

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH

912 SEVENTH STREET, MOUNDSVILLE, W. VA. 26041

304-845-1593

sfxmoundsville@comcast.net



September

13

2020

Twenty-Fourth Sunday
in Ordinary Time



Forgive your
neighbor's
injustice;
then when
you pray,
your own sins
will be forgiven.

Sirach 28:2

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When Peter asked Jesus how many times he must forgive, he was probably stunned at Jesus' response. Peter had asked, "As many as seven times?" Seven being the perfect number, surely this is enough forgiveness, Peter likely thought. Jesus' response seems lavish beyond proportion. "I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times." Jesus understands the fullness of God's mercy and teaches that disciples are called to this same lavish outpouring of mercy. God showers compassion on humanity, beyond what might seem sensible or wise, yet we are called to "remember the Most High's covenant, and overlook faults," to give others the benefit of the doubt, knowing that God does this and more with us, each and every day. As recipients of God's compassion, we must extend forgiveness and care beyond what might seem reasonable, because God's love is beyond human reason.

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HOW MUCH IS TOO MUCH?

All this might seem just too much for us. It is one thing to recognize God's enduring covenant love. It is another to grasp that we are called to the same sort of lavishness in mercy and forgiveness ourselves. Saint Paul helps us put this in perspective. We no longer live for ourselves, but for the Lord. In life and death, we belong to God and are called to be witnesses to God's love, even in the most challenging circumstances. A friend turns away from us; we are called to turn toward the friend with mercy. A co-worker hurts us; we are called to approach him or her with forgiveness, seventy-seven times no less! God's love is always about what is just and right. As God's people, we live and die for the Lord, forgive even when it doesn't make sense to do so, and leave the rest in God's hands.

Sir 27:30 — 28:7; Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12; Rom 14:7-9;
Mt 18:21-35

Artwork's Message Is Peace, Hope

We are thankful for this artwork by 12-year-old Felicity Britt and its message of peace, love, and hope for our world, especially during this time of pandemic. We offer it with a back-to-school prayer for all students and parents, teachers, staff, and other personnel that they enjoy a safe and blessed year.

Felcity is the daughter of Kenith and Jessica Britt and granddaughter of parishioners Vince and Bridget Scarbin. The drawing goes with a poem also written by Felicity titled *Light the Way* that can be found at the back of Xavier Hall after Masses and also with the online edition of this bulletin.



*God of wisdom and might,
we praise you for the wonder
of our being,
for mind, body and spirit.
Be with our children as they begin
a new school year.
Bless the children, their parents,
their teachers and staff.
Give the strength and grace as
their bodies grow;
wisdom and knowledge to their minds
as they search for understanding;
and peace and zeal to their hearts.
We ask this through Jesus Christ,
our Lord.
Amen.*

Catholic Grandparents Group's Focus

The first Sunday after Labor Day became National Grandparents' Day in the United States in 1978, when then-President Jimmy Carter signed a proclamation of Congress. Since then, many organizations have formed that are focused on the important role of grandparents. One is the *Catholic Grandparents Association*, whose mission is to help grandparents "pass on the

faith and keep prayer in the heart of family life." They offer many resources to help grandparents with active roles in the religious lives of their grandchildren. Learn more about them at their website: catholicgrandparentsassociation.org/.

Happy Grandparents Day, and special thoughts to those who are separated from their grandchildren during pandemic.

- SEPT. 12 SATURDAY**
4:00 P.M. **Theresa Myer†**
(Kim & Steve Starcovic)
- SEPT. 13 SUNDAY**
8:00 A.M. **Semon & Phyllis Prado**
(Danny Prado)
10:00 A.M. **Deceased members of the Hess Family**
(Rose & John Hess)
- SEPT. 14 MONDAY**
8:00 A.M. **Sami Wilson**
(The Saporito Family)
- SEPT. 15 TUESDAY**
8:00 A.M. **Bill & Nancy Termin†**
(Termin Family)
- SEPT. 16 WEDNESDAY**
8:00 A.M. **Theresa Myer†**
(Joan & Wayne Lemasters)
- SEPT. 17 THURSDAY**
8:00 A.M. **Bridget Delehanty McLaughlin†**
(Rick & Robin Targosky)
- SEPT. 18 FRIDAY**
8:00 A.M. **Theresa Myer†**
(Terry & Chris McDonald)
- SEPT. 19 SATURDAY**
4:00 P.M. **Phil & Mary Skvarka†**
(Phil Skvarka)
- SEPT. 20 SUNDAY**
8:00 A.M. **Deceased members of the Raymond/Padula Family**
(Family)
10:00 A.M. **Robert (Coke) DeCola†**
(Veronica DiCola)

"Kindness is firm and persevering intention to always will the good of others, even the unfriendly."
Pope Francis



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**



Recently Sick: Jim Campbell, Joseph Grampa, Jane Klug, Eleanor Smith, Thomas Sullivan, Sara Walters, Bobby Kleinedler, Anna Mae Veronis Holiday, Sami Wilson, Bill Fowkes, Shirley Moczek, Sue Riffle, Isabella Wood, Dale Whitlatch, Sandye Yoho.

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

Nursing Homes: Hazel Markey, Katie Renshaw, Joan Weekly, Alma VanSyoc, Ron Flading, Betty Kerns, Marie Lohori, Bill Tennant, Ron Jaworski, Amelia Rynkiewich, Raymond Pennybacker, Helen Remke, Barb Meyer.

Names of those recently sick will appear for approximately two months to ensure requests stay current. Please resubmit requests after this period for those who still need our healing prayers.

LECTORS

Sept. 19 4:00 p.m. **D. Evans**

Sept. 20 8:00 a.m. **M. Hitt**
10:00 a.m. **M. Lewis**

WEEKLY OFFERING AUG. 30, 2020

Envelopes:	\$3,720.00
Loose Offerings:	\$194.00
Church Repair:	\$130.00
Xavier Hall:	\$20.00
Online Giving:	
Assumption:	\$5.00
Holy Land:	\$73.00
Memorial Offerings:	\$100.00
Attendance:	162

*Thank you for sending us
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THANK YOU TO ANDREW, our visiting seminary candidate, for organizing our Labor Day church rummage sale. People are already asking when our next sale will be held.

Thanks to those who donated items and furniture and who came to help in many ways. Thanks also to those who came and shopped. Your generous support allowed our parish to raise more than \$1,200 for St. Vincent de Paul Society and the important work they do for the needy throughout the Ohio Valley.

EXPLORE ITALY

Catholic style by reading Dianne Ahern's adventure series *Lost in Peter's Tomb* and *Break In at the Basilica*. The books are featured reading this week at **FORMED.org** for kids and pre-teens who are fans of reading mystery and adventure stories.



The stories are based in modern-day Italy and follow a brother and sister on adventures with their aunt, Sister Philomena, who is a special agent to the Pope.

Together they encounter many adventures and much intrigue while showing readers stories of the saints and teaching them a few things about Italy and its culture.

These books, and many others, are free to you through your FORMED church membership. Sign up! You won't regret it. Easy, step-by-step instructions are provided in the FORMS menu at sfxmoundville.org. You can also call the church office for help signing up. We are glad to help.

PARISH SCHOOL of Religion classes will begin in-person Sept. 20 in the former SFX school.

Classes meet Sundays from 9 a.m. to 10:45 a.m., and the same pandemic safety guidelines used for our Masses will be followed. Students are asked to bring their own masks, but masks will be provided should anyone forget.

Parents who wish to enroll their children but have not yet spoken with a PSR teacher are asked to contact the parish office this week at 304-845-1593. It is important that we hear from everyone as soon as possible so plans can be finalized.

We look forward to hearing from families soon!

FROM ALL CORNERS OF West Virginia, 28 men have begun their formation to the permanent diaconate for the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. The group gathered at the end of August at St. John XXIII Pastoral Center in Charleston to begin the journey toward ordination as deacons to a ministry of service.

Those who are ordained will assist in distributing Holy Communion at Mass, baptizing, witnessing marriages, presiding at some funeral rites, proclaiming the Gospel, and preaching. Deacons often teach and counsel as well.

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Light the Way

by *Felicity Britt*
(12-year-old granddaughter of Vince & Bridget Scarbin)

We're away from each other. And that's hard. Family members. Friends. Neighbors. Teachers. You may even be missing that one Cashier at the store.

You could be missing a special place too. Libraries. Movies. Ice cream shops?

Anything.

You could be missing the time you shared with your loved ones. And Friends.

What about 2020? This was supposed to be one of the best years in your life! The only year with numbers like this. It was supposed to be lucky.

Election day. Graduations. Birthdays. Sweet Sixteens. Driving Tests. Our big chances we've been waiting for, for years.

Things feel kind of normal now. Our lives are different. Chances are, we are different.

People say that we are all unlucky. Maybe we are. But it is not every day you're living real history. This will be recorded in history books, movies. We are literally living in history right now.



Or good? Maybe.

Maybe this is our chance to help those in need. To bring ourselves closer to our families.

To realize, we're not alone in this world.

There are other countries, people, families, going through the same thing.

And they might not be so different from you.

We need to be the light to light our way out of this. To be the light to others who have already lost theirs.

To bring our world together.

This is our world. Our chance. Our lives. Our time.

We can make a difference if we choose to.

We will not give up on our dreams. We will not postpone our dreams. We will keep the light on. Our light. The light that shines through. Shines for others.

Be the Light



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