

# St. Cornelius Parish



SUNDAY BULLETIN

June 29, 2025

160 Ridge Rd, Chadds Ford, PA 19317

Phone: (610) 459-2502 • Fax: (610) 459-3942

Web: [www.saintcornelius.org](http://www.saintcornelius.org)

Email: [stcorn1@comcast.net](mailto:stcorn1@comcast.net) • Facebook: Like us on Facebook

**Msgr. David Diamond, Pastor**

Deacons: Harry Morris • John Todor (Ret.)

## Parish Council Members

Agnes Arkus  
Michael Brisgone

José Dominguez  
Franca Felcher

Mary Jo Gordon  
John Guest

Laurie Hays  
Jon Lippard

Michelle Nardozzi  
David Ripsom

**Business Manager:** David Bauer, CPA

**Pastoral & Administrative Assistant:** Marie McGuigan

**Office Manager:** Douglas Kitson

**Parish Religious Education Program:** Abbie McCusker

**Director of Music:** Margie Melchior

**Directors of Parish Services:** Thomas Bosch & Kelly Limmina

## St. Cornelius Early Learning Center

*Abbie McCusker, Director*

Phone: (610) 459-8663

Website: [www.scornelius.org](http://www.scornelius.org)

## St. Cornelius Parish Summer Office Hours

Monday thru Thursday 8:00 am to 2:00 pm

Friday 8:00 am to 12:00 pm Noon

closed for Lunch 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm

**Saturday:** Confessions 2:30 - 3:30 Vigil Mass 4:00 pm

**Sunday:** 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 4:00 pm **Weekday Mass: 7:30 am**

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:** Will return after Labor Day

**LiveStream** <https://vimeo.com/user123448673>

**Thoughts from the Second Floor Front**  
**The Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostle**  
June 29, 2025

The book immediately following the gospels in Sacred Scripture is entitled *The Acts of the Apostles*. That is a basic misnomer. It is not a book of the Acts of the Apostles as much as it is a book about the Acts of two Apostles, whom we celebrate today: Peter and Paul. In addition it is not all of their Acts. Two-fifths of the book are speeches. The title comes from the practice of naming books about people as simply and straight forward as *Acta Apostolica*. Even now, the documents that are assembled to prepare for a person's beautification or canonization is simply referred to as *The Acta*.

If there is another category for more-than-unique these two men would be in it. Peter, enthusiastic, energetic, dedicated yet, at times brash and impulsive is a failed, flawed and fragile disciple who along with the others fled. Peter not only abandoned Jesus, he denied even knowing Him. Yet he is the one that Jesus chose as the leader of what would become the original band of Apostles and upon whom He founded the Church. The somewhat apocryphal story is told of St. Peter fleeing Rome, the church he founded, because of a persecution. In his attempt to escape he meets Jesus on the Via Appia and Peter asks Him: *Quo vadis?* Where are you going? In reply, the Lord answers that He is returning to Rome to die and Peter realizes That is exactly what he must do and promptly returns to the city of Rome in order to be martyred.

There is a very fine book published in 2018 entitled *The Fisherman's tomb: The true story of the Vatican's secret search* by John O'Neill. It details Pope Pius XII's search for the tomb of St. Peter. The book is not a dry dusty account of archaeology. The successful excavations for what is today called the *Scavi* took place during the Nazi occupation of Rome during World War II. St. Peter's Basilica in Rome was built on that very spot.

This brings us to that other great, the Apostle to the Gentiles. Paul is a convert from Judaism. He was a Pharisee, educated at the feet of one of the most famous and influential Rabbis of the first century, Gamaliel. Initially he was on pursuit of the members of, what he perceived as a heretical offshoot of true Judaism. He persecuted Christians. Jailing them and in at least one case, St. Stephen, was guilty of participating in his murder. Paul was dedicated to the destruction of the church until he was knocked to the ground while travelling from Jerusalem to Damascus and met Jesus.

So who do we have here in these two men? One who denied Jesus another who believed killing people would be beneficial. Yet, it was these two men, sinful as they were who are the leading figures in the history of Catholicism. My point is that despite themselves they had been given the responsibility to form the church.

What about us?

We have not done anything so egregious as Peter or Paul. Despite our sinfulness we too are called, not to found the Church, but to add to the Church. Soon we will have the annual Peter's Pence Collection. Your donation goes directly to our Holy Father Pope Leo for his ministry. Your contribution will enable you to participate with the pope in spreading the Good News. Later in the summer we will host a members of the Christian Brothers and ask our support in their work in the mission fields. I often assert that the opportunity to do good does not knock at your door. It knocks at your teeth.

Peter and Paul were sinners long before they were saints. It was Grace that enabled them to collaborate with God's plan. That Grace is still available to us to save us and do great and small things for the sake of the Kingdom of God.

Faithfully,

Msgr. Diamond





## Eucharistic Adoration

*Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament flows from the sacrifice of the Mass and serves to deepen our hunger for Communion with Christ and the rest of the Church.*

Join us for Adoration on Friday mornings after Mass in the chapel. You are welcome to visit anytime during the day until we repose the Blessed Sacrament at 4:00 PM.

**Adoration will return after Labor Day,  
September 5, 2025**

## INDEPENDENCE DAY

**MASS  
JULY 4TH  
9:00 AM**

*Blessed is the Nation whose God is the Lord.  
Ps 33:12*

**Welcome to the Matthew XXV Garden  
Season 5**

**Matthew XXV**

A FEW GOOD MEN NEEDED:

We would like to form a small group of volunteers who would take turns mowing the grass in the Matthew XXV Garden.

If interested please TEXT Steve Muntz at 610-454-8937 and he will be happy to fill you in with what needs to be done.

Again, thank you,

Matthew XXV Committee  
Laurie, JoEllen, Steve, & Regina



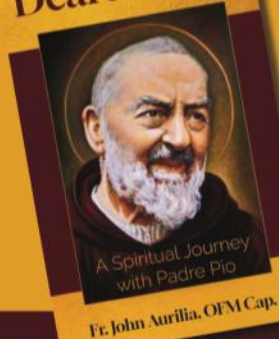
JOIN US AS WE EXPLORE

## INSIDE THE BOOK

*with author Father John Aurilia*

**TUESDAY, JULY 22ND - 6:30 PM  
ST. HELENA'S CHURCH**

**Dearest Soul**



Father John Aurilia, OFM Cap., was ordained a priest in 1966. For a brief period as a young priest, he was personal secretary to Saint Pio of Pietrelcina. He has taught at seminaries and served for many years as a pastor at various parishes in the United States after being called in 1973 to serve Italian immigrants in New Jersey. In 2022, he was transferred to St. Francis Friary in Wilmington, Delaware.

## LENDING LIBRARY

You may not be aware of the Lending Library that exists in our ambulatory, near the large stain glass windows overlooking the family portico. The cart pictured to the right contains a variety of reading material that you are welcome to take with you. You may also find a variety of holy cards, prayer pamphlets and novenas. Please feel free to take what you like.

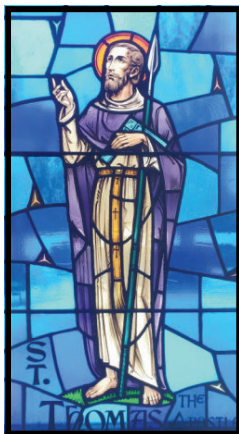


## IN COMMUNION WITH OUR SAINTS

### St. Thomas, Apostle July 3

St. Thomas was born a Jew and was called to be one of the twelve Apostles. His birth and death dates are unknown, but his feast day is celebrated July 3. He lived before the formal establishment of the Catholic Church but is recognized as the patron saint of architects. (Notice the T square Thomas holds in the stained glass below)

He was a dedicated but impetuous follower of Christ. When Jesus said He was returning to Judea to visit His sick friend Lazarus, Thomas immediately exhorted the other Apostles to accompany Him on the trip which involved certain danger and possible death because of the mounting hostility of the authorities. At the Last Supper, when Christ told His disciples that He was going to prepare a place for them to which they also might come because they knew both the place and the way, Thomas pleaded that they did not understand and received the beautiful assurance that Christ is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.



St. Thomas is best known for his role in verifying the Resurrection of his Master. Thomas' unwillingness to believe that the other Apostles had seen their risen Lord on the first Easter Sunday earned him the title of "doubting Thomas." Eight days later, on Christ's second apparition, Thomas was gently rebuked for his skepticism and furnished with the evidence he had demanded - seeing in Christ's hands the point of the nails. Thomas even put his fingers in the nail holes and his hand into Christ's side. After verifying the wounds were true, St. Thomas became convinced of the reality of the Resurrection and exclaimed, "My Lord and My God," thus making a public Profession of Faith in the Divinity of Jesus.

St. Thomas is also mentioned as being present at another Resurrection appearance of Jesus - at Lake Tiberias, when a miraculous catch of fish occurred.

According to tradition, Thomas was killed in an accident when a fowler shot at a peacock and struck Thomas instead. Following his death, some of his relics were taken to Edessa while the rest were kept in what is now known as India. They can still be found within the San Thome Basilica in Chennai, Mylapore, India.

The relics taken to Edessa were moved in 1258 to Italy, where they can be found in the Cathedral of St. Thomas the Apostle in Ortona, Italy. However, it is believed that Saint Thomas' skull rests in the Monastery of Saint John the Theologian on the Greek Island Patmos.

## THE PARISH CHURCH AND ITS FURNISHINGS Ambo

Ambo, lectern, pulpit—it goes by many names, but it serves one purpose, to mount the Liturgy of the Word. In some denominations, the ambo dominates the worship space. Because the Bible alone governs their system of belief, they give its proclamation primacy of place in the arrangement of the sanctuary.

In Catholic churches, the altar typically dominates the sanctuary because our tradition has emphasized the Eucharist as the climax of our worship. However, this worthy emphasis sometimes caused us to slight the role of the Word of God, and our ambos have suffered from sapless designs and insignificant placement. For centuries, the priest used to read the Scriptures himself at the altar. Altars had an "Epistle side" and a "Gospel side." Now the Scriptures have their own place, the ambo. (In Greek, the word originally referred to a platform or stage.)



The ambo's specific purpose provides a place for the Scriptures, the Responsorial Psalm and the Easter Proclamation (the Exsultet, proclaimed once a year, only at the Easter Vigil). It may also be used for the Homily and the Universal Prayer (the Prayer of the Faithful). But that's it! It is not the place for announcements, for the priest's opening prayer or remarks, for the soloist at the wedding, or the folk choir—unless, of course, they're leading the Responsorial Psalm. The priest should pray from his chair, and the songs and announcements belong at a stand in a different location. We reserve the ambo for the word of God.

Consequently, the ambo should look special. It enjoys a fixed place in the sanctuary, not a portable status subject to removal or displacement. Too often, we obscure the ambo with decorations and banners, as if it were merely a hook for hanging pictures rather than the home for the word of God. It demands dignity of place, room for candles if desired, and a location where all can see and hear the reader. Microphones of good quality are essential in most churches. A church's best mikes belong with the Scriptures, not just with the musicians.

The ambo is the primary place from which we hear the Word of God and it deserves our sacred respect.

Written by Paul Turner





The Sunday collection is very important for us to maintain our fiscal responsibilities. So, if you are away on a Sunday, *ENJOY*; but remember *YOUR* church.

**June 22, 2025**

WeShare eGiving	\$6,960.40
Envelope Offering	\$12,168.50
	<b>\$19,128.90</b>



*"For where your treasure is,  
there also will your heart be."*

Luke 12:34



In our charity, let us pray  
for the repose of the soul of

**John A. Steckel**

*Eternal rest grant to her, O Lord.  
May he rest in peace.*



## Monsignor's Thursday Email

Msgr. Diamond's weekly Thursday Email is a popular weekly newsletter for our parishioners. Currently there are **over 1,148** people who receive his email each Thursday afternoon. If you would like to be on our distribution list, please call the office at (610) 459-2502 or send your request to be added to our distribution at

[Stcorn1@comcast.net](mailto:Stcorn1@comcast.net).

## HEED THE CALL



**VOCATION OFFICE FOR  
DIOCESAN PRIESTHOOD**

**Visit our website**

**[WWW.HeedTheCall.org](http://WWW.HeedTheCall.org)**



## Assisted Hearing Devices

We have assisted hearing devices, which connect directly to the sound system. They are located inside the church, along side the wall to your left as you view the altar.

Easy to operate: the ear pieces are already attached. Just turn it on, a green light will blink and then remain on, adjust the volume.

Comments from satisfied users:

*Wow - That is the first time in a long Time that I have heard everything at Mass.*

**ST. CORNELIUS**

**BINGO**

**NIGHT**

July 11 @ 7 PM

**Win prizes!**

**\$5 for 10 rounds**

## Prayer Shawl Ministry... Come, Join US!



Did you know that each baby baptized at St. Cornelius receives a hand-made blanket made by our Prayer Shawl Ministry? You are welcome to join us in this rewarding ministry. We also make shawls, blankets, scarves, hats, mittens etc. for elderly homes, the Giving Tree and anyone looking for a comforting gift.

**Every 4th Monday of each month  
1:30pm to 3:00pm, Parish Life Center**

We find ourselves in need of white acrylic yarn or funding to help continue this wonderful ministry. Please prayerfully consider donating to our ministry or purchasing a "Pound of Love" or "Caron Pound" of white acrylic yarn. We have a basket set up in the narthex, below the large TV monitor, to offer our works and for your donations. Also, you are welcome to drop off any yarn donations to the Parish Life Center. Donations are greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions, please contact

Valerie Childs (610) 213-0515  
and Vickie Gambino (317) 440-5210



## Camp Cornelius

Our first week of summer camp at our early learning center was a huge success! From ages 3 to 8, our campers dove right into the fun with big smiles and endless energy. The week was filled with laughter, creativity, and sunshine as the children enjoyed crafts, games, outdoor play, and themed activities that kept everyone engaged and excited. New friendships were made, old ones grew stronger, and the joy of summer could be felt all around. We're off to a fantastic start and can't wait for all the adventures still to come!



## Helping Hands and Hearts

This ministry offers temporary help (meals, errands, etc.) to individuals and families in need! If you are aware of someone in need or would like to be a volunteer helper, please contact Marilyn Gustin at [mgustin05@gmail.com](mailto:mgustin05@gmail.com) (484) 947-7295.



**YOUNG CATHOLIC PROFESSIONALS**  
*Working in Witness for Christ™*

In a world that can be void of meaning and leave young adults restless and dissatisfied, Young Catholic Professionals Philadelphia brings together young professionals in their 20s and 30s into a community of belonging, support, and encouragement at all stages of your faith journey. Young Catholic Professionals empowers and equips you to live your Catholic faith through everyday work and to perform all work with excellence for the glory of God.

Our patron saint is Saint Joseph the Worker. Our mission calls upon the intercession of Saint Joseph the Worker, a simple carpenter who reminds us of the importance of stillness, reflection, and prayer.

Young Catholic Professionals mission is to challenge, train, and inspire young adults working in various professional careers to work in witness for Christ. For more information go to our local Philadelphia website at [www.ycppphiladelphia.org/cpages/home](http://www.ycppphiladelphia.org/cpages/home)



**Caring for Friends™**

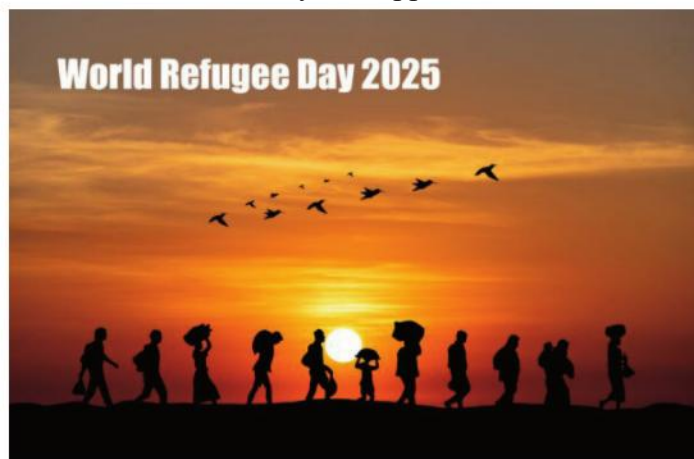
Help provide home cooked meals to neighbors in need! Caring for Friends (formerly Aid for Friends) is collecting frozen meals and soups for homebound seniors and food insecure individuals. Meal trays and soup containers can be found in the utility closet on the right of the side door of the narthex. Consider putting aside an extra dinner or soup portion, freeze it and then bring it to the freezer also located in the utility closet. PLEASE sign the meals and soup in on the list attached to the shelves next to the freezer. The food is distributed all over the Greater Philadelphia Area. This effort is ongoing at our parish. We invite you to contribute what you can. If you have questions, please contact Nancy Todor 609-234-1193



## CRS NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT

On World Refugee Day, we honor the strength of displaced people and refugees around the world. Their resilience is incredible - but recent funding cuts are making life even harder. From Sudan to Haiti to the DRC, millions are at risk of hunger, malnutrition, and insecurity.

At the end of 2024, an estimated 123.2 million people worldwide were forcibly displaced. Without the proper funding, Catholic Relief Services will struggle to help those in need. Please urge Congress and the Administration to halt and reverse all terminations of lifesaving and life-affirming humanitarian and development assistance. Visit [www.crs.org](http://www.crs.org) for more information. Thanks for your support!



*Let us pray for our Men and Women serving in the Armed Forces. Especially for:*

SSG Ana Brunal  
SPC Mike Canfield  
Cpl Michael Castle  
Lt. Connor Cleary  
Fr. Joseph Coffey (Chaplain)  
Maj Robert B. Cusick, Jr.  
Capt Joshua deFreitas  
SSGT Michael DiVernieri  
Cadet Emily Fanning  
Lt. Ryan Gallagher  
SSG. Eric Gardner  
Capt Matthew Gibbons  
Ens Patrick Gibbons  
Ens John Paul Gibbons  
Maj Rachel Gonzalez  
SPC Logan Hannum  
Sgt Andrew Hart  
Devin J. Hunt  
PO1 Nathan R. Keller  
1st Lt Lauren Kinnee  
Spc. Andrew Koehler  
Capt Daniel Kohli  
Maj. Chris Love  
Maj. Megan Love  
Sgt Jason Lyons

2nd Lt. Kevin Malone  
Sgt Alexander Marlow  
PFC Zachary Marlow  
CPT. Travis Mauer  
Lt. Cmdr Daniel McCadden  
Capt Jonathan McGrath  
LT Molly K. McGuckin  
LCDR Ryan A. McGuckin  
Maj. Sean P. Noll  
Lt. Col Brian J. O'Shea  
Lt. Cmdr Inga O'Shea  
Maj James O'Shea  
Sgt. Maj. Justin Rogowski  
PFC L Roland  
LTJG Christian Samulewicz  
1st Lt. Olivia Samulewicz  
Capt. Neal F. Schubert  
Ens Nicholas Spadaccini  
MSG Thomas Stone  
Cpl Mark Truex  
Lt. Christopher Vish  
Capt. Aidan Walsh  
PFC Ellianna Welsh  
Capt Jennifer Wynn

## PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL AND THOSE WHO CARE FOR THEM

Luzmarina Lalli, Marianne Leader, Sandy Fecondo, Dominique Copper, Brian Walheim, Bob McKinney, Mindy Tumolo, Angelo Tiberi, Dorothy Brady, James Egner, Joan Carrington, River Agren, Rosemarie Tangi, Kathryn Howland, John Faulkner, Sr., Janice Letourneau, Lorraine Farrugia, Patricia Ackerman, Doris Wysocki, Lott family, Ed Lovell, Lillian Corbett, Eileen Kane, David III, C. McCollum, Joshua Gidlewski, Denise Banta, Tom Eno, Diana Duffy, Isaac Burks, Nancy Cunningham, Jay Holland, Thomas Drane, Kara Ulatowski, Harold Von Brockdorff, Mary Helen Arthur, Anne Spetzer, Carolyn Duffy, Carleen Peters, Marian Short, Bryan Thompson, Paul Lucas, Carla Santoleri, Richard Meccarielli, Edward Field, Judy Field, Joyce Monaco, Matthew Hurst, Leonard Smith, Jr., Jim Waters, Kathie Buckley, Bernice & Arthur Hindle, Sean Mulvey, Patricia Wells, Kathy Williams, Michael Gibbons, Ellen Brisgone, Laura O'Brien-Black, Elizabeth Kephart, Tina Landis, Bill & Theresa Sherwin, Michelle Dillione, Chris Roe, Frank Kuders, Dave and Ronnie Pryce, Rosemary Brennan, Ellie May McGrath, Vicki Wojdak, Andrea Bateman, Brandon Heacock, Nancy Young, Nanci Ehmer, Ken Rudert, Ed Shell, Ellie McCreight, Ellie Griem, Gregory Varacchi, Michael McKinnen, Connie Carney, Luke Post, Jim Buckley, Jerome Lienhard



## The Ministry of Consolation

A St. Cornelius community response to the needs of people grieving the death of a significant person/persons in their lives, the ministry honors the words and example of the Lord Jesus:

*"Blessed are they who mourn; they shall be consoled"*  
(Matthew 5:4).

A team of four St. Cornelius church members have been trained to set up and facilitate a Support Group for the Consolation Ministry.

On **July 19, 2025**, the Consolation Group will meet at the **Parish Life Center, Fr. Simon Room** from **2:30pm to 3:30pm**.

Contact Joan Holliday for any questions  
[dochollisv@aol.com](mailto:dochollisv@aol.com) or call (610) 717-2180.



## SAINT CORNELIUS

Early Learning Center  
ENROLLMENT OPEN FOR THE  
2025 - 2026  
SCHOOL YEAR!

At Saint Cornelius Early Learning Center we are dedicated to educating each child to learn academic and social skills for success in their future. Our energetic teachers and staff create a nurturing, creative and exciting environment for children to learn, grow, and thrive!

Now enrolling PreK 3, PreK4 and  
Kindergarten!

### CONTACT US

For more information or to schedule a tour, please email Abigail McCusker at

[akohlbrener@scornelius.org](mailto:akohlbrener@scornelius.org)

or call the Early Learning Center office at  
(610) 459 - 8663.

## Theology on Tap

July 8 @ 7 PM

THE  
GOAT



Guest Speaker

**Father Stephen DeLacy**

Vicar for Faith Formation with  
Youth and Young Adults for the  
Archdiocese of Philadelphia

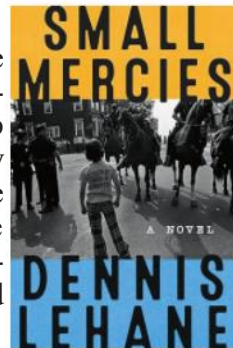
## THE ST. CORNELIUS LITERARY SOCIETY

### Small Mercies: A Detective Mystery

By Dennis Lehane

A tale of revenge, family love, festering hate, and insidious power, set against one of the most tumultuous episodes in Boston's history.

In the summer of 1974 a heatwave blankets Boston and Mary Pat Fennelly is trying to stay one step ahead of the bill collectors. Mary Pat has lived her entire life in the housing projects of "Southie," the Irish American enclave that stubbornly adheres to old tradition and stands proudly apart.



One night Mary Pat's teenage daughter Jules stays out late and doesn't come home. That same evening, a young Black man is found dead, struck by a subway train under mysterious circumstances.

The two events seem unconnected. But Mary Pat, propelled by a desperate search for her missing daughter, begins turning over stones best left untouched—asking questions that bother Marty Butler, chieftain of the Irish mob, and the men who work for him, men who don't take kindly to any threat to their business.

Set against the hot, tumultuous months when the city's desegregation of its public schools exploded in violence, *Small Mercies* is a superb thriller, a brutal depiction of criminality and power, and an unflinching portrait of the dark heart of American racism. It is a mesmerizing and wrenching work that only Dennis Lehane could write.

Please plan on attending our next meeting this Sunday, July 13th at 2:00 PM.

### Holy Hour - Join Us!

Monday, July 7, 8:00 am

After the 7:30 Mass, the Pro-Life Group is hosting a Holy Hour. We will pray a rosary for the unborn, and an end to abortion. We will also pray the Miraculous Medal Novena for the unborn. There will be time for silent prayer. The hour will close at approximately 9:00 am.



Look for this event monthly on the first Monday of the month.



# CAMP CORNELIUS

Location: Saint Cornelius Early Learning Center  
160 Ridge Road  
Chadds Ford, PA 19317

**Cooking**  
**Art**  
**STEM**  
**Sports**



*This summer we are excited to bring  
four weeks of summer fun!*

*Half day: 9:00 am- 12:00 pm*

*Full day: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm*

PreK3 to 2nd grade

Week of July 7th  
Week of July 14th



A summer camp experience for children  
ages PreK3 through 2nd grade.  
Volunteer opportunities available for older  
students.

Half Day Camp (9am-12pm)  
\$225 per week

Full Day Camp (9am-3pm)  
\$365 per week

Before care (8 AM) and After care (until 5 PM)  
are available

Questions? Contact:

Director: Debbie Anderson

danderson@scornelius.org / 610-459-8663

## Sunday Mass Intentions

7:30 AM Olympia Tranzilli  
9:00 AM Bill Swahl  
11:00 AM Frank DiJoseph  
4:00 PM Francis Bonanno-Sculli

## Weekly Mass Schedule (Week of June 30 - July 4)

### Saturday Vigil / Sunday Morning

Intention: *Missa pro populo (Mass for the people)*  
Reading: Acts 12:1-11; Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; 2  
Tim 4:6-8, 17-18; Mt 16:13-19

### Monday 7:30 AM

### Memorial of the First Martyrs of the Church of Rome

Intention: Msgr. Gregory Parlante  
Reading: Gen 18:16-33; Ps 103:1b-2, 3-4, 8-9,  
10-11; Mt 8:18-22

### Tuesday 7:30 AM

### Memorial of St. Junipero Serra, Priest

Intention: Jodi Arkus  
Reading: Gn 19:15-29; Ps 26: 2-3, 9-10, 11-12;  
Mt 8: 23-27

### Wednesday 7:30 AM

Intention: Camillo & Anna Verratti  
Reading: Gn 21:5, 8-20a; Ps 34:7-8, 10-11, 12-13;  
Mt 8: 28-34

### Thursday 7:30 AM

### Feast of St. Thomas, Apostle

Intention: Meredith Young  
Reading: Eph 2:19-22; Ps 117: 1bc, 2; Jn 20: 24-29

### Friday 9:00 AM

### Independence Day

Reading: Gn 23:1-4, 19; 24: 1-8, 62-67;  
Ps 106:1b-2, 3-4a, 4b-5; Mt 9: 9-13



## TABERNACLE CANDLES

In loving memory of Francis Bonanno-Sculli,  
Req. by the Morlino Family

## PILGRIM STATUE

06 - 29 - 2025 Lisa Daughen  
07 - 06 - 2025 Open  
07 - 13 2025 Open

The dates for July 6 to December 28 are  
now available on the sign-up.

Call Carla Santoleri at (610) 361-8447  
for more information.



## RADICAL TRANSFORMATION

On this Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, the readings describe anything but an ordinary time. They are disturbing and they leave us disturbed. The Old Testament reading recounts a young man's radical break with the past to follow a new path. The Gospel describes how life as we know it is abruptly changed if we follow the call of Christ. The psalm and Paul assure us that such life-altering change is possible only because of the power of God's love. We are presented with a stark choice. To love as God loves, we must leave our old lives behind. We must leave behind not just the bad, the selfish, and the evil but the ordinary, our daily work, and the important, our families, our lives. Loving as God loves requires a radical transformation, not a smooth transition.

## TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Processions are life's journey distilled. We move with companions, aware that Christ accompanies us, as we move to the altar for Communion or to the font for baptism, or carry a loved one to a place of rest. In Europe, the season of pilgrimage is beginning now, and tens of thousands of people are moving by foot on well-worn paths. Some take as long as six weeks to walk the last few hundred miles of the medieval pil-

grimage route to the Shrine of St. James the Apostle in Compostella, in northern Spain.

Those who make the journey by foot, hiking, or by bicycle, have a kind of passport stamped at villages and monasteries on the road. When they present this document at the cathedral, they are given the emblem of a pilgrim, the scallop shell of St. James. High over their heads at Mass, a huge *botafulmero* twirls clouds of sweet incense through the cathedral. Cynics say it is to mask the odor of smelly feet. The pilgrims know better. Seeing through the clouds the happy faces of those they met along the road, they recognize a foretaste of the welcome into heaven, and the joy of meeting loved ones in the Kingdom of God.

—James Field

The *botafulmero* (incense burner) burns incense in the Shrine of St. James the Apostle in Compostella, Spain



**#ThankYouForYourPriesthood**

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