




Hope Appeal

Firm in Faith,
Active in Charity,
Together in Hope

**WE HAVE DONE IT!!!!
WE HAVE MET OUR GOAL!!!**

Thank you to all that have
participated. Thank you to
Father Foley for your
leadership.

Did you know that if you
still wanted to participate
in the Annual Hope Appeal
you can. Our parish will
receive 100% of all
donations moving forward!



Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

A Message from the Pastor

Jesus' words from the Sermon on the Plain in Luke's Gospel are incredibly difficult and important for our consideration. At a time when we find tensions heightened and society continually polarized, we should look with fresh eyes at Jesus' teaching here. *"Do to others as you would have them do to you. For if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do the same."* Often Jesus and the Gospel get summed up as something simple, watered down, "love" as something that is only soft and gentle. Here, however, Jesus' radicality of mercy is something clearly not as easily accomplished as we would like. We might think that we are following through and authentically living Gospel charity, but thinking about the many different relationships in our life, and the potential sources we have each week for frustration, bitterness, or discouragement—are we as united to the Gospel as we think we are?

We often have opportunities to extend this kind of love to others, and if you're like me, it's easy to not follow through. I think we are often more calculated in when or to whom we extend our mercy or forgiveness. If we follow the path of convenience when it comes to living this call, then the truth is we have room to grow, room for ongoing conversion. Jesus knew the rejection that would come, even from his own disciples, yet he still chose the merciful path of the cross. Jesus is challenging us to lean into his heart to learn how *he* loves, how to love even when it hurts, and even when we have little or no desire to. This is **only** possible with grace, and a good starting place in prayer (if we are struggling with this) is simply asking the Lord to plant within us the *desire* for this expansion of heart. It is the necessary starting point—not the actual action of the extending mercy or forgiveness, but simply starting with "Lord give me the desire to even want to be merciful or generous". We might see better progress if we can see the first step.

The reality of this teaching is that Jesus is asking our hearts to be reflective of the very nature of God—which is why this teaching is far more complex and difficult. It is *not* natural for us to want to be merciful or kind toward those with whom we have disagreements. It typically is *not* our inclination to be generous to those who we don't know. But Jesus is inviting us to a higher level of love an interior, detached freedom, which is why he boldly asks us: *Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.* Can you do it? A takeaway we might conclude is that even when we are simply striving to do this, albeit imperfectly, grace can break through and open us to deeper charity we didn't even know was possible for us. It might be helpful to see those around us as our context for holiness—all the people in our life who we regularly interact with are somehow calling forth virtue (patience, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, etc) from our hearts whether they are doing it intentionally *or not*. Our choice to stay close to the Holy Spirit to inform our words and actions in how we interact with others makes all the difference—and God delights in offering us his Spirit when we are bold to ask for it.

Recall some of the progressions in scripture over our last few Sundays. The prophet Isaiah, St. Paul, St. Peter—each of their call stories reflected an openness to purification and transformation by divine grace, in order to then be sent out on mission after having received divine assistance. Last Sunday, we were reminded of the blessedness that comes from finding ourselves poor for living detached from worldly perspectives because of how it opens us up to faith and the ability to receive everything we could possibly need from the Lord. If today we find ourselves pondering the difficulty of the words of Jesus' Sermon on the Plain, it might just be the Holy Spirit inviting us to ask for the grace we need to live more intentionally authentic Christian charity. We just might discover that when we choose to embody not our own kind of love but rather that of truly divine mercy, we are progressing in the path of holiness.

February 23, 2025

Centennial Corner

In 2003 the parish hosted the first Basket Bonanza, which has since turned into one of our largest fundraisers for the school & parish. Lucy Pairs mentioned she got the idea from her sister who was chairing a similar fundraiser at St Charles called "tricky tray." Lucy brought the idea to our Parents Assoc. & she said people were very skeptical that it would be successful. However Lucy kept pushing the idea until they finally agreed. One parent (Jim Sunser) who was president that year said he 'would do a dance on the table if it proved to be a success...'

Lucy continued "...well as we were counting money that at the end of the night Jim was dancing!! We raised \$13,000.00" Lucy went on to mention "It's was great entertainment but also a great way to get both the Parish & Community involved not only in attending but also participating in the way of contributing & donating" Its importance brings together the school, parish & community together socially.



Central and Eastern Europe Collection

On March 5th, Ash Wednesday, there will be a Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. Funds from this collection help support pastoral care, catechesis, building renovations and seminary formation. Please be generous.

St. Therese Society

The next St. Therese Meeting is Thursday, February 27th at 1:00pm in the Parish Office. Won't you join us!!

Save the Dates for our 100th Year Happenings

As Our Lady of Pompei / St. Peter Church celebrates its 100th Anniversary, mark your calendars and attend our monthly events!

February 27 Basket Bonza Organizational Meeting – anyone interested in helping with this event are invited to attend.

March 15-16 Coffee Hour after all Masses to celebrate our parish meeting our Hope Appeal Goal!

April 6 Breakfast with the Easter Bunny sponsored by the Holy Name Society in the cafeteria from 9:00am to 11:30am.

April 26th a 4:00 Centennial Mass followed by the 6:00pm Centennial Gala.

May 10th is Basket Bonanza – Please start planning to donate a basket for this event. Our goal is 60 baskets!!

May 14th is the Holy Name Society Raffle!! So buy your tickets now.

More information will be forthcoming regarding these events.



Our Mission Statement

We, the members of Our Lady of Pompei / St. Peter, are called to acknowledge the Lordship of Jesus. As our parish affirms its heritage, we continue to reach out to those in need, bring the gospel to all who will receive it, and be formed in the image of Christ through worship and prayer. We value the talents of each of our members and feel it is the responsibility of all to contribute time, talent and tithe to our faith community.

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

This Week We Remember

Monday: February 24

9:00 am Mass at Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peter
For the People of Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peter

Tuesday: February 25

9:00 am Mass at Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peter
Maryann Vigliotti / Fran & Giovanni Valentino

Wednesday: February 26

9:00 am Mass at Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peter
William M. Merriett / Paul

Thursday: February 27

9:00 am Mass at Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peter
Pasquale Sisera / Wife, Gilda

Friday: February 28

No Daily Mass at Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peter

Saturday: March 1

4:00 pm Mass at Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peter
Benny & Terry Cimino / Son, Joseph
Henry & Esther Pagano / Family
Nicholas J. Silvaggio (B) / Tony, Nick & Joe
Ed Campagna / Kim Discenza
Al Petragnani, 2 month Ann. / Wife, Janet & Children

Sunday: March 2

7:30 am Mass Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peter
Maryann Scarfino & Francis Scarfino III / Family

11:30 am Mass at Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peter
Vito Toia / Betty & Family
Nick Muraca / Sister, Alex
Pietro Pappalardo / John & Margherita Cannizzaro
Joanna Federico Cox / Dad & Mom

Sacrificial Giving

Please contact Fr. Foley if you have any questions
about our parish finances.

February 2, 2025-\$2,844.00

As always, thank you for your generosity!



Bread and Wine

For Masses Celebrated
During The Week In
Loving Memory Of
Francis Sacco

Requested By Mary Margaret Aversa



Eucharistic Angels

Burning In Loving Memory of
Francis Sacco

Requested by Rosalie Trinca



Sanctuary Lamps

Burning In Loving Memory of
Mary Beth Felio

Requested by Sandy, Dan & Danny

Let's Celebrate

Kick off St. Patrick's Day with a Traditional
Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner with the
Guardian Angel Society on March 9th from
4:00pm-7:00pm at Cathy's Corner Cafe, 920
Avery Avenue, Syracuse 13204.

There will be raffles baskets, cash bar and live
music. Cost is \$20.00 per person. Tickets are
PreSale Only.

For meal purchases & sponsorship
opportunities: visit GuardianAngelSoc.org or
call 315-422-7218.

Hope to see you there!!

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

IGNITE 2025

Catholic Men's Conference: Saturday, March 29th

We are excited to announce that the IGNITE Catholic Men's Conference is back with a great lineup of speakers: Bear Woznick, Fr Chase Hilgenbrinck and Ben Steele. As always Bishop Lucia will start the day with Holy Mass. IGNITE will return to Bishop Ludden Junior/Senior High School this year. Mark your calendar NOW and register early to save \$20. We are challenging everyone to not only register yourself but bring a family member or friend to share the day.

Please go to the event website for the bio's of the speakers, schedule for the day and to register. Register online at www.ignitecatholicmen.org

Holy Name Raffle Tickets In High Demand

Another 50 Raffle Tickets have been added to the Holy Name Raffle. So there will be 250 tickets instead of 200. The demand is high and the prizes are BIGGER!! The tickets are \$50.00 each.

- 1st Prize-\$4,000.00
- 2nd Prize-\$1,000.00
- 3rd Prize-\$500.00
- 4th Prize- \$500.00
- 5th Prize-\$500.00

Call Larry Cimino at 315 430 5645 or Joey Cimino at 315 430 0338 to reserve your tickets or for any questions. The drawing will be May 14th at their regular scheduled meeting.

Religious Education News

Saturday, March 1st Grades 5 & 6 will be presented to the parish at the 4:00pm Mass.

Grades 7 & 8 will introduced at the 4:00pm Mass on March 15th.

Faith Formation I & II will be presented at 4:00pm Mass on March 22nd.

Let us pray as one family

Please remember in your prayers the sick of our parishes and all those in hospitals, nursing homes and homebound.

Mike Affleck, Shawn Babcock, Nancy Bailey, Arlene Bukowski, Ashley Caiello, Robert Capria, John & Leona Ciferni, Vic Coogan, Catherine Cushman, Linda Deapo, Theresa Domathowski, Hank Donohue, Ginny and Erin Donovan, Audrey Emmi, Tenley Farrow, Marilyn Ferretti, Ruth Fabrizi, Ellen Gangemi, Gladys Graham, Robert Greenwood, Joseph Guinto, Jeanne Hammond, Mary Isgar, Carla Johnson, Juanita, Tony Lauretti, Shirley Kerr, Emma Lane, Kay Ledermann, Jackie Limeri, Luciano & Maria Luisi, Judy & Skip Marioritti, Michael & Darlene Morga, Diane Moro, Joe Nicoletti, Peggy Palerino, The Pavia Children, Emily Rosenthal, Cathy Galutz Sacco, Roseanne Scrimale, Faith Setzer, Marion Sherwood, John Sobon, Patricia Soule, Patrick St. Thomas IV, Barbara Traino, Gerry Vaccaro, Shelly Visco, Matthew Watkins, Fred Wheeler and Maureen White.

Due to HIPAA laws, hospitals are not allowed to give names of patients. Please notify the parish office, 315-422-7163 if you have a loved one in a hospital, nursing home or is homebound and would like a visit.

Liturgical Ministers

Weekend of March 1st-2nd

Lectors:

4:00 pm Ro Scalzo
7:30 am Jim Magnarelli
11:30 am Merino Merola

Eucharistic Ministers:

4:00 pm Team III
7:30 am Bill Brown
11:30 am Team III

Thank you Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers for making our parish family enter in a prayerful celebration of the Eucharist !

February 23, 2025

Love and Mercy:

Living as God's Children

Jesus teaches us to love one another as He has loved us—and that means showing mercy just as God is merciful to us. In the Gospel of Luke, He tells us, “Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful” (Luke 6:36). This means forgiving, loving our enemies, and giving without expecting anything in return. It may seem difficult, but God never asks us to do something He hasn’t already done for us. When we receive God’s mercy, especially in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we are reminded that His love is a free gift—we can’t earn it, and we can’t lose it. He welcomes us back with open arms and invites us to do the same for others. Each time we pray the Our Father, we ask God to forgive us as we forgive others. Jesus doesn’t include this to make us afraid of judgment, but to help us see that mercy transforms hearts. The more we understand how deeply Christ loves and forgives us, the more we will share that love and mercy with others in our daily lives.

A Family Perspective

In studying the effects of religion on family relationships, researchers inform us hostility and prayer can’t coexist. You cannot be hostile toward someone for whom you are praying. Today’s gospel encourages us: “Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who treat you badly.”

Vocations

“For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you.” God is never outdone in generosity. If you feel called to give your entire life in the priesthood, diaconate or religious life, God will reward you abundantly beyond imagining for responding. Reach out to the Vocation Office via email: vocations@syrдио.org and follow us on Instagram@vocationssyracuse.

Pilgrims of Hope

As pilgrims of hope, we journey in our faith with the saints. Today, Feb. 23, we celebrate the martyrdom of St. Polycarp is the earliest recorded account of a Christian martyr. Polycarp was a disciple of St. John the Apostle. He is remembered as an Apostolic Father, one who was a disciple of the apostles.

Pray with St. Polycarp Prayer:

Saint Polycarp, you were blessed to be among the first followers of the Apostles and worked fervently for many decades to spread and defend the pure faith. In the end, you gave witness to Christ with a martyr's death. Please pray for me, that I may learn from your witness and follow your holy example.

Ash Wednesday ☩

Stations of the Cross Schedule

The Mass schedule for Ash Wednesday :

7:30am Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peter
8:30am Assumption Church
12:15pm St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity
12:15pm Franciscan Place, Destiny Mall
5:00pm Franciscan Place, Destiny Mall
6:00pm St. Anthony’s Church

Stations of the Cross Schedule:

3:15pm Saturday at Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peter
3:15pm Saturday at Assumption Church
4:00pm Friday (before the Fish Dinners)at
St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity

Word of Life

“The essence of our identity is that we are created in God’s image and likeness and loved by Him. Nothing can diminish the priceless worth of any human life. Every person is cherished.”

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities

February 23, 2025

BASKET BONANZA SET FOR 5/10/25

GOT BASKETS AND RAFFLE ITEMS??

Basket Bonanza is a little later than usual but it is sure to be all the fun and excitement it always is!!!! The baskets and raffle items are always spectacular from themed baskets to every imaginable item from fun to exquisite!!!

So....we hope you will mark your calendars and join us on Saturday, May 10th in the school cafeteria. The fun starts at 5:00PM. Admission is \$10.00 and includes 2 free tickets to use for items you choose to take a chance on, the +-usual delicious food, great fun, door prizes and lots of opportunities to win awesome baskets and items!!!! Additional chances will be sold at the door. Get a table together or come solo...you will be glad you did!!!

Give us a call at the Parish Office for more information, reservations/tickets, to donate baskets or raffle items, or to join the committee. 315 422 7163. (Tickets will be available in church after all masses starting in April).



CENTENNIAL GALA APRIL 26TH!!!!

We hope you already have your calendars marked for the end of our 100 year celebration on Saturday, April 26th. It has been a year of spiritual and social activities for our Parish Family and we are looking forward to its commencing with our Parish Gala.

This wonderful event will be held on Saturday, April 26th at Barbagallo's Restaurant after the 4:00 mass. The evening will feature a very special program which includes a delicious sit down dinner, cash bar, live band, and a special souvenir remembrance. Tickets are \$60.00 a person and as always cash, checks and credit cards are accepted.

Tickets will be on sale in the back of church after all masses in a couple weeks, you can also call the Parish Office at 315 422 7163 to make reservations or for more information. Get friends and family together for a table, or come and join others. It's going to be a beautiful and enjoyable evening celebrating the many years and wonderful people of our 100 years as a Parish Family. We truly hope you will be part of it!!!!

