

## PASTOR'S LETTER

Dear Parishioners,

**The Work of the People**  
*The Fifth Sunday of Lent*

This week, as we conclude the Communion Rite, there are a few more matters to consider. I had said that the procession to the table of the Lord was the most important procession in our entire celebration. It is to be done reverently and with great joy and anticipation. We express that joy and anticipation by accompanying the procession with song.

What we have come to call the Communion Hymn is to be a song that is familiar so that all may sing it without a songbook. Liturgical musicians have suggested that this is an appropriate place to use a song for which the people know and sing the refrain and the song leader or choir sings the verses. In this way the song becomes the work of all the people but every one of the people do not have to know the entire song. Of course, the Communion Hymn is to flow from the Scripture of the day – as are all of the songs and hymns – and is to help us sing of and celebrate Christ's presence(s) in the Eucharist. It is to be Eucharistic in nature. We, for instance, would not sing a song such as *Gather Us In* or *God's Blessing Sends Us Forth* at this point in the celebration.

Within the Diocese of Erie we are all called, as a sign of unity with Christ and with one another, to stand during the entire Communion Rite. In this way we can all recognize that this is not merely a "Jesus and me" moment but one in which all take part together in the entire Rite. I remember that when I made my First Communion, we were told that when we return to our places after we had received communion, we were to kneel down and place our face in our hands so that we could reflect on who and what we had just received. That reflection is still important but the middle of the Rite is not the place for it. Together we celebrate the presence of Christ among us and within us in song and movement.

Generally, we are to remain standing until the last person has received communion. In some places, so that there is a minimum of confusion, we stand until the Presider sits. This now is the time for silent reflection which is as important to the whole of the Rite as is the song and movement. The presider and the assembly together experience silence in order that we can share a moment of thanksgiving for this particular gift from God that is not only given to us

but also a gift we are to become. It is true that we are near the end of the celebration chronologically but it is also true that this is not a time to rush to the end or, worse yet, to walk out of the celebration. We haven't even been sent forth into our daily lives yet.

The Communion Rite ends – logically enough – with the Concluding Prayer or the Prayer after Communion. The Presider invites all to pray and all stand and pray silently together as the Presider thanks God in the name of all for the great gift we have been given and which we have all celebrated.

Next week we begin looking at the concluding rites.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 7**

Monday: Dn. 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/  
Ps. 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Jn. 8:12-20  
Tuesday: Nm. 21:4-9/Ps. 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21/Jn. 8:21-30  
Wednesday: Dn. 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn. 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/  
Jn. 8:31-42  
Thursday: Gn. 17:3-9/Ps. 105: 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jn. 8:51-59  
Friday: Jer. 20:10-13/Ps. 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7/Jn. 10: 31-42  
Saturday: Ez. 37:21-28/Jer. 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13/Jn. 11:45-56  
Sunday: Is. 50:4-7/Ps. 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24/  
Phil. 2:6-11/Lk. 22:14; 23:56

**LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES**

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

**A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE**

Stoning is not just an ancient act of violence. Each day in our home we throw stones of ridicule, criticism, name-calling and put-downs. All of it is deadly. Hear Jesus in today's gospel: "Whoever is without sin can throw the first stone." Rid your home of violence. Stop verbal stoning!

**CHILD PROTECTION AND  
CREATING SAFE ENVIRONMENTS**

It is every adult's moral responsibility to protect possible victims by reporting the suspected abuse or neglect of a minor to the responsible authorities. Sexual abuse of minors is a pervasive societal problem, and only concerted and sustained efforts by all adults in every segment of society can help to protect children and youth. To report suspected abuse of a minor call Childline at 1 800 932-0323 (anytime 24/7). To see what the Diocese of Erie is doing to help maintain safe environments visit <https://www.eriecd.org/childprotection>

**TAIZE PRAYER AROUND THE CROSS**

Experience the spiritual power of Taize Prayer at St. Mary of Grace Church in Meadville on Friday, April 26 at 7:00 pm. For more information, contact Diane Horneman 814 336-6541 or Carolyn Melby 814 382-3421

# WORSHIP

Monday, April 8  
 8:00 am + Nathan McElheny (M/M Nelson Allen, Jr.)  
 Tuesday, April 9  
 8:00 am + Leona Auer  
 Wednesday, April 10  
 8:00 am + NO MASS  
 Thursday, April 11  
 8:00 am + Janell Weidner (Dick & Ginger Kester)  
 Friday, April 12  
 8:00 am + For a Special Intention  
 Saturday, April 13  
 4:30 pm + Patrick Connelly (Josie Osiecki)  
 Sunday, April 14  
 8:00 am + Good Health & Healing for Hannah Palmer  
 Grandparents, Bruce & Judy Palmer  
 9:30 am + Living & Deceased Parishioners

# PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR

Monday - Wednesday - Friday AT ST. BERNADETTE  
 7:00 am - Communion Service  
 Tuesday, April 9  
 After Mass - St. Anthony's Novena  
 6:00 pm - Benediction and Stations of the Cross  
 Wednesday, April 10  
 12:00 Noon - Lenten Lunch at St. Bernadette  
 12:00 Noon - Lenten Lunch at CMA Church, Cambridge Springs  
 Saturday, April 13  
 3:45 - 4:15 - Confessions  
 Sunday, April 14  
 Before Mass - Confessions AT ST. BERNADETTE  
 After Mass - Confessions AT ST. ANTHONY

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

**ST. ANTHONY**  
**SATURDAY, APRIL 13 - 4:30 PM**

Eucharistic Ministers: Judy Hermann/Tom Hobson/Judy Kingston  
 Lector: Kathleen Lipkovich/Shawn Pflieger  
 Altar Servers: Peyton Crays/William Moats

**SUNDAY, APRIL 14 - 9:30 AM**

Eucharistic Ministers: Ginger Beck/Christine Krzysiak/  
 Harriet McLaren/Don Marteeny  
 Lector: Marie Marteeny/Veronica Walker  
 Altar Servers: Andrea Walker/Veronica Walker

**ST. BERNADETTE**  
**SUNDAY, APRIL 14 - 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>3/31/19</b>	
Offertory	\$535.00
Votives	51.00
Easter Flowers	90.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$676.00</b>

CSA: Pledged—\$6,375  
 Paid—\$3,995

**THANK YOU** to everyone for all that you did to make this years Rummage Sale a success. Susan Parkin

**EASTER ROLLS**

Orders are being take for Nut, Apricot, Poppysed 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 LUNCH SCHEDULE**

Wed. April 10, 12:00 noon -  
 Christian Missionary Alliance Church  
 Wed. April 17, 12:00 noon - St. Paul's Lutheran Church

**LENTEN DINNERS**

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

**CONGRATULATIONS**

*Congratulations to Max Marteeny for earning the Light of Christ Catholic scouting award.*

*Congratulations also to: Max Marteeny and Jesse Mott of St Anthony and to Luke Kennerknecht, of St. Bernadette who celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time.*

**ST. ANTHONY APP**

At St. Anthony of Padua we are pursuing new opportunities to foster a stronger parish life and better engage the New Evangelization. As a part of these efforts we are happy to announce that St. Anthony of Padua now has it's own app for Apple and Android phones and tablets. If you have not already downloaded it, please do so soon.

**LENTEN FAMILY ACTIVITY**

Show your kids how much it costs to prepare an average family dinner. Challenge everyone to budget, plan, and shop for a meal at half the cost. Donate the savings to a food bank.

**BINGO** - The next scheduled BINGO at St. Anthony's will be Monday, April 29. 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. Stuffed Shells Dinner will be available at a cost of \$5.00.

**UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST. BERNADETTE'S**

Tues., Apr. 9 - 6:00 pm - Stations of the Cross  
 Wed. Apr. 10 - 12:00 Noon - Lenten Lunch at St. Bernadette  
 Sun. Apr. 14 - Holy Name Sunday  
 Mon. Apr. 15 - 3:15 pm - Religious Education Class

**STEWARDSHIP**

Offertory	\$775.00
Maintenance	254.00
Altar Flowers	377.00
Candles	13.00
Reimbursement	2,847.46
Latin Mass	299.00
Rummage Sale	2,012.61
	<b>\$6,578.07</b>

Catholic Services Appeal  
 Pledged: \$18,221 Paid: \$8,876

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

**CHURCH NO.:**

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

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