

# St. Cornelius Parish



SUNDAY BULLETIN

July 6, 2025

Whatever town you enter  
and they do not receive you,  
go out into the streets  
and say, 'The dust of your town  
that clings to our feet,  
even that we shake off against you.'

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

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John Guest

Laurie Hays  
Jon Lippard

Michelle Nardozzi  
David Ripsom

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**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 XIV Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 6, 2025

Emily Dickinson 's poem is an appropriate way to begin this reflection.

There is no Frigate like a Book  
To take us Lands away  
Nor any Coursers like a Page  
Of prancing Poetry –  
This Traverse may the poorest take  
Without oppress of Toll –  
How frugal is the Chariot  
That bears the Human Soul –

Summer it is time to get to that book that I've wanted to read but have yet to be able to get to it. This is particularly true of the classics. Mark Twain had something to say on that score. A Classic is a book that everybody praises and nobody reads. In order to become a classic, however, *somebody* had to have read it. In no particular order I offer the following as a worthwhile read: The Power and the Glory by Graham Greene; Brideshead Revisited by Evelyn Waugh; Diary of a Country Priest by Georges Bernanos, The Poems of Gerard Manley Hopkins, Wise Blood by Flannery O'Connor, The Thanatos Syndrome by Walker Percy, Morte D'Urban by J. F. Powers and Death comes for the Archbishop by Willa Cather. These are not ancient classics like The Confessions by Augustine or Introduction to the Devout Life by Francis de Sales but they are worthwhile.

I just finished The Wager, a gripping story of Mutiny, Mayhem and Murder about a shipwreck in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century, when ships were wooden and sailors were steel. Next I will read a thin volume given to me by a parishioner Searching for and maintaining peace. Our own St. Cornelius Literary Society brought me to a murder mystery by Denis Lehane Small Mercies. I come from South Philly and because of that I know several dirty words but this book has been able to present them in what I mildly call a shocking manner. However, in Lehane's defense, I quote St John Henry Newman: *If you want a sinless literature, you must first create a society of saints. Lehane's characters are no saints.*

I have a T-shirt from a bookstore in DC which regularly causes people to pause and read. It is a quote by Groucho Marx: *Outside of a dog, a book is man's best friend. Inside of a dog it is too dark to read.* In the interest of transparency I must confess that I am also looking forward to the next detective thriller by James Lee Burke. There's something very good about a summer afternoon spent with a murder mystery set in New Orleans, Louisiana or Missoula, Montana.

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**

## 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

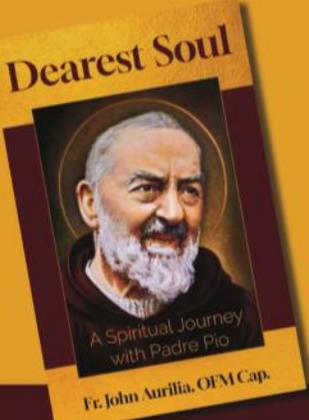


JOIN US AS WE EXPLORE

# INSIDE THE BOOK

with author *Father John Aurilia*

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




**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.



## RETROUVAILLE

A LIFELINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES

### REDISCOVER THE LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE

Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vy). If you know anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next program will be held **August 1 - 3, 2025** at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information, or to register, visit [www.HelpOurMarriage.org](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.org) or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230.

All inquiries are strictly confidential.

## 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. Augustine Zhao Rong's and Companions July 9

Christianity arrived in China by way of Syria in the 600s. Depending on China's relations with the outside world, Christianity over the centuries was free to grow or was forced to operate secretly.

The 120 martyrs in this group died between 1648 and 1930. Eighty-seven of them were born in China, and were children, parents, catechists, or laborers, ranging in age from nine years to 72. This group includes four Chinese diocesan priests. The 33 foreign-born martyrs were mostly priests or women religious, especially from the Order of Preachers, the Paris Foreign Mission Society, the Friars Minor, Society of Jesus, Society of St. Francis de Sales (Salesians), and Franciscan Missionaries of Mary.

Augustine Zhao Rong was a Chinese soldier who accompanied Bishop John Gabriel Taurin Dufresse of the Paris Foreign Mission Society to his martyrdom in Beijing. Not long after his baptism, Augustine was ordained as a diocesan priest. He was martyred in 1815.

Beatified in groups at various times, these 120 martyrs were canonized together in Rome on October 1, 2000.

#### Reflection

The People's Republic of China and the Roman Catholic Church each have well over a billion members, but there are only about 12 million Catholics in China. The reasons for that are better explained by historical conflicts than by a wholesale rejection of the Good News of Jesus Christ. The Chinese-born martyrs honored on this feast day, regarded by their persecutors as dangerous because they were considered allies of enemy, Catholic countries. The martyrs born outside China often tried to distance themselves from European political struggles relating to China, but their persecutors saw them as Westerners and therefore, by definition, anti-Chinese.

The Good News of Jesus Christ is intended to benefit all peoples; today's martyrs knew that. May 21st-century Christians live in such a way that Chinese women and men will be attracted to hear that Good News and embrace it.



## THE PARISH CHURCH AND ITS FURNISHINGS Flowers

Flowers that decorate a church beautify the sacred place. Flowers please the eye and the nose, engaging our senses in the wonder of creation.

Flowers may draw attention to some object or to the sacred space they occupy. If your church has a gathering area between the front door and the worship space, a large floral arrangement on a central table may greet you as you enter. Some churches keep vases of flowers near statues of beloved saints, in wall niches or on shelves. You may also see flowers adorning the altar, ambo, or font.

Flowers can draw attention to themselves, but they should not distract people from the sacred objects they adorn. For example, the top of the altar should be free from flowers, lest they vie for attention with the bread and wine. If placed before the ambo, they should not obstruct anyone's view of the reader.

Floral arrangements need not be restricted to the sanctuary or devotional spaces. Flowers may decorate the area where the assembly gathers. But such arrangements should not block access to the sanctuary or the aisles of the church.

Some occasions call for special decorations. Advent wreaths, evergreens, palm branches, and lilies evoke the mysteries of the liturgical year.

At weddings and funerals, flowers cheer the heart and comfort the soul. When arranging decorations for these events, be mindful of those already in place for the season. During Lent, for example, many churches prefer to keep the sanctuary rather bare.

Real flowers always support worship of the Creator better than artificial flowers do.

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 29, 2025**

Collection for Sunday was not available at time of printing



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

Luke 12:34



### 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



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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.*

### 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 second week of summer camp at our early learning center was nothing short of super! With a fun-filled superhero theme, our little friends used their imagination and big hearts to soar through the week like true heroes. They created their own superhero masks and played action-packed games. The highlight of the week was a surprise visit from none other than Spider-Man himself! The children were thrilled to meet him, and their eyes lit up with excitement as they posed for pictures and showed off their super skills. What an unforgettable week of adventure and hero fun!



The children were thrilled to meet him, and their eyes lit up with excitement as they posed for pictures and showed off their super skills. What an unforgettable week of adventure and hero fun!



## 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.ycpphiladelphia.org/cpages/home](http://www.ycpphiladelphia.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

The Catholic Church in the United States has partnered with the government for decades to help the poor overseas. However, due to extensive cuts to USAID, 69 of Catholic Relief Services' programs have received termination notices. This will cut off critical aid to more than 11 million people worldwide. Specifically, in Burkina Faso, 43,000 people will not receive emergency kits for shelter, water, hygiene, sanitation and basic household needs.

In Haiti, 4,300 families will not receive support to meet their survival food needs and prevent malnutrition in children and pregnant women. In Iraq, 1,205 young men and women, including minority Christians, are not receiving seed money for youth employment projects, which increases the risk for migration and radicalization. In the Philippines, household kits cannot be distributed, leaving 3,395 people without blankets, sleeping mats and cooking-wares after the severe impacts of Typhoon Pepito. Please urge Congress and the Administration to halt and reverse all terminations of life-saving and life-affirming humanitarian and development assistance. Thanks for your support!



## 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 Meccarrielli, 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

*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  
Sp. 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



## 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!

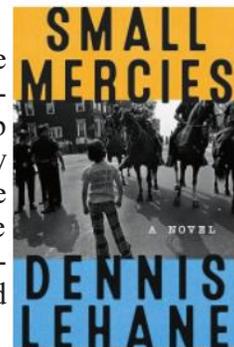
## CONTACT US

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.

# 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 Fennessy 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.

**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

## 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 14th



A summer camp experience for children  
ages PreK3 through 2nd grade.  
Volunteer opportunities available for older  
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Half Day Camp (9am-12pm)  
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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 Brendan Connors  
9:00 AM Olimpia Tranzilli  
11:00 AM James Albany  
4:00 PM Maria Dancona

### Weekly Mass Schedule (Week of July 7 - July 11)

#### Saturday Vigil / Sunday Morning

Intention: *Missa pro populo (Mass for the people)*  
Reading: Is 66: 10-14c; Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20;  
Gal 6: 14-18; Lk 10: 1-12, 17-20 or 10:1-9

#### Monday 7:30 AM

Intention: Frances Cunningham  
Reading: Gn 28: 10-22a; Ps 91: 1-2, 3-4, 14-15ab;  
Mt 9:18-26

#### Tuesday 7:30 AM

Intention: Katherine Stover  
Reading: Gn 32:23-33; Ps 17:1b, 2-3, 6-7ab, 8b and  
15; Mt 9: 32-38

#### Wednesday 7:30 AM

#### St. Augustine Zhao Rong, and Companions

Intention: Denis & Bertha Daly  
Reading: Gn 41: 55-57; 42: 5-7a, 17-24a; Ps 33: 2-3,  
10-11, 18-19, Mt 10:1-7

#### Thursday 7:30 AM

Intention: James Albany  
Reading: Gn 44:18-21, 23b-29; 45:1-5; Ps 105:  
16-17, 18-19, 20-21; Mt 10:7-15

#### Friday 7:30 AM

#### Memorial of Saint Benedict, Abbot

Intention: Colin Brady  
Reading: Gn 46:1-7, 28-30; Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28,  
39-40; Mt 10: 16-23

## TABERNACLE CANDLES

In memory of James Albany on the 20th Anniversary,  
Req. by Phyllis Albany

## PILGRIM STATUE

07 - 06 - 2025 Peggy Vinnacombe  
07 - 13 - 2025 Peggy Vinnacombe  
07 - 20 - 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.



**GOD’S PROVIDENCE**

Today’s readings celebrate God’s providence. No matter how wonderful (or heartbreaking) our relationships are, God always provides for us. No one cares for us the way God does.

Isaiah delights us with a deeply intimate image of God caring for us “as a mother comforts her child.” The prophet describes us not as the usual “children of God,” but as “babies.” We should not resist this image, but rejoice in it. Trusting in God’s care, we can all let down our guard and rest like infants in the lap of our mother.

Saint Paul’s trust in God allows him to be at peace like this. He boldly declares that no one can “make troubles” for him, because he has given himself completely to Jesus. And when Jesus sends his disciples out to preach and heal, he challenges them not to provide for themselves, but to let faith be their guide.

**TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION**

It’s high summer now, school is out, the pace of work slows, and some people drift away. There are visitors in the churches every summer, and familiar faces are “among the missing.” Some find the summer’s call more appealing than the summons of the church bells. Many, however, would not dream of missing a Sunday, and so they make their way to Mass in unfamiliar plac-

es, watching the locals for clues as to when to sit or stand, where the Communion stations are. In answering the call, they keep the “sabbatical” rhythm of the Christian life: every seventh day, the Body of Christ assembles for worship.

For centuries, there was no obligation to Sunday Mass in the sense of a written law, but Christians have always yearned to be together on Sunday. In the city of Abitina, during a persecution by the Emperor Diocletian, a group of Christians were urged to stop worshipping together on Sundays. They responded, “Then take our lives, for without the Sunday we cannot live.” By a curious coincidence, the appointed readings today center us on thoughts of peace. On our Independence Day, the experience of worship situated us in community, and evoked a commitment from us to be advocates of peace in all aspects of our society’s life.

—James Field



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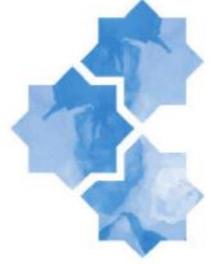
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**St. Cornelius' Sunday Bulletin**



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