

The Work of the People
The Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

As we move through Ordinary Time, continue to recall all the gifts our gracious God showers upon us especially in what we might consider the “ordinary” things and experiences of our daily lives.

In the reading from the First Book of Kings, God appoints Elisha as a successor to Elijah's prophetic ministry. Elijah symbolically carries out God's command by throwing his cloak over Elisha, indicating both God's choice and Elijah's spirit now handed over to Elisha. Elijah's somewhat harsh response to Elisha's desire to say farewell to his family touches upon the tension existing between total commitment to God's work and familial and social responsibilities. Elisha manifests his total commitment to God's call by sacrificing the oxen used for farming and feeding the people. Severing all ties and leaving all behind, Elisha manifests total commitment to God by becoming Elijah's attendant and future successor.

In the Letter to the Church in Galatia Paul reminds us that in Christ we are set free from slavery to our own selfish ways and desires in order to “serve one another through love.” Paul echoes Christ's words in summing up the whole law in the command to “love your neighbor as yourself.” Not following up on this freedom to love turns us into slaves to sin once again, engendering violence and destruction of one another.

In today's Gospel Jesus is resolved to journey to Jerusalem where his mission and ministry will be accomplished. Being rejected by Samaritans along the way is an indication of the kind of reception that he will receive in Jerusalem. However, that does not stop Jesus from continuing his journey nor does it prevent him from inviting others to follow him. Jesus' harsh words toward those desiring to follow him are not intended to be taken literally but are a way of expressing the importance of committing everything to God, as did Elisha in the first reading.

The reflection for this Sunday is from *Welcoming the Word* by Sr. Verna Holyhead, SGS who was an Australian Sister of the Good Samaritan of the Order of Saint Benedict.

The road Jesus takes to Jerusalem is signposted with encounters, events, and stopping places, without any logical or geographical progression. This serves to universalize the way of discipleship, which has nothing to do with map reading or

chronology and everything to do with following Jesus in our own time and place. To help us along the way, Luke describes three encounters with would-be disciples.

The first takes the initiative in approaching Jesus. He is a brashly confident enthusiast who needs to be tested for staying power. If you want to follow me, says Jesus, be prepared to be a powerless, dispossessed follower of a rejected Son of Man.

In the second encounter, it is Jesus who takes the initiative in calling the person to follow. We probably have a sneaking sympathy for this one who seems to make a very human and religious request of Jesus: “Let me go and bury my father first.” In Jesus' invitation was the urgent and present call not to delay, not to put off the “today” demands of the reign of God.

The third would-be disciple wants to follow Jesus, but on condition that he is allowed to “first say farewell to those at home.” This seems a reasonable request, especially in the light of the first reading that describes how Elijah gave Elisha permission to go and say good-bye. But the following of Jesus has to be unswerving; not even this detour is allowed.

In all these encounters, we hear the requests, we listen to Jesus' response, but we learn nothing of the outcome of the meetings. It is as though Jesus is saying to us by this narrative silence: Listen to the answer your own life makes.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 19:1-8/Jn. 16:29-33

Tuesday: Zep. 3:14-18a or Rom. 12:9-16/Lk. 1:39-56

Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38/Jn. 17:11b-19

Thursday: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11/Jn. 17:20-26

Friday: Acts 25:13b-21/Jn. 21:15-19

Saturday: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31/Jn. 21:20-25

Sunday: Acts 2:1-11/1 Cor. 12:3b-7, 12-13 or

Rom 8:8-17/Jn. 20:19-23 or Jn. 14:15-16, 23b-26

DIOCESAN ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The 2022 Diocesan Anniversary Celebration Liturgies for couples celebrating 25, 40, 50, 60, or more years of marriage will be held Sunday, August 7, 2022 at 2:00 pm at Holy Cross in Fairview. To register, please call the parish office Mon. Tues. Thurs. Fri. from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm before July 10, 2022 before July 10, 2022.

WORSHIP

Monday, June 27
8:00 am + NO MASS
Tuesday, June 28
8:00 am + NO MASS
Wednesday, June 29
8:00 am + NO MASS
Thursday, June 30
8:00 am + NO MASS
Friday, July 1
8:00 am + NO MASS
Saturday, July 2
4:30 pm + Bob Grinarm (Dale & Carole Schoiack)
Sunday, July 3
8:00 am + AT ST. BERNADETTE MISSION
Living & Deceased Parishioners
9:30 am + AT ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA
Jane Olszewska
(Richard & Christine Bidwell)

PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR

Saturday, July 2
3:30 - 4:15 pm - Confession
Sunday, July 3
ST. BERNADETTE MISSION
Before Mass - Confession
ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA
After Mass - Confession

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA
ALTAR SERVERS

Saturday, July 2 - 4:30 pm
Payton Leandro
Sunday, July 3 - 9:30 am
Max Marteeny

ST. BERNADETTE MISSION	
STEWARDSHIP	
Offertory	\$457.00
Maintenance	20.00
Candles	12.00
TOTAL	\$489.00

QUO VADIS DAYS
“Where Are You going”

Quo Vadis Days is a four-day camp for Catholic young men who are striving to follow God’s call in their lives and who are considering the priesthood or seminary formation or who are wondering if God is calling them to a religious vocation.

What: Priesthood Discernment Camp
Who: Catholic Young Men in Grades 9-12
When: July 24-27, 2022
Where: St. Mark Seminary in Erie, PA
Cost: \$50.00

****Deadline to register: July 15, 2022****

*“Jesus,
thank you for the surpassing value
of the healing and mercy
that I can receive in the
Sacrament of Reconciliation!”*

PETER’S PENCE COLLECTION

Today is the Peter’s Pence Collection, a worldwide collection that supports the work of the Universal Church, including the work of the Holy See and the charitable works of Pope Francis. Take this opportunity to join with Pope Francis and be a sign of mercy to our suffering brothers and sisters. Please be generous today.

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

Today’s gospel reminds us once we set our “hand to the plow” of parenting and marriage, “we cannot look back.” This is what commitment means: to say ‘yes’ to the choice to give up other choices, and ‘yes’ to the promise to be faithful to an unknown future with our spouse.

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA	
STEWARDSHIP	
Offertory	\$1,605.00
Maintenance	158.00
Candles	20.00
CSA	160.00
TOTAL	\$1,943.00
Catholic Services Appeal	
Pledged: \$31,503.00	Paid: \$24,666.00

CHURCH NAME: ST. ANTONY OF PADUA

CHURCH NO.:

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:
