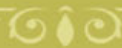




5TH SUNDAY OF LENT



Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit." - Jn 12:23-24

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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MASS:

Wednesday 9:00 a.m.

Sunday 9:00 a.m.

Parish Pastoral Council:

Chris Bonacci; Shawna Bonacci; Andrea Neff; Eddie Odom; Amy Pollice; Joe Vivacqua; Tony Winterburn

A Reference to Chester

When I developed a nagging leg injury recently, I told one of my stepdaughters that I was "limping around like Chester on 'Gunsmoke'!" She gave me a totally blank look. It was apparent she had never heard of either the legendary western series nor the iconic character played by Dennis Weaver.

This was not the first time in recent years that I have realized many of the pop culture references that spring from my lips date from too long ago. I had a glimpse of the same reality when I mentioned elsewhere in passing that a candidate's speech was so dull "it was better than Sominex" to put one to sleep. That likewise drew a blank stare. Sominex, of course, was a famous sleep aid that sponsored "Ted Mack's Amateur Hour" on TV decades ago.

I suppose I should not be surprised that my stepdaughter did not know about "Gunsmoke." She was born after it went off the air. But this recurring habit of mine — referring to pop culture icons most people don't even remember anymore — keeps reminding me that my days are becoming numbered. I have arrived at the time in life when my options are growing limited, an age when anyone with a brain knows it's time to devote more of one's energy and attention to matters spiritual than temporal.

By its very nature, Lent is the spiritual season attuned to this reality. What we give up from our normal routines and habits helps us focus on more important concerns. This year I "fasted" from social media, discovering how many more hours there are in a day to devote to more meaningful pursuits.

Meanwhile, I worked on finding longer periods of quiet in my day. For many folks, that is not possible, especially for parents raising young children. But one benefit of aging is that you can work in some quiet prayer time around your grandparent duties or retirement pursuits.

In my younger days, I wasted many Lenten seasons on giving up candy bars or focusing on weight loss. These days, I view Lent more as a welcome "desert time" to be with the Lord and seek His will for me in whatever time I have left (sure hope it is years). Prayer, fasting, and almsgiving...the Church had it right all along, when my own focus on the season was woefully inadequate. Plus, I've been blessed this year with a deep spiritual insight: No need to give up those Almond Joy bars after all.

— Lou Jacquet

Lenten Fish Dinner Update



"The fifth week of our Drive-Thru Lenten Fish dinners was another great success," reports Patty Infante, co-chair with John Coudriet. "More than 550 pounds of fish were served for a total of 562 dinners and 38 sandwiches. The sales of these dinners helps meet expenses of the church and various

parish activities.

"We have one week of dinners left. If you have not had the opportunity to purchase a dinner, please plan on doing so. The dinners are only \$15, and sides can also be purchased for \$4 each. You can drive through or phone in an order on Thursdays (10 a.m.-2 p.m.) or Fridays (9 a.m.-5 p.m.) Thank you for helping to make this another successful year for our Drive-Thru Fish Dinners."

Lenten Schedule

Sunday, March 17

9 a.m. Mass, St. Brendan's

Wednesday, March 20

9 a.m. Mass, St. Brendan's

6 p.m. Part Five, Adult Lenten Series with Evening Prayer/Lenten Supper/Presentation at St. Christine Church

Friday, March 22

7.m. Stations of the Cross/Benediction, St. Christine Church

Sunday, March 17

9:00 a.m. Scott Moon by Mary Moon

Wednesday, March 20

9:00 a.m. Don Summerhill

by Geri & Lou Jacquet

Sunday, March 24

9:00 a.m. Chuck Lautner

by Audrey Lautner and Children

Please Pray For Our Sick

Sr. Marjorie Haidet, Frank Lightner, Michelle Smith, Ken Mains, Judy Lazar, David Deihl, Barbara Bonninsegna, Sherri Creech, Nancy D'Amico, Mary Beth Celio, Fr. Richard Brobst, Charles Slivkoff, Harold and Debra Brown, Rita Thomas, Christine Kalhoun, Blanche Ruggiero

Altar/Rosary Group Gathers on March 3



St. Brendan's Altar/Rosary Group met March 3 after the 9 a.m. Mass in Room 102. Pictured, clockwise seated from left, are Patty Infante, Mary Moon, Carol Martin, Amy Kernan, and Mary Goodall; standing, Barb Fechtel (selling 50/50 tickets), Dot Kos and Deborah Zalovcik. Photo by Sharon Pasquale, president

Highlights from Adult Lenten Series Evenings

Father John Jerek, pastor of St. Brendan, St. Christine and Our Lady of Sorrows parishes, has been offering reflections on "The Catholic Meaning of Things: An Exploration of Catholic Practices, Teachings and Values" on Wednesday nights in Lent at St. Christine Parish.

Among the many points he has made, the following come to mind:

— **The Gospel of John** is "the most complex and most misunderstood." It is heavily symbolic; written at a time (90-100 A.D.) of persecution by the Romans. "This Gospel says that the best times are always ahead."

— **Miracles**: "In Scripture, always signs that the Kingdom of Heaven is breaking into our world. These are not an exercise for Jesus to prove his glory."

— **Ash Wednesday**: "The Church gives out ashes only in connection with liturgy, as an extension of liturgy. They are never just handed out casually."

— **Rosary**: "Comes from St. Dominic and the Dominican order in the early 1200s. Meditation is central to the Rosary. It is the one prayer we all know."

— **Devotion to the Sacred Heart**: "A window into the love of Jesus Christ. This was a response to Jansenism, which saw human nature as primarily corrupt and salvation only for the elite. The devotion has 12 powerful promises."

— **Heaven**: "It's all about community. We will encounter everyone there."

— **Death**: "The Catholic Church says there will be bodily resurrection at the end of time (even if you are cremated)." Father Jerek quoted Jesuit theologian Karl Rahner: "Death is a holy surrender to God in freedom, a punctuation mark in a large story, an opportunity that transforms us."

— **St. Joseph**: "Never says a word in Scripture. Perhaps that is why he is so beloved. He shows the power of example."

— **Eulogy**: "The purpose of a eulogy is not to talk about your friendship with the deceased, but to show how this person showed God's grace to others."

— **Anointing**: "We do not anoint after death. Anointing is for the living."

— **Pall**: "Putting a pall over the casket brings a family together."

Check Our New Web Page!

A message from Andrea Neff:

"Hi! Check out our new web page! It's still in the works, but is up and running. Yay!" Visit: stbrendanyoungstown.com

Holy Land Collection 3/29

Pope Francis has asked every Catholic parish to support the Pontifical Good Friday Collection on March 29, which helps Christians in the Holy Land. Your support helps the Church to minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools, offer religious education, and undertake social and charitable works along with preserving sacred shrines.

The collection is vital to maintain a Christian presence in the land made holy by the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Your gift also helps support the Church as an instrument of peace in a deeply troubled area of the world. Envelopes for the collection are in your parish packet to bring to our 3 p.m. service on Good Friday afternoon.

Ursulines Seek Motherhouse Cook

The Ursuline Sisters have an immediate opening for an institutional cook. Will work a flex schedule preparing lunch, dinner and dessert items for approximately 20 people at the Ursuline Sisters Motherhouse in Canfield. \$14.75/hour. Contact Linda, 330-792-7636.

April Ministry Schedule

Eucharistic Ministers: Jerry and Amy Kernan

Lector: Lou Jacquet

Your Sacrificial Offering

Amount needed monthly to meet expenses

For March 2024 **\$29,440.00**

Week of March 10, 2024

Sunday Collection	\$2,572.00
Increased Operating Exp.	\$140.00
Major Repairs	\$00.00
Rentals	\$1,050.00
Maint. Support	\$1,110.00
Total	\$4,872.00

2 week total \$10,903 .00 toward the goal of \$29,440.00

\$18,537 .00 short

WE COUNT MEMBERS BECAUSE MEMBERS COUNT

Mass 9 a.m.

3/10– 86



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We are committed to building the kingdom of
God by living the Gospel,
celebrating the sacraments
and loving our neighbor as ourselves.*

PARISH STAFF

Pastor

Father John Jerek

Parochial Vicar

Father Robert England

Deacons

Ron Layko

Mark Kiraly

Parish Office Manager

Jackie Niznik

Ext.10

Email: office@stbrendanyo.org

Music Director

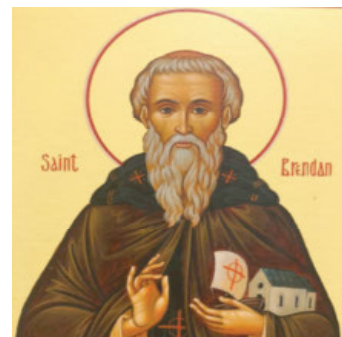
Geri Jacquet

Assistant Music Director

Allyson Reed

MASS Sunday 9:00am

Wednesday 9:00am





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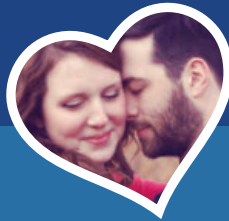
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