

Parish News

Ash Wednesday is February 14th.

Masses @ 12:15 & 6pm

If you have blessed ashes, they can be brought to the Parish Office for burning prior to that date.

Fridays @ 6pm-Station of the Cross

Friday March 15th @ 6:30pm

Living Stations of the Cross performed by the Norte Dame Students

Stewardship-December 24, 2023

Operating expenses for the Parish on a weekly basis are \$6,200.00 Collection for January 21st Collections \$5720.40

Hope Appeal

2nd Collection at weekend Masses is for the Hope Appeal and will continue in order for the Parish to reach the 2024 Goal

Goal \$38,468.00 Received to date \$17,528.02

Parish Giving-

The Parish is pleased to introduce "Enhancing Stewardship through Electronic Funds Transfer. It is convenient no more searching for a checkbook or Sunday morning stops at the ATM. To excess simply Log on the parish website www.sacredheart-saintmary.org and click on the Parish Giving Log and follow the easy registration instructions. It is Secure.

Events at other Parishes in our area

Please remember we are all a Catholic Community and need to support each other.

A Lenten Retreat for Women

The Syracuse Catholic Women's Conference is sponsoring a Lenten Retreat for Catholic Women for the Greater Utica Area. All are welcome.

This retreat will be hosted by
Mary Mother of Our Savior Parish @ the Lourdes Campus
February 17th

Visit WWW.syracusecatholicwomen.org for information about the schedule and speakers.

IGNITE 24

Catholic Men's Conference
Saturday March 21, 2004

This year's theme is "Lord Guard Us"
To be held @ Bishop Ludden High School in Syracuse
Contact: Ed Kri @ 315 560 9170 or lekirk3@gmail.com

LENTEN FISH FRY

St. Anthony/St. Agnes Church
1500 Bleecker St

Every Friday/February 16-March 29th

Fried or Baked Haddock \$16 (10-12 oz fillet)

12 piece Fried Shrimp \$18

St Anthony Combo \$20 (baked or fried haddock plus 7 fried shrimp)

All meals include choice of baked potato or French fries, cole slaw, dinner roll coffee & dessert. Extra sides \$1

Call 315 418 5219 after 3pm

Youth Ministry Nights

February 12, 2024

The Senton Center/Mary Mother Savior Parish

6:30pm-8:00pm



As always, I like to share the deep traditions and meaning of our Church. What a great way to learn as a family and learn more about this great Faith of ours.

As I was teaching the 9th graders the question came up as to how one becomes a saint..

There are 3 different steps to Sainthood. This week lesson will about what the introduction to these 3 steps as well as those in American who are Saints, Blessed and Venerable

According to the USCCB

All Christians are called to be saints. Saints are persons in heaven (officially canonized or not), who lived heroically virtuous lives, offered their life for others, or were martyred for the faith, and who are worthy of imitation.

In official Church procedures there are three steps to sainthood: a candidate becomes "Venerable," then "Blessed" and then "Saint." Venerable is the title given to a deceased person recognized formally by the pope as having lived a heroically virtuous life or offered their life. To be beatified and recognized as a Blessed, one miracle acquired through the candidate's intercession is required in addition to recognition of heroic virtue or offering of life.

Canonization requires a second miracle after beatification. The pope may waive these requirements. A miracle is not required prior to a martyr's beatification, but one is required before canonization.

Key Terms

Beatification -- the second stage in the process of proclaiming a person a saint; occurs after a diocese or eparchy and the Congregation for the Causes of Saints has conducted a rigorous investigation into the person's life and writings to determine whether he or she demonstrates a heroic level of virtue, offered their life or suffered martyrdom. A miracle attributed to the person's intercession must be proved.

Blessed -- title bestowed on a person who has been beatified and accorded limited liturgical veneration.

Canonization – the formal process by which the Church declares a person to be a saint and worthy of universal veneration.

Congregation for the Causes of Saints – a department of the Roman Curia, established originally as the Congregation of Rites by Pope Sixtus V in 1588. Reorganized and renamed in 1969 by Pope Paul VI, and again in 1983 by Pope John Paul II. Some of the responsibilities of the Congregation include making recommendations to the pope on beatifications and canonizations, and the authentication and preservation of sacred relics.

Miracle –something that has occurred by the grace of God through the intercession of a Venerable, or Blessed which is scientifically inexplicable.

Petitioner – party initiating an action in canon law. In the case of a sainthood cause, the petitioner is one who asks the diocesan bishop to begin the investigation which could ultimately lead to canonization. (A bishop may also begin a cause on his own initiative, in which case he is the petitioner.)

Positio – a comprehensive summary of all documentation; in this context, there are two: the one summarizing the investigation of a candidate's life and heroic virtues or offering of life, or martyrdom and a second for any alleged miracles. The *Positio* is prepared during the Roman phase by the postulator with the assistance of someone from the Congregation for the Causes of Saints.

Postulator -- person appointed to guide and oversee the cause. One oversees the cause at the diocesan or eparchial level (Phase I); the Roman postulator, oversees all aspects of Phases II and III.

Prefect -- the head of any of the Roman curial congregations, usually a cardinal.

Relator – person appointed by the Congregation for the Causes of Saints to assemble the historic documentation of the candidate for canonization.

Saint – the title given to someone who has been formally canonized by the Church as sharing eternal life with God, and therefore offered for public veneration and imitation.

Servant of God -- the title given to a candidate for sainthood whose cause is still under investigation, prior to being declared Venerable.

Venerable – the title given to a candidate for sainthood whose cause has not yet reached the beatification stage but whose heroic virtue has been declared by the pope.

History

In the first five centuries of the Church, the process for recognizing a saint was based on public acclaim or the vox populi, vox Dei (voice of the people, voice of God). There was no formal canonical process as understood by today's standards. Beginning in the sixth century and continuing into the twelfth century, the intervention of the local bishop was required

before someone could be canonized. The intervention of the local bishop usually began with a request from the local community for the bishop to recognize someone a saint. Upon studying the request and a written biography, if he found it favorable, the bishop would typically issue a decree, legitimize the liturgical cult and thereby canonize the person.

Starting in the tenth century, a cause proceeded with the usual steps, i.e. the person's reputation would spread, a request to the local bishop from the people to declare the person a saint occurred, and a biography would be written for the bishop's review. Now however, the bishop would collect eyewitness testimony of those who knew the person and who had witnessed miracles, and he would provide a summary of the case to the Pope for his approval. The Pope then reviewed the cause, and if he approved it, he issued a decree declaring the person a canonized saint. The first documented case of papal invention is by Pope John XV on January 31, 993 for the canonization of St. Ulric. When Pope Sixtus V reorganized the Roman Curia in 1588 he established the Congregation for Sacred Rites. One of its functions was to assist the Pope with reviewing causes. Except for a few canonical developments, from 1588 the process of canonization remained the same until 1917 when a universal Code of Canon Law was promulgated.

The 1917 code contained 145 canons (cc. 1999- 2144) on causes of canonization and mandated that an episcopal process and an apostolic process be conducted. The episcopal process consisted of the local bishop verifying the reputation of the person, ensuring that a biography existed, collecting eyewitness testimony and the person's written works. All of this was then forwarded to the Congregation for Sacred Rites. The apostolic process consisted of reviewing the evidence submitted, collecting more evidence, studying the cause, investigating any alleged miracles and ultimately forwarding the cause to the Pope for his approval. This process remained in effect until 1983 with the promulgation of the 1983 Code of Canon Law and new norms for causes of canonization: *Divinus Perfectionis Magister*, *Normae Servandae in Inquisitionibus ab Episcopis Faciendis in Causis Sanctorum* and *Sanctorum Mater* (2007).

This revised process for causes of canonization is still in force and is detailed below.

No precise count exists of those who have been proclaimed saints since the first centuries.

However, in 1988, to mark its 4th centenary, the Congregation for the Causes of Saints published the first "Index ac Status Causarum." This book and its subsequent supplements, written entirely in Latin, are considered the definitive index of all causes that have been presented to the Congregation since its institution.

American Saints, Blessed and Venerable

The American Church has been blessed with numerous Saints, Blessed and Venerable, all of whom in their own unique way witness to Christ's love through their martyrdom or virtuous lives within our American culture. Currently, there are eleven American Saints:

St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, St. Marianne Cope, St. Katharine Drexel, St. Rose Philippine Duchesne, St. Mother Théodore Guérin, St. Isaac Jogues and the North American Martyrs, St. John Neumann, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, St. Father Junípero Serra, O.F.M , St. Kateri Tekakwitha, and St. Damien de Veuster (canonized as Damien of Moloka'i). There are four

American Blesseds: Blessed Father Solanus Casey, O.F.M. Cap., Blessed Father Stanley Francis Rother, Blessed Father Francis Xavier Seelos, C.Ss.R., and Blessed Sister Miriam Teresa, S.C. (Teresa Demjanovich). There are thirteen American Venerables: Venerable Father Nelson Baker, Venerable Bishop Frederic Baraga, Venerable Mother Mary Magdalen Bentivoglio, O.S.C., Venerable Cornelia Connelly, S.H.C.J., Venerable Henriette Delille, S.S.F., Venerable Mother Mary Theresa Dudzik, O.S.F., Venerable Bishop Alphonse Gallegos, O.A.R., Venerable Mother Maria Kaupas, S.S.C., Venerable Mother Mary Angeline Teresa McCrory, O. Carm., Venerable Father Michael McGivney, Venerable Archbishop Fulton Sheen, Venerable Pierre Toussaint, and Venerable Father Felix Varela

Catholic Food for thought





As we start the cold and flu season, please remember that if your child (ren) is not feeling well, please keep them home.

Any child who will be making First Holy Communion or Confirmation a copy of the Baptismal Certificate is required.

Important Dates for children making Sacraments.

First Reconciliation/First Communion

First Reconciliation will be on March 3rd after the 9am Mass.

Blessing Cup on April 13th from 12pm-2pm

First Communion May 5th @ 11am Mass

9 Grade

There will be a day of Reflection for the 9th Graders tentatively scheduled for April 13th.. The 9th Graders will be required to attend.

Confirmation Students

March 9th @ 10:30 am -Confirmation Retreat @ St. Paul's Whitesboro

March 3rd -Sponsor information and Confirmation Name due

In lieu of the last formation class Confirmation students will have lunch with Fr. Mark after the 11am Mass

The Faith Formation Program has obtained the program **AWAKEN** for Pflaum Publishing -a weekly publication. This will be available in the weekly newsletter as well as a paper copy for those who wish to have one.

Awaken and become disciples of the Word.

Church Masses



Sacrament of Reconciliation: Will be offered the first Wednesday of every month after the 12:15 Mass

Saturday 4pm

Sunday's

7:30am 9AM and 11AM

Weekdays 12:15 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday Friday.

There will no Mass on Thursday

Let's remember that as Catholics, the importance of attending Sunday Mass. At Mass we stand mystically at the foot of the cross and witness for ourselves the same self-sacrifice of Jesus, in an unbloody manner. Mass is a celebration of this sacrifice. It is the active participation of all that come together in the place of worship.

5th Sunday of Ordinary Time

1st Reading: JB 7:1-4, 6-7

Psalm: PS 147: 1-1, 3-4, 5-6

2nd Reading: 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23

Gospel MK 1:29-39

While these are wonderful reflections, please remember that they are not to be a substitute for the wonderful sermons of Father or Deacon Kirk at Mass.



I found 2 wonderful reflections for this week's Sunday Gospel-which 1 speaks to you.

Mark 1:29-39 Jesus heals Simon Mother-in-Law

A reading from the gospel according to Mark 1:29-39:

- 29 On leaving the synagogue Jesus entered the house of Simon and Andrew with James and John.
- 30 Simon's mother-in-law lay sick with a fever. They immediately told him about her.
- 31 He approached, grasped her hand, and helped her up. Then the fever left her and she waited on them.
- 32 When it was evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were ill or possessed by demons.
- 33 The whole town was gathered at the door.
- 34 He cured many who were sick with various diseases, and he drove out many demons, not permitting them to speak because they knew him.
- 35 Rising very early before dawn, he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed.
- 36 Simon and those who were with him pursued him
- 37 and on finding him said, "Everyone is looking for you."
- 38 He told them, "Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come."
- 39 So he went into their synagogues, preaching and driving out demons throughout the whole of Galilee.

Reflection: A Day in the Life of Jesus

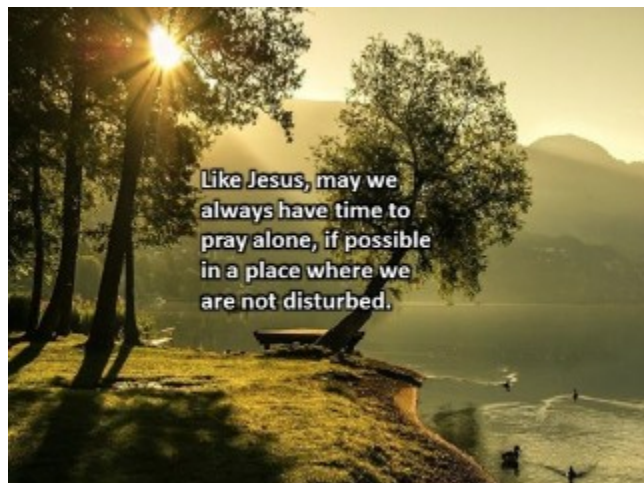
Jesus was clearly an early riser. He wakes up early to pray and He prays in a deserted place where no one can disturb Him. Then He goes on to teach, heal the sick and cast out demons. Even after sunset, for as long as there are people who need His presence, He is still at work.

The gospel reading shows us how Jesus was always on the move. It was a Sabbath day and people were supposed to rest and be quiet but not Jesus. Attending to people in need was more important to Him than following the letter of the law. Thus, even on a day of rest, He still performed healing and exorcism.

Not a single day was idle for Jesus. He knew He had little time on earth and He had to accomplish what He was sent for. He was always available to people who were in need. He does not reject people who seek Him.

Jesus is still available in our age at any time anywhere. He will always have time for you and for me. He is just one call away through prayer. He may no longer attend to us physically but He uses people as His instrument to help us. He might be calling us now to help a neighbor in need. Are we also available? Do we have time to call Him? Do we have time for those in need?

Jesus does not only heal us physically. His presence alone lifts us emotionally and spiritually. He casts away our doubts and fears. He erases our guilt and fills our hearts and minds with peace and joy. Most especially, we can ask Him to cast out the demons in us and others.



2) Gospel Reading - Mark 1:29-39

On leaving the synagogue Jesus entered the house of Simon and Andrew with James and John. Simon's mother-in-law lay sick with a fever. They immediately told him about her. He approached, grasped her hand, and helped her up. Then the fever left her and she waited on them. When it was evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were ill or possessed by demons. The whole town was gathered at the door. He cured many who were sick with various diseases, and he drove out many demons, not permitting them to speak because they knew him. Rising very early before dawn, he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed. Simon and those who were with him pursued him and on finding him said, "Everyone is looking for you." He told them, "Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come." So he went into their synagogues, preaching and driving out demons throughout the whole of Galilee.

3) Reflection

- Jesus restores life for the service. After having participated in the celebration of Saturday in the Synagogue, Jesus went to Peter's house and cured his mother-in-law. Once healed, she gets up, with her health restored and having recovered her dignity, and she begins to serve. Jesus does not only heal the person, but He does it in such a way that she begins to serve life.
- Jesus accepts the marginalized. When it begins to get dark, in the afternoon, at the end of Saturday when the first star shines in the sky, Jesus accepts and cures the sick and those possessed whom people had brought to Him. The sick and those possessed were the most marginalized people of that time. They had nobody to whom they had recourse. They depended on public charity. Besides this, religion considered them impure. They could not participate in the community. It was as if God rejected and excluded them. Therefore, the Good News of God consists of what He wants to do in the life of people: to accept the marginalized and the excluded, and to insert them again to live together in the community.
- To remain united to the Father, in prayer. Jesus is presented to us while He prays. He makes a great effort to have the time and the adequate environment to pray. He rises before the others and

Goes to a deserted place to be able to be alone with God. Many times the Gospels speak to us about the prayers of Jesus in silence, (Mt 14:22-23, Mk 1:35, Lk 5:15-16; 3:21-22. Through prayer He maintains the awareness of his mission. goes to a deserted place, to be

able to be alone with God. Many times, the Gospels speak to us about the prayer of Jesus, in silence (Mt 14:22-23); Mk 1:35; Lk 5:15-16; 3:21-22).

- To maintain the awareness of the mission and not to close oneself up in what is already obtained. Jesus is known. Everybody follows Him. This publicity pleases the disciples. They go to look for Jesus to take Him back to the people who were seeking for Him, and they tell Him: "All are looking for You." They thought that Jesus would go to the banquet. They were disillusioned! Jesus does not pay attention and tells them: "Let us go elsewhere. It is precisely for this that I have come!" Surely, they must have been surprised! Jesus was not like what they had imagined Him to be. Jesus had a very clear conscience of the mission and wants to transmit this to the disciples. He does not want them to close themselves up in the results already obtained. They should not look back. But, like Jesus, they should maintain consciousness of their mission. It is the mission received from the Father, which has to orientate their decisions.
- It is precisely for this that I have come! This was the first misunderstanding between Jesus and His disciples. At present, it is only a question of a small difference. Later on, in the Gospel of Mark, this misunderstanding will grow and will practically become a break between Jesus and the disciples (cf. Mk 8:14-21,32-33; 9:32; 14:27). Today, there are some misunderstandings along the way in proclaiming the Good News. Mark helps one to be attentive to the differences.

Personal questions

- Jesus did not come to be served, but to serve. Peter's mother-in-law began to serve. Do I act in such a way that my life is a service to God and to my brothers and sisters?
 - Jesus is conscious and aware of His mission through prayer. Am I?

Saints of the week

The saints are models of human excellence, perfected by the life of Christ and the communication of his Spirit. They demonstrate in their lives how to really live and how to really die. They consistently point to the horizon of love which leads to the fulfillment of all human desire: eternal communion with the Holy Trinity.

Feb 5th Memorial of St. Agatha; Feb 6th Memorial of St. Paul Miki & Companions Martyrs; Feb 10 Memorial of St. Scholastica



Each week I include this week's Scripture to be shared for children who may be too young to attend the program.

Theme: Jesus is powerful.

Object: Gather objects that are soft, smooth, rough, bumpy, etc. (a pen, cotton ball, paper clip, stone, small orange) and put them into a paper bag.

Scripture

Mark 5:21-43

As you may know, we have five senses: sight, smell, hearing, taste, and touch. Each of these senses is very important to us. This morning we are going to test our sense of touch and discover the power that's ours in the sense of touch.

(Gather the children in a circle.) I have a bag full of different objects. Everyone will close their eyes, and I'll hand one of the objects to pass around the circle. Without looking, think about what the object is just by touching it.

(Have kids close their eyes, and then have them pass around one object.) I'll count to 3, and you'll shout out what you think the object is without opening your eyes. 1, 2, 3! (Pause.) Open your eyes. It's a [name of object].

(Repeat the same process for each object. Invite kids to tell how they knew what each object was.)

The sense of touch is very important, isn't it? We can often tell what an object is by its size, shape, and texture -- all of which can be learned by using our sense of touch. In the Bible, Jesus showed His power through touch. We'll hear about two ways He used touch to help people. Since Jesus is showing His power through touch, whenever I say the word, "touch,"

you'll say, "Power!" and do this motion. (Demonstrate for kids how to hold their palms up and facing outward, shaking them like "jazz hands.")

One day Jesus was walking through a large crowd. The people were crowding around so that he could hardly move. There was a woman in the crowd who was not well; her body had been bleeding for 12 years. There wasn't even a doctor who could help her. But she thought Jesus could heal her. She thought, "If I could just get close enough to touch (pause) his robe, I would be healed." So she pushed through the crowd and did it! And she was immediately better!

When the woman touched Jesus, He felt the power go out of Him. When He found out who touched (pause) Him, He said, "Your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be free from your suffering."

At this same time, Jesus was actually on His way to help a church leader whose daughter was very sick. After the woman had touched (pause) Him, He learned the girl had died. Then He told everyone, "Have faith!" and He made His way to the church leader's home. When Jesus saw the people crying over the girl's death, He told them she was only sleeping. This made them laugh, but He still went and touched (pause) her hand and said a prayer. And she got up!

The power in Jesus' touch (pause) is amazing!

Dear God, we long to reach out and touch You and to feel Your power in our lives. Please help us see and feel Your power. In Jesus' name, amen.

WEEKLY PRAYER

Dear God,
I pray as we enter into the new month
of FEBRUARY you keep us covered
under the blood of JESUS as well as
our love ones &
friends. Please watch
over us always, and let
good health, happiness
and good fortune
befall us
In Jesus name.
AMEN





Diocese of Syracuse

From Notre Dame Schools:

Notre Dame Schools 12th Annual Raffle is underway. This year's Grand Prize is \$100,000. With a Second Prize of \$10,000, Third Prize of \$10,000, and an additional \$10,000 in smaller prizes! Tickets cost \$100 each and includes admission for 2 adults to the Drawing Party on April 23, 2023, featuring free food, door prizes, and 50/50 raffles. Doors open at 12 Noon and the main drawing will be at 3pm. Call 315-724-5118 to purchase your tickets today!

I have noted above events that are happening here in the Greater Utica Area

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