

Church of the Blessed Sacrament

534 Oxford Street

Rochester, New York 14607

phone: (585) 271-7240

fax: (585) 442-7517

parish e-mail: rblessed@dor.org

www.blessedsacramentrochester.org



August 22, 2010

Mass Schedule

Sunday

8:00 am, 10:00 am and 12:15 pm

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

8:00 am

Tuesday, Thursday

5:30 pm

Confessions

Saturday 4:30 – 5:30 pm

Parish Staff:

Fr. Robert J. Kennedy

Pastor

rkennedy@dor.org

Beverly LaBelle

Pastoral Associate

blabelle@dor.org

Susan Howard

Pastoral Associate

showard@dor.org

MaryJo Lightholder

Director of the Supper Program

mjlightholder@frontiernet.net

442-5279

Margy Handel

Business Manager

mhandel@dor.org

Diane Pawlik

Parish Secretary

Sr. Kathleen Wayne, RSM

Director of Faith Formation

skathleenwrs@aol.com

Barbara Legere

Director of Youth Ministry

blegere@dor.org

Beata Golec

Director of Liturgical Music

bgolec@dor.org

ALONG THE AVENUES:

The First Letter of Peter is a circular letter, probably not written by Saint Peter himself, but by someone in leadership in Jerusalem to a series of small Christian communities in Asia Minor. It was likely penned in the last quarter of the first century.

A fair amount of discussion has arisen about the exact reason for the letter. Because the churches are addressed as “exiles of the diaspora” (1:1) and “exiles and aliens” (2:11), some have felt that the letter was written to those experiencing or escaping from an intense state persecution. More recently, commentators have backed away from this assessment. Rather, they believe that the communities were experiencing a more local harassment and verbal abuse from the dominant non-Christian (largely pagan) culture because the values and lifestyle of the minority Christians were a source of resentment and misunderstanding on the part of the majority population. This is, of course, a serious enough reason for concern for those who are newly initiated into the Christian church. The letter gives a “hang in there!” message, encouraging the members of the community to give confident witness to their Christian faith. These newly-minted Christians may feel like aliens and exiles in their own towns and villages, but if they remain strong and faithful they will give social witness to the gospel of Christ – for the gospel values have significant social consequences that challenge the prevailing culture.

I love the opening section of the letter. After quoting an early baptismal hymn praising God who “by his great mercy has given us a new birth to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead” (1:3-5), the author then goes on to inspire hope, even joy, in the midst of whatever forms of harassment and suffering the people may be experiencing. “There is cause for rejoicing here! For even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, this is so the genuineness of your faith – being more precious than gold ... tested in fire – may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed” (1:6-9). This sets the tone for the letter to bolster the faith and perseverance of these Christian believers who are beginning to buckle under the pressure to conform and to distance themselves from the community. [This of course is not only a problem for infant first-century communities, but has a familiar ring as we struggle to live our faith in our own time and culture.]

Consequently, the First Letter of Peter urges the communities to look to Christ’s own experience as a model for themselves. They are suffering for doing the right thing, just as Christ did. “Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed.... Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you. Keep your conscience clear.... For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering be God’s will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God.” (3:13ff)

So whenever you have a hard time living your faith and feel that the odds are against you, turn to this letter of encouragement and hope. “And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you.” (5:10)

Christ’s peace to you,
Father Bob Kennedy



THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE:

Wednesday, August 25

8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. — Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. — Farmer's Market, Parking Lot

Saturday, August 28

4:30 - 5:30 p.m. — Sacrament of Penance, Church
 8:00—9:00 p.m. — Nocturnal Adoration

Sunday, August 29

10:00 a.m.— Nursery, School Playroom

MASS SCHEDULE:

SUNDAY, August 22, Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM - Lucile Mercer — Family
 10:00 AM - Mass of Remembrance: Timothy J. Leach
 12:15 PM - For the Parishioners

MONDAY, August 23, Weekday, St. Rose of Lima, virgin

8:00 AM - T. Murray Lynd — The Lynd Family

TUESDAY, August 24, St. Bartholomew, apostle

5:30 PM - Ann Salmon — Kathleen Quinlan

WEDNESDAY, August 25, Weekday, St. Louis of France; St. Joseph Calasanz, priest

8:00 AM - Florence Spade — Robert and Susan McKernan

THURSDAY, August 26, Weekday

5:30 PM - Mary Bianchi — Family

FRIDAY, August 27, St. Monica

8:00 AM - Darlene Beckman — Lewis Child

SATURDAY, August 28, St. Augustine, bishop and doctor of the Church

3:00 PM - Wedding: Cathleen Compitello and Stephen Messare

SUNDAY, August 29, Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM - For the Parishioners
 10:00 AM - Mass of Remembrance: Patrick J. Murphy
 12:15 PM - Estelle and Marion Sokolski — Lisa Allen



During the summer, the Stewardship Committee of the parish wants to make some suggestions for our consideration as we try to make Stewardship our way of life. Here's the eleventh installment:

Stewardship of TIME

Well, our warm and sunny summer days are dwindling down as we approach Labor Day and the beginning of school for our young friends. Good stewardship means we make **time for relaxation, recreation and exercise**. We hope that you have been good stewards of your time this summer and that your spirits are revived and your energy renewed. But these glorious summer days will shortly be giving way to even more splendid autumn days. So don't give up making time for relaxation, recreation, and especially exercise as your schedule returns to "normal," whatever that may mean for any of us! We need to keep balance in our lives in every season of the year. A combination of prayer, exercise, recreation, and spending time with those we love is just the right formula for doing so!

Stewardship of TALENT

Whenever we have had our Stewardship Sundays or whenever new parishioners register in the parish, we have an overwhelming number of people volunteer for our **Supper Program**. Often enough after that, Father Bob, Mary Jo (our Supper Program director), and other staff members are questioned why they haven't been contacted to serve. So here's the scoop on volunteering for the Supper Program.

First, we rely on volunteer cooks and serving and clean-up teams every night we serve a meal (Monday through Friday September through June, Monday through Wednesday July and August). Cooks usually work one night a week; teams usually one night a month. This amounts to roughly 350 volunteers assisting with the Supper Program each month. Second, our volunteers are very generous and loyal, some who have been serving a dozen or more years. Consequently there is very little turnover in the volunteer force. Third, when there is need for a new team or new team members, Mary Jo does go to our "waiting list" of those interested in volunteering – and that may include you – to put new teams together, so your volunteering is important to us.

We are delighted so many want to be a part of this ministry of our parish. Please be patient until we can take advantage of your offer – or consider one of our other 60+ opportunities for using your talents!

Stewardship of TREASURE

Sunday collection received: August 15, 2010	\$	6,848
Budgeted weekly need	\$	7,850
Difference - (under) weekly need	\$	(1,002)
Received year to date	\$	49,010
Budgeted need - year to date	\$	54,950
Difference (under) budgeted year to date need	\$	(45,940)

121 envelope users gave \$5,496. Loose plate totaled: \$1,352. Thank you for your generous donations.



READINGS FOR SUNDAY, AUGUST 29, TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sir 3: 17-18, 20, 28-29
 Hebrews 12: 18-19, 22-24a
 Luke 14: 1, 7-14



FALL BIBLE STUDY

Surveys will be available next weekend to determine topics, length of sessions and best days and times. We plan to address a special needs such as transportation, child care or handicapped accessibility. Use this survey to make your needs known. Look for the results on September 19th. Reflection on the Sunday Scriptures at 7:00pm on Monday nights begins at St. Boniface on September 20th.

FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN PRE SCHOOL-HIGH SCHOOL

Reminder that our Monroe Clinton Parishes offer Religion Classes for children who attend Public Schools, Private Schools or are Home Schooled. And all students Grades 6-12 are invited to take part in our Youth Ministry opportunities. Information about programs and registration can be found on the parish website. Our contact Barb Legere 465-2665 about Youth Ministry or Sister Kathleen Wayne 271-7240 about Religion Classes.

SAVE THE DATE

Meeting for all parents interested in preparing children for the Sacraments of Confirmation, First Communion and/or Penance during the 2010-2011 school year Wednesday, October 6th 7:00-9:00 PM at St. Mary's Dugan Center.

WOMEN OF BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH:

Save the date for a Retreat

Spirituality: Talkin the Talk and Walkin the Walk
Where: Notre Dame Retreat House
When: October 1 - 3, 2010

BLESSED SACRAMENT GOLF OUTING

Sunday, September 12
3:00 PM at Shadow Lake
Door prizes and dinner.
Pick up your sign up forms next weekend!
Singles welcome.



EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

"Watch one hour with me." Nocturnal Adoration Society for Rochester's Southeast region celebrates an hour devoted to scripture readings, instructive readings, adoration, reflection, and prayer in the Office of the Blessed Sacrament. **Saturday, August 28, 8:00 to 9:00 PM, at Blessed Sacrament Church.** All are welcome.



BANNS OF MARRIAGE

Please pray for the following couples getting married:

Claire Labrosa and Michael Witmer
Roseann Cangiano and Adam Radens

JUST FAITH, JUST MATTERS & SOCIAL JUSTICE

This coming Fall, we hope to launch another full-scale *Just Faith* program which would meet from late September to next May on a weekly basis [except for holiday weeks, mid-term breaks etc] We need at least 6-10 participants in order for the program to run successfully. Articles in recent bulletins have explained the highlights of the *Just Faith* process and it is hoped that anyone who is at all interested will contact Beverly LaBelle [271-7240 or blabelle@dor.org] as soon as possible.

Another possibility for this Fall is to offer one of the shorter *Just Matters* modules which focus on a particular social justice issue rather than an entire overview as is presented in the classic 25-30 week *Just Faith* program. *Just Matters* offers modules in the following topics:

"Faith Encounters the Ecological Crisis" --a timely topic in light of the crisis in the Gulf of Mexico!

"Crossing Borders: Immigration, Theology and the Human Journey"--another topical & controversial topic!

"New Wineskins: Forming Parish Social Justice Communities"--much needed topic -we need parishioners with a passion for social justice to step forward!

"Engaging Our Conflicts: An Exploration of Nonviolent Peacemaking"--cultivating nonviolence in our personal lives as well as in the outer world.

"Prison Reform: the Church of the Second Chance"--this module was presented last winter at Blessed Sacrament.

Just Matters modules involve 6-8 weekly meetings featuring book discussions, visual presentations and guest speakers. Please let Beverly know within the next month if any of the modules interest you.

CHILDCARE ON SUMMER SUNDAYS!

Childcare will be offered this summer on Sunday mornings through September 12 during the 10:00 a.m. Mass. The School will open at 9:45 a.m. and the children will be in the playground of the school. Thank you to all who have volunteered to provide this service for our families.

ADVENTURE CLUB OUTING

The PYC (Parents with Young Children ages infant to 5 years old) are gathering at Ontario Beach for the last concert of the session- Ruby Shooz! Concert starts at 7:00PM. We'll be there at 6:00 PM to save a good picnic spot. Bring your picnic dinner and look for the Adventure Club Sign!



YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Matt Maher in Concert - Saturday, October 9, 2010 @ 7:00 PM, "The Light Meets The Dark." The show line-up features special guests Addison Road and acclaimed singer/song writer Matt Maher and will visit more than 35 markets, including a stop at Roberts Wesleyan College's Cultural Life Center. Tix available online!

Many & One T-shirts - Did you see those great "Many and One" T-shirts that the NCYC group had at the Tri-Parish Picnic last Sunday? They were so popular that we will be putting another order in for shirts in the near future. Watch for more info soon!

Looking ahead - put these dates on your calendar!

NCYC Meeting - Sept 12

YM/FF Opening - Sept 18

High School Youth Group - Sept 19

Middle School Youth Group - Sept 21

Youth Ministry Email Lists

Want to be "in the know" on all the youth ministry events that can't fit into our weekly bulletins? Find out about contests & scholarships, get reminders about deadlines and find out more about events by joining our Youth Ministry Email Lists! Email Barb with your name/grade & parent name & email to sign up!

Recommended Reading: *Raising Happy, Healthy, and Holy Teenagers: A Primer for Parents.* A classic book for parents by Bob McCarty covers important topics such as, psychological and developmental tasks of young people, self-esteem, youth culture, dealing with technology, practical suggestions for improving parent-teen relationships, and fostering faith in adolescents. Parents of teenagers and "tweens" will find this short volume full of helpful tips and practical recommendations on how to support and guide their son or daughter through their adolescent years. *Interested in borrowing a copy? Email me asap!*

For information on any of the events above or to register call Barb Legere at 465-2665 or email blegere@dor.org

MARRIED COUPLES!

Do you want to give the best gift ever to each other and to your children, which is your awesome marriage? Here is a great opportunity to gain this gift during the coming Fall, right after the start of the new school year. Come to the Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend held in Batavia NY on the October 1-3, 2010 weekend or to the Weekend held at the Notre Dame Retreat House on the November 19-21, 2010 Weekend to rekindle the fun and passion in your marriage and to dream about the future. To sign up to the weekend or for more information call Rob and Beth Knopf at (877) NYS-WWME or visit www.wwme-wny.org.

Weekend Masses at our Partner Parishes

St. Mary's - Sat. 4PM, Sun. 9:00 and 11:00 AM

St. Boniface-Sat. 5PM, Sun. 8:30 and 10:30AM

OLVictory/St.Joseph-Sat. 4:30PM, Sun.10AM & 7:30PM

THEOLOGY ON TAP

For Catholics and friends in their 20's and 30's

August 24 God on Campus

With Nora Bradbury-Haehl, St. Paul's Webster

Johnny's Irish Pub

SAVE THE DATE- NEWLY WEDS AND ENGAGED COUPLES PICNIC

From all three of our partner parishes will gather in St. Mary's Church Gardens Friday, August 27 at 6:30 PM
Details to follow.....



JustNews

...from Blessed Sacrament's Social Justice Community

How does your faith affect your response to the current economic crisis?

According to Pope John Paul II, the Catholic tradition calls for a "society of work, enterprise and participation" which "is not directed against the market, but demands that the market be appropriately controlled by the forces of society and by the state to assure that the basic needs of the whole society are satisfied." (*Centesimus Annus*, 35). "All of economic life should recognize the fact that we all are God's children and members of one human family, called to exercise a clear priority for the least among us."

How much do you know about the Church's teaching on economic life?

Taking the Economic Justice Quiz on the US Conference of Catholic Bishops is a thought provoking way to find out. To try it, go to: www.usccb.org/jphd/economiclife/pdf/catholic_teaching-economic_justice_quiz.pdf

We welcome new members to journey with us. Contact Holly Rockwell at hrock@rochester.rr.com or 473-1990.