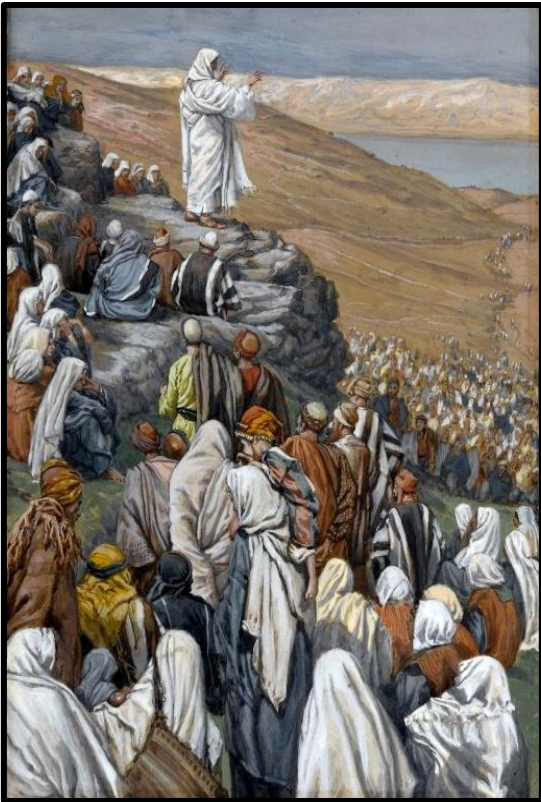


# *St. Patrick, Kankakee ~ a Viatorian Parish*

4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 29, 2017



## *Blessed ...*

The idea of obeying a few laws while enjoying God's favor and protection until we get to bliss in the afterlife is deeply attractive and a very popular spiritual creed in our world today.

It demands little from us in the way of sacrifice, discomfort, or even change.

Our worship becomes little more than a regular personal 'pick-me-up' that feels good.

It is no wonder that this 'Gospel' has grown so popular in our world.

But, for those who genuinely long for a real encounter with God and who believe that the Gospel is more than just a personal ticket to paradise in the next life, such a spirituality will always be found wanting.

In fact, for any human being who risks looking within their own heart, such Christianity will always leave us longing for more because we are wired to want true intimacy with God and genuine connection to God's purposes and reign.

It is to this longing that this week's readings speak.

God is found when our lives are overtaken by the Gospel and when all that we do and think and say is inspired and empowered by the cross.

This will inevitably lead us to stand alongside the poor, the excluded, and the hurting in our communities and churches, seeking to bring them to the top of our agendas, because it is in them that we encounter God and it is in working for justice that heaven begins to manifest on earth.

The challenge is whether we have the courage to commit to both a real and transforming relationship with God and a life of loving sacrifice in the service of God and the poor for which it is Good News.

Gracious and Compassionate God,  
we offer ourselves to you again, in worship and obedience,  
in lives committed to the purposes and practices of your reign.  
For in this way, we know, we are blessed ... and we are a blessing. Amen.

*John van de Laar*

The quality or value of any sermon is only measured by the effect it has on the lives of those who hear it and on the community of the human family. Take the Sermon on the Mount – when Jesus presented us with the Beatitudes.

These Beatitudes are for living, not just listening. It's not really easy to be poor, to be merciful, to be meek, to be peacemakers, to hunger and thirst for justice. It takes a lot of courage to be persecuted and ridiculed and mocked for being authentic Christians, for being Christ-like. It takes faith and trust in God to admit our own weaknesses and dependence upon one another.



Living the Gospel is indeed a constant challenge. Jesus makes it clear that there is no easy path to ushering in God's reign. It demands purity of heart, a commitment to peace, readiness to forgive, generosity, the endurance of persecution and calumny, truly being neighbor to the needy, renouncing self, being ready to take the hard road. The job description calls for large, loving, generous hearts.

*Joe Cece*

***This Week:***

Monday, January 30  
Tuesday, January 31  
Wednesday, February 1  
5:40 ***REP Classes***  
Thursday, February 2  
12:00 ***Adoration until 5:00 p.m.***  
5:00 ***Vespers and Benediction***  
Friday, February 3  
Saturday, February 4  
11:00 ***Confirmation Retreat***  
Sunday, February 5  
10:00 ***Little People's Church***

***For Reflection ...***

• Can the Beatitudes become a way of life for you? • Which of the Beatitudes do you find most challenging? • How does it challenge your way of living? • How does living the Beatitudes set you free? • How does living the beatitudes help you to be a more joyful and complete person?

Consider asking yourself these questions each week after Mass: What spoke to your heart in today's liturgy? A Scripture Reading? ... A piece of music? ... The homily? What touched you the most in today's Gospel?

**Bulletin Sponsor of the Week**

**HomeStar Bank**

*Thank you for your support!*



**Please bring something for the FOOD PANTRY!**

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

Ryan Barrie, Joshua DesMarteau, 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!***

**Pope Francis has offered us six new Beatitudes that “confront the troubles and anxieties of our own time with the spirit and love of Jesus.”**



- Blessed are those who remain faithful while enduring evils inflicted on them by others and forgive them from their heart.
- Blessed are those who look into the eyes of the abandoned and marginalized and show them their closeness.
- Blessed are those who see God in every person and strive to make others also discover him.
- Blessed are those who protect and care for our common home.
- Blessed are those who renounce their own comfort in order to help others.
- Blessed are those who pray and work for full communion among Christians.

**All these are messengers of God’s mercy and tenderness and surely they will receive from God their merited reward.**

*Homily given in Malmo, Switzerland, November 1, 2016*

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Today’s readings make clear that **God’s ways are not the status quo**. Envelope Number 1080. Each reading demonstrates God’s glory in the most unlikely of people – the weak, the humble, the lowly. **These readings challenge us to reflect on our own biases as to who is worthy and who is to be admired.** Whose ideals are we striving to live by?

*A Stewardship Note*

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***St. Patrick’s Day  
Friday, March 17.***

**Join in the celebration here in our gym.  
Music, Good Fun, Corned Beef Sandwiches,  
Irish Nachos, and Liquid Refreshments  
will be available.**

*(Dispensation granted for Parish Patron’s Feast Day.)*

***Mark your calendar NOW!***

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Hearts of Hope Teen Group’s ***Famous Annual Breakfast Buffet!***  
***Sunday, March 19,*** at the Knights of Columbus Hall!

**IMPORTANT NOTICE  
REGARDING  
YOUR ANNUAL  
CHURCH CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS**

Contribution statements – for tax purposes –  
will be available beginning February 1.  
Please contact the Rectory Office at (815) 932-6716  
to request your statement.



**The 2017 Catholic Ministries  
Annual Appeal is underway!**

The Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA) helps our parish and the Diocese of Joliet to provide countless ministries, programs, and services to support our friends and neighbors in immeasurable ways. Information about the 2017 CMAA and a request to make a pledge has been sent to all parishioners. Please review the materials, pray about how you can help further the ministries funded by our CMAA, and consider making the most generous gift possible. **Our parish**

**goal is \$33,058.00.** Please help us to exceed this goal in paid pledges. Our parish will receive 70% of the amount over goal for use in our parish! Together, we can continue to spread the Gospel message in our Diocese through our ministries. *Thank you in advance for your support.*

**St. Teresa CCW's "Snowball Bunco"** Sunday, February 12, from 2 - 4 p.m. at the Lisieux Pastoral Center. Hot cider, desserts, bunco and prizes. Admission is free, but we will accept donations. Please call Denise at the Rectory Office (815) 932-6716 to make your reservation.

**Save the Date** – Reflection / Study:

Gospel According to St. Luke  
with Father (Sunny) Castillo

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; 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](mailto:prknsn9@gmail.com) Sponsored by the **Inter-Parish Women's Committee.**

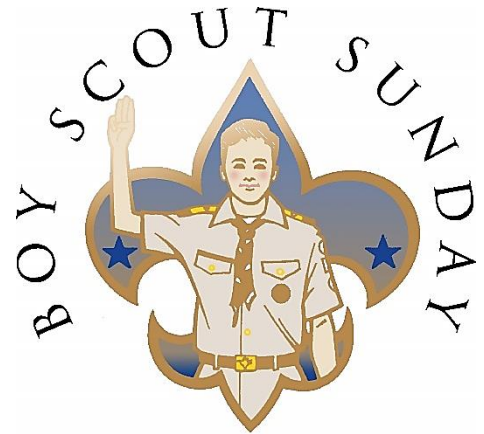


When justice rules, we find faith in treaties, honesty in affairs, and order in politics. The earth is at peace. Even heaven, so to speak, gladly sends its light and gently influences us.

*Jacques-Bénigne Bossuet, French Bishop and Theologian*

**Members of Boy Scout Troop 300,  
which is sponsored by Saint Patrick Parish,  
will be visiting us next Sunday (February 5)  
at the 10:00 Mass.**

**They will be participating in our liturgy  
on Scout Sunday and offering an invitation  
for boys and young men in our parish  
to consider becoming a Cub Scout or a Boy Scout.  
Troop 300 will also provide refreshments after Mass.**



**The Sunday 10:00 Mass Ushers** would like to invite a couple of additional men to join their ranks, which on certain Sundays, for a variety of reasons, can become a little bit thin. If you are interested in serving in this ministry, please check with one of our faithful 10:00 Mass Ushers.



***St. Joseph: A Just Man or Just a Man?*** Treat yourself to *A Time of Prayer* on Thursday, February 9, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at One Heart, One Soul Spirituality Center, Route 113, Kankakee. Sponsored by the Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary. Presenter: Sister Mary Stella Schellenberger, SSCM. Free Will Offering. To register or for more information, please call (815) 935-0800.

***A Matter of Balance*** Many older adults experience concerns about falling and restrict their activities. A Matter of Balance is an award-winning program designed to manage falls and increase activity levels. Join us on Tuesdays from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., January 31 through March 21, at St. Joseph Church, 207 S. Main, Manteno. The program is FREE. For more information and to register please call Amanda at (815) 523-9918.



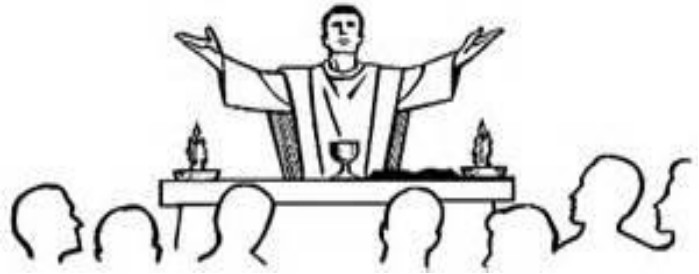
**Marriage Help** – Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi) has helped thousands of marriages at all stages of disillusionment or misery. This program can help you too. For confidential information or to register for the next program, beginning the weekend of **April 28 – 30**, please call (815) 246-2080. Or, you may send an email to: [retrovaillejoliet@gmail.com](mailto:retrovaillejoliet@gmail.com) or visit our web site at <http://www.HelpOurMarriage.com> The Chicago Retrouvaille Community has a weekend scheduled for June 9, if couples are unable to attend the April Joliet date.

**T**o be hopeful in bad times is not just foolishly romantic. It is based on the fact that human history is a history not only of cruelty, but also of compassion, sacrifice, courage, kindness. *What we choose to emphasize in this complex history will determine our lives.* If we see only the worst, it destroys our capacity to do something. If we remember those times and places – and there are so many – where people have behaved magnificently, this gives us the energy to act, and gives us the possibility of sending this spinning top of a world in a different direction.

*Howard Zinn*

## REQUESTING MASS INTENTIONS

Those wishing to request that a Mass be offered for a particular person or other intention may come by or contact the Rectory Office at (815) 932-6716 to schedule their request.



- Intentions can be for a deceased person or a living person.
- A specific Mass time and date can be requested, but if that date is taken, the Mass will be assigned to the closest possible date of your choosing.
- The Mass intention is posted in the Bulletin and is mentioned at Mass during the Prayers of the Faithful.

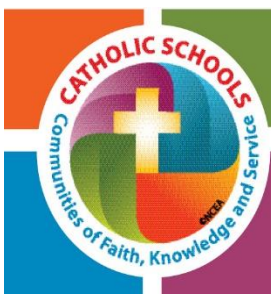
Those wishing to honor a loved one during the celebration of Mass may pick up Mass cards in the parish office. Mass cards are available for the living and deceased and provide opportunities for prayerful remembrance of anniversaries, birthdays, and other special intentions. Masses are usually booked at least several months in advance, so if you have a particular date or time on which you want the Mass, it is very important that you call the parish office well ahead of time. The suggested offering is \$10.00.

Following Joliet Diocesan guidelines, for weekday Masses and for the 7:00 a.m. Sunday Mass, there is normally ONE Intention. For the 4:00 p.m. and 10:00 a.m. weekend Masses, we are allowed up to FOUR Intentions. The priest then incorporates the intention(s) as his own special intention(s) at that Mass.

**Memorial Candles** – You may also arrange to have a **14-Day Memorial Vigil Light burning before the Blessed Sacrament or the Holy Family statues**, for your special intention. The donation for the 14-day candle is \$20.00. Please call the Rectory Office at (815) 932-6716 to make your request. **Thank You.**



**Taizé Prayer** will be offered on February 3, the First Friday of the month, at 7:00 pm, at Maternity BVM Parish. This simple prayer service consists of simple chants, Scripture, candle lighting, silence for meditation, concluding with prayers for the world. Please join us.



**NATIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK**  
January 29 – February 4, 2017

**ST. PATRICK CHURCH, KANKAKEE, IL. (815) 932-6716.**

**Liturgical Ministers Schedule. Please arrange for a substitute if needed.**

<b>FEBRUARY 4 / 5</b>	<b>4:00 P.M.</b>	<b>7:00 A.M.</b>	<b>10:00 A.M.</b>
<b>CANTOR</b>	B. Sandlin		E. Kregor / Choir
<b>SERVERS</b>	A. Gilbert T. Gilbert C. Scott		M. Lay R. Muniz R. Muniz
<b>LECTORS</b>	P. Hodak	L. Born	D. Raiche
<b>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS</b>	M. Spilsbury J. Wesoloski J. Fender	P. Johnson C. Olofsson S. Stanley	P. Germano J. Germano M. O'Brien
<b>USHERS</b>	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
<b>LITTLE PEOPLE'S CHURCH</b>			S. Mulcahy / K. Bean
<b>SACRISTAN</b>			J. O'Connor / J. Fender

*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, January 30  
7:15 Francis "Squire" Lee  
Tuesday, January 31  
*St. John Bosco*  
7:15 A.J. & Catherine Taylor (Ann.)  
Wednesday, February 1  
7:15 John DesMarteau (Ann.)  
Thursday, February 2  
*The Presentation of the Lord*  
7:15 Patricia Ryan (Ann.)  
Friday, February 3  
*St. Blaise*  
7:15 Gene Heflin  
Saturday, February 4  
7:15 Parishioners & Benefactors  
4:00 Ted Tiburtini (1st Ann.) /  
Edna Provancal (Ann.) /  
John Hodak (Ann.)  
Sunday, February 5  
*5th Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
7:00 Irene Roy (Ann.)  
10:00 Robert Ortman /  
Paul & Elizabeth Hartman

**MEMORIAL CANDLES**

The Holy Family Candle burns  
in honor of *Catholic Schools Week*.  
The Blessed Sacrament Candle burns  
in honor of *Catholic School Teachers*.

**The Beatitudes offer us a self-portrait of Jesus.** It might seem to be a most unappealing portrait – *who wants to be poor, mourning, and persecuted? Who can be truly gentle, merciful, pure in heart, a peacemaker, and always concerned about justice?* Where is the realism here? Don't we have to survive in this world and use the ways of the world to do so?

**Jesus shows us the way to be in the world without being of it.** When we model our lives on his, a new world will open up for us. The Kingdom of Heaven will be ours, and the earth will be our inheritance. We will be comforted and have our fill; mercy will be shown to us. Yes, we will be recognized as God's children and truly see God. That is the reward of modelling our lives on the life of Jesus!

*Henri Nouwen*

