



VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Pope Francis, who died April 21 at the age of 88, gave new energy to millions of Catholics -- and caused concern for some -- as he transformed the image of the papacy into a pastoral ministry based on personal encounters and strong convictions about poverty, mission and dialogue. His gestures -- from tenderly embracing the sick to repeatedly visiting prisoners -- touched millions of hearts. But controversy raged over his denunciations of the excesses of unbridled capitalism, his warnings about the human contributions to climate change and his insistence on accompanying, not judging, gay people.

With bronchitis and difficulty breathing, Pope Francis was admitted to Rome's Gemelli hospital Feb. 14. He was diagnosed with double pneumonia and a complex infection. He had returned to the Vatican March 23 to continue his convalescence.

God's mercy was a constant theme in Pope Francis' preaching and was so central to his vision of what the church's ministry must embody that he proclaimed an extraordinary Holy Year of Mercy for Dec. 8, 2015-Nov. 20, 2016.

Elected March 13, 2013, Pope Francis was the first pope in history to come from the Southern Hemisphere, the first non-European to be elected in almost 1,300 years and the first Jesuit to serve as successor to St. Peter.

In the first three years of his papacy, he published three major documents: "Evangelii Gaudium" ("The Joy of the Gospel"), a detailed vision of the program for his papacy and his vision for the church -- particularly the church's outreach and its response to challenges posed by secular culture; "Laudato Si", on Care for Our Common Home," on the environment; and "Amoris Laetitia" ("The Joy of Love"), his reflections on the discussions of the synods of bishops on the family in 2014 and 2015. Holiness was the topic of his March 2018 apostolic exhortation, "Gaudete et Exsultate" ("Rejoice and Be Glad") in which he insisted being holy is not boring or impossible, and that it grows through small, daily gestures and acts of loving kindness.

Promoting peace, solidarity and respect for the Earth, the pope insisted people needed to recognize each other as brothers and sisters and issued an encyclical about that, "Fratelli Tutti, on Fraternity and Social Friendship." He signed the text at the tomb of St. Francis of Assisi on the saint's feast day, Oct. 4, 2020. Pope Francis spent much of the first nine years of his pontificate pursuing two ambitious projects: revitalizing the church's efforts at evangelization -- constantly urging outreach rather than a preoccupation with internal church affairs -- and reforming the central administration of the Vatican, emphasizing its role of assisting bishops around the world rather than dictating policy to them.

of austerity to Vatican officials and clergy throughout the church. He reinforced the message with frequent admonitions about the Gospel demands and evangelical witness of poverty and simplicity.

Cardinal Bergoglio was a known and respected figure within the College of Cardinals, so much so that no one disputed a respected Italian journal's report that he received the second-highest number of votes on all four ballots cast in the 2005 conclave that elected Pope Benedict XVI.

Eight years later, Pope Benedict retired. At the cardinals' meetings prior to the 2013 conclave to elect his successor, the need to reform the Vatican bureaucracy was a common theme of concern.

Addressing the gathering, Cardinal Bergoglio warned against "self-referentiality and a kind of theological narcissism" in the church and argued the next pope "must be a man who, from the contemplation and adoration of Jesus Christ, helps the church to go out to the existential peripheries" to spread the Gospel.

His election March 13 came on the second day of the conclave, on its fifth ballot. He chose the name Francis to honor St. Francis of Assisi, "the man of poverty, the man of peace, the man who loves and protects creation," he said.

"Go out" was Pope Francis' constant plea to every Catholic, from curial cardinals to the people in the pews. More than once, he told people that while the Bible presents Jesus as knocking at the door of people's hearts to get in, today Jesus is knocking at the doors of parish churches trying to get out and among the people. Like his predecessors, Pope Francis was a strong defender of the sacredness of human life. Meeting Catholic physicians in November 2014, for example, he insisted that in "the light of faith and the light of

correct reason, human life is always sacred and always of 'quality.' There is no human life that is more sacred than another" and no "human life qualitatively more significant than another."



On March 19, 2022, the ninth anniversary of the inauguration of his papacy, he finally promulgated "Praedicate Evangelium" ("Preach the Gospel"), his complete restructuring of the Roma Curia, highlighting its mission to serve the church's evangelization efforts at all levels.

His simple lifestyle, which included his decision not to live in the Apostolic Palace and his choice of riding around Rome in a small Fiat or Ford instead of a Mercedes sedan, sent a message



ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM, O LORD

AND LET PERPETUAL LIGHT SHINE UPON THEM.
MAY THE SOULS OF OUR FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Robert Devlin 4-11-2025

THROUGH THE MERCY OF GOD REST IN PEACE

*"I do not pray for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their word, that all may be one as you, Father, are in me, and I in you;
I pray that they may be [one] in us that the world may believe that you sent me.*

every Thursday from 6:00-8:00 P.M. In Holy Family Chapel
BE A DISCIPLE SIGN UP - HALF HOUR SLOT

SAVE THE DATE

To our newly Baptized:

Conor Matthew Foley & Madalyse Isabella Wright

...our First Communicants:

Faith Elizabeth Eggles - Madison Gonzalez

Shaun Andrew Solano-Marquez & Madalyse Isabella Wright

...those newly Received into the Church & Confirmed:

Alyssa Marie RITA Abbattiscanni

Laura Ann KATHERINE (Drexel) Barbour

Daniel Lee CHRISTOPHER Fisher

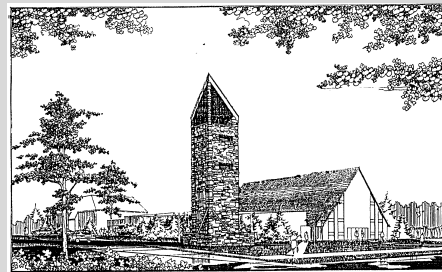
Rachel DiAnn JUDE Fisher

Hallie Renee FRANCIS (of Assisi) Guiseppe

Arnold JOSEPH Matos

Carlos Jose JOSEMARIA (Escrivá) Peña-Arias

...be assured of our prayer congratulations and continuing support



UPCOMING EVENTS

First Holy Communion

SH Religious Ed.

Sacred Heart Church

May 3rd, 2025 @ 10:00 a.m.

Book Club

Monday, May 5, 7:00P.M.

Wachter Room

Spaghetti Dinner

Knights of Columbus

Victor Emmanuel II

May 7th 2024 @ 4:30—7:00 p.m.

May Procession

Thursday May 8th

Reading Choral Society

Brahms Requiem

Sunday, May 11th, 4:00p.m.

Ticket information call rectory

610-372-4010

Summer Office Hours

Beginning May 23rd

Office closes Friday @ Noon

50th Jubilee Celebration Mass

Monsignor Joseph A. DeSantis

Sunday, June 1st 3:00 P.M.

True North VBS

SH/HR Religious Ed.

Sacred Heart School

June 16th-20th, 2025 @ 9:00-Noon

5—10 yrs.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

THEREFORE WELCOME ONE ANOTHER AS CHRIST
HAS WELCOMED YOU, FOR THE GLORY OF GOD.
Rom(15:7)

Deacon Thomas J. & Maureen Devaney

Rev. Monsignor Joseph A. DeSantis



With praise and gratitude to Almighty God the parishes
of Holy Rosary and Sacred Heart will honor our pastor
Sunday, 1 June 2025, 3:00 P.M. Mass in celebration of his
50th year of Ordination to the Priesthood of Jesus Christ.

We prayerfully ask you to consider Sponsorship of this
event and/or placement of a congratulatory ad in the
Commemorative Program to be published for this most
significant occasion. Until May 11th.

Jubilee Planning Committee



2025 First Holy Communicants

Bryant Abreu-Rosario

Scarlett Abreu-Bailey

Lucia Avalos

Charles Banks

Carson Becker

Gabriel Berger

Haley DeJohn

Conor Foley

Myleen Gonzalez

Melanur reene

Hugh Hill

Elizabeth Jumelle

Sebastian Marquez

Anderson McClain

May 2025 LECTOR SCHEDULE

May 3rd/4th	Third Sunday of Easter
5:00 PM	Dean Reber
7:30 AM	Vince Moffitt
9:30 AM	Lori Anewalt
11:15 AM	Margaret Hueske

May 10th/11th	Fourth Sunday of Easter
5:00 PM	Sandie Wrable
7:30 AM	Regina Doyle
9:30 PM	Lou Sutherland
11:15 AM	Patricia Ann Kos



May 17th/18th	Fifth Sunday of Easter
5:00 PM	Steve Bell
7:30 AM	Mike Gallagher
9:30 AM	Mary Ann Kase
11:15 AM	Bill Wellock

May 24th/25th	Sixth Sunday of Easter
5:00 PM	JoAnn Schmura
7:30 AM	John Gleason
9:30 AM	Karen Piraino
11:15 AM	Joe Tharp

May 30th/ 1	Seventh Sunday of Easter
5:00 PM	Karen Cameron
7:30 AM	Denise Mogel
9:30 AM	Kathy Nevel
11:15 AM	Margaret Hueske

Morgan Parznik

Tyler Pierre

William Recktenwald

Mary Jo Valente

Stella Weng



PARISH FINANCIAL REPORTS

SACRED HEART CHURCH FINANCIAL REPORT JULY 1, 2024 TO MARCH 31, 2025			SACRED HEART SCHOOL FINANCIAL REPORT JULY 1, 2024 TO MARCH 31, 2025		
	9 Months 3/31/2025	9 Months 3/31/2024		9 Months 3/31/2025	9 Months 3/31/2024
CHURCH INCOME:			SCHOOL INCOME:		
Offertory Collections			Tuition & Fees Income	647,338	526,010
Income	531,943	579,531	Fundraising Income (Net of Expenses)	83,330	77,009
Donations, Bequests, Memorials Income	143,422	143,062	Gifts & Bequests	4,500	-
Program Income	12,297	19,085	Other Income	3,308	2,478
Other Income	6,196	3,981			
TOTAL CHURCH OPERATING INCOME	\$ 693,858	\$ 745,659	TOTAL SCHOOL OPERATING INCOME	\$ 738,476	\$ 605,497
CHURCH EXPENSES:			SCHOOL EXPENSES:		
Administration Expenses	207,316	185,820	Administration Expenses	156,568	152,513
Religious Education Expenses	92,207	92,923	Instruction Expenses	585,304	561,985
Diocesan Assessment Expenses	125,153	128,579	Building Operation & Maintenance	122,197	113,919
Church, Rectory, Parish Center Expenses	166,261	140,466	Insurance Exp/Diocesan Assessment	39,467	38,439
Other Expenses	11,050	9,000	Other Expenses	3,315	1,372
TOTAL CHURCH OPERATING EXPENSES	\$ 601,987	\$ 6,788	TOTAL SCHOOL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$ 906,851	\$ 868,228
SUBTOTAL OF OPERATIONS	\$ 91,871	\$ 88,871	SUBTOTAL OF OPERATIONS	\$ (168,375)	\$ (262,731)
Capital Expenses & Improvements	-	(29,373)	Capital Expenses & Improvements	(35,490)	(49,907)
Endowment Donations	39,925	24,426	Home & School - Net	(28,586)	70,406 *
Estate Donation/Employee Retention Credit	331,065	225,000			
Church Subsidy to cover School Expenses	(101,500)	(171,000)	Church Subsidy to School Income	101,500	171,000
Endowment Distributions to School	(90,000)	(90,000)	Endowment Distributions from Church	90,000	90,000
NET INCOME/LOSS	\$ 271,361	\$ 47,924	NET INCOME/LOSS After Subsidy	\$ (40,951)	\$ 18,768

* Gala Income - for special projects

DID YOU KNOW?

A contribution from an IRA can go directly to a church to save money on taxes. To avoid paying taxes on the donation, the donor must follow the IRS rules for Qualified Charitable Distributions. With a QCD, these distributions become TAX-FREE as long as they are paid directly from an IRA to the church. Since the amount is going directly to the church, the amount withdrawn from the IRA is not taxable to the donor.



2025
Sacred Heart
Vacation Bible School
June 16 through 20
9:00 am to 12:00 Noon
Ages 5 -10 Years Old!

True North – Trusting Jesus in a Wild World

Dear Parents:

Welcome to TOTALLY CATHOLIC TRUE NORTH VBS – the annual event that is helping kids to trust Jesus in a wild world. At Sacred Heart Church, West Reading, we come together to give kids a rock-solid foundation and point them to Jesus – Our True North!

Teens and adults will put together a tremendous Bible Adventure for our little ones; Sing and Play Peak is the high point of every VBS as well as Glacier Games, Tundra Treats, and Imagination Station. You can expect a week full of Faith Discovery, Memorable Music, and Epic Adventures that help kids grow in Friendship with Jesus!

Parents, grandparents, and friends are invited to join us at Compass Closing the last day of the week where kids will sing and dance their joy while celebrating our rock-solid faith in Jesus!

To register: Check - \$30.00 payable to: Sacred Heart Church. Credit Card \$35.00 (Use the QR Code at the bottom.)

Detach and mail to: Sacred Heart Parish – Religious Education, P.O. Box 6217, Reading, PA 19610 or drop off at the Rectory.

Blessings from Stephanie Giles - VBS Coordinator, stephanie.j.giles@gmail.com

Patty Addams - Religious Education, sacredheartreled17@gmail.com

Please complete both sides and return by: June 2, 2025

2025 VBS Registration Form

\$30.00 per child/check

\$33.00 using credit

Parent Name: _____ Email: _____

Home Address: _____ Cell#: _____

Home Parsh: _____

Childs Name: _____ Grade Completed _____ Age (5-10) _____ Allergies? _____ Boy _____ Girl _____

Childs Name: _____ Grade Completed _____ Age (5-10) _____ Allergies? _____ Boy _____ Girl _____

Childs Name: _____ Grade Completed _____ Age (5-10) _____ Allergies? _____ Boy _____ Girl _____

***** Want to bring the songs home? Add a download card for \$8.00(cash) \$ 9.00 (credit) each x**

_____ = _____ Total.

Attention! If they have allergies, please write on the back, and let us know. As well as medication needed.

Office use only: Date rec'd _____ Amount Paid _____ Check #: _____

<https://www.osvhub.com/shrcparish/forms/truenorth-vbs-2025>



**SACRED HEART WEST READING
VBS JUNE 16-20, 2025**

Child Special Needs

Child's Full

Name _____

Allergies, Medical Conditions, or Special

Needs: _____

In Case of Emergency, Con-

tact: _____ Phone: _____

Relationship to

Child: _____ Date _____

Waiver Agreement

I give consent for my child(ren) _____, to participate in the event VBS. I understand this event will take place on church grounds and my child(ren) will be under supervision of the designated volunteers on the stated dates.

I agree on behalf of the child(ren) named above and his/her other parent or legal guardians, to waive any claims for liability against Sacred Heart Church, the Diocese of Allentown (and any diocesan or church officers, agents, or employees) which may arise from the participation of the named student(s) in the above-described event.

(Print) Parent's Name

Parent's Signature

Date

Photo/Video Permission - Consent, Waiver, Release

For and in consideration of benefits to be derived from the furtherance of the religious educational programs of the Diocese of Allentown, the undersigned parent of the child listed below and a parishioner of Sacred Heart Parish, West Reading, Pennsylvania, do hereby consent, authorize, and grant permission to the Diocese of Allentown and Sacred Heart Parish, its agents, employees, or duly authorized representative to take photographs, motion pictures, video, or audio tapes of said student and do further consent to the publication, circulation, and dissemination of said photographs, motion pictures, videos or audio tapes or any duplication or facsimiles thereof for the purpose of instruction and/or promotion of Sacred Heart Parish. In granting such permission, I hereby relinquish and give to the Diocese of Allentown and Sacred Heart Parish all right, title and interest I may have in the finished pictures, negatives, reproductions, or copies, and further waive any and all right to approve the use of such photographs, motion pictures, videos, or audio tapes and so, release any and all claims of any nature whatsoever arisen for their use.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date _____



www.readingchoral.org/concerts

Reading Choral Society presents

BRAHMS a German REQUIEM

Sunday, May 11, 4pm
Sacred Heart Church, West Reading

Soloists: Soprano - Amanda Sheriff
Bass Baritone - Christian Immler



SACRED HEART PARISH KNITTERS & CROCHETERS

Meet Thursday at 1:00 P.M.

In the Bornemann Room. All are welcome.

Skilled or a beginner. There is a place for you at the table. If you would like to learn pull up a chair and join us for fun and friendship while creating lovely prayer shawls for the Homebound.

Come "unwind" with us.



**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**

*The Knights of the Monsignor Bornemann Council #16066
Sacred Heart Church and Holy Rosary Church are hosting a*



Spaghetti Dinner

\$12.00 per dinner



Victor Emmanuel II

Wednesday, May 7, 2025, 4:30p.m. to 7:00p.m.

311 Hazel Street, Reading, PA

DINE-IN OR TAKE-OUT

Dinner includes:

Spaghetti and Meatballs, Salad, Bread & Butter

Cash bar: soda & other beverages

Bake Sale, Raffle Gifts, Baskets of Cheer!

Tickets on sale after Masses at both Church locations on these weekends:

April 12/13 ♦ April 26/27 ♦ May 3/4

Tickets will also be available at the door during the dinner.

Proceeds benefit the Knights of Columbus, Monsignor Bornemann Council #16066

Please consider contributing via our
secure online giving option.

Scan QR code Visit our website at
www.shrcparish.org



Private Mailing Card

AUTHORIZED BY ACT OF CONGRESS OF MAY 19, 1898.

Help with the Easter mailing.

The Mailing Committee will meet.

Tuesday, May 27th Wachter room,

PLACE A
ONE CENT
STAMP
HERE.

THIS SIDE IS EXCLUSIVELY FOR THE ADDRESS

FROM THE HEART CONSIGNMENT

A fun shopping excursion awaits you!

Do some of your Spring and Summer shopping and support the SVDP Society of Sacred Heart Church or donate items to the store and have the proceeds assigned to SVDP account.

Visit their website at:

<https://fromtheheartconsignment.com> For information of what they accept and when. Clothing and Accessories Store, with its many choices and bargains.

Please visit the shop at:

4600 Penn Ave

Sinking Spring, PA 19608



COFFEE & DONUTS Last Month

Please join us on the 1st & 3rd Sunday, from September— May **Next date May 4th & 18th** in the Wachter Room for fellowship, coffee, juice, and donuts: following the 9:30 & 11:15 AM Masses.

