

The Work of the People
Sixth Sunday of Easter

Easter Time is growing to a close. We have just this Sunday and the Seventh Sunday before we celebrate the coming of the Spirit into our lives at Pentecost. Let us continue to meditate on how we live the Resurrected life every day and how this new life makes a difference in our relationships with God and our brothers and sisters on this earth.

In today's reading from the Acts of the Apostles, Cornelius and the members of his household meet Peter. Peter speaks to them of God's impartiality and acceptance of all who believe. God's Word, alive in Jesus Christ, extends to all – Jew and Gentile alike. Those who hear the Word are welcomed into the community of faith. They, too, receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. At the end of the reading, Peter questions whether anyone can withhold the baptismal waters from Cornelius and his household. They were baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for God's grace knows no bounds.

In today's reading from the First Letter of John, love and God are intimately connected. Love comes from God. Love became flesh in the person of Jesus Christ who suffered, died, and rose. From the love of God's son came life – life for us through him. This, the author of 1 John defines as love. It is what God does for us. It is the expiation of our sins through his Son. When we love God and one another, we link ourselves directly to God.

Today's Gospel passage follows immediately in John's account from where last Sunday's Gospel ended. Love is the theme connecting all of today's readings. The Father loves the Son. The Father's Son loves his disciples to the point at which he considers his disciples friends. His commandment is love; love one another. In love, we as his disciples bring forth fruit into the world.

The reflection for this Sunday is from Jean Vanier who was founder of L'Arche, an international network of communities for people with intellectual disabilities.

To love people as Jesus loves them is to wash their feet, to serve them in humility; it is to help them rise up in truth and love. Here Jesus is revealing something more: to love is to lay down one's life for others, to place their interests before our own. It is to give them life.

That can mean accepting difficulties, danger and even death so that they may live and grow in love. To love is to live in communion with others,

to transmit to them the life and love of Jesus. It is to reveal to them that they are loved, loved by Jesus. In this way we become their friend because we are a friend of Jesus.

In this friendship nothing is hidden or secret. Jesus has shared everything he has heard from the Father; all is given. The barriers that separated the finite from the Infinite, the temporal from the eternal, the human from the divine, have disappeared.

At times it is necessary for us to live an austere life, like John the Baptizer, and to seek a certain separation from our bodies, to strain to reach God through our efforts. But God has appeared in the flesh, has become vulnerable in the flesh. He has come to offer us his friendship, to invite us to become his beloved. He has become little and vulnerable, to live a communion of hearts with us and to join him in giving life to others.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 16:11-15/Jn. 15:26;16:4a

Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34/Jn. 16:5-11

Wednesday: Acts 17:15-22; 18:1/Jn. 16:12-15

Thursday: Acts 18:1-8/Jn. 16:16-20

Friday: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26/Jn. 15:9-17

Saturday: Acts 18:23-28/Jn. 16:23b-28

Sunday: Acts 1:1-11/Eph. 1:17-23 or Eph. 4:1-13/Mk. 16:15-20

HEALING MASS

The Son of God Prayer Group in Erie is sponsoring a healing Mass at Holy Rosary Church, 2701 East Ave, Erie, on Tuesday, May 11. Worship begins at 6:15 pm with Mass starting at 6:30 pm

SHARING PERSONAL INFORMATION

In this age when personal data can be misused by scam artists, please be aware that the Roman Catholic Diocese of Erie, its clergy, and entities such as parishes and schools will never solicit your personal or business information by any method unless initiated by you. Should you receive an unsolicited request for such information - including a request for gift cards of any type - exercise extreme caution. Contact the person or entity by using contact information only. Do not use contact information provided in the potential fraudulent request.

WORSHIP

Monday, May 10

8:00 am + John E. Auer

Tuesday, May 11

8:00 am + Martin & Mary Lipkovich

(Kathleen Lipkovich)

Wednesday, May 12

5:00 pm + AT ST. BERNADETTE MISSION

Richard Baker (John & Joyce Hogan)

Thursday, May 13—The Ascension of the Lord

5:00 pm + William R. Flynn IV (Bonnie Flynn)

Friday, May 14

8:00 am + Josephine Haluch (PNA Lodge 1540)

Saturday, May 15

4:30 pm + Living & Deceased Parishioners

Sunday, May 16

8:00 am + AT ST. BERNADETTE MISSION

Steve Scott (Stanley & Dorothy)

9:30 am + AT ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA

Joseph DePetris

(Gerard & Martha Adamczyk)

GRADE 1 TEACHER NEEDED AT SETON

Seton Catholic School is accepting applications for a Grade 1 teacher. Knowledgeable, organized, and caring candidates are encouraged to apply. Please send a letter of interest, resume, teaching certificate, 3 references, and required clearances to Christine Hess, Principal, Seton Catholic School, 385 Pine Street, Meadville, PA 16335 or send an email to hess@seton-school.com. The required documentation can be found at <https://www.eriescd.org/schools/teachingforms.html>.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

The Catholic Schools Office of the Diocese of Erie was recently made aware of a scholarship opportunity available to all Catholic high school seniors who attend private, Catholic or public schools. Five Catholic high school seniors who are relatives of an active or deceased member of the Catholic War Veterans & Auxiliary will be chosen to receive a \$1,000 scholarship. The instructions and application (June 1 deadline) are available on-line at <https://wp2.cwv.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/CWV-Scholarship-Application-12.20.2020.pdf>.

PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR

Tuesday, May 11

After Mass - St. Anthony Novena

Saturday, May 15

3:30 - 4:15 pm - Confession

Sunday, May 16

Before Mass - Confession - ST. BERNADETTE MISSION

After Mass - Confession - ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA

*“Lord,
you are totally trustworthy.
Help me wait until you show me
the next small step
to take with you.”*

ON-LINE AUCTION

The Mission Office of the Diocese of Erie is holding an online auction May 17-22 to raise funds for the celebration of the Mission of Friendship's 50th anniversary this year. The Mission of Friendship is the Diocese of Erie's mission located in Merida, Mexico. People may access the auction through the Mission Office website at www.eriescd.org/missions/. For questions, contact Indira Suarez, director of the Mission Office at is Suarez@ErieRCD.org or call 814 824-1231.

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

Today's gospel challenges us to "love one another as I have loved you." Jesus is our model and he asks us to "lay down our life" (our time, attention, opinions and needs) for each other. This is the sacrament of the family, when God is made visible in our sacrificial love for one another.

ST. BERNADETTE MISSION STEWARDSHIP

Offertory	\$470.00
Maintenance	120.00
Candles	27.00
Good Shepherd	20.00
Ascension	10.00
International Needs	<u>10.00</u>
TOTAL	\$657.00

Catholic Services Appeal
Pledged: \$6,190 Paid: \$5,515

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA STEWARDSHIP

Offertory	\$784.00
Maintenance	371.00
Candles	37.00
Rice Bowl	40.00
Good Shepherd	<u>85.00</u>
TOTAL	\$1,317.00

Catholic Services Appeal
Pledged: \$23,425 Paid: \$16,119

CHURCH NAME: ST. ANTONY OF PADUA

CHURCH NO.:

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:
