



Deb's Corner

Coming Home...

Living in the Father's Love

In prayer this morning I hear the words “are you a Pentecost people?” I ask the Lord, “what does this mean?” He replies, “how does a child typically react to their birthday? Are they full of new expectations of gifts and visits from family members and friends that will come and visit and share time with them?”

“Are they full of joy?”

Slowly, I began to see His picture for me in this answer. We hear that Pentecost is the birthday of the church. It is a solemn and exuberant day, filled with new hope for the upcoming year.

Clearly, many have been caught in a cycle or rut as they moved through the pandemic, and sadly, many more have lost their homes, businesses and livelihoods.

But Romans 5:5 and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

So, I took two important takeaway's from our heart to heart this morning:

Firstly, a Pentecost people are full of joy and hope and expectations that the Father has a plan for us (Jeremiah 20:11) “**For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for prosperity and not disaster, to give you a future and a hope.**”

Being a Pentecost people does not mean we will not suffer hardship, but it does mean we will

trust our heavenly Father and Jesus (our hope) and put ourselves ‘intentionally’ under the Power of the Holy Spirit, by accepting the Lordship of Jesus. And boy does He have gifts for us!

We are His children. Children depend on their fathers, believe in them, and are excited to spend time and play and share life with them. Children ‘expect’ great things from their father who loves them and live out this life with/for them.

Secondly, we all know that this example and desire is not true for many—maybe even us! Certainly not for the hundreds and hundreds that the Prayer Center serves. Sadly, it is not their experience. While both of those statements may be true, it does not negate the truth of the Gospel. It rather, gives us all a reality check!

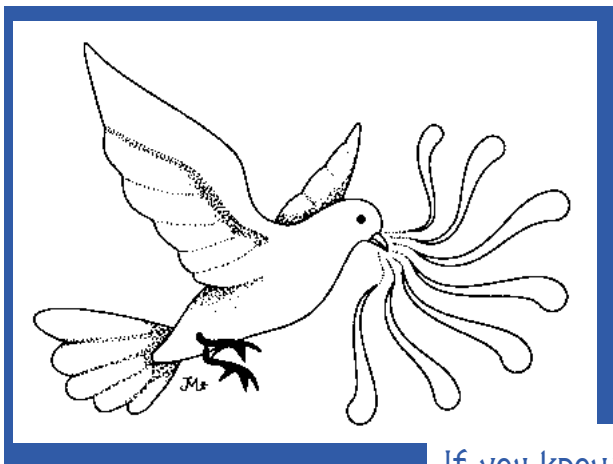
So, we pray:

Father, we desire to be a **Pentecost People**; we desire to be ‘childlike’ in our relationship with you; we desire to be filled with hope and expectation; we ask you to help us be mindful of not ‘who we are,’ but ‘whose’ we are! We are children of the King. Help us live like that.

Jesus, help us to yield to your Lordship, to be OK with letting you be ‘the Boss of us.’

Holy Spirit, Come in Power to change my thinking; to transform and sanctify any of my thoughts or behaviors that would prevent me from your freedom and love, and also prevent me from seeing my other brothers and sister who have so much hardship to endure.

Set my Heart on Fire, for You and Your People.



If you know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will God give the Holy Spirit to those who ask. (from Luke 11)

St. Francis Prayer Center Mission Statement:

Secure in God's love, the St. Francis Prayer Center, Flint, exists to serve all people, especially our poor, our parishes and our diocese through the ministries of prayer, evangelization, healing, formation, direct services and social justice.

Held In Eternal Memory

February 2020 Thru March 2021

Karen Arceo	Sister Marie Leonard C.S.J.
Margo Barker	Susan J. Londrigan
Linda Bertrand	Avis Mary Makuch
Jean Eleanor "Gigi" Belill	Ruth Marten
Sr. Joanne Chiaverini	Karan Maurina
Mervin Clark	Tom McLean
Josephine DeBiase	Elwood Montle
John Fedack	Stanley F. Nemecek
Thomas Joseph Foley	Gerald "Jeff" Noe
Ethel Hooker	Sally Pollick
Jimmy Hudson	Virginia Barnes Price
Don Kaczmarczyk	Jackie Pung
Bob Kilbride	Patti Savoi
Irene Kula	Helen Spaleny
Kenneth Lake	John Tamke
Rosie Larsen	



Held In Living Memory

February 2020 Thru March 2021

Ann Cirner's Birthday
Fr. Robert Copeland
Sue Musil
Elizabeth M. Nemecke's Birthday
Fr. Ryan Riley
Cookie (Dolores) Sieradski
(now deceased)



Give the Gift of Prayer

Please consider using our **Gift of Prayer Memorial Cards**. The money is placed in our Outreach Ministry fund. It is used as a *Gift that keeps on Giving*. The names of loved ones are kept on the altar at the Prayer Center and remembered in all of the Masses, Prayers, and various Ministries of the Prayer Center.

Help support the Prayer Center so we can HELP those in need. If you need memorial cards, please contact the Prayer Center office at 810-787-5330.

Lisa set up a page on Facebook. Check it out. Be sure to "follow" and "share" our shop Facebook page: St Francis Flint Shop We're always adding new items.

Kudos to Our Energizer Bunny

Thanks **Lisa Hayward** for all you do for St. Francis Prayer Center. She works the Wednesday food pantry day and on other days to help with various things. She has taken on these tasks voluntarily! What a treasure!

Lisa started selling items the Prayer Center had on hand on Ebay, Facebook, and these local churches: **St. Pius X, Holy Redeemer, and St. Roberts!** These churches have allowed Lisa to "set up shop" after their services: *Thank you, Lisa & churches!*



Lisa with Daisy.

Annual Fundraiser Coming Soon – Another Virtual Event!

September 25, 2021 is the date for our **Annual Fundraiser** – a "virtual event" as we did in 2020 and held at the Prayer Center facility.

Planning has been underway since early March. Our theme this year is **Lordy, Lordy, Look Who's 40**, since this is our 40th Annual Fundraiser. It's a **RUBY JUBILEE!**



While last year presented a big learning curve for us; we expect some things to go better or easier. We were not alone in our efforts. Many other organizations had to think outside the box for ways to do "what we've always done."

We were fortunate to have some very wonderful companies and people step forth to make it an exciting and relevant event. We have secured some of the same companies for this year.



TICKETS will again be \$80. The price was lowered last year because there would not be a dinner. So we kept the price at \$80 since there will not be dinner this year either. *And, as much as we miss seeing everyone and having a dinner and dance, we choose to err on the safety side for all concerned.* We hope you will be willing to purchase an \$80 ticket to help St. Francis Prayer Center stay in the ministry of caring for those less fortunate.

Contact the Prayer Center at 810-787-5330 or send an email to stfrancisflint@comcast.net to order one or more tickets!

Lordy, Lordy, Look Who's 40!

Special Thanks to...

Kitty Kelly for the donation of bedding. Yay!

Angela Wiggins for the donation of bedding. :)

Carol Kneeshaw who donated a twin memory foam mattress.

Maureen Bedford, from the Troy area, who collected mattresses and blankets, miscellaneous boxes of food, and personal care items for our pantry; PLUS a \$25 gift card for other needs! *See pics at right.*

Lou Alaire donated a bedroom set.

Maureen Shiffler from Heartbeat in Flint, sent in a donation of womens sanitary items.

Vicky Jacobson for donating various beds.

Gary Wescott for donation of bedding

Nelda Martinez, and her sister Bev, for donating food for pantry (*one donated, the other brought them*).

Debbie Sardo who brought in lots of bedding.

Sandy Dell, for a donation of a bed.

Chris Camera, for a large donation of bedding.

Margaret Green with the students from **Mott Middle College** and **Genesee Early College** who collected and donated items for our pantry as part of their "Day of Giving on June 4." *Thanks.*



Maureen from Troy gathered items from people in her area for the Prayer Center – she packed her van full! Her mother, Mary Burda, was a long-time member of the Prayer Center.



John & Leslie Cote for donation of tons of quilts and bedding.

As word gets out, we get calls from many new people who have donations for us. And, while we try to acknowledge everyone that makes a donation whether its food items or beds or bedding, we sometimes miss getting a person's name. THANK YOU to all of you both those we have named and those we have missed.

If anyone you or someone you know is in need of a bed, please have them contact the Prayer Center @ 810-787-5330.

SFPC receives Grant from Community Foundation of Greater Flint

\$10,100 to support Bed Reach Out

Flint, MI; March 2021; St. Francis Prayer Center has received a grant of \$10,100 from the **Community Foundation of Greater Flint** to support our "Bed Reach Out" project. This grant will help us in many ways; especially in obtaining queen, full and twin size beds. While donations help meet some of that need, we often run out of those sizes. Currently we have plenty of twin XL sizes. The grant will help us purchase more needed beds. As Director Deb says, "God provides every time."

This grant was supported by: the *Landaal Family Fund, Mary Louise and John Sarvis Donor Advised Endowment Fund, Sybil M. Atwood Fund, Founders Emergency Fund, James and Desoline Cokley Family Fund, and Jeremy and Piper Fund.*

One would think the need for beds would become less and less necessary. *That is not the case.* We still process applications for beds and bedding every week. Some come from referrals from other agencies. Your support with donations of bedding is very much appreciated. We give bedding to everyone who receives a bed from us including sheets & blankets.



We just never know...

Earlier this year, a young woman came to our food pantry to get food. She told the attendant that we had adopted her family for Christmas when she had no idea how/where/what she was going to do for her children. **Then she gave us a donation of \$100.** BLESS YOU, L.T. You are one of the many reasons we do what we do!!

PARTNERS IN GOD'S WORK

Truck Vandalism Results in Unexpected Care

In late Spring, the Bed Boys discovered that both of our trucks were the victims of vandalism. The catalytic converters were taken thus making the trucks inoperable for a time. Thanks to the **Ancient Order of Hibernians** Sullivan and O'Sullivan division of AOH Genesee County and to Kent Shumaker of Grand Blanc who both responded with funds to fix our trucks.

Wow! The word spread quickly. We were able to get the smaller truck repaired within a few days; the larger truck took a little longer.

The trucks are used numerous times a week to deliver beds, bedding, dressers, lamps, etc. The guys also pick up gently used beds & bedroom items.



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Non-Profit
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 U.S. POSTAGE
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 Flint, MI
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Newsletters by E-mail

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 (no spaces).

Our Web Site

www.stfrancisprayerflint.com
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Kindness, Happiness, Love

You will teach them to fly,
but they will not fly your flight.
 You will teach them to dream,
but they will not dream your dream.
 You will teach them to live,
but they will not live your life.

Nevertheless, in every flight, in every life, in every dream, the print of the way you taught them will remain ...

–Mother Teresa

Great Getaway Tickets Still Available

Tickets for our **Great Getaway 2021** are available. until July 31. The cost is \$5 each or 6 for \$25. The winner gets to choose from **these 3 exciting prizes:**

1st Choice: Historic Hotel Nichols Certificate for a 2 night stay in South Haven plus 2 dinner certificates & cash.

2nd Choice: \$500 Cash or Check from St. Francis Prayer Center.

3rd Choice: Even Embers Gas & Charcoal Grill (5-burner) plus many accessories. Includes cover, tongs, spatulas, grill brush, flexible cutting board, grill mitts, *The Grilling Bible Cookbook*, ceramic fish serving platter, fish grilling basket, 2 plank servers, package of skewers, grilling fry pan, square grill wok.

Drawing to be held August 2 at 4:00 pm. By purchasing tickets, you help the Prayer Center help others in need – both spiritually and physically. **Contact the Prayer Center at 810-787-5330 or email us at stfrancisflint@comcast.net if you would like to help by purchasing a book of tickets – or even one. Thank you in advance!**



Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' **MATTHEW 25:40 NIV**