

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 17, 2016

Ordinary Time

Now that the Christmas season is over, we might think that we can go back to our "ordinary lives" during Ordinary Time, but this time is never "ordinary" in that sense. Ordinary Time in the liturgical year is the time when the Sundays are numbered "in order." This season will last about six weeks. Ash Wednesday will follow the Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time.

During Ordinary Time, we celebrate the whole life of Christ, not just one aspect of it so it is a time of celebration after all. It is a good time to remind ourselves that every Sunday celebrates Easter, the resurrection of Christ. Every day of Ordinary Time invites us to know Christ better and to live His teachings in a deeper way, and there is nothing 'ordinary' about that.

Last Call! March for Life

Please call Cathy, 652.7170, if you are interested in participating in the March for Life this week on January 21 and 22 in Washington D.C.

Dominican Retreat Center 518.393.4169

February 12-17: Silent Retreat for Women & Men: *Deepening in the Experience of Centering Prayer.* Come and sink deeper into the mystery of God's Presence -- closer to us than we are to ourselves. \$425

OFFERINGS

St. John: \$1,874
Holy Family: 154
St. Peter: 1,227

Bishop's Appeal Update

	<u>Pledges</u>	<u>Families</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Deficit</u>
St. John:	54	181	\$12,999	\$9,932
St. Peter:	44	119	12,340	9,750

thebishopsappeal.org

Why a Jubilee Year of Mercy?

Pope Francis explained in his 2015 Divine Mercy homily, "Here, then, is the reason for the Jubilee: because this is the time for mercy. It is the favorable time to heal wounds, a time not to be weary of meeting all those who are waiting to see and to touch with their hands the signs of the closeness of God, a time to offer everyone the way of forgiveness and reconciliation.

Free app reflections on mercy and Scripture, etc. Go to OSV.com/YOM.

Parenting Pointers Susan Vogt

"How, in this materialistic, competitive world, can I raise kind children?"... Begin by being a kind adult. When your child sees you go the extra mile to help a friend, carry someone's groceries, or invite people into your life who aren't exactly like you, your child will see loving kindness as the natural way to live. ~ Mimi Doe

Marriage Moments Susan Vogt

Spiritual gifts include: wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing, accomplishments, prophecy, good judgement, communication skills, understanding... 1 Cor 12:4-11 Which of these gifts is your beloved especially good at?

God's peace flows through the font of life

And through the cup we share,

To cool and quench all thirsty souls

Weighted down with heavy care:

The Spirit from the heart of Christ,

Within the Church at prayer.

Family Perspective Bud Ozar

At Cana we get a good insight into Mary's parenting style. She did not plead, argue, demand, or manipulate. She merely pointed out the situation and trusted her Son would make the best decision.

Colchester Food Bank

Food and personal care items may be dropped off at Holy Family to help support our local Food Bank: cans of pasta, tuna, stew, chili, pasta sauce, fruit; boxes of mashed potatoes, stuffing; peanut butter jelly, graham crackers, spaghetti; soap, toilet paper, personal care items. Thank you for your continued community support.

Reflections on the Readings

Isaiah 62:1-5~ In the Old Testament, God's covenant with the people is sometimes compared to a marriage covenant between a husband and wife. The prophet uses this imagery. With great enthusiasm, he celebrates a great event. The Lord has not only delivered the people from their enemies but has "married" them and made them His own. Their faithfulness has been rewarded. Now they can say to their enemies, "See, we told you! Our God has saved us."

1 Corinthians 12:4-11~ We are reminded that the Christian community is filled with gifts of the Spirit. These gifts enable some of us to be teachers or counselors, prophets or preachers, healers or leaders. They all come from the same Spirit and are intended to build up the faith community. We should never be jealous of someone else's gift because all the gifts truly belong to all of us as the Body of Christ.

John 2:1-11~ This Old Testament reading celebrates the "marriage" of Israel with the Lord. Jesus and His friends are taking part in a wedding celebration at Cana. Everyone is having a good time until the wine runs out. Then Jesus, in what is described as the first of His signs (miracles), turns six jars of water into choice wine! Everyone is astonished. By turning the water used for Jewish rituals into wine, Jesus gives God's people a sign that the Messiah has come. Later the disciples would recognize Jesus as the Bridegroom of the Church, the new people of God.