

## PASTOR'S LETTER

Dear Parishioners,

## The Work of the People

*The Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

On Monday past we welcomed the Autumnal Equinox and the first official day of Fall. With that comes the beginning of Fall activities and the resumption of Faith Formation classes for our young people and parents. The parents who stepped forward this past Sunday to help in making sure that the faith is passed on to the next generation gave great witness to the importance of a relationship with God and God's people in their lives. I thank them profoundly.

We continue our journey forward into Ordinary Time. Amos continues his denunciation of those who ignore the lot of others. In last Sunday's text it was the dishonest steward. Today Amos criticizes the rich who care only about their own comfort, ignoring the plight of the poor. He does not condemn their wealth but their complacency. Their wealth allows them to have lavish meals and the best oils; they drink wine from bowls as though there was no end to the abundance they enjoy. Their selfish actions will lead to their exile.

The Letter to Timothy encourages Timothy to be faithful to the commandment of God until the return of Jesus Christ. The author of the letter would know and expect that this letter would be read to the local gathering of believers and so the phrase "I charge you" could apply to those who listen to the reading of this letter as well as to Timothy. The words of the letter are also for us.

As we continue this section of Luke's Gospel, Jesus addresses the Pharisees with a parable that contrasts the actions of a rich man and a poor man. The contrast between those who care about others and those who do not, as noted in the Reading for the Book of Amos, is sharpened by the message of the parable. Jesus does not dwell on the status of the rich man but rather on his being oblivious to the needs of the poor man "lying at his door"; he was his neighbor.

The reflection for this Sunday is from *Homilies for the Christian People* by Sr. Janet Schlichting, O.P. of the Dominican Sisters of Peace. She works in the areas of preaching, art, and adult faith formation.

The theme of today's Scriptures points to one thing: God is on the side of the poor, the outcasts, the prostitutes and tax collectors, widows, orphans, lepers, those whose bodies are twisted, and those who cannot see. God is for them. God cares about them and wants to gather them in to ease their pain and sorrow.

And Jesus embodied that caring: consorting with all manner of folk, urging them to have faith, restoring their dignity. It is with these that Jesus casts his lot, calling the better off to account. His sayings and parables are battering-rams against the fortresses of complacency. But we know the story: ears were closed and hardened hearts grew harder. Jesus died an outcast, poorest of the

poor, naked on a cross. He, like many before and after him, cried out in an anguished, despairing voice: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

But God had not forsaken Jesus. God stood by this Jesus, this suffering one, and raised him from death. He who bore the grief of the downtrodden rose triumphant over the forces of sin and evil, bearing God's promise that there is a future of hope for those who despair, a day of laughter for those who mourn. This confronts us with another question. It is not "Are you rich or are you poor?" As if one or the other would make us morally better. It is not "How much do you have?" The question is this: "How much do you care?"

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 29

Monday: Zec. 8:1-8/Ps. 102:16-18, 19-21, 29 & 22-23/  
Lk. 9:46-50

Tuesday: Zec. 8:20-23/Ps. 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7/Lk. 9:51-56

Wednesday: Neh. 2:1-8/Ps. 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6/Mt. 18:1-5, 10

Thursday: Neh. 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12/Ps. 19:8, 9, 10, 11/  
Lk. 10:1-12

Friday: Bar. 1:15-22/Ps. 79:1b-2, 3-5, 8, 9/Lk. 10:13-16

Saturday: Bar. 4:5-12, 27-29/Ps. 69:33-35, 36-37/Lk. 10:17-24

Sunday: Hb. 1:2-3; 2:2-4/Ps. 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/2 Tm. 1:6-8,  
13-14/Lk. 17:5-10

*"Lord, please use my small acts of love  
to prepare your way."*

### CRAWFORD GIVES

Seton Catholic School is kicking off their Annual Fund with the inaugural Crawford Gives Day, Wednesday, October 2. They have set a goal of \$10,000 in donations to support Catholic education in Crawford County. To make a donation to Seton, please go to [www.crawfordgives.org/setonschool](http://www.crawfordgives.org/setonschool). Your donation will be partially matched by the Crawford Heritage Community Foundation match fund and is 100% tax-deductible.

### 2019 COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CANTATA

The 2019 Community Christmas Cantata is in the planning stages. Practices will be held on Sunday afternoons, 4 pm—5:30 pm, starting at the First United Methodist Church in Cambridge Springs, September 29, 2019. Those interested in raising their voices to celebrate the season and become part of the cantata should contact Tammy Peters, 398-2608, home, or 720-6526, cell, so as to reserve music for this most joyous event. Please contact her with any questions. The cantata will take place Nov. 30 at St. Paul's Lutheran at 7:00 pm and Dec. 1 at C.S. 1st United Methodist Church at 7:00 pm.

### A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

In today's gospel the rich man died and was condemned to "a place of torment" because he ignored the poor. He asked Lazarus to go and warn his five brothers to change their ways. Evidently ignoring the poor was a family pattern. What is your family's attitude toward those who are poor?

## WORSHIP

Monday, September 30  
8:00 am + Living & Deceased Parishioners  
Tuesday, October 1  
8:00 am + A Special Intention  
Wednesday, October 2  
8:00 am + NO MASS  
Thursday, October 3  
8:00 am + John Auer  
Friday, October 4—FIRST FRIDAY  
8:00 am + Nell Rembielak (Joan Rembielak/Phyllis & Bob Wronko)  
Saturday, October 5  
4:30 pm + Maria (Dina) Black (Mary Mulligan-Haines)  
Sunday, October 6  
8:00 am + AT ST. BERNADETTE  
Heather Ann (Nowak) Dunnigan  
(Parishioners of St. Bernadette & St. Anthony of Padua)  
9:30 am + Living & Deceased Parishioners

## PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR

Monday - Wednesday - Friday AT ST. BERNADETTE  
(Except Holy Days)  
7:00 am - Communion Service  
Tuesday, October 1  
After Mass - St. Anthony's Novena  
Saturday, October 5  
3:45 - 4:15 pm - Confessions  
Sunday, October 6  
Before Mass - Confessions AT ST. BERNADETTE  
After Mass - Confessions AT ST. ANTHONY  
12:00 Noon - Pet Blessing in St. Anthony parking lot (see sidebar)  
**NOTE: Latin Mass is at 12:30 pm, the last Sunday of the month**

### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

#### ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5 - 4:30 PM

Eucharistic Ministers: Tom Hobson/Judy Hermann/Judy Kingston  
Lector: Vicki Eckstein

Altar Servers: Payton Leandro/Sydney Zilhaver

#### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6 - 9:30 AM

Eucharistic Ministers: Larry Douglas/Theresa Douglas/  
Barb Milligan/Carol Rasavage

Lector: Marie Marteeny

Altar Servers: Max Marteeny/Andrea Walker

#### ST. BERNADETTE SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6 - 8:00 AM

Eucharistic Ministers: J. Acker/C. Greco/J. Weagraff

Lector: B. Smith

Ushers: D. Nowak

Altar Servers: B. Greco

### STEWARDSHIP

9/22/19

Offertory	\$560.00
Votives	13.00
Religious Ed	10.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$583.00</b>

CSA:

Pledged—\$8,525

Paid—\$7,545

### CRAFT FAIR

On Saturday, October 5, 2019 St. Anthony of Padua will be holding their 2nd Annual Craft Fair from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. Parishioners are asked to provide a baked item of their choice that will be sold during this fundraiser. Items can be dropped off in the kitchen on Friday, Oct. 4 from 3 pm - 7 pm or on Saturday, Oct. 5 from 7 am - 9 am. Thank you in advance for your willingness to contribute to this event.

### SAVE THE DATE

Our Lady of the Lake Parish presents best-selling author and EWTN musician Vinny Flynn "Eucharistic Amazement and Awe" on Monday, Oct. 7th, Tuesday, Oct. 8th and Wed. Oct. 9th. All presentations are at 7:00 pm. All are welcome.

### MINISTERIUM EMERGENCY FOOD PROGRAM

We are in need of many items for the food pantry. We could use any food really low on everything, totally out of peanut butter, tomato soup, spaghetti sauce and spaghetti, vegetable oil and toilet paper. Anything would be a blessing. Items can be put in the box in the gathering space.

### CRAWFORD COUNTY CITIZENS FOR LIFE PRO-LIFE BANQUET

The Pro-Life Banquet will take place Friday, November 1, 6:30 pm at Pampered Palate Conference Center, Saegertown. Speaker is Jill Stanek. Tickets available by contact 814 967-3436. Price is \$16 /adult, \$10 /child (12 and under). \$60 max family rate (parents & dependent children)

### PET BLESSING

St. Anthony will conduct a Pet Blessing on Sunday, Oct. 6th at 12:00 Noon in the parish parking lot, weather permitting. If rain, it will be in the Parish Center.

*"Father, your never-ending love and mercy fill me with joy!"*

**BINGO** - The next scheduled BINGO at St. Anthony's will be Monday, September 30. 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. A Salisbury Steak Dinner will be available at a cost of \$5.00.

### UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST. BERNADETTE'S

Sun. Sept. 29, after 10:30 Mass—Religious Education Class at St. Anthony of Padua

### STEWARDSHIP

Offertory	\$1,697.00
Maintenance	367.00
Candles	24.00
Craft Fair	130.00
Catholic Education	55.00
CSA	2,240.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,513.00</b>

Catholic Services Appeal  
Pledged: \$23,801 Paid: \$21,386

CHURCH NAME: ST. ANTONY OF PADUA

CHURCH NO.:

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

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