

Pastor's Note

July 5, Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Come to me, all you who labor!

Recently I visited a parishioner in their East End home to give their mom the Sacrament of Anointing and Holy Communion. While sitting in the living room talking, she mentioned how stressful and tiring it is each day trying to handle the day to day needs of her mom, with cleaning and feeding, plus taking care of her daughter and working from home. Since the Covid-19 pandemic hit and people were stuck in the house during the lockdown, many families experienced high anxiety and stress. Many people who were laid off experienced high anxiety wondering how to pay the rent, mortgage, car payment, utility bills, plus put food on the table. Recently, with civil unrest in our cities across the nation many people continue to live in fear.

This weekend we celebrate the Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time. The readings focus on bringing our burdens to Jesus and he will give us rest.

In the first reading from Zechariah, we read how the messianic king is portrayed, not as a proud warrior, but as a humble and gentle champion of peace for all people. He is a model of humility and service. In the second reading from Paul to the Romans, we read how Paul reflects on life in the spirit. Having the spirit, we belong to Christ. In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus speaks of the intimate knowledge of the Father and Son and that his communion be shared with others. Jesus invites us to bring our burdens to him and he will give us rest.

There are all kinds of burdens that we experience: disappointments, bitterness, guilt, illness, unemployment, addictions, and racism. Especially in our poor communities, every day can seem like a challenge. Jesus invites those who are tired and worn out by the challenges and burdens of life to come to him and they will find rest. Our weariness is the door into Jesus' mercy.

Come to me, all you who labor!

Summer Daily Mass

Join us for daily Mass Monday through Saturday at St. Bede at 9 am. We also have the Miraculous Medal Novena on Mondays and the Mother of Perpetual Help Novena on Wednesdays after mass. Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions are held on Saturdays at St. Bede from 9:30 am to 10:30 am. St. Bede Church is open daily-Monday through Saturday, 8 am to Noon. Weekend Masses are 4 pm, Saturday Vigil, at St. James; Sunday at 9 am, Mother of Good Counsel; and 11 am at St. Bede.

Parish Improvements

The City of Pittsburgh installed updated sidewalks at Mother of Good Counsel on the corner of Bennett Street and Brushton Avenue and Bennett Street and Neuman Way. Handicapped accessible ramps were put in place.

Hamilton Midtown, LLC purchased the vacant property next to the former Holy Rosary Convent at 7123 Hamilton Avenue for \$10,000 from St. Mary Magdalene Parish. We will put this money towards insurance that is still owed to the Diocese.

Mariani & Richards has completed the spot point and repair mortar project outside of St. James Church. Also they repaired three cracked windows. Thank you to all who contributed to the roof project to make this much needed project complete. We are looking into getting some roof shingles repaired on the top of the church.

Rome Monument removed an outdated broken cement pillar along S. Dallas Avenue in front of the Parish

Office driveway.

Parishioner and Eagle Scout candidate **Ryan Davis** from Troop 646 is conducting his Eagle Scout project to upgrade the flower beds in front of the new updated monuments. Trees and shrubs are also being pruned and updated.

Construction continues in the Sister Thea Bowman Catholic Academy cafeteria. **Mariani & Richards** is installing French Drains and updating the drainage system.

Are you Registered?

Every Catholic needs a place to call "home." If you are attending Mass here at St. Mary Magdalene Parish on a regular basis and not officially registered, please pick up a registration form in the back of the church at our three campuses or contact Terri Price at the parish office. The form is also available on the "Welcome" page of our website. It is very important to be registered at a parish to receive envelopes and to obtain sponsor letters to be a Godparent or Confirmation Sponsor.

Something to Think About...

"It is my deepest belief that only by giving our lives do we find life."

Cesar Chavez

With God, All Things Are Possible!

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