

The Work of the People

The Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

This week is the last week in this brief segment of Ordinary Time. Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 26. Lent is a time of penance and reconciliation. Prepare for this holy time by choosing how you will turn from sin and embrace the Gospel.

We have come to know the Book of Leviticus as a book of laws helping the people to maintain right relationships with each other and with God. Scripture commentators refer this section in Leviticus as the holiness code. Today's text includes a series of injunctions for the people of the covenant beginning with the words, "You shall not" or "You shall." These commandments prescribed the way of life for God's people. The foundation for such a life is the holiness of God; all are called to be holy as God is holy. A life of holiness rests on love; there is no room for hatred or revenge or the holding of grudges among brother or sister or neighbor.

In his first letter to the Church in Corinth Paul invokes the image of the Temple to instruct the Corinthian Christians. They would certainly know of the Temple structure in Jerusalem, but Paul tells them that they are a spiritual temple. God dwells in them; they are the holy of holies. The indwelling of God is through the Spirit that they have received from Christ Jesus and the Father. Paul warns them about boasting among themselves; that will bring about dissension in the community. If that happens the unity of the spiritual temple is destroyed.

In this section of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus uses two more examples of the Mosaic law to continue his new interpretation of the law. Both relate to difficult relationships that the disciples or anyone might experience. They include relations with people who strike us, people who ask for help, and people we consider to be our enemies. This teaching is not one of the easier ones to accept; it calls on the disciples to rethink both the social customs of the time and the intent of the religious law. Jesus asks them, and us, to go beyond what might be an easy and spontaneous response to one that would be more compassionate and life-giving.

The reflection for this week is from *The Letters of Catherine of Siena* by St. Catherine of Siena (1347 – 1380) who was a mystic and Doctor of the Church.

[True children of God] do not seek or serve God for the sake of any sweetness or comfort they might receive from God or from others, whether spiritual or temporal. For they are not seeking God and their neighbors for selfish ends. No, they seek God for God's sake because he deserves to be loved. They seek themselves for God's sake and for the glory and praise of God's name. And they serve their neighbors for God's sake, doing for them whatever service they can.

Such persons are following their Father's example. They all find delight in charity for their neighbors. They love God's servants for the love they bear their Creator. They love the imperfect in their progress toward perfection by offering their desire and continual prayers for them. And they love the wicked who are lying dead of mortal sin because they are God's rational creatures, redeemed by one and the same blood as they themselves are. So they grieve over their damnation, and to rescue them they would surrender themselves to bodily death. Persecutors, grumblers, judgmental people who find them a scandal—they love them all because they

are God's creatures (as I've said), and because they are instruments of virtue and progress toward perfection for them. They especially [help them acquire] that royal virtue, patience, the lovely virtue that is never scandalized or shaken or toppled by any contrary wind or by any diabolical temptation.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 23

Monday: Jas. 3:13-18/Mk. 9:14-29

Tuesday: Jas. 4:1-10/Mk. 9:30-37

Wednesday: Jl. 2:12-18/2 Cor. 5:20; 6:2/Mt. 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday: Dt. 30:15-20/Lk. 9:22-25

Friday: Is. 58:1-9a/Mt. 9:14-15

Saturday: Is. 58:9b-14/Lk. 5:27-32

Sunday: Gn. 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/Mt. 4:1-11

2020 PRAYER FOR THE CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL Just One Step

*Compassionate God,
your care for us is immeasurable.
You love us like the shepherd
who drops everything
to find the one lost sheep.
The good shepherd, like your Son Jesus,
is a model for us of care and concern
for others.*

*Help me to follow in Jesus' footsteps
and support the mission of your church
to evangelize, to educate, and to proclaim your word.
Help me support your church that serves others
through your sacraments of belonging, healing,
forgiving, blessing and sending.*

*Guide me to take just one step forward today:
One step, to care for those in need;
One step, to be aware of those who are hurting;
One step, with my neighbors,
to save our block from violence;
One step, with my parish,
to reach out to those we've excluded;
One step, toward Christ
in the face of the homeless person.*

*Lord God, help me to take
just one step forward today
with the baptized of the Diocese of Erie
to continue the work of Christ.
Amen*

*Imprimatur, November 4, 2019
The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico, JCL
Bishop of Erie*

C.S. MINISTERIUM LENTEN PRAYER & SOUP LUNCHEONS

February 26	Ash Wednesday, at Church of God
March 4	St. Anthony of Padua
March 11	First Baptist Church
March 18	Presbyterian Church
March 25	Methodist Church
April 1	Christian Missionary Alliance Church

All luncheons are at 12:00 Noon

CAMBRIDGE SPRINGS HERITAGE SOCIETY

The C.S. Heritage Society presents History and Rebirth of the 1910 Trolley Depot of Tuesday, Feb. 25 at 7:00 pm at the First Baptist Church. Refreshments to follow. Given by members of the Heritage Partnership.

WORSHIP

Monday, February 24
8:00 am + John E. Auer

Tuesday, February 25
8:00 am + Alice Undereiner (Burdick Family & Pat Watson)

Wednesday, February 26—ASH WEDNESDAY
5:00 pm + AT ST. BERNADETTE
Living & Deceased Parishioners
7:00 pm + AT ST. ANTHONY
Sophia Yurcak (Andy & Sandy Yurcak)

Thursday, February 27
8:00 am + Living & Dec. Members of PNA Lodge 1540

Friday, February 28
8:00 am + Mary Wronko (Joan Rembielak & Phyllis & Bob Wronko)

Saturday, February 29
4:30 pm + For the Special Intention of John Yanoship (Wife, Kathy)

Sunday, March 1
8:00 am + AT ST. BERNADETTE
Heather Dunnigan (Rick & Barbara Smith)
9:30 am + AT ST. ANTHONY
Living & Deceased Parishioners

PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR

Monday - Wednesday - Friday AT ST. BERNADETTE
(Except Holy Days)
7:00 am - Communion Service

Tuesday, February 25
After Mass - St. Anthony's Novena

Saturday, February 29
3:45 - 4:15 pm - Confessions

Sunday, March 1
Before Mass - Confessions AT ST. BERNADETTE
After Mass - Confessions AT ST. ANTHONY
NOTE: Latin Mass will be the last Sunday of every month at 12:30 pm

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26 - 7:00 PM

Eucharistic Ministers: Ginger Beck/Theresa Douglas/
Harriet McLaren/Carol Rasavage
Lector: Kathleen Lipkovich
Altar Servers: Payton Leandro/Sophia Mott

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 29 - 4:30 PM

Eucharistic Ministers: Tom Hobson/Judy Hermann/Kathleen Lipkovich
Lector: Shawn Pflieger
Altar Servers: Payton Leandro/Sydney Zilhaver

SUNDAY, MARCH 1 - 9:30 AM

Eucharistic Ministers: Ginger Beck/Larry Douglas/
Don Marteeny/Carol Rasavage
Lector: Marie Marteeny
Altar Servers: Max Marteeny/Andrea Walker

ST. BERNADETTE SUNDAY, MARCH 1 - 8:00 AM

Eucharistic Ministers: C. Sada/G. Beisler/D. Nowak
Lector: D. Capell/Mrs. Greco (if needed)
Ushers: S. Sada, Jr.
Altar Servers: Greco/Levis

STEWARDSHIP

<u>2/16/20</u>	
Offertory	\$452.00
Maintenance	5.00
Votives	<u>6.00</u>
TOTAL	\$463.00

COMMITMENT SUNDAY

Today is Commitment Sunday for the 2020 CSA. The theme of this year's CSA is "Forward Together...doing the work of Christ." Together, we make it possible for parishes, Catholic schools, Catholic charities, clergy and the Catholic faithful to live and share Christ's teaching.

You may wonder why you should support the CSA. The truth is, as members of the Diocese of Erie, we play an important role in the diocesan activities of Catholic education, evangelization, promoting justice and serving people in need throughout our diocese. Our diocese has work to do on behalf of the Lord and we are all asked to share our gifts to help advance the mission of the church.

Our bishop assures us that CSA donations are strictly designated to fund the projects, ministries and departments of the Diocese of Erie. No funds donated to the CSA have been or will be used to defray expenses related to the sexual abuse crisis.

LENTEN RICE BOWLS

The Rice Bowls for Lent for Live are available at both entrances to the church. Please take one so your family can partake in this Lenten observation.

LENTEN FISH DINNERS

Our Lady of the Lake, Edinboro, Serving: 5 pm - 7 pm
Feb 28; Mar 6, 20 27; Apr 3
All Saints Parish, Waterford, Serving: 4:30 pm - 7 pm
Mar 6, 13, 16, 20, 27; Apr 3
St. Philip, Linesville, Serving: 4 pm - 7 pm
Feb 28; Mar 6, 13, 20, 27; Apr 3

COMMUNITY LUNCH

Will be on Saturday, Feb. 29 from 11:30 - 12:30 pm. Carry-outs are available. For more information call 398-4049.

BINGO - The next scheduled BINGO at St. Anthony's will be Monday, March 2. Early Bird BINGO starts at 6:00 pm and the regular BINGO starts at 6:30 pm. Doors open at 5:00 pm.

SAEGERTOWN COMMUNITY LENTEN LUNCHEONS

March 4	Twelve Apostles Church
March 11	Saegertown United Methodist Church
March 18	Saint Bernadette
March 25	Twelve Apostles Church
April 1	Saegertown United Methodists Church

All luncheons are at 12:00 Noon

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST. BERNADETTE

Mon. Mar. 2 - 6:00 pm - Holy Name Society Mtg.
Wed. Mar. 4 - 1:00 pm - St. Bernadette Altar Rosary Soc. Mtg.
Sun. Mar. 8 - Holy Name Society Sunday

STEWARDSHIP

Offertory	\$1,479.00
Maintenance	395.00
Candles	19.00
Rosary Donation	<u>10.00</u>
TOTAL	\$1,903.00

CHURCH NAME: ST. ANTONY OF PADUA

CHURCH NO.:

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:
