

JESUS STILL SPEAKS TO US: "A new teaching with authority!" What did it mean for those in the synagogue who described Jesus' teaching with that unusual word? And right here, in this moment, what does it mean to speak "with authority?"

The authority of Jesus' teaching refers to the power and dignity with which He spoke. It is a power beyond the right Jesus had to teach in the synagogue. It acknowledges His personal call to offer a "new teaching." Jesus bravely enters into this God-granted authority, He exerts power over unclean spirits and heals in the synagogue on the Sabbath. Jesus clearly has a sense of His authority. He knows who He is and what He is about, and His listeners are amazed. They ask, "What is this?"

We also ask, "What is this?" We hear Moses' advice about heeding the words of God's prophets and consider our own call to be a prophet. The psalmist encourages us to keep our hearts soft and open to God's word. Paul would be delighted if we all claimed our God-granted power and dignity to live the life to which we have been called. In doing so, we would discover our own authority.

When Jesus spoke in the synagogue, it was new, and it was with authority. Today, Jesus speaks to us in word and sacrament. It is still new - and He still speaks with authority. We are blessed.

Brenda Merk Hildebrand

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat. 1/28	4:30 PM	Jerry McNamara by Wife & Family
Sun. 1/29	7:30 AM	Helen Mahon by Family
	10:30 AM	Deceased Members of Gatti Family by Judy & Barry
Mon. 1/30	7:30 AM	Betty Corazza by Family
Tues. 1/31	7:30 AM	Eugene Hernss by Wife, Rose Ann
Wed. 2/1	7:30 AM	Gloria Patterson by Agnes Nicaastro
Thurs. 2/2	7:30 AM	Rose D. Bachman by Lex Reczkowski & Family
First Friday (Feast of St. Blaise...Blessing of Throats 7:30 AM only)		
2/3	7:30 AM	Charles Reczkowski by Barbara Masse & Family
Sat. 2/4	4:30 PM	For the People
Sun. 2/5	7:30 AM	John & Margaret Iben by Family
	10:30 AM	For the People

Confessions at 7:00 AM, First Friday, February 3rd.

Flowers on altar in memory of Thomas Chuckra & Francis Pelot by Mary Fran & Sue.

COLLECTIONS: Sun. - \$3462.90...Dues - \$1504.00...Holydays \$13.00...Care/Education - \$32.00...Initial - \$61.00...Flowers - \$20.00...Poor Box - \$390.28...2nd Collection this weekend - Campaign for Human Development. 2nd collection next weekend - Care/Education of Priests.

FIRST COMMUNION PARENTS: Will have a meeting on Sunday, January 29, 2012 at 6:30 PM in the Church.

FAITH FORMATION classes will not be held SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH.

MEMORIAL DONATION: In memory of M/M Joseph Kopski - \$50 by Raymond Eroh.

IN SYMPATHY: As a parish we offer sympathy and prayerful support to the families of MACKANZIE ANN BOONE who passed away on January 16, 2012 & BERNADINE KALLASSAR who passed away January 24, 2012. May they rest in peace.

BAPTISM: As a parish, we welcome, JARED MICHAEL ELLIS, who will be baptized following the 10:30 AM Liturgy, Sunday, January 29TH.

MARDI GRAS: Our Annual Mardi Gras is scheduled for Saturday, February 18th in the Parish Center. The affair will begin at 6:00 PM. The Other Side Restaurant will serve a delicious family style meal. Entertainment will be provided by "JUST US" and the 'TUNE BANDITS.'

Anyone interested in preparing a Theme Basket should call Mary Lloyd at 636-2645 or Jean in the church office. Tickets are \$20.00 and are available in the church vestibule this weekend and in the church office. Deadline for reservations is February 12th.

HAM BINGO: Our Lady's Workers will sponsor a Ham Bingo at the Parish Center, Sunday, March 11th beginning at 1:00 PM. Mark your calendars and win a ham for Easter!!

DAVID MAHON: Last week we paid our respects to the late David Mahon - who was a sexton (the keeper of the keys) here at St. Ann's for a number of years. He labored well...respectfully...honestly and won the trust of all who knew him. Fr. Kelly told me he was someone you could count on to do his very best for the Church he loved.

Dave was a "pioneer" Extraordinary Minister and found abundant grace and strength from the Eucharist.

Our sincere sympathy is extended to his family at this difficult time.

HOLY REDEEMER HIGH SCHOOL REGISTRATION: Appointments are now being accepted for incoming 9th graders for the 1012-1013 school year. Appointments may be scheduled for Feb. 6,7,8 or 9 from 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM by calling the Guidance Office at 829-2424 ext 337. Deadline for all registration materials is March 2, 2012.

SCRANTON DIOCESAN COUNCIL CATHOLIC WOMEN: During the month of February Council of Catholic Women would like the faithful to pray for the sick and suffering. The late John Paul II declared February 11 the Feast Day of Our Lady of Lourdes as the "World day of the Sick." Please take time to visit the sick/call a homebound parishioner, or check in on your elderly neighbor.