



Saint Bernard of Clairvaux Parish

Rev. Alfred J. Lampron
Administrator

PARISH OFFICE:

446 Mount Hope Road • Wharton, NJ 07885

Main Office: (973)627-0066 • Fax: (973)627-3631

Peter Helmer, *Administrative Assistant*

Parish Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

INFANT BAPTISM

Kevin & Sandy Hayes 973-328-6552

**GRADE SCHOOL & JR. HIGH SCHOOL
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Sr. Thomasine Smith, S.C.C. 973-366-0184

MUSIC MINISTERS

Kathleen Carey 973-366-1703

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Joan Moran 973-366-4974

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Raymond Dean 973-366-5874

FOOD FOR THE HUNGRY

Collection every week
Lois Bateson 973-366-2066

PHYSICAL PLANT

Michael Hardy 973-366-8435

READERS

Marty Siebold 973-989-1240

USHERS

CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Sunday: The Lord's Day, Vigil Saturday: 5:00 PM
Sunday: 9:00 AM & 10:30 AM
Daily Mass, Monday - Saturday, 8:30 AM

RECONCILIATION

Confessions every Saturday, 4:00-4:30 PM and also
at parishioners' convenience by appointment.

CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE

Arrangements are usually made one year in advance
to properly prepare for marriage. Contact the Parish
Office for an appointment.

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK

Contact Parish Office for pastoral visits in the hospital
or at home. Eucharist ministers are able to visit the
sick upon request. The Sacrament of the Sick can be
celebrated anytime there is a need.

PARISH REGISTRATION

Registration Forms are located in back of the church
or at the Parish Office. Please register so that we may
serve you better.

PARISH TRUSTEES

Cecile Cole
Raymond Dean

February 17, 2019 • The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Mass Intentions for the Week

Sunday February 17, 2019

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 Carlo Bongiorno

10:30 John Ball

Monday February 18, 2019

8:30 Intentions of Kathy Oakley

Wednesday February 20, 2019

8:30 Ann Kunzweiler

Thursday February 21, 2019

*St. Peter Damian, Bishop and Doctor of
the Church*

8:30 People of the Parish

Friday February 22, 2019

The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle

8:30 Maureen Piccoli

Saturday February 23, 2019

St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr

8:30 Sr. Helen Rado, M.P.F.

5:00 Ivan Novoa

Sunday February 24, 2019

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 Edward Herda

10:30 John Ball

The Inner Word

What's in your heart?

Blessedness is not conditional. It's always available. Blessedness comes not through success in the eyes of the world but from being connected to the true God: "Like a tree planted beside the waters that stretches out its roots to the stream."

- In what ways do I plant myself by the stream of God's grace? Through prayer? Through contemplation? Through mindful service?
- Do I recognize on a gut level that I need God? What are my own illusions of self-sufficiency?
- Christ's Resurrection vindicates all who believe in him. Does my faith in the Resurrection (in Jesus' as well as in my own) give me strength in trying times? What image helps me to hold on when I'd rather throw in the towel?

February 17, 2019

Sixth Sunday In Ordinary
Time

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

Whether it's cars or carpet or everything in between, when we are wearing our "consumer caps," we want guarantees. This or that item has to be of quality and longevity. In the contest between the man who makes and the man who makes purchase, there is an unspoken presumption that the maker is apt to "cut corners" and cheat. That last has spawned a whole industry of consumer protection ranging from a Congressional bureau to ratings provided by magazines.

"Caveat Emptor", or "Buyer Beware!"

Now, when it comes to religious belief, we really ought to doff that cap I referred to earlier. Everyone should approach the spiritual realm bareheaded and humble. While we still maintain a wariness about us, and we remain skeptical at first, once we have found a belief that stirs our hearts and stimulates our minds, we no longer need guarantees. Such is certainly true when we come to the case of one Jesus Christ. For He is either God or a madman, with no other alternatives.

Admittedly, for billions of believers before us and an equal number of present day believers present around the world, He has made His case as “The Way, the Truth and the Life.” Hopefully that list includes us. We believe that His Word is His guarantee. His love is spectacular, when we consider a Roman crucifixion that befell Him and an empty tomb He left behind all out of love for us.

What we Christians don’t often advert to, what we’d rather forget, is another kind of guarantee Jesus gave us, and we learn about it in today’s gospel. It is the fact that following Him is going to bring us the hatred of other people, or at least exclusion by them; insults from them; and the unwanted label as “evil people.” Jesus certainly chose an odd way to attract followers! Yet He certainly knows what He is talking about. It’s almost as if He were predicting the current situation for us Catholics in the wake of the current clergy abuse scandal! Maybe so, because time is viewed differently for a Divine Person that it is for the likes of us. I happen to think that loyalty to and love for the Church at the present time is a type of litmus test for the depth of our belief.

As a side issue, I also think that the many parents of kids “who went all through Catholic school and now don’t practice the faith,” (and there are many of you out there,) can take some quiet comfort from the fact that their own love and loyalty is a powerful

“sermon without words.” Even if their kids don’t say so and even seem to ignore what they see.

So we come down to the good news, the “gospel,” that guarantees persecution of us like the kind Christ describes. That can be a powerful stimulus to a muscular faith instead of a flabby one, and an effective tool for spreading that faith depending on how we handle adversity.

On one occasion, following unspeakable sufferings in a filthy prison, missionary Adoniram Johnson appeared before the king of Burma and asked permission to go to a certain city to preach.

“I am willing for a dozen preachers to go, but not you,” was the king’s answer. “Not with those hands! My people are not such fools as to take notice of your preaching, but they will take notice of those scarred hands.”

First Reading: Jeremiah 17: 5-8

The real heart of true religion is the fact that God is a person’s sole final refuge. The prophet says that one who trusts in human beings is actually cursed.

Second Reading: I Corinthians 15:12, 16-20

Paul argues against the ideas of some of the Corinthians that there is no resurrection of the dead. He says that without Christ’s resurrection our faith is in vain.

Gospel: Luke 6:17, 20-26

In His “sermon on the plain,” Jesus begins with a series of beatitudes and woes. A blessed condition comes from the kingdom of God. The woes are really a list of cautions concerning who can or actually does belong to God.



As a community of believers, who trust in God's mercy, healing and strength, it is our duty to pray for those who are ill and infirm. The following parishioners or family members of our parishioners are in need of our prayers. We ask God to grant health and peace to: **Lois Bateson, Jean Birrell, the Budwick family, Barbara Dietrick, Linda Doshier, John Kunzweiler, Bernice Lawson, Noah Lorencovitz, Sara Maloney, Nancy Orkin, Kathy Philips, Angela Rios, Andy Secallus, Frances and Jim Spilman, Ralph Sutton, Rob Talmadge, Maureen Tuccio and Egle Soave Witcher.**

First Friday Adoration

Everyone is invited to spend some time before the Blessed Sacrament in adoration each First Friday beginning after the 8:30 Mass until 6:00pm. There is a signup sheet in the church vestibule for each hour. Please join us on Friday, March 1st, for this special prayer and devotion.

Reminder

During the winter months, when we can experience snow and ice, we need to give extra attention to protecting the

hardwood floor in our church. Please be sure to wipe your feet on the mat in the vestibule or the rug as you enter the church. It is important that we try to keep the floor dry and free of ice melt and dirty snow that can easily be tracked into the church.

May She Rest in the Arms of God

We commend to God's eternal love and mercy, parishioner Ann Kunzweiler, who was called home to God on February 2, the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. A strong woman of faith, she endured many years of treatment for cancer, at the same time caring for her beloved husband, John. Daily Mass, praying the rosary, adoration before the Blessed Sacrament, and Stations of the Cross were among the many ways she lived her relationship with Jesus with trust, confidence, and gratitude. In prayer, we raise up her soul to our God of Resurrection and New Life, that she may know the healing and light of Christ in the fullness of His Kingdom. We also pray for John, and her children Jo-Ann, Stephen, Lisa, Laura and Patrice along with their spouses, as well as her fifteen grandchildren and great grandson. She is also survived by her sisters Joan, Clair, Ruth and Stephanie. We pray that her soul and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, may rest in peace.

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

With the recent death of Cecile Cole, who took over the responsibility for the decoration of the church last year, we are in need, once again, of an individual or a committee to continue that ministry. Although it is a year-long task, preparing for the Christmas and Easter seasons is the most time consuming. Looking to the future, also thankful for those who clean our church each week, we need to establish an Environment Committee. Members of the committee (men, women and young adults) would take on the responsibilities of decorating for the seasons of the Church Year and maintaining the plants and flowers in the sanctuary, on the doors and in the vestibule. Other jobs could include caring for the altar cloths and funeral pall. Responsibilities would be shared. If you are willing to be part of this committee, please let me know as soon as possible, so a meeting can be scheduled in advance of the Season of Lent.

Respect For Life

What is Pro Life? Are we sure we are 100% Pro Life? – Part VII

The Church teaches that all life is sacred and must be cherished and protected from conception to natural death. By keeping this guiding principle in mind in reviewing all the following moral issues of today, we can quickly see what it means to be 100% Pro Life, no exceptions.

Infanticide

This is the taking of a baby or child's life after it has been born. Partial birth abortion is an example of infanticide. A baby is delivered alive, except for its head and then is killed with instruments. This is killing a child

born alive, a child too completely developed to go through the earlier abortion processes.

From partial birth abortion, another grave moral issue has developed. There are now mothers who had planned an abortion, but the baby arrived first. Mothers whose babies have arrived early before their scheduled abortion. These women have gone to court to protest that they still have the right to kill their baby immediately after delivery since that was their initial intent. Shouldn't they still have the choice to do that, even though the child is fully alive? No, this is Infanticide, human sacrifice, the killing of a child. If you believe that Infanticide is wrong, then you are Pro Life on this issue.

*Joan Murray
Lucas Texas*

Craft and Vendor Fair
St. Cecilia Church Hall
90 Church Street
Rockaway, NJ 07866
Saturday, March 23, 2019
9:00 am - 2:00 pm
saintceciliarosarysociety
@gmail.com
973-886-8023

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