# FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT April 3, 2022



## Saint Stanislaus Catholic Church

516 East 13th Street
Erie, Pennsylvania 16503
814.452.6606
www.ststanserie.org
email: ststaner@outlook.com

Fr. Jason Glover, S.T.L., Pastor Msgr. Daniel Magraw, Senior Associate Debbie Oldenski, Secretary Thaddeus Fryczynski, Director of Music

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:30AM - 3:00 PM (Closed 12:00PM - 1:00PM, Saturdays, Sundays, & Holidays)

Weekend Eucharistic Liturgy: Saturday at 4:00PM; Sunday at 9:00AM \* Daily Eucharist: Call the Parish Office

## Holy Trinity Catholic Church

2220 Reed Street Erie, Pennsylvania 16503 814.456.0671

www.holytrinityrc.org email: parishoffice@holytrinityrc.org

Fr. Jason Glover, S.T.L., Pastor

Msgr. Daniel Magraw, Senior Associate Mary Ann Merski, Secretary Jeannie McGinley, Director of Music

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00AM - 4:00PM (Closed 12:00PM - 1:00PM, Saturdays, Sundays, & Holidays)

Weekend Eucharistic Liturgy:
Saturday at 5:15PM; Sunday at 10:30AM
\* Daily Eucharist: Call the Parish Office



# Saint Stanislaus & Holy Trinity Partners in Faith & Mission



#### April 3, 2022 5th Sunday of Lent

We love to make examples out of those who have erred and done wrong. Publicly punishing others serves as a means of demonstrating the consequences for what is deemed inappropriate or wrongful behavior. While this may appear an effective way of achieving conformity to established rules, it runs the real risk of distorting motivation. Us fear of punishment ever the best motivation for avoiding one action in favor of another?

Doing something out of fear is never healthy. Focusing exclusively on our behavior and what others expect or think, leads to living life with a self-focused superficiality. We become more concerned about protecting ourselves from something negative and unpleasant, than investing ourselves in the freedom, wonder and awe of being human! Being a whole, focused, and God-centered human being requires more. It demands an investment of the heart. Virtuous, moral, and mature lifestyles reflective of the Gospel necessitate love.

When we experience and recognize love, God's unconditional love, in the depth of our soul, we fall in love with what we have found. We then find ourselves leaving destructive and sinful actions behind in search of something more holy, dignified, true, integral, and loving. This is really "mercy realized." God's tremendous, loving, eternal forgiveness and willingness to bring us back to something more real and tender is transformational. The respect for myself that I receive from God is so life changing that it causes me to run quickly away from anything sinful and self-destructive to things that are whole and holy.

There are many people who want nothing more than to judge or criticize us. What would actually stoning the woman caught in adultery really accomplish? Nothing more than the inflation of the already self-righteous egos of a few men who think they have power. They have no power because they are sinners too, just like everyone else. What all of us have is the humble ability to express sorrow for pursuing destructive thoughts and actions and receive the power of God's mercy. Then, Jesus' request to "go and sin no more" will be one we proudly heed and follow.

#### Readings for the week of April 3, 2022

Sunday: Is 43:16-21/Ps 126:1-6/Phil 3:8-14/Jn 8:1-11 Monday: Dn 13:13:41-62/Ps 23:1-6/Jn 8:12-20 Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9/Ps 102:2-3, 16-21/Jn 8:21-30

Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3:52-56/Jn 8:31-42

Thursday: Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-9/Jn 8:51-59 Friday: Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-7/Jn 10:31-42 Saturday: Ez 37:21-28/Jer 31:10-13/Jn 11:45-56

Next Sunday: Lk 19:28-40/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-24/Phil 2:6-11/Lk 22:14- 23:56

**Sacrament of Baptism**: Sacramental preparation is required of the parents who desire to share the Catholic faith with their children and are held monthly throughout the City of Erie. Call the parish office to register to schedule your preparation. Godparents must be Confirmed and practicing Catholics with a letter of recommendation from their pastor to serve as a sacramental sponsor.

Religious Education, First Holy Communion, and First Reconciliation programs are hosted at Saint Luke's Church for all eastside Erie parishes. Contact their parish office for more information and to register your child (814.825.7105).

**Confirmation** preparation for all eastside Erie parishes is hosted at Saint Luke's Church. Contact their parish office for more information and to register your child (814.825.6920).

**Sacrament of Holy Orders**: God calls all people to holiness. Some men are called to fulfill this vocation as priests. If you are interested in the priesthood, or have questions about it, please contact a parish priest or our Diocesan Vocation Director, Scott Jabo, at 1.814.824.1181.

**Sacrament of Matrimony**: Before a date can be scheduled, a priest must be contacted at least six months in advance to complete the required documents.

**Sacrament of the Sick**: Communal celebrations of Anointing the Sick are scheduled periodically. The sacrament can also be requested by any parishioner who is seriously ill or in danger of death. *Please note*: Federal law no longer permits hospitals or nursing homes to contact churches when a parishioner is admitted. It is important that family members notify the parish office if a loved one needs a visit, desires to receive Holy Communion, or needs to be Anointed.

**Leave A Legacy**: Consider Saint Stanislaus and Holy Trinity as you meet with your attorney or financial planner regarding your estate planning. Remember the needs of your parish family and leave a legacy of faith for future generations with your generous remembrance.

**Bulletin Information Deadline**: Please submit information to be included in the weekend bulletin by noon the Monday prior. Holiday bulletin announcements must be received by the parish office two weeks in advance.

#### "PRAYER, CARE, AND CONCERN" MINISTRY

Those who participate in this ministry express the care and concern of our entire parish community to those who are ill, hospitalized, homebound, or in nursing facilities, through birthday and holiday cards, visits, and prayers. To request prayers, or to participate in this ministry, contact Saint Stanislaus Office (814-452-6606).

#### "PRAYERLINE" MINISTRY

These ministers devote themselves to prayer for any needs made known to them and any special intentions. To participate in this ministry, or to request prayers for a particular need, contact Saint Stanislaus Office (814-452-6606 or Holy Trinity Office (814-456-0671).

#### **PCEP (Parish Catholic Education Program)**

Parishioners of Holy Trinity can receive a parish grant to assist with the cost of tuition for families who wish their primary or secondary school age children to have a Catholic education. To be eligible, families must participate in the program, attend Mass regularly, and be involved in the parish community. For more information, contact the parish office.

#### **LITURGICAL MINISTRIES**

Parishioners interested in serving our worshiping community as an altar server, lector, Eucharistic minister, or music minister, please let one of your priests know.

#### "PRAYER SHAWL" MINISTRY

The enjoyment of knitting, crocheting, and sewing are uniquely combined with prayer to offer a deeply personal and meaningful spiritual ministry. Shawls are prayerfully made and freely given away to those suffering bereavement, those recovering from illness, the elderly, homebound, and those in nursing facilities. To join us in this ministry, please contact Saint Stanislaus Office (814-452-6606).

#### THE "ZABAWA COMMITTEE"

Held on the parish grounds of Holy Trinity, Zabawa is the largest Polish heritage celebration in the region, drawing tens of thousands of people to our neighborhood. The Zabawa Committee organizes the festival through food preparation, donation solicitation, food and beverage service, and so on. The committee always welcomes any help they receive. If you would like to offer your time, and experience hands-on learning about these rich cultural traditions, contact Holy Trinity Office (814-456-0671).

#### **PROLIFE COMMUNITY**

This ministry advocates through for the protection of all human life from conception until natural death through prayer, education, and action.

## "PRAYER CANDLE" MAKING MINISTRY

This ministry makes prayer candles from the church's left over bee's wax. They meet on Wednesdays, from 10AM - Noon in St. Stanislaus Parish Hall. No experience necessary.

ST. STANISLAUS / HOLY TRINITY INITIAL PARISHIONER REGISTRATION FORM (please circle which parish)			
Family Name:			
E-mail:			
	<del></del>		
City/Zip:			
Phone:	Cell Phone:		
Please Check: _	New RegistrationChange of Address Change of Telephone No	umber	
-	Change of E-mail Moving out of Parish Want Enve	elopes	
Place	e in offertory basket or mail to Parish Office. We will contact you to complete our ( Welcome to our Parish Family!	Census Form.	

# Saint Stanislaus Parish Community

#### **MASS INTENTIONS**

Mon., April 4th - Private Intention

Tues., April 5th - Christine Sierota (The Murray Family)

Wed., April 6th - Anne & Stanley Przepierski (Family)

Thurs., April 7th - Richard & Theresa Jenks (Marcia)

Fri., April 8th - Tom Konkol (Matt & Marcie Senita)

Sat., April 9th, 4:00PM - For the People of St. Stanislaus (*Pro Populo*)

Sun., April 10th, 9:00AM - Deceased of Immaculate Conception, Erie



Our sanctuary candle burns in memory of **DECEASED MEMBERS** OF THE NOWAKOWSKI, KRASINSKI, **FAMILIES**, as gifted the Family.

**20 LENT 22** 

#### THE WOMEN'S SOCIETY RAFFLE

The Women's Society is sponsoring an Easter Raffle for a chance to win one of two \$500 cash prizes that will be drawn on Sunday, April 10th. Donations for a ticket are only \$5 and can be purchased before and after Mass, or by calling the Parish Office at 814-452-6606. Thank you, in advance, for your support!

"Dear St. Stanislaus parishioners,

The Sisters of St. Joseph remain very grateful for your generous donations of desserts for our Monday Night Supper. Our neighbors enjoy the home baked cookies, cakes, and pastries. . Your contribution over the years has enabled us to continue this outreach to those in need."

Gratefully,

SSJNN staff and neighbors

#### SSJ SOUP KITCHEN

The Sisters will not need baked goods for the month of April. Nonetheless, thank you for your generosity!

#### **WOMEN'S SOCIETY**

The Women's Society will next meet on Sunday, April 10, at 1:00PM in the Parish Hall. All are welcome to attend.

#### A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

Stoning is not just an ancient act of violence. Each day in our homes we throw stones of ridicule, criticism, namecalling and put-downs. All of it is deadly. Hear Jesus in today's gospel: "Whoever is without sin can throw the first stone." Rid your home of violence. Stop verbal stoning!

#### **WEEKLY OFFERING (MARCH 27, 2022)**

	This Week	July 1 to date
Amount we need	\$4,156.00	\$162,084.00
Amount Received	\$2,024.00	\$110,744.00
Net over/under	(\$2,132.00)	(\$51,340.00)

Mass Attendance: 4:00PM = 43; 9:00AM = 56

Envelopes: 51/168

#### 2022 CSA

Our 2022 Catholic Service Appeal is off to a successful start. Our assessment is \$27,297. To date, \$19,430 has already been pledged by 50 families. It's not too late to make a pledge to this campaign!

#### **MAKE A WAY**

What's your comfort zone: emotionally, professionally, personally? We all have one. But did you realize that you can have one spiritually? Think about what you like and what you don't particularly enjoy when it comes to church, prayer, and liturgy. We all have "those songs" we crinkle our noses at, either because they're too modern or too oldfashioned. We all have "those people" in our parish whose ideas we aren't so sure about, whether that's because they're trying to change too much or because they seem always to be looking toward the past. Also, when was the last time you sat on the OTHER side of the church during Mass? As much as we may not want to admit it, even (and especially) as people of God, we get deeply attached to our own personal comfort zones — and we tend to view those outside with distrust. But what if God had a comfort zone? What if He viewed us, in our sin and our misery, as too "far away" from Himself to reach? Thankfully, our God is a God who "opens a way in the sea and a path in the mighty waters." Our God is a God who does "something new." The call to stewardship demands that we look outside of ourselves. Our thoughts, our opinions, our preferences these things are not important to the steward. Even if there is a vast, dry desert of discord, or a seemingly endless wasteland of opposing views between us and our neighbor, God challenges us to "make a way" out of our comfort zone, that together we may announce His praise.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS











# Holy Trinity Parish Community



The sanctuary candle burns this week in memory of **JOYCE MUECK** as gifted by Jack & Sandy Kempisty.



4/6 - Alice Koziel

4/8 - Michelle Wiley 4/9 - Lindsey Korytowski 4/10 - Debbie Smith

Once again this week, we are reminded of what a loving and merciful God we serve. The theme of the readings for this fifth Sunday of Lent are summed up beautifully in today's Gospel passage from Luke, which recounts the story of the woman caught in adultery. After all those who would have stoned this woman leave the scene, Christ says to her, "Neither do I condemn you. Go, and from now on do not sin anymore." When we turn to God for forgiveness, He is indeed gracious and merciful. So much so, that not only will He forgive our sins without condemnation, He will make us completely new creations in Christ. What is more amazing is that this all-perfect and holy God of ours draws so very near to us. Our sins do not drive Him from us, but rather to us so that He can set us free from them. Look carefully at Christ's actions and posture in the Gospel reading as He deals with both the crowd of people, the Scribes and Pharisees, and the adulterous woman. "All the people started coming to Him and he sat down and taught them." "He bent down and began to write with His finger." He "straightened up" when He confronted the Scribes and Pharisees about their own sins. And he "straightened up" when He assured the woman that He did not condemn her for her past. Like a skilled teacher, or loving "big brother," Christ bends down to where we are, He sits among us, He stands to confront us when needed and He stands to look us in the eye to remind us of our true dignity. We're all unworthy of the great privilege of serving Him. But that, quite simply, is cause for greater joy in serving Him with all our hearts.

#### **WEEKLY OFFERING FOR MARCH 27, 2022**

Regular Offering: \$2,214.00 (28/131)

	THIS WEEK	JULY 1 TO DATE
Dream Goal:	\$3,000.00	\$108,000.00
Budgeted:	\$2,365.00	\$88,076.00
Total Offertory:	\$2,214.00	\$94,236.00
Net (over/under):	(\$151.00)	\$6,160.00

Attendance: 5:15PM = 38; 10:30AM = 63

#### **MASS INTENTIONS**

Mon., April 4th- Kulig, Laszczewski, and Habas Families

Tues., April 5th - All Living & Deceased Fathers

Wed., April 6th - Special Intention

Thurs., April 7th - Bishop Donald Trautman

Fri., April 8th - All Souls

Sat., April 9th, 5:15PM - Living & Deceased Members of Holy Trinity

Sun., April 10th, 10:30AM - The People of Holy Trinity Parish (Pro Populo)

## THEME BASKET DONORS ARE NEEDED

A donation of \$100.00 for a theme basket for this year's Zabawa will help us create a beautiful basket from your family or in memory of a loved one. Mark an envelope and include your check so our creators can do the shopping for our gallery of theme baskets for Zabawa 2022 - August 26, 27 & 28.

#### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

We are looking for persons who would like to serve as tour guides to our beautiful Church for Zabawa weekend. A script of information will be available to you. Let us know your availability to serve as a guide.

#### **2022 CSA**

Our 2022 Catholic Service Appeal is off to a successful start. Our assessment is \$13,710. To date, \$19,983 has already been pledged by 47 families. Our parish will retain \$6,273. It's not too late to make a pledge to this campaign!

#### Pointing Fingers & Throwing Stones

en they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let an of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." John 8:7 (NIV)



XOBYDTXISEFOICE PDSWUXONKIMT SKOTIJINWENPZUN LRPIMSTEEAPE CMIEOSHQMGUHCEW CHQSRTNOCONDEMN HAPTNAWSEBQOFPM ZKBHIUEZKJDWEKV ACLRNGMYFEAIBYQ GGZOGHBPQSWLMEX VGEWATBDJUJODUS ADULTERYWSMKIXT OCYVACUNRFIRSTF PQRDEWLTEACHERS

MORNING ACCUSE THROW



# News for Our Partnership

#### **2022 CSA APPEAL**

A sincere thank you to all who made a pledge and/or gift to the Catholic Services Appeal. You have joined together with Catholics throughout the Diocese of Erie to share of your blessings to help advance the mission of the church. We are grateful. If you have not yet made a commitment, it is not too late. Just drop your pledge envelope marked 'CSA' in the collection basket or turn it in at the parish office. Your generosity is appreciated.

#### **PENANCE SERVICE**

St. Stan's will host a penance service Sunday, April 3 at 2PM. Outside confessors will be available, as well. Let us come together as parish communities to ready ourself for our Easter season during these final days of Lent.

#### SSJ LENTEN COLLECTION

The Sisters of Saint Joseph minister to the youth of our area through tutoring programs and by helping them acquire and repair their bicycles. As part of our parishes' Lenten outreach, Parish Council is hosting a collection of school supplies and bicycle parts to be donated to the Sisters. Boxes will be placed in the rear of our churches to facilitate this collection. Thank you for your consideration.

#### **PASSION TALK**

Consider joining the Saint Joseph Parish community as Fr. Larry Richards presents a talk on the Passion of Jesus Christ. The talk will take place on Wednesday, April 13 at 7PM; Confession will be available afterward. The event is free and open to the public

#### **ERIE CATHOLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM SUMMER CAMP**

Students are invited to join us at this year's summer camp. They will enjoy daily activities, weekly themes, and field trips – all in a safe, caring environment. Daily breakfast and lunch are provided. Camp is offered at 4 convenient locations. Visit www.eriecatholic.org for more information.







#### **UKRAINE RELIEF**

Through the generous financial donations made to our Ukrainian Refugee relief efforts, the following items were purchased and delivered on your behalf:

- 60 emergency medical Burn Kits
- 10 tourniquets
- 290 rolls of gauze bandages
- 500 gauze pads
- 40 blood clotting kits
- 100 emergency mylar blankets
- 20 camping lanterns
- 15 mailable splints
- 3,000 doses of Advil
- 96 gallons of powdered Gatorade
- 10 First Aid kits
- 80 packs of assorted Lance crackers
- 1,440 packs of antibiotics
- 562 Quaker oat bars
- 240 packs of peanuts
- 50 medical open chest wound packs
- 360 doses of potassium iodine

Over \$2,500 worth of material goods were purchased through your generosity. Many thanks!

#### **STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

We invite you to join us for Stations of the Cross on Wednesday, April 6th at Holy Trinity Church at 5:30 PM

Reporting known or suspected child abuse: It is every adult's moral responsibility to report known or suspected abuse or neglect of a minor to the responsible authorities. Sexual abuse of minors is a pervasive societal problem, and only concerted and sustained efforts by all adults in every segment of society can help to protect children and youth. In the 2020 Pennsylvania state report there were 4,941 substantiated reports of child abuse in Pennsylvania. 1,932 or 39% of the substantiated reports were for sexual abuse, 1,384 were physical abuse. To report suspected abuse of a minor, call Childline at 1-800-932-0323 (anytime 24/7). For particular questions on reporting abuse, you may call: Cindy Zemcik, Coordinator for the Office for the Protection of Children and Youth in the Diocese of Erie at 814-824-1195.

#### **THE 31 CLUB - PRAYING FOR VOCATIONS**

4/4) Ed Czulewicz, Eely & Ed Selleny; 4/5) Mary Ann Merski & Michelle Inter; 4/6) Msgr. Dan Magraw & Joan Oldenski; 4/7) Ed Korytowski & Lori Krasnesky; 4/8) Steve Rimpa, Stephanie & Bill Wycech; 4/9) Marcia Nitczynski & Rose Marie Radomski

#### **PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS**

4/4) Fr. Henry Andrae; 4/5) Fr. Monty Sayers; 4/6) Fr. Stan Swacha; 4/7) Fr. Tom Brooks; 4/8) Fr. Joe Dougherty; 4/9) Fr. Chris Singer

#### Sunday, Apr 03, 2022

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

#### Pause and refresh

Isaiah 43:16-21; Philippians 3:8-14; John 8:1-11
"Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her."

We rush through the hours checking items off a to-do list: work and chores, errands and meals, and more. The weekly Sabbath was designed as a pause from the maddening race of accomplishment. Pausing keeps us from making mistakes born of thoughtlessness. Jesus once asked religious elders to pause and consider their own errors before stoning a woman for hers. Father Edward Hayes (1931-2016) started a house of prayer in Kansas as a place of spiritual recollection. Pause and pray with Hayes: "May the work of my hands be part of the redemption of the world and its eternal springtime liberation."

#### Monday, Apr 04, 2022

MEMORIAL OF ISIDORE OF SEVILLE, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

#### The original Wikipedia

Daniel 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62; John 8:12-20 "I am the light of the world."

Why would Pope John Paul II name a Spanish bishop who lived 1,400 years ago the patron saint of the internet? Because Saint Isidore of Seville was the equivalent of the internet in his day. A "walking encyclopedia" you might call him. He, in fact, wrote an encyclopedia, as well as a dictionary and a history of the world. And like the World Wide Web, he spread information everywhere he could - founding schools and requiring seminaries in every diocese. Knowledge is power - pass it on!

## Tuesday, Apr 05, 2022

MEMORIAL OF VINCENT FERRER, PRIEST

#### Charity is good medicine

Numbers 21:4-9; John 8:21-30

"'We have sinned in complaining against the LORD and you."

Vincent Ferrer brought healing to a suffering church and world in the early 1400s. People loved Vincent, not just for his preaching but for thousands of miracles attributed to him - right as Europe was ravaged by war, plague, and famine. "If you truly want to help the soul of your neighbor," Vincent preached, "you should approach God first with all your heart. Ask him simply to fill you with charity, the greatest of all virtues; with it you can accomplish what you desire."

# Wednesday, Apr 06, 2022 Answer your call, no matter the cost

Daniel 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; John 8:31-42 "So if the Son frees you, then you will truly be free."

On this day in 1830, James Augustine Healy was born to Michael Healy and Eliza Smith, a mixed-race African-American enslaved person, in central Georgia. Raised as a free person, James was sent to the North for school and later decided to pursue the priesthood. Though most of his peers likely did not know he was black - he became the earliest-known African American to be ordained in the Catholic Church. He also became the first black bishop in the United States when he was named to the Diocese of Portland (Maine) in 1875. He was named a bishop-assistant to the papal throne two months before his death in the year 1900 and remains an example to all of faithful service to the church.

#### Thursday, Apr 07, 2022

MEMORIAL OF JEAN-BAPTISTE DE LA SALLE, PRIEST

#### Be the change

Genesis 17:3-9; John 8:51-59

"I say to you, whoever keeps my word will never see death."

In the late 1600s Frenchman Jean-Baptiste de La Salle founded the De La Salle Brothers, whose communities and schools are now worldwide. De La Salle's innovative vision emphasized the inherent dignity of the student. He believed that "not only is God so good as to have created us, but God desires all of us to come to the knowledge of the truth." Early on, de La Salle battled opponents to his reforms. He never lived to receive official approval for his congregation of teaching brothers, which came nearly six years after his death. Are you called to uplift a reform or innovation that others oppose? You have a friend in Saint Jean - Baptiste de La Salle. May he pray for us!

## Friday, Apr 08, 2022

LENTEN WEEKDAY; DAY OF ABSTINENCE

#### Tap into a higher power

Jeremiah 20:10-13; John 10:31-42

"For he has rescued the life of the poor from the power of the wicked!"

"The most common way people give up their power is by thinking they don't have any." That insight comes from author Alice Walker but certainly has its roots in scripture. Prophets and evangelists all spoke of the power available to each of us, if only we would access it. But we often make the mistake of looking for power in money, might, or celebrity, where we eventually find our paths blocked or our dominance fleeting. True and lasting power comes from love - love that is God. Saint Paul tells us, we will be "filled with all the fullness of God" (Eph. 3:19). The ultimate renewable energy - straight from its divine source - is ours for the taking.

#### Saturday, Apr 09, 2022 Remember those who gave all

Ezekiel 37:21-28; John 11:45-56

"It is better for you that one man should die instead of the people..."

Dietrich Bonhoeffer was executed by the Nazis on this date in 1945. He was a Lutheran pastor and theologian best known for his book The Cost of Discipleship, which has become a Christian classic. Ardent in his resistance of the Nazis, he became a target for harassment by the Gestapo. He fled to safety in the United States but soon returned "to share the trials of this time with my people." He was arrested, imprisoned, and hanged. A gallery of 20th-century martyrs in Westminster Abbey features Bonhoeffer along with Martin Luther King Jr. and Father Óscar Romero. Few of us are called to the ultimate sacrifice, but all of us are called to remember and revere those who answered that call.

Father of mercy,
bring us face to face
with our own weakness
when we are tempted
to judge others.
May we find peace and life
in simply stepping back
and allowing you
to be the merciful Judge of us all.
Amen.