

## Pastor's Note

### October 18, Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### Commit to God!

This weekend we celebrate the Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time. The readings focus on reminding us what our daily obligations are. There are opportunities to serve God and recommit to offering each choice and action for God's glory.

In the first reading from Isaiah, we read how a prophet finds God's providential love and care in the circumstances that surround the prophet. In the second reading to the Thessalonians, Paul gives thanks for the profound faith exhibited in the lives of believers. He is grateful for the acceptance of the Gospel and their determination to put their faith into action. In the Gospel of Matthew, we read how Jesus avoids the Pharisees attempt to entrap him. He teaches that what belongs to Caesar goes to Caesar, but what belongs to God goes to God. The Pharisees try to entrap Jesus in a word battle to publicly embarrass him, but Jesus stands firm and does not fall for their tricks.

God is the giver of all our gifts. We are called to recognize God's mighty deeds performed in our daily life and to rejoice and be consoled by God's faithfulness. All of life is a gift from God and we are challenged to repay that gift with the witness of our lives.

Today is World Mission Sunday. Our second collection today is for the Catholic Missions and the people of Liberia. Please be as generous as possible.

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## Covid-19 Guidelines Update

Last week, Bishop Zubik announced in a press release that following the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and CDC Guidelines, parishes in the Diocese of Pittsburgh are resuming the distribution of Holy Communion back to the normal time at mass and that church seating capacity has increased to fifty percent. Last Saturday, I met with members of our Covid-19 Task Force along with Pastoral and Finance Council members to gather their input and suggestions for seating, air circulation and traffic flow for communion. We are blessed to have many wonderful medical professionals in our parish to offer their insight.

We remind parishioners and guests to please follow safe practices when coming to Daily or Sunday Mass. If you are sick or not feeling well, stay home. Everyone must wear a mask upon entering the church, keep it on at all times and sit in designated pews that are open for seating. Families or members in the same household can sit in the same pew. We ask that you follow the usher's directions to help locate a seat upon entering the church and during Communion we ask that people go row by row single file keeping socially distant walking towards the altar. Those who are unable to walk up for Communion are asked to sit up front or in the back. Since reopening our churches on June 1, our maintenance and pastoral staff has done a remarkable job assuring proper cleaning and sanitation protocols are being followed. We appreciate your patience and cooperation to follow these safety measures.

## All Souls Memorial Mass

An All Souls Memorial Mass will be held **Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7 pm** at St. Bede. Families that have lost a loved one during the past are invited to attend. Throughout the month of November, we will have a Memorial Board listing the names of all the St. Mary Magdalene parishioners who had their funeral Mass held in our parish the past year and a Book of Remembrance will once again be in the front of the church near the altar where you can place names of loved ones who have passed on. We will remember them at every daily and Sunday Mass throughout the month of November.

Special Seven Day Memorial Candles will also be available to purchase for a donation of \$5.00. Please contact our Office Manager, Terri Price at 412.661.7222 for more information.

## Confirmation 2020

Last weekend we had our second round of the Sacrament of Confirmation. Congratulations to our students and we pray that the Holy Spirit comes down upon them and gives them strength. Thanks to Melissa Viator, Teresa Maynor, Sister Daniela Bronka, Mara Sullivan, Dante Romito, Jane Mikasevich and Terri Price for their leadership.

## Something to Think About...

*Behavior is a mirror in which we show our image.*

With God, All Things Are Possible!

Fr. Tom Burke, Pastor  
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