

## The Work of the People

### *The Second Sunday of Lent*

On this Second Sunday of Lent, we move further into the Lenten desert and continue our journey toward a more faithful discipleship. As people of faith who believe in Jesus' resurrection, we have confidence that Easter comes every year. We confess Jesus is the Resurrection and the Life. Still, each year Lent leads us to Holy Week. We entered Jerusalem again with Jesus on Palm Sunday. We hear his passion. We experience his obedience to Death on the Cross. Like his disciples, we often do not understand his Cross or the crosses in our own lives, yet we take this time in the liturgical year to reflect and to discern the ways God calls us to continue to testify to Jesus. How is God leading us back through the crucified and risen one this Lent and Holy Week? How will we as followers of Jesus point the way back to God for others?

The First Readings for the remaining Sundays of Lent are accounts of the blessings that God bestows on the chosen people. Today God directs Abram to leave his homeland and journey to a new land. God promises that great blessings will accompany Abram and his family. These blessings are many. Abram's offspring will be a great nation; and he will be a source of blessing for others for "all the communities of the earth shall find blessing in you." Abram's response was an act of unconditional faith.

The Second Readings for the Sundays of Lent include various instructions and exhortations for the early Christians. The central thread of these passages is the grace that has come from God through Jesus Christ. Paul reminds the "beloved" that their salvation has been won by Christ Jesus and not by any works that they have done. While it is good for us to engage in good works during Lent, indeed at any time, these works, however laudable, are not guarantors of our salvation. They are expressions of our gratitude for what God has done for us.

The account of the Transfiguration has all the marks of a biblical theophany, a self-revelation of God. The voice from the clouds, the fear of the bystanders and the mountain site are indications of a divine-human encounter. The voice from the cloud, understood to be God's, repeats the proclamation from Jesus' baptism. It is in sharp contrast to the mocking of the tempter in last Sunday's Gospel proclamation. But today Jesus' mission and identity are affirmed; he will continue to Jerusalem and to his Death and Resurrection. We will walk with him in these Lenten days.

The reflection for this Sunday is from *Lent: Reflection and Stories* by Megan McKenna who is an author, theologian, storyteller, and lecturer.

"This is my beloved son on whom my favor rests. Listen to him."

It's that simple: Listen to him and no one else in history. The disciples fall forward on their faces, flat on the ground, overcome with fear and awe, out of time, in the presence of the Holy. Then Jesus comes forward again into their lives and ordinary time and lays a hand on them saying: "Get up, do not be afraid." These few words are the essence of resurrection life: Arise and live without fear of death, the end of time, hate, injustice, suffering. We have been given the life of the Son of Man to sustain us in this history that serves God's time and promises.

When they look up again, they see only Jesus. That's the core, the heart of all history and of all life, only Jesus and what he brings into this world. On the way down the mountain Jesus commands them, in the same vein as Abram was commanded to leave his past behind, "Do not tell anyone of the vision until the Son of Man rises from the dead," that is, until the seemingly impossible becomes reality.

This account is an intimation of Easter five weeks from now. We are weak-hearted and basically timid and fearful folk and oftentimes, even by the second week of Lent, we're ready to give up. This Sunday is for courage, blessing, encouragement, and a moment of prayer, an experience of the glory of the Lord, of revelation for all us faint-hearted folk. It is for us when we act like Peter,

wanting it easy, wanting to stay with glory, wanting to stay with our limited and oftentimes off-base assumptions about what is going on. It is a time for God to interrupt and once again tell us: "This is my beloved on whom my favor rests—the favor of grace, spirit, justice, care for the poor, obedience. Listen to him and not to anyone else."

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 2

Monday: Dn. 9:4b-10/Lk. 6:36-38  
 Tuesday: Is. 1:10, 16-20/Mt. 23:1-12  
 Wednesday: Jer. 18:18-20/Mt. 20:17-28  
 Thursday: Jer. 17:5-10/Lk. 16:19-31  
 Friday: Gn. 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Mt. 21:33-43, 45-46  
 Saturday: Mi. 7:14-15, 18-20/Lk. 15:1-3, 11-32  
 Sunday: Ex. 17:3-7/Rom. 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn. 4:5-42, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

*"Lord, how can I love your people today through service?"*

### CATHOLIC SISTERS WEEK March 8 - 14, 2020

The Church of the United States will celebrate Catholic Sisters Week this coming week. This annual event was inaugurated to honor our consecrated women religious, with the intention of shining a light on the lives of these inspiring women and to thank them for the gift of their vocation while inspiring other young women to discern God's calling in their own lives. Sr. M. Benita Repasky, S.S.J. entered religious life from St. Anthony of Padua and has Eternal Life.

### PENANCE SERVICES

Sun. March 22 3:00 pm - St. Anthony of Padua  
 Sun. March 22 3:00 pm - St. Brigid, Meadville  
 Wed. March 25 7:00 pm - Our Lady of the Lake, Edinboro  
 Thurs. March 26 7:00 pm - St. Lawrence, Albion  
 Mon. March 30 7:00 pm - All Saints, Waterford

### BENEDICTION AND STATIONS OF THE CROSS Tuesdays through Lent at 6:00 pm

March 10	St. Anthony
March 17	St. Bernadette
March 24	St. Anthony
March 31	St. Bernadette
April 7	St. Anthony

### C.S. MINISTERIUM LENTEN PRAYER AND SOUP LUNCHEONS

March 11	First Baptist Church
March 18	Presbyterian Church
March 25	Methodist Church
April 1	Christian Missionary Alliance Church

All luncheons start at 12:00 Noon

## WORSHIP

Monday, March 9  
8:00 am + John E. Auer  
Tuesday, March 10  
8:00 am + Alice Undereiner (Nora Watson/Tammy McIntyre)  
Wednesday, March 11  
8:00 am + NO MASS  
Thursday, March 12  
8:00 am + Nell Rembielak (Joan Rembielak/Phyllis & Bob Wronko)  
Friday, March 13  
8:00 am + Living & Dec. Members of PNA Lodge 1540  
Saturday, March 14  
4:30 pm + Liv & Dec Member of Leandro/Silva Families  
(Silverio S. Leandro Family)  
Sunday, March 15  
8:00 am + AT ST. BERNADETTE  
Living & Deceased Parishioners  
9:30 am + AT ST. ANTHONY  
Gary Parkin (Parishioners of St. Anthony)

## PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR

Monday - Wednesday - Friday AT ST. BERNADETTE  
(Except Holy Days)  
7:00 am - Communion Service  
Tuesday, March 10  
After Mass - St. Anthony's Novena  
6:00 pm - Benediction & Stations of the Cross  
Wednesday, March 11  
12:00 Noon - Ministerium Lenten Service & Soup Luncheon  
at First Baptist Church  
Saturday, March 14  
3:45 - 4:15 pm - Confessions  
Sunday, March 15  
Before Mass - Confessions AT ST. BERNADETTE  
After Mass - Confessions AT ST. ANTHONY  
10:30 am - Religious Education Classes  
NOTE: Latin Mass will be the last Sunday of every month  
at 12:30 pm

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

**ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA**  
**SATURDAY, MARCH 14 - 4:30 PM**

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

**SUNDAY, MARCH 15 - 9:30 AM**

Eucharistic Ministers: Ginger Beck/Theresa Douglas/  
Larry Douglas/Barb Milligan  
Lector: Vicki Eckstein  
Altar Servers: Max Marteeny/Andrea Walker

**ST. BERNADETTE**  
**SUNDAY, MARCH 15 - 8:00 AM**

Eucharistic Ministers: D. Nowak/A. Braymer/G. Beisler  
Lector: M. Braymer  
Ushers: S. Styborski  
Altar Servers: A/M/R Braymer

**STEWARDSHIP**

<b>3/1/20</b>		
Offertory	\$484.00	CSA: Pledged - \$4,075
Maintenance	55.00	Paid - \$2,725
Rel. Ed.	30.00	
Easter Flower	50.00	
Ash Wednesday	119.00	
Votives	34.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$772.00</b>	

**EASTER ROLLS**

Orders are being taken for Nut, Apricot, Poppysseed, and Raspberry Rolls. Sign up sheets are located at both entrances to the church. Rolls can be picked up the week-end of April 4 - 5. Price is \$10/roll.

**LENTEN FISH DINNERS**

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

**CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE**

The 1:38 Women's Conference will be held at Our Lady of Peace Parish in Erie on Saturday, March 28, 2020. Check-in begins at 8:00 am and the program runs from 9:00 am - 3:30 pm. The day concludes with a Mass celebrated by Bishop Lawrence Persico. Registration materials can be picked up in the gathering space.

**HABITAT FOR HUMANITY**

Habitat for Humanity invites people from all faith communities to help build a Habitat home this summer. To learn more about this opportunity, attend an informational meeting in the community room of the Habitat for Humanity offices at 4922 Pittsburgh Ave., Erie. There are two options for attendance: March 25 at 10 am or March 26 at 6:30 pm. For more information call Nancy Milkowski at 814 454-7025, ext. 104,

**BINGO** - The next scheduled BINGO at St. Anthony's will be Monday, March 16. 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 11	Saegertown United Methodist Church
March 18	Saint Bernadette
March 25	Twelve Apostles Church
April 1	Saegertown United Methodist Church

All luncheons start at 12:00 Noon

**UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST. BERNADETTE**

Sun. Mar. 15 - 10:30 am - Religious Ed. Class at St. Anthony  
Tues. Mar. 17 - 6:00 pm - Benediction and Stations of the Cross  
Wed. Mar. 18 - 7:30 am - Mass and breakfast

**STEWARDSHIP**

Offertory	\$1,020.00
Maintenance	389.00
Candles	44.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,453.00</b>

Catholic Services Appeal  
Pledged: \$17,495  
Paid: \$6,280

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

**CHURCH NO.:**

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

---