

PASTOR'S LETTER

Dear Parishioners,

The Work of the People

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

The Communion Rite brings us to the part of the Eucharistic Prayer and the Mass that symbolizes for us the unity that is intended to exist between God and us and among all of God's people. We receive the Body of Christ and are called to become the Body of Christ, to become one with Christ and one another. "As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons, and we were all given to drink of the one Spirit" (*1 Corinthians 12:12-13*). We take part in several actions with their accompanying invitations and responses that express this unity as it exists and, as we pray, what it will become.

The Communion Rite begins with the Lord's Prayer. We call it that because it was the prayer that Jesus taught his followers when they asked: "Lord, teach us to pray just as John taught his disciples" (*Luke 11:1b*). This prayer is a prayer of petition that follows the intercessions we have just prayed in the Eucharistic Prayer. It is considered to be a perfect prayer because the petitions within the prayer number seven. Remember that numbers in biblical literature are significant. The number seven is considered to be the number of spiritual perfection. There are seven days in a week and seven colors in the spectrum (in scripture a rainbow is the sign of God's covenant, God's faithfulness).

While all seven petitions in the Lord's Prayer are addressed to God (Our Father), three of the seven relate directly to God (may Your Name be holy; Your Kingdom come; Your will be done) and four have to do with our life with God and God's people on earth (give us this day our daily bread; forgive us our trespasses; lead us not into temptation; deliver us from evil). The prayer is also a prayer of unity because we pray it together as disciples of Jesus. At times some people even physically unite by joining hands as they pray.

It is important to note here, although this is not the first time we pray "as one" within the Mass, that this is a communal prayer that requires a communal praying. What I mean by that is we are called to pray as if with "one voice". No one is to stand above the rest of the Assembly either through volume or speed. We cannot pray the Lord's Prayer (or the Creed or any of the responses) in this context as we might pray it in saying a personal Rosary as an example. We are to pray it together and with meaning and respect. The prayer acquires more meaning if we think about the words we are saying as we say them.

Following the petitions, the presider continues the prayer and places emphasis on asking God to give us peace in our lives and in our world. He prays that God

will keep us free from sin and "all distress". This "distress" was formally translated as "anxiety". Anxiety has been defined as "useless worry" and in praying that God free us from this, we pray that we may always trust in the presence and action of God in our daily living "as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ." The Assembly then responds with a prayer that gives assent to the fact that all belongs to God.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 3

Monday: Sir. 17:20-24/Ps. 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7/Mk. 10:17-27
 Tuesday: Sir. 35:1-12/Ps. 50:5-6, 7-8, 14 & 23/Mk. 10:28-31
 Wednesday: Jl. 2:12-18/Ps. 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 & 17/
 2 Cor. 5:20; 6:2/Mt. 6:1-6, 16-18
 Thursday: Dt. 30:15-20/Ps. 1:1-2, 3, 4 & 6/Lk. 9:22-25
 Friday: Is. 58:1-9a/Ps. 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19/Mt. 9:14-15
 Saturday: Is. 58:9b-14/Ps. 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk. 5:27-32
 Sunday: Dt. 26:4-10/Ps. 91:1-2, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15/
 Rom. 10:8-13/Lk. 4:1-13

COMMITMENT SUNDAY

Today is Commitment Sunday for the 2019 CSA. The theme of this year's CSA is "Forward Together: With Truth, With Hope, With Christ." Together, we make it possible for parishes, Catholic schools, Catholic Charities, clergy and the Catholic faithful to live and share Christ's teaching.

You may wonder why you should support the CSA. The truth is, we all must. Our diocese still has work to do on behalf of the Lord. The church needs your help to remain focused on Christ and the needs of the people of God. Our bishop assures us that CSA donations are designated to fund the projects, ministries and departments of the Diocese of Erie. No funds donated to the CSA have been or will be used to defray expenses related to the sexual abuse crisis.

Your gift is so important. Thank you for giving.

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

Today Jesus tells us: "Why do you see the speck in someone else's eye but miss the log in your own eye?" It's always easier to try to change someone else than face the things in ourselves which need change. What a waste of time for we can't change anyone but ourselves.

1:38 WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

This year the 1:38 Women's Conference will be held at Our Lady of Peace Parish, 2401 W. 38th St., Erie, PA on Saturday, March 30, 2019. Check-in begins at 8 am and the program runs from 9 am - 3:30 pm. The day concludes with Mass celebrated by Bishop Persico. Registration deadline is March 22, 2019. Registration materials can be picked up in the gathering space.

LENTEN DINNERS

St. Brigid, Meadville—3/8, 15, 22, 29/ 4/5, 12 - 4:30 - 6:30 pm
 Our Lady of the Lake, Edinboro—3/8, 15/ 22, 29/ 4/5, 12 -
 5:00 - 7:00 pm
 All Saints, Waterford—3/8, 15, 22, 29/ 4/5, 12—4:30 - 7:00 pm

WORSHIP

Monday, March 4
8:00am + Leona Auer
Tuesday, March 5
8:00 am + Eugene Wicklin (M/M Nelson Allen, Jr.)
Wednesday, March 6 - ASH WEDNESDAY
7:00 am + AT ST. ANTHONY'S
Living & Deceased Parishioners
5:00 pm + AT ST. BERNADETTE'S
Living & Deceased Parishioners
Thursday, March 7
8:00 am + Living & Deceased of PNA Lodge 1540
Friday, March 8
8:00 am + John Auer
Saturday, March 9
4:30 pm + Albert Mukina (Joan Rembielak & Phyllis/Bob Wronko)
Sunday, March 10
8:00 am + AT ST. BERNADETTES
Gayle Oviatt (John & Kay Weagraff)
9:30 am + Living & Deceased Parishioners

PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR

Monday - Wednesday - Friday
7:00 am - Communion Service
Tuesday, March 5
After Mass - St. Anthony's Novena
Wednesday, March 6
11:00 am - Ministerium Mtg. at First Church of God
12:00 Noon - Ministerium Lenten Lunch at First Church of God
Saturday, March 9
3:45 - 4:15 pm - Confessions
Sunday, March 10
Before Mass - Confessions AT ST. BERNADETTE'S
After Mass - Confessions AT ST. ANTHONY'S

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS
ST. ANTHONY'S
SATURDAY, MARCH 9- 4:30 PM
Eucharistic Ministers: Rob Bullman/Judy Kingston/Jim Samson
Lector: Kathleen Lipkovich
Altar Servers: Robert Moats/William Moats
SUNDAY, MARCH 10 - 9:30 AM
Eucharistic Ministers: Larry Douglas/Christine Krzysiak/
Harriet McLaren/Carol Rasavage
Lector: Vicki Eckstein
Altar Servers: Sophia Mott/Andrea Walker
ST. BERNADETTE'S
SUNDAY, MARCH 10 - 8:00 AM
Eucharistic Ministers: S. Sada/J. Weagraff/K. Weagraff
Lector: J. Drda
Ushers: S. Sada, Sr.
Altar Servers: I. Levis

STEWARDSHIP

2/17/19		2/24/19	
Offertory	\$445.00	Offertory	\$260.00
Votives	23.00	Votives	6.00
TOTAL	\$468.00	TOTAL	\$266.00

REMINDER: Daylight Savings Time begins on March 10. Please be sure to turn your clocks ahead one hour.

MANY THANKS
Many thanks to Bob Bowler who led us in giving praise to God through music in the liturgy for several years. We wish Bob many blessings.

LENTEN LUNCH SCHEDULE
Wed. March 6, 12:00 noon - First Church of God
Wed. March 13, 12:00 noon - St. Anthony of Padua
Wed. March 20, 12:00 noon - First Baptist 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

CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC CONFERENCE
The "Greater Things" annual Charismatic Conference will be held March 9 from 9 am - 3:30 pm at St. Joseph Parish/Bread of Life, in Erie. The Word of Life Catholic Charismatic Renewal Center of the Diocese of Erie is sponsoring this event, which features Jaci Phillips, Ph.D, as the guest speaker and violinist Louis Nicolai. The cost of \$25/person includes lunch. Call 814 833-9717 for more information.

FREE CONCERT
Symphonie Fantastique, Berlioz's epic tale of unrequited love, witches, demons and the guillotine, will be held at Shafer Auditorium, Henderson Campus Center of Allegheny College on March 10 at 3:15 pm. Free and open to the public.

CELEBRATE ST. PATRICK'S DAY
Our Lady of the Lake Parish in Edinboro will hold its annual St. Patrick's Day Family Party on March 16 from 6 - 10 pm at the parish social hall, 128 Sunset Dr., Edinboro. Doors open at 5:30 pm. Advance sale tickets are \$15/person and \$5 for children 5 - 16. Free for those under age 5. If you have questions please call the parish at 814 734-3113.

BINGO - The next scheduled BINGO at St. Anthony's will be Monday, March 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. A Pasta & Meatball Dinner will be available at a cost of \$5.00.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST. BERNADETTE'S
Mon. March 4 - Holy Name Society Mtg. 6:00 pm
Sun. March 10 - Holy Name Sunday
Wed. March 13 - Lenten Lunch at Saegertown United Methodist Ch.

STEWARDSHIP

Offertory	\$1,663.00
Maintenance	295.00
Rent	300.00
Reimbursement	2,758.66
Latin Mass	222.00
Donation	100.00
TOTAL	\$5,338.66

CHURCH NAME: ST. ANTONY OF PADUA

CHURCH NO.:

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:
