



ST. SEBASTIAN

CATHOLIC FAITH COMMUNITY

Member of the Milwaukee Westside Catholic Parishes along with Saint Catherine

MISSION STATEMENT

Proclaim Christ and grow believers through the sacramental life of the church in an inclusive and responsive Catholic community.

INVITED GUEST

In every celebration in life, from birth to death, we like to invite people to join us. Since often we cannot invite everyone, we make a list of who to invite. Sometimes those who are invited don't show up, as we read in the Scripture: "The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his servants to call those he had invited to the banquet, but they refused to come." Mt. 22: 2-3.

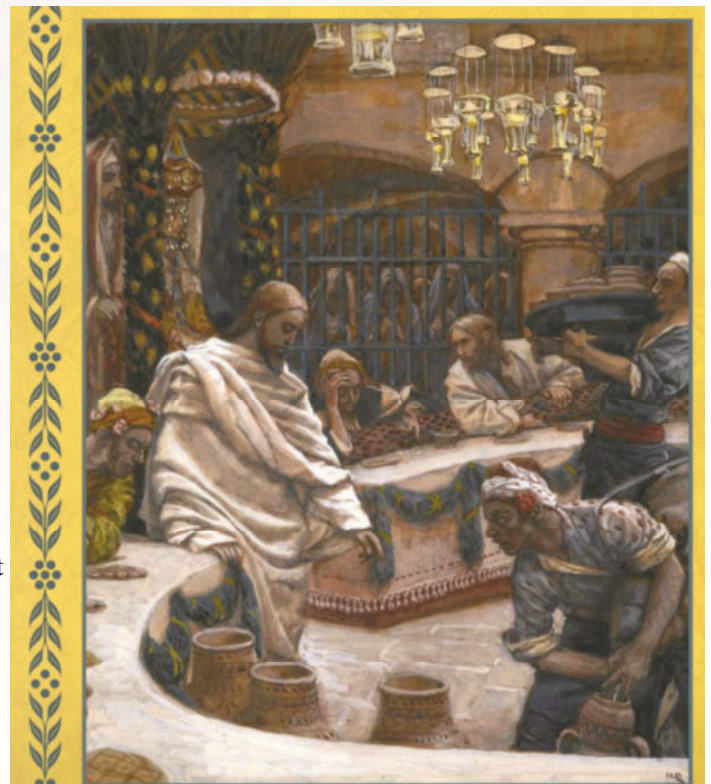
In today's Gospel, we hear that Jesus and his disciples were invited to the wedding at Cana in Galilee. Then something unexpected happened - they ran out of wine. Mary, the mother of Jesus, told him about this need. She was concerned for the host, since in that culture running out of wine or other refreshments was a point of shame. Though he told his mother that his time had not yet come, he still changed water into wine, transforming that moment from one of shame to celebration. The people in the attendance were never the same again. A friend of mine once said, "Whenever you encounter the Son of Mary, you will never be the same."

Most of Jesus' miracles were in people's homes, the center of family life. The wedding at Cana illustrates how life begins in the family, and the home is its heart. When I was growing up, most of the homes displayed this phrase: "Christ is the head of this household, unseen guest in every meal." That statement is very powerful. Today, in our homes, what is hanging on the wall? We often have family portraits, pictures of friends, perhaps pictures of celebrities. In our world today, we often don't want to show others that we are Christians, because we want to be neutral.

When you visit a new place and you are looking for a Church, mostly you would look for a building with a cross on it. We are very proud at St. Sebastian to have recently replaced our church cross, because it shows who we are and who we worship. We are not ashamed of the cross atop our church, but are we ashamed to put a cross in our living room? Let us invite Christ in our homes and our life without shame. And, like he did at the wedding in Cana, Christ will transform our shame into celebration.

Inviting Jesus into our home could be the most important thing we ever do. We can hang a crucifix or a picture of Christ, or we can pray with our families before meals. We can treat each other with genuine love, never speaking ill or putting others down. As we begin this New Year of 2022, let Jesus' presence fill our homes and be felt by all those who visit us. Remember, home is our first school where we learn to love, to care for each other and to forgive. This much I know—when you invite Jesus into your home, you're never going to be the same again.

Fr. Peter Patrick



2nd SUNDAY *in ordinary time*

Jesus said to her, "Woman, how does your concern affect me? My hour has not yet come." - Jn 2:4

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

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JANUARY 16, 2022 • SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

LITURGICAL PRAYER

Monday, January 17/Saint Anthony, Abbot

8:30 AM 1 Sm 15:16-23/ Mk 2:18-22/ Mass

Tuesday, January 18/Weekday

8:30 AM 1 Sm 16:1-13/ Mk 2:23-28/ Mass @ St. Catherine

Wednesday, January 19/Weekday

8:20 AM 1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51/ Mk 3:1-6/ A/S Mass

Thursday, January 20/Weekday

1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7/ Mk 3:7-12

Friday, January 21/Saint Agnes, Virgin and Martyr

8:30 AM 1 Sm 24:3-21/ Mk 3:13-19/ Mass @ St. Catherine

Saturday, January 22/Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27/ Mk 3:20-21

Sunday, January 23/The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10/ 1 Cor 12:12-30/ Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21

*Baptisms

8:00 AM Fr. Larry

9:00 AM Fr. Peter Patrick @ St. Catherine

*10:30 AM Fr. Larry
For Maya Novotny Family by Beth Voet

6:00 PM Fr. Peter Patrick

FRIENDS FOR LIFE

Quote of the Week

“There is such a wide spectrum of issues involving the protection of human life and the promotion of human dignity. Good people frequently disagree on which problems to address, which policies to adopt and how best to apply them. But for citizens and elected officials alike, the basic principle is simple: We must begin with a commitment never to intentionally kill, or collude in the killing, of any innocent human life, no matter how broken, unformed, disabled or desperate that life may seem. In other words, the choice of certain ways of acting is always and radically incompatible with the love of God and the dignity of the human person created in His image.”

—United States Conference of Catholic Bishops “Living the Gospel of Life,” © 1998 USCCB.

Intercession for Life

For public servants and elected officials: May God grant them the humility, wisdom, and courage to defend all human life.

FACING RACISM

As part of our parish’s effort to identify and confront racism in our midst, we offer this reflection.

“Never, never let anyone tell you that what you are doing is insignificant. Let them know that the sea is made up of drops of water. There is no way in which injustice can ever prevail over goodness.”

—Archbishop Desmond Tutu

THIS WEEK

C=Church CH=Church Hall PH=Parish House S=School
TL=Teacher’s Lounge G=Gym MP=Multi-Purpose Room
AF=Adult Formation Room St.C=St. Catherine MGC=Mother of Good Counsel

MONDAY, JANUARY 17

9:30-11:00 AM Rosary Prayer Group (PHD)

7:00-8:00 PM MLK Discussion (Virtual)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 18

7:00-8:30 PM Bible Study (CH)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19

6:30-8:30 PM St. Vincent de Paul (MP)

7:00-8:00 PM Facing Racism Group (Virtual)

7:00-8:30 PM Finance Council (AF)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 20

6:00-8:30 PM RCIA (AF)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 21

9:30-11:00 AM Rosary Prayer Group (PHD)

REFLECTION ON THE READINGS FOR JANUARY 16, THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

by: Jon Metz

The theme of today’s readings is God’s faithfulness and generosity. This might surprise you when you read the Gospel today from John. It is Jesus’ first miracle — turning water into wine. What does that have to do with God’s faithfulness and generosity?

Well, let’s start with our first reading from Isaiah. In this reading we are reminded that God said He will not rest until His people are vindicated and restored to glory. These are comforting words for an oppressed people. God will not give up on you. Next, Psalm 96 proclaims the marvelous deeds that our God generously does for us. Our second reading from Corinthians reminds us of the many spiritual gifts that aid us and were given to us by the Holy Spirit.

Which brings us back to the Gospel. Remembering the theme of these readings is God’s faithfulness and generosity, let’s look at the water into wine miracle. It is often said that this was the beginning of Jesus’ public ministry. This is the moment that Jesus shared His great gifts with the world. Jesus was also meeting a need in this situation. The wedding had run out of wine, and Jesus provided it for them. This is the beginning of Jesus sharing all that He has. He shares His miracles and His teachings. Ultimately, Jesus shares the kingdom of God by laying down His life for us.

God, in all three persons (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) is always faithful and generous to us. God will never abandon us or leave us alone. God loves us so much that we are always invited to share in God’s abundance, and for this we are grateful.

- How has God been faithful to you?
- How has God been generous to you?
- How have you been generous and faithful to others?

MLK PRESENTATION NOW VIRTUAL

The presentation and discussion on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s “Letter from a Birmingham Jail” scheduled for Monday, January 17, is now being moved to a virtual event. Anyone who has already registered will receive a Zoom link to the program. If you would still like to register, please email Jon Metz in the parish office at jmetz@saintsebs.org



THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PARISH LEADERSHIP

Shared Pastor: Fr. Peter Patrick Kimani.....414-453-1061
.....PPKimani@saintsebs.org
Trustee Treasurer: Richard Marcoux.....414-453-1061
Trustee Secretary: Audrey Ticcioni.....414-257-1046

PARISH STAFF

Deacon: James Peterson.....414-258-3468
Deacon: Jim Matthias.....414-651-7392
Director-Liturgy & Music: Michael Kamenski.....414-453-1928
Adult Formation: Jon Metz.....414-453-7150
Youth & Human Concerns: Margaret Lee.....414-453-7150
Child Minister: Joe Sheehan.....414-453-7150
Cluster Finance Director: Joann Perleberg.....414-453-1061
Director of Administration: Carole Poth.....414-453-1061
Development Director: Maria Watson.....414-453-1061
School Principal: Heather Grams.....414-453-5830
PAL Program: Frank Maloney.....414-453-8944
Maintenance: Bryan Kirkpatrick.....414-453-8909

PASTORAL COUNCIL*

email: Pastoralcouncilchair@saintsebs.org
Chair: Dillon Ambrose; Vice Chair: Jacob Corr; Secretary: Edie Schwabe; Jeffrey Altenburg; Kathy Bottoni; Judy Hill; Maricolette Walsh; Dan Walker; Steve Ragatz; JoAnn Stasiewicz

FINANCE COUNCIL*

Chair: Maricolette Walsh; Katie Sanders; Dave Misky; Kevin Mullen; Edie Schwabe
* Contact information is in the Parish Directory and on the website.

ST. COLETTA DAY SCHOOL

Bill Koehn.....414-453-1850

CONTINUING COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

We have worked to put protocols in place to help people feel safe while attending Mass. The protocols include providing clearly designated areas for mask wearing and social distancing, hand sanitizer and extra cleaning, and making sure that staff and volunteers are incorporating these measures. There has been no reported outbreak of COVID-19 from Mass attendance. We are very grateful to everyone who has taken care to keep each other safe. Remember that if a person is ill, taking care of someone who is sick, or is at risk of serious illness due to exposure, Sunday Mass attendance is excused. Archbishop Listecki writes, "Our Sunday worship is a joyful obligation. It is a witness to God as the priority in our lives."



SUSTAINABILITY CORNER

Still have your cut Christmas tree? Different cities handle Christmas tree waste differently. In Wauwatosa, from January 3 through 28 Christmas trees put at the curb (but not in alleys) will be collected and mulched (<https://tinyurl.com/sebstree1>). In City of Milwaukee, Christmas trees left at the curb or by garbage cans will be landfilled, but those taken to the city's self-help yards will be composted / mulched (<https://tinyurl.com/sebstree2>). You can also contact Compost Crusaders to schedule pick up for \$20 at <https://tinyurl.com/sebstree3>. The cost is less if you are already a customer (<https://tinyurl.com/sebstree4>).



FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Regular Contributions Last Week, 12-31-21.....\$ 72,203
Fiscal Year to Date, Week 26 of 52.....\$ 390,553
Compared to Same Period Last Year.....\$ 402,897
Surplus (Deficit).....\$ (12,344)

Building Improvement Fund Collected Since July 1.....\$ 28,970
Your gifts are at work during this time of uncertainty. You allow our parish to carry out our mission and emerge solidly from this crisis.

Thank you!

ONLINE DONATIONS:

- Parish Tithing – <http://bit.ly/SebsPayParish>
- Parish Building Improvement Fund – <http://bit.ly/SebsPayBuild>
- School Foundation – <http://bit.ly/SebsPayFound>



QR code for parish tithing

DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE LEGAL PROTECTION OF UNBORN CHILDREN

The Catholic bishops of the United States have designated Saturday, January 22, as a particular day of prayer and penance, called the "Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children." The Annual Archdiocesan Respect Life Mass will be held on Saturday, January 22 at 9 AM at St. John the Evangelist Parish (8500 W. Cold Spring Rd, Greenfield). The Mass will be celebrated by Archbishop Jerome E. Listecki.

Questions? Contact Deacon Jim Matthias, Director of Respect Life Ministry, at matthiasj@archmil.org or (414) 769 3454.

INAUGURAL MEN'S GROUP MEETING

Men of St. Sebastian and St. Catherine are welcome to join the first Men's group meeting on Thursday, January 27, from 7 to 9 PM in the church hall. The theme of the night will be fellowship and whisky tasting. Bring a favorite bottle and/or some snacks to share and spend some time getting to know one another. Email Matthew Duffy at duffym22@gmail.com or CJ Murray at cpacker1@aol.com with any questions.

2022 SCHOOL REGISTRATION FAIR & OPEN HOUSE

St. Sebastian School Open House & Registration Fair for both new and returning families will be held Sunday, January 30, at St. Sebastian School. The event will run from 9 AM to 12 PM.

During this time, you can register for the following school year and return your registration paperwork. Tours will take place for new families. Ms. Grams will share a state of the school address to update all community members on both school accomplishments and goals yet to achieve, at 10 AM in the gymnasium.

Come visit between or after St. Sebastian Sunday morning Masses!



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