

## Pastor's Note

### January 24, Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### Repent and Believe in the Good News!

This weekend we celebrate the Third Sunday of Ordinary Time and all three readings focus on discipleship. In 2019, Pope Francis declared that the Third Sunday of Ordinary Time be set aside for "Sunday of the Word of God."

This weekend we hear stories of being called to follow, conversion, repentance, and discipleship.

In the first reading from Jonah, we read how God sends the prophet Jonah into the City of Nineveh to offer the gift of salvation. Jonah initially resisted to go into the city and be a prophet, but he later changed his mind and went. One day of hearing God's call for repentance was more than enough for the citizens of Nineveh to change their ways. In the Second Reading from Paul to the Corinthians, we read how Paul speaks of us as members of the Body of Christ and temples of the Holy Spirit. The things of this world are only for a limited time.

In the Gospel of Mark, we read how Jesus begins his ministry by calling people to repent and embrace the Good News. Repentance is one of the main themes of all three readings this weekend. Jesus also calls his first disciples: Simon, Andrew, James, and John. Jesus never intended to undertake his ministry alone. From the beginning of his ministry, he sought out followers to assist him in the ministry of healing and preaching the Good News.

Jesus calls each of us to share in the apostolic mission. Each of us is called to have a change of heart by our baptism. Let us take this opportunity to listen closely and discern how we can hear Jesus calling us to something more in life.

Catholic Schools Week kicks off next Sunday and runs thru February 5. With the Covid-19 pandemic there will be internal celebrations going on in our schools throughout the week but there will be information available next weekend on registration and taking a tour of St. Bede School and Sister Thea Bowman Catholic Academy.

#### Repent and Believe in the Good News!

### Parish Improvements

The Holy Rosary Rectory is getting a fresh coat of paint on the first floor. Special thanks to Paul Denk, and Michael Natalia from our Maintenance Department for their painting expertise.

**Richard A. Smith Painting** has completed painting upgrades on the first floor of St. James Rectory offices, hallway, dining room and kitchen. **Toth Carpeting of Munhall** will be installing new carpeting on the first floor of St. James Rectory this coming week. Funds from private donors and St. Mary Magdalene parishioners made this much needed project a possibility.

### Are You Registered?

If you are attending Mass at St. Mary Magdalene on a regular basis and are not officially registered, please call Terri Price at the office at 412.661.7222. Every Catholic needs a place to call home and be officially registered at a parish.

If one is asked to be a Godparent for a Baptism or Confirmation Sponsor, they need to obtain a "Sponsor Letter" (Letter of Recommendation) from their Pastor.

## Parish Census

I continue to call the parishioners who have not yet completed their updated Parish census card which was mailed to every registered parishioner a few months ago. If you have not yet completed the parish census, please call

me at the office at 412.661.7222 ext. 202. It is very important that we have everyone's correct information. Special thanks to Terri Price and Melissa Viator for assisting with this project.

## 2020 Tax Letters

If you would like to request a donation letter for your 2020 taxes, please contact Frank Grande at 412.661.7222 ext. 204 or email at [businessmanager@stmarymagpgh.org](mailto:businessmanager@stmarymagpgh.org).

## 2021 Mass Intentions

Mass Intention and Sanctuary Memorial Candle forms are available in the vestibule at all three of our churches. Please complete the form and return it to the parish office with the \$10.00 stipend. No requests can be taken over the phone or via email, and each request needs the specific form with the \$10 stipend enclosed in order to be processed. Please contact Terri Price at the Parish Office, 412.661.7222 ext. 0 for more information.

## Welcome

A special warm welcome to **Margaret, Benjamin and Elias Kotys**, and **John, Jane, Kenneth, Dennis**, and **William Kozimer**, who recently registered at St. Mary Magdalene Parish!

## Something to Think About...

*God does not ask about our ability  
or our inability but our availability.*

With God, All Things Are Possible!

Fr. Tom Burke, Pastor  
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