SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH
600 Hamilton Street, Norristown, PA 19401

SACRAMENTS AND DEVOTIONS

Baptism: Usually the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month at 1:15 PM. Pre-Jordan class in English is the third Monday of odd-numbered months. Pre-Jordan must be attended by all parents expecting their first child. Please call the rectory to register for Pre-Jordan.

Marriage: Initial arrangements must be made at least six months prior to your wedding date. Please call the rectory and set up an appointment with the pastor.

Communion Calls: Holy Communion is brought by the deacon and Extraordinary Ministers on a monthly basis to elderly and ill parishioners who are unable to attend Mass. Please notify the Rectory to arrange a visit.

Hospitals: Pastoral care for Catholic patients in area hospitals is shared by the local parishes. When you or a loved one is admitted please inform the hospital that you are a Catholic so that you will receive Holy Communion and the Sacrament of the Sick from the parish responsible for the hospital that day.

Devotions:
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament—Mon 9 AM to 4 PM September thru May; 9 to 10 AM June thru August. The church is accessible by the handicap door after the 8:30 AM Mass until 4:00 PM (Sept.-May)
Rosary – Monday thru Saturday at 8 AM
Divine Mercy Chaplet—Tues after the 8:30 AM Mass.
Infant of Prague Novena- Wed after the 8:30 AM Mass.
Miraculous Medal Novena-Sat after the 8:30 AM Mass.

Visits to the Blessed Sacrament—Tuesday through Saturday after the 8:30 AM Mass until 4 PM—Stop at the rectory for the keypad code.

MASS SCHEDULE
Saturday Evening - 5:30 PM
Sunday - 7:00 AM, 9:30 AM, 12:00 and 5:30 PM
Mon., Tue., Thur., Fri., Sat. - 8:30 AM
Eve of Holydays - 5:30 PM
Holydays of Obligation – 8:30 AM, 12:00 and 7:00 PM
(except Christmas and Easter)

CONFESSION SCHEDULE
Saturday: After 8:30 AM Mass & 4:00 PM—5:00 PM
(other times by appointment)

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS
Monday through Thursday 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM
Friday hours until 4:00 PM
(closed between 12:00 and 1:00 PM)
Saturday 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
Sunday Closed

New Parishioners—Welcome to SFA! Please call the Rectory to arrange a time to register in our parish.
TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
SEPTEMBER 25, 2016

Monday, September 26th
8:30 Amy Caglia—Dad and Mom

Tuesday, September 27th
8:30 Anthony Cantone—Mother

Wednesday, September 28th
8:30 Prayer Service

Thursday, September 29th
8:30 Jack Cianciulli—Wife and Children

Friday, September 30th
8:30 Russell Cornell—Ed Farman

Saturday, October 1st
8:30 Pellegrino Romano—Daughter, Anna

5:30 Frank and Marie Opelski—Larry and Pat Perna

Sunday, October 2nd
7:00 Charlotte Hannan—Jeanne Marie

9:30 Peter F. Pellechia—Toni Pellechia and Children

12:00 Edward O’Hara—O’Hara Family

5:30 For the Parishioners

PARISH CALENDAR OF EVENTS
ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
EVERY MONDAY FROM 9 AM TO 10 AM

Monday
4:00 Benediction
5:00 HS PREP (R)
6:00 Girls V. Volleyball (G)
6:30 Ladies Craft (CR)
7:00 Pastoral Council (MH2)

Thursday
6:00 Girls V. Volleyball (G)
6:30 Cub Scouts (S)
7:00 Legion of Mary (R)

Friday
5:00 HS RCIA (R)
6:30 Ladies Committee Mtg. (R)
7:00 RCIA (MH2)

Sunday
10:30 PREP (S)

PLEASE NOTE: IF SCHOOL IS CLOSED or IF SCHOOL
HAS EARLY DISMISSAL BECAUSE OF THE WEATHER,
or IF THE SUNDAY PREP (CCD) PROGRAM IS CAN-
CELLED BECAUSE OF THE WEATHER, THEN ALL
SCHOOL RELATED EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVI-
TIES ARE CANCELLED FOR THAT DAY.

UPCOMING LITURGIES
BLESSING OF ANIMALS
October 1 @ 11:00 AM

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK
The sick list will be updated monthly. We will be
glad to keep the name of your loved one on the
list for one month. If you want to extend a
request for prayers beyond that time, please call
the Rectory to let us know so we do not remove
your loved one’s name from the list. Please remember only
names of the seriously ill should be placed on our sick list.

Richie Buttaro   Nancy Kazmierczak   Jim Quigley
Millie Cooper   Marvin Locklin   Jim Roush
Brian DeCarlo   Bethann McElroy   Felicia Schwartz
Vince DeCarlo   Betty McGlinchey
Daniel Enz   Mary Meacham
Fr. Dominick Finn   Edward O’Brien
Georgine Karpinsky   Blanche Petko

FAMILY REGISTER
We are glad to welcome into our parish community:
Mr. and Mrs. David Olvera and Family
Mr. and Mrs. David Carranza and Family
Felix Lopez Romero and Family

BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS (PRE JORDAN)
The next class will be on Monday, November 21, 2016 at
7pm. Pre Jordan classes are held in the Parish Meeting
House. Contact the rectory to register.

SUNDAY CONTRIBUTIONS—SEPTEMBER 18, 2016
Sunday Collection ................................. $9,733
Sunday Collection One Year Ago ................ $9,360
Change from Last Year ............................ + $ 373
Change YTD (7/1/15) .............................. - $8,220

THANK YOU for supporting your parish!
PLEASE REMEMBER to use your weekly envelope so you
are credited for your donation.

PLEASE REMEMBER to include St. Francis Parish in your
estate planning and your will.

PLEASE REMEMBER if you are away your weekly contri-
bution may be mailed directly to the parish office.

ALTAR SERVERS—OCTOBER 1/2
5:30 PM Analiese & Rousel Boubert
7:00 AM Charles Reinert, Diego Aguilar
9:30 AM Camillo Ciccioppo, Sophia Flores
12:00 PM Ezra Palmore, Kaleigh Byrnes
5:30 PM Brigid Anders, Dayana & Henry Hernandez

LECTORS—OCTOBER 1/2
5:30 PM Charles Wood
7:00 AM Linda Steppe
9:30 AM Bryn Iacobacci
12:00 PM Kay McDonald
5:30 PM Charles Hurd

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS—OCTOBER 1/2
5:30 PM Lee McNamara, Barbara Calhoun
7:00 AM Roseann Elliott, BJ Mumford
9:30 AM Francis Hahn, Mary Ellen Hahn
12:00 PM Kathleen McTamney, Donald Skaw
5:30 PM Mary Anders, Alicia Bradley
### This Week’s Memorial Intentions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intention</th>
<th>Donor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sanctuary Lamp (BVM side)</td>
<td>Frank Harvey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sanctuary Lamp (St. Joseph side)</td>
<td>Sis Hannan</td>
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<td>Altar Bread this Week</td>
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<td>Floral Arrangement (Main Altar)</td>
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<td>Floral Arrangement (BVM Chapel)</td>
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<td>Floral Arrangement (Christ Chapel)</td>
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<td>Memorial Society</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Quinn</td>
<td>Santino Ciccaglione</td>
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<td>John Quinn</td>
<td>S. Assumpta Maria IHM</td>
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<td>John Quinn</td>
<td>Tim and Marynell Haney</td>
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<td>Helen Rizzo</td>
<td>Paula Rizzo Fogel</td>
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<td>Helen Rizzo</td>
<td>Michele Volpe Cancalli</td>
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<td>Helen Rizzo</td>
<td>Patrick and Pamela Reilly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Helen Rizzo</td>
<td>Dalton and Barbara Fine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Helen Rizzo</td>
<td>Neil and Mary Bogin</td>
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**Knights of Columbus Golf Outing**

A Golf Outing is to be held on Monday, October 3, 2016 sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, Council 11040 from East Norriton. **Where:** Hickory Valley, Presidential Golf Course, Gilbertsville, PA. **Cost:** $85/golfer  **Tee Time:** 12 noon and buffet dinner at 5:00pm. For forms and details call Matt Faust 610-277-4250.

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**A Deeper Meaning and Understanding of the Mass**

Our Catholic faith encourages us to attend Mass on a regular basis, but why? What is the spiritual benefit for us? We know the responses and say the prayers but do these really connect us closer to God and one another? Edward Sri, professor of Theology and Scripture at the Augustine Institute’s Master’s in Catechetics and Evangelization program in Denver, Colorado, says the Catholic Mass is the most amazing event on earth. Are you experiencing all the richness of the Mass?

Join your Catholic brothers and sisters in gaining a deeper understanding and meaning of the holy sacrifice of the Mass. Deacon Jim will guide us through a teaching designed to enhance our personal experience of the Mass. He will also provide resources to assist us in our own personal study of the Mass. There will be two sessions.

**When:** Thursdays, October 6 and 13, 2016
**Time:** 7:00 PM
**Where:** St. Francis Meetinghouse
**RSVP:** followchristatstfrancis@gmail.com or call Adel 610-547-5935 if you have any questions.

(In spring 2017 we will have a longer 4 session series).

Bring a friend and get ready to deepen your love for the Mass!
**PRO LIFE ROSES**

On the weekend of October 8/9 Pro Life Roses will be sold at the 5:30pm Saturday night Mass and the 7:00 and 9:30am Sunday Masses. We will also try to cover the 12 noon and 5:30pm Masses if possible.

Since sexual promiscuity is the root cause of abortion (approximately 90% of abortions are committed on unmarried women) monies from the sale of roses will now be sent to the **Pro Life Educational Foundation**. This organization will provide information to teach young people to save sex for marriage. The Foundation supports these Pro Life organizations with the same goals: Generation Life, the Bucks County Women’s Center and the Women’s Center of Philadelphia. The Foundation provides the same type of help and education in the Montgomery County area. The motto of this organization is “Chastity is for Lovers. Save Sex for Marriage”.

**PRO LIFE VOLUNTEERS**

Volunteers are needed to help raise money for the culture of life. Volunteers are only needed to assist at one Mass twice a year, usually in May or October. Monies raised support the Pro Life Educational Foundation which teaches young people to “Save Sex for Marriage. Chastity is for Lovers”. The Foundation also supports Generation Life, the Bucks County Women’s Center and is active in the Montgomery County area as well. For more information call Joep Aquilani, Jr., Parish Pro Life Representative 610-539-0592.

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**St. Francis of Assisi Seniors**

Our next meeting on Tuesday, October 4th will be a trip to Elmwood Park Zoo. Meet at 1pm at parking lot entrance. In case of rain we will cancel and reschedule for October 11th. All seniors age 55 & over are invited to join, this includes both men and women. We meet the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month from Sept. to June.

**October 12, 2016 - SAMSON - Sight and Sound Theatre.**
Lancaster, PA. Bus departs from rectory 9:30 am, arrive Rockvale Outlets apx. 10:45am, arrive Good & Plenty 12:15pm (Family Style Meal), arrive Sight & Sound Theatre apx. 2pm, depart from theatre apx. 5:30pm. Package includes: Lunch at Good & Plenty, 3pm admission to show, all tax, transportation and tips including driver. Cost $120/PP.

**November 14, 2016—Mount Airy Casino, Mt. Pocono, PA**

“Broadway Tonight Live” - 8:30am depart from rectory, 10:45am arrive Casino, Lunch @ buffet, 1pm start of show. Free time after show, 4:45pm depart for home. High-paced musical revue of multi-talented singers & dancers performing Broadway’s greatest hits. Package includes show, lavish buffet lunch, $20 slot play & tax, transportation & tips including driver. Cost $77/PP.

**December 7, 2016—American Music Theater—Lancaster, PA.**

“Winter Wonderland” Depart 8am from rectory, 10:30am show @ theater, 1:30pm lunch @ Fulton Steamboat Inn (beautiful Victorian inn with delicious food), short stop afterward @ Rockvale Outlets (Christmas shopping or browsing), 6:30pm return to rectory. Cost $98 includes trans., fees, show, lunch & driver gratuity. Contact Jane Caruso 610-539-1681. All trips benefit St. Francis of Assisi Parish.

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**WE VALUE... CATHOLIC EDUCATION**

**Yankee Candle Fundraiser**

Saint Francis of Assisi School is selling assorted Yankee Candles for our Fall Fundraiser. Order packets can be found in the back of Church. Paper orders need to be returned by Monday, October 10th, 2016 to the Main Office at school. The best way to order is through online sales. Please follow these steps:

- Enter the Group Number for Saint Francis of Assisi School - 990034431.
- View the catalog and place your order. The order will be shipped directly to your house.
- Online orders can be placed until January 11th, 2017.

Thank you for your support!

**Here’s a look at the week ahead:**

**Monday, September 26th, 2016**
- Band Lessons for 3rd - 8th Grades in the Gym
- Varsity Girls’ Volleyball Practice 6-8pm

**Tuesday, September 27th, 2016**
- Reading Olympics Meeting 2:45-3pm

**Wednesday, September 28th, 2016**
- Lime Green Dress Down Day ($1.00 Donation) for “Light the Night” Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
- Varsity Girls’ Volleyball Practice 6-8pm
- Home & School Meeting 7pm in the Library & Technology Lab

**Thursday, September 29th, 2016**
- Varsity Girls’ Volleyball Practice 6-8pm
- Cub Scout Meeting 6:30pm

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**DAY OF REFLECTION**

An invitation to the women of the parish: Please join us, The Ladies of St. Francis, for a Day of Reflection on Saturday, October 1, 2016 at 8:00 am. The day will begin in church with the rosary, followed by Mass and confession. Father Augustine Esposito is our guest celebrant and speaker. Come and reflect on the life and lessons of Mother Teresa. Light refreshments and lunch will be provided.

The cost is $10 pp. Please respond by Saturday, September 24 with your choice of chicken salad sandwich or ham sandwich. Checks may be made out to The Ladies of St. Francis. Bring a friend.
PARISH ACTIVITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aid For Friends</td>
<td>Lynn Trombetta 215-464-2224</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Altar Servers (Schedule)</td>
<td>Lillian Aguilar 717-514-7035</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bereavement Committee</td>
<td>Fr. James Goerner 610-272-0402</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cantors</td>
<td>Michael Maresca 610-539-7597</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carnival Committee</td>
<td>Tom O'Donnell 610-476-3050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choir—Adult</td>
<td>Michael Maresca 610-539-7597</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cub Scouts</td>
<td>Alicia Carlin 610-277-7895</td>
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<tr>
<td>CYO</td>
<td>Tara Ruffin 267-602-6157</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eucharistic Adoration Group</td>
<td>Liz Nacarelli 610-272-0402</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extraordinary Ministers</td>
<td>Mary Anders 610-635-9476</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evangelization Group</td>
<td>Adel Herge 610-547-5935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance Council</td>
<td>Fr. James Goerner 610-272-0402</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greeters</td>
<td>John Bilella 610-279-1058</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ladies of St. Francis</td>
<td>Linda Steppe 610-539-7917</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lectors</td>
<td>Mary Anders 610-635-9476</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legion of Mary</td>
<td>Lucy Landingin 484-431-4015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Liturgy Committee</td>
<td>Fr. James Goerner 610-272-0402</td>
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<tr>
<td>Men of St. Francis</td>
<td>Charles Wood 267-438-2572</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Musicians</td>
<td>Michael Maresca 610-539-7597</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pastoral Council</td>
<td>Fr. James Goerner 610-272-0402</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prayer Shawl Ministry</td>
<td>Kay Boyce 484-322-5466</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Jordan</td>
<td>Sean Crosby 610-272-0402</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prayer Line Volunteers</td>
<td>Nancy DeKok 610-277-1344</td>
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<tr>
<td>P.R.E.P. (C.C.D.)</td>
<td>Sean Crosby 610-272-0402</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pro-Life Group</td>
<td>Joseph Aquilani, Jr. 610-539-0592</td>
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<tr>
<td>RCIA</td>
<td>Sean Crosby 610-272-0402</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Citizens</td>
<td>Barbara Ruser 610-831-1063</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Co-President)</td>
<td>Pat Buckwalter 610-277-0828</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Vincent dePaul</td>
<td>Tony Antunes 610-272-0402</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ushers</td>
<td>John Bilella 610-279-1058</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Nancy DeKok, Rev. James E. Goerner, Deacon Jim Mahar, Kay McDonald, Lillian O'Donnell, Patricia Perna, Linda Steppe, Bridget Tigue

FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS

Patricia Bader, Jim Busciacco, Rev. James E. Goerner, Peter DiNoia, Patricia Perna, Felicia Riehman, Mary Anne Serosky, Edward Shaw, Edward Scott, Mark Stuart

BAZAAR DONATIONS NEEDED!

Anyone who wishes to donate new unopened bottles of Liquor and/or 6 packs of Beer for our Parish Christmas Bazaar “Liquor Wheel” please drop off at the rectory by October 21st during normal business hours. Thank you and God bless you!

Metanoia is an active community of Catholic young adults in western Montgomery County, PA. The group supports Catholics in their 20s and 30s who are looking to deepen their faith and meet fellow Catholics in the area. Our ministry includes: Theology on Tap, faith based meetings, community service, retreats, and out door events. We meet on Tuesdays at 7:30pm unless otherwise noted. Contact metanoiayoungadul ts@gmail.com for more information, or visit our Facebook Page (www.facebook.com/users/metanaioyoundults) for more details. Friday, October 7: Metanoia goes to Festival of Praise @ St. Norbert’s Parish, Paoli, 7:30pm.

UNITED WAY HELPS SFA

When choosing your United Way payroll deductions/contributions, please consider our CYO and/or our Early Learning Center. The United Way number for our CYO is 4350 and the Early Learning Center number is 10841. Your donations are greatly appreciated!

September 25 — Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

Ah, their faces! How well they reflect the surprise, the wonder, and the near disbelief of people who hold that winning lottery ticket! You’ve undoubtedly seen them over the years on TV and felt a twinge of envy. As you watched, didn’t your imagination kick in to give you images of yourself? Haven’t you thought about what you would do with your winnings? Surely there would be some “big ticket” items on your list like a new home, a fancy car, or a dream vacation. Or something I have not named.

What disappoints me so often is the fact that these winners rarely mention that they are going to donate to their church or a worthy cause. I know that sounds self-serving coming from me, as a Churchman. But I am thinking there are so many needy churches; so many agencies that help the poor, the disabled and the homeless that always seem short of funds. Or a good student prospect whose parents cannot take on the cost of his/her education.

Of course there have been some glowing exceptions. But not enough to buck the trend. This is sad. Especially when one hears this relevant story that Jesus told about the rich man and Lazarus. Combining that with the selection from the Book of Amos where the prophet comes down hard on the rich people of his day for their reprehensible behavior, and you have a “one, two” punch, so to speak, at the prevailing culture in the West.

The majority of us Americans who would never classify ourselves as “rich”, actually enjoy so many privileges that would be marked as luxuries in other societies. Just a simple glass of pure water from a faucet is one of them denied to so many.

Of course, when we refer to the poor, we should not limit the list to people without money. The poor are the needy everywhere who lack a natural part of human living, such as having a person to listen to them. I daresay the rich man’s problem in Our Lord’s story was that he did not even see Lazarus, much less help him out of his misery. Such near-sightedness can ruin a life. So can moral deafness.

Once upon a time it was high noon in Manhattan, and the streets were, as usual, buzzing with crowds, cars, taxis, horns blowing, brakes screeching, sirens wailing. Two men were making their way together through the crowd. One was a native New Yorker, and the other a visiting farmer from Kansas.

Suddenly the farmer stopped in his tracks. “Hold on,” he said, “I hear a cricket.” His friend replied, “Are you kidding?” Even if there were a cricket around here, which isn’t likely, you would never be able to hear it over all this noise.” The farmer remained quiet for a few moments, then walked several paces to the corner where a bush was growing in a large cement planter. He turned several leaves over and found the cricket.

The city man was flabbergasted. “What great hearing you have!” he said. “No,” the farmer replied. “It’s a matter of what you’ve been conditioned to listen for. Look, I’ll show you.” With that, he pulled a handful of coins from his pocket and let them drop to the sidewalk. As if on signal, every head on the block turned. “You see,” said the farmer, “you hear what you want to hear. It’s a matter of what you’re listening for.