

ST. CATHERINE CHURCH

www.saintcatherine51.org 5101 West Center Street, Milwaukee, WI 53210

I Know Who You Are

"I know who you are," said the man with the unclean spirit. Even the unclean spirits knew who Jesus was. What about us, do we know who Jesus is? How well do we know each other as family members and parish members? In last Sunday's gospel, we heard Jesus calling his first disciples. Those disciples left their livelihood and their loved ones to follow him although they did not know him well. To follow Jesus, you need to make a radical decision.

Knowing Jesus is one thing; living according to his teachings is another. It is being baptized and living our baptism promises. Jesus came to reclaim the kingdom of God which was taken over by the evil one. As we understand, God's kingdom is not a place, but a way of life -- it is what the world could look like, would look like, if we were living according to God's gracious saving and loving plan.

When we look around the world, we see a lot of evil. We ask ourselves, why is Satan's kingdom still so powerful in our times? The answer is that the coming of God's kingdom is not an instant happening but a gradual process. Jesus inaugurated the kingdom of God and left us the task of completing it. Every time we pray the Lord's Prayer, "Thy kingdom come," is a reminder of our duty of making this world a better place to live.

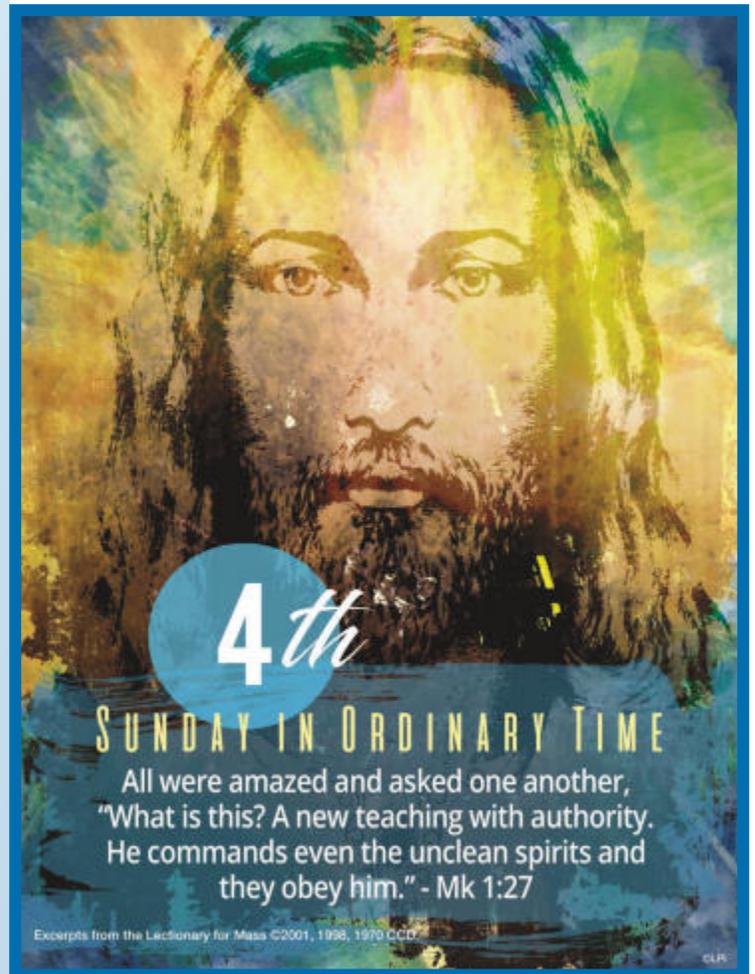
Our baptism calls us to our individual and collective duty to carry on the mission of Jesus. But due to our human weaknesses and evil in us, God's kingdom is very slow to come. Take just one example. How many of us live out Jesus' command to love one another as he loves us? (John 15:12). Our failure to love one another as Jesus loves us extends not only to our enemies and to our neighbors, but sometimes to our own family.

The reason we fail to love even our family as we should is usually not because of malice. More often than not, it's simply because we are negligent, forgetful and delinquent in our vocation to love. We get so involved in the affairs of life that we overlook the needs of family members. We forget how wonderful they really are.

As Jesus slowed down to attend to the man who had an unclean spirit, let us also slow down enough to appreciate one another. We are so busy doing other things that we miss doing the one thing that makes all other things worthwhile. It's been said, "Charity begins at home." Let us begin with our immediate family members. Today's gospel is an invitation to slow down. It's an invitation to see people as they really are and to love them as Jesus loves us. *Fr. Peter Patrick*

Here to Stay, Here to Serve!

We are a Christ-centered community, the vital and spiritual presence of the Catholic Church in Sherman Park and beyond. Living the Gospel, we welcome, learn, serve and celebrate.



**Member of the Milwaukee Westside Catholic Parishes
with Saint Sebastian**

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time



January 31, 2021

Parish Office ... 445-5115 ... Fax 445-5198
 9:00 am - 12:00 pm, Monday - Friday
 secretary@saintcatherine.org - ppkimani@saintcatherine.org
 cpoth@saintcatherine.org
 St. Sebastian Office ... 453-1061

Parish Staff

Rev. Peter Patrick Kimani, *Pastor*
 Ralph & Jane Kornburger, *Deacon Couple*
 Jon Metz, *Adult & Young Adult Formation Minister*
 Margaret Lee, *Youth Minister and Human Concerns*
 Joe Sheehan, *Child Formation Minister*
 Doug Scott, *Music Director*
 Carole Poth, *Director of Administration and Operations*
 Joann Perleberg, *Director of Finances*
 Sister Pat Russell, *Parish Office Assistant*

Parish School 445-2846 Fax 445-0448
 Jade Cottrell, *Principal* Office Open 7:30 am - 3:30 pm

Parish Trustees

Toni Wagner, *Secretary* - Mary Brooks, *Treasurer*

The Week Ahead

Catholic Schools Week

Sunday, January 31 9:00 am Mass (Church)
Monday, February 1 7:00 pm Pastoral Council (virtual)
Tuesday, February 2 8:30 am Mass (Church)
 6:30 pm Facing Racism Education
 Committee Mtg. (virtual)
Wednesday, February 3 6:15 pm Formation Class - First
 Eucharist (St. Sebastian)
Friday, February 5 8:30 am Mass (Church)
Sunday, February 7 9:00 am Mass (Church)

“The Search” Lenten Small Groups

Did you pick up this year's Christmas gift book, “The Search?” Would you like to follow up and join a small group discussion about the book? We are putting together in-person and virtual small groups for the Lenten season based on the book. If you are interested, please email Jon Metz at jmetz@saintsebs.org. Please specify if you would like to participate in person or virtually and indicate what days and times you would prefer. We will do our best to accommodate your schedule.

The Centennial Celebration Committee . . .

met this past week. We welcome your ideas on how best to celebrate the 100th anniversary of our parish. Please submit your suggestions to secretary@saintcatherine.org with the subject: “Centennial.” Help us celebrate this awesome event!

St. Sebastian’s Virtual Auction February 14-20

Join us for a week of fun and festivities as we Let the Good Times Roll. Online bidding is free - you only pay when you have the winning bid. Online registration begins February 7. There are a variety of silent auction items to bid on; voice action takes place on Feb. 20. Visit bit.ly/SEBS21AUCTION, or St. Seb’s website; click on Community Life, Parish Auction.

Regular Contributions through 1/10/21	\$98,047
Prior YTD Amount	94,688
Surplus/Deficit vs. Prior Year	\$ 3,359

Mass Intentions & Scripture Readings

Sunday, January 31 Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time

9:00 am † Carl E. Edmund (Mark Edmund)
 Dt 18:15-20/Ps 95:1-2, 6-9 [8]/1 Cor 7:32-35/Mk 1:21-28

Monday, February 1

8:30 am Mass at St. Sebastian
 Heb 11:32-40/Ps 31:20-24/Mk 5:1-20

Tuesday, February 2 The Presentation of the Lord

8:30 am We Will Be A Light To The World
 Mal 3:1-4/Ps 24:7-10/ Heb 2:14-18/Lk 2:22-40

Wednesday, February 3 St. Blaise, St. Ansgar

Heb 12:4-7, 11-15/Ps 103:1-2, 13-14, 17-18a/Mk 6:1-6

Thursday, February 4

Heb 12:18-19, 21-24/Ps 48:2-3-4, 9, 10-11/Mk 6:7-13

Friday, February 5 St. Agatha

8:30 am Victims of Rape, Abuse and Trafficking
 Heb 13:1-8/Ps 27:1, 3, 5, 8b-9/Mk 6:14-29

Saturday, February 6 St. Paul Miki and Companions

Heb 13:15-17, 20-21/Ps 23:1-3a-6/Mk 6:30-34

Sunday, February 7 Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am Living and Deceased Members of St. Catherine
 Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/Ps 147:1-6/1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/Mk 1:29-39

Liturgical Ministers

Sunday, January 31 - Fr. Larry

Lector Tony Amoroso

Sunday, February 7 - Fr. Larry

Lector Kathy Hazen

Reflections on this Sunday’s Readings

I know there are many themes one could find connecting today’s readings, but the one that screams out to me is: worry. This may be because I am your classic worrier. I have often referred to it as one of my greatest sins. In the second reading today, St Paul writes to the people of Corinth, “I should like you to be free of anxieties.” My first thought was, “ya me too!” He goes on to describe different scenarios where individuals could be worried about different things. I often find myself worrying about this or that. I worry if I said the right thing or made the right decision. I can even obsess over these thoughts at times.

I call this a sin because this worry underestimates the power of God. When I let my worry take over, I don’t trust that God has things under control. Like the gospel from Mark today, Jesus had things under control. The people who came to learn from Jesus were scared and worried about a man with an unclean spirit who was crying out. Jesus rebuked him and commanded the spirit to leave the man. The spirit left. Jesus was in control the whole time. There is potential to lose faith, worry, and not trust, but God assures us over and over again that his power is stronger than our worry.

- What do you worry about?
- When do you let worry take over your thoughts?
- What is something you can do to have more trust in God?

Pray for Our Sick

Maryl Barrett, Michael Barton, Carol & Joe Brien, Tom Cavanaugh, Annie Coleman, Chuck Cooney, Ellie Cunningham, Barb Haig, Ernest Herre, James Krutina, Evelyn Martinez, Bev Narus, Diane Neicheril, Steve O'Connell, Andréa Olds, Tom Plakut, David Pleskatchek, Ron & Trudy Ranallo, Don Richards, Margaret Schmidt, Sr. Mary Ann Schmidt, Doug Scott, Carmel Stage, Bill Steger, Larry Teufel, Nancy & Eduardo V, Kathy Zambo

School News - Survey of St Catherine School Families.

Given the unique stress of at-home schooling, a group of St Catherine school leaders, parent representatives and volunteer parish educators surveyed school families to find out their needs. There were three main areas of responses: *Support & tutor our children, Communicate & check-in regularly with families, and Help with technology and remote learning.* The group is working with the school to clarify and address technology needs. More to come, and as other action steps are being considered, we will keep the parish in the loop. If parishioners want to know more, contact Mary Miller, James Napper or Jeff Morzinski.

Senior Ministry

"Many fears are born of fatigue and loneliness."

We caregivers have enough on our hands without unknowingly and unintentionally making our fears worse. Dealing with our fear, anxiety, and grief may very well start with addressing our own fatigue and loneliness. To fight loneliness, we have to reach out, even lean on others—for help, for understanding, for acknowledgement of our journey. We must fight to not be isolated. Along with family and friends—and I strongly recommend counseling--we can also turn to support groups."

Sustainability Tip

As long as racism exists, so too does environmental racism. Minorities in the US live in more crowded, more polluted neighborhoods, while receiving few benefits from a system that emits massive amounts of carbon and other pollutants into the environment. Environmental racism denies the disenfranchised a true voice in democratic dialogue and denigrates human dignity. More at: politicaltheology.com/environmental-racism-and-the-15th-anniversary-of-climate-change-a-plea-for-dialogue-prudence-and-the-common-good-cristina-richie

Reparations, Reconciliation, and HR 40

A program sponsored by your Facing Racism group will be held on Monday, February 8, 6:30- 8:00pm. Save the date! We will present more information in next week's bulletin.

Book Club . . .

is reading "Oh My Stars" by Lorna Landvik and will meet virtually, Thursday, February 11, at 6 pm. All are welcome to join.

Recovery Groups-All groups meet in the Community Ctr.

AA: Sunday 11:00 am AAA: Thursday 7:00 pm
Tuesday 7:00 pm
Friday 6:30 pm



St. Blaise Blessing of Throats Today

To commemorate the feast of St. Blaise, physician and patron of those who deal with throat problems, we will offer a blessing of throats during the final song.

In Sympathy

We express our sympathy to the family and friends of Deacon **Mike Bowen** who served the people of St. Monica Parish.

"The Gift of Sunday"

In January 2021, a theological reflection and study guide entitled, "The Gift of Sunday," was "published with the ecclesiastical approval of Archbishop Jerome E. Listeck, for use in catechesis and prayerful reflection with the People of God in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee." On Wednesday, March 3, Lenten Missions based on "The Gift of Sunday" will be held at 18 parishes, including St. Sebastian's throughout the Archdiocese. Due to limited seating, people are asked to register in advance and will be accepted on a first-come first-serve basis. For more information or to register, visit archmil.org/Lenten-Missions.

Does Soup Taste as Good Virtually?

Because we can't gather to celebrate as a community for "Souper Sunday," we're offering an alternative "virtual" celebration of hospitality and good food. Look through your recipes for a favorite soup recipe and submit it to bernadettetavel@sbcglobal.net. We'll print the recipes for you to make one or more of them to enjoy at home. Then we'll ask you to choose your favorites to include in the "Soups" section of a future *Best Recipes of St. Catherine's* we're considering as part of our centennial celebration.



Facing Racism

"Whether we want to admit it or not, we all know how race functions in America; it functions in a way that benefits white people and burdens people of color, and especially black people. That systemic advantage, that awareness that most white Americans have even if they don't want to admit it, means that they would never want to be black in America. We need to be honest about the centuries-old accumulations of the benefits of whiteness that make it easier to be white than it is to be a person of color. Until we have the courage to face that reality and to name it explicitly, then we're always going to have these explosions and eruptions of protest, but we will never have the courage and the honesty to get to the core of the issue and to deal with the systemic ways in which inequality works in America." *Fr. Bryan Massingale*

Eucharistic Liturgies are celebrated on Sundays at 9:00 am. Weekday Mass is at 8:30 am in church, T & F; at St. Sebastian, 8:30 am, M.

For an **Infant's Baptism**, contact the parish office during the prenatal time to begin preparation.

Those discerning a call to **Marriage** should contact the parish office at least six months prior to the wedding date.

For **Non-Infant Baptisms, First Communion, First Reconciliation, Confirmation** and **Information about the Catholic Church**, call the parish office.

Confessions/Reconciliation –Schedule with Fr. Peter Patrick at 445-5115 for an appointment.



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