Thank you for sending us your donations.

“Gabriel Angels” Thankful for Outpouring of Support

Parishioners and community members donated an impressive amount of baby items during the July Summer Shower to re-stock supplies for the Moundsville/ Marshall County Gabriel Project.

The GP mission at St Francis Parish also received significant monetary donations to purchase cribs, mattresses, car seats, pack & plays, and other items.

Your support helps fulfill our mission to protect and honor life by providing immediate and practical support to pregnant women and families with infants and young children under the age of three. Assistance provided by the Gabriel Angels helps families to parent and nurture their children and to keep them healthy and safe. Your generous giving to



Some of our Gabriel Angels with Summer Shower contributions.

our efforts is greatly appreciated and cannot be overstated.

Thank you for participating in the Summer Shower event and for supporting this ministry. Our clients and their babies also thank you. God bless. Please pray for this ministry, for our clients, and for our volunteers.

THE RELAY FOR LIFE

Luminaria Drive-Thru display is Aug. 22, which means time is running out to purchase bags from our SFX team. Luminaria are used to honor those lives touched by cancer.

Bags are \$5 each, and the cutoff for ordering is Aug. 14. Forms are available at our website and on the table near the exit of Xavier Hall.

Call Lottie at 304-845-4011 for special orders.

The drive-thru event is in place of the community gathering held annually during the spring by Marshall County Relay for Life.

KAREN ALL, OUR LOYAL cantor and fellow parishioner, also works with West Virginians for Life and has shared copies of a petition circulating throughout the state. Copies are on the table near the exit in Xavier Hall.

with sympathy

To the family and loved ones of

Charles Freeman, Cindy Gunto's beloved brother, our heartfelt condolences.

ATTENTION PARENTS: Father will meet Sunday, Aug. 16, at 11 a.m. with parents of those children whose First Holy Communion was delayed because of pandemic. Father believes it is unfair to make our children wait any longer. With your help, he would like to plan a Mass that is meaningful while remaining safe and allowing for social distancing.



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