

## ***FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK***

To my family of St. Joseph,

A blessed week of the feast of the North American Martyrs! Those of us who went on the Divine Mercy Pilgrimage back in August had a chance to visit the US Shrine dedicated to these great pioneers of our faith in Auriesville, NY. This was also the village where St. Kateri Tekawitha was born and raised and so associated with her as well. I thought I would share with you more about the martyrs here since their feast is this week.

They are also known as the Canadian Martyrs; Isaac Jogues and Companions; Jesuit Martyrs of North America; or the Martyrs of New France. Their memorial feast day is October 19<sup>th</sup> in the US and September 26<sup>th</sup> in Canada. The eight North American martyrs included six priests and two lay brothers. They were heroic members of the Society of Jesus who were martyred in North America in order to bring the Faith that is necessary for salvation to the Huron, the Iroquois and the Mohawk Indians. Five of the eight North American martyrs were put to death in what is now Canada, and three of them in New York State. Again, there is a shrine to the United States' martyrs at Auriesville in New York, and there is a shrine to the Canadian martyrs at Fort Saint Mary near Midland, Ontario. The names of the eight North American martyrs are: Saint Rene Goupil, lay brother martyred in 1642 in New York State; Saint Isaac Jogues, priest; Saint John de Lalande, lay brother, martyred in 1646 in New York State; Saint Anthony Daniel, priest, martyred in Canada in 1648; Saint John de Brebeuf; Saint Charles Garnier, Saint Noel Chabanel and Saint Gabriel Lalemant, all priests, and all martyred in Canada in 1649.

Saint Isaac Jogues, after thirteen months' imprisonment by the Mohawks, had several fingers cut off of his hand. He went back to Europe, but returned again to North America and was killed by tomahawk blows at Ossernenon (now called Auriesville, in New York State). Saint John de Brebeuf declared before he died, "I have a strong desire to suffer for Jesus Christ." He was tortured terribly, and a burning torch was put into his mouth, which strangled him. Saint Rene Goupil, thirty-five, was the youngest of the martyrs, and cried "Jesus, Jesus, Jesus!" as he died. Saint Noel Chabanel was thirty-six, and Saint Isaac Jogues and Saint Gabriel Lalemant were thirty-nine. The oldest of the eight North American martyrs, Saint John de Brebeuf, was fifty-six when the Indians killed him. They were canonized June 29, 1930 by Pope Pius XI.

It was fascinating to learn more about their stories and visit where the three martyred in New York were killed. Particularly moving was visiting the Ravine that led to the river. This area has been called a natural reliquary by the organizers of this shrine because the remains of the martyrs were buried somewhere in the ravine opening. There was a sacred feel to the air at the ravine that is hard to explain but was very real. I hope we can allow ourselves to be inspired by the example and spirit of our ancestors in faith whose blood is the seed of our North American Catholic Church. Also, I hope the courage with which those ancestors overcame their hardships and challenges in this region some four hundred years ago can give us courage to deal with the challenges we face in our restructuring process as a diocese and parish.

May God bless our Catholic Church in North America and our year of transition ahead!

Yours in Christ,

***Fr. Rich***

Our Lady of Perpetual Help ... pray for us!  
 St. Patrick, patron of the Diocese of Erie.... pray for us!  
 St. Joseph .... pray for us!  
 St. Luke .... pray for us!  
 North American Martyrs... pray for us!

### **Notes from the pastor...**

**\*\*Annual Canonical Priest Retreat** I will be going to Gethsemane, KY this week for my annual retreat required by Canon Law. I will be staying at a Trappist Monastery in one of the guest cells. Fr. Jim Gutting will be covering the school Mass on Wednesday and there will be no other weekday liturgies. Adoration will still take place from 12:30-8:30pm on Thursday.

**\*\*Caitie Ryan Wedding** I thank Fr. Brandon Kleckner for celebrating Mass at St. Joseph last Saturday. This allowed me to be a part of the wedding of our former Youth Minister, Caitie Ryan, in Erie. Caitie was married to Tim Rydberg from Minnesota who is now the Youth Minister at St. Joseph Church/ Bread of Life Community. Caitie works for the "Reason For Our Hope Foundation" in Erie. Please keep Caitie and Tim in your prayers as they begin their married life together!

**\*\*Church Restoration Update** At the latest meeting of our renovation committee, it was decided to delay our renovation process so that we can focus on our transition to a new parish in February. Let me know if you have any questions.

**\*\*Robert Nicastro Update** I was fortunate enough to meet up with Robert several weeks ago in Erie. He is doing well and asked me to thank you for your prayers and support. He is looking into several doctoral programs as well as job opportunities. Continue to keep him in your prayers.

**\*\*Warren County School District Teachers Strike** I know that the recent decision made by the teachers union to strike has affected our community significantly. St. Joseph Catholic School will continue to operate as mandated by the Diocesan Office Policy and the county will thankfully provide transportation through the strike. Let us pray for a just and swift solution to this issue so that school can resume.

**\*\*Merging/Transitioning to New Parish** Here are a few of the plans that came from the Pastoral Council and staff in regard to preparing for the creation of our new parish in February that will be the result of merging St. Luke in Youngsville with St. Joseph: One- a sub-committee for communication has been formed to put together a positive statement for the Newspaper explaining how the communities of St. Luke and St. Joseph plan on working together to facilitate this transition and minister to our Warren and Youngsville communities. Ideally we will be able to conduct a few meetings and gatherings of the leadership from both our parishes that can be highlighted in that news article. Two- a sub-committee for prayer will form a plan and calendar for prayer throughout this time of transition and implementation utilizing the prayer services provided by the Diocese of Erie for this purpose. Three- a sub-committee for community life will consider ways that we can start to foster interaction between our parishes beyond the leadership teams. Four- a sub-committee for the Weekend Mass Schedule will be formed with representation from St. Joseph, St. Luke, Holy Redeemer, and St. Anthony to create a weekend Mass schedule that can be acceptable to all these communities. As I have said all along, this schedule will most likely involve Saturday Masses at St. Joseph and Holy Redeemer, and one Sunday Mass at each of the four churches involved. Since February 13<sup>th</sup> is the date for creating our new parishes, this schedule will have to be in place and operative by the weekend of February 18/19 so we cannot wait until then to make those decisions. **Five- it was decided to encourage all the members of St. Joseph to join St. Luke to celebrate Mass on their Patronal feast on Tuesday, October 18<sup>th</sup> (the Feast of St. Luke) at 7pm.** Please consider making whatever sacrifices you need to in order to be there. Unfortunately I will be on my canonical retreat for the week and cannot be there.

**Mercy Meter**



In October we are collecting **toothpaste, toothbrushes, dental floss, paper towels and toilet paper.** Let's help the Salvation Army make sure that those in our community who may not have dental coverage are getting the essentials they need to have better dental health. This week offer to help with a neighbor child who may be home because of the public school strike. Thank you! Also please plan to attend Mass at St. Luke Church in Youngsville on Tuesday, October 18<sup>th</sup> at 7pm to celebrate the Feast of Saint Luke.

**PARISH NEWS**

**CCY** Our next meeting is Sunday evening from 7:00-8:00pm. Looking forward to seeing you again. Please email Anna at [annamarini02@yahoo.com](mailto:annamarini02@yahoo.com) if you have questions.

**CCY SOUP & PIE** Our Cool Catholic Youth Group will be sponsoring the Soup & Pie luncheon at the Holy Redeemer Chinese Auction on Sunday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> after their 10:30 am Mass. If you are willing to make Soup or Pie, please contact Jennifer at 688-3842. The meal is by donation, please come out and support our youth and their activities for the coming year. Thank you!

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION (EMHC) VOLUNTEERS/TRAINING** We are in need of new EMHCs so please consider whether you can help in this important ministry for our Liturgy here at St. Joseph. We are planning to have a EMHC training on Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8pm. Please call the office and let us know if you are interested in this ministry with the deadline at October 20<sup>th</sup> so that we can prepare the schedule for November and beyond.

**ADULT FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES** With a new year of faith formation beginning, ideally it would not be just our youth seeking to round out their faith formation, but our adults as well. So we are asking all our adults, but especially our parents of the Salt and Light Youth, to commit to coming to the **adult catechetical sessions that we are providing three times throughout the year (Sundays-Oct. 23, Dec. 11, April 23 from 9-10:15am).** What a witness it would be to our youth if our adults exemplified how important continuing faith formation is by doing it themselves as well! Another opportunity for combined adult and youth formation is a new initiative by the Diocese called **"Family Fest."** **This Family Faith Rally will be held on Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup> from 11am-5pm and include Mass with Bishop Persico at 4pm to be held at the Erie Bayfront Convention Center.** This will be our parish faith formation for that weekend and you will get Salt and Light credit for going. We would love to have enough families going to require a bus from Warren. More information on this exciting opportunity has been sent to all our families and we will provide more reinforcement in the bulletin as the Family Fest nears.

**SCRIP** The leaves are starting to turn, the air is crisp in the morning, fall is headed our way. As you shop for snacks for football Sunday, do your yard cleanup or make those sports supply purchases, remember to purchase SCRIP cards first. The proceeds benefit St. Joseph Catholic School with no added expense to you!

**DESIGNER BAG BINGO** Our CHWC-Rome CCY will host this fun event on November 11, 2016. Tickets are \$30 per person and include 16 games of bingo (9 cards per game); a bingo dauber; light snacks and non-alcoholic beverages (you are welcome to BYOB). You must be 21 to attend. Doors open at 5:30pm and bingo begins at 7pm. For tickets or questions, contact Katie Courson 730-6689 or [kcourson@darlingshomecare.com](mailto:kcourson@darlingshomecare.com)

**RCIA NEWS** The RCIA sessions for the new year began Wednesday Sept 14, 2016 and the weekly meetings are held on Wednesday evenings. We presently have 4 adults interested in joining the Catholic Church through St. Joseph. Part of the journey of initiation is exposing them to the faith community of our parish. In an effort to involve our parishioners more in this process and to show welcome to these new members, we wanted to reach out and see if anyone is interested in providing a small treat for the weekly Wednesday meetings. Please contact Kathy Amsdell by calling the parish office at 723-2090, text 419-297-6183 or email [kamsdell@sjcswarren.org](mailto:kamsdell@sjcswarren.org) if interested. Above all, please keep the team and inquirers in your prayers.

**WORD AMONG US** books for October are available by the parish office. A simple request, if you do want a book, please give a \$1.00 donation. This test is running through Christmas. If we get people to donate, we will continue the program. The book has very interesting articles, reflections and daily readings. Pick one up and give it a try for a month. You won't regret it!

**ARCHDIOCESE FOR THE MILITARY SERVICES, USA PRAYER CARDS** When we went on our Divine Mercy Pilgrimage back in August we visited the Catholic Church on the West Point Campus in New York. This was a special opportunity for us to pray for our military at the location where our army is educated and trained. One of our pilgrims acquired some extra prayer cards for the Archdiocese of the Military, which is in charge of the spiritual ministry to all Catholics in the military (which would include some of our parishioners right now). Feel free to pick up one of the prayer cards at the office entrance of the church.

**AROUND THE AREA**

**Home-style Ham Dinner at St. Elizabeth, Corry St.** Thomas and St. Elizabeth parishes in Corry welcome the public to their homemade ham dinner Oct. 23 at St. Elizabeth Parish Center, 33 West Pleasant St. The cost is \$10 for adults, \$5 for youth ages 6-12 and free for children 5 and under. The dinner will be served from 11am to 3pm. Take-outs are available. For more information, call the parish office at 663-3041. Thank you!

**Worldwide Marriage Encounter** If you would like to make your marriage even more special than it already is, consider this weekend which is a positive, simple, common sense private experience between husband and wife that revitalizes marriage. A weekend away renews the romance and excitement you experienced during your dating days. A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend will help you enjoy life with a new closeness to each other and God. The next weekend will be held November 11-13, 2016 in Bolivar, PA. Please call 412-635-7775 or visit [www.yourmarriageisworthit.org](http://www.yourmarriageisworthit.org)

**Personal Days of Renewal** November 7-11, 2016 You are invited to take a day or days of personal retreat to focus on your "self care". How am I take care of myself spiritually, physically and emotionally? Bethany Retreat Center is offering days of renewal for those who want to come for a day, overnight or a few days to join the Sisters for prayer and daily Mass, walk the grounds, opportunity for reconciliation and home-cooked meals. Cost is \$80 per person per night (Save \$15 if you bring own sheets and towels) Deposit \$25. To register: [www.bethanyretreatcenter.org](http://www.bethanyretreatcenter.org)

**SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

Our annual Christmas Craft Fair is right around the corner. It will be held on Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> from 10am-4pm. If you are a home crafter, please give Sharon a Call at 726-2936; we have a few tables left.



**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Sunday, 10/16 - Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
 8:00am John Baker by Family  
 10:30am Mr. & Mrs. Frank Manfrey by Family (Adult Choir)

**Monday, 10/17 - Saint Ignatius of Antioch**  
 7:00am Mass at Holy Redeemer

**Tuesday, 10/18 - Saint Luke, Evangelist**  
 7:00pm Mass at St. Luke

**Wednesday, 10/19 - Saint John de Brebeuf and Saint Isaac Jogues and Companions—School Mass**  
 9:05am Carrie Randas by George & Carol Groner

**Thursday, 10/20 - Saint Paul of the Cross**  
 7:00am Communion Service at Holy Redeemer

**Friday, 10/21 - Weekday**  
 7:00am Mass at Holy Redeemer

**Saturday, 10/22 - Saint John Paul II**  
 8:00am Jeannine Oleksak (wedding ann) by Family  
 5:30pm Jennie Colosimo by Mary, Patti and Bob

**Sunday, 10/23 - Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
 8:00am Living and Deceased Parishioners of Saint Joseph  
 10:30am Deceased Members of Corriero Family by Ersilla Anderson & Family (Adult Choir)

**Monday** Ephesians 2:1-10; Gospel - Luke 12:13-21  
**Tuesday** 2 Timothy 4:10-17b; Gospel - Luke 10:1-9  
**Wednesday** Ephesians 3:2-12; Gospel - Luke 12:39-48  
**Thursday** Ephesians 3:14-21; Gospel - Luke 12:49-53  
**Friday** Ephesians 4:1-6; Gospel - Luke 12:54-59  
**Saturday** Ephesians 4:7-16; Gospel - Luke 13:1-9  
**Sunday** Sirach 35:12-14, 16-18; 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18; Gospel - Luke 18:9-14

WEEKLY SANCTUARY CANDLES *in memory of*  
**Barb Remich**  
 by Brenda, John, Abby and Katie

**COMING EVENTS**

**Sunday, October 16**  
 9:00am K-9 Faith Formation (School)  
 6:30pm Doors of Mercy Session (Meyer Hall)  
 7:00pm Middle/High School CCY (Youth Room)

**Monday, October 17**  
 SJCS Book Fair (Meyer Hall)

**Tuesday, October 18**  
 4:30pm Soup Kitchen (Cafeteria)  
 7:00pm Mass for the Feast of Saint Luke (St. Luke-Youngsville)  
 SJCS Book Fair (Meyer Hall)

**Wednesday, October 19**  
 10:30am Faith Share (Boardroom)  
 6:30pm RCIA (Loranger Hall)  
 7:00pm Choir Practice (Church)  
 SJCS Book Fair (Meyer Hall)

**Thursday, October 20**  
 10:00am Doors of Mercy Session (Boardroom)  
 12:30pm Adoration (Mother's Chapel)  
 8:15pm Reposition (Mother's Chapel)  
 SJCS Book Fair (Meyer Hall)

**Friday, October 21**  
 7:30am SJCS Donuts w/Dad (Cafeteria)  
 6:00pm Monthly Stations of the Cross (Church)  
 SJCS Book Fair (Meyer Hall)

**Saturday, October 22**  
 4:30pm Reconciliation (Church)

**Sunday, October 23**  
 9:00am K-9 Faith Formation (School)  
 9:15am Adult Formation (Meyer Hall)  
 11:30am CCY Soup & Pie Lunch (Holy Redeemer)  
 6:00pm Youth Praise team Rehearsal (School)  
 6:30pm Doors of Mercy Session (Meyer Hall)

**LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULES**

	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Extraordinary Ministers</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>
<b>10/22</b> <b>5:30pm</b>	K Jones	J Zavinski, P Bailey, H Zaffino, D & K Weigel, J Caumban-Lim	H Harrison M Harrison
<b>10/23</b> <b>8:00am</b>	B McGinn	P Tack, R & B Williams, D Vicini, B & B Crowley	S Sokolski W Sokolski
<b>10/23</b> <b>10:30am</b>	B/P Morgan	*G & M Belleau, S Cole, B Harvey, R Beyer, *C Bevacqua, D Bogniak	K Beyer A Beyer M Beyer

Liturgy Corner

**Stations of the Cross** Friday, October 21 at 6pm we will have our monthly Stations of the Cross

**Month of the Rosary** In 1883 in an encyclical dedicated to the Rosary, Pope Leo XIII declared October to be the month of the Rosary and encouraged public recitation of this great devotion in all churches. We will continue our tradition here at St. Joseph of praying the Rosary communally after the first Mass of the day throughout October. Please join us in seeking Our Blessed Mother's intercession for our parish and diocese in this time of transition, the upcoming elections and all the prayers in our books of intentions and prayer chain.

Weekly Donations - October 9: \$ 9,033  
 CSA Pledged: \$124,522; Paid to date: \$ 100,633  
 Thank you for your continued generosity!

**VOCATIONS ICON**

We would like to thank **Jackie Cunningham** for taking the Vocations Icon this week and praying for an increase in vocations here at St. Joseph Catholic Church.

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

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