

HOLY TRINITY

CATHOLIC CHURCH

355 OREGON AVENUE
BANDON, OR 97411

ST. JOHN

THE BAPTIST

15TH & HWY 101
PORT ORFORD, OR 97465

Mission Statement | To be a welcoming Catholic community committed to love, prayer, and service.

JANUARY 29, 2023 | 4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A

GET IN TOUCH

PARISH OFFICE

(541) 329-0697
holytrinitybandon@yahoo.com
www.holytrinitybandon.org
www.facebook.com/HTBandon

Office Hours

Holy Trinity
Tues, Thurs, Fri | 9:00am-3:30pm

St. John

Thurs | 9:30am-10:30am

Pastor

Rev. Anthony Ahamefule
aahamefule@archdpx.org

Pastoral Assistant

Sheila Howe
showe@archdpx.com

LITURGY SCHEDULE

HOLY TRINITY | BANDON

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil 5:00pm
Sunday 10:30am
Wednesday 5:00pm
Thursday 12:00pm
Friday 12:00pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 3:30pm-4:45pm

ST. JOHN | PORT ORFORD

Mass Schedule

Sunday 8:30am
Thursday No Mass

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Sunday 8:00am-8:30am

ONLINE GIVING

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BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO
ARE PERSECUTED
BECAUSE OF
RIGHTEOUSNESS, FOR
THEIRS IS THE KINGDOM
OF HEAVEN.

- MATTHEW 5:10

HIGHLIGHT THIS WEEK

Week Day Masses

Weekday Masses will resume their regular times. All Thursday Masses for St. John's are cancelled for the remainder of January.

Wednesday Night Dinner

This Wednesday Night dinner is going to be hosted and prepared by the Knights of Columbus and sponsored by Tom and Penny Sheehan.

Religious Education and RCIA

Religious education and RCIA classes continue. RCIA topic is the New Testament.

WORSHIP THIS WEEK

MASS INTENTIONS

HOLY TRINITY

Saturday 01/28 | + Tom Russo

Sunday 01/29 | + Robert Wyrick

Wednesday 02/01 | Holy Trinity Parishioners

Thursday 02/02 | All On Our Prayer Chain

Friday 02/03 | All On Our Prayer Chain

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Sunday 01/29 | +Tom Lindstrom

Thursday 02/02 | No Mass

To request Mass for yourself or a loved one, you may contact the parish office or stop by the office during office hours. A suggested donation of \$10 is asked.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Gunner Farr, John Augsburg, Kathleen Stadelman, Vicki Lavell, Michell Tate, Kevin Converse, Margie Boak, Bryson Hanson, Lisa Stewart, Taletta Evans, Elaine Stohler, Jack Stohler, Joe Zahora, Carry Roeder, Carol Holden, Francis Stadelman, Loretta Brammer, Nick LaBelle, Julie Visser, Davis Family, Lupe Converse's Family, Denise Zeller & Trevino Family & all who are ill.

If you would like to add or remove a name, please contact the parish office.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

SCHEDULE

Saturday 01/28 | 05:00pm

Lector | Autumn Freeman

Sacristan | John Freitag

Sunday 01/29 | 10:30am

Lector | Kathy Cowan

Sacristan | Jeff Turner

OKINAWAN CAVE

ZEPHANIAH 2:3, 3:12-13 || 1

COR 1:26-31 | MATTHEW 5:1-12

In April 1986 two gray-haired men greeted each other warmly in Tokyo's International Airport. Both men had tears in their eyes. One man was an American, named Ponich; the other was a Japanese, named Ishibashi.

The last time the two men met was 40 years before, as enemies in a cave in Okinawa.

At that time the American, then Sgt. Ponich, was holding a five-year-old Japanese boy in his arms. The child had been shot through both legs. Ishibashi was one of two Japanese snipers hiding in a dark corner of the same cave.

Suddenly, Ishibashi and his comrade leaped from their hiding place, aimed their rifles Ponich, and prepared to fire point-blank.

There wasn't a thing Ponich could do. He simply put the five-year-old on the ground, took out his canteen, and began to wash the child's wounds.

If he had to die, what better way to die than performing an act of mercy. After all, Jesus said, "Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy." (Matthew 5:7)

The two snipers watched in amazement. Then, slowly, they lowered their rifles.

Minutes later Ponich did something Ishibashi never forgot. He took the child in his arms, stood up, bowed in gratitude to the two Japanese, and took the child to an American field hospital.

How did these two men happen to meet again after all those years?

In 1985 Ponich wrote a letter to a Tokyo newspaper, thanking the Japanese people for the two Japanese soldiers who had spared his life 40 years before in that cave in Okinawa.

Ishibashi saw the letter and contacted the paper, who set up the meeting.

The meeting was long and affectionate. Each man filled the other in on the details of his life since the war.

Ponich has one last bit of unfinished business. He is now searching for the child he held in his arms in the cave.

"He was incredible," said Ponich. "He had those bullet holes in his legs and was in awful pain, yet he never cried, never complained. If I could find out what happened to him, it would be the perfect ending to the story."

Not every act of mercy ends so beautifully or receives such international publicity. But every act of mercy, no matter how small, underscores the beautiful and profound truth of Jesus' words in today's gospel:

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy."

The dictionary defines *mercy* as "compassionate treatment toward those in distress."

It's the kind of compassionate treatment that Sgt. Ponich showed to the wounded child. It's the kind of compassionate treatment that the Japanese snipers showed to Ponich when they had him in a helpless situation.

The word *compassion* comes from Latin and means "to suffer with" or "to feel with."

The movie *To Kill A Mockingbird* contains a moving scene in which Atticus Finch says to his children:

"If you want to understand another person, you must crawl inside their skin and walk around with them."

That's an excellent description of compassion. Compassion means to be able to get inside other people—to see through their eyes, to feel with their feelings, and to think with their thoughts.

It means to get inside the skin of a wounded Japanese boy and see with his eyes, feel with his feelings, and think with his thoughts.

It means to get inside the skin of a trapped American sergeant caring for a wounded child and see what he sees, feel what he feels, and think what he thinks.

It means to do what God himself did in the person of Jesus Christ. In the most literal sense, God, in the person of Jesus, came down to earth, climbed inside our skin, and walked in our shoes.

He became a human being like us. He looked through our eyes, loved with our hearts, thought with our minds, and felt our emotions.

Continued on page 3

STEWARDSHIP

JANUARY 7TH-8TH

Holy Trinity - Weekly Goal \$2,700

Regular CollectionTo be published

Maintenancenext week

St. John the Baptist - Weekly Goal \$450

Regular CollectionTo be published

Maintenance.....next week

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

- Matthew 6:21

NEW TO THE PARISH?

Welcome to Holy Trinity and St. John the Baptist Catholic Church. If you are new to the parish or have updated information, please cut out this form, fill in the information, and bring it to the parish office or put it in the collection basket.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

New Parishioner New Address New Phone #

I would like Fr. Anthony to call me

I'm interested in Parish Ministries I would like to receive offertory envelopes

ST. BLAISE—FEBRUARY 3RD

We know more about the devotion to Saint Blaise by Christians around the world than we know about the saint himself. His feast is observed as a holy day in some Eastern Churches. In 1222, the Council of Oxford prohibited servile labor in England on Blaise’s feast day. The Germans and Slavs hold him in special honor, and for decades many United States Catholics have sought the annual Saint Blaise blessing for their throats.

We know that Bishop Blaise was martyred in his episcopal city of Sebastea, Armenia, in 316. The legendary Acts of St. Blaise were written 400 years later. According to them Blaise was a good bishop, working hard to encourage the spiritual and physical health of his people. Although the Edict of Toleration (311), granting freedom of worship in the Roman Empire, was already five years old, persecution still raged in Armenia. Blaise was apparently forced to flee to the back country. There he lived as a hermit in solitude and prayer, but he made friends with the wild animals. One day a group of hunters seeking wild animals for the amphitheater stumbled upon Blaise’s cave. They were first surprised and then frightened. The bishop was kneeling in prayer surrounded by patiently waiting wolves, lions and bears.

The legend has it that as the hunters hauled Blaise off to prison, a mother came with her young son who had a fish bone lodged in his throat. At Blaise’s command the child was able to cough up the bone.

Agricolaus, governor of Cappadocia, tried to persuade Blaise to sacrifice to pagan idols. The first time Blaise refused, he was beaten. The next time he was suspended from a tree and his flesh torn with iron combs or rakes. Finally, he was beheaded.



Continued from page 2

The French have a proverb that says, “To know all is to forgive all.”

The proverb’s point is that if we could get inside the skin of our enemies and experience what they do, we would forgive them. We would treat them with compassion.

We would treat them with the same compassion that Jesus showed the woman taken in adultery.

We would treat them with the same compassion that Jesus showed the dying thief on the cross.

We would treat them with the same compassion that Jesus showed his executioners when he said, “Father, forgive them, they know not what they do.”

Shakespeare says in his famous play *Merchant of Venice*: “Mercy is twice blest; It blesseth him that give and him that takes.”

Shakespeare’s point is that when we show mercy to another, we ourselves will be blessed for that mercy.

The American sergeant received mercy from the Japanese snipers for no other reason than that he had shown mercy to the child.

Today’s gospel is an invitation to us to show mercy to others. It’s an invitation to us to show mercy to others the way Jesus shows mercy to us. It’s an invitation to us to show mercy to others the way we would like them to show mercy to us.

And if we accept this invitation, we have the promise of Jesus himself that his heavenly Father will show mercy to us.

He will show us compassion that Jesus showed the adulterous woman, the good thief, and his executioners— The same compassion that the Japanese soldiers showed Sgt. Ponich.

Let us close with these words about mercy from a beautiful prayer by the English poet Alexander Pope:

Lord!

“Teach me to feel another’s woe,

To hide the fault I see;

That mercy I to others show,

That mercy show to me.”



THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

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PARISH WISH LIST

"Thank you to all our generous donors who provided the church with our Christmas wish list items. We are so appreciative of you and all you do to keep this community alive, vibrant, and aesthetically special. May God grant you grace, abundant love, and Mercy."

- Sheila Howe

"Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed."

- Luke 2:34-36

The Church celebrates the feast of the Presentation of the Lord 40 days after the birth of Jesus. Before 1969, the feast was known as the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary, or Candlemas. It was celebrated in the earliest times in the Church in Jerusalem and from there the observance spread throughout the Christian world. According to the law of Moses, a woman was ritually unclean for 40 days after childbirth. Therefore, Mary and Joseph took Jesus to the Temple to present him to the Lord and offer sacrifice for purification. *"... just as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every male that opens the womb shall be consecrated to the Lord,' and to offer the sacrifice of 'a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons...'"* (Luke 2:23-24)

Jesus' presentation in the Temple reflects how he fulfills the Old Covenant. According to Old Testament law, a sacrifice had to be offered in the Temple when a child was consecrated to the Lord.

Simeon, a devout and upright man, had been told by the Lord he would meet the Messiah before his death. When Jesus comes to the Temple, we see the fulfillment of this prophecy. Simeon and the prophetess Anna, acting – in the words of Pope John Paul II – as “representatives of the Old Covenant” – recognize Jesus' Lordship as Messiah in this culmination of their watchful waiting. When Simeon receives Jesus, he blesses him, and prophesies Jesus' future as Savior, proclaiming him the Light of the world:

He took him into his arms and blessed God, saying: "Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in sight of all the peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel." – Luke 2:28-32



Since a procession and blessing of candles has been traditionally included with the "Candle Mass" on this feast day, it became known as "Candlemas Day." The candles serve as a symbol of Jesus being "a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel," as foretold by Simeon. (Luke 2:32)

The earliest reference to the festival is from Jerusalem, where in the late 4th century the Western pilgrim Etheria attended its celebration on February 14, 40 days after Epiphany (then celebrated as Christ's birthday), and wrote of it in the Peregrinatio Etheriae. It soon spread to other Eastern cities, and in 542 Justinian I decreed that its date should be moved back to February 2 (40 days after Christmas). By the middle of the 5th century the custom of observing the festival with lighted candles had been introduced, and the name Candlemas developed from this custom. In the Western church, Pope Sergius I (687–701) instituted the festival in Rome. In the East it is primarily a festival of Christ. In the West it was primarily a celebration of the Virgin Mary until the calendar reform of 1969.

REGULAR MEETING

COFFEE AND DONUTS

Please join us after Sunday Mass for some refreshment and conversation.

BIBLE STUDY

Bible study this Thursday at 10:45 am.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND RCIA

Classes this Wednesday, January 25th following Mass at 5pm and dinner.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER

This weeks dinner is the Parish Chili contest. It will be a fun, friendly competition to see who can cook up the best chili in the parish!

CHAPEL AND PRAYER ACTIVITIES

ROSARY

Rosary this Monday at 1:30pm in the Chapel. This is an important and sacred prayer practice within our Catholic faith. Our Blessed Mother is a powerful intercessor and compassionate Mother.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Adoration continues Thursday from 12:00pm- 8:00pm and Friday from 9:30-11:30 am. The Chapel will also be available for quiet prayer outside of these times. If you wish to have the code to the Chapel, please call the parish office during office hours.

THANK YOU

“Thank you to Fr. Anthony, our visiting priests, the sponsors, chefs, cake donors, and instructors (Kathy Cowan, Lani Martin, and Lisa Turner), and of course Sharon and Mike Hennick for all they do to make our Wednesday nights so special here at Holy Trinity. We have gathered in love, joy, and community most Wednesdays to celebrate Mass, share a delicious meal, and receive amazing instruction in our Catholic faith. Wednesday Nights are offered for the whole family and all are welcome. Please join us! This is a special ministry that binds us in love and fruitfulness. We thank the White’s, The Knights of Columbus, The Altar Society, Filipino Community, parishioners who brought us chili and corn bread, and all those to come in the months ahead. We thank our generous sponsors and those that provide our cakes for our birthday celebrations. We are indeed blessed, and we are grateful. We look forward to more great gatherings ahead.”

- Sheila Howe



REFLECTING ON NEXT SUNDAY’S READINGS

FEB. 5, 2023: THE 5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

1st Reading: Isaiah 58:7-10

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

Gospel: Matthew 5:13-16



COFFEE AND DONUTS

JAN. 29TH ~ RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

FEB. 5TH ~ THE ROEDER FAMILY

FEB. 12TH ~ NO COFFEE AND DONUTS

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Parish Office 541-329-0697
Parish Email holytrinitybandon@yahoo.com
Pastoral Assistant Sheila Howe
Sacramental Emergencies 541-329-0697
Prayer Chain Carol Holden
Music/Altar Society Kathleen Stadelman
Bible Study/RCIA/EMHC Kathy Cowan
Knights of Columbus Greg Daigre

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EMHC/Lectors Pat Huntzinger
Music Pat Huntzinger
Women’s Guild Mary Jane LaBelle
Prayer Chain patriciahuntzinger@frontier.com
Hospitality/Church Upkeep Nancy O’Donnell



J. Michael Burke, DC
Chiropractic Physician

I treat back and neck pain, headaches, and problems of the extremities with chiropractic adjustments, massage, and exercise. I teach patients self-care for recovery and prevention.

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