



2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER



Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."

- Jn 20:28-29

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

©LPI

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

Daffodils Begging For Mercy

Well, Spring has arrived (officially, at least) and I am glad of it. Even though we had a remarkably mild winter by northeast Ohio standards, the daffodils that were blooming in early March — when the temperatures were in the 70s for a stretch there — were begging for mercy a couple of weeks later when we had a cold weather snap for a week or two.

Geri's daffodils, which had given us such hope a few weeks earlier, were looking beaten down and bedraggled. In fact, me of little faith was pretty sure it was curtains for that row next to our fence. But daffodils are a hardy breed and, amazingly, that band of yellow and green lovelies sprung back to life by Holy Week despite the low overnight temperatures.

We have been watching the world come to life outside our back kitchen windows. Squirrels, birds and deer abound. It's still too wet to mow or even pick up the sticks and limbs left behind by harsh winter winds, but it won't be long before it's warm enough to set up our picnic tables on the patio and put out the rugs and chairs. We'll bring out the St. Anthony statue, too, the one that's a centerpiece of a flower garden, ringed by stones, that my wife devotes her energies to with such beautiful results.

That only happens, of course, after my part of the process: buying the soils and mulch and bringing them via wheelbarrow to be unloaded where I am directed to leave them. My spouse does the majority of the planting before we sit back to await the results that God and her produce back there on our "holy ground."

This resurgence of life in our backyard at this time of year, daffodils and beyond, always gives me hope that winter is finally behind us. There's a twinge of sadness that I never ended up with the ten to twelve acres that Pop and I always dreamed of, but at our age my spouse and I have had to adjust to a good many things, among them the realization that taking care of our acre is plenty of work in itself.

So, as the days warm up, we give thanks to God for every hour that we can sit out, walk the yard, pray by the St. Anthony statue for his intercession, and admire God's handiwork in the creation that we are privileged to participate in. Not the least of which are those amazingly hardy daffodils.

— Lou Jacquet

Fish Dinner Results Announced



Patty Infante, co-chair of the Lenten Fish Dinners with John Coudriet, sent in this report:

"The Lenten Fish Dinners for the 2024 season have come to a close. A special thank-you goes out to all volunteers, the support of the parishioners, neighbors and friends who came together to make this another successful year. We served 3,722 meals and sandwiches during Lent with a profit of \$30,690 after all expenses were paid and supplies that we did not use returned.

"The revenue will be used by the parish for various projects and expenses. The Simple Acts of Kindness program paid for 45 meals that were delivered to homebound parishioners during the six-week period. We did have some extra food that was given to the Dorothy Day House and the Youngstown Police Department Detective Bureau.

"A picnic will be held on Sunday, April 28 for the volunteers who helped with the dinners. More information on this will be given in the weeks to come."

John Coudriet adds: "Make sure you mention Melissa. She was there every day early morning until we left at night about 7:30 p.m. And don't forget to mention Chris Bonacci."

Sunday, April 7

9:00 a.m. Fr. Bill Loveless by Sue Desko

Wednesday, April 10

9:00 a.m. Angie Phillipone by Karen Brown

Sunday, April 14

9:00 a.m. Albert and Sandy Mihalik by Family/
Anniversary of Death

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

Pray for the Faithful Departed

Paul Limongi

Fr. Jerek's Thoughts on Things Catholic

On Wednesday, March 20, Fr. John Jerek offered thoughts on a variety of Catholic topics during the final Lenten Evening for three parishes held at St. Christine's, along with the Church's universal Evening Prayer and a Soup Supper.

On the topic of Catholic Stewardship, he noted that:

- All giving should be based on gratitude
- Giving should be sacrificial, not from our excess
- From Abel, we get the idea of stewardship
- The goal is to give 10 percent of one's income, 5% to our parish and 5% to various Catholic charities
- "We support God's work on earth"
- "If we had 2 percent giving nationwide in our Catholic parishes, we could offer free K-16 education and build a hundred hospitals"
- "Our investments have a profound impact on social and environmental issues; by prioritizing investments in companies that demonstrate responsibility toward their employees, the environment and the communities in which they operate, we can use our financial resources to effect positive change."

— "We can align our investments with our convictions."

Father Jerek devoted a major portion of the evening to "Catholic Values: What We Stand For." He listed the following:

1. The Dignity of the Human Person ("important in an era when the world has become a crude and vicious place")

2. The Call to Community and Family ("'I take care of my own' is not the Catholic way"); "nobody in history has done more for humanity than the Catholic Church"

3. The Preferential Option for the Poor ("Our values instruct us to put the needs of others before our own")

4. Solidarity ("working for the fair distribution of goods and resources for human persons")

5. Stewardship of Creation ("we must all care for and share the resources of the earth; care for animals and the environment is a common and universal duty as we live in relationship with all of God's creation")

6. Respect for the Findings of Science ("we say science needs to serve God"); "many of history's most famous scientists were Catholics").

Sunday's Scriptures: Mercy Forgives, Heals, Empowers

The readings for the Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday) are from Acts 4: 32-35; 1 John 5: 1-6; John 20: 19-31.

What is Divine Mercy? The Gospel is the revelation in Jesus Christ of God's mercy to sinners (Catechism 1849). Saint John Paul II describes it as a "particular mode of love that encounters and embraces human suffering, poverty, brokenness and sin." God's love meets each of us and helps us in the midst of our suffering and sin. On this side of eternity, we are all sinners and, because of sin, suffering is our lot in life.

Jesus' incarnation, life and death for us while we were still sinners is a perfect illustration of Divine Mercy. Jesus does more than simply forgive sins. He enters completely into our human sufferings, fears, brokenness, grief — and compassionately suffers with us and dies in our place. He breaks the grip of sin and its ultimate consequence (separation from God) and renews our lives.

In our Gospel passage from John, we see the tenderness of God's Divine Mercy. "On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked where the disciples were for fear of

the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, 'Peace (shalom) be with you'...and He breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained.'"

This scene from the Gospel shows the tender compassion and love of the Lord Jesus. A few days ago, these disciples left Him alone in His suffering and death. They abandoned and denied Him and caused Him pain and acute loneliness. Yet Jesus does not mention their sin. He forgives, heals, and empowers them with the gift of the Holy Spirit.

God's mercy does not only forgive us our trespasses (sins) but actually restores us to full spiritual health. It transforms us into His sons and daughters with His divine life flowing through us. We have Holy Spirit power and love! We are set free from sin and become heirs to eternal life with God.

Let us be filled with joy, awe and gratitude at so great a gift...blessed Divine Mercy Sunday!

— Geri Jacquet

St. B's Participates in Series

Participation from members of St. Brendan in Father John Jerek's Lenten series on "The Meaning of Catholic Things" continued on the final Wednesday of Lent with the Soup Supper before Taize Prayer was held in the church.

Members of our parish who participated that week included Helen Kacik, Fred and Shirley Merlo, Mary Lou Casey, Bill Neff, Andrea Neff, David McLain, Barb Fecthel, Sharon Pasquale, Patty Infante, Fran Mihalik, Dot Kos, Geri Jacquet and Lou Jacquet.

The series, which will resume in the Autumn, has been part of efforts to bring parishioners of St. Brendan, Our Lady of Sorrows and St. Christine together in prayer and socially since the parishes are now worshiping with a shared Mass schedule and pastoral team (Father Jerek, Father Bob England, and Deacons Ron Layko and Mark Kiraly).

Taize Prayer, developed in France at a monastery with monks from Catholic and other faith traditions, is an ecumenical service featuring singing, prayers, and, this time, individual veneration of the Cross in a darkened church.

Ursuline H.S. Sets Two Events

Ursuline High School will host its annual 5th and 6th Grade Education Day on Friday April 12 from 8:45 a.m.-1:35 p.m. Students may dress casually; lunch provided. Students in parochial schools will register at their schools; others can download the needed paperwork at www.ursuline.com/rsvp

Ursuline will host 3rd and 4th grade Science Night Friday April 19 from 5:15-7:30 p.m. Theme: Earth Day. Students will participate in a variety of hands-on STEM activities. Dinner provided. Open to any student. Families may register at www.ursuline.com/rsvp or call 330-744-4563 for more information.

Your Sacrificial Offering

Amount needed monthly to meet expenses

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

Week of March 24, 2024

| | |
|--------------------------|------------|
| Sunday Collection | \$1,385.00 |
| Increased Operating Exp. | \$40.00 |
| Major Repairs | \$00.00 |
| Rentals | \$1,050.00 |
| Maint. Support | \$1,110.00 |
| Total | \$3,585.00 |

34 week total \$19,796 .00 toward the goal of \$29,440.00

\$9,644 .00 short

WE COUNT MEMBERS BECAUSE MEMBERS COUNT

Mass 9 a.m. 3/24– 156 3/31-182



RECTORY

2800 Oakwood Avenue
Youngstown, OH 44509-2002
Phone: 330-792-3875 Fax: 330-792-9080

MISSION STATEMENT

*We are called to be
disciples, faithful to Jesus
and empowered by the Spirit.
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

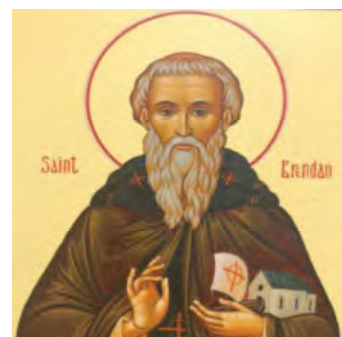
Geri Jacquet

Assistant Music Director

Allyson Reed

MASS Sunday 9:00am

Wednesday 9:00am





Sewer & Drain Specialists
Jetting/Camera Work
• Senior Discounts •
758-5031

KINNICK
FUNERAL HOME, INC.

477 N. Meridian Rd • 330-793-4675
KINNICKFUNERALHOME.COM

COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL C MightyMikeHVAC.COM

OH LIC. #49614
330.207.7070



HEATING & COOLING

AUTHORIZED TRANE DEALER • SERVICING ALL BRANDS



ADT-Monitored Home Security

Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Fire Safety
- Flood Detection
- Carbon Monoxide



SafeStreets

833-287-3502



LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS

Place Your Ad Here
and Support Our Parish!

CONTACT ME Michelle Weaver

mweaver@4LPi.com • (800) 477-4574 x6302

WE APPRECIATE OUR ADVERTISERS!

SUPPORT OUR PARISH

Local business ads sponsor the printing of our bulletin.
4lpi.com/adcreator

DOES YOUR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION NEED A NEWSLETTER?

Engaging, ad-supported print and digital newsletters to reach your community.

Visit lpicommunities.com

OUR COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER
WINTER EDITION



Scan to contact us!

FREE AD DESIGN
with purchase of this space

CALL
800-477-4574

JHARDIECONSTRUCTION@YAHOO.COM
1727 MAHONING AVE. YOUNGSTOWN, OH 44509

JEFF HARDIE
330.398.1936

J. HARDIE CONSTRUCTION
JHARDIEROOFING.COM

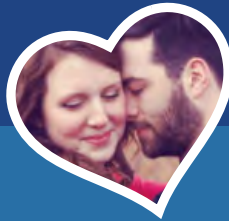
COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL

ROOFING • SIDING • GUTTERS • STORM DAMAGE

ACME STEAK & SEAFOOD

31 Bissell Ave. • Youngstown
— **330-270-8000** —
A Full Line Food Service

catholicmatch[®] Ohio



CatholicMatch.com/OH

HIGGINS-REARDON FUNERAL HOMES

SERVING YOUR CHURCH
SINCE 1923
792-2353

SNOVAK FLOOR COVERINGS

Sales & Installation
Carpet • Vinyl • Ceramic
- Certified Installers -
2918 Mahoning Ave
330-799-2610
Graigh Snovak • Owner

RULLI BROS. MARKETS

• Corner at Raccoon & Kirk Rd.
• New Location: 8025 South Ave., Boardman
Since "1917" Specializing In
Quality Food at Low-Low Prices
(330) 799-3477 **(330) 726-0777**

Place Your Ad Here and Support our Parish!

Instantly create and purchase an ad with

AD CREATOR STUDIO



4lpi.com/adcreator

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!



For ad info. call 1-800-477-4574 • www.4lpi.com

14-0725