

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time



A friend of mine had been out of work for over a year. He spent a good deal of time each week contacting businesses, sending out resumes, and filling out applications. In the first few months he was pretty hopeful, but then after

a while I could start to see how the lack of securing a new position was beginning to weigh on him. As a household, they had come to rely solely on his wife's income. When the unemployment ran out and they began to dip into savings, my friend's confidence was shaken. When he landed a new job he was overjoyed, and even though it was not as prestigious as his previous employment, my friend couldn't wait to tell others about his good fortune.

In some ways my friend was a bit like the leper in the Gospel today. He lost what he once had. In my friend's case it was a job; for the leper it was his health. They both ended up in a situation that made them feel isolated, cut off from ordinary life. Despite that, neither of them gave up. My friend kept looking for work; the leper took the initiative to seek out Jesus. And both of them ended up with something they were looking for and they had to tell others.

Often when we have good news, we like to share it, especially if it impacts how others might view us. For the leper, bragging about his cure meant that he would be welcomed back into society. For my friend, sharing the good news about his new job helped to validate his self-worth at a time he was struggling. Being saved by Jesus is the best thing that has happened to any of us. We don't have to go around telling that story every minute of every day. But it's not a story we should keep secret either. Is there someone with whom you can share the good news?

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IN OUR HOMILY TODAY - As Jesus heals the leper in today's Gospel, so Jesus can heal us from the damaging effects of sin in our lives. Next Week: God's love for us is stronger than all human wickedness. The Lord, who loves justice, is also the Lord of mercy. Blessed be the Lord.



St. Joseph's Annual Mardi Gras Party:

Tuesday February 21st, from 6:00 to 8:30pm in the Parish Hall. Door Prizes, 50/50, Pizza, Music and Family Fun. Just bring a SWEET TREAT to pass around.

Please sign-up in the church vestibule by Sunday Feb. 19th for food count or call Becky at 537-4201.

ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Alice Koester, Janet George & Peg Walsh

GENERATIONS OF FAITH

Living as Catholics

"Our 2012 year: "Prayer"

February's theme:

'Praying through Lent/Easter'

February's Sessions:

Saturday, February 11th • 9:30am- 12:00pm

Sunday, February 12th • 5:00-7:30pm

Monday, February 13th • 6:00-8:30pm



11TH GRADE CONFIRMATION STUDENT SESSIONS BEGIN THIS WEEK:

Our first class is Tuesday, February 7th at 7:00pm in the Parish Hall. Classes will continue on Tuesday, Feb. 28th, and Mondays March 5th, 12th, 26th, and April 2nd.

THANK YOU to Mrs. Cathy Levesque and Mrs. Kim Kegler for volunteering to lead our students through these sessions and this part of their spiritual journey!

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES: Confirmation students if you need service hours, be sure to check out our website for opportunities. Recently added - our upcoming Mardi Gras party and Father/Son Breakfast.

OUR CONFIRMATION STUDENTS...THE FUTURE of OUR CHURCH...THE 'ROCKS OF OUR FAITH':

This week, our 11th grade students are beginning their direct preparation to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this spring. In the vestibule, please find a basket of special rocks, with our Confirmation students' names on them. Please take one home, hold it in your hands, and pray for them as they prepare to receive the Holy Spirit and fully live their Catholic faith - building on the solid foundation of our church.

Important: All rocks should be returned to the vestibule by **Sunday, April 1st**. They will be given to the students on their Confirmation day as a symbol of the prayerfulness and support of St. Joseph's faith community.



CONFIRMATION MASS: Will be held Sunday, May 20th at 1:00pm.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES: The Annual Catholic Charities letters are in the process of being mailed out. We hope that you will be generous in your response. **NOTE:** They no longer mail cards with the letters. You are asked to fill out the bottom section (which has your name & ID number) & return it in the response envelope or drop it off at church or in the collection).

HEALTH CARE DIRECTIVE: As announced last week, the government is mandating that all hospitals offer complete health coverage to its employees to include such procedures as abortion & other services not in conformity with Catholic teachings. The Catholic Church has no intention of doing this. In the "BULLETIN" section of our parish website & on the entrance tables of our church is a letter from our bishop that outlines our moral objections. You can keep informed & take appropriate action by consulting the U.S. bishops' site on the matter at www.usccb.org/conscience.

E-MAIL: The parish staff e-mails are found in the "STAFF" page of our website. **NOTE:** it is a common web procedure that when something is underlined, it is a link to wither a website of an e-mail. Our parish secretary e-mail is listed on the front of the bulletin (cathyl@catholicweb.com)

BASKETS FOR PALMS: There will be baskets at the entrance of the church for last year's palms. They will be burned to provide ashes for Ash Wednesday (Feb 22nd)

Father/Son & Men of the Parish Breakfast: The Social Committee will be sponsoring a Father & Son Communion Breakfast in the Parish Hall on Sunday March 4th after the 8am Mass. All the men of the parish are invited to attend this annual event. Please mark your calendars, great breakfast, guest speaker & door prizes. This event is always well attended. Tickets will go on sale this weekend in the vestibule of the church. The cost per ticket is \$4.00 and boys four years old and younger eat free. If you never attended why don't you consider coming; it is a great way to meet other men in our parish.

NEW! SPIRITUAL RESOURCE AREA IN OUR PARISH HALL (in back - along the blue wall). What's available? A **family area** with textbooks and other items to assist parents in teaching their children our Catholic faith basics; **student sacrament information; upcoming area events; seasonal resources**, and information geared **solely for adults** (including bereavement, divorce, conferences, etc.). Be sure to check back often for new things – information will be updated as it becomes available!



Gift to God: \$4256.00 Regular Collection, \$25.00, Education, \$25.00, Fuel & \$78.00, Church in Central & Eastern Europe Fund



Mass Schedule & Intentions for the Week

Monday, February 13th
8:00am For All Parishioners
Tuesday, February 14th
8:00am Father's Day Int for S. Liddle & Wm. Bennett
Wednesday, February 15th
8:00am Cecelia Fronckowiak (Lucy & Peter Guidotti)
Thursday, February 16th
8:00am No Masses
Friday, February 17th
8:00am Father's Day Int for B. Rybarczyk & J. McCann
Saturday, February 18th
5:00pm Mother's Day Intentions
Sunday, February 19th
8:00am Margaret Bartz (Helen & Norb Davnan)
10:30am Mother's Day Intentions

Altar Server Schedule

Saturday, February 18th
5:00pm Katie Zielen Ersing & Andrew Walkawiak
Sunday, February 19th
8:00am Shea Moltrup & Abigail Jusiak
10:30am Adam Zientek & Diana Bateman
Ash Wednesday, February 22nd
7:00pm Adam Fridman & Hannah Lovullo

Eucharistic Minister Schedule

Saturday, February 18th
5:00pm E. & R. Russell, and N. Kolacki
Sunday, February 12th
8:00am J. Hilton, M. Major, W. Waligora & C. Rauch
10:30am J. Montgomery, K. Pierino, & K. Gray
Ash Wednesday, February 22nd
8:00am J. Montgomery, C. Kramer & C. Roth
7:00pm B. Andrzejewski, W. Waligora & E. Russell

Lector Schedule

Saturday, February 18th
5:00pm Cheryl Zielen-Ersing
Sunday, February 19th
8:00am Mike Perry
10:30am Sue Vanderbush
Ash Wednesday, February 22nd
8:00am Bill Franczak
7:00pm Terry Bennett

Sacristan Schedule

Sat/Sun February 18th – 19th
•5pm A. Howes •8am A. Anholzner •10:30am M. Poslusny