

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 20, 2018

Please pray for the soul of Louis Lurenz.
May he rest in the peace of the Lord.

DEFEAT NY ABORTION EXPANSION

Sadly, New York State is the Abortion Capital of our nation with a rate of 29.6 abortions for every 1,000 women of reproductive age. Even if Roe were to be overruled the vast majority of abortions here would continue to be legal.

The Governor and the Democratic leadership in the NYS Legislature want to make abortion less safe and more expansive. Governor Cuomo is a strong proponent of the bill, and has promised to sign it into law. This bill would: allow non-doctors to perform abortions, allow abortions for any reason up to due date and remove all criminal penalties if it was contrary to the mother's choice, and remove our state's protections for infants accidentally born alive.

Tell your state law-makers that enough is enough! Here is a simple way to do this: 1) go to the New York State Catholic Conference website at nyscatholic.org, 2) click on "Stop Abortion Expansion," 3) enter your home address and 4) select "Send Message." Your message will automatically be sent to your State Senator, State Assembly Representative, and the Governor.

Rosa Mystica Medjugorje Pilgrimage

Father William Elder, from the Archdiocese of New York, will be leading a small group from Rosa Mystica to Medjugorje from February 16 to 24. If you would like to join them, obtain details about this pilgrimage (and easy and safe signup online), by visiting: pilgrimages.com/ourladyqueenofpeace/medj2/.

COLCHESTER FOOD BANK

Some needed items are: soap, toilet paper, and personal care items. Thank you for your continued donations.

Attention: All Teenagers & Their Parents

The next NCYC trip is coming up this November. The National Catholic Youth Conference occurs every two years. This is a truly amazing opportunity for the youth of our parishes to have a fun time learning and growing in their faith. This conference is targeted for high-school students, so those in 8th grade and high school this spring are welcome to join us. Please consider this great opportunity.

There will be an informational meeting coming up in February. Please look out for an announcement coming up in the bulletin regarding time and location of this meeting. If you have any questions, please call Brigid at 607.434.5874.

PARENTING POINTERS Susan Voigt

People across the USA Marched for Life on Friday to remember that life is sacred from the moment of conception. This year's theme: "Unique from Day One" (youtube.com/watch?v=XPiUKvtF2T0). How is your child unique?

Dominican Retreat Center 518.393.4169

Feb. 1-3: Women's Retreat: *The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.* Gal 5:6b
Sr. Kitty Hanley, \$205

Feb. 8-10: Men concerned with alcoholism: *Something Simple, Nothing Fancy: A Weekend with the 12 Steps of AA.* Learn the practical and useful tools of recovery. Rev. Tom Weston, \$205

Feb. 15-20: Women's & Men's Centering Prayer Silent Retreat: *Heart Perception, the Grace in Yielding, Surrendering & Letting Go.* Each surrender, each act of letting go creates space for us to move ever deeper into our heart perception where we experience healing, understanding & union with our true self & our Beloved. Rev. Bill Sheehan, \$425

In the Wedding

We are being shown another dimension of our relationship with God. If we are sons and daughters of God, it is because we have married into the family.

Have you ever wondered why the Bible begins and ends with a wedding? -- Adam and Eve's in the garden and the marriage supper of the Lamb. (Gen 2:23-24 & Rev 19:9; 21:9; 22:17) Throughout the Bible, marriage is the symbol of the covenant relationship God desires with His chosen people. He is the groom, humanity His beloved and sought-after bride. We see this reflected beautifully in the First Reading.

When Israel breaks the covenant, she is compared to an unfaithful spouse (Jer 2:20-36; 3:1-13), but God promises to take her back, to "espouse" her to Him forever in an everlasting covenant (Hosea 2:18-22). That is why in the Gospel Jesus performs His first public "sign" at a wedding feast.

Jesus is the divine bridegroom (Jn 3:29) calling us to His royal wedding feast (Mt 22:1-14). By His New Covenant, He will become "one flesh" with all humanity in the Church (Eph 5:21-33). By our baptism, each of us has been betrothed to Christ as a bride to a husband (2 Cor 11:2).

The new wine that Jesus pours out at today's feast is the gift of the Holy Spirit given to His bride and body. This is the "salvation" announced to the "families of nations" in Psalm 96.

Dr. Scott Hahn

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.

A MINISTRY OF IMMENSE LOVE

If you have a friend or loved one in need of Holy Communion or a visit, please give them a Pastoral Care Ministry pamphlet with more information, which is located in the Church vestibules. Please notify the church at 865.7394, extension 207 to request communion or a visit.

MARRIAGE MOMENTS Susan Voigt

Which Gift of the Spirit is your beloved strongest in: wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing, mighty deeds, prophecy, discernment, communication, understanding, ...? 1 Cor. 12: 4-11

GRIEF MINISTRY

If you have suffered loss recently or a while ago, our Grief Ministry is available to help by offering solace and empathy. We offer a listening ear, compassion, and possible recommendations/direction for a positive life journey moving forward with the help of our Faith! Contact Kathy: 376.1633, katscr74@gmail.com.

Free Tax Assistance

Free Tax Counseling for the Elderly is available for low and moderate income individuals February 26 at St. John's Senior Dining Center (you must sign up at Senior Dining in Father Willis Hall).

Appointments (required) in Delhi will be at the Delaware County Office for the Aging (call 832. 5750): February 5, 12, 14, 15, 19; March 1, 8, 12, 19, 26, 28; April 2, 9, and 11. Taxes will be prepared via electronic filing & sent directly to the IRS & NYS.

List of items needed for tax assistance is in the literature rack in Church. 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.

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