

The Work of the People  
*Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time*

Another academic year has begun and with it our rhythms and schedules change. The sun is lower in the sky and we can feel a chill in the night air and recognize that the minutes of daylight are getting shorter. Sometimes change happens almost imperceptibly and at other times change hits us in the face. In either case, change requires flexibility and adaptation. I know that as I age, I find it harder to adapt change quickly. The disciples in the Gospel for this Sunday were being challenged to change the routine to which they had become accustomed and to be flexible enough to see the mission of Jesus in a new way.

In the First Reading Jeremiah's words outwardly express his internal, personal frustration with God. Others have scorned and reproached Jeremiah for his prophecies such that he no longer wants to speak God's name. Yet the power of God's name becomes too much for him to keep inside. Later in Jeremiah's words, which we do not hear today, he affirms God's presence with him. This will not allow those who persecute him to win out.

For three more Sundays, the Second Reading comes from Paul's Letter to the Church in Rome. Today's two verses come from the beginning of Romans 12, a chapter in which Paul instructs the Romans on how they are to responsibly live in light of the free gift of justification in Christ. They cannot live with disregard for their actions. God holds them accountable for now in Christ, they must imitate him by offering their bodies as living sacrifices. Conformity to Christ, not the world, is the Christian charge. Living in Christ will lead us to discern God's will for us.

This Sunday's Gospel reading follows immediately upon last Sundays in which Simon Peter professed Jesus as the Christ and in turn, Jesus blessed Peter with the keys to the kingdom and acknowledged that the church would be built upon him. In today's Gospel, Jesus is realistic with his disciples informing them that he must suffer, die, and rise. Peter rebukes the Lord, disagreeing with him, perhaps neither hearing nor understanding what is meant that Jesus would be raised. Jesus, in turn rebukes Peter, and teaches the disciples that if they wish to follow him, the Cross is also theirs. The cross is ours, too, and we know that death leads to Resurrection.

The reflection for this Sunday is from *Abide*, by Sr. Macrina Wiederkehr, OSB who is well known for her spiritual writings and retreat ministry.

Paul is talking to us as believers, so he reminds us that we are children of the light and of the day. This reminder can be medicinal. We need encouraging prompts to help us carry on. Remember, then, that you are not walking in darkness. Open your eyes. The path you walk is flooded with light. You do not have to go to some mountain and wait for the Second Coming as some have done. Your goal is simply to live in the light—live as one awakened. Your homework is to be vigilant, sober, lucid, and aware. Watch for daily visitations from God. Anticipate all the blessings that take place each day rather than dreading things that may never happen. Each morning practice believing that your mind will be filled with amazing insights. A positive attitude can assist us in shaping our days.

Paul encourages us to clothe ourselves with the garments of faith, hope, and love. So let us put on the robes of light. Let us dress ourselves as people who are ready for the bright journey of each new day, remembering always that the bottom line is not God's wrath; it is our salvation. God desires us, longs for us. Both in death and in life it is the Holy One to whom we belong.

#### **READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Monday: 1 Thes. 4:13-18/Lk. 4:16-30  
 Tuesday: 1 Thes. 5:1-6, 9-11/Lk. 4:31-37  
 Wednesday: Col. 1:1-8/Lk. 4:38-44  
 Thursday: Col. 1:9-14/Lk. 5:1-11  
 Friday: Mi. 5:1-4a or Rom. 8:28-30/Mt. 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23  
 Saturday: Col. 1:21-23/Lk. 6:1-5  
 Sunday: Ez. 33:7-9/Rom. 13:8-10/Mt. 18:15-20

#### **A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE**

Relationships live in a careful balance. If a person changes, the balance is altered requiring a shift in the relationship. In today's gospel Jesus announced a change and Peter resisted. Sometimes, those we count on for support may actually get in the way. Jesus told Peter: "You are an obstacle to me."

*"Lord, open my ears  
 to hear your powerful, illuminating word."*

**WORSHIP**

Monday, September 4  
 8:00 am + For all Laborers  
 Tuesday, September 5  
 8:00 am + Robert A. Adams (Adams Family)  
 Wednesday, September 6  
 8:00 am + NO MASS  
 Thursday, September 7  
 8:00 am + Ron Yusavage (Joan Smith)  
 Friday, September 8  
 8:00 am + Louise Rembielak (Joan Rembielak)  
 Saturday, September 9  
 4:30 pm + Wanda Pilarczyk (Susan Parkin)  
 Sunday, September 10  
 8:00 am + AT ST. BERNADETTE MISSION  
 Living & Deceased Parishioners  
 9:30 am + AT ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA  
 Elvira Jesus' Santos (Anna Maria Leandro)

**FAITH FORMATION CLASS**

*Registration for the 2023-2024 Faith Formation classes will be after Mass next Sunday, September 10th. All parents and students are expected to register and attend classes — Thank you, Barb Milligan, Faith Formation Coordinator.*

**CHILD PROTECTION AND  
 CREATING SAFE ENVIRONMENTS  
 Diocesan Child Protection Policies**

The Diocese of Erie, is committed to protecting minors who are entrusted to our care. The Diocese has policies and procedures in place to address the national problem of child abuse, to aid in the prevention of abuse and to develop and maintain safe environments. All those who minister to minors are screened, trained, and agree to a Code of Conduct. To read the Policy that includes the Code of Conduct, go to: <https://www.eriecd.org/childprotection/policies-1.html> For more information, contact the diocesan Office for the Protection for Children and Youth at 814 824-1195.

**PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR**

Tuesday, September 5  
 After Mass - St. Anthony Novena  
 Saturday, September 9  
 3:30 - 4:15 pm - Confession  
 Sunday, September 10  
 AT ST. BERNADETTE MISSION  
 Before Mass - Confession  
 AT ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA  
 After Mass - Confession  
 After Mass - FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION  
 AND FIRST CLASS OF 2023-2024

*“Lord,  
 help me to approach you  
 with faith and confidence  
 and to know in my heart  
 that you hear my every prayer!”*

**FAITH FORMATION SCHEDULE  
 SEPTEMBER, 2023**

Sunday, September 10  
 After Mass - Registration and first class  
 Sunday, September 24  
 After Mass - Class

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER SCHEDULE**

Saturday, September 9 - 4:30 pm  
 Andrea Closky  
 Judy Kingston  
 Sunday, September 10 - 9:30 am  
 Christine Krzysiak  
 Carol Rasavage

**ST. BERNADETTE MISSION  
 HOLY ROSARY SOCIETY**

Meeting - Tuesday, September 12 - 1:00 pm

**ST. BERNADETTE MISSION  
 STEWARDSHIP**

Offertory	\$456.00
Candles	9.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$465.00</b>

**ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA  
 STEWARDSHIP**

Offertory	\$1,620.00
Maintenance	431.00
CSA	255.00
Candles	40.00
Assumption	40.00
Latin America	20.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,406.00</b>

Catholic Services Appeal  
 Pledged: \$32,107.33 Paid: \$28,118.33

**CHURCH NAME: ST. ANTONY OF PADUA**

**CHURCH NO.:**

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

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