



The DIOCESAN CHRONICLE

News of the Diocese of Baker

February 27, 2022 • Vol. 13, No. 5

St. Patrick Church Receives a Rare Gift

Submitted by **Angela Guerassio**,
St. Patrick Liturgy Coordinator

St. Patrick Church in Madras recently received an antique, handmade, Infant Jesus. Long-time parishioner, Patricia Roura, presented it to Father Victor Mena for the parish nativity scene.

Before the 1700s, the original Infant Jesus was given to the Augustinian Order of Dieppe, France, to their Sisters in Quebec. Over 100 years ago, Sisters of that same French order created a replica and we are fortunate to be recipient of such a beautiful gift today. The Infant Jesus is made of hand formed tinted wax, with delicate hand painted facial features and individually applied human hair. His garment was hand stitched of fine fabric and remains in excellent condition.

The Babe remained in the Order until He was gifted by the nuns to Patricia's mother, and eventually to Patricia, and then to us. He is now lying in a manger created from 120-year-old lumber, handcrafted as a gift from parishioner Bob Guerassio. Parish floral coordinator,



Catherine Avila, artistically created the placement and environment for Him.

The St. Patrick parish family will be blessed by this precious gift for generations to come.



We Have a New Acolyte!

Submitted by **Fr. Paul Antao**, *Pastor*

Saturday, January 15, at the 5:30 p.m. Holy Mass in Sunriver, Bishop Liam Cary installed Steve Aloia as acolyte. We thank God for this beautiful New Year's gift for both the mission parish, Holy Trinity, and our mother parish in La Pine, Holy Redeemer.

May the good Lord inspire many more to follow Steve's example to bear witness to his love and care for all. God bless Steve and his family for their generosity and faith!

Thoughts Along the Way The Prophet Jesus

In Advent we re-entered Israel's ancient hope for the coming of the Messiah and saw it through to fulfillment at Christmas. Since then in our Sunday Scripture readings we have followed in the footsteps of the Son of Mary as He set out to save the world.

Already this year two dramatic public events early on in His mission have captured our liturgical attention: the Baptism of the Lord and His prophetic preaching at the synagogue in Nazareth.

As scores of people looked on, Jesus stepped into the waters of the Jordan, the heavens opened, the Holy Spirit came down like a dove, and the Father's voice testified: "You are My Beloved Son; with You I am well pleased."

On the day of our baptism you and I stood in those waters that Jesus made holy. The Spirit descended, and the Father *adopted* us sacramentally: "You are My beloved son / my beloved daughter. I am well pleased to have you in the family with My Son. Now and forever Jesus is your brother; now and forever Mary is your mother."

Baptism changes us. We leave the baptismal font *adopted*, graced with "power to become children of God."

Not long after coming out of the Jordan Jesus made His way home to the synagogue in Nazareth. There He read from the scroll to the people He grew up with: "The Spirit of the Lord... has anointed me to bring good tidings to the poor" and "to proclaim liberty to captives." Then He rolled up the scroll, sat down, and told them in no uncertain terms that He was the prophet Isaiah foretold. "Today," He said, "this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing."

It is fulfilled in our hearing too, and more importantly, in our living. For our baptismal adoption as beloved sons and daughters comes with a superhuman inheritance: a full share in the life of our Brother Jesus as priest, *prophet*, and king.

Does that mean we all have to stand up before crowds of people and preach as Jesus did? Not at all. The grace of Baptism washes us onto the shore of our prophetic

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Pensamientos A Lo Largo Del Camino El Profeta Jesús

En Adviento volvimos a entrar en la antigua esperanza de Israel de la venida del Mesías y la vimos hasta su cumplimiento en Navidad. Desde entonces, en nuestras lecturas bíblicas dominicales, hemos seguido los pasos del Hijo de María cuando partió para salvar al mundo.

Ya este año, dos eventos públicos dramáticos al principio de Su misión han captado nuestra atención litúrgica: el Bautismo del Señor y Su predicación profética en la sinagoga de Nazaret.

Mientras decenas de personas miraban, Jesús entró en las aguas del Jordán, los cielos se abrieron, el Espíritu Santo descendió como una Paloma, y la voz del Padre testificó: "Tú eres mi Hijo amado; en Ti tengo complacencia".

El día de nuestro bautismo, ustedes y yo estuvimos en aquellas aguas que Jesús santificó. El Espíritu descendió, y el Padre nos *adoptó* sacramentalmente: "Tú eres mi hijo amado / mi hija amada. Estoy muy complacido de tenerte en la familia con mi Hijo. Ahora y siempre Jesús es tu hermano; ahora y siempre María es tu madre".

El bautismo nos cambia. Dejamos la pila bautismal *adoptados*, agraciados con "poder de llegar a ser hijos de Dios".

No mucho después de salir del Jordán, Jesús se dirigió a la sinagoga de Nazaret. Allí leyó del pergamino a la gente con la

que creció: "El Espíritu del Señor... me ha ungido para dar buenas nuevas a los pobres" y "para proclamar libertad a los cautivos". Luego enrolló el pergamino, se sentó y les dijo en términos inequívocos que Él era el profeta que Isaías predijo. "Hoy", dijo, "este pasaje de la Escritura se cumple en su oído".

Se cumple también en nuestro oído y, lo que es más importante, en nuestro vivir. Porque nuestra adopción baptismal como hijos e hijas amados viene con una herencia sobrehumana: una participación plena en la vida de nuestro Hermano Jesús como sacerdote, *profeta*, y rey.

¿Significa eso que todos tenemos que ponernos de pie ante multitudes de personas y predicar como lo hizo Jesús? Para nada. La gracia del Bautismo nos lleva a la orilla de nuestra

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Bishop/Obispo Liam Cary

The Prophet Jesus, *continued*

inheritance through less dramatic, perfectly ordinary channels. As Leonard Cohen sings, “It begins with your family / and soon it comes ‘round to your soul.”

On the Mountain of Transfiguration the Father repeated the very words He had earlier voiced at the Jordan -- “This is My Beloved Son”-- but with an additional three-word command: “Listen to Him!”

Hear what He says as He returns to the Father: “Go... and make disciples of all nations, *baptizing* them [and]... *teaching* them to observe all that I have commanded you.”

Parents “make disciples” of their children, then present them for baptism and the fullness of sacramental life in the Church. As fathers and mothers “observe” in the family what Jesus commands, by their fidelity they “teach” their children to draw His power into their lives. And what parents do for all their children, older brothers and sisters (and cousins) do for younger -- and for their friends. In a word, these Christians are prophets one to another; they’re living out their baptismal inheritance. “It begins with your family / and soon it comes ‘round to your soul.”

El Profeta Jesús, *continúa*

herencia profética a través de canales menos dramáticos y perfectamente ordinarios. Como canta Leonard Cohen, “Comienza con tu familia / y pronto llega a tu alma”.

En la Montaña de la Transfiguración, el Padre repitió las mismas palabras que había pronunciado anteriormente en el Jordán -- “Este es mi Hijo amado” -- pero con un fuerte mandato adicional: “¡Escúchenlo!”

Escuchen lo que Él dice cuando regresa al Padre: “Vayan...y hagan discípulos a todas las naciones, *bautizándolos*...[y] *enseñándoles* a guardar todo lo que les he mandado”.

Los padres “hacen discípulos” de sus hijos, luego los presentan para el bautismo y la plenitud de la vida sacramental en la Iglesia. Así como los padres y las madres “observan” en la familia lo que Jesús manda, con su fidelidad “enseñan” a sus hijos a atraer Su poder a sus vidas. Y lo que los padres hacen por todos sus hijos, los hermanos y hermanas mayores (y primos) lo hacen por los más pequeños, y por sus amigos. En una palabra, estos Cristianos son profetas unos para otros; están viviendo su herencia bautismal. “Comienza con tu familia / y pronto llega a tu alma”.

Shores of Jordan River at the Yardenit Baptismal Site, Israel

Bishop Cary's Schedule

February 27

9:00 a.m. Mass, Merrill

11:15 a.m. Mass, Bonanza

2:00 p.m. Ham & Turkey Dinner, Merrill

6:00 p.m. Lenten Retreat @ Sacred Heart, Klamath Falls

February 28

6:00 p.m. Lenten Retreat @ Sacred Heart, Klamath Falls

March 4

6:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross

@ St. Mary Chapel, Powell Butte

March 5

11:00 a.m. Rite of the Elect, Redmond

March 13

Idaho Catholic Youth Conference (ICYC)

Mass & Confessions

“St. Thérèse Church Really Sparkles Now”

Submitted by **Eileen Monti**, *Parishioner*

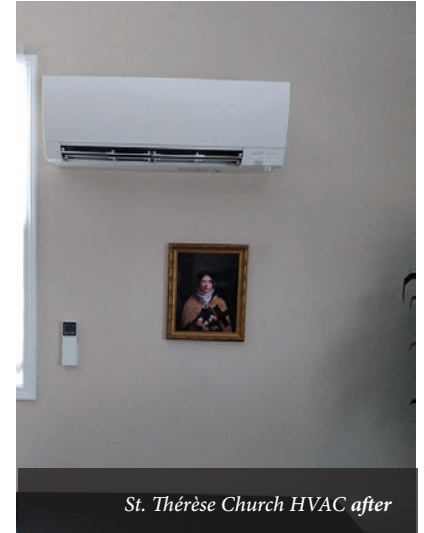
Parishioners of St. Thérèse Church in Halfway have recently made improvements on our beloved church.

For years our Parish has been saving money to purchase a new HVAC system. Our 1940s propane heater did keep us warm as it roared into action in the middle of Mass, but a contractor called by Fr. Greiner to assess its usable life gave it only 2 to 3 years. So, in the fall of 2020 we hired local contractor, Joey Young, to remove the old furnace (now residing in a parishioner's shop) and install a new HVAC—heating, cooling and air filtering—units in the church and in the Fellowship Hall. The units are completely programmable so we can customize temperatures for our Masses. We are now noiselessly warm in winter and, for the first time, cool in summer!

In May of 2021 a group of parishioners decided to do a deep cleaning and repainting of the church. The last time the church had been painted was by local teenagers as a community project. Those “children” are now parents of their own youngsters, so we figured it was time. Right after Mass on Saturday, all the doors, statues, stations of the cross, the tabernacle, the crucifix and the altar itself were moved into the Fellowship Hall. The pews were moved to one side to make room for the scaffolding. The church had been all white, except for blue in the two statue niches. Warm colors were chosen for the sanctuary and



St. Thérèse Church HVAC before



St. Thérèse Church HVAC after

the niches, and the project began. All items removed were thoroughly cleaned, polished and/or revarnished. Two coats of paint were allied to cover the old. Within a week all was completed and reassembled, in time for our next Vigil Mass on Saturday. We think that St. Thérèse Church really sparkles now, and we even added a statue of the Sacred Heart in memory of Dorothy Brower, a former parishioner whose last wish to a friend was that such a statue be added to the church.

St. Thérèse has never had hot water, so our next project was to remove the old vanity, sink, and faucet, get a small under-counter water heater and upgrade the sacristy. Our neighbors, Pine Eagle Charter School, were surplusng old sink cabinets and were kind enough to give us one.

We hired Second Mile Electric to run power from the Fellowship Hall's breaker box to the vanity. With the purchase of a new faucet and the plumbing skills of a generous parishioner, Father no longer has to brave washing his hands in cold water in winter.

We aren't finished! There are still several projects on our list: new lighting for the sanctuary, raising the tabernacle and crucifix (on Bishop Cary's suggestion), insulating the walls and windows of the church, and — long-term — replacing the church roof and adding insulation at that time. We are grateful for all the help we received from Father Fischer, Dawn Coles and Leah Bickett, and, of course, our great parishioners.

St. Thérèse Church Sanctuary before



St. Thérèse Church Sanctuary after

