

PASTOR'S LETTER

Dear Parishioners,

The Work of the People

The Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

October is traditionally known as the Month of the Rosary mainly because we celebrate the Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary on October 7. While the Rosary is actually a prayer for private devotion, it can be prayed in common. In the Rosary, with its sequence of prayers and mysteries, we contemplate the Gospel in company with the Blessed Virgin Mary. As St. Pope John Paul II wrote in 2002, "the Rosary . . . is a prayer loved by countless Saints and encouraged by the Magisterium. Simple yet profound, it still remains, at the dawn of this third millennium, a prayer of great significance, destined to bring forth a harvest of holiness. With the Rosary, the Christian people sits at the school of Mary and is led to contemplate the beauty on the face of Christ and to experience the depths of his love."

In the reading from the second Book of Kings we hear part of the Elisha story. This brief passage about the healing of Naaman is rich with images. He plunges into the water seven times, a number that often denotes fulfillment. Although Naaman was an important figure, he traveled with "whole retinue," his leprosy would have placed him on the edge of the community. His healing brings conversion and thanksgiving, and a promise to worship the God of Israel.

The author of the second Letter to Timothy boldly proclaims that the "word of God is not chained." This statement is intended to give courage to those who will proclaim their own testimony of the Risen Lord.

In the Gospel, the healing of the ten lepers is another story in Luke's account that proclaims the intervention of God in the struggle of those who seek relief from human events. The narrative bears testimony to the compassion of God for those unjustly left on the edge of society through no fault of their own. But there is a concluding teaching for all of us: giving thanks for God's great love is also expected.

The reflection for this week is from Fr. Jerome Kodell, OSB who is former abbot of Subiaco Abbey in Arkansas.

Many retreat programs during recent years have adopted the practice of the Fourth Day, which was pioneered by the Cursillo Movement decades ago. The Cursillo is a three-day retreat; the "fourth day" is each and every day following as life unfolds. This idea arose because people who had felt their lives changed by a renewal experience often reported that without some kind of follow-up, the new enthusiasm and resolution faded away.

The cured leper Naaman was way ahead of the Cursillo Movement. He took soil from Israel back to his homeland to remind him of his healing and additionally to build a space for worshiping the true God who had healed him. So it was both a reminder of what he had received and an ongoing act of gratitude.

We may be surprised that Elisha would not accept a gift from Naaman. But the prophet did not want to support the illusion that he himself was responsible for the cure. That came from God, and he was only the minister and messenger.

There is something refreshing in the whole Naaman-Elisha episode. We live in a time when people often can't see a new possibility because of a hardened prejudice, where some are taking credit for good they didn't do, and where others are ungrateful for what they have received.

Naaman overcame his prejudice against the rivers of Israel, and when he received healing and was looking for someone to thank, Elisha was humble enough to place the credit where it belonged.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 13

Monday: Rom. 1:1-7/Ps. 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Lk. 11:29-32
 Tuesday: Rom. 1:16-25/Ps. 19:2-3, 4-5/Lk. 11:37-41
 Wednesday: Rom 2:1-11/Ps. 62:2-3, 6-7, 9/Lk. 11:42-46
 Thursday: Rom. 3:21-30/Ps. 130:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6ab/Lk. 11:47-54
 Friday: 2 Tm. 4:10-17b/Ps. 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18/Lk. 10:1-9
 Saturday: Rom. 4:13, 16-18/Ps. 105:6-7, 8-9, 42-43/Lk. 12:8-12
 Sunday: Ex. 17:8-13/Ps. 121:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8/2 Tm. 3:14; 4:2/Lk. 18:1-8

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

This October, Pope Francis has asked all Catholics to celebrate Extraordinary Mission Month to renew the Church's commitment to proclaim the Gospel to the whole world. During this month the Holy Father invites us to a *personal encounter* with Jesus Christ through prayer, meditation on the Word of God and pilgrimage. This is a reminder that each one of us has the responsibility to proclaim the Good News: to family and friends who are near and to people throughout the world.

One of the ways we can concretely respond to our worldwide missionary duty is to participate in this year's special collection for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. This annual collection is taken up on World Mission Sunday - celebrated this year on the weekend of October 19-20. Your gifts to this collection support and sustain priests religious and lay pastoral leaders in more than 1,100 mission dioceses throughout Asia, Africa and the Pacific Islands, as well as in Latin America and Europe. This collection helps to proclaim the Gospel and to build the Church, all while serving the poor and neglected. I encourage you to give as generously as you can. Our small contributions here can make a big difference throughout the world.

As the Diocese of Erie continues to celebrate this Extraordinary Mission Month, please know my gratitude for all that you do to help spread our faith - both near and far. Pope Francis writes to us this month: "*may the love for the Church's Mission, which is a passion for Jesus and a passion for His people, 'grow ever stronger!'*" May God bless you and your family.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
 The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico, JCL
 Bishop of Erie

WORSHIP

Monday, October 14
 8:00 am + For the Episcopo and DiMattio Family
 Tuesday, October 15
 8:00 am + Living & Dec. Members of PNA Lodge 1540
 Wednesday, October 16
 7:00 am + AT ST. BERNADETTE
 Living & Deceased Parishioners
 Thursday, October 17
 8:00 am + Daniel Baker (Gerald & Martha Adamczyk)
 Friday, October 18
 8:00 am + John E. Auer
 Saturday, October 19
 4:30 pm + Harold W. Schmidt (Friends)
 Sunday, October 20
 8:00 am + AT ST. BERNADETTE
 Living & Deceased Parishioners
 9:30 am + AT ST. ANTHONY
 Michael Tomko (Stacy Mott)

PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR

Monday - Wednesday - Friday AT ST. BERNADETTE
 (Except Holy Days)
 7:00 am - Communion Service
 Tuesday, October 15
 After Mass - St. Anthony's Novena
 6:30 pm - Finance Council Mtg. for St. Anthony and St. Bernadette
 at St. Anthony Parish Center
 7:15 pm - Parish Council Mtg. for St. Anthony and St. Bernadette
 at St. Anthony Parish Center
 Saturday, October 19
 3:45 - 4:15 pm - Confessions
 Sunday, October 20
 Before Mass - Confessions AT ST. BERNADETTE
 After Mass - Confessions AT ST. ANTHONY
 10:30 am - Religious Education Classes for both St. Anthony and
 St. Bernadette at St. Anthony Parish Center
NOTE: Latin Mass - 12:30 pm - last Sunday of the month

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19 - 4:30 PM
 Eucharistic Ministers: Judy Hermann/Tom Hobson/
 Kathleen Lipkovich
 Lector: Kathleen Lipkovich
 Altar Servers: Payton Leandro/Robert Moats

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20 - 9:30 AM
 Eucharistic Ministers: Theresa Douglas/Christine Krzysiak
 Harriet McLaren/Barb Milligan
 Lector: Julie Hobson
 Altar Servers: Max Marteeny

ST. BERNADETTE'S
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20 - 8:00 AM
 Eucharistic Ministers: S. Sada/J. Weagraff/K. Weagraff
 Lector: J. Drda
 Ushers: S. Sada, Sr.
 Altar Servers: I. Levis

STEWARDSHIP

10/6/19		
Offertory	\$581.00	CSA: Pledged—\$9,225
Votives	23.00	Paid—\$8,345
World Mission	30.00	
All Saints	30.00	
Religious Ed	40.00	
TOTAL	\$704.00	

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

Everyone has been where the lepers are in today's gospel: they meant to thank Jesus for a blessing, but, excited about being cured they just didn't get 'around-to-it.' We too get caught up in our own interests and fail to appreciate what we have or what has been done for us. This week, take nothing for granted and get around to thanking those who deserve your thanks.

THANK YOU - THANK YOU

Kathleen Lipkovich and Sue Parkin would like to thank all parishioners who helped make St. Anthony of Padua Craft Fair a "success" To those who donated baked items, worked in the kitchen, and volunteered their time we are very appreciative of your efforts.

DIOCESAN ROSARY MARCH

The Erie Diocesan Division of the World Apostolate of Fatima will sponsor the annual Diocesan Rosary March today, October 13, beginning at 2:00 pm at St. Peter Cathedral. Erie Bishop Lawrence Persico will participate in the procession through downtown Erie. Rain or shine.

CASH GIVEAWAY AND GAME NIGHT

On Sunday, October 20th at 6:00 pm an organizational meeting will be held in the Parish Center to discuss plans for St. Anthony of Padua Cash Giveaway and Game Night to be held on Saturday, January 25, 2020. Volunteers are needed to make this annual fundraiser a success. For more information, please call Kathleen at 814 282-6707.

OPEN HOUSES

Cathedral Prep's Open House will be held Sunday, October 20th from 12:00 - 3:00 pm. Please call 814 453-7737, ext. 3 with questions. Villa Maria Academy's Open House will be on Sunday, October 27th from 12:00 - 3:00 pm. Please call 814 838-2061, ext. 3239 with questions.

BINGO - The next scheduled BINGO at St. Anthony's will be Monday, October 20th. Early Bird BINGO starts at 6:00 pm and the regular BINGO starts at 6:30 pm. Doors and kitchen open at 5:00 pm. Dinner will be available at a cost of \$5.00.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST. BERNADETTE'S

Sun. Oct. 20 - 10:30 am - Religious Education class
 at St. Anthony of Padua

STEWARDSHIP

Offertory	\$1,516.00
Maintenance	337.00
Energy Needs	10.00
Craft Fair	40.00
Missionary Co-Op	235.00
Candles	34.00
CSA	841.00
TOTAL	\$3,013.00
Catholic Services Appeal	
Pledged: \$23,822 Paid: \$21,677	

CHURCH NAME: ST. ANTONY OF PADUA

CHURCH NO.:

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:
