

Sunday, Jan 14, 2018

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

It's your call

Most of us are leery about accepting calls from unknown sources. In the happy age of caller ID, it's as if a virtual butler brings each visitor's card on a silver tray into our drawing room. We can decline to be "home" to any undesirable contact. Still, people of faith *do* want to be present when it's God who comes calling. How do we learn to distinguish that special voice from all the internal chatter clamoring for our attention? Veterans in discernment are helpful mentors, including pastors, spiritual directors, and the blueprint stories of past saints. Seekers, take the call!

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19; 1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20; John 1:35-42 (65). "Here I am. You called me."

Monday, Jan 15, 2018

Stick with the routine

How many of us have tried to get in shape for a big event, like a reunion or wedding? We eat less, exercise, and hope to make a good impression. Once the big day arrives, there's little more to do than enjoy ourselves. That's what the apostles were doing while Jesus was in their midst. After years of praying for a savior, Christ finally arrived, so there was nothing more to do than savor the moment. The real challenge is to continue healthy practices once the big event is over so that we're more prepared for the next event. What exercises will help you prepare for the next big spiritual event in your life?

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Samuel 15:16-23; Mark 2:18-22 (311). "Why do John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast?"

Tuesday, Jan 16, 2018

Sabbath prayer

While the Pharisees may have overemphasized strict observance of the Sabbath, perhaps we have swung too far in the opposite direction. Look around you on any Sunday afternoon—you'll see people shopping, working, rushing about. And most of us are right in the thick of things. While having options on how to spend our free time is a good thing, what seems to be getting lost is the notion of a qualitative difference in the pace of life, the "quiet Sunday afternoons" of times past. We all need a space in our crowded lives for time apart, time to reconnect with ourselves, our loved ones, and our God. Whatever your own Sunday choices might be, make sure you find a way to "keep holy the Sabbath." After all, as Jesus taught, the Sabbath was designed for our benefit. God doesn't need a day of rest—we do.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Samuel 16:1-13; Mark 2:23-28 (312). "The Sabbath was made for humankind, and not humankind for the Sabbath."

Wednesday, Jan 17, 2018

MEMORIAL OF ANTHONY, ABBOT

Go for broke

At one point in the gospels, Jesus says, "Whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother" (Matthew 12:50). Saint Anthony, the fourth-century Egyptian considered the founder of Christian monasticism, would have easily qualified as Jesus' "family." Sitting one day in church, he

heard the gospel passage, "If you wish to be perfect, go, sell your possessions, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me" (Matthew 19:21). He immediately sold what he owned, arranged for the financial support of his sister, gave the rest of his money to the poor, and went into the desert to live as a hermit. Sometimes we need a "here I am Lord" faith that gets up and does the will of God before we can talk ourselves out of it.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Samuel 17:32-33, 37, 40-51; Mark 3:1-6 (313). "Is it lawful to do good on the Sabbath rather than to do evil, to save life rather than to destroy it?"

Thursday, Jan 18, 2018

Touch the pain

When people are hurting, they seek the healing power of physical touch, just as those who followed Jesus did. Perhaps that is one reason why healing massage is one of the fastest-growing phenomena in our society. We seek to be healed physically, emotionally, and spiritually of what ails us, what causes us "dis-ease," and the power of touch can help in all these areas. Be a healer yourself, by offering a comforting hug or shoulder to cry on, a handshake of praise, a kiss to a loved one. To touch and be touched in healing, healthy ways is as natural and human as to breathe and walk. Reach out and make the connection today!

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Samuel 18:6-9; 19:1-7; Mark 3:7-12 (314). "He had cured many and, as a result, those who had diseases were pressing upon him to touch him."

Friday, Jan 19, 2018

Jesus chooses his teammates

When it comes to Christian unity, Jesus points us in an odd direction by his example. When he calls his 12 closest followers, it's not pretty: Roman collaborators, men smelling of fish, a political agitator, and a thief, among others. Many of these will never distinguish themselves beyond their denial, betrayal, and doubt of the one whom they follow. Why does Jesus make such eccentric choices? We might as well ask why Jesus wants you and me. Jesus calls whom he calls, and if we don't all go to the same church, is that his problem or ours?

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Samuel 24:3-21; Mark 3:13-19 (315). "Jesus called to him those whom he wanted, and they came to him."

Saturday, Jan 20, 2018

MEMORIAL OF FABIAN, POPE, MARTYR

Serve when called

Can a layperson be chosen pope? It happened in the year 236, when it is said that those who had gathered to elect a new bishop of Rome saw a dove alight upon the head of Fabian, an unknown layman and farmer who happened to be visiting the city. He was at once proclaimed bishop of Rome by acclamation. Fabian made important contributions to the church, including his decision to send seven bishops to Gaul to evangelize the region we know today as France and Belgium. Be prepared for service both great and small at any time of day or night.

TODAY'S READINGS: 2 Samuel 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27; Mark 3:20-21 (316). "Is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the Sabbath, to save life or to kill?"



Saint Anthony Church

15 Church Street

White River Jct. Vermont

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time – January 14, 2018

Father Charles R. Danielson, Pastor

Deacon John P. Guarino

Bishop of Burlington: Most Rev. Christopher J. Coyne

Parish Office

Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

11:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Closed on Wednesday

Secretary: Ms. Joanne Collins

Telephone: 802-295-2225

Office e-mail: Info@SaintAnthonyChurchWRJ.org

Website: www.stanthonyvt.org

Mass Schedule

Weekend: Saturday 4:00 PM

Sunday 8:30 AM

Weekday: Monday & Friday 9:00 AM

Holy Days: Consult the parish bulletin

Rectory Chapel

Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Religious Education

Coordinator: Mrs. Julie Hamilton, 295-3989, juliehamilton130@comcast.net

Sacraments

Reconciliation: Saturday from 3:15 – 3:45 PM

Baptism: Parents must come to the rectory to get the necessary forms at least a month in advance.

Marriage: Couples must contact the parish at least 6 months in advance.

Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time



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Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 13	4:00 P.M.	Deceased members of the Bovat family by Regina
Sunday, January 14	8:30 A.M.	The People of Saint Anthony Parish
Monday, January 15	9:00 A.M.	Mary Orizzonto by Fonzo
Friday, January 19	9:00 A.M.	Armand Boright (L) for healing by Jane Reece
Saturday, January 20	4:00 P.M.	The People of Saint Anthony Parish
Sunday, January 21	8:30 A.M.	Ed Patriquin 3rd anniversary by his children



Susan Lashway
Linda West
Vicky Chambers
Joan Smith
Frank Klymn
Roger Tatro
Diane Laroche

Please also remember others who are in need of our prayers.

Names will be published in our bulletin for one month. If you would like to renew your prayer request after one month, please contact the parish office.

Low Gluten Altar Bread: If you require a low gluten host for communion, come to the altar with the Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. The celebrant will give you the consecrated low gluten host from a separate paten.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **M. Lois Picola**, a parishioner, who died this week and whose funeral was held here on Saturday. May her family find solace in their faith and in the promise of eternal life with our heavenly Father.

We welcome to our faith community **Emma Clare Barker**, daughter of Caitlin and Joshua Barker, who was recently baptized here. May she be blessed with a long life, overflowing with faith.

Haven: The most needed items this week are peanut butter, pasta sauce, soup, fruit and shelf-stable milk. Cold weather needs include winter coats, hats, mittens/gloves, scarves and hand warmer packs. Non-perishable items may be left in the basket at the top of the stairs. Thank you!

St. Anthony Parish would like to welcome all those who are visiting with us this weekend.

Sanctuary Lamps
will burn for:

Connie Cole



Sacrificial Giving Report

To meet our expenses we need:	\$ 3,610.00
Offertory collection January 6-7:	\$ 3,400.00
Christmas flowers:	\$ 1,387.00
Building Repairs (November):	\$ 356.00
Fuel/Energy (November):	\$ 657.00

**Thank You for Your Support
of Saint Anthony Church!**

Message from Fr. Rick:

Ordinary Time

“Besides the times of the year that have their own distinctive character, there remains in the yearly cycle thirty three or thirty four weeks in which no particular aspect of the Mystery of Christ, but rather the Mystery of Christ Himself is honored in its fullness, especially on Sundays. This period is known as Ordinary Time.” (Universal Norms, #43)

“...The every seven day celebration of the Lord’s Day is the basic structure upon which the Church Year is built.... Ordinary Time is not very ordinary at all. Ordinary Time, the celebration of Sunday is the identifying mark of the Christian Community which comes together remembering that on the first day of the week the Lord of Life was raised up and creation came at last to completion....” (Saint Andrew Bible Missal)

This year Ordinary Time begins on Tuesday, January 9th and continues through Tuesday, February 13th the day before Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent. It resumes when the Easter Season ends, that is, on Monday, May 21st the day after Pentecost.

Listening Session

In preparation for the Diocesan Synod scheduled for Fall of 2018 a Parish “Listening” Session will be held here at St. Anthony on Sunday, January 21st at 1:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Come. Share your thoughts on the following three questions:

- 1) As the Catholic Church in Vermont, what are we doing well?
- 2) What are we doing that we should be doing better?
- 3) What are we not doing that we should be doing?

As Pastor I will be Moderator of the session. It is open to all parishioners of St. Anthony Parish. The meeting will conclude by 2:30 p.m.

I realize this acknowledgement is late and I apologize for that: I wish to thank everyone for the many cards and gifts I received at Christmas. Your kind support, and prayers are all deeply appreciated.

Please know you are in my prayers. Let us continue to pray for each other.

Father Rick

Office Closed: The parish office will be closed Monday, January 15 for the holiday. We will be open regular hours the remainder of the week. The chapel will also be closed Monday.

Potlucky Bingo: To be held next Saturday, January 20th following the 4 p.m. Mass. The Saint Anthony’s Religious Education program will be hosting our annual Potlucky Bingo. Everyone is welcome to come together for a potluck dinner and bingo with delicious chocolate as prizes. Parents of religious ed students are asked to bring a potluck dish to serve ten people. This is a great way to beat the cold and enjoy some fun!

This Wednesday: *Bishop Coyne Presents Re-engaging the Occasional Catholic:* This presentation by Bishop Coyne will be offered at Holy Cross Parish in Colchester **this Wednesday, January 17 from 6:30-8:00 p.m.** The presentation will also be **available via livestreaming** on the Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington Facebook page <http://www.facebook.com/vermontcatholic.com>.

From the Diocese of Burlington: Sign of Peace & Communion from the Cup During Cold & Flu Season
The Sign of Peace has been an integral and valued part of the worship of the church for centuries in the form of a kiss of peace or handshake. As we enter this cold and flu season, it is important to recognize that some people are especially susceptible to the viruses that can be spread by contact and that some immune systems are very sensitive. Please understand that some people may choose not to shake hands during the Sign of Peace, but might simply greet you with a smile.

Also, please use common sense and good judgment concerning Mass attendance if you are ill. If you do decide to come to church for Mass, please remember that frequent and thorough hand-washing, refraining from physical contact during the Sign of Peace, and refraining from receiving communion from the Chalice can help prevent the spread of germs.