

The Work of the People

The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Liturgically we have celebrated Christ's birth and manifestation to the world as the presence of God with us (*Emmanuel*). As we move into Ordinary Time, we begin to hear the call of Christ to come and follow him. "Follow me." It is with these words that Jesus invites his first disciples. They're also his invitation to us. In the season of Ordinary Time during winter, the meaning of discipleship centers on our willingness to journey with Jesus, the Son of God and Messiah, who heals, casts out demons, feeds the hungry, and dines with tax collectors and sinners. We might occasionally be afraid of what our calling entails, just as Jesus' disciples were fearful in the face of the raging sea. Fright might overcome us when we hear of the suffering a life of faith entails. We might wonder, why follow the one who suffered and died? Yet we know the end of our Master's journey. To him belongs resurrection. Resurrection is his promise to his disciples.

We have much to learn about discipleship in the weeks before Lent. Jesus will teach us all we need to know so that we, too, will be able to heal and teach and feed and love as he did. In the end, discipleship during this part of Ordinary Time climaxes and our confession of Jesus identity with Peter: "You are the Messiah".

The first reading for this Sunday is one part of one of the four Suffering Servant Songs of Isaiah. Scripture commentators debate the identity of the "servant" in this passage. Is it the prophet Isaiah or is it the people of Israel? The text would seem to support both possibilities. In any case, the focus of God's pronouncement is the mission of the servant. The mission is twofold. First, the people will be brought back to God and return from exile. Second, the servant will be a light to the nations.

As Paul begins his letter to the Corinthians he first establishes his identity and his authority to teach them. He states that he has been called by Christ Jesus, even though Paul never met Jesus in his public life. He takes on the identity of an Apostle, one who has the right to preach the Gospel of the risen Lord.

The Gospel text is not a first-hand observation by John of the preaching of John the Baptist or of Jesus' Baptism. Rather it is a report by the Evangelist of that event and as such it carries theological insights of John as the Gospel writer. In his Gospel account, John sees the event of Jesus' own baptism as an indication that Jesus, the Son of God was called by the Father to take away the sins of the world.

The reflection for this Sunday is from a *Commentary on John* by St. Cyril of Alexandria (d. 444)

When he saw Jesus coming toward him John said: "Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world." No longer does he say: "Prepare." That would be out of place now that at last he who was prepared for is seen, is before our very eyes. The nature of the case now calls for a different type of homily. An explanation is needed of who is present, and why he has come down to us from heaven. So, John says: Behold the Lamb of God, of whom the prophet Isaiah told us in the words: He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and like a lamb before his shearer he opened not his mouth.

In past ages he was typified by the law of Moses, but because the law was merely a figure and a foreshadowing its salvation was only partial; its mercy did not reach out to embrace the whole world. But now the true lamb, the victim without blemish obscurely prefigured in former times, is led to the slaughter for all to banish sin from the world, to overthrow the world's destroyer, to abolish death by dying for the entire human race, and to release us from the curse: Dust you are and to dust you shall return.

He will become the second Adam who is not of earth but of heaven and be for us the source of every blessing. He will deliver us from the corruptibility foreign to our nature; he will secure eternal life for us, reconcile us with God, teach us to revere God and to live upright lives, and be on our way to the kingdom of heaven.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 19

Monday: 1 Sm. 15:16-23/Mk. 2:18-22

Tuesday: 1 Sm. 16:1-13/Mk. 2:23-28

Wednesday: 1 Sm. 17:32-33, 37, 40-51/Mk. 3:1-6

Thursday: 1 Sm. 18:6-9; 19:1-7/Mk. 3:7-12

Friday: 1 Sm. 24:3-21/Mk. 3:13-19

Saturday: Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22/Mk. 16:15-18

Sunday: Is. 8:23; 9:3/1 Cor. 1:10-13, 17/Mt. 4:12-23 or 4:12-17

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

The 1:38 Women's Conference will be held at Our Lady of Peace Parish in Erie on Saturday, March 28, 2020. Check-in begins at 8:00 am and the program runs from 9:00 am - 3:30 pm. The day concludes with a Mass celebrated by Bishop Lawrence Persico. Registration materials can be picked up in the gathering space.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Based on the average public school per pupil cost of \$11,841, Catholic schools provide \$21 billion in saving each year for the nation. Celebrate Catholic Schools Week 2020 this January 26 - February 1.

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

Can you say "I have testified Jesus is the Son of God?" If you aren't talking about Jesus in your family, you aren't testifying. If you are not walking your talk, your children will see your words as meaningless.

BAKED GOODS/DESSERTS NEEDED

This weekend, Jan. 18 & 19 parishioners will be called to provide a baked good or dessert for St. Anthony Cash Giveaway and Game Night set for January 25, 2020. Food items can be dropped off to the Parish Center on Friday, Jan. 24 from 8:30 am - 10:00 am OR on Saturday, Jan. 25 after 2:30 pm.

Thank you in advance for your support of St. Anthony Annual fundraiser.

WORSHIP

Monday, January 20
 8:00 am + Liv. & Dec. Members of PNA Lodge 1540
 Tuesday, January 21
 8:00 am + Special Intention (Kathleen Lipkovich)
 Wednesday, January 22
 8:00 am + NO MASS
 Thursday, January 23
 8:00 am + Martha Caldwell (Ginger & Dick Kester)
 Friday, January 24
 8:00 am + Mary Mukina (Joan Rembielak & Phyllis & Bob Wronko)
 Saturday, January 25
 4:30 pm + Harold Schmidt (Friends)
 Sunday, January 26
 8:00 am + AT ST. BERNADETTE
 Richard Baker (Joseph & Alice Johnson)
 9:30 am + AT ST. ANTHONY
 Norbert & Mildred Beck (Jim & Ginger Beck)

PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR

Monday - Wednesday - Friday AT ST. BERNADETTE
 (Except Holy Days)
 7:00 am - Communion Service
 Tuesday, January 21
 After Mass - St. Anthony's Novena
 6:30 pm - Finance Council Mtg. for both St. Anthony and St. Bernadette at St. Bernadette Mission
 7:15 pm - Parish Council Mtg. for both St. Anthony and St. Bernadette at St. Bernadette Mission
 Saturday, January 25
 3:45 - 4:15 pm - Confessions
 5:00 pm - doors open for St. Anthony Cash Giveaway and Game Night running from 6 pm - 10 pm
 Sunday, January 26
 Before Mass - Confessions AT ST. BERNADETTE
 After Mass - Confessions AT ST. ANTHONY
 10:30 am - Religious Ed. Class for both St. Anthony & St. Bernadette
 NOTE: Latin Mass will be the last Sunday of every month at 12:30 pm.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA
SATURDAY, JANUARY 25 - 4:30 PM
 Eucharistic Ministers: Judy Kingston/Shawn Pflieger/Jim Samson
 Lector: Julie Hobson
 Altar Servers: Robert Moats/Sophia Mott

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26 - 9:30 AM
 Eucharistic Ministers: Ginger Beck/Christine Krzysiak/
 Harriet McLaren/Carol Rasavage
 Lector: Vicki Eckstein
 Altar Servers: Andrea Walker/Sydney Zilhaver

ST. BERNADETTE
SUNDAY, JANUARY 26- 8:00 AM
 Eucharistic Ministers: J. Acker/C. Greco/J. Weagraff
 Lector: B. Smith
 Ushers: D. Nowak
 Altar Servers: B. Greco

STEWARDSHIP

<u>01/12/2020</u>		
Offertory	\$405.00	CSA:
Maintenance	5.00	Pledged - \$9,275
Gift	1,000.00	Paid - \$8,995
Oplatki	10.00	
Votives	3.00	
Initial Offering	3.00	
Christmas	20.00	
TOTAL	\$1,446.00	

YEAR-END FINANCIAL STATEMENT

To reduce the cost of mailing a report, if you want a year-end statement of your annual contributions to St. Anthony of Padua or St. Bernadette, PLEASE CLIP THIS FROM THE BULLETIN AND RETURN IT IN THE COLLECTION BASKET BY MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2020.

Name: _____

 (Please Print)

EVENTS COMMITTEE/SET-UP

St. Anthony Events Committee will meet on Thursday, January 23 at 6:00 pm to set up for Saturday's Cash Giveaway and Game Night. Volunteers are most welcome to help!

COMMUNITY LUNCH

There will be a community lunch at the C.S. 1st United Methodist Church on Saturday, Jan. 25 from 11:30 - 12:30 pm. Carry-outs are available. For more information call 398-4049.

FRENCH DINNER

The annual French Dinner will be held Saturday, February 15, 2020 at St. Hippolyte Church Social Hall. Cost is \$18 per person, in advance. Dinner served on the hour 5:00 pm, 6:00 pm and 7:00 pm. Reservation deadline is February 5. Call Connie at 967-3813. Tickets ARE NOT sold at the door.

BINGO - The next scheduled BINGO at St. Anthony's will be Monday, January 20. 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.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST. BERNADETTE

Sun. Jan. 26 - 10:30 am - Religious Ed. Class at St. Anthony
 Mon. Feb. 3 - 6:00 pm - Holy Name Society Mtg.

STEWARDSHIP

Offertory	\$865.00
Maintenance	309.00
Solemnity of Mary	15.00
Candles	29.00
Initial Offering	120.00
CSA	105.00
TOTAL	\$1,443.00
Catholic Service Appeal	
Pledged: \$24,207 Paid: \$23,837	

CHURCH NAME: ST. ANTONY OF PADUA

CHURCH NO.:

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:
