

PASTOR'S NOTE

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SALT AND LIGHT!

This weekend we celebrate the Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time. The readings focus on discipleship: being Salt and Light to the World.

In the first reading from the Prophet Isaiah, we read how people who care for the needs of the hungry and the oppressed will display standards that go beyond the limited viewpoints of pride and self-interest. Serving God means strengthening the bonds within the human family, through acts of kindness and words of healing. In today's Gospel of Matthew, following the Beatitudes, we read how Jesus declares that being a disciple has characteristics of both "salt and light." Jesus addressed his disciples telling them some of the challenges involved in following him: Salt of the Earth- not allowing the gospel to get contaminated through compromise and misuse and Light of the World- the world is in desperate need of illumination.

Many people around us hunger not only for food but for also acceptance, and kind words instead of hate. Discipleship is not just for the good of the individual, but for others as well.

SALT AND LIGHT!

Catholic Education Plus

Tune into my bi-weekly radio show **Catholic Education Plus** next **Sunday, February 16 at 6:30 am on KDKA Radio 1020 AM**. My guests will be **St. Bede School principal, Sister Daniela Bronka, and Technology teacher Rachel Mollen**.

Looking Ahead

First Reconciliation and Holy Communion parents' meeting will take place on **Tuesday, February 18, at 7pm** in the St. Bede School Cafeteria.

Saturday, February 22 at 11 am at St. James Church: all Eucharistic Ministers of St. Mary Magdalene Parish are invited for a "refresher training session." Lunch will be provided in the Chapel.

Ash Wednesday: February 26

Masses will be held
9 am St. Bede
9 am St. James
Noon Mother of Good Counsel
7pm St. Bede

Stations of the Cross during Lent on Thursdays at 12 pm at Mother of Good Counsel Church and on Fridays at 7 pm followed by Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction from 7:30 to 8:30 pm at St. Bede.

Scout Mass will be held **Sunday, March 8, at the 11 am Mass**.

Confirmation Retreat will be held on **Wednesday, March 25**, at the Martina Spiritual Center in West View.

Confirmation will be on **Tuesday, April 21, at 7 pm at St. Bede with Bishop Waltersheid**.

First Holy Communion will be on **Sunday, April 26, at 2 pm at St. Bede**.

Parish and Ministry Van

The parish van that we currently use to pick up food and supplies from the Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank in Duquesne most likely will not pass inspection this year. We are looking at purchasing a 2011 Ford E150 XL Econoline 8 passenger van that is in excellent condition. We could also use this van on the weekends for parishioners who need a ride to church. If you are interested in helping to fund this project, please make check payable to St. Mary Magdalene Parish and memo it "parish van fund" and mail it to my attention to the parish office.

Parish Improvements

New sensor lights have been installed in the Women's and Men's Restrooms in the St. James Chapel.

Tarax Cleaning Services cleaned and sanitized the St. Bede School Cafeteria last weekend.

Work continues in the Parish Administration Center with new CAT 5 wiring for telephone and internet being installed. New computers have been ordered for the PERCES Schools Office, Religious Education Office, Business Manager, Office Manager and Pastor which will be installed in the next few weeks.

Buch Electric Company installed a front door monitor with outdoor video camera and chime. Now all you have to do is simply ring the doorbell to get buzzed into the office. Updated lighting is being installed in the first floor offices.

The Administration Center Basement has been recently cleaned out. A demolition company came last week to remove the moldy paneling and several old desks, freezers and dismantled wooden cupboards and walls.

Bakers Waterproofing will be here this coming week to install a Water Guard sub-floor drainage system and apply Mold X2 cleaner, and install two sump pumps into the sewage system. The office basement has been flooding and filled with mold for several years.

Funds from Our Campaign for the Church Alive are making these projects a possibility. Thank you for your continued financial generosity to St. Mary Magdalene Parish so that we can "continue to share the Good News to All!"

Something to Think About...

Laughter is the sun that drives winter from the human face.

Victor Hugo

With God, All Things Are Possible!

Fr. Tom Burke, Pastor
tburke@diopitt.org