

PASTOR'S LETTER

Dear Parishioners,

The Work of the People

The Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

This week we continue with the Eucharistic Prayer. We had gotten as far as the Memorial or Eucharistic Acclamation through which we express a tenet that is central to our faith: "When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again." Notice the use of tense in this particular acclamation. It demonstrates that we have a sense of the presence and action of Christ in all of time, past, present, and future. The action of Christ in giving his life for our salvation is not something that is merely a past event. It happens today and indeed every time we gather to celebrate the Lord's Supper as Jesus told us to do: "Do this in memory of me."

After the Memorial Acclamation, we move into a series of intercessory prayers. I have spoken of intercessory prayer when I discussed the General Intercessions and here once again we turn to God to ask for what we need in order to deepen our relationship with God and God's People.

In Eucharistic Prayer II we first thank God for calling us together into God's presence in order that we might be God's people. We then pray for unity among us who gather in prayer and, indeed, among all people. This unity we know to be a gift of the Spirit. We ask God to remember the Church (the People of God) and we pray specifically for the leaders of the Church, the pope and the local diocesan bishop.

We then ask God to welcome our dead, "our brothers and sisters who have fallen asleep in the hope of the resurrection", and all who have died. We recognize that God is the one who truly knows the hearts and actions of any who have died and so we don't judge through this prayer.

We then pray for ourselves that God may "have mercy on us all" and "we may merit to be coheirs to eternal life." We then remember all the people who have set good examples for us to follow (Mary and the saints) and we ask that we might give continual praise and glory to God not only in this prayer but also in all that we do.

We then end the Eucharistic Prayer with another of the great acclamations, the Doxology and the Great Amen. A doxology is any prayer of praise to God and in this particular doxology we pray that we may always give "glory and honor" to God. Again,

the word "Amen" is an expression of faith in what has gone before. It can mean "So be it" or "I believe" or "Yes, let it be so." We call this the "Great Amen" because it is our response to the whole of the Eucharistic Prayer and to God's presence and action in this Eucharistic moment and it is also a triple Amen. Notice how in some of the preaching of Jesus in scripture, he begins: "Amen, Amen, I say to you . . ." We use this triple Amen for emphasis and as a reminder of who we are and what we are called to believe.

Next week we will begin to consider the Communion Rite.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 24

Monday: Sir 1:1-10/Ps. 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5/Mk. 9:14-29

Tuesday: Sir. 2:1-11/Ps. 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40/Mk. 9:30-37

Wednesday: Sir. 4:11-19/Ps. 119:165, 168, 171, 172, 174, 175/
Mk. 9:38-40

Thursday: Sir. 5:1-8/Ps. 1:1-2, 3, 4, & 6/Mk. 9:41-50

Friday: Sir. 6:5-17/Ps. 119:12, 16, 18, 27, 34, 35/Mk. 10:1-12

Saturday: Sir. 17:1-15/Ps. 103: 13-14, 15-16, 17-18/Mk. 10:13-16

Sunday: Sir. 27:4-7/Ps. 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16/1 Cor. 15:54-58/
Lk. 6:39-45

2019 CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL

Forward together with truth, with hope, with Christ is this year's theme. CSA unites the 97 parishes in our diocese in a common effort to share the Catholic faith . The CSA helps the diocese of Erie fulfill its mission to evangelize, educate, serve, proclaim the word and celebrate the sacraments. Commitment Sunday is March 3, 2019. We are most grateful for your participation and support in this annual effort. Please donate as generously as you can.

MEN'S CONFERENCE

The sixth annual 22:32 Men's Conference will be held at Our Lady of Peace Parish, 2401 W. 38th St, Erie on March 2 from 9 am - 3:30 pm. The lineup of speakers includes two who would appeal to younger men in high school and college, as well as men who are out of college and beginning their careers and families. Speakers are Sean O'Hare, Sean Forrest and Tom Peterson. The cost is \$40 for adults, \$25 for college students, and \$10 for high school students. See detailed information at www.2232men.com where you may register and purchase tickets. For more information, go to info@2232men.com

ANNOUNCEMENT

In this age when personal data can be misused by scam artists, please be aware that the Roman Catholic Diocese of Erie, 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 (including an email or text message) for such information or a request for financial assistance (including the purchase of gift cards of any type), exercise extreme caution. Contact the person or entity by using official contact information only. Do not use contact information provided in the potential fraudulent request.

WORSHIP

Monday, February 25
8:00 am + Paul Cirillo

Tuesday, February 26
8:00 am + Living & Dec. Members of Milligan Family
(Barb Milligan)

Wednesday, February 27
8:00 am + NO MASS

Thursday, February 28
8:00 am + Leona Auer

Friday, March 1—FIRST FRIDAY
8:00 am + Martha Caldwell (Ginger & Dick Kester)

Saturday, March 2
4:30 pm + Dec. Ancestors of Rembielak/Wronko Families
(Joan Rembielak & Bob/Phyllis Wronko)

Sunday, March 3
8:00 am + AT ST. BERNADETTE'S
Living & Deceased Parishioners
9:30 am + AT ST. ANTHONY'S
Margery Brown (M/M Gerald Adamczyk)

PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR

Monday - Wednesday - Friday AT ST. BERNADETTES
7:00 am - Communion Service

Tuesday, February 26
After Mass - St. Anthony's Novena

Saturday, March 2
3:45 - 4:15 pm - Confessions

Sunday, March 3
Before Mass - Confessions AT ST. BERNADETTE'S
After Mass - Confessions AT ST. ANTHONY'S

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

ST. ANTHONY'S SATURDAY, MARCH 2 - 4:30 PM

Eucharistic Ministers: Tom Hobson/Judy Kingston/
Kathleen Lipkovich

Lector: Shawn Pflieger

Altar Servers: Payton Leandro/Sydney Zilhaver

SUNDAY, MARCH 3 - 9:30 AM

Eucharistic Ministers: Ginger Beck/Rob Bullman/
Don Marteeny/Harriet McLaren

Lector: Marie Marteeny

Altar Servers: Ali Gorton/Veronica Walker

ST. BERNADETTE'S SUNDAY, MARCH 3 - 8:00 AM

Eucharistic Ministers: C. Sada/G. Beisler

Lector: D. Capell

Ushers: S. Sada, Jr.

Altar Servers: B. Greco/I. Levis

CAMBRIDGE SPRINGS HERITAGE SOCIETY

The Cambridge Springs Heritage Society presents its first History Night of 2019: Businesses around Macy Park, The Progression of the Entrepreneurs on Tuesday, February 26 at 7:00 pm at the First Baptist Church on South Main St. Refreshments will be served after.

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

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

In studying the effects of religion upon family relationships, researchers inform us hostility and prayer can't coexist. You cannot be hostile toward someone for whom you are praying. Today's gospel encourages us: "Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who treat you badly."

MARRIAGE MOMENTS

"Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things..." (1 Cor. 13:7) Which of these characteristics does your beloved especially have?

"So, faith, hope, love remain, these three; but the greatest of these is love." (1 Cor. 13:13) appreciate each other today and every day.

NOVA

Openings still remain for the upcoming NOVA scheduled for Saturday, March 2 at St. Mark's Parish in Lawrence Park. Nova is a one-day marriage preparation program designed specifically for couples free to remarry in the Catholic Church. Call the Family Life Office at 814 824-1261 for information. Pre-registration is required.

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 - 6:00 pm - Holy Name Society Mtg.

Sun, March 10 - Holy Name Society Sunday

STEWARDSHIP

Offertory	\$949.00
Maintenance	358.00
Candles	<u>13.00</u>
TOTAL	\$1,320.00

*" Father,
show me how I can serve your people today."*

CHURCH NAME: ST. ANTONY OF PADUA

CHURCH NO.:

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:
