

The Work of the People

The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

During this Ordinary Time, our parish liturgies call us to serve as Jesus served and to do God's will as disciples of Jesus, the Son of God and Son of Man, the Christ. His glory and light we proclaimed during Christmas Time. Now this glory and light beckons us on toward the Cross and the Kingdom of Heaven through a life of discipleship beyond the weeks in the interim after Christmas Time and before Lent. How will we, through hospitality, the proclamation of the Word, the celebration of the Eucharistic feast, and our song prayer help extend the call that Jesus' issues to follow him to those inquiring about a life of faith?

In the first reading for this Sunday Isaiah recalls Israel's history when the northern tribes were conquered by the Assyrians and placed in exile. Their situation is described as "darkness" and their living condition as being "in the land of gloom." Their eventual freedom is attributed to the intervention of God who came to them as a light. The result of this freedom was "great rejoicing" and "abundant joy." The prophet compares their jubilation to the joy that happens when the spoils of the harvest are shared, and when those in slavery are given their freedom.

On more than one occasion Paul takes the Church in Corinth to task for the divisions that arise among them. Today's text is one example. Although Paul considers them brothers and sisters in Christ, he still takes responsibility for their spiritual welfare and for the harmony that should be among them. He dismisses their bickering over whom they should follow by reminding them that it is Christ Jesus who has saved them.

Today's Gospel reading is Matthew's account of the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. One of Matthew's themes is the connection between Jesus' mission and that foretold by the prophets. He does this by quoting the Isaian passage that was the first reading. Jesus is presented as the light for the nations. Now that John the Baptist has been arrested, Jesus takes up his ministry and calls the first four apostles. The immediate response of the four fishermen has become an example for every disciple who intends to follow Jesus.

The reflection for this Sunday is from *The Way of Repentance* by Irma Zaleski who was born in Poland in 1931. She has lived in Canada since 1952, where she has worked as a translator, university lecturer, and writer.

The call to repentance is fundamental to the whole Christian Tradition. It echoes throughout the Old Testament and lies at the very beginning of the New. . . . The early Fathers of the Church, the Councils, the saints, countless thousands of the faithful believed and tried to live out this call. How is it possible, then, that so many contemporary Christians—at least in the West—seem unable or unwilling to hear and answer it?

There are two main reasons for this, I think. First of all, perhaps, we no longer understand the real meaning of repentance. We do not often understand it in its true religious sense, as a way of love and freedom, of total trust in God's infinite mercy. Instead, we tend to view it in mainly psychological terms: as a negative emotion or state of mind, an expression of an exaggerated, even neurotic, sense of guilt.

Secondly, because we often do not understand the nature of salvation, we do not realize the immensity of what we

have lost as a result of sin. We cannot, therefore, mourn the absence of what we do not know we could have. In fact, we do not understand the true nature of sin. We tend to think of it as disobedience, the breaking of this or that commandment, individual wrong acts, rather than as a painful condition of the human spirit, a shadow background of all our lives. Thus we are inclined to view repentance as a way of paying a debt, a spiritual "transaction," and do not easily see it as a way of healing and life.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 26

Monday: 2 Sm. 5:1-7, 10/Mk. 3:22-30
 Tuesday: 2 Sm. 6:12b-15, 17-19/Mk. 3:31-35
 Wednesday: 2Sm.7:4-17/Mk. 4:1-20
 Thursday: 2 Sm. 7:18-19, 24-29/Mk. 4:21-25
 Friday: 2 Sm. 11:1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17/Mk. 4:26-34
 Saturday: 2 Sm. 12:1-7a, 10-17/Mk. 4:35-41
 Sunday: Mal. 3:1-4/Heb. 2:14-18/Lk. 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

When Jesus called his disciples, they came "immediately." Parents wish their children would respond as quickly, but they don't. Children grow slowly into responsibility. It is a process like walking, not done "immediately", but in small steps. Parenting demands patient encouragement.

MARRIAGE MOMENTS

"There are rivalries among you...Each of you is saying..." I am a Democrat, or I am a Republican. (adapted from 1 Cor. 1:11-12). Even if both of you have similar political leanings, you certainly know people who have different opinions about religion or politics. Find someone who disagrees with you this week (maybe your spouse) and listen carefully to understand more than to persuade.

YEAR-END FINANCIAL STATEMENT

To reduce the cost of mailing a report, if you want a year-end statement of your annual contributions to St. Anthony of Padua or St. Bernadette, PLEASE CLIP THIS FROM THE BULLETIN AND RETURN IT IN THE COLLECTION BASKET BY MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2020.

Name:

 (Please Print)

WORSHIP

Monday, January 27
 8:00 am + Bonnie Garlosky (Ginger & Dick Kester)
 Tuesday, January 28
 8:00 am + David Lipkovich (K. Lipkovich)
 Wednesday, January 29
 8:00 am + NO MASS
 Thursday, January 30
 8:00 am + Ancestors of Mukina/Carpio Families
 (Joan Rembielak & Phyllis & Bob Wronko)
 Friday, January 31
 8:00 am + Daniel Baker (M/M Nelson Allen, Jr.)
 Saturday, February 1
 4:30 pm + Jerry Peters (Maureen Peters Family)
 Sunday, February 2
 8:00 am + AT ST. BERNADETTE
 Richard Baker (St. Bernadette Altar/Rosary Society)
 9:30 am + AT ST. ANTHONY
 Living & Deceased Parishioners

22:32 MEN'S CONFERENCE

Mark your calendars for the 7th Annual Men's Conference on February 29, 2020 at Our Lady of Peace Parish in Erie, PA. Registration materials can be picked up in the gathering space.

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.

PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR

Monday - Wednesday - Friday AT ST. BERNADETTE
 (Except Holy Days)
 7:00 am - Communion Service
 Tuesday, January 28
 After Mass - St. Anthony's Novena
 Saturday, February 1
 3:45 - 4:15 pm - Confessions
 Sunday, February 2
 Before Mass - Confessions AT ST. BERNADETTE
 After Mass - Confessions AT ST. ANTHONY
 NOTE: Latin Mass will be the last Sunday of every month at 12:30 pm

*"Jesus, thank you
 for calling me to belong to your family.
 Help me to love
 and joyfully serve
 my brothers and sisters in Christ."*

TRANSITIONS

Transitions, a monthly support group for separated, divorced and widowed persons will meet today, January 26 from 2 - 4 pm at St. Mark Catholic Center on E. Grandview Blvd. Visit our website at <https://www.eriecd.org/familylifeoffice/transitions.html>. Come as you are; you are always welcome. This month's topic is "Called to a New Life: Finding your way in a new reality."

Please check the lost and found on the table in the gathering space for any items you may have left behind after weekend masses.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

**ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA
 SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1 - 4:30 PM**

Eucharistic Ministers: Judy Hermann/Tom Hobson/
 Kathleen Lipkovich

Lector: Shawn Pflieger

Altar Servers: Payton Leandro/Sydney Zilhaver

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2 - 9:30 AM

Eucharistic Ministers: Rob Bullman/Theresa Douglas/
 Christine Krzysiak/Don Marteeny

Lector: Julie Hobson

Altar Servers: Max Marteeny/Andrea Walker

**ST. BERNADETTE
 SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2 - 8:00 AM**

Eucharistic Ministers: C. Sada/G. Beisler/D. Nowak

Lector: D. Capell/Mrs. Greco (if needed)

Ushers: S. Sada, Jr.

Altar Servers: Greco/Levis

STEWARDSHIP

<u>1/19/20</u>	
Offertory	\$330.00
Votives	14.00
TOTAL	\$344.00

CSA: Pledged - \$9,275
 Paid - \$8,995

BINGO - The next scheduled BINGO at St. Anthony's will be Monday, February 3. Early Bird BINGO starts at 6:00 pm and the regular BINGO starts at 6:30 pm. Doors open at 5:00 pm.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST. BERNADETTE

Mon. Feb. 3 - 6:00 pm - Holy Name Society Mtg.
 Sun. Feb. 9 - Holy Name Sunday
 Sun. Feb. 16 - 10:30 am - Religious Ed. Class at St. Anthony

STEWARDSHIP

Offertory	\$1,515.00
Maintenance	298.00
Candles	27.00
Cash Giveaway Tickets	200.00
Solemnity of Mary	5.00
Initial Offering	5.00
TOTAL	\$2,050.00

Catholic Services Appeal
 Pledged: \$24,207 Paid: \$23,837

CHURCH NAME: ST. ANTONY OF PADUA

CHURCH NO.:

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:
