

The Work of the People

The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

As we move further into this early Ordinary Time, we hear more about what it means to be a disciple of Jesus and how Jesus calls us every day - sometimes in ways we might consider insignificant - to follow him. Since we celebrated the Feast of the Presentation this past Sunday, it is appropriate that we hear the Christ, who is light for the world, calling us to be light for those around us.

We returned to the Book of the Prophet Isaiah once again and hear God's word from Third Isaiah. The expectations of the covenant were twofold: first, the people were called to fidelity to God and second, they were to care for their fellow members of the covenant community. Isaiah addresses some of those obligations. They deal with the most basic and obvious of human needs: having food, shelter, and clothing. Those who are in need are to be treated as your own, meaning they are family; together they share a common bond. When the faithful live in this way they are blessed by God; they will be like a light that shines before others and God will answer their every prayer.

We continue to hear Paul's words in his first letter to the Church in Corinth. In many of Paul's letters to the early Christians, he makes a point of being self-effacing in order to impress upon his readers that what is most important is the power of the Spirit and the importance of the Word of God. This is the gist of today's text. Paul distances himself from the high wisdom teachings of other orators such as Apollos. He humbly admits to his own weakness and anxiousness in their presence, but he boldly affirms that the message of Christ Jesus is what is really important.

In the reading from Matthew's Gospel, Jesus once again uses images from daily life. The familiar images and ordinary use of salt and light become metaphors of a spiritual identity for Jesus' disciples. Both salt and light cause other things to happen. Salt adds flavor to foods; light eliminates darkness so others can see and move about safely. The task of the disciple is to be an agent of the Kingdom of God so that the lives of others will be enriched. Jesus' statement is emphatic: "you are," not you might be or someday you will be. This identity and accompanying mission has a present purpose: to declare the Kingdom of God present now.

The reflection for this week is from *The Violence of Love* by Saint Oscar Romero (1917-1980) who was Archbishop of San Salvador. He gained renown as a prophetic voice of the poor and was martyred at the altar while celebrating Mass.

A Christian community is evangelized in order to evangelize. A light is lit in order to give light.

A candle is not lit to be put under a bushel, said Christ. It is lit and put up high in order to give light. That is what a true community is like. A community is a group of men and women who have found the truth in Christ and in his gospel, and who follow the truth and join together to follow it more strongly.

It is not just an individual conversion, but a community conversion. It is a family that believes, a group that accepts God. In the group, each one finds that the brother or sister is a source of strength and that in moments of weakness they help one another and, by loving one another and believing, they give light and example.

The preacher no longer needs to preach, for there are Christians who preach by their own lives. I said once and I repeat today that if, unhappily, some day they silence our radio and don't let us write our newspaper, each of you who believe must become a microphone, a radio station, a loud-speaker, not to talk, but to call for faith.

I am not afraid that our faith may depend only on the archbishop's preaching; I don't think I'm that important. I believe that this message, which is only a humble echo of God's word, enters your hearts, not because it is mine, but because it comes from God.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 9

Monday: 1 Kgs. 8:1-7, 9-13/Mk. 6:53-56
 Tuesday: 1 Kgs. 8:22-23, 27-30/Mk. 7:1-13
 Wednesday: 1 Kgs. 10:1-10/Mk. 7:14-23
 Thursday: 1 Kgs. 11:4-13/Mk. 7:24-30
 Friday: 1 Kgs. 11:29-32; 12:19/Mk. 7:31-37
 Saturday: 1 Kgs. 12:26-32; 13:33-34/Mk. 8:1-10
 Sunday: Sir. 15:15-20/1 Cor. 2:6-10/Mt. 5:17-37 or
 5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37

MEN'S CONFERENCE

Register now for the seventh annual Catholic Men's Conference (22:32 Men) on February 29 from 9 am—3:30 pm at Our Lad of Peace Church in Erie. Enjoy fellowship and inspiring national speakers, including Dr. Ralph Martin, Chris Padgett and Fr. Michael Denk. The event will conclude with Mass celebrated by Bishop Lawrence Persico. Sign-up sheets are in the gathering space. For more details and/or to register, go to www.2232Men.com or call 814 455-7364.

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

Today's gospel challenges us to be a "light" to our community. Parents shine their own guiding light by their actions, inviting their children to follow the light of their "good deeds."

CHILD PROTECTION AND CREATING SAFE ENVIRONMENTS

February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month. Teen dating violence is a serious problem in the United States. One of three high school students experience either physical or sexual violence, or both, that is perpetrated by someone they are dating or going out with. One in 10 high school students has been purposefully hit, slapped or physically hurt by a boyfriend or girlfriend. Teen dating violence can be physical, emotional or sexual. Teen dating violence can be prevented through empowering teens to lead healthy lives and establish healthy relationships. Healthy relationships consist of trust, honesty, respect, equality and compromise. Visit <https://www.eriecd.org/childprotection/> to see what the diocese is doing to help maintain safe environments for children and youth.

WORSHIP

Monday, February 10
8:00 am + John E. Auer
Tuesday, February 11
8:00 am + Alice Undereiner (Josie Osiecki)
Wednesday, February 12
8:00 am + NO MASS
Thursday, February 13
8:00 am + Dec. Member of John Blank Family
(Joan Rembielak & Phyllis & Bob Wronko)
Friday, February 14
8:00 am + Patricia Semrad (Family & Friends)
Saturday, February 15
4:30 pm + Living & Deceased Parishioners
Sunday, February 16
8:00 am + AT ST. BERNADETTE
Richard Dale Baker (Katherine Mattis)
9:30 am + AT ST. ANTHONY
Edward B. Kargol (Parishioners of St. Anthony)

PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR

Monday - Wednesday - Friday AT ST. BERNADETTE
(Except Holy Days)
7:00 am - Communion Service
Tuesday, February 11
After Mass - St. Anthony's Novena
Saturday, February 15
3:45 - 4:15 pm - Confessions
Sunday, February 16
Before Mass - Confessions AT ST. BERNADETTE
After Mass - Confessions AT ST. ANTHONY
10:30 am - Religious Education Class
NOTE: Latin Mass will be the last Sunday of every month
at 12:30 pm

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15 - 4:30 PM

Eucharistic Ministers: Judy Kingston/Kathleen Lipkovich
Jim Samson

Lector: Shawn Pflieger
Altar Servers: Robert Moats/Sophia Mott

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16 - 9:30 AM

Eucharistic Ministers: Ginger Beck/Christine Krysiak/
Barbara Milligan/Carol Rasavage

Lector: Marie Marteeny
Altar Servers: Andrea Walker/Sydney Zilhaver

ST. BERNADETTE
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16 - 8:00 AM

Eucharistic Ministers: D. Nowak/A. Braymer/G. Beisler
Lector: M. Braymer
Ushers: S. Styborski
Altar Servers: A/M/R Braymer

STEWARDSHIP

2/2/2020	
Offertory	\$483.00
Maintenance	35.00
Votives	13.00
Communication	15.00
Ash Wednesday	30.00
Christmas	15.00
Religious Ed.	30.00
TOTAL	\$621.00

OPEN HOUSE

At Seton Catholic School on Wednesday, Feb. 12 from 5:30 - 7:00 pm. Pre-school through grade 8. Kindergarten registration is now open. Call 814 336-2320 or go to www.seton-school.com with questions.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

The 1:38 Women's Conference will be held at Our Lady of Peace Parish in Erie on Saturday, March 28, 2020. Check in begins at 8:00 am and the program runs from 9:00 am - 3:30 pm. The day concludes with a Mass celebrated by Bishop Lawrence Persico. Registration materials can be picked up in the gathering space.

FREE GROCERY DELIVERY TO
CAMBRIDGE SPRINGS

Giant Eagle in Edinboro is offering curbside pickup & delivery starting Feb. 11, 2020. The Cambridge Springs delivery days will be Tuesdays from 1:30 - 3:00 pm and Saturdays from 1:30 - 3:00 pm. Steps are simple: navigate to GiantEagle.com/Cambridge; shop for groceries and add items to your cart; choose a time slot to pick up your groceries, pickup is at the Cambridge Springs Senior Center; pay online with a credit or debit card or Paypal account. CurbsideExpress.com. Watch for the helpful how-to video called "Customer Help Video" in the lower left corner of the site.

COMMITMENT SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 23, 2020

"Forward Together Doing the Work of Christ"

The 2020 Catholic Services Appeal will be conducted throughout our diocese on February 23. The CSA is the main source of support for projects and services of the diocese which serve parishes and the wider community in northwestern PA. Our diocese does the work of Christ and needs your help to continue this important work. Your participation ensures the success of the CSA and is important to the health of our parish.

BINGO - The next scheduled BINGO at St. Anthony's will be Monday, February 17. Early Bird BINGO starts at 6:00 pm and the regular BINGO starts at 6:30 pm. Doors open at 5:00 pm.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST. BERNADETTE

Sun. Feb. 16 - 10:30 am - Religious Educ. Class at St. Anthony
Wed. Feb. 19 - 7:00 am - Mass at St. Bernadette
Sun. Feb. 23 - 10:30 am - Religious Educ. Class at St. Anthony

STEWARDSHIP

Offertory	\$1,162.00
Maintenance	293.00
Candles	66.00
Catholic Communication	40.00
CSA	115.00
TOTAL	\$1,676.00

CHURCH NAME: ST. ANTONY OF PADUA

CHURCH NO.:

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:
