

Pastor's Note

June 13, Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Patience!

In the first reading from Ezekiel, we read how a prophet compares God's work in the world to the growth of plants and trees. This passage gives a message of hope for a broken and disheartened world. In the second reading to the Corinthians, we are reminded to walk by faith, not by sight. Discipleship brings with it many trials. In the Gospel of Mark, Jesus teaches us the parable of the wheat and the mustard seed which focuses on patience. Jesus taught in parables so that they could understand complex topics in common terminology.

God is working great things in us. We need to be patient and let God help us grow in our own spirituality. If there is something which we want to do, or goals we would like to achieve, let us not sit around dreaming about them and hesitate, but let us do something about them, even if it is something very small, take a step and plant one seed. We are the work of God's hands, but we are also God's hands at work. We are partners with God in the growth of the kingdom. May we learn to be patient with ourselves and with others.

Juneteeth

Next Saturday, June 19, is "Juneteenth" Freedom Day or Black Independence Day. It commemorates the end of slavery in the United States. This is the first year that the City of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County are officially honoring Juneteenth as a county holiday. Please see Fr. Matthew's reflection enclosed in next week's bulletin.

Corpus Christi Church

Last Saturday we officially said "farewell" to Corpus Christi Church on Lincoln Avenue. The building closed November 1, 2018, due to mold and roof leakage. We were able to sell it to Yinka Williams last year but because of the Covid-19 pandemic we were unable to gather to have a farewell ceremony. Last Saturday we conducted a beautiful prayer service on the front steps of the church. Special thanks to Janice Reed, Jennifer Gorske, and Gerard Rohlf for organizing the program.

We are open!

This past week we mailed out a Welcome Back letter to all 1,014 registered parishioners of St. Mary Magdalene Parish. Be sure to look for it in your mailbox!

In following the Guidelines from the CDC, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and Diocese of Pittsburgh, we are now open to full capacity for daily and Sunday Masses. New signs have been put up indicating that those who are fully vaccinated may attend Mass without wearing a mask. Those not fully vaccinated or those fully vaccinated who feel more comfortable seated around others who are wearing masks, reserved sections are available while attending Mass.

We will still refrain from singing, passing the collection basket and shaking hands at the sign of peace until further notice. Offertory collection boxes will still be available up front for people to contribute. Parishioners may also drop off their weekly envelopes at the parish office in the secured mailbox, mail them in, or participate in our online giving program.

All the Bishops in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania have dispensed every one of the Sunday obligation until further notice, so those who are at risk or with health issues still can refrain from coming to Mass. We will continue to livestream the weekend Mass.

Mission Appeal

Thank you to all who participated in last weekend's Annual Mission Co-op Appeal for the **Diocese of Muranga in Kenya (East Africa)**. The Mission Co-op envelope is in the July packet or in July for Faith Direct. The diocese moved up the date of the appeal to be held in June instead of July.

Summer Church Hours

St. Bede Church is open daily for private prayer and meditation Monday through Saturday from 8 am to Noon. Mother of Good Counsel, St. James and St. Bede Churches are open one hour before the weekend Masses which are: Saturday 4pm at St. James, Sunday 9 am at Mother of Good Counsel and 11 am at St. Bede.

Wedding Bells

Congratulations to **Gina Mancuso** and **Stephen Blaney (son of Paula and Steve Blaney)** who are celebrating their wedding this weekend at Heinz Chapel.

Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday to **Gerard Rohlf** (from our music department) who is celebrating his Birthday this coming Thursday, June 17!

Welcome

Welcome to **Michelle Figlar** and **Grady** and **Tilly Quinlan** who recently registered at St. Mary Magdalene Parish.

Something to Think About...

*A good place to find a helping hand
is at the end of your arm.*

With God All Things Are Possible!

Fr. Tom Burke, Pastor
tburke@diopitt.org