



PASTOR'S CORNER

Mass Intentions

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 4, 2017

Saturday–Feb 4th –

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat Vigil: 4:00PM – William Columbo, Sr. (A)
by William and Barbara Columbo
7:00PM – Anna M. Milkovits
by Peggy McCarty

Sunday – Feb 5th –

8:30AM – John Newhall
by Kathy and Family
10:30AM – Rev. Edward Ball
by Deacon and Mrs. Jack O'Connell

Monday – Feb 6th – St Paul Miki / Companions

8:00AM – Marilyn C. Genovese
by Carol Nederostek

Tuesday – Feb 7th – St Colette of Corbie

8:00AM – Margaret S. McCarty
by McCloskey Family

Miraculous Medal Novena after Mass

Wednesday – Feb 8th – St Josephine Bakhita

6:00PM – Donald N. Knarr (B)
by Richard Steck

Thursday – Feb 9th – St Juan Diego

8:00AM – Vincent Rivetti (A)
by Sister, Marie Jacoby

Friday – Feb 10th – St Scholastica

8:00AM – A Mass of Thanksgiving
by Albert Family

Saturday–Feb 11th – Our Lady of Lourdes

8:00AM – All St. John Fisher Parishioners

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat Vigil: 4:00PM – Antone Zukowski (A)
by Wife, Frances Zukowski
7:00PM – Donna McNally
by Scott and Edie Stahlnecker

Sunday – Feb 12th –

8:30AM – Michelle P. Polchik
by Kathy McCloskey and Family
10:30AM – Jean R. Danko (B)
by Lisa Roth Salabsky and Friends

Spoiler Alert!

Jesus says, “You are the salt of the earth; you are the light of the world.” And, in this description of his disciples (including you and me) He reveals our mission: to be about others as much as for ourselves. As salt enhances flavors and preserves meats in Jesus’ culture, and as light reveals the way and allows others to see it, so a disciple of Jesus must flavor, preserve and reveal the world’s goodness and its’ badness – its’ beauty and its’ ugliness. A Christian “sits on hilltop” like a city, so that others may navigate about such a fixed point in finding God and God’s way.

But, did you know that salt was also used as a kind of weapon? Indeed, it was used to turn arable land into infertile soil! When the Romans conquered a place, they would sometimes salt the fields so that nothing would grow there for a time. And some of Jesus’ listeners also knew this – perhaps, from experiences they themselves had had. But how could a disciple of Jesus be a despoiler of farmland? Well, as onerous as it seems, sometimes when a disciple shines the light of Christ and his Church somewhere, that light reveals the enemy and the ugliness of sin and selfishness. Sometimes, a Christian MUST oppose the enemy, and sin, and falsehood directly, in fact, he or she must ALWAYS them. So, Jesus is telling us to preserve and enhance the good, shine a light on the truth and the way, AND be a spoiler of evil and sin and lies.

This last responsibility is particularly hard for those of us who “like to be liked” by others. After all, if we name an evil for what it is, we may not be very popular with those who do the evil, nor with those who tolerate it! How



Pray the Rosary each Sunday
8:15AM and 10:15AM

many have died or suffered because of poor quality discipleship? How many under the Nazis, the Communists, the scourge of abortion? Perhaps, it is time to look seriously at the quality of our saltiness.

Praying for renewal,
Fr. Eric.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION



Plate Collection \$3,401.00
Catholic Relief Services \$ 886.00

The Second Collection **this weekend, February 4th and 5th, will be the Fuel Collection.**



NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE

	Servers	Lectors	E.Ministers
4:00PM	S.DeLong M.Druckenmiller	J. McAllister	Deacon Jack
7:00PM	D.Sullivan A.Urban	J.Englert	Deacon Jack
8:30AM	D.Popovic M.Popovic	B.Molchany	C.Molchany
10:30AM	A.Gorr D.Gorr	K.McCloskey	L.Bolmer

Charismatic Mass of Healing

Holy Ghost Church, 417 Carlton Avenue in Bethlehem will have a Charismatic Mass of Healing and Anointing of the Sick on **Wednesday, February 8th at 7:00pm.** Rev. Clifton E. Bishop, Jr. will be the celebrant and homilist. Adoration and Confessions will be held from 6:00pm to 6:55pm.

Strudel Roll Sale

Once again we are sponsoring an Easter Strudel Sale. The strudels are made by *Country Cottage Bake Shop* in Tamaqua. Orders are due by **Sunday, March 26th**, via the collection basket. Cost is 415.00 a roll, and available in the flavors listed below. Delivery is **Wednesday, April 12th, from 5:00pm to 7:00pm** in the church hall. Any questions, call Mary Beth at 610-264-4494 or Peggy at 610-264-0307.

NAME _____ PHONE # _____

Nut: _____ Poppyseed: _____ Lekvar: _____

Apricot: _____ Raspberry: _____ **Total: \$** _____

World Day for Consecrated Life

World Day for Consecrated Life will be celebrated on **Thursday, February 2nd, and in parishes on the weekend of February 4th and 5th.** Please pray for all those who have made commitments in the consecrated life, and be sure to thank them on their special day. May they continue to be inspired by Jesus Christ and respond generously to God's gift of their vocation. **Prayer for Consecrated Persons** – God our Father, we thank you for calling men and women to serve in your Son's Kingdom as sisters, brothers, religious priests, consecrated virgins, and hermits, as well as members of Secular Institutes. Renew their knowledge and love of you, and send your Holy Spirit to help them respond generously and courageously to your will. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Save the Date

Friday, March 24th – Our **Annual Fish Fry Dinner.** More information will follow.

SLOVAK FOUNDATION

It is our privilege to continue to offer St. John Fisher parishioners of Slovak ethnic backgrounds the opportunity to give to the Slovak Federation. It had been the annual custom to hold a collection at St. Andrew's on the feasts of Ss. Cyril and Methodius in February, but this year envelopes for this collection -- benefitting the unifying and promotion of Slovak ethnic identity for second, third, fourth generations and beyond, -- can be picked up at the doors of the Church and deposited in any Sunday collection of January or February.



SANTA'S WISH-LIST

HO! HO! HO! We would like to thank a couple in our neighborhood for their gift of **\$100.00**, toward our renovation projects. We are grateful for their gift.

PARISH RETREAT

Life is not perfect every day. Sometimes it feels as if life gives up lemons. Join your fellow parishioners for our second annual parish retreat where we will enrich our daily lives through the power of prayer during this Lenten Season. The retreat will take place on **Saturday, April 1st**, at the St. Michael Center on Main Street in Northampton. **The day will begin with Registration at 8:00am and will conclude at 2:30pm.** A continental breakfast and lunch will be provided. Please fill out the below form and place in the collection basket.

PARISH RETREAT REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Suggested Donation - \$20.00

Attending: _____ Total Enclosed: \$ _____

NATIONAL DAY OF PROTEST

In response to Planned Parenthood's involvement in the illicit trafficking of aborted babies' body parts there will be a National Day of Protest Planned Parenthood on **Saturday, February 11th, from 11:00am to 1:00pm** at 2407 Butler St., Easton, PA and 29 N. 9th St., Allentown, PA. Any questions, call or text Theresa @ 610-704-6935 or email @ Theresa4597@hotmail.

GOD'S PRECIOUS INFANTS

Saturday, February 11th – Please join **The Reverend Keith Mathur**, and the Helpers of God's Precious Infants at the Prayer Pilgrimage for the unborn and all those involved in abortion. The pilgrimage begins with **Mass at 8:00am** at Notre Dame Church of Bethlehem, and continues with The Rosary at the abortion facility.

Good Shepherd CYO Spaghetti Dinner

Their all you can eat Spaghetti Dinner, with homemade sauce, meatballs, salad, bread, beverage and dessert will be held on **Saturday, February 18th, from 5:00pm to 7:00pm**. Any questions, call Frances Sweetana, 610-597-9955 or at sweetana98@gmail.com.

St. John the Baptist in Stiles 3120 Chestnut Street, Whitehall

Their Tricky Trays/Basket Social will be held on **Saturday, February 18th, from 9:00am to 7:00pm and Sunday, February 19th, from 9:00am to 4:00pm**. You can purchase tickets at the door. There will be a special raffle for big-ticket items. You do not have to be present to win. Kitchen will be open. Winners will be called.

Saint Josephine Bakhita



At the age of nine, Josephine Bakhita was kidnapped from her home in Sudan, force-marched for eight days, and sold into slavery. "Bakhita" (Arabic: "fortunate one") had five masters who treated her with great cruelty. One mistress "tattooed" Bakhita by repeatedly cutting her skin and rubbing salt into the wounds. Finally reaching Venice with a kindly

Italian family, Bakhita was entrusted to the Canossian sisters. There she embraced the Faith, ultimately entering the order herself. She served in humble ways, and spent her last years in a wheelchair. "The whole of my life has been God's gift, men, his instruments; thanks to them for providing me the gift of faith," she declared. Bakhita died in 1947, and was canonized in 2000.

St. John the Baptist Church 924 N. Front Street, Allentown

Their Valentine's Sweetheart Dance will be held on **Saturday, February 18th from 7:00pm to 10:00pm**. Tickets are \$5.00 a person, and the kitchen will be open.

Their Meat Bingo will be held on **Sunday, February 19th at 1:00pm**. Doors and kitchen open at 12:00 Noon. Questions, call Bill Drost at 610-432-3505.

Incarnation of Our Lord Church 617 Pierce Street, Bethlehem

Their Mardi Gras Bingo is being held on **Sunday, February 26th. The doors open at 12:00pm and bingo starts at 2:00pm**. This fundraiser benefits the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Ticket donation is \$20.00 in advance and \$25.00 at the door, and includes 15 games. Call 610-866-3391.