



This week . . .

February 1, 2012

Life is a drudgery. That is what we hear from Job this weekend. Even Paul in his writings to the Corinthians sounds like a plodder some times in his preaching of the gospel. Seemingly adding insult to injury, Jesus gets to Simon Peter's house where his mother-in-law has fallen ill and cures her only so she can wait on them! Finally, Jesus himself after a late night of curing and healing with little sleep slips out of town for some alone time with God. Of course by the end of the Gospel story Jesus gets back to work and is ready to take his ministry on the road with his disciples.

The message? Well, it seems clear that there is a holiness and a wholeness in doing the everyday stuff of life that God has entrusted us to do. God is present in this drudgery if we only take the time to realize he is there. And in that realization, we are called to be about our ministry of proclaiming the good news of salvation to young people that don't always care to listen to it, so that we "too may have a share in it."

As a good friend once encouraged me in a down moment, we must "keep on keeping on!"

Odds and Ends

- ✦ **Junior Confirmation Candidates meeting with Fr. John Gerrits** – this Wednesday 7:00pm in the church. This will be an opportunity to get to know Fr. John, ask questions, and perhaps find some answers about God, the Catholic faith, the Sacrament of Confirmation, and life in general.
- ✦ **Confirmation Interview and Letter of Intent** – Juniors can sign up for Confirmation Interviews and turn in their Letters of Intent to the Bishop after the Q&A with Fr. John, this Wednesday.
- ✦ **Middle School Retreat** – Middle School retreat is scheduled for Wednesday, February 8, from 4:00pm – 8:30pm, at St. Patrick Social Hall. Fun, Friends, Pizza, and God! It will be a blast!
- ✦ **Living Stations Casting Call** – the casting call and initial rehearsal for Living Stations is on Sunday, February 12, at 6:00pm in the church. Anyone interested in playing a role or joining the band or chorus should attend this rehearsal. For the rehearsal schedule and details, [click here](#).
- ✦ **Catechetical Week Celebrations** –
 - Elementary – is scheduling a Family Night for both the 5:00pm and 6:30pm classes with class display boards, games, and activities on Wednesday, February 15.
 - Middle School – groups will be joining the Healing Mass on Wednesday, February 15, at 6:00pm to experience a liturgical celebration of the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick.
 - High School – will have speakers to thank the parish for their continuing support of Faith Formation processes at each Mass on the weekend of February 18 & 19.

An eye to the future

- ✦ **Middle School Groups** – host a Coffee Social , Sunday, February 26, after the 11:00am mass. Please contact Larry in the Faith Formation Office to sign up.

Peace,

Larry