

PASTOR'S LETTER

Dear Parishioners,

The Work of the People

The Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

I have been writing about the importance of music in Catholic worship for the past few weeks and this week I will conclude with a few random thoughts and some wisdom from two church documents: *Music In Catholic Worship* and *Liturgical Music Today*. Both documents are particular to the United States and have come from the Bishops' Committee On Divine Worship. Both documents are a bit more poetic than some of the Roman documents on liturgy and music in the liturgy as well.

In the Introduction to *Music In Catholic Worship* we read, "People in love make signs of love, not only to express their love but also to deepen it. Love never expressed dies. Christians' love for Christ and for one another and Christians' faith in Christ and in one another must be expressed in the signs and symbols of celebration or they will die. Celebrations need not fail, even on a particular Sunday when our feelings do not match the invitation of Christ and his Church to worship. Faith does not always permeate our feelings. But the signs and symbols of worship can give bodily expression to faith as we celebrate. Our own faith is stimulated. We become one with others whose faith is similarly expressed. We rise above our own feelings to respond to God in prayer."

This is one way in which we can and do give witness to the presence and action of God in our lives. It is our full, conscious, and active participation in the liturgy that can raise others out of their world-weariness on a particular Sunday and help them to "get into the spirit of things." Conversely, the prayer and the song of others can bring us to a new level of celebration on a day and at a time when we may *feel* as though coming to God and together with the worshipping community is the last thing we would want to do. As the above words tell us, working at developing a relationship is not a matter of what we want to do but what needs to be done. Musical expression can help us to do that.

"Among the many signs and symbols used by the Church to celebrate its faith, music is of preeminent importance. As sacred song united to words it forms a necessary or integral part of the solemn liturgy. Yet the function of music is ministerial; it must serve and never dominate. Music should assist the assembled believers to express and share the gift of faith that is within them and to nourish and strengthen their interior commitment of faith. It should heighten the texts so that they speak more fully and more effectively. The quality of joy and enthusiasm which music adds to community worship cannot be gained in any other way." (*Music In Catholic Worship*, #23)

Opening our mouths in prayer and song can go a long way in helping us to feel more a part of the liturgy, more a part of the gathered community, and more a part of the Body of Christ. Simply sitting as an observer of the sacred action and choosing not to be a participant militates against the whole purpose for our being together in the first place. Opening one's mouth and using one's voice to respond to the Word and the presence of the Divine can and does lift one's heart, mind, and spirit to a new level. One is able to move outside of and beyond oneself in an act of self-giving and not the taking that the world encourages us to do.

In the Conclusion of *Liturgical Music Today* we read, "The past decade (the eighties) has shown important signs of growth. The eagerness of many congregations to make a beginning in singing has been matched by a second harvest of musical compositions. As time goes by, new generations will come to accept, as a matter of course, what was brand new and very strange only a few years ago, namely that all should join in the songs and prayers of the liturgy." In the twenty-first century we are that new generation. Let us raise our voices together in prayer and song.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 14

Monday: Ex. 1:8-14, 22/Ps. 124:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8/Mt. 10:34; 11:1
 Tuesday: Ex. 2:1-15a/Ps. 69:3, 14, 30-31, 33-34/ Mt. 11:20-24
 Wednesday: Ex. 3:1-6, 9-12/Ps. 103:1b-2, 3-4, 6-7/Mt. 11:25-27
 Thursday: Ex. 3:13-20/Ps. 105:1 & 5, 8-9, 24-25, 26-27/Mt. 11:28-30
 Friday: Ex. 11:10; 12:14/Ps. 116:12-13, 15 & 16bc, 17-18/Mt. 12:1-8
 Saturday: Ex. 12:37-42/Ps. 136:1 & 23-24, 10-12, 13-15/Mt. 12:14-21
 Sunday: Gn. 18:1-10a/Ps. 15:2-3, 3-4, 5/Col. 1:24-28/Lk. 10:38-42

NATIONAL NEEDS COLLECTION

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Without outside assistance, over 80 Catholic dioceses in the United States and its territories cannot offer their people basic pastoral care, provide priestly formation, or organize lay ministry training. These areas of our nation which struggle with severe poverty, lack of resources and often rugged terrain and sparse populations are known as our "home mission dioceses." The Catholics who live in these places rely on your generous support in the annual National Needs Collection, to be taken up in our parishes this year on July 20 and 21.

This collection is a combination of two separate appeals:

- ***The Catholic Home Mission Appeal helps to provide essential pastoral outreach in home mission dioceses through grants. These grants support priestly and religious vocations, faith formation, and education for local leaders to equip them to meet the unique needs of their faith communities.***
- ***The Black and Indian Mission Collection, established in 1884, helps to evangelize and support our African American and Indigenous communities with mission schools, religious education programs, the purchase of catechetical materials, and ministry training.***

Thousands of the faithful living in home mission dioceses or in other mission circumstances struggle to receive basic pastoral care and catechesis. Scarce resources greatly limit the services which can be offered to them. As members of the Church in the United States, we are called to solidarity with our sisters and brothers who need our help to practice their faith right here at home. Please give generously to the National Needs Collection on the weekend of July 20 and 21. May you and your families enjoy a restful and refreshing summer.

***Sincerely yours in Christ,
 The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico, JCL
 Bishop of Erie***

***"Each one should use
 whatever gift he has received
 to serve others, ..."***
 1 Peter 4:10

WORSHIP

Monday, July 15
 8:00 am + Veronica Krug (M/M Gerald Adamczyk)
 Tuesday, July 16
 8:00 am + NO MASS
 Wednesday, July 17
 8:00 am + NO MASS
 Thursday, July 18
 8:00 am + NO MASS
 Friday, July 19
 8:00 am + NO MASS
 Saturday, July 20
 4:30 pm + Marie Faub (Faub & Wiater Families)
 Sunday, July 21
 8:00 am + AT ST. BERNADETTE
 Chester Woika (John & Kay Weagraff)
 9:30 am + AT ST. ANTHONY
 Living & Deceased Parishioners

PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR

Monday - Wednesday - Friday at ST. BERNADETTE
 (except Holy Days)
 7:00 am - Communion Service
 Saturday, July 20
 3:45 - 4:15 pm - Confessions
 Sunday, July 21
 Before Mass - Confessions AT ST. BERNADETTE
 After Mass - Confessions AT ST. ANTHONY

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA
SATURDAY, JULY 20 - 4:30 PM
 Eucharistic Ministers: Judy Hermann/Tom Hobson/Jim Samson
 Lector: Kathleen Lipkovich
 Altar Servers: Payton Leandro/Sydney Zilhaver

SUNDAY, JULY 21 - 9:30 AM
 Eucharistic Ministers: Ginger Beck/Theresa Douglas/
 Don Marteeny/Harriet McLaren
 Lector: Julie Hobson
 Altar Servers: Paige Tucker/Andrea Walker

ST. BERNADETTE
SUNDAY, JULY 21 - 8:00 AM
 Eucharistic Ministers: D. Nowak/A. Braymer/G. Beisler
 Lector: M. Braymer
 Ushers: S. Styborski
 Altar Servers: A/M/R Braymer

STEWARDSHIP

7/7/19		
Offertory	\$717.00	CSA: Pledged - \$7,685
Votives	14.00	Paid: - \$6,230
Rent	325.00	
Peter's Pence	20.00	
National Needs	20.00	
CCD	40.00	
TOTAL	\$1,136.00	

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

Children learn by watching us. Do they see you helping others like the Good Samaritan, or do they see you avoiding others like the Levite in today's gospel. You should worry more about what your children see in your life than what they see on TV. Think about it.

Holy Cross Fraternity Order of Franciscan Seculars held an award ceremony on June 26 for the 2019 Student Faith Award. Congratulations! to Logan Swift, Abigail Mosbacher and Hanna Mosbacher, each student received a \$500 gift to use toward their upcoming college year. Fr. Jeff also received a \$400 gift for the Seton School Guardian Angel Program. Thank you, Eileen Mantz, OS Secretary, Holy Cross Fraternity.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

Couples celebrating their 25th, 50th or 60th or more wedding anniversaries are invited to attend the annual Diocesan Anniversary Celebrations Liturgies on Sunday, August 25 at Sacred Heart in Erie. The liturgy begins at 2:00 pm. To register or to receive a scroll by mail, please contact your parish office or the Marriage and Family Life Office, 814 824-1265.

MARRIAGE MOMENTS

It's July. It's probably hot (unless you live in the far southern hemisphere). How do you and your beloved cool off—an iced drink? A swim? Find a place with air-conditioning? Think of a way to help someone who doesn't have AC cool off on a hot day.

- CRAFTERS WANTED -

St. Anthony of Padua will hold a Craft Fair on Saturday, October 5 from 9am - 3pm. For more information please contact Sue (814 398-8265) or Kathleen (814 282-6707).

PLEASE NOTE—There will be no Saturday evening Mass on July 27th because of the Fireman's Carnival.

BINGO - The next scheduled BINGO at St. Anthony's will be Monday, July 15. 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.

I will be with you - Exodus 3:12

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST. BERNADETTE'S
 Mon. Aug. 5 - 6:00 pm - Holy Name Society Mtg.

STEWARDSHIP

Offertory	\$1,171.00
Maintenance	343.00
Candles	20.00
Crafts	45.00
Peter's Pence	20.00
CSA	525.00
TOTAL	\$2,124.00

Catholic Services Appeal
 Pledged: \$20,941 Paid: \$14,001

CHURCH NAME: ST. ANTONY OF PADUA

CHURCH NO.:

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:
