

St. Patrick, Kankakee ~ a Viatorian Parish

7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FEBRUARY 12, 2017



Easier Said Than Done?

This sounds a bit crazy.

This makes no sense to people living in our competitive, success driven, consumer culture.

This will not sell on talk radio. This makes no sense if we must be No. 1.

This makes no sense if we need to defend ourselves from other armies and enemies.

Jesus proclaimed a radical message about God's love for all of us.

Jesus offered a radical invitation to love one another without condition – to love those who are different than ourselves, to love even our enemies.

In a world with many examples of hatred, violence, war, and unnecessary death, Jesus appears with the radical call for us to love our enemies, to turn the other cheek, to trust in the way of peace, and to be especially concerned for those most in need.

Can the followers of Jesus today be faithful to this call, or will the vision of active loving nonviolence get lost and forgotten even by people who call themselves Christian?

Can we live what we hear in the Book of Leviticus?

“You shall not bear hatred for your brother or sister in your heart. ... take no revenge and cherish no grudge against any of your people.

You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

Do we really believe that this is the way God wants us to live ... that this is the way of Jesus?

In today's selection from the first letter to the Corinthians Paul reminds us:

“The wisdom of this world is foolishness in the eyes of God.”

Center for Concern / Education for Justice

Throughout history Christians have warred against each other – and this has not stopped today. We may not always use physical weapons, but we use the weapons of the media, of words and of rejection. We do this against people of other religions as well, but as long as we do this, we fall short of God’s holiness, and we inflict death on both our enemies and ourselves.

It is when the offer of grace costs us the most that we are most reflecting the grace and character of Christ. When we refuse to hate or attack or reject even those who are the most threatening and unloving, we begin to embody the “perfection”, the holiness which Christ teaches about.



This holiness comes down to wholeness, compassion, and hospitality. These three characteristics are what God offers *us*, and what today’s Gospel and Old Testament readings, call us to extend to others – even those we most want to reject or condemn.

What would it mean to the Church if we measured holiness not by attendance at church or small groups, and not by what people avoid doing, but rather by the extent to which compassion and justice were extended to others?

John van de Laar

This Week:

Monday, February 20

Presidents’ Day – Rectory Closed

Tuesday, February 21

7:00 ***Men’s Group Meeting***

Wednesday, February 22

Fr. Peeters’ Birthday

5:40 ***REP Classes***

Thursday, February 23

12:00 ***Adoration until 5:00 p.m.***

5:00 ***Vespers and Benediction***

7:00 ***Parish Council***

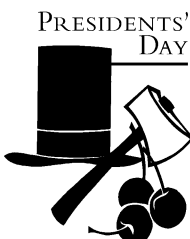
7:00 ***Half Paddy Meeting***

Friday, February 24

Saturday, February 25

Sunday, February 26

10:00 ***Little People’s Church***



For Reflection ...

• What does the Christian vision of active nonviolence say to you in light of war and terrorism? • Do you believe it should be our response? • Is this practical and realistic? • Can you share that belief with others? • What will make it possible to live this way?

Please bring something for the FOOD PANTRY!

Pray for These Men and Women Serving in the Military ...

Ryan Barrie, Synthia Dorsey, Dustin Foltz, David Hodak, Nathan Hornback, Joseph Jordan, Matthew Lanasa, Troy Martin, Sarah Miller, Justin Phelps, John T. Raimondo, Scott Riegel, Daniel Ryan, Andrew Ryan, Erik Schultz, Gregory Smith, Jessica Smith, Tom Stanley, and Michael Widhalm.

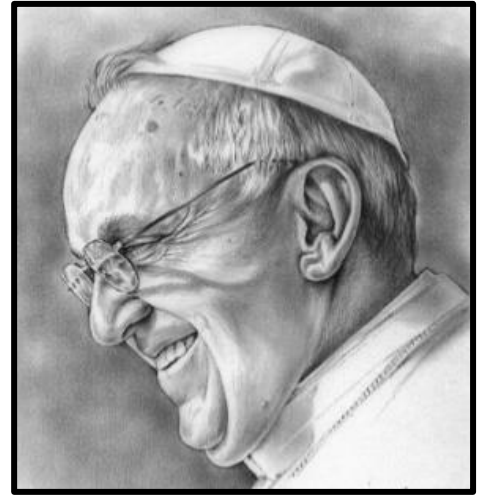
Be with them, Lord, and keep them safe!

Bulletin Sponsor of the Week
Axcess Physical Therapy
Thank you for your support!

Jesus offers many examples to show the commandments in a new light and to prove that **LOVE** is more generous than the letter of the law.

This is not just for the fulfillment of the law, but it also helps to heal our hearts. In Jesus' explanations of the commandments, especially in St. Matthew's Gospel, there is a journey of healing. Every heart wounded by sin - and each one of us has - must undertake this journey of healing in order to be more like our heavenly Father who is perfect.

There are two things that praying for our enemies does: The power of prayer will change that person for the better ... and it will make us become more like children of our heavenly Father.



Pope Francis

the **WORD**
among us®
The Spirit of Catholic Living

**DATES HAVE BEEN SET FOR
THE 2017 ANNUAL LENTEN SERIES**

..Come for one hour a week to share your reflections on the significance of the upcoming Lenten days. Participants will use "*The Word Among Us*" with its daily reflections.

Sister Theresa Galvan, CND, will facilitate these sessions at three sites for your convenience:

Tuesdays, March 21, March 28, and April 4: at St. Anne Church Hall from 10 - 11 a.m.

Tuesdays, March 21, March 28, and April 4: at St. Patrick Convent from 7 - 8 p.m.

**Thursdays, March 23, March 30, April 6:
at Maternity BVM Parish Library from 10 - 11 a.m.**

Dedicated Catholic Elementary School Educators Needed

Openings are currently available for dedicated Catholic school teachers and administrators in many of the Diocese of Joliet's 45 elementary schools. Envelope Number 480. In addition to current postings, the Catholic Schools Office anticipates 125 instructional and 2-3 administrative openings for the coming (2017-18) school year. Substitute teaching positions are also available. Please complete an online Frontline Applicant Tracking application at <https://www.applitrack.com/diocesefojoliet/onlineapp/> .Should you have questions, please contact Karen Udell, Assistant Superintendent of Leadership & Personnel at (815) 221-6123.



**CATHOLIC
SCHOOLS**



It is time to start planning for

Half Paddy #11!

We are always looking for
fun, friendly,
and enthusiastic individuals
to join our Half Paddy Planning Team.

Interested?

Then come join the fun
in the Shamrock Room
at 7:00 p.m., **this Thursday**, February 23.

Let's get this Festival Rolling!

**Our St. Patrick's Day Celebration,
set for Friday, March 17,
will be held at the Knights of Columbus!**

Mark your calendar NOW!

(Dispensation granted for Parish Patron's Feast Day.)



**LENT is right
around the corner!**

The Knights of Columbus
will hold their **Friday Night Fish Fry**
throughout the coming Lenten Season.

Watch for details!

AND ... St. Anne Catholic Church will hold its **Annual Lenten Fish Fry's**
on March 3, 10, 24 and April 7 in the Parish Hall, serving from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

On the Menu: Fried or Baked Pollock, baked potato, green beans,
Cole slaw, roll & butter, dessert and drink.

Adults \$9.00, Children \$4.00. Come and bring your friends.

A cheese pizza alternative is available. Eat in or use the drive through.

**Please save *Box Tops* for our School!
Thank You!**

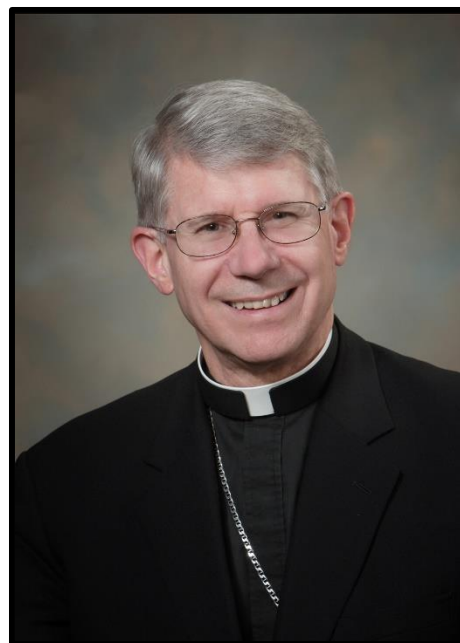


February 13, 2017

Brothers and Sisters,

One of the noblest forms of witness that we Catholics give in our contemporary society is to stand up for the dignity of human beings as children of God. We feel a special commitment to the most vulnerable and the most innocent of all: children in the womb.

Of course, unborn children depend primarily upon the care of their mothers. But legal protection is also important, something that has been lacking in the United States for over forty-four years.



A bill has been introduced in the Illinois legislature—House Bill 40—which has two destructive purposes:

- (1) to thwart any future decision by the U.S. Supreme Court to reverse or limit *Roe vs. Wade*; and
- (2) to allow for the use of public money to fund the taking of innocent human lives through abortion in the state's Medicaid and health insurance programs.

It is essential that people who believe in the protection of human life in the womb contact their proper state legislators and express their opposition to House Bill 40. You can find your state legislators by visiting www.ilcatholic.org and clicking on 'Find Your Legislator' or by calling the Catholic Conference at (312) 368-1066 or (217) 528-9200 and asking for help.

For additional thoughts on HB40, I invite you to read my op-ed which appeared in papers throughout the diocese at <http://tinyurl.com/h8ssy32>.

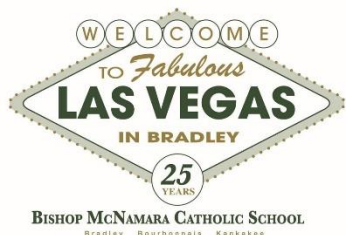
Thank you.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "+ R. Daniel Conlon". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Most Reverend R. Daniel Conlon
Bishop of Joliet

Bishop McNamara Registration Night

Registration for all incoming freshmen for the 2017-2018 school year will take place on Thursday, February 23, at 6:30 p.m. at our Kankakee site (550 W. Brookmont Blvd., Kankakee). Parents and students are encouraged to attend together. Please contact Emily Skelly with questions at eskelly@bmcss.org or by calling (815) 932-7413.



25th Annual Las Vegas in Bradley

The 25th Annual Las Vegas in Bradley will take place on Saturday, March 4 from Noon – Midnight. The fun and festivities will take place at the Bishop McNamara Bradley site at 247 N. Center Avenue. Come out and enjoy poker, blackjack, roulette, bingo, dice games, money wheel, and more! Admission is \$5 per person. Attendees must be age 21 and over.

High Roller Raffle tickets are now available for purchase! Purchase your ticket for a chance to win 1 of 75 cash prizes totaling over \$60,000. Grand Prize - \$30,000! Only 2,000 tickets will be sold! Winning tickets will be drawn at the event on March 4, 2017. To purchase your ticket, please visit one of the three Bishop McNamara site offices or visit bishopmac.com/support/LVB.

2017 C.C.W. Bishop Blanchette Scholarship

Scholarship application information is now available in the Rectory Office. Completed applications must be returned by March 31, 2017. Any student registered at **Bishop McNamara High School** for the 2017-2018 academic year is eligible. The services of **FACTS** are used. One boy or girl from our Parish will be selected to be submitted to the Joliet Diocesan Council of Catholic Women to be considered for the scholarship. Please call the Rectory Office at (815) 932-6716 for more information. ***Remember ... completed applications are due in the Rectory Office no later than March 31.***

Reflection / Study on the Gospel According to St. Luke
Mondays, March 20 and March 27,
from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m., at Maternity BVM Parish Hall.

This two-hour session **FOR MEN AND WOMEN** of faith, will include a presentation by Father Sunny Castillo; followed by small group sharing. The participants are asked to come prepared by reading the Gospel of St. Luke. Reflection questions will be provided to assist in the small group sharing. Registration is now open. Please contact Alicia Parkinson at (815) 932-9423 or email her at prknsn9@gmail.com Sponsored by the ***Inter-Parish Women's Committee.***

We are all wounded people. Who wounds us? Often those whom we love and those who love us. When we feel rejected, abandoned, abused, manipulated, or violated, it is mostly by people very close to us: our parents, our friends, our spouses, our lovers, our children, our neighbors, our teachers, our pastors. Those who love us wound us too. That's the tragedy of our lives. This is what makes forgiveness from the heart so difficult. It is precisely our hearts that are wounded. We cry out, "You, who I expected to be there for me, you have abandoned me. How can I ever forgive you for that?" Forgiveness often seems impossible, but nothing is impossible for God. The God who lives within us will give us the grace to go beyond our wounded selves and say, "In the Name of God you are forgiven." Let's pray for that grace. *Henri Nouwen*

ST. PATRICK CHURCH, KANKAKEE, IL. (815) 932-6716.
Liturgical Ministers Schedule. Please arrange for a substitute if needed.

FEBRUARY 25 / 26	4:00 P.M.	7:00 A.M.	10:00 A.M.
CANTOR	M. White		E. Kregor / Choir
SERVERS	K. Johnson A. Gilbert T. Gilbert		S. Born D. Mulholland J. Mulholland
LECTORS	J. Arrington	L. Born	M. O'Brien
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	M. Spilsbury J. Fender G. Keller	P. Johnson C. Olofsson S. Stanley	C. Wilcox-Clyden P. Germano G. Germano
USHERS	C. Denault C. Elsey R. Skelly G. Piatt S. Drassler S. Berg A. Parkinson	G. Flageole P. Holohan B. Grasser M. Born	R. Hartman P. Swanson D. Glenzinski T. Marcotte M. Spilsbury
LITTLE PEOPLE'S CHURCH			J. Trudeau / L. Anderson
SACRISTAN			J. O'Connor

*Please pray for the sick and the dying, and all those who mourn the loss of a loved one.
 Also, let us remember in prayer the homebound and those in nursing homes or hospitals.*

Prayer Line ... Call (815) 933-6877

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, February 20
 7:15 Rita Renville
 Tuesday, February 21
St. Peter Damian
 7:15 Rita DesMarteau
 as she celebrates her birthday
 Wednesday, February 22
 7:15 Rev. Ray Denault (Birth. Ann.)
 Thursday, February 23
St. Polycarp
 7:15 Edward Pazdur
 Friday, February 24
 7:15 Frederic Yonke
 Saturday, February 25
 7:15 Parishioners & Benefactors
 4:00 Don Betourne (Birth. Ann.) /
 Patrick Shaughnessy /
 Ed Kilbride /
 Patricia Billadeau
 Sunday, February 26
8th Sunday in Ordinary Time
 7:00 Clarence & Edna Provancal
 10:00 Robert Ortman /
 Jack Purcell (Wed. Ann.) /
 Patrick O'Brien (Birth. Ann.)



Nobody can *will* their heart to beat even once.
 Every heartbeat is a gift from God
 and it means God is not done with you yet.

The idea that we are going to put less value
 on another person's heartbeat
 because they are disabled
 or because they carry an incurable disease
 is anathema to us.

Remember, when Jesus rose from the dead
 he restored life in God-made man!
 In the face of that gift, how can we denigrate
 the life of any other human being?

Joseph Dutkowsky, MD

MEMORIAL CANDLES

The Holy Family Candle burns
 in memory of Jack Purcell.
 The Blessed Sacrament Candle burns
 in memory of Pete & Anna Schiel.