



17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

TREASURE

"The kingdom of heaven
is like a treasure buried
in a field."

MATTHEW 13:44

Our culture seems more polarized and divided than ever. Into this wounded situation, our Catholic faith has a healing remedy to offer: the gift of wisdom. When the Lord offers to give King Solomon anything the monarch desires, he requests "an understanding heart" (1 Kings 3:9). In his polarized situation, the King doesn't ask for power to defeat his enemies. He asks for a wise and understanding heart to judge right from wrong. This wisdom is elevated and fulfilled in Jesus who teaches us to bring forth "both the new and the old" (Matthew 13:52).

In our fractured society, we Christians should stop pining for political power to crush our perceived enemies. That often just makes things worse. Rather, it's much more useful to beg for the grace of true wisdom which transcends both sides of the aisle. This places us in a fresh position from which we can help our culture see what is true and good all across the ideological spectrum. Sometimes we'll look like liberals (e.g., in our love for the poor and marginalized) and other times like conservatives (e.g., in our sexual ethics and views on religious freedom). Because this wisdom is free from ideological narrowness, it will help to heal these painful fractures. Lord Jesus, this week, pour into us your healing wisdom.

— Father John Muir

July 30th 2023

CONTACT US | ST. HELENA PARISH

St. Helena Catholic Church
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Ellendale, ND 58436
701-349-3297

St. Patrick Catholic Church
207 Monroe St N
Fullerton, ND 58441

Fr. Patrick Parks
Cell Phone: 701-261-4816 or
Patrick.Parks@fargodiocese.org

Mass Schedule

Saturday (vigil) 5pm, St. Helena
Sunday 8:30am (1st, 3rd, 5th Sundays)
10:30am (2nd, 4th Sundays)

Tue 7pm

Wed-Fri 8:00am

Confession Schedule

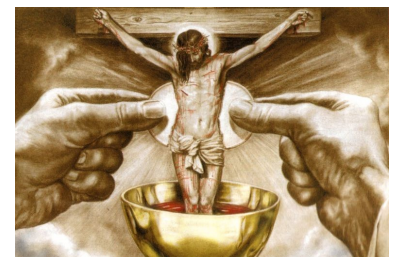
Saturday 3:30-4:30pm
Sunday Before 8:30 am mass
(1st, 3rd, 5th Sundays)

Tuesday 6:30-6:50pm

Wed-Fri Before 8:00 am daily Mass
Or by appointment, call parish office

Adoration

Wed 5pm-8pm



ST. PATRICK'S PARISH

Mass Schedule

Sunday 10:30am
(1st, 3rd, 5th Sundays)
8:30 am (2nd, 4th Sundays)
Thursday 9:00am

Confession Schedule

Sundays after 10:30 am Mass
By appointment - call parish
office

FROM OUR PASTOR : Revisiting Roe's fall and my assault, a year later

July 24, 2023

by Roxane B. Salonen

What a year it's been in the national debate surrounding abortion!

My June 2022 column—in which I anticipated the hopeful overturning of *Roe vs. Wade*—concluded with:

“When that day comes, we will celebrate, but we will not toss our signs and brochures. Instead, we will simply follow the facility to its likely new home across the river in Minnesota...doing whatever we can to breach the glaring gap between life and death.”

Soon thereafter, it happened. *Roe* fell, and the abortion facility slinked away to Moorhead. And as promised, we sidewalk advocates followed them. Abortion is abortion, no matter the side of a state line.

That timeframe proved volatile, however, for the nation and me personally. Just before *Roe*'s descent, I was assaulted on the sidewalk of the old Red River Women's Clinic with a punch to the side of the head, suffering a mild concussion and jaw pain. The perpetrator was whisked away by escorts, evading the police, despite the incident having been recorded by the facility's camera.

I flashed back to that shocking moment recently while reading about two elderly sidewalk advocates in Baltimore who were brutally beaten by a passerby, who also got away.

Reading about these attacks may be a deterrent to those who have felt moved to pray with us, onsite, for an end to abortion. But stay with me here, because later in this column, I'm hoping to make the case for why joining us would be worth your time. It's important to note that the current local sidewalk situation is vastly less combative than the former.

Abortion is a violent act, though, so it's not surprising that those promoting or involved in this industry will be more prone to responding to us with violence. Our very presence agitates the conscience.

But that is a good thing. We need more brave souls to take up Christ's cross and be a sign of beauty, truth and goodness in our broken world, and I still see the sidewalk as one of the most accessible ways to be courageous for Christ.

This past year, I had to take a long leave from my spot on the sidewalk, but my return has allowed me to

observe the pro-abortion mentality anew. The mindset was conveyed recently in a social media post showing a very pregnant woman and her exposed belly with the words, “Not Yet a Human,” written across her stomach. Herein lies the delusion.

The sidewalk itself, however, belies this sentiment. If the in-utero baby were not yet human, why do most clients avert their eyes as they pass us with our signs and smiles of love? Why do so many speed up as soon as they're able to get out of the parking lot, as if embarrassed? Why would the escorts have such defensive stances toward us if the women they greet are only carrying a benign, inhuman growth?

Brad Youngquist, a fellow advocate, recently shared about a man in a pickup who dropped off a young woman and stayed for over two hours in the parking lot, revving his engine and playing loud music to drown out the advocates' voices as additional women entered the operation. If human lives weren't what's at stake there, why make such a ruckus? Why try to silence us if it's “not yet a human?”

As Brad also said, our presence matters, and we can see it on clients' faces, even if those expressions are filled with shame or even anger. Having us there as a mirror that forces them to face themselves and their actions—to be reminded that we only bother showing up because human beings' lives are at stake—can only be good in the end. Truth is always freeing.

“Even if we don't get to speak directly to them, they see us, and some read our signs offering help,” Brad commented. “Many of these people driving past are ‘good’ people,” but held captive “by their demons. Just seeing the group presence on the sidewalk is a ‘picture that says 1,000 words.’”

A year ago, the conversation changed. *Roe* ducked, and the void was filled with a lot of ugliness. But good things are coming. I believe this, because I believe in a good God who keeps his promises, and he promised that if we are faithful to him, he will reward us.



I return, then, to the invitation mentioned earlier. Consider joining us on the sidewalk this summer. Email me at roxanebsalonen@gmail.com if you'd like guidance. The facility usually performs abortions from around 8 a.m. to around 4 p.m., so come any

time during that span, even if just for an hour. You only have to pray a while in silence, but our good Lord, who sees and hears all, will bless you for your sacrifice.

- 8-1 - Adoration after Mass with Divine Mercy Chaplet and Rosary for World Peace
- 8-2- Adoration 5:00—8:00 pm

WHY DO WE DO THAT?

Kissing the Altar at Mass

Question:

Why do priests kiss the altar at the start of Mass?

Answer:

Our churches and chapels are filled with symbols. We might think of the more common symbols (like the crucifix, statues, stained-glass windows, vestment color and altar cloths) as well as major symbols (such as the paschal candle and the baptismal font). But there are some things that we can take for granted in our sacred spaces, because unfortunately, they seem to just be part of the building, including three of the main symbols of our liturgy: the ambo (lectern), the chair for the priest celebrant, and the altar.

These three objects are placed in a specially designated area called the sanctuary. They are the places where the Word of God is proclaimed, where the priest prays and presides at the celebration, and where the bread and wine are offered by the priest during the Eucharistic Prayer. Although each of these objects is sacred because of the role they play in our worship,

the altar holds a special place. In a document containing the rules and instructions for the Mass — the “General Instruction of the Roman Missal” — we read: “The altar on which the Sacrifice of the Cross is made present under sacramental signs is also the table of the Lord to which the People of God is called together to participate in the Mass, as well as the center of the thanksgiving that is accomplished throughout the Eucharist” (no. 296).

One of the ways that we recognize the importance of the altar is when the priest and deacon kiss the altar at the beginning of Mass. Kissing is an ancient act of devotion. Remember, we also kiss the cross on Good Friday, and the deacon or priest kisses the “Book of the Gospels” after the Gospel is proclaimed. This act of devotion reminds us that the altar is a symbol of Jesus, the “living stone” (see 1 Peter 2:4), the foundation stone of our faith. It is a symbol gesture, but it is a powerful reminder of the One on whom our faith is built and in whose name we gather as the “household of faith” (see Galatians 6:10).

To learn more, see the “Catechism of the Catholic Church” (no. 1382-1383). ©LPi

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Following Christ will take everything we have. Are we ready to give it all? At the end of our lives, let us hope we can say truthfully that we sold all we had in order to purchase the field which contained the great treasure.

CATHOLIC TRIVIA

Question: What rank of ordination is open to married men?

Answer: The permanent diaconate

ALTAR SOCIETY MEETING

August 6 after early mass. Meeting will be in the parish center. All women of the parish are welcome to attend.

Fall Dinner and Raffle information

Fall Dinner September 17, 11-2
Raffle drawing at 1:30

Sign up sheets for the Fall Dinner are available in the church entry.

Extra Raffle tickets are available

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers needed for food pantry
Saturday August 12 and August 26
9:45-12noon Contact Michele
Thorpe if you can help. Thank you!

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

First Reading:

The young King Solomon asked the Lord in prayer for a wise and discerning heart, and it was granted to him. What gift would you ask from the Lord?

Second Reading:

Paul teaches the believers in Rome that God calls us “according to his purpose.” Do you have a sense your purpose in life? If so, what is it?

Gospel:

Jesus offers several kingdom of heaven parables to the disciples: buried treasure and fine pearls (a priceless discovery) and the large catch of fish (an invitation to all). With these parables, what do you think Jesus is teaching us about the kingdom of heaven?

ST HELENA MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Aug 5/6	5:00 pm	8:30 am
Usher	Volunteer	Vincent Carruth
Collection		Dave Eberle Charlotte
Lector	Volunteer	Daryl Monette
EMHC		Daryl Monette
Gift Bearers	Volunteer	Paul and Lori Wald
Altar Servers		Isaiah

Breakfast servers for July

First one on the list contact the others

August 6	Colleen Durheim, Kerry Waldo, Sue Boniek, Lorraine Betting
August 20	Michele Thorpe, Lana Norton, Angie Sand

WEEKLY GIVING

Sunday July 23

Adult	1266.00
Children	5.00
Plate	43.00
Total	1314.00

Thank you for your generosity!

ST. PATRICK MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Sunday Aug 6 (10:30am)

Lector	Chuck
Gift Carriers	Kelly and Corrine
Altar Servers	Alivia, Allen

For the Month of August

Breakfast Server	
Collection Counters	Denny and Brian
Church Cleaners	Pat and Layna
Altar Society Meeting	None this month

God's Gift Appeal 2023
This is MY BODY that is for you

Report as of 7-20-23

St. Helena's: \$7950. 42.11% participation, 41.98% of goal
 St. Patrick's: \$10,925. 35.71% participation, 165.04% of goal

Thank you for your support!

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Tues. Aug 1

7:00 pm (St. H) +Juliet Kelly Parten

Wed. Aug 2

8:00 am (St. H) +Angela Mastel

Thur. Aug 3

8:00 am (St. H) +Frank Tegal

9:00 am (St. P) Sr Marie

Fri. Aug 4

8:00am (St H) Priscilla Brandenburger

Sat. Aug 5

5:00pm (St H) +Duane Ganser

Sun. Aug 6

8:30am (St. H) +Edna Scherman

10:30am (St P) All Parishioners

**SUPPORT OUR
ADVERTISERS**



Advertiser of the Week

Thorpe Excavating

Thank you for supporting our bulletin!



REMEMBER
in your prayers

Please Pray

...for all who are sick, elderly or alone

Joanne Brokaw, Loretta Dingwall, Cindy Kelly Heupel, Val Hunt, Carla Engelstad, Betty Hahne, Ashtyn Hatlewig, Marv Grueneich, Paul Brandenburger, Larry Ulmer, Eugene Volk.

If you or someone you know would like to be added to, or removed from this list please call the parish office.

