



Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time—February 4, 2018

SAINT MARY'S & SAINT ELIZABETH'S CATHOLIC CHURCHES

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VICTOR DVORAK –DEACON



“Remember that my life is like the wind; I shall not see happiness again.” Job uttered these words in despair and perhaps was justified in doing so. He had suffered the terrible fate of losing his wealth, his family, and his friends. How could God allow such suffering, considering that Job was a man known for his sanctity and goodness?

Suffering has been and continues to be a great mystery. Why do bad things happen to good people? Why does God allow suffering? But, we know and believe that God does care. God does love us. When we suffer like Job, we can find this hard to believe, but God is with us in the midst of suffering. The paradox is that those who accept suffering do not suffer more, but less. As the lives of the saints show us, when we embrace our sufferings, we are surprised that our crosses become lighter; we allow Christ to carry them for us.

The Light Shines in the Darkness

This past week, the Church celebrated the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, Candlemas (February 2nd). It is a traditional day to bless candles, so as to send them into people’s homes. Why? Because a blessed candle prayerfully reminds us that in the heavy dark moments of life, we can all upon the light of Christ’s grace to bring us through them. So, light these candles during storms; when someone in the family is sick; when financial troubles arise; or when a loved one has died. May the light of Christ shine in the darkness, bringing us the gift of hope.

Be a Rome-an Catholic

Our pilgrimage to Italy is back on! The new dates are **November 15-23, 2018**, and the cost is **\$3,799/person**. The cities included in the pilgrimage are: Rome, Assisi, Orvieto, and Subiaco. Some highlights will include: a papal audience with Pope Francis; visits to the major papal basilicas; a tour of the Sistine Chapel; a visit to the tomb of Saint Francis; a tour of a catacomb; and a visit to the tombs of Saints Peter and Paul. Prayerfully consider this journey of faith and then contact Fr. Gary if you are interested. No down payments need to be made at this time. God bless you and we hope you can be part of this life-changing event. Like a young girl from Kansas once said, “There’s no place like Rome!”

Valentines Dinner: Take Two

A reminder that the Mass schedule next weekend will change to accommodate the annual Valentine’s Day Dinner at Saint Elizabeth’s Parish of Lefor. So, the 8:30 a.m. Mass will be at Saint Mary’s on February 11th and the 10:30 a.m. Mass will be at Saint Elizabeth’s on that same day. Thank you for your understanding. I hope you can make it to the dinner and no guys, attending with your wives does not get you off the hook from buying roses or candy for your lovely wives for Valentines Day!

Retreat Opportunities

- Want to grow closer to the Lord in the season of Lent? Consider the following retreats: 1) *Stanley Women’s Retreat*, Saturday, March 3rd, 2018, at Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Parish of Stanley, ND. Featured speaker: Tim Mosser, radio host on Catholic Radio. 8:30 a.m. -4:00 p.m. (CST), Registration at 8:30 a.m., Mass at 9:00 a.m. Cost: \$20. To register, call Elonda at 701-629-1778, Claudia at 701-629-1491, or Betty at 701- 629-1802
- 2) *Cursillo for Men*, March 1-4, 2018, Friday through Sunday, at Trinity High School of Dickinson, ND. Cost: \$30. To register, call Daryl Kostelecky at 701-290-0499.
- 3) *Cursillo for Women*, March 15-18, 2018, Friday through Sunday, at Trinity high School of Dickinson, ND. Cost: \$30. To register, call Melissa Olheiser at 701-281-4748.

MASS & ADORATION SCHEDULE

Monday, February 5

7:30 AM SM—Communion Service

Tuesday, February 6

7:30 AM SM —+Laura Grundhauser by Martina Stagl

6:00PM SE—Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

7:00PM SE- +Ralph Messmer by a friend

Wednesday, February 7

7:00 PM SM– Rosary & Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions

7:00 PM SM– +Jacob & +Francizka Benz by Fr. Gary Benz

Thursday, February 8

7:30AM SM– +Jackie Naumann by Tom & Shelley Schaeffbauer

Friday, February 9

7:30AM SM– +Peter & +Mary Ficek by Jan & Joel Ficek

12PM-3PM SM– Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday, February 10

8:30 AM SM –+Fr. Mike Millard by Fr. Gary Benz

5:00 PM SM - +Parents & +Grandparents of Dave & Emily

Madler

Sunday, February 11

8:30AM SM—Pro Populo

10:30AM SE –+Vi Martin by Elvie & Trish Kaufman

Please Keep in Your Prayers:

Andy Prokop, Henley Johnson, Duane Grundhauser, Pete Schaefer, Alice Candrian, Marilyn Jacobs, Leo Heck, Ross Thomas, Arlene Rohr, Brenda Barton, Elven Kaufman, Suzette Printz,, Linda Reisenauer, Rose Krebs (SE), Russ Lefor, Lori Lefor, Herbert Emmil, Reggie Gentz, Cindy Martin, Tim Theil, Howard Schiwal, Theresa Decker, Alyssa Binstock, Yvonne Fettig, Dale Reindel, Kim Kuhn, Don Miller, Shari Obritsch, Charlotte Krebs, Eugenia Stag, Katherine Splichal, Bonnie (Krebs) Dick, Dorothy Kohl, Colleen Churchill, Thresiamma (Fr. Biju's mom)

Assisted Living and Nursing Home Residents: Charlotte Krebs, Harvey Herberholz, Archie Jalbert, Benny Benz, Joan Binstock, Joe Wandler, Sylvia Koppinger, Mike Urlacher, Leona Gordon, Ardelle Kovar, Joan Madler, Cecelia Jung, Donnella Koppinger, Marilyn Jeske, Willie Emmil, Frances Heick, Dale Schroeder

Our Deceased Loved Ones + Keith Herold, +Carla Rohan+Alvin Rotering +Jeanne Kovar +Bridget Urlacher, +Laura Grundhauser, +Florian Urlacher +Paul Schiwal, + LeRoy Jacobs +Victor Roller +John Herold, + Viola Martin + Viola Neprash +Maggie Schoch, +Rose Lefor, + Mary Ficek + June Stockert +Adeline Bogner +Vern Honeymann

On the Lighter Side—Little Susie concluded her prayer by saying, “Dear God, before I finish, please take care of Daddy, Mommy, my baby brother, Grandma and Grandpa . . . and please God, take care of Yourself, or else we’re all sunk!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◆ **Giving Heart Days Feb. 8th-Donate \$10 to Catholic Charities & your donation can be matched up to \$4,000. Mail a check of \$10+ on or before Feb 8th.**
- ◆ **Lefor Steak & Shrimp Supper Saturday February 10 serving starts at 5:30PM at K of C Hall.**
- ◆ **SE Valentine Dinner Feb. 11th at the K of C Hall following the 10:30am SE Mass. It is a free will offering, with games & fellowship to follow. We ask you to bring one (wrapped) white elephant gift per family. Please RSVP the number of people attending by Feb. 8th. Call Tina Lefor @260-3472 or Trish Kaufman @260-5928**

St. Mary's Liturgical Assignments February 10 & 11

MINISTRY	Saturday 5 PM	Sunday 8:30AM
Lector	Lori Fitterer	Susan Schmidt
Mass Servers	Mark S./Will S.	Matthew B./Brock E.
Eucharistic Ministers	Bonnie J./Toni J.	David H./Vivian H.
Gifts	Connie Jalbert Family	Philip & Clem Urlacher
Rosary Leader	Maureen Gardner	Richard Wandler
Greeters	Vicki Herberholz.	Victor & Lynn Dvorak
Homebound Minister	Martina Stagl	Martina Stagl

Collection Report St. Mary's January 21 & 22

Adult		Youth
\$ 2199.00	Envelopes	\$ 37.46
\$ 41.00	Loose Plate	\$
\$ 2277.46	Total	\$
\$	Month	\$

St. Elizabeth's Liturgical Assignments February 11

Lector	Dortia
Mass Servers	Nathan
Eucharistic Ministers	Cindy & Fran
Gifts	Mary & Gregg
Greeters	Gregg & Marsha
Ushers	Elvin & Lenny

Collection Report St. Elizabeth's January 21

Adult		Youth
\$ 705.00	Envelopes	\$ 34.00
\$ 50.00	Loose Plate	\$
\$ 789.00	Total	\$
\$	Month	\$

The Catholic Devotional Life, *Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus*

The heart has always been considered the center or essence of a person, as we see in common expressions: “the heart of the matter”; “you have my heart”; “take it to heart”; and “my heart sings”. Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus is devotion to Jesus Christ Himself, but in the particular way of meditating on His interior life and on His threefold love: His divine love; His burning love that fed His human will; and His sensible love that affects His interior life. This threefold love was expounded upon by Blessed Pope Pius XII in his 1956 papal encyclical, *Haurietis Aquas* (On Devotion to the Sacred Heart): p.55) ***Divine love***, “It is a symbol of that divine love which He shares with the Father and the Holy Spirit, but which He, the Word made flesh, alone manifested through a weak and perishable body, since in Him dwells the fullness of the Godhead bodily.”

p.56) ***The burning love of His human will***, “It is besides that burning love which, infused into His soul, enriches the human will of Christ and enlightens and governs its acts by the most perfect knowledge derived both from the beatific vision and that which is directly infused.”

p.57) ***Sensible love***, “And finally---and this in a more natural and direct way---it is the symbol also of sensible love, since the body of Jesus Christ, formed by the Holy Spirit, in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary, possesses full powers of feelings and perception, in fact, more than any other human body.”

Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus has two elements: consecration and reparation. With *consecration*, we consecrate ourselves to the Sacred Heart by acknowledging Him as Savior and Redeemer, as well as King of Kings. We humbly submit to Him, granting Him full sovereignty of our lives. With *reparation*, we make reparation for the indifference and ingratitude with which He is treated; all too often, humanity abandons Him and serves the false gods of the passing world. Reparation means we commit our lives to prayer, penance, and sacrifice so that Christ may be merciful to wayward souls, drawing them back to the love of His Sacred Heart.

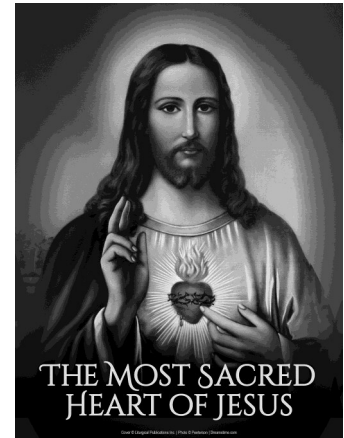
General devotion to the Sacred Heart was popular in medieval Benedictine and Cistercian monasteries, especially in response to the devotion of Saint Gertrude the Great (b. 1256) to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. This devotion became more widespread because of the revelations granted to Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque (1647-1690). This Visitation nun received personal revelations from Jesus Christ as she prayed before the Blessed Sacrament. She wrote, “He disclosed to me the marvels of His love, flowing from His Sacred Heart.” Jesus reminded her of His burning love and His woundedness caused by man’s indifference to this love. He promised that in response to those who consecrate themselves and make reparations to His Sacred Heart:

- He will give them all the graces necessary in their state of life.
- He will establish peace in their homes.
- He will comfort them in all their afflictions.
- He will be their secure refuge during life and above all, in death.
- He will bestow abundant blessings upon all their undertakings.
- Sinners will find in His heart the source of an infinite ocean of mercy.
- Lukewarm souls will become more fervent.
- Fervent souls will quickly mount to high perfection.
- He will bless every place in which an image of His Sacred Heart is exposed and honored.
- He will give priests the gift of touching the most hardened of hearts.
- Those who promote this devotion will have their names written in His heart.
- In the excessive mercy of His heart and by His all-powerful love, He will grant those who receive Holy Communion on the First Fridays in nine consecutive months the grace of final perseverance; they shall not die in disgrace without receiving the Sacraments. His divine heart shall be their safe refuge in this last moment.

The devotions attached to receiving these promises are:

- Receiving Holy Communion frequently.
- First Fridays of the month: going to Confession and receiving the Holy Eucharist on the First Friday of each month for nine consecutive months. Many parishes will offer First Friday devotions; if so, this is a public celebration of First Fridays. If this is not offered in your parish, you can offer your devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus in private prayers and then go to Confession and Holy Communion within a reasonable time.
- Enthronement of a home to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, which is a formal ritual offered by a priest, whereby families make a covenant to honor the Sacred Heart of Jesus in marriage and family life. [nb, Contact Fr. Gary if you wish to have an Enthronement of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in your home.]

May Jesus bless you as you offer your devotion to His Sacred Heart. That heart was pierced for love of you on the Cross and it remains filled with great love and mercy for sinners. Thus daily, we cry out, “Most Sacred Heart of Jesus . . . pray for us who have recourse to Thee!”



A Point to Ponder

The wages of sin have no deductions.