

June 28, 2020 Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



**NEIGHBORS
NORTH**
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

BETTER TOGETHER!



St. Athanasius Parish (412) 931-4624
7 Chalfonte Ave. West View, PA 15229
Wknd. Masses: Sat. Vigil 4 PM, Sun. 10:30 AM

Incarnation of the Lord Parish (412) 931-2911
4071 Franklin Rd. Pittsburgh, PA 15214
Wknd. Mass: Sun. 8:30 AM

Holy Cross Academy (412) 364-7171 307 Siebert Rd.

St. Sebastian Parish (412) 364-8999
311 Siebert Rd. Pittsburgh, PA 15237
Wknd. Masses: Sat. Vigil 5 PM, Sun. 8 AM, 10 AM

St. Teresa of Avila Parish (412) 367-9001
1000 Avila Court Pittsburgh, PA 15237
Wknd. Masses: Sat. Vigil 4 PM, Sun. 9 AM, 11 AM

Education & Community Center (412) 931-6633



Fr. John R. Rushofsky
Pastor

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Administrator's Perspective

WHAT'S IN A TITLE?

This is my final bulletin column as **Administrator** of Neighbors North Catholic Community. This is not to say that I will not continue to use this method to communicate important information to you, but it will be under a slightly different heading.

Beginning next weekend you will see a different bulletin that will mark the beginning of **Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish**, and this column will become the **Pastor's Perspective** as I take on the canonical appointment as pastor of the new parish.

OK, so let's look at the difference between administrator and pastor. **Will I get paid more?** *Oh please, I'll be lucky to make the same salary.* **Better fringe benefits?** *Doubtful.* **More responsibility?** *Good heavens, I'm maxed out as it is.* **More time off?** *I get 1/2 day off per week now, what would I do with more time?* **Early retirement?** *Too late! I'm already well past 65.*

Seriously, the only difference between administrator and pastor is the **length of the appointment**. A pastor is appointed for a specific time period. In the Diocese of Pittsburgh, the term is 6 years, which may or may not be renewed for another term. An administrator, on the other hand, has no specific term and can be removed at any time for any reason, so there tends to be a sense of "temporary" for administrators.

When creating the 57 groupings of parishes, Bishop Zubik wanted everyone to understand that each **grouping is just a stepping stone** to a permanently established parish with a canonically appointed pastor. With this in mind, it doesn't make sense to appoint a pastor for a 6 year term when it's clear that the grouping will last only a year or two before becoming a parish.

Coincidentally, my second term as pastor of Saint Sebastian Parish is just now ending.

IN OTHER NEWS: I'm sure you have noticed that our printed bulletins, soon to be sporting a new design, are much **smaller these days**, with fewer pages. This is due to our publisher's temporary reduction of employees because of current staffing restrictions, and we look forward to a fuller and more informative bulletin sometime soon. You can find the **complete bulletin online at our website**. Meanwhile both editions contain the advertisements of local merchants, some of whom are parishioners. **The ads pay for our bulletin**, so please consider patronizing their product or service....stay tuned for more news....

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT: "Human beings, who are unique in having the ability to learn from the experience of others, are also remarkable for their apparent disinclination to do so."

- Douglas Adams



Liturgy & Music Ministry



Hymnal for Neighbors North Catholic Community THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 28 June 2020

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Ted Rybka

Gathering Hymn: All Are Welcome

1. Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
A place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
Here the love of God shall end divisions: (Refrain)

REFRAIN: All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

2. Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true,
Where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace;
Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: (Refrain)
3. Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat:
A banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space;
As we share in Christ the feast that frees us: (Refrain)

Text: 96 86 87 10 with refrain. Music TWO OAKS. Text and music: Mary Haugen, © 1994, GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Responsorial Psalm: Forever I Will Sing

REFRAIN: Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord, the goodness of the Lord.

1. I have found David, my servant, with my holy oil I have anointed him,
That my hand may ever be with him and my arm make him strong. (Refrain)
2. My faithfulness and love shall be with you, in my Name your name will be exalted.
(Refrain)
3. He shall cry to me, "My God, my rock of salvation, my salvation." (Refrain)

Text: Psalm 89:4-5, 16-17, 27-29; © 1963, 1993, The Grail, GIA Publications, Inc., agent; alt. verses 21-22, 25, 27, Marty Haugen, © 1988, 1994, GIA Publications, Inc.; refrain trans. © 1969, ICEL. Music: Marty Haugen, © 1988, 1994, GIA Publications, Inc.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Transition Prayer

Lord, be with us, so that we might not look forward in fear to the changes in life.
We are your very own. We believe that you will lead us safely through all things,
And when we cannot stand it, you will carry us in your arms.
May we not fear what will happen tomorrow.
You are our everlasting Father who cares for us today.
We believe that you will care for us every day.

Lord, either shield us from suffering, or give us the unfailing strength to bear it.
May we, the people of St. Athanasius, Incarnation of the Lord, St. Sebastian, and St. Teresa of
Avila parishes, be at peace and so put aside all anxious thoughts and imaginations.
United with the prayers and example of Our Lady of Mount Carmel,
We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Preparation of the Altar: As a Fire Is Meant for Burning

1. As a fire is meant for burning with a bright and warming flame,
So the church is meant for mission, giving glory to God's name.
As we witness to the gospel, we would build a bridge of care,
Joining hands across the nations, finding neighbors ev'rywhere.
2. We are learners; we are teachers; we are pilgrims on the way.
We are seekers; we are givers; we are vessels made of clay.
By our gentle, loving actions, we would show that Christ is light.
In a humble, list'ning Spirit, we would live to God's delight.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947, © 1992, GIA Publications, Inc.; Tune : BEACH SPRING, 8 7 8 7 D; *The Sacred Harp*, 1844; harm. by Marty Haugen, B. 1950, © 1985, GIA Publications, Inc.

Sending Forth: Sing a New Church (*Recorded Mass at Incarnation Only*)

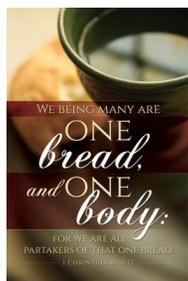
1. Summoned by the God who made us rich in our diversity.
Gathered in the name of Jesus, richer still in unity. (Refrain)
- REFRAIN: Let us bring the gifts that differ and, in splendid, varied ways,
Sing a new church into being, one in faith and love and praise.
2. Draw together at one table all the human family;
Shape a circle ever wider and a people ever free. (Refrain)

Text: 87 87 with refrain; Delores Dufner, OSB, © 1991, The Sisters of St. Benedict. Published by OCP. All rights reserved. Music: J. Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music, Part II*, 1813.

Distribution of Holy Communion After Mass: 10,000 Reasons/Bless the Lord

- REFRAIN: Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; worship his holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship your holy name.
1. The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning, it's time to sing your song again.
Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me, let me be singing when the evening comes.
(Refrain)
 2. You're rich in love and you're slow to anger. Your name is great and your heart is kind.
For all your goodness, I will keep on singing: ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.
(Refrain)
 3. And on that day when my strength is failing, the end draws near, and my time has come;
Still, my soul will sing your praise unending: ten thousand years, and then forevermore.
(Refrain)

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First Eucharist

Our parish grouping is excited to announce that we have been able to schedule First Eucharist in July and August as Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish. This rite of initiation that ordinarily occurs during the Easter season had to be delayed when all weekday and Sunday Masses in the Diocese of Pittsburgh were canceled as of March 16, 2020 due to Covid-19 restrictions. Please keep the first communicants and their families in your prayers.

from the St. Teresa of Avila Festival Committee

It was with deep sadness that the 2020 St. Teresa Festival and Flea Market has been canceled.

The committee had been working on this year's event since January and actually had groups booked, games reserved and letters sent when the pandemic hit and lockdowns were put into place.

Since then, we have been working tirelessly to try to find a way to hold a scaled down event while still keeping guests and volunteers safe. Unfortunately, unless restrictions are lifted, it would be extremely tough to control the size of our events to stay within local and state guidelines. Because so much planning is required, a decision needed to be made.

The committee fought for a flea market with restrictions and timed entries, but in the end, it was determined not to be feasible.

We would like to thank everyone who has stepped up through the years to make our event a great success. You know how much work it is and you know how rewarding it can be. We will miss it...we do already. We will miss the people and the community and the fun! It's just not summer without Festival! We hope you and your families stay safe in these challenging times.

from Dena Sutermaster & Donna Palamara

Thank you to all of St. Athanasius' Flea Market and Festival Volunteers! Though we couldn't have a Flea Market and Festival this year, both committees were off to a good start! We're afraid that if we tried to list all their names, we would surely miss someone. So we thought, we'd let you know what they've done.

Our two Flea Market collections went very well. Many people were very generous again this year. Volunteers came in during non-collection times to organize and box donations as long as they could then worked from home.

The Festival committee also was hard at work planning games, prizes, entertainment, nightly dinner menus, refreshment stand menu, etc. as well as asking for donations for the Basket Raffle and making prizes.

We also want to thank the business who donated gift cards – none of which wanted them back. They wanted us to use them for our next fundraising event! Those businesses are Eat'n Park, Get Go, Great Clips, Monte Cello's, Olive Garden, Silvioni's, Subway, Taj Mahal, The Flower Market, and Tings Kitchen.

We do not know what the future holds, but do know that we look forward to working with all you!

Interim Mass Schedule due to Covid-19 Restrictions

Monday thru Friday

12:00 noon at Saint Sebastian

Saturday (beginning June 13)

Registration required

www.neighborsnorth.org or 412.219.9254

4:00 pm at Saint Athanasius

4:00 pm at Saint Sebastian

4:00 pm at Saint Teresa of Avila

Sunday (beginning June 14)

Registration required

www.neighborsnorth.org or 412.219.9254

10:00 am at Saint Sebastian

10:30 am at Saint Athanasius

11:00 am at Saint Teresa of Avila



MaryJo Robbins

Parish Social Ministry



Racism

This crisis of racism has become apparent—we all watched it on television. People were living with racism but many of us (including myself) were unaware of the depth or details of what that means. It is typical that we experience life surrounded by people who look, think and act like us. It is hard for most of us to realize what life is like for a minority person, or rather how life *may be different* for them. This moment in time is about racism, and we need to keep our focus on that.

There are several recent articles and podcasts by Fr. Josh Johnson, a black Catholic priest from Baton Rouge, LA. He shares his experience, and discusses our need to listen. Because our experiences are different, he asks people to step outside of their comfort zone and listen to the voice of minority people. Just listen. Listen to stories like that of a man who will only walk in his own middle class neighborhood with his dog or his child, because if he is walking alone he is viewed at a threat.

Racism is a sin. The body of Christ suffers when we are not in unity and at peace with each other. Don't be distracted by voices of riots and division or voices that would take us away from the issue by adding other agendas to the discussion. The topic is racism and it needs our thoughtful, prayerful attention.

Summer Has Arrived: It is hard not to appreciate all of creation this time of year: green grass and trees, abundant flowers, blossoming plants in our gardens. Our summer plans usually involve some warm weather activities. Memories from our childhood of these events last a lifetime! So we owe it to our children, grandchildren, and those further in the future to ensure that they have the same opportunity for those happy memories. There are many small things that we can do to take care of the environment.. Turn your air conditioner up a couple of degrees and save some energy. Recycle paper, plastic, aluminum, etc. (don't forget the Knights of Columbus have a collection bin in the upper parking lot at St. Sebastian for aluminum cans) Think through your trip before you get in the car so that you arrange your stops efficiently and save gas. There are so many little things that we can do—*help take care of this great gift.*

Food Pantry Needs: Juice, peaches, pears, Uncle Ben's rice, condiments, jelly, cereal, paper towels and detergent. We have set out a food collection bin outside of Haber Hall at the St. Sebastian site. Also, the food collection box at St. Athanasius has been moved to the outdoor entrance to Athanasian Hall. Please drop off your donations there when you are already out to take care of necessary tasks. Thank You!

Are You a Peacemaker? True peacemakers find ways to include others, respecting or maybe even celebrating our differences. True peacemakers reach across the lines of ethnicity, socio-economic status, education level and ideology. True peacemakers direct their energy toward the common good. We all need to be better peacemakers. Our world desperately needs that from us.



Victor Boerio

There are times when the First Reading from the Old Testament deserves great attention. This selection from 2 Kings is such a time.

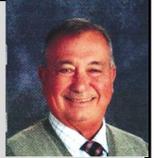
The beautiful story of the Shunemite woman illustrates the fact that God's word finds acceptance in people's lives through the instrumentality of human agents. Elisha may seem to be an itinerant preacher. It is the woman who detects his mission and makes room for him in her house. Likewise, many a parent makes space for God in their family life by helping a child learn the words of a prayer and by showing respect for the things of God. The woman in the first reading was open to life; she welcomed the prophet into her home, was aware that he was a holy person of God, and set about facilitating his mission.

In the gospel we, as disciples of Jesus, (still in Disciple School) listen to his words addressed directly to us telling us how we are to open our lives to him, give him place over family and friends even to the point of bearing his cross. Our welcome is to be whole-hearted, and if I am in any doubt as to where I am to exercise this total acceptance of Christ in my life I have only to turn to my neighbor. "He who welcomes you, welcomes me." Nothing could be clearer. Christ is all around me. He is present in my home, at work and in those who pass me in the street.

Christ, then, comes to us in many disguises and almost always at the wrong time! He may be hidden in the stranger, the outcast of society, the neighbor, the child needing attention, the aging parents, or a sick person.. My granddaughter has delightful fairytales of princesses hidden in rags and of princes imprisoned in toads. Her eyes light up in wonder at the moment when the disguise is dropped and the truth is revealed.

Openness to wonder, to the mystery of Christ hidden in the other: these qualities are often sadly missing in life. The "cup of cold water" is proverbially quoted as a somewhat dubious sign of Christian charity. Perhaps this is because it does not cost much. In a hot, dusty climate, however, a drink of cold water can be a life-saver. The attitude of thoughtfulness, the lack of self-absorption, these would seem to underline the Christian attitude towards others. It is not what is given that counts but the heart with which it is given.

Jesus asks his disciples to take their cross and follow him.



Deacon Robert Koslosky

Breaking Open the Word: Matthew 10:37-42

Whoever does not take up his cross is not worthy of me. Whoever receives you, receives me. Jesus explains the demands of discipleship. Those who welcome disciples welcome Jesus himself. They will be rewarded. Disciples are also included among the "little ones." Those who welcome them will also be rewarded.

Listen to the Word: As you listen or read today's Gospel story, is there one word or thought that really struck you? Is there one thought or image that you take away with you?

Look into Your Life:

Children: Is there one thing you can do that shows you are a follower of Jesus?

Youth: What do you hear, Jesus demanding of his followers?

Adults: What does this Gospel teach you about the cost of discipleship and how does it relate to your life experience so far?

Give It a Try: Jesus teaches us that our relationship with him needs to be the most important relationship in our lives. Then everything else will fall into place. Invite family members to share how putting Jesus first can have a positive effect on your family ... or ... Brainstorm as a family to come up with a service project you can work on together. Talk about how serving others shows that Jesus is the focus of your lives.

USCCB.org - "Daily Readings"





Our newly formed parish of *Our Lady of Mount Carmel* is celebrating our First Eucharist Liturgies at the parish site of 311 Siebert Road, Saint Sebastian Church. Each family is limited to 9 tickets. These tickets are for the immediate family unit and your guests. The communicant is not included in the family count. We ask only the household family unit sit together in the reserved pews designated in the front of the church. The remaining guests may disperse themselves throughout the church while

respecting and maintaining social distancing.

Week day evenings were chosen because of the mandated requirement to thoroughly sanitize the church after each ceremony. This allows adequate time for our maintenance crew to prepare the church site for the next event. The dates and times for First Eucharist are:

- **Thursday, July 9, 2020**
- **Wednesday, July 15, 2020**
- **Tuesday, July 21, 2020**
- **Thursday, July 30, 2020**
- **Wednesday, August 5, 2020**
- **Tuesday, August 11, 2020**

All the First Eucharist Masses are scheduled for 7:00 pm. Facial masks are to be worn by all for the protection of all.

Please use **Signup Genius** to reserve your date. Once the restricted amount is reached that Mass date and time will automatically be closed.

The **Signup Genius** link is

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080945ABAA2EAAFB6-first>. The deadline to register your child for First Eucharist is July 6, 2020 by 9:00 PM.

“**Jesus Day Packet**” were made for each child and were distributed last **Wednesday, June 24, 2020 from 3:00 to 6:30 pm**. If you missed the pick up date for your child please call the Faith Formation Office. Call Mr. Victor Boerio if your family is a member of Saints Athanasius or Teresa of Avila. If your family is a member of Saint Sebastian or you have a student in Holy Cross Academy and intended to receive First Eucharist with the parochial children, call Deacon Bob Koslosky. The packet contains the banner making kit, Unconsecrated hosts to practice receiving communion in the hand, instructions for watching *The Mass: A Life Giving Prayer, The Bread of Life: Celebrate the Eucharist and Let's Pray! A Lesson on Prayer.**

Sacrament of Reconciliation: You and your child are invited to the Sacrament of Reconciliation at Saint Athanasius Church, Saturday from 9:00 to 11:00 am or by appointment.

First Eucharist Rehearsal: There is **no** rehearsal. All communicants are to be seated in their designated pew ½ hour before the scheduled time for Mass. Last minute instructions are given at this time.

- In order to watch the films as mentioned, you need to register with **formed.org**. Simply go to the formed.org website and sign in as a new registrant. You will be asked for your parish, type in Saint Teresa of Avila (regardless of what parish you are a member). Use your email address and create a password. *Welcome to the Catholic version of Netflix!*



Sunday Word

2 Kings 4: 8-11, 14-16a

Instruments of the Word of God

Today's First Reading is part of a cycle of stories about the prophet Elisha, disciple and successor to Elijah. Written more than a hundred years after Elisha's death, these tales were designed to reinforce a popular awareness of prophets as instruments of the all-powerful word of God.

Romans 6: 3-4, 8-11 *The Ritual of Baptism*

The transformation of the believer—from one doomed under the burden of sin to one who has been set free to live the life of grace—happens because of the real union with Christ that is accomplished through the ritual of Baptism.

Matthew 10: 37-42 *The Cost of Discipleship*

Matthew's community had already experienced the cost of discipleship in the form of the rejections and persecutions alluded to in today's Gospel reading. The cross is for the disciples of Jesus, as for the Master himself, the inevitable consequence of obedience to the Father's will.

Date	Time	Location	Intention	Requested By
Monday June 29 <i>Sts Peter and Paul, Apostles</i>	12 PM	St. Sebastian	Frank & Anna Mae & Larry McCann †	Family
Tuesday June 30 <i>Weekday/The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church</i>	12 PM	St. Sebastian	Charles & Mildred Kaib †	Daughter: Mildred Kozar
Wednesday July 1 <i>Weekday/St. Junipero Serra, Priest</i>	12 PM	St. Sebastian	George Serdy †	Daughters: Karen, Janet & Barbara
Thursday July 2 <i>Weekday</i>	12 PM	St. Sebastian	Charles P. Hess †	Michelle Hess
Friday July 3 <i>St. Thomas, Apostle</i>	12 PM	St. Sebastian	24th Wedding Anniversary of Kristen & Michael Dougherty	Dougherty Family
Saturday July 4 <i>St. Andrew Dung- Lac, Priest and Companions</i>	9 AM	St. Athanasius	Confessions	
	4 PM Vigil Mass	St. Athanasius	Deceased of Tunney Family †	Barbara Tunney
	4 PM Vigil Mass	St. Sebastian	Catherine Pawlak †	Joe Pawlak
	4 PM Vigil Mass	St. Teresa of Avila	For the People of the Parishes	
Sunday July 5 Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	10 AM	St. Sebastian	Fred Hager †	Peggy Hager
	10:30 AM	St. Athanasius	Patricia Brandt †	Lisa Bertocchi
	11 AM	St. Teresa of Avila	Wedding Anniversary of Rita & Dale Schindler	Rita Schindler

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