

January 21, 2018

The 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

This church year we usually hear the Gospel of Mark. Today, we hear from its first chapter, the beginning of Jesus' public ministry, "Repent and believe in the Gospel." These words of Jesus will be heard by many Catholics as they receive ashes on Ash Wednesday. It is one of the two formulas the minister may choose to use. It calls us to turn away from evil and be joined to Christ.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: Each year Christians of many denominations pray together from January 18th to the 25th for the unity in one Church of all who believe in Jesus.

*Bishop Malooly will celebrate the
11:00am Mass NEXT
Sunday, January 28, 2018
To formally invest our
Pastor as a Monsignor.*

*After Mass you are invited to come to a
reception in Masci Hall with light
refreshments to celebrate this honor for
our Pastor and our Parish.*



REMEMBER! **NEVER** leave your pocketbook or anything valuable in sight in your car. Recently thieves have hit our parish as well as the Methodist and Episcopal Churches. Items donated for the poor can be left in church or the porch during regular Mass times or rectory office hours.

CHOIR NEWS

**TENTH ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF
SPIRITUALS RETURNS!**



The annual Festival of Spirituals will return to St. Helena's for its tenth edition, entitled *We Shall Walk Through the Valley in Peace*, on Sunday, February 11, 2018 at 3:00pm. St. Helena's Church Choir will host the Choir School of Delaware, the Perryville (MD) High School Chamber Choir, the DuPont Diversity Choir, and the newly-formed Ecumenical Choir of North Wilmington. The Ecumenical Choir consists of singers and directors from Aldersgate United Methodist Church, St. Helena's Catholic Church and St. Paul's United Methodist Church. Each choir will perform a set of spirituals and then all choirs will join for a mass finale. The church will literally be filled with more than 200 voices. There is no admission, but a free-will offering will be taken. Net proceeds will benefit United Methodist Committee on Relief, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and the Lutheran World Relief.

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Saturday, January 27

5:00pm - Connor, Bella

Sunday, January 28

7:00am - Joyce

9:00am - Alex, Dylan

11:00am - Margaret, Daniel, Anna

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Mrs. Carol Blevins

Mrs. Andrew Denis

These two names were not included in the list of those who made a donation for our beautiful Christmas Decorations.

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 20

5:00 pm(SR) Mabel Siegfried

Sunday, January 21

7:00 am(SR) People of the Parish

9:00 am(WK)Dora Amoroso

11:00 am(KN)Living Special Intention

Monday, January 22

7:00am(WR)

9:00am(SR)

Tuesday, January 23

7:00am(WR)

9:00am(SR) Adelaide C. Russell

Wednesday, January 24

7:00am(WR)

9:00am(SR) Deceased Members of the
Krupa and Quinn Families

Thursday, January 25

7:00am(SR) Deceased Members of the
Russell and Sullivan Families

9:00 am(WK)Kevin Fahey

Friday, January 26

7:00am(Cap)

9:00 am(SR) Carrie Konitzer

Saturday, January 27

9:00 am(SR) Denise McFadden

5:00 pm(SR) Betty R. Quinn, 20th Anniversary

Sunday, January 28

7:00 am(WR)

9:00 am(SR)Paul O. Knight

11:00 am(Bishop)People of the Parish

Please Pray For Our Sick Parishioners

Anne Ambagis, Ruth Bower, Charles Brumbaugh, Joan Callaghan, Joseph Campanella, Jean Capodanno, Debbie Cole, Tony Cutrona, Patricia Darmanin, Jayne Davenport, Bob Davis, Julia Davis, Gerri Episcopo, Sara Garrison, Mary Ann Irelan, Levi & Ellie Jernigan, Ella Kirksey, James Lafferty, Sue McLaughlin, Edward Mebs, Gay Meriggi, Dan Moley, Dora Pacitti, Fr. Roy Pollard, Terri Reed, Dorothy Rich, Helen Rupnicki, Joseph Sacher, Kathleen Schaubert, Irma Shock, Caitlin Soper, Frank Sullivan, George Theiss, William Thomas, Catherine Thomson, James Whisker, Ann Wilson, Cindy Zych

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION returns **Monday, January 22nd at 6:30pm.** I hope you have all enjoyed your time off!

ADULT SCRIPTURE STUDY resumes tomorrow night in Religious Ed at 6:30pm.

Ms. Hummy is in need of someone to sit in during classes with our combined Seventh and Eighth grade class. There are 10 sessions left for the present school year and our two volunteers are unable to continue this year. No teaching is required—this fulfills our Diocesan Mandate to have 2 adults in each class (For the Sake of God’s Children).

FIRST EUCHARIST: Letters for this group will be going out in the mail on Monday night through class. If you do not receive one, please call the office at 762-4280 or email Ms. Hummy at hpennell@sainthelenas.org.

YOUTH GROUP: Meets **NEXT SUNDAY** night at 7:00pm.

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

*Please Note: Parish Social Ministry Office hours are: Monday through Thursdays
Interviews are held 9am to Noon
Fridays in emergency situations only
Staff is in the office five days per week from 8:30am to 2 or 3pm*

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Our members meet in the Convent every month on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday at 7pm. Each meeting begins with recitation of the Chaplet of Mercy or the Rosary. Our members and parishioners create shawls and other lovely items which are blessed and brought to so many in need of comfort and caring. Materials are given freely and items can be made at home. Joining our dedicated ministry will make your life even more meaningful. Call Carmela on 762-9057 for more information or for questions about inclement weather.

BRING IT HOME



Mark's message this week reminds us that, like the disciples, we are called to follow Christ and spread His message. Simon and Andrew dropped everything they were doing to follow Jesus. Leaving their responsibilities and their own father, must have taken a great amount of courage. As followers of Christ, we are often asked to make tough choices. When called to make a change in your life, how do you answer? Like the disciples we may be asked to step outside our comfort zone, but like the disciples when you rely on Christ, you accomplish great things.

MARRIAGE MOMENTS

By Susan Vogt

A common complaint among couples is: "You're not listening to me" When is listening hard for you? If you're busy or tired, ask for a better time. Is there a conversation you've been avoiding?

PARENTING POINTERS

By Susan Vogt

Talk with your child about the value of life no matter how young or how old. Perhaps donate baby items to a center.

RACHEL'S VINEYARD CATHOLIC RETREAT

This retreat for post-abortion healing will be held at Jesus House in Wilmington from April 6-8. The retreat weekend is a beautiful healing opportunity for any person who has struggled with the emotional or spiritual pain of abortion. For more information please contact Nan Freeman at 302-307-6130 or visit rechelsvineyard.org.

WEEKLY CALENDAR



Sunday, January 21

Third Sunday in Ordinary time

2nd Collection: Catholic University and
Communication

11:00am Child. Liturgy/Word-Church

Monday, January 22

5:30pm Youth Choir-Church

6:30pm Religious Ed Class-School

6:30pm Adult Scripture Study-Rel. Ed. Office

7:00pm Young at Heart Crafts-Convent

Tuesday, January 23

7:00pm Book Club-Convent

Thursday, January 24

5:30pm Bingo-Masci Hall

7:30pm Adult Choir-Church

THURSDAY NIGHT BINGO



BINGO IN BAD WEATHER

Listen to WDEL 1150AM or 101.7FM

Check "Next Door Bellefonte"

Log onto our website: www.sainthelenas.org

Call Rectory: 764-0325 after 2pm for the
special phone message

Are you looking for a way to become more involved at St. Helena's? We need people to serve food, sell Bingo materials and monitor games. Or...try your hand at playing Bingo! Don't know anything about Bingo? That's ok. There are lots of friendly folks to show you how. To volunteer or for more information, please call 764-0325. To play Bingo, just show up (18 or older). Masci Hall doors open on at 5:30pm for food. Games begin at 7pm. All are invited to join the fun!

Reflection
Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

Psychologists give us three types of personality traits that have been related to physical health and disease. Type A (who exhibit coronary-prone behavior) are individuals who are hard-driving, competitive, and try to overachieve. The stereotype of the driven and overworked executive who one day keels over with a heart attack has some basis in fact.

Type B individuals are laid back, never rush, and tend to take things easy. While Type A's are focused on competing, Type B's are more about living in the moment.

Type D persons (also known as disease prone) tend to be worried, irritable, and express a great deal of negative emotions, and are also linked to coronary heart disease. They tend to experience illnesses, particularly stress-related ones, in clusters.

What matters to us in this analysis is not only to discover which type we are, but how our type responds to things of God. Especially in how we respond to Christ's call. Not knowing for sure what type Jonah was, we note that he was reluctant to answer God's call before that big fish made him lunch. But Jonah learned to respond the right way by the time his assignment to Nineveh rolled around.

When we note how the two sets of brothers reacted as Jesus called them that day, we see their willingness to answer with no ifs, ands or buts. Granted, Mark the writer may have been using exaggeration here, but remember too that he was writing his gospel to people who were being asked to respond to the news of Jesus.

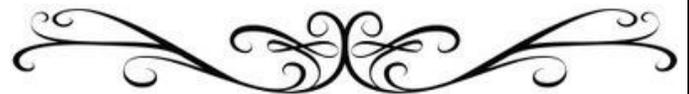
Now, more than twenty centuries later, we believers know quite well who Jesus is, and that He must be responded to, if for no other reason than He is God in the flesh. Our personality types may influence how we respond, but there is a commonality to

them. Type A's may rush in, Type B's might stroll in, and Type D's may struggle in but all three have a certain hesitation to "drop the nets" and go after Jesus. "After all," they would say, "we have heavy investments in lifestyles and careers, partnerships and possessions. Dare we just throw them aside for this Man as He strolls along?" Call them more than hesitant pilgrims.

What was so refreshing for me during the traumatic days following the awful shooting rampage in that tiny Texas church last November was to listen to the survivors keeping their faith and trust in the Lord. No shyness about acknowledging Christ before the network cameras. No hesitancy in acknowledging the power of prayer and a family spirit among them.

The early Christians must have had a similar positive effect upon their pagan neighbors. Truly Jesus was on display as the center of their lives.

Meanwhile life goes on. One has to pity the poor psychologists for what they have to endure every day!



First Reading: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Jonah gets a second command from God to convert the people of the great city Nineveh. He issues a warning and suddenly the whole city repents of their ways and turns to Yahweh.

Second Reading: I Corinthians 7:29-31

Paul expected the parousia to be imminent, so he proclaims how foolish it would be to take on any new commitments.

Gospel: Mark 1:14-20

After John the Baptist's arrest, Jesus begins to preach the good news of the kingdom of God. Then follows Jesus' call to His first disciples, who happen to be two sets of brothers. Mark provides us with the right way to respond to Jesus' call.