

The Torch



*"Generations Growing in
Faith for more than 75 years!"*

St. Dominic
Parish

Delhi Township,
OH

February 2022

Pastor's Desk

THE STORY OF JESUS AND THE DIVORCED WOMAN

I would like to share some reflections with you on the classic encounter of Jesus with the divorced woman in the Gospel of John.

- A. In the story, Jesus takes the initiative with the woman. He breaks through a number of social barriers. A Jew talking to a Samaritan! A man talking to a woman! He violates the social customs of the time to begin His dialogue with the woman.

As the people of God, we have always been against divorce in the name of Jesus. Because of the value that He calls to in marriage, we have traditionally opposed the evil of divorce. For too long, however, we have allowed this opposition to divorce to create a barrier against divorced people. As I look at the Church today in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, I see more and more followers of Jesus breaking through this barrier. Little by little, I see the Church coming to inflesh and incarnate the true values of Jesus, whom we follow. The very same Jesus who opposed divorce reaches out in love and understanding to this divorced person. Being against divorce and being against divorced people – (the former will always be part of our tradition) – but can the latter ever be done in the name of the Lord, given the story of Jesus and the Samaritan woman?

- B. The story also points out that our experience with crisis and conflict can be revelatory. Hostility and opposition, misunderstanding, confusion – are occasions for growth and deeper insight into the person of Jesus, who is present to us. Notice that Jesus invades the woman's privacy and confronts her "Go, call your husband." Jesus goes right to the heart of this woman's story. This must have been a very painful experience for her – five relationships that didn't make it. Moreover, the fact that she was at the well in the heat of the day all alone, indicates that she must have been somewhat of an outcast – another aspect of her experience. I suspect that this must have been the unspeakable dimension of her life. Everyone knew it – she knew it – and yet, I suspect if she is like any of us, she had a tendency to avoid the pain – to blot it out of her mind – to run away from the painful experiences of life. But, in this case, instead of leaving or ignoring the comment, she stayed there and began to confront her own painful experience. She articulated the reality, "I have no husband." And notice as she begins to deal with this painful aspect of her life, she begins to get an insight into who Jesus is. She begins to realize that she is not talking to an ordinary man. "Sir, I see you are a prophet," and "Could this not be the Messiah?"

As followers of Jesus, we, too, know that the Lord continues to reveal Himself – Who He is – in the context of our own experience – our own life stories, even and especially, in the painful experiences! Confronting our experience with all its ups and downs in prayer can be revelatory. Facing our lives in the presence of the Lord can bring us to full awareness of Who He is – what a gift He is – and who He calls us to be.

- C. And look at the ministry of the woman! What does she do? The encounter and the insight lead to action. And notice the form her ministry takes with the town folk. She reveals her own experiences and then confronts them with the question, “Could this be the Messiah?” She lays her experience on the line. She articulates what everyone else knew, “He told me everything I ever did.” She holds up that sordid past in front of the people and then poses the question, which is really an invitation. “Could this be the Messiah?”

The greatest gift that you divorced people have to offer the Church is your story, your experience. We need to hear especially that the Lord has been in your experience. We need you to become living signs and living testimony of the Lord’s presence. Your story becomes another example of the movement from death to life. What a gift that is to the believing community! Here are people who have experienced death and through it all the Lord brought them to new life! They were not destroyed in the process! They came through it! There is hope for all of us who Believe in the Pascal Mystery – Death to Resurrection!

Notice, too, in the story that the woman’s experience has authority and calling power. She turned out the whole town! The response of the townspeople sounds almost like a rebuke, but, in fact, it is a tremendous affirmation of her ministry. They say to her, no longer do we believe because of your experience, but because we have heard and believed.” Now their experience has authority! They have experienced the Lord. They have experienced the power and the light and the life that comes from knowing the Lord, Jesus. One suspects that they became witnesses – witnessing to their experience and to their knowledge of the Lord. And so, the ministry multiplies, and the Kingdom continues to come. The Lord continues to work and reign in our midst.

May the Lord continue to touch hearts through your lives and stories!

Fr. Jim



March 2, 2022

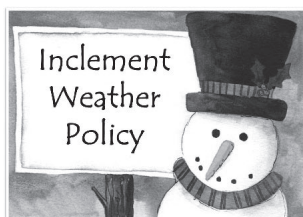
6:10 a.m., Communion Service & Ashes

7:30 a.m., Mass & Ashes

8:15 a.m., Mass & Ashes

7:00 p.m., Mass & Ashes

Parish Office Hours and Inclement Weather



Please take note that when St. Dominic School is on a two-hour delay, or closed for the day due to inclement weather, the Parish Office will modify its hours of operation. We will open at 10:00 a.m. and close at our regular time of 4:00 p.m. We felt the need to amend our hours during snow alerts, to ensure the safety of our employees. We hope that this change in our schedule will not cause any inconvenience. *St. Dominic School follows Oak Hills Local School District for delays and closings.*

May They Rest in The Peace of the Lord

Please pray for the repose of the souls of the following parishioners, as they have entered eternal life.

Esther Vogel, mother of Susan and Nick Willing, Joe and Kim Vogel, Lee and Nick Bedinghaus and Karen and Matt Awad.

Jeanette Heileman, mother of James and Marianne Heileman, Carol and Ralph Pollard, Donald and Dianne Heileman, Judith and Gregory Barta, Susan Bertsch and Patricia and David Lewis.

Audrey Sandman, mother of Bernard J. Sandman, Liz and Jeff Elder, Margie and Tim Ehrman, Mike and Bobbi Sandman, Elaine and Sep Ludwig and Carol and Chris Branch.

Howard "Buzz" Fishburn, father of Beth and Gary Brichler, Katherine Maudrone, Donna and Mike Peters, Jeanne and Joe Klenk, Sue and Tom Silbernagel, Dave Fishburn and Tom and Nancy Fishburn.

Morris "Sam" Collins, husband of Evelyn Collins and father of Tracy and Howard Hughes, Gary and Linda Collins and Mary and Robert Johnson.

Michael Martin, husband of Susan Martin and father of Anne and Tony Pietromica, Sara and Tom Bruns and Michael and Delores Martin.

Glenn Laib, father of Wayne and Debbie Laib, Carol and Jim McKay, Greg and Patty Laib, Frank and Renee Laib and Paula Wilton.

Carl Hasselbeck, father of Jennifer and Donald Huber, Greg and Cara Hasselbeck and Julie and John Schinner.

Nancy Ernst, wife of Donald "Ernie" Ernst and mother of Julie and Dan Gerke, Lora and Craig Huber and Marty Thompson.

Gayle Mueller, mother of Toni Ebert, Patrick and Debbie Doll, Jane and Jeff Gramke, Kimberly and Mark Goldrainer, Deborah and Nick Faillace and Daniel and Julie Doll.

Dennis Stemler, husband of Debbie Stemler and father of Nicci Stemler and Becky Stemler.

Mary Ann Mason, mother of Julie and Jim Malarkey and Ken and Melissa Mason.

Lenten Program

We have a lot of activities and programs scheduled for Lent. Look for a complete list in the March Torch or visit our website at www.stdominicdelhi.org, click on Resources and then Lenten Program 2022.



Word on Fire Engage

Thanks to Flocknote, we will be able to share with you some exciting Lenten Reflections/Challenges again this year for Lent. We encourage you to participate and draw deeper into the Faith. In addition, you now have access to the entire Word on Fire digital video library. You can watch any of Bishop Barron's films or study programs whenever you want, on any device!

If your email and/or phone number is not already registered with the parish, or if you would like to add additional addresses, please register at stdominicparish2.flocknote.com or by texting StDominic to 84576.

Las Vegas Night and Major Award

After a lot of discussion and prayer we have decided that **we will not** have our Las Vegas Night this year, but we will still have a Major Award Drawing to help make up for the funds that the Las Vegas Night would usually generate for the parish. All parish families should have received a mailing containing Major Award tickets. This drawing will take place on Saturday, February 26 after the 4:30 p.m. Mass. The tickets are \$20.00 each or 6 for \$100.00. You can drop your tickets in the collection basket or mail them in the envelope provided. You can also purchase your Major Award tickets online using WeShare (You do not have to sign up for online giving to purchase raffle tickets through WeShare). To purchase online go to www.stdominicdelhi.org, click on the "Green" online giving button on the left side of the page. Scroll down to *Major Award Drawing*.

St. Dominic Tuition Credit Program

Supporting the tuition credit program is easy with Kroger community rewards and AmazonSmile. The Kroger Community Rewards Program was designed to support organizations by simply using your Kroger Plus Card! If you are not already enrolled, sign up right away to start earning rewards for the St. Dominic Tuition Credit Program. Your purchases will begin earning rewards within 7-10 business days after registering your Kroger Plus Card.

- 1.) Sign in or create an account at krogercommunityrewards.com
- 2.) Click on Enroll Now
- 3.) Under "Find Your Organization" enter 80206 (St. Dominic R. C. Parish School)
- 4.) Click on school name.
- 5.) You'll receive confirmation that you've enrolled.

AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com) is a website operated by Amazon that offers the same selection of products as Amazon.com. However, when you shop at AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charitable organization selected by customers. There is no cost to you! You only have to remember to shop at smile.amazon.com and St. Dominic students benefit! You can search "St. Dominic Cincinnati" on AmazonSmile, or simply visit <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/31-0538541> or <https://amzn.to/2Nb2qtY> to set your charitable organization to St. Dominic.

If you have any questions or need help registering for either program, contact Rachel Lahni at 513-310-0045 at rachel@lahni.com. Thank you for supporting the Tuition Credit Program!



School Registration

School Registration forms for Preschool, Kindergarten, and grades 1-8 are available in the school office. Priority registration for all current students, including preschool, and siblings of current students will be accepted through February 4, 2022. Registration forms for current students were sent home on Friday, January 28. For additional information, or to arrange for a personal tour, please call the principal, Jennifer O'Brien, at 513-251-1276, ext. 420. EdChoice Scholarships are accepted, and financial aid is available. Hamilton County Daycare Vouchers will be accepted for Preschool starting this fall. For questions regarding Registration and EdChoice, call the school office at 513-251-1276, ext. 422.



CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS

In Memory of:

Angelo C. Bruno*Arnie Sandman*Austin Doll*Backscheider Family*Bill and Jinny Strasser
 Bill and Nancy Remke*Bob Sahnd*Carl and Rose Ida Stadtmiller*Carol Tenhundfeld
 Charles "Chip" Guerity*Clara Roberto*Clark and Hayes Families*Craig Muhlenkamp
 Cyril and Audrey Jansing*David Roberto*Deceased Family Members
 Dick and Martha Jennings*Don Ammann*Don and Jeanine Heron*Don Moore
 Eileen Branigan Schenk*EJ King*Emil Trokan*Emma Guerity Schwarz*Ethel (Lippa) Loze
 George and Rita Klapper*Georgianna Volz*Harry P. Gardner*Jack Rolfes*James Zechella
 James Michael Douglas*Jen Yates*Jerry, Jim and Jeff Kuley*Jim Brodbeck*Jim Wohlfrom
 Joe and Evelyn Scherer*Joe and Helen Auer*Joe and Ruth Murray*Joe Backscheider
 Joe Cook*Joe Crabb*Joe Marsala*John Shore*Joseph Williams*Judy Jump*Leroy Robben
 Lindsay Nelson*Lori Winter*Maria Khiem Pham*Marvin and Mary Albers
 Mary and Charles Backscheider*Mary Lou and Marvin Grant*Mary Lou Hausman
 Melva and Gerald Pfaffinger*Members of the Klopp and Davis Families
 Members of the Murphy and Blessing Families*Mimi Wittich*Nancy Orloff
 Patricia Murray Durham*Raffaella Gentile*Ralph Boehm*Ray and Alice Reiners
 Robert W. Henninger*Roger Latsch*Ruth DiMuzio*Ruth Harnist
 Sam, Julia and Larry Lay*Sean David Ealy*Silos Delzcalzada
 To all the loved ones lost*Vince Stoner*William and Mary Irene Schiller

Donors:

Albert Harnist*Alex Roberto*Barry Backscheider Family*Bezold Family*Bonnie Robben
 Bob and Eileen Schaefer*Charles Kleiner*Dan and Pat Clark*Darren and Mary Orloff
 David and Wanda Conner*Diane and Fred Meyer*Donnie and Kim Abner*Dorothy Gardner
 Ed and Sylvia Cole*Elena DelaCalzada*Frankie Sahnd*Harry and Helen May
 Grampa, MeMe, Gabriella and Madison Knochelman*Hung N. Vu*J. Nicholas King
 Jerri Boehm*Jim and Bonnie Forbeck*Jim and Margie Jansing*Joan Stoner
 Joe and Lois Scherer*John and Peggy Caldwell Schultheis*John and Peggy Klopp
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 Rosemary Kuley*Sylvia Bruno*The Amend Family*The Schiller Family
 The Tenhundfeld Family*Tom Guerity*William Bain, Jr.

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The February Community Dinner is CANCELED

Join us for our next
Community Dinner on March 16.

*Please look for updates or changes
on the Parish website
www.stdominidelhi.org
or in the weekly bulletin.*

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