



ST. CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH

SERVICE TO HIS PEOPLE

Member of 5 Saints West Pastoral Planning Group

January 31, 2010

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time GLORY BE TO GOD !

This Sunday's second reading is one of the most beautiful passages in all of Sacred Scripture, the great Pauline reflection on love. It is found in that part of the First Letter to the Corinthians, right after St. Paul has spoken in Chapter 12 of the life and charisms of the Holy Spirit which are found in the Christian community. The great hymn of love of Chapter 13, most often heard at weddings, is far more than a reflection to be read during marriage celebrations. It is a statement of that which is essential for authentic Christianity.

Today all of us are privileged to hear, reflect upon and apply St. Paul's lyrical eulogy of love. Whether we are single, engaged, married, widowed or divorced, love is the absolutely essential element of our Christian/Catholic life. If we do not know what love is or if we are satisfied to equate love with a "warm fuzzy" or a sexual urge or encounter, then we hardly have a clue of what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ. Today's gospel is an excellent example of how people reacted to the preaching and presence of Jesus when there was no love in their hearts but only suspicion, jealousy, resentment, anger and fury. Life without love is deadly.

When we take a close look at St. Paul's love-litany, we notice that something seems to be missing. It is not a bit romantic, is it? There is no mention of soft music and the glow of candles, of moonlight and roses, of a sparkling diamond engagement ring, of hugs and kisses etc ...

St. Paul replaces romance with reality in his list of love's ingredients. That is why his description of the "still more excellent way" of love has endured for twenty centuries. He gives us the firm foundation of love, choosing to build love on the rock of reality instead of the shifting sand of sentimentality or the unreliable infrastructure of infatuation. Paul describes love's qualities:

Love is patient, love is kind.
It is not jealous, it is not pompous,
It is not inflated, it is not rude,
It does not seek its own interests,
It is not quick-tempered, nor does it brood over injury,
It does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with
the truth.

True love does not come to an end. It never fails.

I was once at a prayer services where this reading was somewhat altered. Wherever the word "love" appears, the word "Jesus" was substituted. So, it would read: Jesus is always patient and kind. Jesus is never jealous. Jesus is never boastful or conceited. He is never rude or selfish. He does not take offense and is not resentful. He takes no pleasure in other people's sins but delights in the truth. He is always ready to excuse, to trust, to hope, and to endure whatever comes.

I was struck that this prayer-reading helped me realize that what is being asked has already been given to us in Jesus. We have the confidence to see that the life of love which Paul describes for us here, is possible in our daily lives. But let us stretch ourselves a little bit further and suppose that wherever St Paul mentions love, we can also substitute our own names. Try it. Listen to what it sounds like. Imagine what kind of church we would be if each of our gifts were fired by this love and working for the betterment of others!

Patrick's Place

On Saturday, March 13th an event will be held at the Genesee Country Museum to raise money for renovations and operating expenses for Patrick Place. We are looking for individuals, businesses and organizations to make a tax-deductible donation in the form of an advertisement in the evening's program and to donate items to our silent auction. The cost of the advertising is as follows:

<i>Size of Advertisement</i>	<i>Cost</i>
Business Card	\$50
½ page	\$75
Full page	\$100
2 page spread	\$150

If you are interested in placing an advertisement or donating, please email event@patrickplace.org or call 889-3100. You will be contacted with instructions. All donations will be graciously accepted and can be made out to Patrick Place at St. Mary's and mailed to Patrick Place c/o St. Mary of the Assumption P.O. Box 73, 99 Main Street, Scottsville, NY 14546. The deadline for advertisements and auction items is February 26, 2010.

If you have any questions regarding advertising for the event, please feel free to contact Joan Bostwick at 889-3501 or jbostwic@frontiernet.net.

MASS INTENTIONS - Jan. 30th to Feb. 7th

Sat.	4:30 PM	Bill McDonnell by Ron & Barb McKenna
Sun.	9:00AM	Michele Cacic by the Cacic family
	11:00AM	Jerry Pettis by Nocturnal Adoration Society—S.W. Chapter
Mon.	9:00AM	For the people of St. Christophers
Tues.	9:00AM	Communion and Prayer Service
Wed.	9:00AM	Communion and Prayer Service
Thur.	9:00 PM	Sharon McDonough by Karen Rhinehart
Fri.	9:00AM	Communion and Prayer Service
Sat.	4:30 PM	Ken McCorry by family
Sun.	9:00AM	Bruce Baart by Wife
	11:00AM	Herbert Viel by Thelma Rausch

NEXT WEEK'S ACTIVITIES**Sunday, January 31**

- 9:00 AM - (All Clsrms) Pre- School FF Classes
- 12:00 PM - (Any open Clsrms) Youth/Young Adult Choir
- 12:15 PM - Baptism Emily Patricia Zigrossi
- 2:00 PM - (Hall) 1st Eucharist Parent Meeting

Monday, February 1

- 4:15 PM - 07:00 PM (All Clsrms) Faith Formation Classes Grades 1-5
- 6:30 PM - (20 Spring Flower, North Chili) Human Services Ministry
- 7:15 PM - (Rectory) Liturgy Committee

Tuesday, February 2

- 4:15 PM - 07:00 PM (All Clsrms) Faith Formation Classes Grades 1-5

Wednesday, February 3

- 6:30 PM - 08:00 PM (All Clsrms) Jr. High Classes
- 7:00 PM - (Church) Folk Group
- 7:00 PM - (Lower Level Rectory) Raffle Meeting

Saturday, February 6**Sunday, February 7**

- 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (All Clsrms) Pre- School FF Classes
- 12:00 PM - (Any open Clsrms) Youth/Young Adult Choir
- 02:00 PM - 03:00 PM (Hall) Confirmation Parent Meeting

**Donations needed for Catholic Courier/
Catholic Charities Christmas Appeal**

Just a few dollars donated to the Catholic Courier/Catholic Charities Christmas Appeal will go a long way in February. To help the appeal meet its \$50,000 goal, an anonymous donor has pledged to contribute \$5 for every Christmas Appeal donation received between Feb. 1 and Feb. 28, or \$10 for every gift made in that period by a first-time donor.

If you haven't given, consider giving a few dollars to help us maximize this generous pledge. All proceeds from the appeal go to the various offices of Catholic Charities and affiliated agencies to fund emergency grants for people in need throughout the diocese.



Our Catholic heritage offers us a number of holy men and women who have been aware of the power of God in their lives and whose spiritual experiences have influenced others through the ages. Now you can learn more about St. Thérèse of Lisieux, St. John of the Cross and others through the Great Leaders of Catholic Spirituality video series. Individual titles are \$10.00. The series of eight dvds sells for \$60.00. Go to www.rochesterspiritallive.org to download an order form and see a sampler video.

Thank You!!

Ten boxes were mailed out to the men and women of Bravo Company serving in Afghanistan. Thank you to everyone who contributed in any way!! We have more than enough magazines and paperback books now. We need other items for the next mailing. If you would like to help out, please call Joanna Aguglia at 594-9378 for details. MANY thanks!!

A note to thank you...

.. to all who donated to the Tree of Lights during the Christmas Season. Your wonderful donations came to 1,200.00. We are so blessed here at St. Christopher's to have so many people who gave in memory of a loved one or gave for a special person. The monies went to the Matt Talbot House and to the Focus Maternity Home in Rochester. They were very thankful for the wonderful gift.

Human Service's Committee

Thank You

Catholic**Young Adult Retreat***Soul Food***February 19-21, 2010**

What: Escape the busyness of life back at home or school, meet new friends and hang out with old ones, quiet time, play games, worship & meet with God, hear great Catholic talks, small group discussions, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Confession, Mass, Good Food & much more!

Who: YOU & other Young Adults (18-35ish) from throughout W. New York... Invite Friends!

When: February 19-21, 2010 - 1st wkend of LENT!
Start Time: Friday @ 6:30pm
End time: Sunday @ 1:30pm

Where: Camp Stella Maris, 30 mi. South of Rochester, nestled right on the shore of Conesus Lake!

Cost: \$60 pp for the WHOLE weekend!

Brochures with more info & registration are near church entrances. Please contact Maranda Skolen with questions & to RSVP!
marandaskolen@hotmail.com OR 585-643-5555

Youth Group Updates...

~ There is no youth group this weekend, see you next weekend from 1-3!
 ~ Our youth group Valentine's Day PARTY is Friday February 12th from 8-10pm! It is open to all youth in 7th-12th grade! BRING FRIENDS! We will be watching movies, playing games, having snacks, and even having a trivia competition!!!
 ~ Be sure to get the monthly newsletter inserted into the bulletin each month for dates/events/announcements/etc! :)

NCYC blog:

Tim Murtaugh's NCYC Top Twelve...

12. The Emcees - Jesse Manibusan & Steve Angrisano both know how to mix music, fun, and laughter (Jesse's not out of shape, he's a circle!) with a spiritual message.
11. Reconciliation - Huge line, about fifty priests at a time listening to confessions. All day long! No one made the teens go, they went because they wanted to.
10. The Goofy Attire - Goofy hats, goofy T-shirts, goofy fun!
9. The Speakers - All great, especially five different teens from around the country who spoke on how God has affected them.
8. Adoration - What will you find in the adoration chapel? Several hundred teens praying in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. No one made them go, they went because it was important to them.
7. The Size - 21,000 Catholic teens descend on a unsuspecting city, and the city is actually glad they came!
6. The Music - Jesse, Steve, Ceili Rain, DJ Bill... Spiritual and great!
5. Meeting People - 21,000 Catholic teens, just like you, all with the same love of God. It's easy to approach and meet them.
4. The Teen Animators - Teens from parishes around the county who sang, danced and performed at every morning and evening session and the closing mass. Amazing!
3. The Eucharistic Procession - Thousands followed the Blessed Sacrament through the streets of Kansas City while thousands more dropped to their knees in reverence. You had to see it to believe it.
2. The Closing Mass - Ever been to a mass with a bishop? How about 28 bishops, and a couple of hundred priests, and dozens of deacons, and seminarians, and 21,000 teens, and music, and prayer, and the Eucharist, and the Holy Spirit at work? The atmosphere is electric! Really!
1. The assurance that the Catholic Church is in good hands!

Teens, do you want some advice? NCYC 2011 is in Indianapolis. Go!

Living Stations...

.. of the Cross will be held on Good Friday, April 2, 2010. We will once again be acting out the stations and are looking for students in Jr. High, High School or College that would like to participate. There will be a meeting on Sunday, February 7 at 12:15PM in the church for anyone who is interested. If you would like more information or have any questions, contact Eric at agentm13@rochester.rr.com or 585-615-8893.

The Joy of Stewardship

Parish Financial Stewardship Summary

	LAST WEEK	Attendance	YEAR TO DATE
Last Week	\$ 7,873.55	874	\$ 211,232.08

#of Envelopes 1/17/2010 257

Some Christian stewards prefer to make the first check they write each month one they are giving to the Church or another charity. Remember, the idea is to give our first fruits, not from what's left over. Giving on a regular, predetermined basis signifies that your are putting God first.

Stewardship ... Live It!

Parish Life Ministry to Meet

The Parish Life meeting will be held right after the Mass at 11 on Sunday, Jan. 31 in any room available upstairs. It is open to whomever would like to join us.

St. Christopher Church
3350 Union St., P.O. Box 399
North Chili, N.Y. 14514

585-594-1400 *Emergency Pastoral Care* 293-9248
 e-mail: nstchris@dor.org

<http://www.stchristophersnchili.org>

Patrickplace.org ~a comfort care project of 5 Saints West

PARISH STAFF

- Pastor*Rev. Robert Gaudio* 594-1400
- Sec/Business Mgr*Marilyn Weinert* 594-1400
- Deacon.....*John Cunningham* 594-1400/301-8540
- Faith Formation
 Coordinator.....*Judy Leone* 594-1441
- Faith Formation
 Secretary.....*Karen Curtis* 594-1441
- Music Director.....*Celeste Dynski-Trumble* 293-2358
- Pastoral Minister.....*Chris McCabe* 594-1400/293-9248
- Young Adult Minister....*Maranda Skolen* 643-5555/594-1091
- Youth Minister.....*Kim Winden* 329-4642 / 594-1091
- Maintenance.....*Robert Yaw* 594-1441

SACRAMENTAL CELEBRATIONS:

<i>Sunday Eucharist</i>	Saturday	4:30 PM
	Sunday	9:00 AM & 11:00 AM
<i>Weekday Eucharist</i>	9:00 AM Mass or Communion Svc	