

PASTOR'S LETTER

Dear Parishioners,

The Work of the People

The Third Sunday of Lent

I wrote last week of the four words that speak of the invitation and action within the Rite of Communion – take, bless, break, and give. God invites us to partake not only in the receiving of the Body and Blood of Christ present in the Eucharistic elements but also in the giving of our lives to one another. As I wrote: “The bread, the Body of Christ, our lives, are then given, offered, shared for all to partake. This part of the Eucharistic action is an invitation from God to come and share in the God-life, the divine life, the life of grace. Our expected and anticipated response then is one of accepting what is given. This is not a taking as if what is given were something to which we were entitled. It is a reaching out so that what is offered may be placed in our longing hands.”

Our response to this invitation of our loving God becomes a response of mind, body, and spirit. We respond with our mind through our prayer – “Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.” We respond with our body as we stand together and move toward the table in what is the most important procession of our liturgical celebration. We respond with our spirit as we profess our faith in the presence of Christ as we also profess our need for that presence. We open our hearts so that this presence can transform them into the Body of Christ in the world.

I have written earlier about processions and have said: “The most important procession is the Communion procession. This is the time at which we ‘go forward’ to the table to receive as gift the body and blood of Christ. We approach with reverence and with song so that we can take part in the divine life God offers to us.” We present ourselves to our loving God eager to be healed and nourished.

We have the option of receiving the Body of Christ in our outstretched hand or on our tongue. It is important that we act well no matter what our choice. As we approach the minister, we are to make a gesture of respect and this gesture has been defined by the bishops of the United States as a simple bow. The term “simple bow” comes down through the ages as meaning a slight bow of the head. Any other gestures, such as a deep bow, a sign of the cross or even a genuflection, are unnecessary and extraneous.

If we are to receive in our hand, we are to approach the minister with one hand resting on the other, extended toward the minister, palm up. The minister says “The Body of Christ.” We are to reply “Amen.” The minister places the host into our open hand. We are to take one step to the side, and then place the host into our mouth before continuing the procession to the Blood of

Christ. Please notice that we are not to take or grab the host with our thumb and forefinger. It is true that as human beings, we have opposable thumbs but this is not one of the times to use them. The action is one of giving and receiving – not taking.

If we are to receive on the tongue, the action is similar. We are to approach the minister with our hands folded and as the minister says “The Body of Christ”, we are to respond “Amen.” We then tilt our head slightly backward as we open our mouth and extend our tongue. The minister then places the host on our tongue and we close our mouth and move to the Blood of Christ. If we are to receive on the tongue, we are not to grab at the host with our teeth or form a tiny slit between our lips so that the minister has to go exploring for an opening. The action and intent are the same – giving and receiving.

Next week I will elaborate on the meaning of our short dialogue during the reception of communion. What is the meaning in “The Body of Christ” and “Amen?”

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 24

Monday: Is. 7:10-14; 8:10/Ps. 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10.11/Heb. 10:4-10/
Lk. 1:26-38
Tuesday: Dn. 3:25, 34-43/Ps. 25:4-5ab, 6 & 7bc, 8 & 9/Mt. 18:21-35
Wednesday: Dt. 4:1, 5-9/Ps. 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20/Mt. 5:17-19
Thursday: Jer. 7:23-28/Ps. 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Lk. 11:14-23
Friday: Hos. 14:2-10/Ps. 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab, 14 & 17/
Mk. 12:28-34
Saturday: Hos. 6:1-6/Ps. 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab/Lk. 18:9-14
Sunday: Scrutiny: 1 Sm. 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps. 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/
Eph. 5:8-14/Jn. 9:1-41

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES

Sun., March 31 - 3:00 PM - St. Francis Xavier
Mon., April 1 - 7:00 PM - Our Lady of the Lake
Sun., April 7 - 3:00 PM - St. Anthony of Padua
Mon., April 8 - 7:00 PM - All Saints Parish
Thurs., April 11 - 7:00 PM - St. Lawrence

ST. ANTHONY APP LAUNCH

Next week St. Anthony of Padua will launch our own app for iPhone and Android smart phones. This will allow us to better communicate with you throughout the week and keep you updated with relevant parish news or updates. The app is very well designed and very intuitive. It will be a great resource for parishioners by providing daily Mass readings, Catholic news and prayers, convenient prayer and Confession reminders, our bulletins and more. We hope for our new app to be a tool fostering stronger parish life at St. Anthony of Padua and better engaging the New Evangelization.

NEWS RELEASE DIOCESE OF ERIE

The Most Rev. Lawrence T. Persico, bishop of Erie, has encouraged us to post this information in our bulletin
David L. Poulson laicized

On March 5, 2019, David Lee Poulson, formerly a priest of the Diocese of Erie, was notified by the Vatican's Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, and with the approval of the Holy Father, that he was granted a dispensation from all the obligations attached to holy orders (priesthood). Because Mr. Poulson has now been removed from the clerical state, he is forbidden to function as a priest in the Catholic Church and should no longer present himself as a priest and not be admitted as a priest in the celebration of the sacraments.

WORSHIP

Monday, March 25
8:00 am + John Auer
Tuesday, March 26
8:00 am + Dec. Members of Lipkovich Family (Kathleen Lipkovich)
Wednesday, March 27
8:00 am + NO MASS
Thursday, March 28
8:00 am + Living & Dec. Members of PNA Lodge 1540
Friday, March 29
8:00 am + Leona Auer
Saturday, March 30
4:30 pm + Bary Zachery Gay
(Joan Rembielak /Bob & Phyllis Wronko)
Sunday, March 31
8:00 am + AT ST. BERNADETTE
Living & Deceased Parishioners
9:30 am + AT ST. ANTHONY
Lioda Peters
12:30 pm + LATIN MASS
Sample Family (Sigrid & Deborah Piroch)

PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR

Monday - Wednesday - Friday
7:00 am - Communion Service
Tuesday, March 26
After Mass - St. Anthony's Novena
6:00 pm - Benediction and Stations of the Cross
Wednesday - March 27
12:00 Noon - Lenten Service Luncheon at C. S. Presbyterin Church
Saturday, March 30
3:45 - 4:15 pm - Confessions
Sunday, March 31
Before Mass - Confessions AT ST. BERNADETTE'S
After Mass - Confessions AT ST. ANTHONY'S
After Mass - Religious Ed. Class

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

ST. ANTHONY'S
SATURDAY, MARCH 30 - 4:30 PM

Eucharistic Ministers: Judy Hermann/Tom Hobson/
Kathleen Lipkovich
Lector: Shawn Pflieger

Altar Servers: Peyton Crays/Sydney Zilhaver
SUNDAY, MARCH 31 - 9:30 AM

Eucharistic Ministers: Rob Bullman/Larry Douglas/
Theresa Douglas/Don Marteeny
Lector: Julie Hobson
Altar Servers: Ali Gorton/Andrea Walker

ST. BERNADETTE'S
SUNDAY, MARCH 31 - 8:00 AM

Eucharistic Ministers: C. Sada/G. Beisler
Lector: D. Capell
Ushers: S. Sada, Sr.
Altar Servers: Greco/Levis

STEWARDSHIP

3/17/19		
Offertory	\$467.00	CSA 2019
Votives	6.00	Pledged: \$5,350
Easter Flowers	10.00	Paid: \$3,420
Donation	<u>50.00</u>	
TOTAL	\$533.00	

RUMMAGE SALE

St. Anthony's Annual Rummage Sale takes place on Friday, March 29 and Saturday, March 30 starting at 9:00 am. Drop-off times are Monday, 3/25 from 9 am - 1 pm, Tuesday, 3/26 from 9 am to 4 pm and Wednesday, 3/27 from 9 am to 3 pm. For more information or to set-up a drop-off time call Sue at 814 450-2346.

LENTEN LUNCH SCHEDULE

Wed. March 27, 12:00 Noon - C.S. Presbyterian Church
Wed. April 3, 12:00 noon - C.S. United Methodist Church
Wed. April 10, 12:00 noon -
Christian Missionary Alliance Church
Wed. April 17, 12:00 noon - St. Paul's Lutheran Church

EASTER ROLLS

Orders are being take for Nut, Apricot, Poppyseed and Raspberry rolls. Sign-up sheets are located at both entrances to the church. Rolls can be picked up the weekend of April 13 - 14.

LENTEN DINNERS

St. Brigid, Meadville—3/29, 4/5, 12 - 4:30 - 6:30 pm
Our Lady of the Lake, Edinboro—3/29, 4/5, 12 -
5:00 - 7:00 pm
All Saints, Waterford—3/29, 4/5, 12—4:30 - 7:00 pm

COMMUNITY LUNCHEON

There will be a community lunch on Saturday, March 30 from 11:30 - 12:30 pm at the C.S. 1st United Methodist Church. Carry-outs are available. For more information please call 309-4049.

REMINDER: Has your family picked up the CRS Rice Bowl located at the entrances to the Church?

BINGO - The next scheduled BINGO at St. Anthony's will be Monday, April 1. 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. Dinner will be available at a cost of \$5.00.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST. BERNADETTE'S

Mon. Mar. 25 - 3:15 pm - Religious Education Classes
Tues. Mar. 26 - 6:00 pm - Stations of the Cross
Wed. Mar. 27 - 12:00 Noon - Lenten Lunch at Twelve Apostles

Thank you to all who have pledged for 2019 CSA. If you have not yet made your 2019 CSA Pledge, please take the time to complete your envelope and return in the collection basket so we are sure to meet our goal.

STEWARDSHIP

Offertory	\$930.00
Maintenance	396.00
Candles	15.00
Easter Flowers	<u>5.00</u>
TOTAL	\$1,346.00
Catholic Services Appeal 2019	
Pledged: \$15,971 Paid: \$8,626	

CHURCH NAME: ST. ANTONY OF PADUA

CHURCH NO.:

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:
