SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI
Parish School
112 Saxer Avenue
Springfield, PA 19064-2333
(610) 543-0546

Office of the Principal

April 26, 2016

Dear Parents,

Here we are at the end of April! I hope you are taking a bit of time to admire God's beautiful handiwork – isn't it wonderful to see the leaves returning?

On to a fairly busy week:

- ✓ **Tonight we have our Preschool Art Show from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. If you want to see the incredible creativity of our Preschool Staff and students, be sure to attend this grand event.**
- ✓ **Today is the last cooking class for the year. Congratulations to Mrs. Skurla and her marvelous bakers for a very successful year.**
- ✓ **Don't forget to vote today!**
- ✓ **On Wednesday, all yearbook orders are due. These books are unbelievably beautiful, so be sure to order one today. ALL students are shown and celebrated.**
- ✓ **The orders for Spirit Wear are due May 1st – they extended the time.**
- ✓ **On Thursday, I hope to see you at the O'Hara Fair. Miss Green and I will be helping out at the Money Wheel, so stop by and hopefully win something!**
- ✓ **Friday is the busiest day of this week with first Holy Communion retreat and practice. All the information for this special day has gone home to the second grade parents. Please keep all these young students in your prayers as they prepare to receive their first Holy Communion, a most important step in their journey of faith.**
- ✓ **On Friday, the Kindergarten will be off to see "Curious George" at the Upper Darby Performing Arts Center. I am sure they will have a fabulous time.**
- ✓ **Speaking of fabulous times, be sure to come to the Co-Ed Bingo on Friday night, from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm and see if you can win a wonderful prize.**
- ✓ **Progress Reports will go home on Friday.**
- ✓ **Congratulations to our newly-elected student council – see the flyer in the envelope.**

Make this one of the best weeks yet!

Warmest regards,

Miss Farrell

Partners *in* FAITH™

Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith. May 2016

St. Francis of Assisi School
Miss Jill Carroll, Principal

Who wants happy children?

All good parents want their children to be happy, but we also recognize that their happiness is out of our control. What we can do is help our youngsters grow up knowing they are prepared, connected, and loved.

Prepared leads to happy. Parents often invest in short-term happiness at the expense of long-term growth. For example, when we help them avoid childhood discomforts now, we keep them from developing skills needed to handle future pain or suffering. Instead, teach the coping skills and resilience necessary to bounce back from life's inevitable setbacks.

Foster healthy connections. Quality and quantity of childhood bonds contribute to promoting emotional well-being as children grow. Encouraging healthy connections with family, friends, neighbors, daycare providers, even pets can be important in helping children deal with emotions, resolve conflicts, learn kindness, and feel safe and loved.

Love unconditionally. Experts say that a feeling of being loved, understood, acknowledged and wanted protects against risky behaviors. Hug children. Respond with empathy to upsets, engage in daily two-way conversations, eat together, snuggle, laugh often.

Be happy, yourself. Children watch and absorb much from us. Our wellbeing affects theirs. A critical step we can take toward our children's happiness is to take care of ourselves, mentally and physically. To be a healthy parent, make time for rest, relaxation, and lots of prayer.

Thoughtful Moments

St. Philip Neri

Born in Florence in 1515, St. Philip Neri was known for his impulsiveness and sense of humor from a young age. He abandoned his career as a businessman and was ordained a priest instead. He spent much of his time giving spiritual direction to the youth day and night. He later founded the Oratorians, where reading, singing, and charitable works were to be practiced. He is remembered for his humor and his joyful love of God.

3 steps of compassion

When we see someone struggling, we don't always know the right thing to do. Acting in love, we can distill our action into three useful steps: Observe, Stop, Reach. Observe - become aware of another's suffering. Stop – stop everything and become attentive. Reach out in kindness. Look for ways to show compassion today.

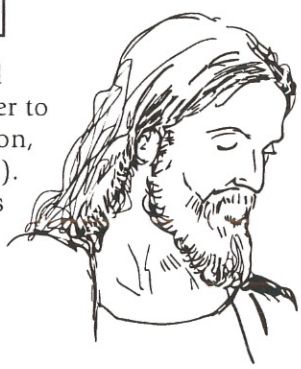
"I praise you, so wonderfully you made me; wonderful are your works! My very self you knew" (Psalm 139:14).

Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics believe Jesus is true God and true man?

When the angel Gabriel visited Mary and asked her to be the mother of God's Son, she said, *"Yes"* (Luke 1:38). As a human mother, Jesus received from her his human nature.

Mary conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit.



"And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us" (John 1:14). The Church teaches, "[Jesus] is truly the Son of God who … became a man and our brother" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #469).

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Put the brakes on back talk

A child's habit of making snide comments, indulging in disdainful sneers, muttering under her breath may seem harmless now, but a snippy attitude hampers the growth of skills in communication, conflict-resolution, and empathy. Talking back will have to be unlearned to become an effective adult. Why not put the brakes on back talk as soon as it starts?

Be selective about TV or video viewing. Programs on network television or video sites often create exaggerated characters to enhance the comic factor. A regular diet of rude but funny characters gives children the idea that rudeness and disrespect is entertaining.

Stop it when it starts. Laugh at a wisecrack from a precocious three-year-old and you may be sorry when he makes similar remarks at ten.

Don't fight when you have already won. Some children see an adult's firm "no" as "let's negotiate." Don't get drawn in. State your rule with a reasonable explanation, repeat if necessary, then visibly and obviously move on. No need to fight a battle you have already won.

Scripture LESSON

Luke 9:11b-17, God's generosity

In this Gospel, we see Jesus' compassion and generosity. Even though he and his disciples were tired after a long hard day of preaching, when the crowds followed Jesus, he administered to them. The crowds were tired, sick, and hungry.

The disciples, overwhelmed by the numbers of the crowds, asked Jesus to send everyone home so they could eat. Instead, Jesus took what little the crowds had to offer—five loaves and two fish—and multiplied them a thousand times over. *"They all ate and were satisfied"* (Luke 9:17). For God, there is no need so great it can't be met.

God can't be outdone in generosity. Relying on him, we have more than we need: clothes, food, shelter, money, or time. When we give him a little in gratitude, he returns it a hundred-fold. We see this pattern of generosity most clearly in the Eucharist.

What can a parent do? Take your family to Mass each week without fail. During that one hour of time we spend with him, God offers himself to us, Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity.

Parent TALK

I wanted to increase our devotion to our Blessed Mother, so I thought it would be fun to make a Mary garden for the month of May. Then we could look at the flowers and remember to ask for her prayers and protection.

The first nice day in Spring, we got started. We prepared the soil and spent a few hours digging out the weeds and rocks. Then we went to a garden center and bought lilies to symbolize her purity, violets for her humility, marigolds (Mary's Gold) for her simplicity, and roses for her love.

Finally, after planting the flowers, we put a small statue of Mary that I found online in the center.

My girls enjoyed learning about the different flowers associated with Mary and the important events in her life. Now our Mary Garden is in full bloom and is a nice reminder to imitate her virtue.

Feasts & Celebrations

May 15- Pentecost (1st century). After the Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus, the Holy Spirit was given to the Church at the first Pentecost. When the apostles received the Holy Spirit, the "new age" of the Church was born.

May 17 - St. Paschal of Babylon (1592). Born in Spain to poor and pious parents, Paschal worked as a shepherd, which allowed him time to nurture a life of prayer and mortification. In 1564, Paschal joined the local monastery and spent the rest of his time in service to the community and the poor people that visited them.

May 22 – St. Rita of Cascia (1457). Born in 1381 near Spoleto, Italy, St. Rita desired to become a nun from an early age. Unwillingly married off to a cruel husband at the age of twelve, St. Rita spent eighteen unhappy years before being widowed. After the death of her two sons, she became an Augustinian nun. She became known for her devotion to prayer and charity.

Our Mission

To help parents raise faithful Catholic children

Success Publishing & Media, LLC
Publishers of Growing in Faith™ and Partners in Faith™
(540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax
http://www.partnersinfaith.com
(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible.)

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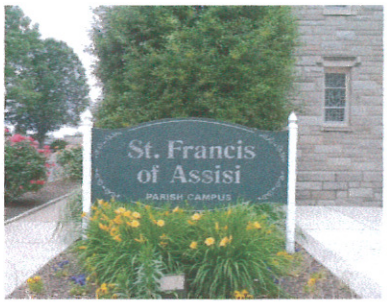


SFA HOME & SCHOOL NOTES

Where Faith and Education Merge With Excellence

April 2016

Congratulations Miss Carroll 2016 Hall of Fame Honoree

On Thursday, April 7th, 2016, our very own Miss Carroll was inducted into the Delaware County Catholic Schools Hall of Fame sponsored by the Foundation for Catholic Education and hosted by the Delaware County Advisory Council. Miss Carroll and four other honorees, were recognized for their dedication to advancing Catholic Education and their commitment to enriching the lives of the youth of Delaware County. Specifically, Miss Carroll was chosen for this honor because of her 40 years as a dedicated Catholic school educator in Delaware County beginning at St. Katharine of Siena School and continuing at St. Francis of Assisi. Miss Carroll graciously accepted this award on behalf of herself, Father Costa, the faculty and staff of SFA, the Home & School Association, and the parents and students.

Miss Carroll accepts her award.

CO-ED BIG PRIZE BINGO

Join us for a night of BINGO with multiple chances to win big prizes. Bring your favorite beverage and snacks to share with your table. Soda, water & ice will be provided. Tickets are only $20!

Friday, April 29th - Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Get To Know...Mrs. Bakey

This month, get to know our 5th grade teacher!

What is your full name? My name is Ann Theresa (Mercer) Bakey.

Where did you grow up? I grew up in Prospect Park, PA.

What is your favorite food? My favorite food by far is CHOCOLATE!

If you could have any superpower what would it be? I would love to be able to fly.

What is your favorite thing about spring? I love all the colors that spring brings and the warmth of the weather.

Order SFA Spirit Wear

The St. Francis of Assisi School Spirit Wear Online Shop is NOW OPEN! Visit http://store.amprosports.com/StFrancis to connect to our SFA Spirit Wear Online Shop. The SFA Online Shop will be open for Spring/Summer apparel until **May 1st.**

Items ordered via the SFA Online Shop will be delivered in **May**. Men's, Women's and Youth sizes are available for apparel. ALSO, ***TODDLER T- SHIRTS, WATER BOTTLES*** and ***TRAVEL MUGS*** are available "on hand" meaning these items will be continually available throughout the year.

Pick these up at SFA events or contact Kara or Christa to order. Look for the SFA Fall/Winter Online Shop featuring cold weather apparel & expanded accessories in early Fall 2016!
Contact Christa Kopaczynski (cakopa@yahoo.com) or Kara Thompson (karathompson126@gmail.com) with questions or for more information.

Please be sure to place your order by MAY 1ST!

Next Home & School Board Meeting is on **May 2nd at 7:00 p.m. in Room 15**

CONGRATULATIONS!

STUDENT COUNCIL
FOR 2016-2017

Representing Kindergarten and 4th grade:
Colin Culp and Nolan Murphy

Representing 1st and 5th grades:
Ana Hoey and Cameron Landers

Representing 2nd & 6th grades:
Alexa Ferraiolo and Olivia Foran

Representing Preschool & 7th grade:
Grace Cresta and Carly Walters

Representing 3rd and 8th grades:
President: Amanda Tecco
Vice - President - Emma Friel

WELL DONE!

SFA SCHOOL SPIRIT WEAR STORE

OPEN FOR A LIMITED TIME!!!

SFA Families,

Don't forget the school store will only be open for a limited time! Get those Mother's Day, Father's Day, Graduation and incoming students gifts and show your Bruin pride!

We have everything for Moms, Dads, grandparents, current and former students and siblings!

Golfers get your golf outing attire, Fast Frannies check out our SFA track shorts!

Something for everyone, don't miss out!

Visit: http://store.amprosports.com/StFrancis

For questions contact: Kara Thompson: karaschieler@yahoo.com; Christa Kopaczynski: cakopa@yahoo.com

DUE TO ACTIVE IMAGE'S DEADLINE TOMORROW IS THE ABSOLUTE LAST DAY TO PLACE YOUR ORDER!

Deadline Wednesday April 27th

THE 2016 YEARBOOKS ARE COMING!

Don't miss out, order yours today. The cost is $30.00 for our full – color fabulous Yearbook. Make checks payable to St. Francis of Assisi.

Please put your check (NO CASH) in an envelope marked "Yearbook".

***Any questions please contact Jen Kissinger : 267- 432 - 2457**

Thanks ☺

***Thank you for your purchase and support.**

***The Yearbook Committee**

***Enclose your payment with the completed form below.**

Number of Yearbooks _____

Check # _____

Total amount of check _____

Name and room # of child or children who are to receive the purchased Yearbook.

Name **1)** _____ **Room#** _____

2) _____ _____

3) _____ _____

4) _____ _____

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

23rd ANNUAL GOLF OUTING AND SOCIAL

Friday, June 3rd, 2016 at Springfield Country Club

After Golf Social: 5:30 PM – 9:00 PM At Springfield Country Club

EVENT: **1:00 pm Shotgun format**
Check-in 45 min. before tee time

COSTS: $150.00 per person (includes green fees, cart, dinner and prizes.)
$100.00 Hole sponsorship- individuals, families, companies or corporations. A sign will be located at each hole designating the sponsor.
$50.00 per person for after golf social only.

Please make check payable to: **St. Francis CYO**

Mail to: Matthew Medici
60 S. Britton Road
Springfield, PA 19064

ONLY SOFT SPIKES WILL BE ALLOWED ON GOLF COURSE!

____ Yes, I would like to sponsor a golf hole for $100.00

____ Yes, I/We would like to attend the golf outing and/or social.

RSVP By: May 22, 2016

Please register me as follows:

Golf and Social # ____ $50 Social Only # ___

Assign me to a Foursome: ____ I Have a Foursome: ___ Total Enclosed: $_____

_____ _____

_____ _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

Questions please: sfagolfouting@gmail.com
Or call Matt Medici 610-348-2281

Thank You for your Support!

CAMP GUADALUPE 2016

Living Bridges invites children, ages 4 to 12, and their families to participate in a week long camp program.

Join us for a fun-filled, memorable event where we play and pray together through games, music, crafts, formation and Apostolic service.

Our Theme for 2016 is
"Love in Action"

June 20-24, 2016
at St Francis of Assisi, Springfield

July 18-22, 2016
at Malvern Retreat House, Malvern

Cost per Location

$90.00 for the first child
& $75 for each additional child
$250 maximum per family per location
MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO: **LIVING BRIDGES**

9:30am to 2:15pm

Contact LIVING BRIDGES for Volunteer & Registration Info at 610-525-4770 or www.LivingBridges.org

Living Bridges, 136 Garrett Ave, Rosemont, PA 19010, T:610-525-4770 F:610-525-4749, www.livingbridges.org, E: staff@livingbridges.org

Living Bridges – Serving Children – Strengthening Families – Stirring Faith in God – Since 1977
136 Garrett Ave, Rosemont, PA 19010 T:610-525-4770 F:6105254749 e: mailto:staff@livingbridges.org
Visit us on the web at livingbridges.org

Camper Registration Form ~ Camp Guadalupe 2016 ~

St. Francis of Assisi – June 20 – 24
Malvern Retreat House – July 18 – 22
9:30 am – 2:15 pm

Parent's Last name: _____

Parent's First name: _____

Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Primary phone: _____ Secondary phone: _____

Primary email: _____ Secondary email: _____

Home Parish: _____ How did you learn about camp? _____

Child's Name	Age	Birth date (mo/day/year)

Please list any important medical / social information we should know about your child(ren):

_____

_____

_____

Please register my child(ren) at:

_____ St. Francis of Assisi – June 20 – 24, 2016
_____ Malvern Retreat House – July 18 – 22, 2016
_____ I am enclosing a tax-deductible donation for a child who would otherwise be unable to attend camp.
$_____ Total amount enclosed (**$90 first child / $75 each additional child / $250 max per family**)
Please make checks payable to **Living Bridges**

Registration due by MAY 27!!!

Release: I give full permission for my child(ren) to participate in Camp Guadalupe activities. The applicant and parent agree that Living Bridges volunteers, instructors, and members of this organization and Malvern Retreat House will not be held responsible for accidents or losses, however caused and agree to release all parties involved from claim, lawsuit or damage which may arise as a result of or by reason of such loss or accident. Every precaution will be taken to insure the safety of the children. I also give permission for my child(ren) to be photographed for use in Living Bridges media.

Signature of Parent / Guardian: _____ Date: _____ / _____ / _____

Saturday, June 4th, 2016 Join St. Francis and Broadway With Carol for a Totally Wicked day in NY for $205

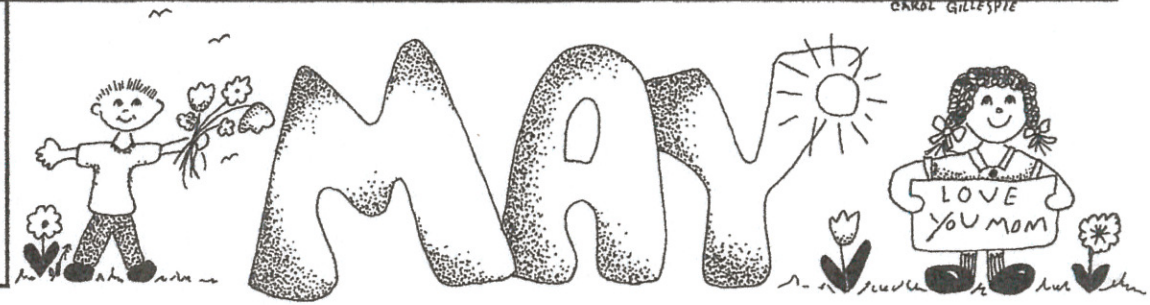
Here is the itinerary for the day. We meet in the St. Francis parking lot by 8:45 am for a 9:00 departure. Your tickets and a map of the Times Square area will be distributed on board. Feel free to bring a cooler of whatever you like to eat or drink on the bus. We should arrive in NYC at approximately 11:15 you and you are on your own until your 2:00 show begins. Make sure you are at the Gershwin theatre located at 222 West 51st St. by 1:45 for your 2:00 show.

After the show we'll walk one block across Broadway to Ellen's Stardust Diner! Ellen's is a unique diner featuring a World Famous Singing Waitstaff. Dinner will include a mixed green salad, choice of American Cheeseburger, Grilled Chicken Breast Sandwich, Chicken Fingers (all served with french fries), Large Caesar Salad (with or without chicken) or Pasta Pommodora (with or without chicken). Included is a mini ice cream sundae, soda, iced tea, hot coffee or tea. Cash bar for those who enjoy a cocktail. The bus will be waiting outside of Ellens for your return to Springfield.

A $105 deposit per ticket is due before March 15, while tickets last. Your balance of $100 will be due by May 1st. Checks may be mailed to "Broadway With Carol", 640 E. Springfield Rd., Springfield, Pa 19064. Please include your email address, show and date and who you would like to be seated with. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this trip, give me a call @ 610-331-7289 or e-mail me @ carol@broadwaywithcarol.com

Carol O'Leary, Broadway with Carol

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 C M 4	3 L A 3	4 A S 2	5 S S school MASS 10:00	Ascension Day 6 S e 1	7 S
Mother's Day 8	9 8	10 7	11 6	12 5	13 4	14
Pentecost 15	16 3	17 2	18 1	19 8	20 7	21
22	23 6	24 5	25 4	26 3	27 no school	28
29	Memorial Day 30 no school	31 2				



Co-ed Big Prize

B I N G O

Friday, April 29th

7 p.m. until 10 p.m. - Leonard Hall (SFA Gym)

10 games of BINGO included for multiple chances to win great prizes!

Raffle tickets will be sold for additional prizes to be drawn throughout the night.

Soda, water and ice will be provided.

BYOB - bring a favorite beverage and snacks to share with your table.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m., BINGO will start at 7 p.m.

Tables can be reserved for a minimum of 8

Name: _____

Child's Name and Grade: _____

# of tickets ____ *@ $20* = ____ enclosed (*Checks payable to SFA H&S)*

Order tickets online: **http://www.sfaschool.com/upcoming-events/**

Cardinal O'Hara Fair

April 27th – April 30th

Join us for a fun-filled week at the annual COH fair

Rides Games Food Prizes

Family Night

Pre-sale tickets $25.00 for 20 tickets

*these special tickets are 1 ticket per ride and never expire!

For tickets contact:

Jen Ryan: Jennifer.Power.Ryan@gmail.com

Danielle Donahue:

dani.donahue@yahoo.com

Summer Solutions.

Minutes a Day-Mastery for a Lifetime!

From the Creators of: Simple Solutions. Minutes a Day–Mastery for a Lifetime!

St. Francis of Assisi

Books are $12.00 each.

Orders will be shipped to the school for free when ordered by: May 15, 2016

Ordering is Easy!

Go to **www.SummerSolutions.net**

Enter your school code: FRA19064

Choose the level that matches your child's current grade level.

Win an iPad Mini!

Order by May 10th and be entered in a drawing for one of three iPad minis.

One winner will be chosen in March, April, and May. **http://summersolutions.com/blog/ipad** for details.

Camp Curtain Call
(Both sides must be completed)

RELEASE OF LIABILITY

I HEREBY AUTHORIZE THE STAFF OF CAMP CURTAIN CALL TO ACT FOR ME ACCORDING TO THEIR BEST JUDGEMENT IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY SITUATION, WHICH REQUIRES MEDICAL ATTENTION, AND I HEREBY WAIVE AND RELEASE THE CAMP FROM ANY AND ALL LIABILITY FOR ANY INJURIES OR ILLNESS INCURRED WHILE AT THE CAMP.

I ALSO GIVE MY PERMISSION FOR THE DIRECTOR TO USE ANY PICTURES OF MY CHILD TO PROMOTE FUTURE CAMPS.

_____

CHILD'S NAME

_____

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

*My Child:

___is permitted to walk home

___will be picked up daily

Camp Curtain Call
Mary Agnes Ostick
472 Cherry Lane

**Youth: M L*
**Adult: S M L XL*

Emergency contact _____
Emergency phone _____

Medical/Physical problems

*none*_____

Please mail all camp applications **and non-refundable checks payable to***:*

Mary Agnes Ostick
412 Cherry Lane
Havertown, PA 19083

Lunch (check days you want)

___M _T ___ W ___ Th
___F

campcurtaincallpa.com

Boys and Girls
Ages 5 -14

July 11th -15th, 2016

St. Denis Gym
300 East Eagle Road
Havertown, PA 19083

Mary Agnes Ostick, Director
(Home) 610-446-4736

CAMP e-mail ADDRESS:
campcurtaincall1@gmail.com

Dear Parents,

The goal of Camp Curtain Call is:

- *To offer a fun-filled theatre experience for children.*
- *To develop their own creativity and hidden talents by exposing them to basic acting, stage movement, song and dance under the direction of an experienced staff.*
- *To develop self-esteem and self-confidence.*

"Break a leg!"

Mary Agnes Ostick

Director

Mary Agnes Ostick is a Havertown resident and Director of Camp Curtain Call. She most recently directed "Beauty and the Beast Jr.", "Dear Edwina Jr.", "You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown", "Godspell Jr.", "Suessical Jr", "Honk Jr." "Wizard of Oz.","The Lion King."

CAMP INFORMATION

- ❖ *Daily voice, dance and acting sessions*
- ❖ *Learn about stage makeup, auditions, and back stage work.*
- ❖ *Be a part of a "cast" and a performance at the end of the week.*
- ❖ *Have fun and meet new friends!*

Who
**Boys and Girls, ages 5 to 14.*

Where *Now Air-Conditioned*
**St. Denis Parish Gym/Theater*
300 E. Eagle Rd.
Havertown, PA 19083

When
**Week of July 11-15, 2016*

- *9am –2 pm (Monday – Thursday)*
- *Friday 9am with SHOW at 12 PM*

Cost
**$200/camper before 6/15/2016*
**$220/camper after 6/15/2016*
**Discount for 2 or more:*
$180/camper (same family)

What to bring
**Brown bag lunch*
**Water bottle*
**Snack bar available (pretzels, drinks, fruit, and snacks)*

Lunch includes entrée of the day, drink, fruit.

Weekly: $20.00 prepaid on 7/11/2016
Daily: $5.00 per day

CAMP APPLICATION

(BOTH SIDES MUST BE COMPLETED)

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ *State:* ____ *Zip:*_____

Home Phone: _____ *Cell Phone:* _____

Email address _____

School: _____

Boy [ ] Girl [ ]

Age: ____ *Birthday:* _____

T-Shirt size:

Save the Date!

Philadelphia Archdiocesan Annual May Procession

Sunday, May 1, 2016 - 2:00 PM

Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway & 18th Street

"Begin May with Mary"

Join us for a Liturgy of the Word, a Time Honored May Procession, Rosary and Crowning of Our Blessed Mother!

For more information, visit us at:

www.firstsundayinmay.org

Or email us at:

Info@firstsundayinmay.org

All are invited!

This year's theme is:

"Who is the Mary in Your Life"