Saint Francis de Sales Parish
~ United by the Most Blessed Sacrament ~
proclaims the Gospel of Jesus Christ
in an urban setting,
to diverse members,
who form a Catholic community
of believers of all ages.
Our worship together
overflows into a life of
service, justice, and peace.

Mass Schedule:
Saturday Vigil: 5 PM
Sundays: 7 AM  8:30 AM (Vietnamese)
          10:15 AM
       12 Noon (Spanish)
Summer Weekdays (Monday-Friday): 8 AM; Satur-
          days: 9 AM
Confessions:
Saturday 4:15–4:45PM
Rectory Office Hours
Monday–Thursday  9 AM–3:00 PM
     Friday–CLOSED
To help us assist you,
please call and make an appointment.
Parish Staff
Sister Alice Marie Daly, IHM,
Director of Religious Education
Mrs. Karen Genzano Hand, Business Manager
Mr. Michael Nevadomski, Adoration
Mr. Bruce Shultz, Organist
Mrs. Isabel Boston, Choir Director
Mr. Wesley Parrot, Liturgical Musician
Convent
Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary
912 South 47th Street  +  (215) 727-3929
Sister Christine Lamb, IHM, Superior
Parish School
917 South 47th Street  +  (215) 387-1749
Sister Mary McNulty, IHM, Principal
IHM Center for Literacy
929 South Farragut Street  +  (215) 382-0292
Sister Sarah Lamb, IHM, Site Coordinator
Star Harbor Senior Center
4700 Springfield Avenue
(215) 726-7468

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NO COMPARISONS

How many times have we read or heard about someone who’s gotten into trouble—maybe even fired from a job—because of a brush with the law? While our “Christian” minds tell us to be sorry and even pray for the person, a little voice inside our heads may also be saying, “I’m glad I would never do anything like that.”

And perhaps we wouldn’t. But are there some things we do that are still not pleasing in God’s eyes? Today’s readings caution us not to look so intently at someone else’s wrongdoing that we overlook our own weaknesses and shortcomings. When we measure ourselves against the worst people we can think of, we come out looking pretty good. There is a danger, however, in using someone else’s behavior as a way of reflecting our own goodness.

TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — The Lord is a God of justice who hears the cry of the oppressed, the orphan, the widow, the lowly (Sirach 35:12-14, 16-18).

Psalm — The Lord hears the cry of the poor (Psalm 34).

Second Reading — The crown of righteousness awaits me (2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18).

Gospel — The tax collector stood at a distance, beat his breast, and prayed, “O God, be merciful to me, a sinner” (Luke 18:9-14).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Eph 4:32 — 5:8; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 13:10-17

Tuesday: Eph 5:21-33 or 5:2a, 25-33; Ps 128:1-5; Lk 13:18-21

Wednesday: Eph 6:1-9; Ps 145:10-14; Lk 13:22-30

Thursday: Eph 6:10-20; Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10; Lk 13:31-35

Friday: Eph 2:19-22; Ps 19:2-5; Lk 6:12-16

Saturday: Phil 1:18b-26; Ps 42:2, 3, 5cdef; Lk 14:1, 7-11

Sunday: Wis 11:22 — 12:2; Ps 145:1-2, 8-11, 13-14; 2 Thes 1:11 — 2:2; Lk 19:1-10

There are places and moments in which one is so completely alone that one sees the world entire.

—Jules Renard
SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM
The Sacrament of Baptism will be celebrated upon the request of the parents after the parents meet with the Pastor.
Each child may have two sponsors (“godparents”), a male and a female, who are practicing Catholics. Catholics who are not registered members of our parish must obtain a “Letter of Eligibility” from the parish in which they are registered and practice. Along with one Catholic “godparent”, a child may have a “Christian witness” (a person baptized in a non-Catholic denomination). For more information or to register for your children’s Baptism, please contact the Rectory at (215) 222-5819.

ELIGIBILITY CERTIFICATES (SPONSORS AT BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION)
Any parishioner registered for at least three months who requires a certificate of eligibility to act as a sponsor at Baptism or Confirmation should please call the Rectory at (215) 222-5819 to make an appointment to meet with the Pastor.

Home Visitation & Blessing
Please contact the Rectory if you wish to have the Pastor visit you and bless your home.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
SFDS: Perpetual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (24 hours a day, 7 days a week) takes place in the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Chapel located in the back of the Upper Church. Key required for access. Call the sacristan (Michael Nevadomski) for more information 954-261-2500.

Sacrament of Penance (Confessions)
Saturday from 4:15-4:45 PM in Church; any time by appointment.

Remember Your Parish in Your Will
Consider designating your parish in your Last Will and Testament so that the blessings the Lord has given you will continue to build His Kingdom.

CATHOLICS WHO FEEL SEPARATED FROM THE CHURCH
Whatever the reason, However long its been…
We miss you!! Come home !!
www.catholicscomehome.org

PARISH REGISTRATION AND MEMBERSHIP
Welcome! All who worship with us are invited to participate in the spiritual and social life of our parish family.
Please remember, that the reception of the sacraments of Baptism, First Eucharist, First Penance, Confirmation, and Matrimony, and eligibility letters to act as a sponsor for Baptism or Confirmation require you to be an active member of the Parish Family.
Our Pastor registers new parishioners in the Rectory by appointment.
Please call the Rectory at (215) 222-5819 to schedule an appointment.

COUNTDOWN TO THANKSGIVING
On Friday, November 18th, between 3-7:00pm we hope to distribute 210 “THANKSGIVING BOX-ES” containing a full Thanksgiving dinner for those from our parish and neighborhood most in need. We invite you to join this effort with the food drive by bringing non-perishable food items, or a donation to Church and placing them in the boxes found at the Church doors on the WEEKENDS of October 29th - NOVEMBER 13th. They will be carried up with our gifts during our Sunday Masses.
We welcome your monetary donations (please place in the collection basket and mark “THANKSGIVING DRIVE”) to help defray postage expenses and also to buy perishable items such as bread and pies. If you will be available to help with this project in any way, please call Sister Alice at the Rectory at 215-222-5819. We welcome your help and thank you for your continued support of this parish outreach.
If there is any one that you know that is in need of a THANKSGIVING DINNER, please have them call the rectory no later than October 27th to place their name on the list and we will be happy to try to assist all the families that are in need this Thanksgiving season. Again, thank you for your prayers and support.
October is dedicated to The Holy Rosary

The month of October is a good time to commit to praying the Rosary every day. The Rosary will bring great peace and holiness to your life. It is a powerful instrument for conversion. The Rosary is the best method of honoring Mary.

Saint Francis de Sales 2016–2017 Mass Book for Announced Masses is open and has availability. Masses require a $10 donation. You can obtain them from the form below.

**PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:**

- Mass For: _____________________________
- Requested By: _____________________________
- Phone #: _____________________________
- Date if Requested _____________________________

If there is a discrepancy over the Mass you requested, a staff member from the rectory will contact you.

**SAVE THE DATE**

**Mother of Mercy**

**Make Our Hearts Like Yours**

Saturday, October 29, 2016~8:30am-4pm

National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, Doylestown, Mass ~Dynamic Speakers ~Exhibits ~Youth track ~Spanish Track ~Prayer

For more information: Catholicwomensconference.org

**Now you can "LIKE" us on Facebook!**

Please visit www.facebook.com/St.FrancisinPhilly Or search Facebook for St. Francis De Sales Philly Parish (you must have a Facebook account in order to access). Here you will find reminders about parish events, updates on parish news, calls for volunteers, spiritual nourishment, and more!

**RESPECT LIFE THOUGHT**

“The outpouring of God’s mercy cannot penetrate our hearts as long as we have not forgiven those who have trespassed against us.”

Catechism of the Catholic Church #3840

During the month of November, the Church encourages us to pray for all of our deceased loved ones who have died. **On November 2 at 7PM** we will celebrate a special Mass for all of our parishioners who have died, particularly during the last year. If you have experienced the loss of a family member after October 31, 2015 and would like them to be remembered in a special way in this liturgy, please contact the rectory with the name of the deceased and your contact information (name, address, and telephone number) by OCTOBER 30.

**CANDLES FOR THE DECEASED**

All parishioners are invited to light a candle for a deceased loved one which will burn in the **Upper Church during the month of November** (for one week—$10 or for the entire month of November—$35) in honor of All Souls Day on November 2.

The name of the deceased will be placed on the candle. Please place an envelope with the payment in the collection basket with the name(s) of your loved ones or bring to the Rectory.
Saint Francis de Sales Parish  
Weekend of October 16, 2016

COLLECTION INFORMATION

Weekend of October 16, 2016   $  3,370.00  
Weekend of October 18,2015   $  4,580.00  

Difference                 -1,210.00  
Envelopes Mailed               525  
Total Envelopes Used This Week       104  

Thank you for your continued support and sacrifice you make every week to sustain our beautiful Church.

Parish Giving

Saint Francis de Sales is proud to introduce “Enhanced Stewardship through Electronic Funds Transfer”. We have partnered with Parish Giving to offer this program to all our parishioners.

Parish Giving is simple, secure and convenient; and it offers tax benefits as well as parish benefits.

To get started, go to Saintfrancisdesales.net and click on the Parish Giving Logo and follow the easy registration steps. If you have any questions, please call (215.222.5819) or Parish Giving at 866-307-7140.

NOVEMBER IS DEDICATED TO THE HOLY SOULS.

All households have received an envelope asking you to list the names of your deceased loved ones. Please return this envelope ASAP.  
All returned envelopes will be placed on the altar during the month of November and all of your deceased loved ones will be remembered throughout the month of November. May our loved ones live in our hearts forever.

~ SFDS HISTORY MYSTERIES ~

God in the Details

Our distinctive church is not an assembly line “cut out with a cookie cutter” structure (and hopefully, its marble ashlar-cut stones are more durable than any cookie dough).

Perhaps we might think more often about its uniqueness. A filler article in a 1955 Parish Monthly Bulletin, at a time when new suburban churches were popping up across the country, offered some insight about church design from “a Polish friend who led the liturgical art underground classes while the Germans held his country... (He) told me that the American churches were built, the niches filled and the doors opened in the same manner as a grocer stocks his shelves. He explained that in Europe the people waited patiently until they got the money together and found just the right statue, or had it specially carved for every niche in their churches. So it took a century or two or three. Did that matter if the finished product was truly breathtakingly beautiful, a reflection of heaven?”

By those standards, our intricately-designed Byzantine Romanesque church was built too quickly, in just four years from 1907 to 1911. However, very little of our church was purchased “off the shelf” or mass-produced. Instead, every aspect was thoughtfully designed and hand crafted. The artwork is filled with symbolism and meaning, and bears the hand marks of individual artists, working with skill and inspiration – with an occasional upside-down stained glass inscription or improvised piece of flashing to remind us of human imperfections.

Your parish historians are slowly uncovering the stories of those artisans. Henry Dagit, the architect, was a parishioner. Adolfo de Nesti, an Italian immigrant who studied in Florence, carved many of the sculptures (a persistent rumor says that he used members of the Dagit family as models!). Our Altarpiece mosaic was designed by Frederick Henwood, an Englishman and local artist who converted to Catholicism shortly after working on our church. The windows, by celebrated Philadelphia stained glass artisan Nicholas D’Ascenzo, were one of his first big commissions. And our dome, crafted by Rafael Guastavino’s renowned firm, is considered an exemplar of his work.

What is the purpose of art? In a church, it should evoke awe and contribute to a sense of mystery. It should make us feel connected and feed our souls. Look around you. All are encouraged to enjoy the rich visual feast, because, ultimately, the artistry becomes a “reflection of heaven” only as it inspires those who sit in the pews.

If you have history to share, contact mdooleywork@hotmail.com. 
Past columns can be found at sfdshistory.wordpress.com.

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PREP CORNER
This year the Theme for our Prep Families set by the United States Council of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) is Prayer: Faith Prayed. This theme is a tremendous springboard for our daily practice of Prayer to which we are all it. Prayer is nothing else but a sense of the presence of God and our response to His indestructible presence received at Baptism.

Since prayer is our personal response to God's presence, it is an exercise that should not be omitted at any cost. The degree to which we yearn for this daily inexpressible awareness of His Presence and open ourselves to His way, teachings and attributes in our lives is the very degree to which we come to experience the very fullness of His love, joy, peace, and direction along life's journey and are able to share this life-giving experience with our children.

St. Francis de Sales said “It is very important to spend time in prayer each and every day and to pray as often as possible.” Blessings on you and your families.

PARISH CENSUS / BLOCK COLLECTION
Every household will receive in the mail a census information card. All households are requested to complete the census form and return it, along with your Block collection gift. Please list only the names of people living with you (include your college children).

It is very important that we have an accurate record of our parishioners. In the past year, we have had many parishioners make requests (high school, school families, godparents, etc.), however, they were never formerly registered in the parish. So please, help us by completing the census form.

The Block collection is one of the most important collections of the year besides Christmas and Easter. We respectfully ask every wage earner to contribute $150 to this collection. This certainly is not possible for everyone (seniors, unemployed/under-employed). Some will give less and some will be able to contribute more. God knows what your means will permit. Prayerfully and honestly reflect on God’s goodness to you and give back to God in the measure that He has blessed you.
WHAT IS PERPETUAL ADORATION?
Through Perpetual Adoration in the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Chapel located in the back of the Upper Church (in the former baptistery/library) at Saint Francis de Sales, Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to receive our personal visits and prayer. To participate, you commit yourself to come at the same time each week for one hour so that Jesus is never left alone. As a safety feature, each adorer is issued a swipe key to access our secure Chapel.

To sign up for your hour with the Lord, contact Michael Nevadomski at (954) 261-2500.

LIGHT A CANDLE
Candles can be purchased to continually burn in the Adoration Chapel. For a donation of $5, one of these candles can burn for your intentions. To donate a candle, place your donation in an envelope with your name and your intention(s) and drop it in the collection basket or at the Rectory.

This week candles burn in the Perpetual Adoration Chapel for:

Perpetual Adorers

We give thanks to God for favors already received by Adorers through Perpetual Adoration:

Spending time with Jesus has made me realize that each day is a gift. I share the joy of His Resurrection!”
I know that my time with Him makes it possible each day!”

RESPECT LIFE THOUGHT
The Commandments,
“Do not commit adultery,” “Do not murder,” “Do not steal”, “Do not covet,” and whatever other commandments there may be are summed up in this one rule:

“Love your neighbor as yourself.”

Love does no harm to its neighbor. Therefore, love is the fulfillment of the law.

Saint Paul’s letter to the Romans

Please pray for the safe return of our friends and family that serve in the United States Military:

Lord, hold our troops in Your loving hands.
Protect them as they protect us.
Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need.
We ask this in the name of Jesus, Our Lord.
Amen.

Our prayers are with the families of those who are mourning the recent loss of a loved one. This week we especially remember:

Pansilo DiPasquale

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

In Memoriam

Our Sick List is cleared every four weeks. Please contact the Rectory to add a name.

Dorothy Abromaitis, Mary Cox Avery, Anna Batts, Edwina Amoroso, Evelyn Bauer, Charles Bevard, Susan McHale Brockel, Anne Brown, James Brown, Christopher Brown, Edmund Cocca-gna, Thea Corey, Robert Connor, Eulogious Charles, Bonnie Curran, William Curran, Bill Delaney, Walt Dickenson, John Dowling, Damnell Ebron, Candice Ellis, James Gorman, Barbara Frazier, Annette Hanson, Paula Harvey, Jacqueline Hill, Tomeka Kelley, Sheila Kendall, Celio Flores, Claudia Gainey, Rita Genzano, Anna Maria Gibson, David Grannell, Baby Grace, Audra Gustafson, Marian Hinton, James Jordan Sr., Estella Jones, Doris King, Vincent Marsh, Sabian Matthews, Mary McCann, Donald McGee, Jennifer Morse, Lawrence Nugent, Joseph Shurella, James Sirmons, Mrs. Tran, Earl & Marie Vaughan, Wayne Welsh, Justine Wright, Rick Young.

If you or a member of the family would like a Communion to the Sick visit, please call the Rectory to make arrangements for a visit. The following sick have asked for our prayers:

Please contact the Rectory to add a name.
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