

Welcome to proudly-blended Saint Francis de Sales Parish United by the Most Blessed Sacrament. SFDS Parish was founded in 1890; Most Blessed Sacrament Parish was founded in 1901; St. Francis de Sales Church was built in 1911; and the two parishes merged here in 2007.

Today, we proclaim 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 charity evidenced by service, justice, and peace.



SAINT FRANCIS DE SALES PARISH
UNITED BY THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT

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Convent: (215) 386-5016

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(215) 726-7468

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 18, 2021

Dear friends in Christ,

The Easter Season is a time of hope. Hope is not, of course, the same thing as optimism. Optimism is a personality trait, a way of seeing the world. But hope is something deeper and lasting. Hope is a theological virtue infused in our hearts through Baptism. Hope gives us the vision of looking beyond the vicissitudes of this world, and instead set our hearts on the true goal of our lives: eternal life with God and the communion of saints. By participating in the sacraments, through prayer and service to others, we take hold of that hope and allow it to dawn more fully in our lives.

Easter is also a traditional time for the parish priest to make home visits to bless individuals and families. I certainly understand if you'd prefer to wait for another time due to covid, but I am fully vaccinated and most happy to visit your family and bless your home. Simply call the rectory or e-mail me (fr.eric.banecker@gmail.com) to set up a time.



*The anchor is a symbol of hope.
This anchor mosaic is in the floor of our MBS Chapel.*

Please check out our bulletin, as we have several worthwhile initiatives upcoming in the parish, including Sung Vespers next Sunday, April 25th at 5pm, an information session for PREP families and another one about a summer service opportunity for high school students, and a notice about a parish hiking trip in the Perkiomen Valley!

May God be Blessed,
-Father Eric Banecker

This Sunday's Readings start on page 176 of the pew book:

ACTS 3:13-15, 17-19; 1 JOHN 2:1-5a; LUKE 24:35-48

MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS

Readings can be found at:

<http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings>

Saturday April 17

9:00 AM John Cooney

Confessions 4:15 – 4:45 PM

5:00 PM Lonnie Perry Sr.

Sunday April 18

Third Sunday of Easter

7:00 AM People of the Parish

Confessions 9:30 – 10:00 AM

10:15 AM Theodore F. and Mary Deady

Monday April 19

7:00 AM Colin Johnson

Archdiocesan novena to St. Joseph

Tuesday April 20

7:00 AM John Cooney

Wednesday April 21

Saint Anselm

7:00 AM Fred Austin

Thursday April 22

7:00 AM Gerry Woodard

Friday April 23

St. George, St. Adalbert

7:00 AM Joe Fergus

Saturday April 24

9:00 AM Peg Eileen Bourke

Confessions 4:15 – 4:45 PM

5:00 PM Anna Batts

Sunday April 25

Fourth Sunday of Easter

7:00 AM People of the Parish

Confessions 9:30 – 10:00 AM

10:15 AM Sophie Waters

5:00 PM Solemn Vespers and Benediction

COLLECTION AS OF APR. 11

Weekly \$3,338.00

Intentions and Memorials

The 2021 and 2022 Mass Books are open. The suggested donation for all Masses is \$10.00. If you would like to sponsor the **Sanctuary Lamps** for a month in honor of your loved one or for your special intention, the donation is \$50.00. Please contact the Rectory.

If you have items for the Bulletin, contact mdooleywork@hotmail.com



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PARISH NEWS AND NOTES

Next weekend's 2nd Collection is for Catholic Home Missions

Final Call: Parish Survey Ends This Monday April 19!



Whether you've been attending Mass or not, all are encouraged to give feedback, filling in the bubbles on paper, or online from the parish webpage, or at

<https://portal.catholicleaders.org/dmi/survey/k317223dck>

Archdiocesan Monthly Novena to St. Joseph April 19



The Archdiocesan intention for April is "For the strengthening of Christian married and family life." We are praying this Novena here at SFDS after the 7AM Mass on the 19th of each month through November.

Zoom Meeting for PREP Parents and Teachers Apr. 21



PREP parents and teachers are asked to share ideas and feedback about our program at a zoom meeting on Wednesday, April 21st at 7 PM. Current PREP parents will receive a zoom link in the weekly Family message or contact Sister Alice for further information.

Solemn Sung Vespers and Benediction April 25



Next Sunday, April 25th, our parish will have Solemn Sung Vespers and Benediction at 5 PM. We will host several of these throughout the year going forward so that parishioners can experience the beauty of these liturgies, which are a kind of "mini" Forty Hours celebration. Plan to join us for this evening of praise and blessings!

Mission Philly for High School Students Meeting Apr 27



June 21, 22, 23, 2021: A unique opportunity to work among the poor and experience the Church right in our backyard. High school students from rising freshmen to rising seniors are invited to participate (older students may assist as chaperones). Catholic students from other parishes will join us on this service trip. **An information meeting** for interested families will take place on **April 27 at 7 PM via Zoom**. For questions and to register, contact Father Eric Banecker fr.eric.banecker@gmail.com

Parish Family Perkiomen Hike and Mass May 8



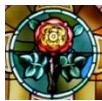
"Saturday, May 8th. Our parish is organizing a Mass and hike in the beautiful Perkiomen Valley in northern Montgomery County. The day will conclude with a cookout around noon before returning to de Sales. We are asking \$10 per person / \$15 for an entire family to participate. For more information and to register, please contact me (fr.eric.banecker@gmail.com) or call the rectory. **Deadline to register is April 30th.** We would request participants drive themselves back and forth, though we might be able to arrange for a limited number of rides if necessary."

Saint George (April 23)

Very little is known for sure about the life of Saint George. He is thought to have been born to Greek Christian parents in Cappadocia (Turkey today) in the 3rd century. He became a soldier in the Roman army; is said to have converted many people to Christianity in Libya; and was ultimately martyred, possibly in Palestine.

A legend claims that Saint George fought a dragon. Descriptions of the dragon terror sound curiously similar to accounts of a pandemic running through the Roman Empire around the same period, when a disease – possibly smallpox, influenza, or hemorrhagic fever -- "invaded every house in succession of the trembling populace, carrying off day by day with abrupt attack numberless people, every one from his own house..." Perhaps George's famous lance was actually a tool for enforcing social distancing!

Saint George is the patron saint of England, Portugal, Germany, Ethiopia, Georgia, and Catalonia, among others. He is the patron of Boy Scouts and soldiers. One of the "Fourteen Holy Helpers," he is also invoked in times of plague.



WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS

to

Ross Wolfe and Paige Hanley

Who were married last week in our church.
May God Bless You on your new life's journey!

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Jennifer Baugh, Eleanor Brooks, Spenser Brown,
Becky Brown, Phyllis Buckhan, Christopher
Browne, Gisselle Marie Burgess, Dawn Byers,
Fran Byers, Bob and Claudia Christian, Carol
Byers Coccagna, Edmund Coccagna, Adlyn
Cummings, Michael Farley, Ruth Harrell, Paula
Harvey, Shirley Hinson, Vashti Holden, Frank
Innes, Bernadette Jengo, the Joseph family, James
Kettor, Venus Murphy, Wilma Noel, Marie
O'Connor, Denise Pogue, Marve Prowisor,
Joan Rolland, Jack Ruane, Joseph Shurillo, Sister
Thérèse RA, Timothy A. Triplett, Peter Villa,
Melissa Wing, Kristina Zaprasna,

Please keep the staff and residents at Renaissance
Healthcare (47th and Chester) in your prayers in
this time of Covid!

REMEMBER THOSE WHO HAVE DIED



Loretta Y. Waweru, parishioner

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

Let us pray for the victims of all disasters, and for
an end to violence and hatred across the country
and around the world.

Pope Francis April Prayer Intention:

*"Let us pray for those who risk their lives while
fighting for fundamental rights under
dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in
democracies in crisis, that they may see their
sacrifice and their work bear abundant fruit."*



CONGRATULATIONS

to

Oscar Seunglee Curry

Baptized here last weekend.
Welcome to our parish family!

SFDS HISTORY MYSTERIES:

First Baptism



When William and Ellen Krapp baptized baby
daughter Hannah, quietly, in a temporary new chapel above
a Woodland Avenue store on October 19, 1890, they could
have no idea that the brief record of their family event would
be the opening line – the first recorded baptism -- in the long
history of our distinguished parish. Nor could they foresee
their own family tragedy just ahead.

Census data suggests that William and Ellen
(known also as Ella) may have married the same year that
Hannah was born. The son of German immigrants, William
was a barber by trade, and a widower with two children, age
four and six. We don't know anything about Ellen, except that her maiden
name was McGettigan. They lived at 5210 Woodland Avenue.

A son named William Jr., known as "Willie," born a few years later,
died at age fifteen months. The *Philadelphia Inquirer* reported his short sad
story in a November 1895 court case: *"The mother of the child testified that
she took him to the Jefferson Hospital for treatment for teething. She was given
a prescription which was put up at the dispensary attached to the hospital,
and when she got home she gave the child a tablespoonful of the liquid. Shortly
afterwards he began to cry and had difficulty in breathing. The child went into
convulsions, and when she took him to the Presbyterian Hospital the doctors
said he was suffering from carbolic acid poisoning. Mrs. Krapp also said that
when she kissed the child her lips pained her as if they had been burned by
poison."* The child died shortly afterwards.

E. P. Stephens, the druggist at Jefferson, testified in court that the
medicine he compounded for the child *"was harmless, and was composed of
one-half grain of carbolic acid diluted with one ounce of water, and one ounce
of peppermint water."* He brought a similar sample of the formula to court,
but Deputy Coroner Dugan thought the provided liquid was not *"as strong as
that which is supposed to have caused the child's death. 'You claim that the
preparation is harmless,' continued Mr. Dugan, 'Wouldn't you be afraid to
drink it?' 'Not at all,' replied Stephens,"* swallowing theatrically from the
little bottle without any harm.

After this display, the proceedings were put on hold until the baby
could be autopsied. Dr. Graham, the physician in charge of the children's ward
at Jefferson, then tried to deflect blame to the mother for the child's original
condition, testifying that *"the child had been affected with acute gastritis and
catarrh of the stomach, brought on by improper feeding"* when he was first
brought in. However, Dr. Griggs, of Presbyterian Hospital, who attended the
child when he was near death, testified that he *"sampled the Jefferson Hospital
prescription which had been administered to the little one...It was so strongly
carbolic that his lips were burned by a portion, that accidentally ran down."*

On November 7, 1895, after reviewing the evidence, *"the Jury
rendered a verdict to the effect that the death was due to a mistake made by
E. P. Stephens, a drug clerk at the Jefferson Hospital"* who used too much
carbolic acid in compounding the prescription (1 ounce instead of .5 grain).
Stephens was not disciplined: *"The jury and Coroner Ashbridge and Deputy
Coroner Dugan were very lenient toward Stephens...not even, subjecting him
to a censure, for it was shown that, ordinarily, he was very careful in his
duties. 'He has been compounding medicines for the past eighteen years, and
it was the first mistake of the kind he has ever made.'"*

The mother died three years later in 1898, age 43 years, and was
buried from our church.

Whatever became of Baby Hannah, the first baby baptized in our
parish? Census data suggests she became an artist's model, downtown, at age
19, before disappearing from the available records.

Find more at <https://SFDSHistory.wordpress.com>

Contact mduoleywork@hotmail.com