

# SAINT CECILIA PARISH P.O. Box 700 334 FIFTEENTH STREET SW,

*DEMOTTE, IN* 46310 FEBRUARY 17, 2019

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## THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE

18<sup>тн</sup> ~ Mon 8:30 AM - Poor Souls  $19^{TH} \sim Tue 8:30 \text{ AM} - Long Family$  $20^{TH} \sim Wed 8:30 \text{ AM} - \text{No Mass or Service}$ 22<sup>ND</sup> ~ Fri 8:30 AM - Communion Service 23<sup>№</sup> ~ Sat 5:00 рм - Roy Attocchi 23<sup>гр</sup> ~ Sat 7:30 рм - Hispanic Mass 24<sup>™</sup> ~ Sun 8:30 AM - Pat Ashby  $24^{TH} \sim Sun \quad 11:00 \text{ AM} - \text{People of our Parish}$ 

> THERE WILL BE NO RECONCILIATION ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD

**EUCHARISTIC ADORATION & BENEDICTION** 1st Sunday of the month from 1 ~ 3pm

## **MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY**

WEEKEND OF FEBRUARY 23 ~ 24, 2019

#### SATURDAY 5:00PM

Lectors: Suzanne Herrmann Altar Servers: Volunteers E Ministers: C. Badowski, N. Narus, J. Juarez Gift Bearers: Volunteers Ushers: S Davidson, C. Fox, D. Shrall, J. Vorst

#### SUNDAY 8:30AM

Lector: Faith Formation, Grade 7 Altar Servers: Jacob Chapman & Preston Kritlow E. Ministers: D. Spradlin, F. DeSimini, D. Dolniak Gift Bearers: Faith Formation, Grade 6 Ushers: Faith Formation, Grade 7

#### SUNDAY 11:00AM

Lector: Paul Carlson Altar Servers: Volunteer E. Ministers: Jerri Taborski & Volunteer Gift Bearers: Greg & Peggy Mitchelin Ushers: T. Burke, D. Yankauskas, G. Vahl

## From the Pastor's desk:

Worldly wealth and success has, from ancient times, been interpreted as a favor from God. We've seen it in our own times as something known as the "prosperity gospel," the idea that God rewards faith with good health, wealth, and happiness. At least one writer has referred to this as the "vending machine God" in which we "put-in" faith and blessings "pop-out" for us.

People who buy into the "prosperity gospel" tend to interpret misfortunes of any kind as a lack of faith or the absence of God's blessing. Too often they go on to justify not helping those less fortunate than themselves. They believe that those people are already rejected by God and so not worth a second look.

The biggest problem with the prosperity gospel is that too often prosperity becomes more important than the gospel. Faith becomes merely a means to an end.

The Gospels, and in fact most of the Hebrew Scriptures, provide a much needed corrective to the notion of the prosperity gospel. Our readings this weekend give us a clear picture of the way God's view of the world differs from ours.

In today's first reading, we hear from the great prophet Jeremiah. He tells the people, "Cursed is the one who trusts in human beings....Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord."

This is the essential message of the Hebrew prophets in its most basic form: Trusting in human strength and alliances will always lead to tragedy; trusting in God will always lead to salvation (though not necessarily worldly success).

Today's Gospel makes most Americans uncomfortable. It's easy to make excuses for why we're affluent and successful. We talk about how hard we've worked for what we have, and why we're entitled to enjoy it. We don't want to give up our worldly goods, but neither do we want to be included among those to whom Jesus is saying, "Woe to you...." The prosperity gospel is an attempt to have it both ways. On the other hand we might hear the "blessings" as a sort of hollow consolation to those who aren't as fortunate as us.

Hearing and doing the word of God in an upside-down world means that everything we have been given in this world is a gift to be freely given to those in need. We are blessed when we welcome everyone into the circle of blessing, not hoarding what we have a sign that we are loved. When we shift our focus to "blessing" rather than "prosperity", we begin to see the world with God's eves.

My door is always open and you are always welcome

Fr. Dennís

## **PLEASE NOTE**

Fr. Dennis will be out of town Wednesday, Feb. 20th ~ Monday, Feb 25th In an emergency, please contact Fr Paul (Sorrowful Mother) at 956-3343.

#### WELCOME FR. SCHWEITZER

While Fr. Dennis is enjoying some well deserved time away, we welcome Fr. Jerry Schweitzer, who will celebrate Masses with us next weekend. Fr. Schweitzer is a retired priest of the Diocese of Gary He served as Dean & Chancellor of the Diocese of Gary along with pastoring for 31 years. He is a well known Catholic retreat and parish presenter on Biblical Studies and enjoys photography.

## LADIES' SODALITY

We will be meeting on Tues, February 19th at 9:30AM in the church hall.



## The Catholic Moment 🐺

February is Catholic Press Month. What a blessing it is to have such an excellent Catholic newspaper in our diocese, "The Catholic Moment". This weekend there is a giving envelope in your box for a subscription to "The Catholic Moment". Thank you for helping support in spreading the Gospel through this important publication. Weekly reading "The Catholic Moment" is a great way to keep informed of happenings in the Church. May I also suggest, that if you're not currently reading the "The Catholic Moment", that you consider making that a Lenten promise to our Lord.

## **CHURCH CLEANING**

Please join us to clean the church every Tuesday at 9:00AM. Coffee & Donuts are served afterwards.



And we are close .... Please Keep the Pop Tabs coming



#### Welcome to our Faith Family, Azalea Grace Rowe Daughter of Andrew & Jillian Rowe May God grant her and her family years of health and happiness amongst us.

**Need Prayer Intentions?** Parishioners of St Cecilia will pray for you and your special intentions. Cáll Gen Mestrich 956-3020 You do not have to give your name. Call Gen if you can help with the prayer line.

