



## 8<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"A good tree does not bear rotten fruit, nor does a rotten tree bear good fruit. A good person out of the store of goodness in his heart produces good, but an evil person out of a store of evil produces evil; for from the fullness of the heart the mouth speaks." - Lk 6:43, 45

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***

***Carmen Roebke– Compliance Officer  
330-792-3829 Ext. 8***

***Dominic Colucy– Victim Assistance  
Coordinator***

***330-744-8451 Ext. 293***

***dcolucy@youngstowndiocese.org***

## Truth In Advertising

Got an interesting piece of advertising in the mail the other day. It began: "We'd like to thank you for your interest in purchasing a vehicle service contract through us." Cheerful opening, but one problem. We know, and they know, that we have never contacted them for a service contract and never would. After all, the 2010 car they want us to cover has 195,000 miles on it. If it breaks down anytime soon, it's off to the junkyard pronto.

This missive about our old vehicle was the latest, but certainly not the last, deceptive piece of advertising we have received of late. Another that arrived last week said we requested a loan, which we never applied for. Some of these pieces come in the mail, while a fair amount targets us via voicemail.

We keep getting calls, for example, from some out-of-state company determined to help us eradicate "your unfortunate list of back taxes owed to Federal and State governments." They apparently view us as major tax cheats, but fortunately we have never owed a penny in back taxes to any governments in our lifetime. We also get calls claiming we owe thousands in credit card debt. I'd love to engage these folks by telling them they are dealing with a couple who have two credit cards, one apiece, and owe \$300 until the end of this month.

It seems to me that these flyers and calls are part of an escalating trend in our society to, shall we say, circumvent the truth. There are, of course, outright shysters bilking the elderly on fraudulent home repairs and such, a truly horrible situation for which the perpetrators deserve serious prison time. But most of the callers seem more likely to hope we are asleep at the wheel and gullible enough to spend large amounts on items or services we do not need. It was P.T. Barnum, that huckster extraordinaire, who said "there's a sucker born every minute." All too often, his modern day successors prove the point as too many folks lose their life savings to heartless would-be saviors.

It's sad that, as these fraudulent solicitations pile up, more of us end up not believing almost anybody about almost anything. That leads to a cynicism not healthy for any of us. Maybe it's all part of a broader precipitous decline in manners and morals in western civilization in recent decades. But that's a thought for another day.

— Lou Jacques

## Lenten Regulations from U.S. Catholic Bishops

Ash Wednesday (March 5) and Good Friday (April 18) are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics.

In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence (no meat). For members of the Latin Catholic Church (St. Brendan, St. Christine, and Our Lady of Sorrows, for example), the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59.

When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards.

## Fish Dinners Start March 7



The first Lenten Fish Dinners will be held on Friday March 7. Keep the enclosed flyer in the bulletin by your telephone when calling to place your order. It has all the information on it that you need in regard to the dinners. We have one telephone line to take orders, so please be patient when trying to get through. You can also place orders on Thursdays from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and Fridays starting at 9 a.m. THE NUMBER TO CALL IS 330-799-3683.

## March Ministry Schedule

### Lector:

Debora Flora

### Eucharistic Ministers:

Di Dultra, Charlie Griffith

### Sunday, March 2

9:00 a.m. Leonard Cercone by Family

### Wednesday, March 5

9:00 a.m. Barb Perry by Mike and Donna Mraz

### Sunday, March 9

9:00 a.m. Randy O'Malley by O'Malley Family

### Please Pray For Our Sick

Mary Pavlak, Beverly Detate, Sr. Marjorie Haidet, Frank Lightner, Michelle Smith, Ken Mains, David Deihl, Barbara Bonninsegna, Mary Beth Celio, Fr. Richard Brobst, Charles Slivkoff, Harold and Debra Brown, Rita Thomas

## Three Parish Lenten Schedule



### Ash Wednesday, March 5

- 8 a.m. Mass at St. Matthias Church
- 8:30 a.m. Mass at St. Christine Church
- 9:00 a.m. Mass at St. Brendan Church
- Noon Blessing and distribution of ashes at St. Christine
- 5 p.m. Mass at St. Matthias Church
- 7 p.m. Mass at St. Christine Church

A collection will be taken up at all Ash Wednesday Masses to benefit the St. Vincent de Paul Dining Hall.

### Friday, March 7

- 7 p.m. Stations of the Cross/Benediction at St. Christine

### First Week of Lent

- Sunday, March 9
- 2:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross/Benediction at St. Matthias

### Wednesday, March 12

- 6 p.m. Part One Adult Lenten Series/St. Christine

### Friday, March 14

- 7 p.m. Stations of the Cross/Benediction/St. Christine

## Stuffed Chicken Breast Dinner



Parishioners enjoyed Chef Christopher Bonacci's Stuffed Chicken Breast Dinner Feb. 23 as a takeout fundraiser for the Altar/Rosary Society. Photo by Deborah Zalovcik

## Altar/Rosary Upcoming Schedule

Watch the bulletin for details and save the date for these upcoming St. Brendan Altar/Rosary Society events:

**April 27:** Bingo/Card Party

**May 4:** May Crowning

**Oct. 5:** Afternoon Tea With Mary

**Dec. 7:** Christmas Party

## Sunday's Scriptures: Abstinence From More Than

Today's readings are from Sirach 27: 4-7; 1 Corinthians 15: 54-58; Luke 6: 39-45

Throughout Israelite history and even at the time of Jesus, much emphasis was placed on the cleanliness code. The code spelled out clearly what was considered clean and unclean in their daily habits and food. There was expected ceremonial washing of hands, cooking utensils, and eating utensils. There were animals listed as unclean that no practicing Israelite could eat (example, pork). Touching blood would also render someone unclean. The Pharisees during Jesus' time carefully watched Jesus and His followers to catch them breaking these laws.

With this as a backdrop, let us examine our first reading from the Book of Sirach, and a passage from the Gospel of Luke.

Sirach suggests that it is not something outside of ourselves that renders us unclean, but rather what we carry inside. "When a sieve is shaken the husks appear; so do one's faults when one speaks....so too does one's speech disclose the bent of one's mind. Praise no one

before he speaks, for it is then that people are tested." Sirach explains to his listeners that it is not what is put into one's mouth that makes for uncleanness, but rather what comes from the mind and is spoken by the tongue.

Jesus tells His disciples something very similar: "A good person out of the store of goodness in his heart produces good, but an evil person out of a store of evil produces evil; for from the fullness of the heart the mouth speaks."

We begin Lent 2025 in three days. One of our important Lenten practices centers around abstinence. While we need to follow the Church's laws of abstaining from meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent, perhaps we could benefit from being more careful with the use of our sometimes harmful speech. Maybe periods of silence each day would allow us more time for Scripture reading, prayer, and listening to the Voice of the Lord in our lives. There is much wisdom to be gained by adding this practice to the Forty days of Lent.

— Geri Jacquet

## *Kent Parish Holds Peace Concert*

St. Patrick Parish in Kent will be the site of a 3 p.m. Lenten concert on Sunday March 9 with the Peace Together Choir, "an inspirational choir whose mission is to bring hope and comfort to the hearts of listeners." Freewill offering. Information: [rholtzhauser@youngstowndioocese.org](mailto:rholtzhauser@youngstowndioocese.org)

## *Living Bread Radio Show*

The Living Bread Radio Network, 89.5 FM in Youngstown, offers "Faith With Father" at 7:15 a.m. daily with host Tim Perry speaking with a different priest each week on Catholic issues. A full hour can be heard at 8 a.m. Saturdays. Topics are from the YOUCAT Catholic Catechism. See also [livingbreadradio.com](http://livingbreadradio.com)

## *Prayer to St. Katharine Drexel*



"God of love, you called St. Katharine Drexel to teach the message of the Gospel and to

bring the life of the Eucharist to the Native American and African American peoples; by her prayers and example, enable us to work for justice among the poor and oppressed,

and keep us undivided in love in the Eucharistic community of your Church. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever."

## **Your Sacrificial Offering**

Amount needed monthly to meet expenses

For February 2025 **\$29,440.00**

### **Week of February 23, 2025**

Sunday Collection	\$2,027.00
Increased Operating Exp.	\$0.00
Rentals	\$1,050.00
Maint. Support	\$1,110.00
Total	\$4,187.00

4 week total \$20,662.00 toward the goal of \$29,440.00

\$8,778.00 short

**WE COUNT MEMBERS BECAUSE MEMBERS COUNT**

**Mass 9 a.m.**

**2/23—108**



### *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 Stephen Zeigler

#### **Deacons**

Ron Layko

Mark Kiraly

#### **Parish Office Manager**

Jackie Niznik

Ext.10

Email: [office@stbrendanyo.org](mailto:office@stbrendanyo.org)

#### **Music Director**

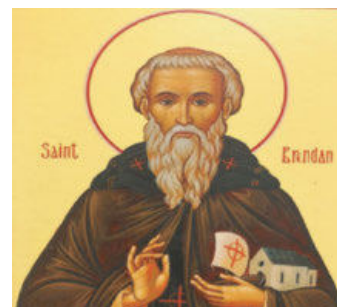
Geri Jacquet

#### **Assistant Music Director**

Allyson Reed

*MASS Sunday 9:00am*

*Wednesday 9:00am*



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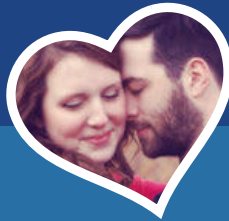
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