

PASTOR'S LETTER

Dear Parishioners,

The Work of the People

The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

This week we come to a part of the Liturgy that truly becomes the “work of the people” in what is done and in the way it is done. Last week we finished the part of the Mass we call the *Liturgy of the Word* and before we move into the *Liturgy of the Eucharist* there is an “in between time”. Remember way back at the beginning of this series I said that the Liturgy is our entire life in Christ in microcosm. This in-between time in the Liturgy reminds us of the fact that with regard to God’s Kingdom, we live in an in-between time. This time began with the first coming of Christ and will end with the second coming.

If you think about it, this is what the Season of Advent is about as well. In Advent we prepare for and celebrate the three comings of Christ: Christ coming into time as a human being; Christ coming at the end of time; Christ coming into our lives daily. The scripture and liturgy of the Season of Advent is intended to help us recognize and prepare for these “comings”.

What are we to do as we live in this “in between time”? How are we to live? How are we to respond to God and to one another? In a simple phrase, we are to be gift for others as Christ is gift for us. This is what this in-between time in the Liturgy is about as well, presenting and receiving gifts.

As we sit after the Creed, the collection is taken. This is not, as I have heard from some, “paying my dues.” This is not merely some material way to support the work of the church although it is that. In the early church as people gathered in the larger homes in the community to celebrate the Lord’s Supper, they brought gifts of the fruit of their hands. Mostly, they brought food that was used for an *agape* meal after the prayer and that was also distributed to meet the needs of the poor especially the widows and orphans. In his Letter to the Corinthians Paul chastises the wealthy of the community because they were excluding those who, because of their meager means, could not provide more for the meal.

In our day, we don’t bring food to the feast but we do bring what can buy food; we bring the fruit of our labor; we bring our offering, our money. As we place our offering in the collection basket, we are doing something much deeper and much more important as well. We are offering; we are giving of ourselves. We are becoming gift for others, as Christ is gift for us.

We then bring forward in procession our material offering as well as the bread and wine that become Christ’s body and blood. This bread and wine also represent the gift of ourselves. We offer these gifts to God by placing them on the altar. Now, we can’t all literally get up on the altar, but we do allow these gifts to represent our

lives that we now give back to God. If we are serious about this, it means that we give all that God has given to us (gifts, talents, energy, material goods) back to God to be used as God wills. This is obviously something very powerful. With what intention and attitude do we do this each week?

As these gifts of bread and wine and self are presented and received by God, we then pray the Prayer Over the Gifts. This is a prayer that asks God to accept these humble yet very impressive and meaningful gifts. And God does.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 27

Monday: Heb. 9:15, 24-28/Ps. 98:1,2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6/
Mk. 3:22-30

Tuesday: Gn. 3:9-24/Ps. 90:2, 3-4abc, 5-6, 12-13/Mk. 8:1-10

Wednesday: Heb. 10:11-18/mk. 4:1-20

Thursday: Heb. 10:19-25/Mk. 4:21-25

Friday: Heb. 10:32-39/Mk. 4:26-34

Saturday: Mal. 3:1-4/Heb. 2:14-18/Lk. 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

Sunday: Jer. 1:4-5, 17-19/1 Cor. 12:31; 13:13 Or 13:4-13/
Lk. 4:21-30

MARRIAGE MOMENTS

Is there any recurring bad memory or habit that you’d like to change in your marriage? Substitute a newer, positive one. Repeat - over and over again.

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

In today’s gospel Jesus was “praised by all” except at home in Nazareth where the “eyes of all were intently on him.” Acceptance can be hard to find at home due to unreal EXPECTATIONS. Jesus challenges us to “proclaim liberty” to anyone “oppressed” or “captive” by our EXPECTATIONS.

NOVA

NOVA is a one-day marriage preparation program for couples free to remarry in the Catholic Church. Topics include adjustments, blending families, legal issues and others. Contact the Family Life Office at 814 824-1261 or by email at: familylife@erieRCD.org to register. Offered only four times per year, the next NOVA is scheduled for Saturday March 2nd in Erie. Couples preparing for convalidation are encouraged to apply.

2232 MEN

The 2019 conference is scheduled for Saturday March 2 with registration at 8:00 am and the event from 9:00 am - 3:30 pm at Our Lady of Peace Parish, Erie. Adoration, reconciliation, Mass with Bishop Lawrence Persico, and inspiring National speakers including Tom Peterson, Sean Forrest and Sean O’Hare. Cost is \$40 for adult, \$25 for college student. Registration includes lunch and free parking. For more information go to www.2232Men.com.

WORSHIP

Monday, January 28 - St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest & Dr. of Church
8:00 am + Leona Auer
Tuesday, January 29
8:00 am Bonnie Weidner (Ginger & Dick Kester)
Wednesday, January 30
8:00 am + NO MASS
Thursday, January 31, St. John Basco, Priest
8:00 am + John E. Auer
Friday, February 1—FIRST FRIDAAAY
8:00 am + Yvonne Gibbons (Kathleen Lipkovich)
Saturday, February 2
4:30 pm + Living & Dec. Members of Leandro/Silva Families
(Silverio M. Leandro Family)
Sunday, February 3
8:00 am + AT ST. BERNADETTE
Living & Deceased Parishioners
9:30 AM + AT ST. ANTHONY
Michael Milligan (Barbara Milligan & Family)

PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR

Monday, Wednesday, Friday
7:00 am - Communion Service
Tuesday, January 29
After Mass - St. Anthony's Novena
Saturday, February 2
3:45 - 4:15 - Confessions
Sunday, February 3
Before Mass - Confessions AT ST. BERNADETTE'S
After Mass - Confessions AT ST. ANTHONY'S
After Mass - Religious Education Classes

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

ST. ANTHONY'S
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2 - 4:30 PM
Eucharistic Ministers: Judy Kingston/Kathleen Lipkovich/
Jim Samson
Lector: Shawn Pflieger
Altar Servers: Peyton Crays/Robert Moats
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3 - 9:30 AM
Eucharistic Ministers: Ginger Beck/Christine Krzysiak/
Harriet McLaren/Barb Milligan
Lector: Marie Marteeny
Altar Servers: Sophia Mott/Andrea Walker

ST. BERNADETTE'S
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3 - 8:00 AM

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

STEWARDSHIP

1/20/19
Offertory \$265.00
Votives 6.00
TOTAL \$271.00

CSA: Pledged - \$7,940
Paid - \$7,830

NOTE: 2018 CSA Pledges are due by the end of January, 2019

YEAR-END FINANCIAL STATEMENT

If you want a year-end statement of your annual contributions to St. Anthony Parish or St. Bernadette's, **PLEASE CLIP THIS FROM THE BULLETIN AND RETURN IN THE COLLECTION BASKET BY JANUARY 27, 2019.**

NAME: _____
(Please Print)

OPEN HOUSE

Seton Catholic School will have Open House on Wednesday, February 13 from 5:30 - 7:00 pm for Pre-school through Grade 8. Visit classroom, meet teachers and parents, and learn about scholarships. For more information go to www.seton-school.com

FRENCH DINNER

Saint Hippolyte Church will have their French Dinner on Saturday, February 9, 2019 in the Social Hall. Cost is \$18 per person, in advance. Dinner is served on the hour 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm - and 7:00 pm. Reservation deadline is January 31, 2019. Call Connie at 967-3813. Tickets are not sold at the door.

THEOLOGY ON TAP

St. George Church welcomes you to Theology on Tap (TOT). TOT is for 21 - mid-thirties Catholic young adults at the BREWERIE (Union Station) from 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm. The Speaker on Monday, January 28 will be Sister Rosemary O'Brien, SSJ. She will be speaking on Tools for Incorporating Prayer into Everyday Life.

*"Jesus, make me a generous sower
of your work.
Fill me with zeal and courage
to spread your seeds
all over the world!"*

BINGO - The next scheduled BINGO at St. Anthony's will be Monday, February 4. 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.

STEWARDSHIP

Offertory	\$1,270.00
Maintenance	218.00
Additional Offertory	21.00
Special Collections	10.00
Casino Tickets	875.00
CSA	<u>200.00</u>
TOTAL	\$2,594.00

Catholic Services Appeal—2018
Pledged: \$34,176 Paid: \$31,871

NOTE: 2018 CSA Pledges are due by the end of January, 2019

CHURCH NAME: ST. ANTONY OF PADUA

CHURCH NO.:

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:
