

# SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
February 17, 2019

"Blessed are you who are poor,  
for the kingdom of God is yours.  
Blessed are you who are now  
hungry, for you will be satisfied."  
— Luke 6:20-21a

Our Lady of Fatima  
Pleaded that we pray the Holy Rosary  
before Sunday Mass and  
privately from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm daily.

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Peter left his career as a



fisherman to follow Jesus.

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**Our Lady of Fatima Parish**  
2010 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
[www.ourladyoffatimaaltoona.org](http://www.ourladyoffatimaaltoona.org)  
Rectory Office Hours:

Monday – Friday 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM  
Parish Office: 814-942-0371

Our Lady of Fatima Mass Schedule  
Sunday: 10:30 AM - Holy Days: 6:00 PM  
Rosary: 10:05 AM - Rosary: 5:40 PM

Our Lady of Fatima Parish Administrator

Reverend Monsignor Robert C. Mazur

Parish Secretary  
Carol Z. Smith

Eucharist for the home bound - weekly:  
Patty Flanagan 942-0371 for arrangements.

Our Lady of Fatima Church is open  
Monday through Friday: 9AM - 5PM Winter  
9AM - 6PM Summer

for visits before the Blessed Sacrament.

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals will be held  
at Our Lady of Fatima.

Preparation for Baptism, and Weddings will be held at  
the Cathedral. 944-4603

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick  
Parishioners wishing to receive the sacrament of  
healing may call the Cathedral Parish Office to  
make arrangements. 944-4603

OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH IS A RESULT OF THE  
MERGER BETWEEN THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCHES  
OF SS. PETER & PAUL AND ST. LEO THE GREAT IN 1995.



Cathedral Church Office: 814-944-4603

One Cathedral Square

Most Reverend Mark L. Bartchak, Bishop

Reverend Monsignor Robert C. Mazur, Rector

Rev. Father Dennis M. Kurdziel, Parochial Vicar

Christian Initiation Team: 944-4603

Catholics returning Home: 944-4603

Mail Ministry to Elderly, Homebound, Seriously Sick  
and Grieving - 944-4603

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Web: [www.holytrinitycatholic.school](http://www.holytrinitycatholic.school)

Altoona Campus (Pre-K thru Grade 4) - 381-7011

Hollidaysburg Campus (Pre-K thru Grade 4) - 695-6112

Middle School Campus (Grades 5 thru 8) - 942-7835

Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School:

Web: [www.bishopguilfoyle.org](http://www.bishopguilfoyle.org) - 944-4014

Directors of Religious Education:

Chris Laraia – Pre-K thru 8 - 312-7317

Jean Koury – 9 thru 12 – 949-2777

Religious Education Office: Sundays – 943-7424

Director of Music Ministry

Leslie C. Thayer, MM, CAGO

Music Ministry Office - 944-2044

E-Mail: [ltayer@dioceseaj.org](mailto:ltayer@dioceseaj.org)

Reconciliation @ Cathedral: 7:00 PM Wednesday  
12:30 PM Saturday

Religious Education @ Cathedral: Pre-K through 11

Sacramental Formation @ Cathedral: First Reconciliation  
First Communion  
Confirmation

Sacramental Formation @ the Cathedral: Baptismal Prep  
Marriage Prep

Christian Initiation

Hospital Visitation: Call the Cathedral: 944-4603

Cathedral Eucharist:

Sunday: 5:00 PM (Vigil) Holy Days: 5:30 PM (Vigil) Weekdays: 6:45 AM

8:00 AM

8:00 AM

8:00 AM

10:00 AM

12:00 Noon

12:00 Noon

12:00 Noon

5:30 PM

Saturday: 8:00 AM

5:00 PM

12:00 Noon

**February 17, 2019**

*The Apostle Peter is one of the great stories of a changed life in the Bible. Check out this timeline and biography of the life of Peter.*

### **Peter's Life Before Christ**

*The Apostle Peter may have been the most outspoken of the twelve apostles in Jesus' ministry on earth. He certainly became one of the boldest witnesses for the faith. His beginnings were certainly humble in origin. He was born about 1 B.C. and died sometime around A.D. 67.*

*Peter was originally named Simon. Jesus was the One Who changed Peter's name. Peter means "rock" or literally Petra. He was a Galilean fisherman and was the brother of Andrew. The brothers came from the village of Bethsaida (John 1:43, 12:21). Peter was married. He was also a follower of John the Baptist. Peter, like all humans before their calling, was a sinful man. In fact he was ashamed of his sinfulness in the presence of Jesus Christ (Luke 5:6-8). Peter was perhaps the very first disciple that Jesus called along with His brother Andrew.*

*Fishermen at that time were gruff, unkempt, vile, shabbily dressed, and often used vulgar language. The fishermen of the first century were a man's man. They were full of vigor and had boisterous tempers. This is perhaps why James and his brother John were called the Sons of Thunder (Mark 3:17). Theirs was a rough life since fishing was a very physically demanding job. They must have been somewhat fearless too because some of the storms that came quickly upon the Sea of Galilee were fierce and furious. They often caught the fishermen by surprise and could easily capsize the 20 to 30 foot boats they used.*

*Peter was always putting his foot in his mouth but one thing you could say about Peter was that when Jesus told them (Peter and Andrew) to "follow me" they simply walked away and left everything they had without a second thought (Luke 5:9-1). Consider the fact that this meant that they left everything – all of their fishing boats, their fishing nets, and all the accessories that came with their trade. How many today would be willing to leave their own business to follow Someone that had simply asked them to follow Him?*

### **Peter's Life with Christ**

*As mentioned earlier, Peter was among the first disciples called by Jesus and he was frequently their spokesman – for good or bad. One thing that he is credited with is the special insight that he had concerning Jesus' identity. Peter was the first to call Jesus the Son of the Living God – the Messiah (Mark 8:29, Luke 9:20, Matt. 16:16-17). When Jesus called him, Peter knew that He was of God and felt unworthy to be in Jesus' presence (Luke 5:6-8). Even so, Jesus did not hesitate and told Peter and Andrew that He would make them "fishers of men" (Mark 1:17).*

*Peter was bold but often times in the wrong. Once he even rebuked the Lord and said that he was willing to die for Jesus even though at the arrest and trial of Jesus he denied Him three times (Matt. 16:21-22). Jesus loved the disciples and knew which of those whom would remain loyal to Him and those who would betray Him (Judas Iscariot). Peter was an eyewitness to the many miracles that Jesus did and also witnessed the Shekinah Glory along with John and James in the Transfiguration. This was where Jesus' humanity was peeled back to reveal the glory of His Divinity (Matt. 17:1-9).*

*Peter was the first one to preach on the day of Pentecost after the coming of the Holy Spirit and he was the first one to proclaim Christ to a Gentile. He was one of the boldest apostles of all. He willingly suffered persecution, imprisonment, beatings, and even rejoiced at the fact that he was worthy to suffer disgrace for the Lord's sake (Acts 5:41).*

### **The Gospel of Mark or of Peter?**

*There is extremely reliable evidence through church tradition and early church historians that the Gospel of Mark is actually the gospel of Peter. Peter is said to have dictated his discipleship with Jesus to John Mark, who was a companion of his for many of the later years of his life. If you read the Gospel of Mark you can see the extremely fine details of what appears to be an eyewitness from the perspective of Peter. John Mark was not ever a disciple of Jesus and he was not an apostle. There is little doubt that the work of Mark and his gospel is actually the story of Peter who retold the story and then was written down by John Mark. This is testified by the fact that Mark was not present for Jesus' ministry and the extremely intimate details that are described in Mark. Some of the events where Peter, John, and James who were often alone with Jesus, like the Transfiguration, are like a first-person retelling of the story.*

*The next time you read the Gospel of Mark, think about Peter and see if you can not see more clearly the realization that this had to be Peter's eyewitness account – an account that only Peter could tell.*

**FEBRUARY 17, 2019**  
**SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**10:30 AM**

**OUR LADY OF FATIMA MASS INTENTIONS**

Readings: Jer 17:5-8 1Cor 15:12, 16-20; Lk 6:17, 20-26

**Today's Intention-Charles Hennigan**

Readings: 1 Sm 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23; 1 Cor 15:45-49 Lk 6:27-38

**Sun., February 24th, Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Intention: Fr. James D. Zatalava, Connie & Cassidy McKnight**

**Cathedral Mass Intention**

**February 18, Monday: Weekday**

Readings: Gn 4:1-15, 25; Mk 8:11-13

6:45 AM Milt & Dottie Cupples (Patricia & Tom Forr)

8:00 AM Edward Flanagan Ann. (Patty & Bear McCloskey)

12:00 PM Janet Tomlinson (Joshua Walker)

**February 19, Tuesday: Weekday**

Readings: Gn 6:5-8, 7:1-15, 10; Mk 8:14-21

6:45 AM Peggy Joyce (Family)

8:00 AM Anna Mercer (Charles Angermeier Family)

12:00 PM M. Virginia Jones (Colette & T.J. Evangelisto)

**February 20, Wednesday: Weekday**

Readings: Gn 8:6-13, 20-22; Mk 8:22-26

6:45 AM Nicholas John Moffa (Estate)

8:00 AM George Strobert (McNelis All-Stars)

12:00 PM Msgr. Roy Kline (Joseph & Rebecca Clark Family)

**February 21, Thursday: St. Peter Damian, Bsp. & Dr.**

Readings: Gn 9:1-13; Mk 8:27-33

6:45 AM Michael & Ella Gibbons Family (Irwin Family)

8:00 AM Dick, Rick Cowan, Karen Dougherty (Family)

12:00 PM James Joseph Luther (William Tremmel)

**February 22, Friday: The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle**

Readings: 1 Pt 5:1-4; Mt 16:13-19

6:45 AM Peter Lynam (Cathedral Parish)

8:00 AM William V. Bettwy (Tim & JoAnn Bettwy)

12:00 PM Wanda Watkins (Russ & Loretta Wharton)

**February 23, Saturday: St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr**

Readings: Heb 11:1-7; Mk 9:2-13

8:00 AM Joyce David (Mike and Sherry Byrne)

12:00 PM Herb Kutruff (Betty Ann Johnson)

**Vigil: Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Readings: 1 Sm 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23; 1 Cor 15:45-49; Lk 6:27-38

5:00 PM William and John Drass (Bart & Eileen Hmel)

*Jesus, Son of the Living Father,  
Have Mercy on Me a Sinner.*

*Please pray for all of our parishioners, especially for  
those who have illnesses great and small and our  
seniors who are lonely and need comfort and care.*

**FEBRUARY 17, 2019**  
**Scripture Reflection**

**In today's Gospel, we encounter Jesus and a large crowd of Jews and non-Jews gathered on a plain in Galilee to hear him speak. He goes on to deliver the Beatitudes, which are, in fact, about trust in God who cares for those who suffer. Jesus also includes a matching series of "woes" that focus on those who have turned away from God by refusing to do their part in alleviating these sufferings.**

**Every culture develops false notions of righteousness; in this the world of first-century Judaism is not different from that of 21st-century Christianity. In Jesus' culture many assumed that wealth, prosperity, happiness and social inclusion were signs that a person's life was right in the eyes of God. Jesus insists that poverty, hunger, grief and exclusion are not signs of the absence of God's love.**

**Luke's Jesus insists, you rich might have a problem: Where did your money come from? Likewise, you who are satiated and overweight. Who grew your food? Who brought it to you and prepared it for you? Did they have enough to eat? You who laugh now, look around you! Do you think God is as entertained as you are by the world you have built? And you who everyone loves, what has happened to others who have shared similar fame? God does not see with human eyes, so call happy only those who live according to divine instruction.**

**Twenty-first century society has a nearly inexhaustible supply of false righteousness against which to criticize. Woe to you well-educated, for you will find no work. And woe to you who lead sheltered lives, for you will not see Christ arrive among the outcasts. But happy you high-school dropouts; someday you will achieve your goals. Happy you drug addicts, someday you will be clean. Happy you migrants and refugees and you who have no place to call home. Rejoice and leap, for you will recognize the Son of Man, who when he came also found no place to lay his head.**

- If you are experiencing difficulties, how does today's Gospel comfort you?**

AT HOME with the WORD 2019, Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, pg. 47. AMERICA MAGAZINE, "The Beatitudes remind us of our own false righteousness." Michael R. Simone, S.J., January 25, 2019.

**Bishop Guilfoyle Pre-AP upcoming test dates are February 21<sup>st</sup>, and June 4<sup>th</sup> for students currently in 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade. Please call 814-944-4014 or email [admissions@bguilfoyle.org](mailto:admissions@bguilfoyle.org) to register for the test. Please feel free to call for a tour of the school or to set up a student shadow day for your child.**

**All incoming BG 9<sup>th</sup> grade students will take the High School Readiness Test on Monday, April 8, starting at 8:00 AM at Bishop Guilfoyle. Please call 814-944-4014 for more details and to register for the test.**

**Celebrating the Arts – Twenty-five Bishop Guilfoyle students will have artwork on display at the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art's 21<sup>st</sup> Annual student art celebration entitled "Artists of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century". The art will be displayed at SAMA-Loretto through March 23. SAMA-Loretto is open 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM Tuesday through Friday and 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM on Saturday.**

**Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School Drama Club presents "Hello, Dolly" on Friday, March 1, and Saturday, March 2, at 7:30 PM at the Mishler Theatre.**

**Unique Opportunity for All Area Second Graders - Bishop Guilfoyle Environmental and Ecology classes are hosting an Earth Day Celebration on April 23, from 9AM until 1PM. All area second graders (parochial, public, home school, etc) are invited to join. The day will be filled with activities to get your little ones thinking like scientists and having fun at the same time. Interested? Contact Gina Baker ([gbaker@bguilfoyle.org](mailto:gbaker@bguilfoyle.org))**

**February 17**

**Luke 6:17, 20-26**

**Don't look very far when you hear today's gospel speak of poverty, hunger, sorrow or exclusion. These things happen in families. Children feel "insulted" when they are constantly criticized. Spouses "hunger" for affection. Grandparents feel "excluded" by divorce and custody decisions. Parents "weep" because they feel alienated from their children.**

**6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (February 17)**

**"Blessed are those who know how to detach themselves from their possessions and their power so as to put them at the service of the needy," Pope John Paul II**

#### **Precious Blood of the Lord**

**Because of the seriousness of this flu season, Bishop Bartchak has asked that the Precious Blood of the Lord not be offered at Mass temporarily. It is the belief of the Catholic Church that the whole Body of Christ is present under either form of consecrated bread and wine. Also, the exchange of the sign of peace should avoid bodily contact. A reverent nod with eye contact and a smile will be the temporary practice. Reception of Holy Communion on the hand is encouraged; however, reception on the tongue may not be denied. These norms are in effect throughout the winter months or until the flu season is over.**

#### **Confirmation Prep.**

**A session will be held this evening for 11th Grade Confirmation Candidates and their sponsors, from 6:15 PM until 7:15 PM in the Church Hall. Your Saint Paper is due. A photo of candidates will be taken.**

#### **F.I.R.E. Class**

**Sunday Feb. 24th. Class will be feeding the hungry in the Church Hall from 1:30 PM until 3:30 PM. Students should be in the hall by 12:30 PM.**

**Next F.I.R.E. Class will be on Sunday, March 3, 2019 in the Cathedral Hall.**

## **Eucharistic**

## **Adoration**

### ***Liturgical Reflection...***

**In the celebration of the Mass the chief ways in which Christ is present in his Church emerge clearly one after the other. First, Christ is present in the very assembly of the faithful who has gathered in his name. Next, he is present in his word, sacred scripture, proclaimed and broken open. Also, he is present in the person of the ordained minister. Finally, and above all, Christ is present in the Eucharistic elements of his very Body and Blood. In a way that is completely unique, the whole and entire Christ, God and man, is substantially and permanently present in the Blessed Sacrament. Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharist Outside Mass, 1975, Number 6.**



## **HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS**

### **Holy Trinity Catholic School Preschool**

*The Holy Trinity Catholic School is looking to expand our preschool and we want to make sure that it fits the needs of our families and community. Below is a link to the survey. Please complete the survey as soon as possible. We would like to gather as much information as possible from everyone. If you are interested in the summer preschool program, please leave your email address at the end of the survey. We will be in touch with additional information. Thank you for your help.*

*Preschool Survey Link: <https://goo.gl/forms/5Trvs3H3HmyAqq6y2>.*

*CASH BASH! Join us for an evening of fun on Saturday, March 23rd! Only 200 tickets sold and every 10th ticket pulled wins \$100.00! Grand Prize \$3,000.00! Call the school office to purchase tickets. Gift Cards for Guardians - Gift cards are sold every week. Our program offers you the opportunity to purchase your gift cards through us and help our school.*

*Call the school office for a Script order form. Check us out on Facebook and our Website for updated school information: [www.holytrinitycatholic.school](http://www.holytrinitycatholic.school)*

### **Shoe Collection Drive**

*SAINT VINCENT DePAUL Financial Needs Office is conducting a shoe drive fundraiser to raise funds to support our citizens in need of financial support. We will earn funds based on the total weight of the pairs of gently worn, used and new shoes collected, as [Funds2orgs](http://Funds2orgs) will issue a check for the collected shoes. The monies earned will be used to support our citizens in need. [Funds2orgs](http://Funds2orgs) works with micro-entrepreneurs in helping them create small businesses in developing countries such as Haiti. It's a win-win for everyone. We will have a box available for collection of these shoes at the back of your church starting Sunday Feb. 10th until March 30th. By donating your gently worn, used and new shoes, you can make a difference in peoples' lives around the world. Thank you and may God reward you richly for your generosity.*

### **ARISE**

*Sign-up sheets for the Lenten journey with ARISE are on the table at Our Lady of Fatima vestibule. The Lenten theme is Change Our Hearts- discussion groups begin to gather the week of March 3rd. Those that gathered in the fall are invited back. Those who did not join then are invited back to become part of a group this Lent.*

*This Lent the theme is CONVERSION- both as a turning from and as turning toward. This is an invitation to encounter and rediscover Christ in new ways. This is an opportunity to reinvigorate our faith, to recognize the Holy Spirit as the empowerment that anchors our daily lives. We are called to be disciples of the Lord, to attempt to live each day more in the image of the Lord of Jesus Christ.*

### **Blessed Candles**

*This past Saturday, February 2, on the Presentation of the Lord all candles to be used this liturgical year were blessed at the Cathedral Mass. If you wish to have blessed candles in your home, these sacramental's are located on the table in the Blessed Mother Chapel at the Cathedral. A box containing two (2) blessed candles costs \$5.00; and a glass votive candle costs \$5.00. Make sure to use these blessed candles on those special occasions in your family when there is a birthday, anniversary, or someone is ill.*

### **Eucharistic Adoration**

*Plan to take part in next month's Eucharistic Adoration scheduled for Wednesday, March 6th at the Cathedral.*

### **Preparation for Infant Baptism**

*There will be a baptismal session for parents preparing to have their child baptized on Tuesday, February 19 at 7:00 PM in the Seton Suite (below the rectory). Please note that baptisms are normally not celebrated during the Lenten Season. Ash Wednesday is March 6, 2019. Parents are encouraged to take this class prior to the birth of your child.*

### **Religious Education Community Service Project**

**Cathedral Parish Religious Education Program is offering a service opportunity to make non-sew knotted lap quilts for the Residents at Garvey Manor. Only 18 quilts are now needed. You can take one home to make. The fleece fabric and instructions will be provided. If you would like to help, please contact Chris Laraia at 312-7317 or Jeanne Thompson at 934-2510. If you would like to help by making an \$8.50 donation to defray the cost of the fabric for a quilt that would be greatly appreciated too!**

### **Additional Dates for Sacrament Preparation...**

**First Communion sessions are scheduled for Wednesdays, February 27 and March 27, 2019. All sessions are held in the Seton Suite from 6:30 PM until 8:00 PM. All students MUST be accompanied by an adult. Please contact Chris Laraia at 312-7317 if you will not be able to attend a session.**

**First Communion at the Cathedral will be on Sunday, May 5 at the 10:00 AM Mass. First Communion for Our Lady of Fatima Parish has not been scheduled to date.**

### **Preparation for Infant Baptism**

**There will be a baptismal session for parents preparing to have their child baptized on Tuesday, February 19 at 7:00 PM in the Seton Suite (below the rectory). Please note that baptisms are normally not celebrated during the Lenten Season. Ash Wednesday is March 6, 2019. Parents are encouraged to take this class prior to the birth of your child.**

### **Flower Lovers and Gardeners !**

**The Blair Garden Club will be traveling to the Philadelphia Flower Show on Wednesday March 6th. Anyone interested should call Emma Kowalski at 814-942-0202. The cost is \$ 70.00.**

**Guess who turns 90 on March 27th. Adaline Cassarly! She gets lonely having only family visiting. Why not send her a greeting card each week in March until her birthday? Her address is Garvey Manor, Room D113, 1037 Logan Blvd., Hollidaysburg, Pa. 16648**

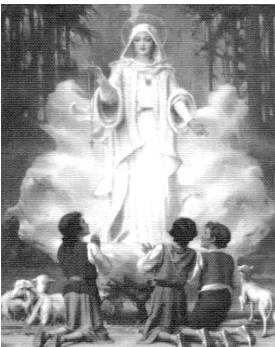
**Lenten Fish Luncheons at Cathedral starting on Ash Wednesday and Fridays of Lent except Good Friday. Menu includes a Fish Sandwich, your choice of macaroni and cheese, pierogie, French fries or Haluski for \$8.00 (includes drink). Serving from 11:00 AM to 1:30 PM or till sold out. Call in take-out orders of ten or more.**



02/10	Lisa and Tom Levine
02/20	Jean and John Noonan
02/24	Kathy and Pete Starr

### **OLF February 10th Collection ---\$1699.84**

02/20	Charles (Tom) Andros
02/21	Jared Pufka
02/22	Connie Angeski
02/23	Bob Gates
02/26	Connie McKnight
02/27	Adaline Cassarly



**OUR LADY URGES US TO PRAY THE HOLY ROSARY**

**FOR**

**PEACE AND OFFER**

**SACRIFICES BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE!**

## Peter's Glorious Ending

*In the days leading up to Peter's death, almost all of the apostles had been martyred. Did Jesus actually predict Peter's death by crucifixion when He said that "when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and take you where you do not want to go" (John 21:18-19)? The church historian Tertullian, Origen, and Eusebius state that Peter's was stretched out by his hands, he was dressed in prison garb, he was taken where no one wanted to go (a crucifixion), and was crucified. He was said to be crucified upside down because he felt unworthy to be crucified in the way that the Lord Jesus Christ had been.*

*From an arrogant, cocky, man of thunder, he became a humble, willing, obedient servant of the Lord even to death. He rejoiced in that day of his death, knowing that he would be reunited with his beloved Savior. This was a lifetime of 65 years – of which his last thirty-three would be devoted to proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ. In the Old Testament, no one could even be a priest until they were thirty years of age. David became king at age thirty and this age is near the peak of mental and physical abilities. Peter will be one of only 12 apostles that will rule with Jesus Christ in the Kingdom of Heaven. The lowly fisherman became a mighty fisher of men – and one that changed and shaped the world forever and is still proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ through his gospel (written by Mark), the book of Acts, and through the epistles of 1 and II Peter.*

Read more: <https://www.whatchristianswanttoknow.com/apostle-peter-biography-timeline-life-and-death/#ixzz5fH3xYrlp>

### BLESSED

*When we think of the word "Beatitude" we think of today's discourse from Luke's Gospel, or the more familiar one from Matthew (which begins "Blessed are the poor in spirit . . ."). Actually, beatitudes occur throughout the prophets and Gospels. Today in Jeremiah (with an echo in the psalm) we hear, "Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord" (Jeremiah 17:7). Following his resurrection in John's Gospel, Christ proclaims, "Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed" (John 20:29). The evangelists placed these sayings throughout the Gospels as short reminders about the characteristics that one will find in a follower of Christ, characteristics that will help spread the Good News in this life and lead to eternal blessings in the next. In Latin, the saints are called the Beati, the "Blessed," for they are the ones who lived the "blessed" life as described by Jesus throughout the Gospels. How blest are we, when we also strive to make our own days a living beatitude!*

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### TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

*In recent years, there has been remarkable progress in drawing persons with disabilities into full celebration. Now it is generally accepted that worship places need accommodations such as ramps or elevators, large-print materials for those who are sight-impaired, and perhaps even an assisted hearing system or signing in American Sign Language. American Sign Language is not merely English translated into movement, but a distinct language with its own grammar, syntax (word order), and vocabulary. For this reason, the American Catholic bishops have approved American Sign Language (ASL) as an official language of the liturgy.*

*Celebrating liturgy in our own language (the vernacular) means that liturgy must be accessible to all languages and cultures. The fact that Mass is celebrated this weekend in some places in total silence, but with the full participation of deaf people praising God in the movements of their hands, and sometimes even with a priest who is deaf, is nothing less than the Church being faithful to the image of Jesus, who made the deaf hear and the mute speak. Remember too that deafness is an invisible disability, and that there may well be people in your parish who are quietly yearning for Mass to be signed for them in ASL.*

—James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

### INSEPARABLE

*Faith and works are like the light and heat to a candle; they cannot be separated.*

—Anonymous

### NONSENSE

*A little nonsense, now and then, is relished by the wisest among us.*

—Anonymous

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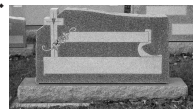
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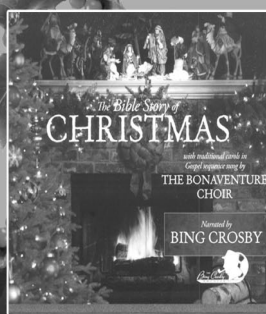
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