

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 4, 2018



St. Peter coffee hour today.

Please drop in.

Mass with Our Scouts

Walton Cub Scout Pack #45 and Walton Boy Scout Troop #45 will be hosting refreshments today after the 11:15 am Mass. Please join them!

Knights of Columbus meeting
at St. Peter tomorrow at 6 pm.

Colchester Food Bank

Donations may be dropped off at Holy Family to help support the Food Bank: fruit, jelly, graham crackers, spaghetti, and peanut butter.

Book Group

The Book Group will meet this Wednesday, February 7, at 2:30 pm at Hilda's Place. Anyone interested in joining as the group begins a new book, please call the office for directions.

Give as you would if an angel awaited
your gift at the door.

Give as you would if tomorrow found
you where giving was over.

Give as you would to the Master if you
met His loving look.

Give as you would of your substance if
His hand the offering took.

Only 4 weeks before the
2017 Bishop's Appeal closes!

Bishop's Appeal to Date

Deficits: St. John the Baptist: \$8,712
St. Peter's Church: 4,067

Alpha Course Thursday

The Alpha Course returns again to the Red Brick Church, 58 East Street in Walton. Pick 11 am (with lunch) or 6 pm (with dinner). Come by yourself or bring a friend(s). People attend from all backgrounds, religions, and viewpoints. Experience the core Gospel message with intriguing, thought-provoking DVDs: How does God guide us? How can I be filled with the Holy Spirit? How can we have faith? How can I make the most of the rest of my life? and much more.

Contact Charlie at 865.5024 for details.

Parenting Pointers Susan Vogt

You are not your children! Your success as a parent does not depend on their success. Resist the urge to take credit for your child's successes, lest you also take the blame for their mistakes.

~ from *Parenting Your Adult Child*

Retreat

Dominican Retreat Conference Center 518.393.4169

February 16-21: Five Day Centering Prayer Silent Retreat for Men & Women: *"Finding the Place of the Heart in Service of Transformation"* The demands of our world pull at us from every side, catering to our egos. Only by repeatedly letting go of this identification, can we continue to go deeper and deeper into our hearts. There, in that silence, we encounter the Divine One in a sacred place of healing and transformation. Come and join us for these days of prayer, community, and worship.

Cost: \$425 (per diem \$65 - with overnight: \$90)

Free Tax Assistance

Free Tax Counseling for the Elderly is available February 27 at St. John's Senior Dining Center (sign up at Senior Dining in Fr. Willis Hall or call 865.6739 for next appointment). Appointments in Delhi will be at the Delaware County Office for the Aging (call 832.5750 for appointment): February 6, 8, 20; March 6, 13, 20, 22; April 6, 10, and 12. This service is only available by appointment. A list of items needed for your tax assistance is in the literature rack in Church. The tax volunteers will also be able to prepare taxes via electronic filing.

This free service is sponsored by Delaware County Office of the Aging, the AARP Foundation, the Albany IRS office, and the NYS Department of Taxation and Finance.

2017 Tax Statements

If you would like a statement of your 2017 offertory for your tax returns, please call the office.

Physician Assisted Presentation Saturday

A presentation on physician-assisted suicide will be held Saturday at 1 pm at Calvary Hill Retreat Center, 290 Chestnut Street in Oneonta. Dr. Matthew Lynch will answer pertinent questions about the subject. He currently treats patients with Lou Gehrig's disease, Alzheimer's disease, and other neurological conditions.

Betty Porterfield

Mary "Betty" Porterfield (Denise Freeman's mother) is now at the new Delhi Rehabilitation and Nursing Center, Fir Wing, Room 153. She would love visits if and when possible, and continued prayer.

Marriage Moments Susan Vogt

They brought to [Jesus] all who were ill...and He cured many who were sick. Mark 1:32-34

Some people like to be pampered when they are sick. Others like to be left alone. What comforts your beloved when they don't feel well?

Family Perspective Bud Ozar

Jesus went to the "house of Andrew and Simon" to relax but discovered that "Simon's mother-in-law was very ill." Like Jesus we come home to relax but are confronted with problems. Take a tip from Andrew and Simon: "tell Jesus about it at once."

Raised to Serve

Job describes the futility of life before Christ. His lament reminds us of the curse of toil and death placed upon Adam following his original sin. Men and women are like slaves seeking shade, unable to find rest. Their lives are like the wind that comes and goes.

Psalms 147 states that He who created the stars promised to heal the brokenhearted and gather those lost in exile from Him. This promise is fulfilled in the Gospel.

Simon's mother-in-law is like Job's toiling, hopeless humanity. She is laid low by affliction but too weak to save herself, but as God promised to take His chosen people by the hand, Jesus grasps her by the hand and helps her up. (The word translated "help" is actually Greek for "raising up." The same verb is used when Jesus commands a dead girl to arise, and is used again to describe His own resurrection).

What Jesus has done for Simon's mother-in-law, He has done for all humanity - raised all of us who lay dead through our sins. Notice all the words of totality and completeness in the Gospel: The whole town gathers; all the sick are brought to Him. He drives out demons in the whole of Galilee. Everyone is looking for Christ.

We, too, have found Him. By our baptism, He healed and raised us to live in His presence. There is only one way we can thank Him for the new life He has given us-- we must rise to serve Him and His Gospel. We must tell everyone the good news-- Jesus purpose for coming.

Dr. Scott Hahn