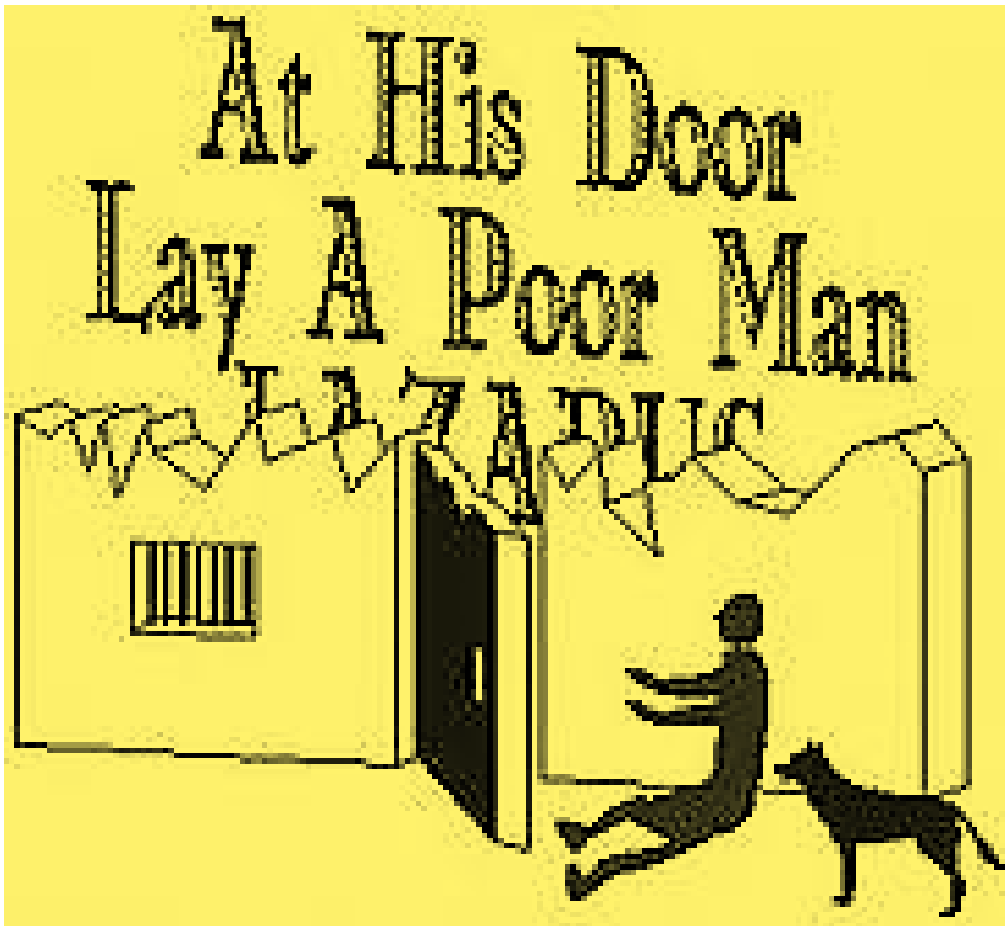


*St. Francis' Mission is:
To live by Faith, be known by Love, and be a voice of
Hope in order to give ourselves in service and better the
lives of others.*

September 25, 2016

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Volume 3, Issue #39



HYMNS

For Sunday
September 25, 2016

Gathering 426
"Blest Be The Lord"

Offertory 504
"All That Is Hidden"

Communion 340
"Pan De Vida"

Sending 636
"Lead Me Lord"

Pastor
Father
Victor Ray

All of us at St. Francis ECC want to take a moment to extend a very warm welcome to everyone who's visiting us for the first time this morning. Whether you're just having a look, or are searching out for a place to worship, we're delighted to have you here. Enjoy the rest of your worship time with us, and God bless you!



From The Desk of the Pastor

Do we listen to Jesus today? Do we notice the marginalized? Do we share the excess of what we have? Jesus did come back from the dead to tell us! Has it made a difference or are we blind to that as well? Having too many 'things' is not a sign from God that we are blessed and loved. It is a sign that we are workaholics or very clever or very lucky. The ideal expressed by Luke over and over in his Gospel is that we share what we have with those who don't have in order to level the playing field on earth. It means giving up money, power, property, status and becoming known for what we do for others. We need to use our resources to fight for justice in society and not ignore the needs and injustices others are subject to. We need to be real Christians. And Luke is very clear on what that means in our daily lives. It is a challenge. It is hard to be humble in a society where humility is not much valued. It is hard to be giving in a society where having is more important. But if we are to really follow Christ, we need to do more than come to Mass on Sundays for one hour.

	GREETERS	ACOLYTE	1 ST READING	2 ND READING/ INTERCESSION	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER
September 25	Nile Don	Terry W	Cheryl V	Bill S	Ivy V
September 28		Jim V	Barb F	Mary Lee	Jim V
October 2	Anthony Dave B	Jim V	Mark	Deb F	Terry W
October 7		Barb F	Mary Lee	Michael M	Mike H
October 9	Jon L Barb F	Mike M	Emilie M	Cheryl V	Bill S

LITURGY SCHEDULE ABOVE:

- To view readings in advance, go to www.usccb.org
- If you cannot fulfill the duty for that day, Please swap with someone else.
- If you cannot make it due to illness or emergency, please contact Jim Villañana as soon as possible. His phone number is on the last page of the bulletin.

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Reading 1 = Amos 6:1a, 4-7

Responsorial Psalm = Psalm 146:7, 8-9, 9-10

Reading 2 = 1 Timothy 6:11-16

Gospel Acclamation = 2 Corinthians 8:9

Gospel = Luke 16:19-31

MINISTRIES

- Financial – Larry Roush – financial.stfrancis@gmail.com
- Healing – Available – healingministry.stfrancis@gmail.com
- Hospitality – Ivy Villafana – hospitality.stfrancis@gmail.com
- Liturgical – Jim Villafana – liturgical.stfrancis@gmail.com
- Media – William Schwartz – media.stfrancis.ecc@gmail.com
- Music – Michael Velez – music.stfrancis.ecc@gmail.com
- Social – Cheryl Velez – socialministry.stfrancis@gmail.com

Or visit the Website on the CONTACT Page at www.stfrancis-ecc.org and click their button.

St. Francis Community Update

- **Choir Practice:** Every Wednesday at 7 pm. Come and Join!
- **Name Tags:** Please sign up on the Bulletin Board if you would like one.
- **Pick up a copy** of the “Volunteer Soap Opera”.
- **Survey On Line:** It’s part humor, but could also help newbie visitors to the website understand “Ecumenical Catholic”. See it on the Website ADS/LINKS Page under saint-matthew.org/quiz.php
- **New Website Reality:** Clicks/Hits promotes St. Francis. Increases interest/membership. Help us with our mission! Website has added a Latest Update below Father Victor’s Bio on the Home Page. Check it out for quick access as to what’s new.
- **Share:** If you like something on Facebook or YouTube, **PLEASE SHARE IT.** The more that see it, the more that may join us.



Let Us Pray for



- ✚ Brandon Brook's Son Cecil battling depression. Prayers for Healing.
- ✚ Cory Vincent's Uncle Paul undergoing a medical treatment. Prayers for Healing
- ✚ Jim Hofmann friend Dawn R recovering from stroke. Prayers for Healing.
- ✚ Cheryl/Mike cousin Tommy Conlon. Prayers for Healing and Comfort.
- ✚ Parishioner DA Marx dealing with pain issues. Prayers for Healing.
- ✚ Cheryl/Mike Friend, Brian Mahoney recovering from open heart surgery. Prayers for Healing.
- ✚ Parishioner Lynette Kovar dealing with Health Issues. Prayers for Healing.
- ✚ Cory Vincent's Mother Patou dealing with Health Issues. Also, a prayer for good relations with the family. Prayers for Healing and Love.
- ✚ Parishioner Dee Spano. Prayers for continued Healing.
- ✚ Cheryl and Mike's friend. Jim Kash dealing with chemo treatments. Prayers for Healing
- ✚ Parishioner Cookie Waters. Prayers for continued Healing.
- ✚ Ivy's friend, Donna Miller. Prayers for Healing as she battles cancer.
- ✚ Mark Talboom, dealing with health issues. Prayers for Healing.
- ✚ David Baughman dealing with health issues. Prayers for Healing.
- ✚ Cheryl Velez dealing with health issues. Prayers for Healing.
- ✚ Ivy Villafana recuperating. Prayers for Healing.
- ✚ Lorraine and Christine as they battle medical issues. Prayers for Healing.
- ✚ Mary Meier and Linda Ritchie dealing with Mary's cancer issue. Prayers for Healing.
- ✚ George Ressler dealing with health issues. Prayers for Healing.
- ✚ Philip Champagne and Family, Leo's nephew for diagnosis of colon cancer. Prayers for Healing.
- ✚ Larry Roush's son Jason dealing with seizure and diagnostic procedures. Prayers for Healing.

- ✚ Those dealing with unseen issues affecting the heart, mind and body such as grief, depression and anxiety.
- ✚ For the lonely, the dying, those who have entered God's Eternal Kingdom and those who are grieving them.

IF YOU HAVE ANY PRAYER PETITIONS, PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING, REQUESTS FOR VISITATION OR MEETING WITH A PRIEST....

Prayer leaflets are available on the Community Table. Please complete and drop in the offertory plate or contact a Council Member.

Requests will remain on the Prayer List 30 days unless otherwise requested.

MASS CARDS - Sympathy Mass Cards are available by contacting the church office (727- 234-1380)

Bulletin Guy Inquiry: Please let me know who we need to pray for! The power of prayer works, but I need to know who we can all pray for.....



26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Luke returns to the teaching of Jesus concerning poverty and wealth. In today's gospel reading, however, we are taken to a new level of understanding, as the issue is related to the very heart of the Good News brought by the Savior. With the parable of Lazarus at the rich man's gate, Jesus shows his skills as a storyteller, able to enthrall his listeners, as he challenges their complacency.

This story, we are told, is addressed 'to the Pharisees', many of whom were attached to their wealth, seeing it as a sign of God's favor. The rich man in the story is not condemned for evil behavior. Reading between the lines, we may well conclude that he thought he had treated Lazarus well – he had allowed him to remain at the gate in his destitution; and he was happy for him to have the leftovers of his feasting. The Pharisees are told, however, that when he repeatedly addressed Abraham as his 'father' he was rejected. On the other hand, Lazarus – whose name means 'God helps' – is received by Abraham as the guest of honor – at the eschatological banquet looked forward to by the prophets ('in the bosom of Abraham' indicates his reclining at table next to Abraham). The rich man, and those like him, are not accepted as true children of Abraham, because, in their complacent insensitivity, they have disregarded the teaching of the Law of Moses and the exhortations of God's prophets – a teaching that Jesus makes his own.

Lazarus represents 'the poor', whose cry the Lord hears – the common people looked down upon by the Pharisees, people whose straitened circumstances made it next too impossible for them to carry out the many prescriptions seen by this well-to-do group as a true observance of the covenant. Because the power structures of their people left these 'anawim' disenfranchised, they must stand before God in a trust and hope that kept alive the genuine faith traditions of Israel's covenant with their God. Jesus himself comes from their midst; and his great mission will carry forward the ways of his Father, the God of the covenant – revealed from the first as the champion of the poor and oppressed. Those who follow him are from this background; and the communities they form will share their outlook (cf. 1 Cor 1:26-27: 'Consider, brothers, how you were called ... not many influential ... God chose those who are weak to shame the strong'). Jesus appeals, in his parable, to the prophets, so often defenders of the powerless and mouthpieces of their faith – as in the stinging rebuke of Amos in today's reading. It was the prophets who condemned the empty ritualism that was an escape from what the covenant really required – 'Is this not the fast that pleases me ... sharing your food with the hungry and sheltering the homeless poor' (Is 58:6-7).

The lesson of the parable, of course, extends far beyond the need for material assistance. Our neighbors have also emotional and spiritual needs, to which true followers of Jesus will respond in friendship and concern.



Upcoming Anniversaries and Birthdays:

Barb Fichter Birthday 9/28
James Scudderi Birthday 9/30
Bill Warner Birthday 10/1
Debra Faulkner/Terry Winslow Ann 10/5
Louise & Ray Gauthier Ann 10/5
Shirley Maurice Birthday 10/9
Gary Muenster Birthday 10/11
Wayne Rettke Birthday 10/31
Lynne Foster Matthews Birthday 11/2

LOOKING AHEAD:



Sept 28 – Wednesday – Healing Mass at 7pm.

October 1st Saturday is St. Francis day “Pet Blessing”. Don’t Forget! 11-1pm

Oct 2 – Sunday – St/ Francis Feast Day, Italian Potluck
Oct 2 – Sunday – Council Nominations Open
Oct 7 – Friday – 1st Friday Mass at 6 pm.
Oct 10 – Monday – Columbus Day
Oct 10 – 13 - Monday to Thursday – Synod
Oct 15 – Saturday – Community Outreach and Fellowship Event
Oct 22 – Saturday – Masquerade Ball
Oct 26 – Wednesday – Healing Mass at 7pm
Oct 30 – Sunday – Council Nominations Close
Oct 31 – Monday – Halloween (time to wear a real costume)

SEE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE CALENDAR PAGE

What Makes My Belly Laugh!

INFLUENCED by Wayne Rettke

Two beggars are sitting on a park bench in Ireland. One is holding a cross and the other a Star of David. Both are holding hats to collect contributions. People walk by, lift their noses at the man with the Star of David and drop money into the hat of the man with the cross. Soon, the hat of the man with the cross is filled and the hat of the man with the Star of David is empty.

A priest watches for a while and then approaches the men. He says to the man with the Star of David, "Don't you realize that this is a Catholic country? You'll never get any contributions holding a Star of David."

The man turns to the one with the cross and says, "Moishe, can you imagine, this goy is trying to tell us how to run our business?"

Council Nominations Open October 2nd

2017 Council goal is to move the Church forward. Numerous events and the determination of a permanent home are decisions that are in the future focus. If the Spirit is calling, please consider being a member of the Council. Qualifications include spiritual and forward thinkers

R & R (Respect and Reverence)

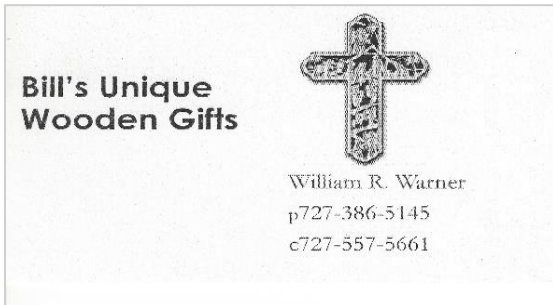
- **Housekeeping Note:** Please no food or drink in the Chapel area. Thank you for your cooperation!
- **Times when not to bother a Priest:**
 1. Before Sunday service. He has a Homily to remember and practice.
 2. Immediately after Sunday service. **All** should be mingling with the Visitors so, that they feel at home.
Father Victor at present time has no office hours however,
he will set up appointments or contact him by email or call him.
- **Respect Peoples Personal Space:** During our sign of peace tradition, we at St Francis are quite zealous with our affection. Please be mindful of those that aren't as comfortable with hugs and kisses and remember, a soft spoken word with an appropriate handshake or even an acknowledgement bow can go a long way!
- **Ministry Leaders:** People that have volunteered for this position are responsible for the Ministry and have full authority for the management of it.
- We are developing something new here at St. Francis ECC. We are now a PFZ.....a **Political Free Zone**. Please refrain from talking politics to anyone, especially through Facebook, E-mail and texting to someone.



PARISHONER



PARISHONER RELATIVE



PARISHONER



**BULLETIN AND WEBSITE ADVERTISING
IS NOW AVAILABLE....
CONTACT THE BULLETIN GUY VIA CONTACT PAGE ON
THE WEBSITE UNDER MEDIA MINISTRY!**

**ST. FRANCIS
ECUMENICAL CATHOLIC CHURCH**

**12041 66th Street North
Suite E
Largo, FL 33773
Phone: (727) 234-1380**

Website: www.stfrancis-ecc.org Email: info@stfrancis-ecc.org

**Father Victor Ray, Pastor
MASS Each Sunday at 10:30am
Followed by Coffee and Fellowship**

2016 Community Council

Leo Champagne, Chair 727-215-3217
Jim Villafana, Vice Chair 727-288-6177
Larry Roush, Treasurer 727-437-7556
Barb Fichter, Council at Large 727-457-6143
Jon Laubscher, Council at Large 727-350-3778

*Father Victor Ray
Office Hours*

*Are Currently
By
Appointment Only.*

*Please use Contact Page
To Email Father Victor.*

Bulletin Guy Request:



HEY EVERYONE

*I NEED JOKES, COMIC STRIPS, FUNNY STORIES, RECIPES,
ETC. WHATEVER YOU GOT, THE BULLETIN NEEDS IT. HELP
ME OUT!*

THANK YOU!!!

**Bulletin Submissions due by Thursday at Midnight.
Email to: media.stfrancis.ecc@gmail.com
or by calling Bill Schwartz at PH: 727-350-3778**

**ST. FRANCIS ECC
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2016**

**PET BLESSING
11 AM TO 1 PM**



EVENTS TO INCLUDE:

- Drive thru Pet Blessing
- Complimentary Gift Bag
- Donations are benefiting VIP Rescue

VIP RESCUE INC

WWW.VIPRESCUE.ORG

FOSTER
ADOPT
VOLUNTEER
DONATE

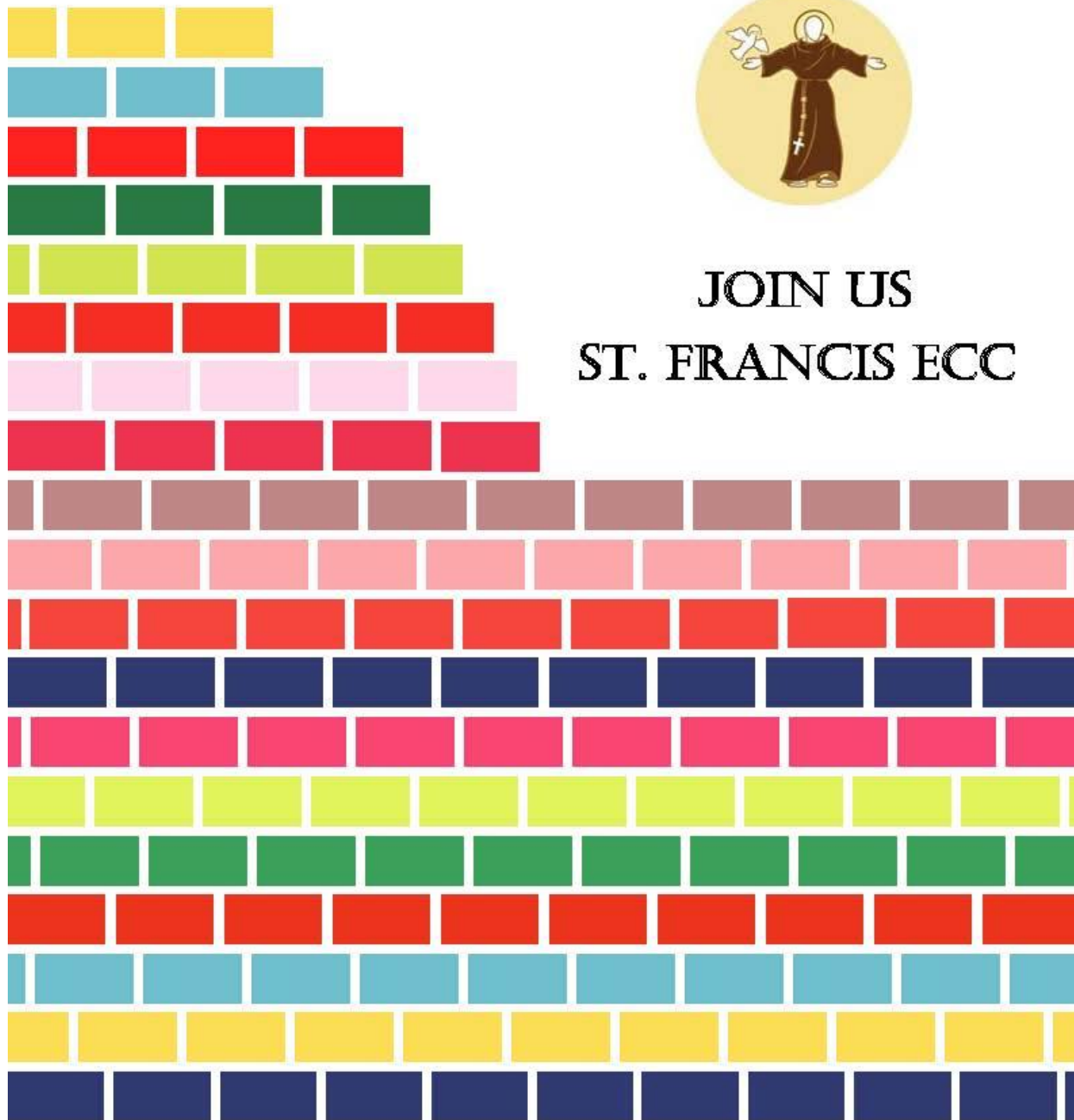


INFO@VIPRESCUE.ORG
VIPRESCUE.ORG

St. Francis ECC
12041 66th Street N, Largo, Florida

WE WILL GIVE HOPE TO PINELLAS COUNTY
AS WE BUILD THE HOUSE OF THE LORD

BRICK BY BRICK



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ST. FRANCIS ECC

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