

FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

FEBRUARY 7TH, 2010

"Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch..." When Simon Peter saw the great number of fish in their nets, he fell at the knees of Jesus and said, "Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man." Luke 5: 1-11

Nothing – and proud of it....

A rabbi and cantor are preparing to lead their congregation for Yom Kippur's services. The rabbi beats his breast and intones, "I am nothing, O Lord; I am nothing." The cantor then beats his breast and sings the prayer, "I am nothing, O Lord; I am nothing." Then, from the back of the synagogue, a third voice is heard. The janitor, head bowed, takes up the prayer, "I am nothing, O Lord; I am nothing." The rabbi whispers to the cantor, "Look who thinks he's nothing!"

Peter could learn a lesson from the janitor. Many of us suffer an "inferiority complex" when it comes to God: we are intimidated by religious protocol; we are overwhelmed by doctrine and dogma; we see our own lives and experiences as too far removed from the heroic "sanctity" of the saints and martyrs celebrated in the church calendar. Like Peter, we cannot imagine God loving sinful, Godless us. But that is exactly the "mystery" of faith: that God loves despite ourselves. Thomas Merton wrote that "the root of Christian love is not the will to love but the faith that one is loved by God... irrespective of one's worth. In the true Christian vision of God's love, the idea of worthiness loses significance. The revelation of the mercy of God makes the problem of worthiness something almost laughable. . . no one could ever, alone, be strictly worthy to be loved with such a love – (such a realization) is a true liberation of spirit." Authentic faith is the realization that God loves us despite ourselves, that God works through "saints" who are men and women just like us, however imperfect, but who trust in God's unwavering love.

Scripture Readings for the Week

Monday: 1 Kings 8: 1-7, 9-13; Mark 6: 53-56
Tuesday: 1 Kings 8: 22-23, 27-30; Mark 7: 1-13
Wednesday: 1 Kings 10: 1-10; Mark 7: 14-23
Thursday: 1 Kings 11: 4-13; Mark 7: 24-30
Friday: 1 Kings 11: 29-32; 12: 19; Mark 7: 31-37
Saturday: 1 Kings 12: 26-32, 13: 33-34
Mark 8: 1-10
Sunday: Jeremiah 17: 5-8; 1Cor 15: 12, 16-20
Luke 6: 17, 20-26

Recently Baptized

Madeline Lenore Sheils
Matthew Fupeng Dunn
Faith Elizabeth Jude Crislip



Coffee & Donuts

Join us for coffee, donuts and conversation after the 9AM and 11AM Sunday Masses.



Mass Intentions for the Week

Sunday, February 7 - Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 AM For the Sanctity of Life
11:00 AM For the People of the Parish

Monday, February 8 - St. Jerome Emiliani

5:15 PM Deceased Parishioner of St. Clement

Tuesday, February 9 - Weekday

8:00 AM Beth Newdome (Living)

Wednesday, February 10 - St. Scholastica

5:15 PM Thomas J. McGuire

Thursday, February 11 - Our Lady of Lourdes

8:00 AM Gloria Hyland

Friday, February 12 - Weekday

5:15 PM Ted & Bertha Crane

Saturday, February 13 - Weekday

8:00 AM Hank Erhardt

5:15 PM Audrey Susan Hanrahan

Senior Clementines & Friends

All older adults are invited to join the Senior Clementines and Friends on Thursday, February 11th from 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM in St. Clement Church Hall. Our speaker this month will be Celia Dorsch, Coordinator of the Help to Other Youth Volunteer Program sponsored by the City of Lakewood. There will also be a 50/50 raffle and refreshments. If this will be your first meeting, call Mel Schneider at 226-1798.

Pot of Gold Winners

(\$25) Fred Nickels, III, Jackie Ronan,
Frank Hoban, John Hocesvar, Barbara Ritz
Nancy Andrade



What's Happening this Week in the Parish

Monday, February 8: Family PSR - 7 PM - Hall

Tuesday, February 9:

Wednesday, February 10: RCIA - 7 PM - Rectory

Thursday, February 11: Scripture Treats 10:45 AM
Senior Clementines & Friends
1–3 PM Hall

Friday, February 12: AA Gratitude Group
7 PM - Hall

Lenten Retreat - Lakewood/Cleveland Cluster

This year, on Wednesdays during Lent, we are presenting a retreat based on the beautiful book of Henri Nouwen: *The Return of the Prodigal Son*. Although the final plans are still a work in progress, we will start our retreat with prayer and song at 7 PM each night beginning on February 24th. In order to include an opportunity for everyone to visit the different churches in our cluster, each evening of retreat will be held at one of our churches. In this year of great change within the Lakewood/Cleveland cluster, this is a wonderful opportunity to pray through the Lenten season together as we prepare for the Feast of Easter. Regardless of what parish you call home, over the next several months we will all be dealing with change as our parishes re-shape to the new cluster design. With the pace of life moving ever so quickly, please consider taking 60-90 minutes out of your week during Lent to connect with God and your fellow Christians in our cluster. Watch your bulletin and bulletin boards in the coming weeks for more information on the retreat schedule and topics.

Vocation Weekend

The Benedictine Monks of St. Andrew Abbey in Cleveland welcome men between the ages of 18 and 45 who wish to discern a monastic vocation to attend the "Living with Benedict" weekend retreat to be held on Friday, February 12th to Sunday, February 14th. There is no fee. For more information and to register, contact Father Gerard, OSB, at 216-721-5300 ext. 210, or at gerard@cbhs.net.

"Living Stations" . . .

brings to life those last few painful hours of Christ. "Living Stations" will meet minimal times from now until Good Friday, and no one will be turned away. Come to the informational meetings, February 15th & 16th from 6:30PM - 7:30PM in St. James Church. The last two years were a huge success and you don't want to miss out on this experience. Come find out what "Living Stations" is all about. Contact Jason Mravec at 330-807-8332 or at 221-0385, or contact Matthew Shanafelt at 330-242-2509, or email livingstations@hotmail.com for more information.

World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life

Today is World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life. This special observance invites all in the Church to reflect on the role of women and men who are consecrated to Jesus in a special way through the profession of vows and a life dedicated to prayer and service. With thankful hearts we pray for our religious Sisters, Priests and Monks. We also remember those women who consecrate themselves as Virgins and those who are consecrated in Secular Institutes as single people. May we encourage our young people to explore these vocations as they seek to serve our Lord. For more information about Consecrated Life, please contact the Diocesan Vocation Office at 440-943-7630, or go to www.churchvocations.com.

Catholic Charities Annual Appeal - 2010

Many of our parishioners have received a letter from Bishop Lennon asking for a contribution to the Catholic Charities Appeal. If you have not responded as yet, please be prepared to make a pledge next weekend. This year's theme is: ". . . trust in the Lord; hope in the Lord." Jeremiah 17: 7

St. Augustine Church - Thank You

Thank you for your support of our Hunger Center. This past year has been a challenging one for us at St. Augustine. However, because of your support, we have been able to assist so many individuals and families with food, clothing, furniture, rent, heat and other needs. We were able to do all this because of the generosity of people like you. We wish you could see the expression of relief, joy and peace that comes over the faces of those we assist. So many of those we have been able to help ask us to tell the donors how much they appreciate what was done for them. And so today we are saying *thank you* in the name of all those you have helped us serve, *thank you* for loving, *thank you* for caring, *thank you* for your Christian spirit of giving.

Rev. Joseph McNulty, Pastor St. Augustine Church

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

The Cleveland area Worldwide Marriage Encounter would like to extend very warm wishes for all couples in the celebration of World Marriage Day on February 14th. World Marriage Day honors the beauty of their faithfulness, sacrifice and joy in daily married life. The next weekends are February 12-14 and April 16-18. Dates fill fast, early registration is recommended. For more information about the Weekend, or to register, call Ken and Rose Breen at 440-899-9002.

Finance Corner:

Collection for weekend of January 31 - \$ 6,329.29

Envelopes used - 212

Thank you for your continued support and generosity for the parish.