



Christ the Good Shepherd

ORCC

A Progressive Faith Community in the Catholic Tradition

January 6, 2019
Volume 2 Issue 1

Monsignor's Musings:

From the desk of Monsignor Harry Posner...

The Feast of Epiphany officially marks the end of the Christmas season. With Epiphany, we celebrate the Christ child being presented with symbolic gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh from people from far off lands. God showers us with countless gifts each and every day, most simply go unnoticed, but others can touch our hearts in new and unexpected ways. As we move into the liturgical season of Ordinary Time, I encourage you to focus on how we can offer simple gifts to our Savior, symbolic gifts of prayer and small sacrifices, to demonstrate our love and gratitude.



For many years I prayed that God would bless me with a child, to allow me the opportunity to be a parent. In October 2018, God answered my prayer with the gift of a son; not an infant in swaddling clothes, but rather a young man with a warm smile and a big heart; someone with whom I am very proud. While my non-traditional family may appear odd to some, for me, parenthood is a beautiful gift for which I am grateful beyond words. Having a son is a blessing that demonstrated in a real and profound way that God not only heard my prayers, but also that God is alive and active in my life.

The Christmas season is not so much about giving and receiving gifts, but rather, it is about recognizing the blessings God showers upon us and showing our love for God and for one another. In life, we will always have challenges and struggles, but knowing that God is with us gives spiritual and emotional comfort. My prayer is that we continue the spirit of Christmas all year long by recognizing the gifts that God bestows upon us and respond with gratitude by giving of ourselves. The greatest gift we can give or receive is love. As St. John the Evangelist said, "God is love and those who live in love, live in God." Together, let us celebrate God's love and live that love everyday by opening our hearts and hands to God and to one another in real and profound ways.

Blessings,

Fr. Harry

Saint of the Month:

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton

Born in August 28, 1774 (making Fr. Mike most happy as that is his birth date too) Mother Seton entered this world at the dawn of our American Revolution. She was raised in an affluent New York family and was part of the social elite. Raised in the Episcopal faith but no very 'church-ed' her father instilled the values of prayer, charity, and service to others.



Mother Seton loss her mother, young sister, and two of her five children in her life. While in Italy (with her dying husband), she was exposed to the Catholic faith and fell in love with our belief in the Real Presence, devotion to the Blessed Mother and conviction that the Catholic Church led back to the apostles and to Christ.

Mother Seton soon later, a widow of five children and no income, did not give in to a dark or bleak future. She grew in her devotion to the service of God's children and founded the first American religious community for women, the Sisters of Charity. She opened the first American parish school and established the first American Catholic orphanage.

Mother Seton died January 4, 1821, and became the first American-born citizen to be beatified (1963) and then canonized (1975). She is buried in Emmitsburg, Maryland. She is the Patron Saint of catholic school and loss of parents.

Blessings,
Fr. Mike

Bulletin Articles and calendar items for February are due to parishadmin@ferndalecgs.com by January 23, 2019 so we have them in time for publication. Thank you.

Welcome!

Please join us in welcoming our new parish treasurer to our ministry staff: **+Michael A. Goddard**. +Michael is a full time Director of Spiritual Care and Medical Ethics at McLaren-Oakland Hospital in Pontiac, Michigan. He is also a chaplain for the Oakland County Sheriff Department and was previously the CFO at Guest House in Oxford, Michigan. Currently he serves as the treasurer for Macomb Immigrant Services. We look forward to collaborating with Michael in parish ministry! Welcome Michael!

Welcome 2019!

As we say good bye to 2018 and embrace 2019 we as a faith family most likely will see the new year in different ways. Some, such as myself, don't place a tremendous stock in the calendar change - life moves from one day to the next and I have never found a very 'magical' lure of midnight, January 1. Other, however, just finished a year that they may consider to be one of their best and look to the new year with continued hope of happiness and success. Others, less fortunate, finished the new year with heartache and strife and are simply revealed it is over and place hope in the near year for healing and better fortunes.

I think of the Holy Family and how they would process the change of the year, or simply looking back and forward based on their current experiences. They clearly had a challenging 9 months in their relationship dealing with a baby that is not of their own making. They had difficult travels and face a dangerous future where men of great power want their child dead. And on top of all that, these new parents, with no experience, are faced with raising God's only son.

I can not help but think we are given the joy of Christmas at the end of the year as yet another blessing from God. We are given the joy of salvation and love to sooth the wounds of hurt from a year past. We are given the hope of peace and love for those looking with excitement, or desperate hope, towards the future. God is once again with us and is joining us on our journey. We are not alone, our God of peace and love is right there alongside us in this journey of life.

Blessings,
Fr. Mike

Liturgical Ministry Schedule

January-February, 2019

January 6

Altar Servers: Pat Moylan
Lectors First Reading: El Hadji Gueye
Second Reading : Debbie David
Prayers of Faithful: Aaron Thomas
Greeters: Susie Hawkins
Ushers: Lamont Monat & Tom Hammond
Eucharistic Ministers: Carla Meier

January 13

Altar Servers: Paul Chrustowski
Lectors First Reading: Anthony Armor
Second Reading: Betty Pejakovich
Prayers of the Faithful: Eric Monat
Greeters: El Hadji Gueye
Ushers: El Hadji Gueye and Susie Hawkins
Eucharistic Ministers: Pat Moylan

January 20

Altar Servers: Debbie David
Lectors First Reading: Eric Monat
Second Reading Paul Chrustowski
Prayers of the Faithful: Aaron Thomas
Greeters: Bob Curtis
Ushers: Bob Curtis and Lamont Monat
Eucharistic Ministers: Carla Meier

January 27

Altar Servers: Aaron Thomas
Lectors First Reading: Pat Moylan
Second Reading: El Hadji Gueye
Prayer of the Faithful: Anthony Armor
Greeters: Lamont Monat
Ushers: Tom Hammond and Lamont Monat
Eucharistic Ministers: Paul Chrustowski

February 3

Altar Servers: Pat Moylan
Lectors First Reading: Cindy Knox
Second Reading : Debbie David
Prayers of Faithful: Aaron Thomas
Greeters: Susie Hawkins
Ushers: Lamont Monat & Tom Hammond
Eucharistic Ministers: Carla Meier

February 10

Altar Servers: Paul Chrustowski
Lectors First Reading: Anthony Armor
Second Reading: Betty Pejakovich
Prayers of the Faithful: Eric Monat
Greeters: El Hadji Gueye
Ushers: El Hadji Gueye and Susie Hawkins
Eucharistic Ministers: Pat Moylan

February 17

Altar Servers: Debbie David
Lectors First Reading: Eric Monat
Second Reading Paul Chrustowski
Prayers of the Faithful: Aaron Thomas
Greeters: Bob Curtis
Ushers: Bob Curtis and Lamont Monat
Eucharistic Ministers: Carla Meier

February 24

Altar Servers: Aaron Thomas
Lectors First Reading: Pat Moylan
Second Reading: El Hadji Gueye
Prayer of the Faithful: Anthony Armor
Greeters: Lamont Monat
Ushers: Cindy Knox and Lamont Monat
Eucharistic Ministers: Paul Chrustowski



Welcome to our newest member of the Faith Community!

On the third Sunday of Advent, December 16, 2018 we welcomed Theodore Manzanillo-DeVore into the Church with the Sacrament of Baptism. His parents are Isabel and Trent.



Staff Directory

Pastor: Msgr. Harry Posner: frharry@ferndalecgs.com
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Parish Treasurer: Michael Goddard: treasurer@ferndalecgs.com
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Christ the Good Shepherd, ORCC

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Thank you to Bob Curtis, Lamont Monat, and Eric Monat for their hard work decorating our church from the Christmas Season. They did a beautiful job.

Thank you to all who supported the Christmas Tree sales. We could not have achieved the success without your hard work and dedication.

The Fabric of Christ's Interior Landscape Continues by Fr. Charles Blanchard



One of the scribes came to Jesus and asked him, “Which is the first of all the commandments?” In answering such a question, Christ unequivocally spelled out the foundational commandment – “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength” (Mark 12.28-34). It is precisely this commandment on which Christ’s interior landscape developed; also known as the beatitudes.

THE EIGHT BEATITUDES OF JESUS include:

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven;

Blessed are they who mourn, for they shall be comforted;

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth;

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied;

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy;

Blessed are the pure of heart, for they shall see God.;

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God;

Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven (Matthew 5:3-10).

“Becoming a person for others” is central to the notion of Ignatian spirituality. When St. Ignatius of Loyola founded the Jesuits back in the 16th century, he believed firmly that faith must be put into action. The Beatitudes; and such a lived example of becoming a person for others, is a beautiful tapestry of Christ’s landscape. Think this idea is radical? Jesus taught this principle over 2000 years ago! In his Parable of the Last Judgment, Jesus made it abundantly clear that faith in him will be judged by how well that faith was put into action:

Then the righteous will answer him “Lord, when did we see thee hungry and feed thee, or thirsty and give thee drink? And when did we see thee a stranger and welcome thee, or naked and clothe thee? And when did we see thee sick or in prison and visit thee?” And the King will answer them, “Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.” - Matthew 25:37-40

We are called to be people for others. The question is what does this mean in practical terms? How might you and I translate faith into action? Dignity of the Human Person is an immutable guide. We are called to protect the rights; ensuring a decent human life, such as food, clothing, and shelter. Preferential option for the poor, vulnerable and oppressed is paramount; We are called to pay special attention to the needs of those who are poor. The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers must be maintained; and We are called to protect the basic rights of all workers: the right to engage in productive work, fair wages, private property, and the right to organize, join unions, and pursue economic opportunity.

In October I spent 5 days journeying Guatemala . This experience became a beautifully woven tapestry of Christ’s interior landscape for me. Bishop Joseph Catrambone arranged for a tour of Los Ninos del Mundo, a school with seeks to provide children a chance to fight against the social forces pulling them down. My eyes were opened to the profound presence of poverty; to the visceral needs of the elderly; and to the plentiful opportunities of living the beatitudes and being a person for others

My sisters and brothers, whether it’s Ferndale, Michigan or Antigua, Guatemala, this journey of ours is not over! You and I together spread God’s love to the world around us. It is my hope, that we as a parish, can continue our support of Los Ninos del Mundo and Freedom House so that we can continue to become the hands and feet of Christ spreading love to those most in need.

January 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 SOS shelter	2 Mass 7:00 p.m. SOS shelter	3 SOS shelter Friendly AA 8:00 p.m.	4 SOS shelter	5 SOS shelter
6 Mass 10:30 a.m. Young People AA 8:00 p.m. SOS shelter SOS shelter	7 SOS shelter AA Meeting 8:00 p.m.	8 SOS shelter	9 Mass 7:00 p.m. SOS shelter	10 SOS shelter Friendly AA 8:00 p.m.	11 SOS shelter	12 SOS shelter
13 Mass 10:30 a.m. Young People AA 8:00 p.m. SOS shelter	14 AA Meeting 8:00 p.m.	15	16 Mass 7:00 p.m. Fr. Charles' Birthday	17 Friendly AA 8:00 p.m.	18	19
20 Mass 10:30 a.m. Young People AA 8:00 p.m.	21 AA Meeting 8:00 p.m.	22	23 Mass 7:00 p.m.	24 Friendly AA 8:00 p.m.	25	26
27 Mass 10:30 a.m. Young People AA 8:00 p.m.	28 AA Meeting 8:00 p.m.	29	30 Mass 7:00 p.m. Community Dinner Clothing Closet 6:00-7:00 p.m.	31 Friendly AA 8:00 p.m.		