

THE FEAST OF PENTECOST

June 5, 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

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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



June 5, 2022
Pentecost Sunday

Even though Pentecost is rightly celebrated in late spring, the robust experience of a New England fall can provide a profound metaphor for reflection. A full expression of fall colors is beautiful to behold. But, with all of its majesty and beauty, the observer knows the experience of death is soon to come. Creation will be dark and barren for a while. Pentecost cannot be separated from the cross. Before God's transformative, life-giving power can bear fruit, we must first die.

Pentecost is all about leaving the lifeless dead wood behind and allowing God, through the power of the Holy Spirit, to create something new. These Pentecost creations happen repeatedly over and over again. The birthing process of the Church is ongoing. God is always bringing life out of death and creating something where there was once nothing. That is why the fall is such an apropos metaphorical season for Pentecost. In order to really receive the gift of the Holy Spirit we have to die to what we once knew and what no longer works.

When fire and wind find their fullest expression, they are in no way gentle nor kind. They have the potential to level anything in their paths. We are experiencing great turmoil in our world, nation, and our Church. Whether the result of circumstance or the work of the Holy Spirit, much of what we knew to be normal and constant is changing. Common systems and institutional structures that may have worked for a time no longer do. When the old and familiar need to be left behind, God creates something new. Change and disorder do not need to be our enemies. They always bring opportunities for something exciting and new. What we need is untiring faith, firm hope, and perfect love.

What we need is for the Holy Spirit to enlighten us to see what is important and what we must do. "O Holy Spirit, descend plentifully into my heart. Enlighten the dark corners of this neglected dwelling and scatter there Thy cheerful beams." (St. Augustine) If we experience joy, even in the midst of turbulence, then we will know we are exactly where God needs us to be. If not, then perhaps there is a lesson in the decaying leaves that graciously descend to the ground on a crisp fall day.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 5th

Sunday: Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34/Rom 8:8-17/Jn 20:19-23
Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20 or Acts 1:12-14/Ps 87:1-2, 3 and 6, 6-7/Jn 19:25-34
Tuesday: 1 Kgs 17:7-16/Ps 4:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8/Mt 5:13-16
Wednesday: 1 Kgs 18:20-39/Ps 16:1b-2ab, 4, 5ab and 8, 11/Mt 5:17-19
Thursday: 1 Kgs 18:41-46/Ps 65:10, 11, 12-13/Mt 5:20-26
Friday: 1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-16/Ps 27:7-8a, 8b-9abc, 13-14/Mt 5:27-32
Saturday: Acts 11:21b-26; 13:1-3/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6/Mt 5:33-37
Next Sunday: Prv 8:22-31/Ps 8:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [2a]/Rom 5:1-5/Jn 16:12-15

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.

Saint Stanislaus & Holy Trinity

Partners in Faith & Mission

"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 worshipping 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: _____

Address: _____

City/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Please Check: ☐ New Registration ☐ Change of Address ☐ Change of Telephone Number

☐ Change of E-mail ☐ Moving out of Parish ☐ Want Envelopes

*Place in offertory basket or mail to Parish Office. We will contact you to complete our Census Form.
Welcome to our Parish Family!*

A Community of Faith Built on Tradition, Where Everyone is Welcome

Saint Stanislaus Parish Community

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon., June 6th - Private Intention
Tues., June 7th - Tom Konkol (Matt & Marcie Senita)
Wed., June 8th - Lena Suizzo (Sheila & Bob Woll)
Thurs., June 9th - Gabriella Wlodarczyk (Family)
Fri., June 10th - Richard Niedzwiecki (Dorothy Mielnik)
Sat., June 11th, 4:00PM - For the People of St. Stanislaus (*Pro Populo*)
Sun., June 12th, 9:00AM - Helen Kurpiewski (Family)



Our sanctuary candle burns in memory of **JOHN OLDENSKI**, as gifted by Joan and Family.



THE WOMEN'S SOCIETY

... will meet on June 12th at 1:00PM in the Parish Hall. All are welcome to attend.

CONGRATULATIONS

... to Alex Wildfire, who was recently inducted into the 2022 Junior National Honors Society! We are proud of your accomplishments.

SECURITY REMINDER

We were made aware of a day-time vehicle theft that took place across the street in the parking lot of Garr Funeral Home. Fortunately, between their security cameras and ours, a good image of the suspect was captured and passed on to the police. This serves as a reminder to secure any valuables in your trunk or glovebox, and *always* lock your doors.

"BOIL IN MY BUM" CAMPAIGN

This weekend is the formal launch of our parish's "Boil in My Bum" campaign, the informal title I have given to our campaign to raise funds to make necessary repairs to our boiler system. (All registered parishioners should have received a letter in regard to this. If you did not, feel free to call the Parish Office and one will be mailed to you). We have already ordered the water reserve tank and pumps. We are awaiting a revised estimate from Scobell Company, which will take into account the work we will do "in-house." I will keep you informed, step by step, as we undertake this important work for our physical plant.

- Fr. Jason

If you are married, I'm guessing that you know the best way to break bad news to your spouse, whether you realize it or not. Maybe it's simply that you know not to talk about the budget after your wife's football team has lost. Maybe you know your husband will take the news that your sister is coming to stay a little easier if you tell him over his favorite dinner. We do the same thing with our children, our friends, our coworkers — we have all learned the language of the people we love. The truth is the same in every language, but it's important for us to convey that truth graciously. That's what Pentecost teaches us. The gift of being able to speak in tongues afforded the Apostles a practical skill to spread the Gospel message, but it also served as a powerful symbol of the importance of effective communication. Evangelization can only happen when you're speaking in words a person is able, ready, and willing to hear. Let's ask ourselves: what is the language we need to speak to share the truth with the person who is standing in front of us? Is it the language of quality time? The language of concern? The language of laughter and friendship? The language of authenticity, of plain talk and frankness? The Holy Spirit gave the Apostles the ability to speak in tongues, and it seems miraculous when we read about it in the Gospels — but only consider that we all have this same ability, in a certain way. The Holy Spirit can and will show us how to speak the truth, if we only ask.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

SAINT ROCH "MULTI-PARISH" MEGA-RAFFLE

We will, once again, participate in the St. Roch Raffle. St. Roch is a parish located in Greenwich, CT. They reach out to many, many parishes along the east coast to solicit participation. We were first invited to participate two years ago. On short notice, we didn't really "push" the raffle, but we do profit from it.

Tickets are \$25 each; 50% of all ticket sales (\$12.50/ticket) remain at St. Stanislaus. Prizes are paid out in American Express Gift Cards. First prize is \$30,000; second is \$10,000; third is \$8,000. There are also 20 winners of \$1,000. Drawing takes place on August 13th and can be viewed live on-line. Please see John Villa for tickets, or call the Parish Office. Thanks for your support!

WEEKLY OFFERING (MAY 22, 2022)



Holy Trinity Parish Community



The sanctuary candle burns this week in memory of **DON BENCZKOWSKI**, as gifted by his family.



6/06 - Joan Heidt
6/09 - Edie Luniewski
6/11 - Connie Knecht
6/12 - Cheryl Meabon

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon., June 6th - The Gorka & Daniszewski Families
Tues., June 7th - The Warfel Family
Wed., June 8th - All Souls
Thurs., June 9th - Msgr. John Daniszewski
Fri., June 10th - Kulig, Laszczewski, & Habas Families (Estate)
Sat., June 11th, 5:15PM - The People of Holy Trinity Parish (Pro Populo)
Sun., June 12th, 10:30AM - The People of Holy Trinity Parish (Pro Populo)

Today we reach the finale of the Easter season with the celebration of the great Feast of Pentecost. Reflecting on today's readings inspires a sense of awe as we consider the mighty power of the Holy Spirit at work giving birth to and sustaining our Church. Just as awesome — the same Spirit is calling to us this day to take up our part in the Church's saving work. In the first reading, from Acts, we see the creative genius of the Holy Spirit moving through the newly confirmed Apostles "who began to speak in different tongues as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim." The large crowd, gathered from all over the world were "amazed" and "astounded" that each one could understand the Apostles speaking in their own language. Each one of us, young and old alike, is personally called today by the Holy Spirit into the same mission as that of the first Apostles — to advance the Kingdom of God in our corner of the world. Just as He did on that Pentecost day, the Holy Spirit speaks to us in our "own language" to give us the Good News of the Gospel and urge us to share it. We can think of our own language as the particular gifts, talents, and passions we possess. We experience the presence of the Holy Spirit through them and we are meant put them to the work in grateful service of the Kingdom of God. When we consider the stewardship way of life we are called to live, surrendering ourselves to God is indeed a challenging way to live. But it leads to a life that is exciting, creative, and deeply rewarding. Stewardship allows us to experience life as a great adventure because it is a life guided and directed by the very source of power and creativity - the Holy Spirit.

LET THE CELEBRATIONS RESUME!

Sunday, June 12th is the Feast of the Holy Trinity. Holy Trinity Parish would like to host a catered brunch following the 10:30AM Mass. All parishioners are invited to attend. During the brunch, we will recognize students from our parish who received First Penance or First Communion, Confirmation, and those graduating from High School or College this year (or did so during the Pandemic). Parishioners and the immediate family of the students are asked to make their reservation by calling the Parish Office (814-456-0671). **RSVP need to be made by Sunday, June 5th.**

For those celebrating their "special day," if you happen to still have the outfit you wore of that day, please wear it to our celebration. We would like to replicate that day as much as possible. We look forward to celebrating your "special day"!

Pentecost - John 20:19-23

D V R E T A I N V P E A C E W T T N W D P E X G
F I M Q W S T L Q E M M W J E Z P N X F G L H D
T H R E L Z R J L K F V F I L N K A X P B I G J
T P F X Q P O E P X S Z T R Y F O R G I V E O G
K N S L I A D S O I K A C F M E O Z E P P S E W
M R D V S Y O U R G F K W Q X X L I Z P S X D L
O E A R J E W S B U G R M Z I K N L R E N B H X
E J B Y D H K Y D I S C I P L E S L J N L G P M
D O T J Z A H R R S B U H M Q I M J S T R Q X G
Y I W D O N J R N I L J Z W R F Y S C E P R Z H
C C O R J D S A H J W T B X S Z K I K C U B P P
B E U U O S G J E O Y V V L I U U D V O G Y F V
R D S R L Z C O P P G Z R Z X F O E U S B N Z N
E Q F K O M J H X T Y M W S M F N O E T F H T S
A E Y L C S E N K J C J K R D H O L Y X E S J S
T M M B K A L C G V V I M W O J X A A L E P C X
H F D X E B L R E C E I V E O E Z N G P X I M R
E A A C D V J Y J X L B R A R W O H Q V Z R W Y
D K Y I K V L U N F L B U G S S S Y E N D I Q O
S S H O W E D C X Q S S I N S R T F Q S Z T A B
E B N Q Q G C Y I F T J H B Z L O I G X L O U I
U W S G Y A Y M U W M X I H M O B U G V Y G C
W O I J G J Q O C W S T H K J R D B Z Q H F L A
M M O N B V Y A Y U O R V R V M S A C D I I V L

sins	retain	pentecost	john
holy	doors	stood	side
rejoiced	peace	jews	hands
disciples	spirit	showed	receive
locked	jesus	forgive	Breathed



WEEKLY OFFERING FOR MAY 22, 2022



"As the Father has sent me, so I send you."

- John 20:21

News for Our Partnership

THE TIMES THEY ARE A CHANGIN'

Our parish is in the process of upgrading the computer software that helps us communicate with and serve our parishioners. In the midst of this transition, if you notice any errors in correspondence, church envelopes and Catholic Services Appeal reminders, please notify the church office. We apologize for any inconvenience and appreciate your understanding as we work to improve our technology.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

For those who support St. Stan's through your use of the Scrip cards, it was brought to our attention that the "Bed, Bath, and Beyond" cards can no longer be used at "The Christmas Tree Store." They are no longer part of the same company. Thank you for your ongoing support.

DIOCESAN ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Couples celebrating their 25th, 40th, 50th or 60th or more wedding anniversaries are invited to attend the annual Diocesan Anniversary Celebration Liturgies on Sunday, July 31, 2022 at St. Mary in St. Mary's and Sunday, August 7, 2022 at Holy Cross in Fairview. Both liturgies will begin at 2:00 p.m. To register for either event or to receive a scroll by mail, please visit: <https://www.eriescd.org/familylifeoffice/anniv.html> or contact your parish office or the Family Life Office at (814) 824-1210.

BEEF-O-RAMA

The Men's Council of Our Lady of Mount Carmel parish announces the return of the annual "Beef-O-Rama" on Thursday, June 30th, on the parish grounds. **You must be 21 years old or older to attend.** Beverages are available beginning at 5PM. Hors d'oeuvres will be served at 6PM. Prime rib dinner at 7PM. Tickets are \$65 and must be purchased in advance; **no tickets will be sold at the door.** Tickets can be purchased at the parish office (814.825.7313), or from Dave Williams (814.825.2722 or 814.873.2778). The deadline to purchase tickets is June 19th.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Saint Stanislaus will host its first ever Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, July 10th in the Social Hall. Mark your calendars and plan to attend and support St. Stan's. More details will be forthcoming.

HELP WANTED

Kathy Smith is in need of the wicker baskets that she uses for the Theme baskets for Zabawa. Her suppliers do not have them. If anyone has any and could donate them, she would appreciate it. You can bring them to a weekend Mass and we will be sure to get them to her.

BEWARE OF SCAMS!!

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 official contact information only. Do not use contact information provided in the potential fraudulent request.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Our annual parish picnic will be held on Sunday, August 14th, in the Saint Stanislaus Rectory courtyard. The communities of St. Stan's, Holy Trinity, and St. Hedwig's are warmly invited to attend. More details will be forthcoming.

EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL

The Diocesan phase of a "Eucharistic Revival," called for by the Bishops of the United States, will begin with four regional Eucharistic processions on June 19th, the Feast of Corpus Christi. Locally, the Eucharistic procession will be hosted at St. Peter's Cathedral beginning at 1:00PM. The procession will be organized outside of the Cathedral. All are strongly encouraged to participate by walking in the procession. This is an opportunity to give witness to the importance of the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist and in your life.

THE 31 CLUB - PRAYING FOR VOCATIONS

6/6) Msgr. Dan Magraw, Joan Oldenski; 6/7) Ed Korytowski, Lori Krasnesky; 6/8) Steve Rimpa, Stephanie & Bill Wycech; 6/9) Marcia Nitczynski, Rose Marie Radomski; 6/10) Tony Jankowski, Eleanor Walker; 6/11) Sandy Kempisty, Ray Przybyszewski; 6/12) Edie Luniewski, Debbie Oldenski

PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

6/6) Fr. Joe Wardanski; 6/7) Fr. Dan Hoffman; 6/8) Fr. Bill Fischer, O.S.F.S.; 6/9) Fr. Mark Mastrian; 6/10) Fr. Chris Barnes; 6/11) Fr. Mike DeMartini; 6/12) Fr. Joseph Campbell

Sunday, Jun 05, 2022

SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST

Acts 2:1-11; Romans 8:17; John 20:19-23

"There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit..."

Embody your faith

Being church is a different identity than simply going to church. If we are truly the Body of Christ, then we embrace this identity with a sense of purpose. Saint Paul describes the church as a body with many parts that function for the sake of the whole. Some of us have obvious gifts like preaching, teaching, or offering a healing presence. Others may benefit from prayer, spiritual direction, faith sharing, or a discernment retreat to come to an awareness of the particular service to which we're called. Joy is in the discovery of the Spirit's personal invitation to you.

Monday, Jun 06, 2022

Genesis 3:9-15, 20 or Acts 1:12-14; John 19:25-34

"He said to his mother, 'Woman, behold, your son.'"

You will not be orphaned

Although the devotion to Mary as "Mother of the Church" is ancient, today's memorial is relatively new—having been instituted in 2018 by Pope Francis when he decreed it will be celebrated annually on the Monday after Pentecost Sunday—to "encourage the growth of the maternal sense of the church." Reflect on how you can "mother" the church—as well as your family and friends, your community and work place, and even yourself. You don't have to be or have a mother in the traditional sense to know how to offer loving care. Standing beneath the cross, said Francis, Mary "welcomed all people in the person of the beloved disciple as sons and daughters"—that means you, too.

Tuesday, Jun 07, 2022

1 Kings 17:7-16; Matthew 5:13-16

"Your light must shine before others..."

Let go and let God

On this day in 1925, Blessed Matt Talbot—40 years sober—died enroute to Sunday Mass. Though Alcoholics Anonymous wouldn't exist for another 10 years, Talbot had already discerned the central truth of AA's Twelve Steps. "It's as hard to give up the drink as it is to raise the dead to life again," he said. "But both are possible and even easy for our Lord. We have only to depend on him." Talbot is the patron of those who struggle with alcohol addiction. Ask his intercession for yourself or another who needs to kick a harmful habit.

Wednesday, Jun 08, 2022

1 Kings 18:20-39; Matthew 5:17-19

"Let it be known... that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant."

Honor and emulate a trailblazer for racial justice

On this day in 1910, Father Stephen Theobald was ordained for the Archdiocese of Saint Paul-Minneapolis, the first black diocesan priest ordained on U.S. soil. Theobald was born in Guyana in 1874 and later worked as a journalist in Canada before being recruited to Minnesota by Archbishop John Ireland, a fierce racial justice advocate. For his entire priestly career, Theobald served at Saint Peter Claver Catholic Church in Saint Paul, the only black parish in the state. He also served in the local chapter of the NAACP, advocating tirelessly for black lives. May we all follow his lasting example of saying "Yes!" to God and "No!" to injustice.

Thursday, Jun 09, 2022

MEMORIAL OF EPHREM OF SYRIA, DEACON, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

1 Kings 18:41-46; Matthew 5:20-26

"[B]e reconciled with your brother, and then come and offer your gift."

Sing with the Syrian saint

Although you may never have heard of him, today's saint left a lasting imprint on the church. Ephrem of Syria (306-373) is known for his writing—primarily for works that battled heresies—but even more so for introducing singing as a form of worship and education. Known as the Harp of the Holy Spirit, he cleverly wrote lyrics that educated the faithful against false teaching. Syriac churches still sing hymns that originated with him. The next time a hymn moves you, say a prayer of thanksgiving to Saint Ephrem.

Friday, Jun 10, 2022

1 Kings 19:9a, 11-16; Matthew 5:27-32

"There was a tiny whispering sound. . . . A voice said to him, 'Elijah, why are you here?' "

Let's get our bearings

"Why are we here?" is an age-old question. As Dostoyevsky writes in *The Brothers Karamazov*: "The mystery of human existence lies not in just staying alive, but in finding something to live for." One might think that Christians have it easy because Jesus clearly spells out our purpose for living: "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind . . . [and] you shall love your neighbor as yourself" (Matt. 22:37-39). But on a day-to-day basis in any given situation, it is not always obvious what the loving response is and whether we are prepared to offer it. That is where prayer comes in. It can provide just the right environment for hearing God's finest whispers leading to the path of love. TODAY'S READINGS:

Saturday, Jun 11, 2022

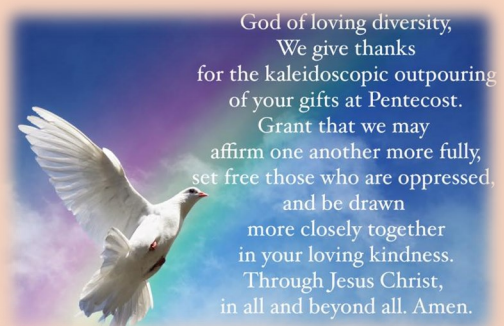
MEMORIAL OF BARNABAS, APOSTLE

Acts 11:21b-26; 13:1-3; Matthew 5:33-37

"Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes,' and your 'No' mean 'No.'"

One, holy, catholic, apostolic

In our recitation of the Nicene Creed at Sunday Mass, we profess our belief in "one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church." Those four adjectives are called the four "marks" or "attributes" of the church. One, because despite the many divisions and denominations of Christianity all worship one God, one Spirit, and one Lord, Jesus Christ. Holy, because, like sacred objects, the church is set apart for God's purpose. Catholic, from the Greek word for "universal," because it is for all without excluding any group or class of people. Apostolic, because it arises out of the efforts of the apostles, both the original 12 and others, like today's saint, Barnabas, who were later named apostles. And like you and me, called today to embody these same attributes.



God of loving diversity,
We give thanks
for the kaleidoscopic outpouring
of your gifts at Pentecost.
Grant that we may
affirm one another more fully,
set free those who are oppressed,
and be drawn
more closely together
in your loving kindness.
Through Jesus Christ,
in all and beyond all. Amen.