



Third Sunday in Ordinary Time * January 21, 2018

"So they left their father Zebedee in the boat along with the hired men and followed him." What did Zebedee think about all of this? His sons and his partners, James and John, suddenly left their post and followed Jesus. So there he stood in the boat with a crew of employees, but not one of his sons. We can't help but wonder whether Zebedee was in favor of this promise that his heirs would become "fishers of men." Most likely, this event was the cause of some familial tension.

Throughout the Gospels, Jesus instructs us to love and serve others for the love of God. But the Lord also makes it clear that our devotion to him is meant to trump our devotion to anything-or anyone-else. For our part, we are called to allow this divine allegiance to exist in those we love, even when it means a sacrifice for us as well. Parents for example, like Zebedee, are called to encourage their children to follow the Lord's call. A son or daughter's vocation to religious life certainly exemplifies this kind of sacrifice for a parent who might have had a different plan in mind. But in truth every son and daughter has a vocation from God and parents have the opportunity to support and assist their children as they seek to hear and follow God's special plan for their lives.

We don't know for sure how Zebedee responded to the vocation of his sons, but we know that James and John were counted among the Twelve Apostles and that their devotion and dedication helped to spread the Gospel to the ends of the earth. Regardless of what he might have thought as he stood in that boat, we can be quite sure that looking back now, Zebedee can rejoice heartily in the choice of his sons to leave their nets and follow Christ.

St. Francis of Assisi Parish

3609 Washington Avenue, Finleyville, PA 15332-1395

Rectory: 724-348-7145 • Fax: 724-348-7522 • Religious Ed. Office: 724-348-6190 • Finley Hall: 724-348-0803
E-mail: stfran1893@comcast.net Website: stfranchischurch.net



Rev. Robert M. Miller, Administrator

724-941-9406, Ext. 290, fr.bob@sbapeters.org

Rev. Richard J. Tusky, Senior Parochial Vicar

412-759-5343, 321tjr@comcast.net

Rev. Adam C. Potter, Parochial Vicar

724-941-9406, Ext. 291 fr.adam@sbapeters.org

Victor P. Satter, Deacon

724-348-9649, vsatter1@comcast.net

Mary E. Parish, Parish Secretary

Carol Cicci, Director of Religious Education

Jenifer T. Bublak, High School Ministry

Mary J. Jurofcik, Safe Environment Coordinator

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday: 6:00 p.m. (Vigil)

Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.

Holy Day Mass Schedule: Refer to bulletin

Weekday Mass Schedule: Monday-Saturday 8:30 a.m.

No 8:30 a.m. Mass on Wednesdays.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Daily: 9:00 a.m.

Saturday: 12:30 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. or by appointment

Sacrament of Baptism: Baptism is celebrated any Sunday at 12:15 p.m. Parents are required to attend a Preparation Class prior to the Baptism.

Sick Calls: Notify the Rectory for hospital visits or Communion to the sick or shut-ins.

Bulletin deadline: Monday at Noon

Child Abuse Line: 1-888-808-1235

“So they left their father Zebedee in the boat...”

I love the Gospel of Mark! It is the shortest of Gospels—only sixteen chapters in all—and yet it is not for lack of quality or quantity. Each line is packed with meaning and depth. For example, in this week’s Gospel it says: “Then he called them. So they left their father Zebedee in the boat along with the hired men and followed him” (Mark 1:20). Hopefully we are not tempted to rush through these two sentences, but rather invited in to imagine just how special that call is and how amazing the response of James and John to leave their father in the boat.

Although this translation in the lectionary doesn’t have it, I have always appreciated other translations that capture the “immediateness” of their response. Jesus called them and *immediately* they dropped everything and followed him. There are so many times in my life where I have heard God calling me to different things and *immediately* is *not* one of the words that I would use to describe my response! I always want to think about it, talk it over with others, and consider the cost-benefit ratio of what this decision would entail.

There are so many details that Mark leaves to the imagination in his Gospel, but one dimension that he captures is the heroic and courageous way in which the disciples responded *immediately*. Their encounter with Jesus was so unique, personal, and profound that they were not tempted to write out a list of pros and cons to following Jesus. Their hearts were set on fire in such a real way that it was so clear that there was no other response they could give other than to leave everything—even their father Zebedee in the boat!—and follow Jesus.

This last week we celebrated the feast day of St. Anthony the Abbot, who in the third century responded in a similarly immediate manner to the first disciples. What was his secret? St. Anthony came to Mass with an open heart and an expectation that God would speak to him. Thus, when he heard the Gospel being read, he heard the Lord’s words to the rich man: “If you want to be perfect, go and sell all you have and give the money to the poor—you will have riches in heaven. Then come and follow me” (Mark 10:21). Those words of Jesus to the rich young man were so real to St. Anthony—they were as if they were being spoken directly to him—that he *immediately* left the church and gave away to the villagers all the property he had inherited, sold all his other possessions as well, and began to live radically for the Lord.

The voice of the Lord continues to resonate through time and especially through the Gospel. When we hear the Gospel read for this Sunday, how is He speaking to us? Can we hear the Gospel in the same way as St. Anthony—with that expectation and confidence that God wants to speak to us? If so, what is our response? Can we respond *immediately*?

Peace of Christ,
Fr. Adam

A Family Perspective - It must have been difficult for Zebedee to watch his sons walk away and follow Jesus. It was the end of ‘Zebedee and Sons Fishing, Inc.’ Our children were never ours. They are only on loan to us. We raise them to let them go.

Second Collection for St. Anthony School and DePaul School for Hearing and Speech this weekend January 20/21. If you are blessed with good health and don’t need the services of these programs, thank God. Please be generous.

Hoagie Sale by Knights of Columbus - This weekend January 20/21 as well as next weekend January 27/28, they will be taking orders for their famous hoagies. Loaded with meat and other goodies. \$9.00 each. The hoagies will be available for pickup on Saturday, February 3rd from 10 a.m. till 2:00 p.m. Just in time for your Super Bowl Party.

Bingo - Join us Tuesday for Bingo in Finley Hall. The Jack-pot will be \$1,175.00 in 55 numbers. The Magic Number will \$250.00, and a 2nd Magic Number will be started. The ‘All Nighter’ game will be \$1,190.00 until it is won. Early Birds begin at 7:15 p.m., regular games at 7:30 p.m.

Marriage Moments - Our children are important and take a lot of care - But, sometimes, we unnecessarily put our kids before our spouse. Babysitters can be a gift from God. If you aren’t a parent, substitute “work” for “kids.”

Donuts & Coffee next weekend January 27/28 in Finley Hall after all Masses. Spend some time of fellowship with your fellow parishioners.

2017 Contribution Records for income tax purposes will be in the mail this week. If you notice any discrepancies or have questions, please call the parish office 724-348-7145.

St. Francis Blood Drive Monday, February 19th, noon - 5:30 p.m. in Finley Hall. Join our Central Blood Drive Bank Donor Rewards program! Donate blood. Save lives. Get rewards. To make an appointment:

- ◆ Visit centralbloodbank.org, click Make an Appointment and search with group code G0040239
- ◆ Download the Central Blood Bank Mobile App for your smart phone, or
- ◆ Contact Kathy Pitzer at 724-348-5361 to schedule an appointment.

Appointments recommended. Walk-ins welcome. Prepare for your Donation. Eat Well * Stay Hydrated * Bring ID.

Donate Blood. Save Lives.

Ministry Schedule January 27/28

6:00 p.m. Saturday

Ministers: Hoover, Wardle, Thropp, Brucker, Wietrzykowski, Deluliis, Checque

Lector: E. Garry

Servers: N. Wardle, Please volunteer

8:00 a.m. Sunday

Ministers: Barner, R. & F. Funtal, Fox, Drahnak, Parish, Combes

Lector: K. Jasko

Servers: R. Funtal, D. Drahnak, M. Miller

11:00 a.m. Sunday

Ministers: Greco, Trovato, J. & C. Patterson, Kims, Folz, Hamilton

Lector: V. Lombardi

Servers: V. Lombardi, K. & K. Gindele

Women of St. Benedict - All women of St. Benedict the Abbott, St. Francis of Assisi, and St. Isaac Jogues are welcome to our January meeting on Thursday, January 25th at 12:00 noon. Our program this month is The Evangelization of the Catholic Church presented by St. Benedict parishioner, Bill Rousis. It will be interesting to learn how our Church came to be. Join us for fellowship, friendship and learning.

St. Louise De Marillac Catholic School Open House - January 30th 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

New Student Registration Kindergarten - 8th Grade February 3rd, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon.

Schedule your tour today: 412-835-0600, or www.stlouiseschoolpa.org.

Does God Die When You Turn 18? A Men's Retreat, sponsored by the Men's Club of St. Benedict the Abbot Church (Ben's Men) February 9-10, 2018. The Retreat will be held at the Spiritan Center, Brush Run Rd., Bethel Parish, PA 15012.

Speakers: Rev. Adam Potter, Parochial Vicar and Rev. Robert Miller, Pastor, and a Guest Speaker to be determined. Pick up a brochure as you leave Mass today.

The Power of Prayer - St. Francis Prayer Chain consists of parishioners who pray for the needs of others. If you have any prayer requests or would like to be a link in the prayer chain, please call Kathy at 724-941-0347.

Never underestimate the power of prayer.

Collections:

December 17th	\$ 6,717.10
December 24th	\$ 5,834.27
December 25th Christmas	\$15,790.75
Children & Youth	\$ 5,653.00
January 7th	\$ 5,980.15
January 14th	\$ 5,508.50



Today, January 21, Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jon 3:1-5, 10/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [4a]/1 Cor 7:29-31/Mk 1:14-20

6:00 p.m. (Sat.) James Tonecha - Dan Levi

8:00 a.m. Brandon Wright - Karen Jaki

11:00 a.m. Marie Pietruisinski - Columbiettes

Monday, January 22, Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of the Unborn Children

2 Sm 5:1-7, 10/Ps 89:20, 21-22, 25-26 [25a]/Mk 3:22-30

8:30 a.m. Mary Carol Sebolt - Carol Cicci

Tuesday, January 23, Weekday Mass

2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10 [8]/Mk 3:31-35

8:30 a.m. Albert Sil - Kenny Family

Wednesday, January 24

No 8:30 a.m. Mass at St. Francis

Mass at St. Benedict the Abbot 8:30 a.m.

Mass at St. Isaac Jogues 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, January 25, The Conversion of St. Paul

Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22/Ps 117:1bc, 2 [Mk 16:15]/Mk 16:15-18

8:30 a.m. Leslie Mitchell - Roseann & Family

Friday, January 26, St. Timothy & St. Titus

2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 7-8a, 10 [3]/Mk 4:26-34

8:30 a.m. Jerry Kelly - Jim & Carol Martin

Saturday, January 27, Weekday Mass

2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17/Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 [12a]/Mk 4:35-41

8:30 a.m. Gary Spalla - Donna & Family

Confessions after 8:30 a.m. Mass daily

Sunday, January 28, Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dt 18:15-20/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9, [8]/1 Cor 7:32-35/Mk 1:21-28

6:00 p.m. (Sat.) For the People of the Parish

8:00 a.m. Ed Banahasky - Wife, Anna

11:00 a.m. Alex McCune - Dan & Carmela Coldren

Home With Christ - Please pray for the soul of *Diane F. Stewart* of our Parish. *May she rest in peace.*

The Sanctuary Candle will burn this week "*In Memory of James Tonecha*" requested by Dan Levi.

"TO THE GLORY OF GOD"

The Flowers on our Altar today are presented

"In Memory of

Joseph & Helen Parsyck."

requested by Family.



"In Memory of Edward Dzimiera"

requested by Daughter, Elaine.

Finleyville Beer Distributing Inc.
 3711 State Route 88
724-348-BEER



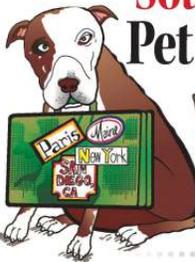
FETCHKO FLOORS
 Doctors of Carpetology
 We Make House Calls

- Carpets • Ceramics
- Vinyl • Hardwood
- Laminate

(724) 348-8422
 Fax: (724) 348-8095

6057 State Road Route 88 • Finleyville, PA 15332
 Residential & Commercial

South Hills Pet Resort



Boarding and Dog Training

15 Old 88, South Park, PA
412-835-8802
 www.southhillspetresort.net

Kegel
 Funeral Home, Inc.
 Tim P. Kegel, Supervisor
 3560 Washington Ave • Finleyville
 (724) 348-7171

AESTHETIC DENTAL CENTER
 of Finleyville

-New Patients Welcome-
 (724) 348-4777

6108 Brownsville Rd. Ext., Ste. 206, Finleyville

FINLEYVILLE VOL. FIRE DEPT.



3562 WASHINGTON AVE. • FINLEYVILLE
 HALL RENTAL INFO:
724-348-4220

James W. Haines, Jr.
 Attorney at Law

General Practice
(724) 258-3021
 1202 West Main Street
 Monongahela, PA

catholicmatch®
 Pennsylvania



CatholicMatch.com/PA

AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE

Contact **Mike McAleer** to place an ad today!
 mmcaleer@4LPi.com or (800) 477-4574 x6307

Holiday Sale

GET HELP AT THE TOUCH OF A BUTTON



\$29.⁹⁵ / Mo. BILLED QUARTERLY

- Providing Protection In the Home • One Month Free
- No Long-Term Contracts • Price Guarantee

CALL TODAY! 877.801.7772

MADE IN USA 24 SE EN

THIS SPACE IS AVAILABLE

HELP PROTECT YOUR FAMILY

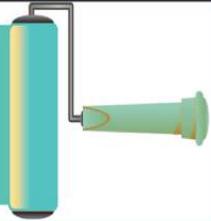
With a home security system monitored by ADT professionals 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. As an added benefit, installing a Security System may qualify you for a Homeowners Insurance discount.

CALL NOW! 1-888-331-6501



Blank space for advertisement.

SUPPORT THE ADVERTISERS THAT SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY



Max's Bath House

Quality Pet Grooming!
412-831-7277
 2650 Brownsville Rd.



FREE AD DESIGN WITH PURCHASE OF THIS SPACE.
 - 800-477-4574 -

BARTMAN INC.
 Plumbing • Heating • Cooling
 "A Name You Can Trust"
(724) 258-9125
 - SERVING VALLEY SINCE 1976 -

PARISHES online
 Largest online directory of Catholic Churches

NEVER MISS A BULLETIN!

Sign up to have our weekly parish bulletin emailed to you at www.parishesonline.com