

The Work of the People

The Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

For this Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, we hear in the Opening Prayer (Collect) how God shows his power principally by pardoning and showing mercy. Thus, we are prepared to hear about turning away from sin and choosing the path of life and about how sinners can enter the Kingdom of God.

The First Reading for this Sunday is from the Book of Numbers. God bestowed the spirit on the elders, and they prophesied as a result. Only God could choose to give or to withhold the spirit. Moses, more aware than others that the spirit was a free gift, did not cling to status. He not only affirmed the liberty and unpredictability of God's activity, but also wished that everyone would be so gifted.

In the Second Reading, James writes in the context of the impending end of the world. He warns the rich that they have stored up treasures for the last days, but the end times that are coming will reverse all their hopes. That which they could have spent on others will not only be rusted, but the money and moth-eaten garments will actually testify against them.

In Mark's Gospel Jesus wastes no time in refocusing the disciples' priorities. If someone performed a mighty deed in Jesus's name, that was a sign of the person's solidarity with Jesus and his ministry. The disciples believe that Jesus is acting with the power of the Spirit of God; therefore, they should recognize that anyone who does the kind of works he does is also graced with the power from that same Spirit.

The reflection from this Sunday is from Bishop Robert F. Morneau who is pastor of Resurrection Parish in Green Bay, Wisconsin, and Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus of the Diocese of Green Bay.

The World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia draws to a close today. The theme for the gathering is ever a beginning — "Love is Our Mission: The Family Fully Alive." We are all deeply aware of the critical role of the family in our society and the world. We are deeply aware of the many challenges and blessings of family life.

Jesus' mission was one of love. He came to make manifest the Father's love and mercy. He has passed his mission on to us both as individuals and as a family of faith. It is when we are truly loving that we are fully alive; it is when we are truly concerned about others that the glory of God is made manifest.

Another word for love is for, as in, "This is my body and blood given for you." By contrast, love is thwarted when we are against one another, when the Spirit of the Lord does not govern our vision and our actions.

St. Therese of Lisieux came from a loving family, and she knew the meaning of life. To paraphrase her, our mission is to love, to be loved, to make Love loved. This is the Spirit that fell upon Eldad and Medad; this was the Spirit that Jesus shared in his teaching, preaching, and healing ministry.

God does have a plan for us (Jeremiah 29:11), and that plan is that we experience God's love and then share it with others. Herein is the source of being fully alive; herein is where we see the glory of God.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Zec. 8:1-8/Lk. 9:46-50

Tuesday: Zec. 8:20-23/Lk. 9:51-56

Wednesday: Dn. 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv. 12:7-12a/
Jn. 1:47-51

Thursday: Neh. 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12/Lk. 10:1-12

Friday: Bar. 1:15-22/Lk. 10:13-16

Saturday: Bar. 4:5-12, 27-29/Mt. 18:1-5, 10

Sunday: Gn. 2:18-24/Heb. 2:9-11/Mk. 10:2-16 or 10:2-12

27th ANNUAL ROSARY MARCH

Fatima's 104 year anniversary, Sunday, October 10, 2021 at 2:00 pm at St. Jude the Apostle Church in Erie. Please come and pray the rosary. Sponsored by the World Apostolate of Fatima. The services will be live-streamed on St. Jude's website: www.stjudeapos.org. For more information call John Walsh 814 868-1100.

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

The words in today's gospel, "Whoever gives a cup of water in the name of Christ will not lose their reward" hits us at home. As parents, we gain our "reward" when we bring a bottle to a crying infant in the middle of the night, or juice boxes to parched five-year old's, or hold ice chips to the fevered lips of a spouse. It is that simple and that sacred. In our homes, we give until it hurts "in the name of Christ."

WORSHIP

Monday, September 27
 8:00 am + John E. Auer
 Tuesday, September 28
 8:00 am + Bernadette deSaint Pol
 (Carole & Dale Schoiack)
 Wednesday, September 29
 8:00 am + NO MASS
 Thursday, September 30
 8:00 am + Daniel Baker (Rita Baker & Family)
 Friday, October 1 - FIRST FRIDAY
 8:00 am + Kathleen Nowak
 (Mario & Marge Giacobella)
 Saturday, October 2
 4:30 pm + Casimir Olszewski
 (Christine & Richard Bidwell)
 Sunday, October 3
 8:00 am + AT ST. BERNADETTE MISSION
 Living & Deceased Parishioners
 9:30 am + AT ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA
 Marion Pennock (Josie Osiecki)

EMMAUS ENCOUNTER
WEEKLY GOSPEL ENCOUNTER

On Sunday, October 3rd a weekly Gospel Encounter will begin using "Lectio Divina", a form of praying with Scripture that helps one to enter into the story of Jesus. No experience necessary! All are welcome. Meetings on Sundays 10:30 am—11:30 am in the Parish Meeting Room of St. George Church in Erie.
 Please check the notice on the bulletin board in the Gathering Space for further information.

CONSECRATION TO ST. JOSEPH

Wednesdays at 2 pm from November 3 - December 8 at St. Agatha's Center in Meadville. Held in book club format. Books can be purchased through consecration-tostjoseph.org, Amazon, or Amy will make a group purchase. Please RSVP and let Amy know if you need a book by Friday, October 18. Call 814 336-1112.
 Please check the notice on the bulletin board in the Gathering Space for further information.

PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR

Tuesday, September 28
 After Mass - St. Anthony Novena
 Saturday, October 2
 3:30 - 4:15 pm - Confession (or by appointment)
 Sunday, October 3
 AT ST. BERNADETTE MISSION
 Before Mass - Confession
 AT ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA
 After Mass - Confession

PET BLESSING

St. Anthony of Padua will conduct a Pet Blessing on Sunday, October 3 at 12:30 pm in the parish parking lot, weather permitting. If rain, it will be in the Parish Center.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION COLLECTION

Last weekend, our parish took up a second collection to help support the lifelong faith formation and educational needs of our parish and diocese. Many responded generously. Thank you! If you missed last week's Catholic Education Collection, please consider a donation by using the envelope provided in your offertory packet. Envelopes can be placed in the collection basket or mailed to the parish office.

*"Here I am Lord!
 Fill me so that I can be a vessel
 of your love and your grace!"*

*"Lord,
 make me a channel of your peace
 to everyone I will meet today."*

ST. BERNADETTE MISSION STEWARDSHIP	
Offertory	\$641.00
Catholic Education	65.00
TOTAL	\$706.00
Catholic Education Services Pledged: \$7,040 Paid: \$6,890	

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA STEWARDSHIP	
Offertory	\$1,343.00
Maintenance	201.00
Catholic Education	288.00
Candles	33.00
TOTAL	\$1,865.00
Catholic Services Appeal Pledged: \$28,440 Paid: \$25,922	

CHURCH NAME: ST. ANTONY OF PADUA

CHURCH NO.:

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:
