

February 17, 2019 – Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Blessed are you who are poor, for the kingdom of God is yours . . . but woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.”
Luke 6: 17, 20-26

“Hope Isn’t Only About the Future”

She once saw her life as an uninterrupted line from birth to decline. She had married and given birth to a wonderful little boy, Zach, and was teaching at the divinity school of a major university. The next part of the plan was to achieve tenure, master the Russian language, and watch Zach grow up. She called it “pragmatic determinism.”

But after being diagnosed with stage IV cancer at the age of 35, time no longer pointed to the future. Time was a “loop”: start treatment, manage side effects, recover, start treatment again. She now lived “in the present.” The sicker she became, the more “hope” was a word that pointed to the unbearable: a husband and child left behind, an end without an ending.

Kate Bowler is an associate professor at Duke Divinity School. She tells the story of her sudden and unexpected confrontation with her mortality in her best-selling book *Everything Happens for a Reason: And Other Lies I’ve Loved*. In a New Year’s essay in *The New York Times* [December 30, 2018], she writes of her struggle to find tangible reasons to hope:

“Approaching the new year, I wondered how I might renew hope for a future I can no longer see. So I rummaged around for inspiration in well-used daily planners and to-do lists, only to discover a stack of cards I had intended to mail long ago. Thank you for reintroducing me to tuna casserole. Thank you for inviting Zach to make a maze out of boxes. Yes, my dog often licks the television and thank you so much for taking him. There were photos that friends had hung by my bed of our last (surprisingly violent) round of Mennonite board games and of my misguided attempt to take my cello Christmas caroling. Someone had framed an image of Zach, grinning on my lap, my chemotherapy fluids hidden by a series of elaborate sock puppets we had created.

“The terrible gift of a terrible illness is that it has in fact taught me to live in the moment. But when I look at these mementos, I realize that I am learning more than to seize the day. In losing my future, the mundane began to sparkle. The things I love — the things I should love — become clearer, brighter. This is transcendence, the past and the future experienced together in moments where I can see a flicker of eternity.

“So instead of New Year’s resolutions, I drew up a list for 2019 of experiences that had already passed: a record not of self-mastery but of genuine surprise. 1. My oncology nurse became a dear friend. 2. Even in the hospital I felt the love of God. 3. Zach is under the impression that I never get tired. These are my small miracles scattered like bread crumbs, the way forward dotting the path behind me.”

Kate Bowler’s perspective of time and the direction of her life have been turned upside down. Life’s meaning is not something to be fulfilled at some future point but is realized now; hope is to be found in the present, in every day joys that suddenly become miracles. In today’s Gospel, Luke’s version of the Beatitudes, Jesus turns upside down our own understanding of power and wealth, of joy and fulfillment. Jesus challenges everything our me-first, bottom-line-centered culture holds dear. Jesus’ Sermon on the Plain articulates a new vision, a new attitude in approaching life, a vision and attitude Kate Bowler has come embrace: the treasure of life and time itself, the hope that can be realized in compassion and generosity, the fulfillment that is experienced in freeing ourselves from the pursuit of the things of this world so as to embrace the small but lasting “miracles” of the kingdom of God.

February 17, 2019
Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sacred Heart Parish

A Stewardship Parish in Union with Christ



Parish Information

Pastor: Monsignor Jim Robertson

Office Administrator: Robyn C. Gallant

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 9:00 am-5:00 pm

Friday: 1:00 pm-5:00 pm

465 Curling Street
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Weekend Masses: Saturday 4:30 pm, Sunday 11:00 am

Reconciliation: By request

Mass During the Week: Tues & Thurs at 7:00 pm
Wed & Fri at 10:00 am
First Fridays - 2:00 pm at the Lohnes Complex

Daily mass is cancelled any day schools are closed due to bad weather.

Holy Hour of Adoration: Third Sunday of the Month at 2 p.m.

Marriages: Six months’ notice is required. A year’s notice is recommended.

Baptisms: Please call the Parish Office to schedule preparation session.

St. Vincent de Paul: To assist those in need. Call 638-9010.

RECEIVED WITH THANKS

(February 9-10, 2019)

Regular Collection	1058.40
Building Fund	25.00
Votive Candles	20.00
Mass Stipends	100.00
Certificate Fees	10.00

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon, Feb 18	No Mass
Tues, Feb 19	Late Margaret Hackett
Wed, Feb 20	Late Edgar Dionne
Thur, Feb 21	Late Philip Morgan
Fri, Feb 22	Late Tom Murphy
Sat, Feb 23	Late Michael & Ada George Late Thomas Griffin Sr.
Sun, Feb 24	Parish Community

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

February 23	
Janet Jackson Lynette Taylor	Marie Byrne Joan Penney Joe Byrne
February 24	
Sherry Lynn Brake Don Gallant	Hedy Kenny Barbara Neville Donna Eldridge
Communion to the Sick	
Eileen Moore	

CONDOLENCES: Condolences to the family and friends of Reg Basha. His funeral was celebrated Monday, February 11, 2019. May he rest in peace.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: A donation has been received from Ed & Theresa Dobbin for Christmas Flowers in memory of deceased members of the Dobbin family.

TAX RECEIPTS FOR 2018: Tax Receipts for 2018 are now available in the back of the Church and the Parish Office.

ADORATION AND BENEDICTION: Our regular Adoration and Benediction takes place this **Sunday, February 17th**. Adoration begins at 2:00 pm, Benediction at 3:00 pm. Come, pray with us.

COUNTDOWN FOR LENT: Ash Wednesday is approaching! Lent begins on March 6th. Lent is a time of preparation, change of heart and prayer.

CATHOLIC MISSIONS IN CANADA: CMIC is a national organization that helps fund needy and isolated parishes and dioceses. CMIC has contributed to our diocese greatly over the last 25 years. In gratitude for their generosity, we take up a collection for them every year on Ash Wednesday. Envelopes are provided in your box of envelopes for this collection. Please be generous.

PARISH BINGO: Our next parish bingo will be held on **March 3rd, 2019**. The list of donors is posted on the bulletin boards in the back of the church. It includes those with last names beginning with N-Z. Please support this important fundraiser.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: Our next meeting will take place on **Monday, March 4th at 7 pm** in the Church Meeting Room.

PANCAKE SUPPER: Everyone is invited to the Parish house for a pancake supper on Tuesday, March 5th. Mass will be in the Church at 5:00 pm and supper at the house immediately following mass. The menu will include pancakes, sausages and beans served with coffee, tea etc. A good time to gather as a parish and prepare for the season of Lent.

PARISH BINGO LIST: We are in the process of revising our Bingo donation list. If anyone would like their name added to this list, please contact the parish office or Joan at 785-7465.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: Our next meeting will take place on **Monday, March 4th at 7 pm** in the Church Meeting Room.

4YOUTH: On February 22, the Church celebrates the Feast of the Chair of St. Peter. Now, you might ask yourself, "Why does the Church have a feast for a chair?" Well, the chair of St. Peter is not just any chair. St. Peter was the Apostle chosen by Jesus to take His place as the leader of the Church on earth following Jesus' ascension into heaven. Peter was the first Pope of the Church and the first Bishop of Rome. Like Peter, all bishops have a special chair, called a cathedra (from the Latin word for chair), and the church in which that chair is found is called a cathedral. The Bishop of Rome is also the Pope of the Catholic Church. So, while there is an actual chair of St. Peter in the Vatican, the Feast really commemorates the papacy of the Church in an unbroken line from St. Peter to Pope Francis.

COLEMAN'S CASH REGISTER RECIEPTS: Our parish supports Immaculate Heart of Mary Private Catholic school through the gathering of Colemans Food Centre receipts. There is a box provided at the back of the church to collect these receipts. Coleman's rewards Immaculate Heart of Mary with funding based on the total of these receipts.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS: Bishop O'Reilly Assembly 624 will be meeting **Tuesday February 19th at 7:45 pm.** at All Hallows' Parish Humber Road we will be doing our Renewal of Pledges could Sir Knights please try to attend.

PARISH MISSION AT HOLY REDEEMER CATHEDRAL: Introduction of theme at all Sunday masses with sessions on Monday and Tuesday, **April 8th and 9th at 7:00 pm.** "Hope for Our Roller-Coaster World" Given by Father Michael Prieur. This will be a time for renewal in faith. It will provide opportunity for reconciliation and retreat in preparation for the Easter celebrations. Plan now to join us. Refreshments will be served after each night.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL: Next weekend, **February 23/24**, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be taking up its Poor Box Collection. Please support generously their very worthwhile work.

HUMOUR: An old man is at the IRS with his attorney. Talking to the IRS agent. He says, "I bet \$2,000 I can bite my own eye!" The IRS agent agrees to the bet, believing it an impossible task. The old man laughs, pulls out his glass eye, and bites it. The IRS agent is dumbfounded. The old man bets \$3,000 he can bite his other eye. The IRS agent knows there's no way possible to do this, so he again agrees. The old man pulls out his dentures and bites his eye. Then the old man finally wagers, "I bet \$20,000 I can stand on the far side of your desk, throw my coffee cup, and get it into your wastebasket, without spilling a single drop." The agent knows he won't be able to, so once more he agrees. The old man indeed misses, spilling coffee all over the desk, and on the paperwork. The IRS agent jumps for joy, but then notices the attorney over in the corner moaning. "Are you all right?" asks the agent. "No! On the way over here, he bet me \$40,000 he could spill coffee on your desk, and you'd be happy about it!"