



Welcome to  
the Parish Partnership of

# St. Luke & St. Teresa



[www.stlukebelleville.org](http://www.stlukebelleville.org)

[www.stteresabelleville.com](http://www.stteresabelleville.com)

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 23, 2022

## Worship Schedule

### Mass

Sat:  
5:00 pm @ St. Teresa  
Sun:  
7:00 am @ St. Teresa  
**9:00 am @ St. Luke**  
11:00 am @ St. Teresa

### Weekday Mass

**Mon: 8:30 am @ St. Luke**  
Tue: 5:30 pm @ St. Teresa  
Wed: 8:30 am @ St. Teresa  
Thu: 6:30 am @ St. Teresa  
Fri: 12 Noon @ St. Teresa  
Sat: 7:00 am @ St. Teresa

### Adoration Chapel

only open  
on Tue & Thu

6:00 am - 6:30 pm  
Evening Prayer  
Tue 6:30 pm

## Parish Offices

1201 Lebanon Ave  
Belleville, IL 62221

Mon, Tue & Thu:  
8:30 am - 4:00 pm  
Wed:  
9:30 am - 4:00 pm  
Fri: 8:30 am - Noon

Fax 618-233-9703

### St. Luke

618-236-1124

### St. Teresa

618-233-3500



## 3rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me... He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free.*

*- Lk 4:18*

## Parish Staff

### Pastor: Father Joseph Oganda

Parish Email: [parish@stteresabelleville.org](mailto:parish@stteresabelleville.org)

Deacons:

Ron Tiberi - [rjtiberi@gmail.com](mailto:rjtiberi@gmail.com)

Doug Boyer - [dboyer@diobelle.org](mailto:dboyer@diobelle.org)

Business Manager & Music Director: Robert Wojcik  
[bwojcik@stteresabelleville.org](mailto:bwojcik@stteresabelleville.org)

Administrative Assistant: Connie Crawford  
[ccrawford@stteresabelleville.org](mailto:ccrawford@stteresabelleville.org)

Principal: Danielle Schnable  
[danielle.schnable@stteresatigers.org](mailto:danielle.schnable@stteresatigers.org)

Maintenance: Tom Masengale

**Bulletin Deadline: Tuesday - 4:00 pm**

## Mailing Address

**St. Luke Church AND** St. Teresa Church,  
 1201 Lebanon Ave, Belleville, IL 62221

## Email Addresses

[parish@stteresabelleville.org](mailto:parish@stteresabelleville.org)  
[stluke301@aol.com](mailto:stluke301@aol.com)

## St. Teresa School

1108 Lebanon Ave, Belleville, IL 62221

Phone: 235-4066 Fax: 235-7930

Web: [www.stteresatigers.org](http://www.stteresatigers.org)

## Sacraments

Reconciliation

4:00 – 4:40 pm Saturday at St. Teresa Church  
 or by Appointment

Baptism: Contact Rectory

Marriage: Contact Rectory 4 Months in Advance  
 Priesthood or Diaconate

Contact: Vocation Office at 235-9601

## Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

If you, or someone you know, has a desire to know more about the Catholic faith, please contact the Rectory

## SEXUAL ABUSE HOTLINE:

Anyone wishing to report an allegation of sexual misconduct by a priest or other diocesan personnel please call the hotline: 800-640-3044.



**Hearing Assist Devices** are available at St. Teresa Church, please ask a hospitality minister for assistance.

## St. Luke



**Check Out  
 The Websites!**

## St. Teresa



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Human history reveals many periods where people lost a sense of God's transcendence. It may even be argued that human beings have been wandering and lost more than they have been at home and focused. Human nature being what it is, we struggle with who God really is — the God of our salvation history or the "gods" of human constructs. Relying on our own designs and pursuits, we forget that we really are meant to listen to One upon whom the Spirit of the Lord rests, Jesus Christ, and not to ourselves. That same history that reveals our fickleness and infidelity also reveals God's constancy and faithfulness. God always finds us.

As people wander and fumble to find their way, God is there bringing them back to holiness and giving them the assurance of His presence. We have to allow God's Word, God's life, to touch us and change us. It can make us more flexible and attentive to the sacred in all facets of life so that every day is one that is holy. Every day is a time when fulfillment is possible for one's soul. Jesus stood before those gathered in the synagogue as the fulfillment of words of promise that were echoed long ago. God doesn't forget. He always comes for us.

Now it is time to remember to go to God. Sometimes our lives are so confused and tangled that it is difficult to see the Word and hand of God. But when we realize, deep within, the depth of friendship God offers to us it really has the power to turn sadness to joy. The promise is fulfilled. Going frequently to God's Word, allowing ourselves to be enriched and rejuvenated, and pondering the certainty of God's fidelity and promise permanently transforms us. We will be more aware of the sacred and the holy and less invested in things that pull us away. ©LPI



## St. Thomas Aquinas | January 28



One of the most famous members of the Dominican Order, St. Thomas Aquinas (1225 – 1274) is well-known by many for his theological work, "The Summa Theologiae." Born in Italy, his mother wanted him to become a Benedictine and had high hopes that he would eventually become abbot of Monte Cassino, where he spent much of his youth. To change his vocation, she had him kidnapped by his brothers on his way to Paris at the age of 19. He spent two years in their captivity. Despite this, nothing could shake him from his vocation to become a Dominican priest and he was eventually released. Once free, he went to Paris and then to Cologne, where he finished his studies with Albert the Great.

His greatest contribution to the Catholic Church is his writings. The unity, harmony, and continuity of faith and reason, of revealed and natural human knowledge, encompasses his writings. The Summa Theologiae, his last and, unfortunately, uncompleted work, deals with the whole of Catholic theology.

The patron saint of teachers, theologians and students, St. Thomas Aquinas died in 1274. His life and the impact he had on the whole Church, however, remains alive today. ©LPI

Bernard Bauza  
 Lenore Bechtoldt  
 Clara Behrns  
 Jimmy Buehlhorn  
 Michael Burns  
 Diane C.  
 Veronica Clark  
 Joan Cook  
 Tom Cordie  
 Mary Darin  
 Tom Ebner  
 Dean Eschman  
 Theresa Kaye Franks  
 Doris Grant  
 Joel Halminiac  
 Fr. Vincent Haselhorst



Ron Kahrhoff  
 Doug Kellerman  
 Keith Kellerman  
 Herman Koesterer  
 Jeanne Lewis  
 Dakota Ray McArthur  
 Juli Ann Meaney  
 Linda Miessner  
 Jay Oughton  
 Dick Pearl  
 Cliff Polczynski  
 Barbara Pollmann  
 Dennis Pollmann

Helen Quirin  
 Rev. Joe Rascher  
 Mark Roach  
 Robert Stark  
 Shirley Taphorn  
 Jayla Triplett  
 Hannah Twente  
 Louis Usselmann  
 Mike Vernier  
 Diane Vernier  
 Marge Von Bokel  
 Teig Sabo Wetzel  
 Sandra Wenzel  
 Norm Wilke  
 Jeff Winters  
 Terry Woolsey

Names are removed after 4 weeks unless the office is notified.

### Our Military Prayer Line

Please remember in your prayer ALL our military members.



**Jake Billhartz, Ft. Benning, GA**  
**LCpl. Sandra Gale, Kuwait**  
**Sgt. Philip Haake, South Korea**  
**LCpl. Brendan Kalmer, Iwakuni, Japan**  
**Capt. Anthony M. Rowe, Lackland, AFB**  
**ABHC Alec Weeks, CVN 68, Bremerton, WA**  
**John Wildermuth, Norfolk, VA**

Please remember in your prayers **Paul Fries** who was called home to the Lord.



Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted. Mt 5:4

### Messenger Subscription Renewal Weekend Feb. 5-6



The Messenger Newspaper Subscription Renewal Weekend is Feb. 5-6. Please stay connected with your Diocese through a subscription to The Messenger Catholic Newspaper. Payments can be made via your Messenger envelope or on-line at [www.bellevilemessenger.org](http://www.bellevilemessenger.org). Please make checks payable to the Messenger. The cost is still only \$25 for print or digital and \$30 for both!



### Giving Greener

Are you trying to cut down on the paper you use? Is the check you write to your parish one of the few checks that you write anymore?

You can give greener by using our Online Giving Program. Simply visit either parish's website or contact our parish office and we can set you up to have direct withdrawals from your checking or savings accounts made to either parish. You can set up the amount that you would like to give on a schedule that meets your needs and you can never have to worry about writing another check, forgetting your envelope, or having cash in your wallet. There is no charge to you or to the parish for this service. Both parishes greatly appreciate all those who choose to give in this manner as it helps us maintain a consistent cash flow and pay all of our bills in a timely manner.

### Mass Intentions

**Saturday, January 22** Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

7:00 am @ ST Audrey Jansen  
 5:00 pm @ ST Herb Wilhelm

**Sunday, January 23** 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00 am @ ST Donna Bietsch  
**9:00 am @ SL Mary Jane Christ**

11:00 am @ ST Ray Korte

**Monday, January 24** Francis de Sales

**8:30 am @ SL Betty Durako**

**Tuesday, January 25** Conversion of St. Paul

5:30 pm @ ST Orene Sudheimer

**Wednesday, January 26** Timothy and Titus

8:30 am @ ST Janice Schroeder

**Thursday, January 27** Angela Merici

6:30 am @ ST Doris Benhoff

**Friday, January 28** Thomas Aquinas

12 Noon @ ST Lorene Koopman

**Saturday, January 29**

7:00 am @ ST Janice Mahoney  
 5:00 pm @ ST Michael Quirk

**Sunday, January 30** 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00 am @ ST People of God  
**9:00 am @ SL Rosemary Chidress**

11:00 am @ ST Eileen Renner

### Stewardship of Treasure

Please consider  
an online donation



**January 16**

#### St. Luke

Weekly Envelope	\$ 1,795.00
Loose	\$ 72.00
Online Giving	\$ 644.97
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,511.97</b>
Other Collections	\$ 521.00

Weekend	Budgeted	Actual
January 2	\$ 3,770	\$ 3,195
January 9	\$ 3,770	\$ 4,241
January 16	\$ 3,770	\$ 2,512
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$11,310</b>	<b>\$ 9,949</b>

#### St. Teresa

Envelope	\$ 8,645.00
Loose	\$ 267.00
Online Giving	\$ 2,499.62
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 11,411.62</b>
Other	\$ 1,063.00

Weekend	Budgeted	Actual
January 2	\$ 10,692	\$ 8,415
January 9	\$ 10,692	\$ 11,651
January 16	\$ 10,692	\$ 11,412
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 32,076</b>	<b>\$ 31,478</b>



The **Parishes' School of Religion** does meet on Sunday, January 23 from 8:45 – 10:10 am and on Wednesday, January 26 from 6:00 – 7:30 pm.

I ask you to make the attendance of your children at the Parishes' School of Religion a priority. It is important that your children continue to grow in their Catholic faith. We need to collaborate in this important responsibility given to us. We want your children to learn their faith, love their faith and live their faith. Of course, we understand that if your children are sick they should stay home.

Sister Theresa Markus, S.S.N.D.  
Coordinator of the Parishes' School of Religion

### Save The Dates!

### Vacation Bible School Is July 18-22

Please be looking for more information including registration coming out late February/early March!

The St. Luke/ St. Teresa VBS is for children entering Kindergarten thru 5th grade. Volunteer helpers entering grade 6 through adults will be needed. Those 18 years of age and older must have completed all child protection training requirements as set out by the Diocese.

Questions? Contact Lizzie Lehde at [stluketeresavolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:stluketeresavolunteers@gmail.com)

### Community Interfaith Food Pantry

Both Parishes are a partner in the Food Pantry.

► This week's needed item:

**Peanut Butter, 18 oz. & Jelly, 2 lb jars**  
(Please no glass if possible)

Please leave your items in either church and they will be taken to the pantry.

Monetary donations can be placed in the Sunday collections, mark envelope "Food Pantry", & will assist in buying perishables.

### St. Luke/St. Teresa Parishes Position Opening

We are seeking an Administrative Assistant for the Rectory Office.  
Please see either parish's website on the "Our News Page" for a job description and more information.

### Ministers of the Liturgy January 30

<b>Sat 5pm @ ST</b>	Lector	Brad Dunn
	Min. of Com.	Marilyn & Dave Young, Pat Ives
	Ushers	Bill Cramer, Brent Wilhelm, <b>Volunteers</b>
	Cleaners	Beth & Evan Schindelar
	Lector	Karen Foeller
<b>Sun 7am @ ST</b>	Min. of Com.	Dcn. Doug Boyer, Carol Zimmermann, <b>Volunteer</b>
	Ushers	Dennis Meile, Mike Caponi, Virginia Stark, <b>Volunteer</b>
	Cleaners	<b>Volunteers</b>
	Lector	Sandy Baechle
<b>Sun 9am @ SL</b>	Min. of Com.	Sandy Woods
	Ushers	Ed Goreczny, Rickey Lugge, Steve Mudd, <b>Volunteer</b>
	Cleaners	To & Jo Ann Stack
	Lector	Nancy Furlow
<b>Sun 11am @ ST</b>	Min. of Com.	Jane Haake, Jean Kaufmann, Pat Noonan
	Ushers	Ames Foley, Brent Garcia, Bill Fahrner, Joe Nesbit
	Child Lit	<b>NO CHILDREN'S LITURGY</b>
	Cleaners	Julie Neill, <b>Volunteer</b>

*Thank you for sharing your time and talent!*

### Important Notice

**Due to a rise in local COVID numbers, Children's Liturgy during the 11am St. Teresa Mass is suspended until further notice.** It is our hope to resume in February. However, we still plan on having our "Children and Youth Mass" at the 11am St. Teresa Mass on the Sundays of January 30 and February 27. Everyone is invited to attend, and we hope to see you there!



### Please Take Note

In the event of inclement weather, the Mass schedule will continue as normal even if school is cancelled. Individuals wishing to attend Mass on inclement days are encouraged to enter the church via rectory side entrance. The front doors of church will not be open. Individuals are encouraged to be cautious and careful if attending these Masses. It is very possible snow removal will not have taken place at Mass time.

Also note that if school is cancelled on a Tuesday or Thursday, then the Adoration Chapel is closed too.

### CBAY Celebrates Life!

The next CBAY gathering will be on **Sunday, January 23** from 6:30-8:00 pm in the Youth Room at St. Augustine. All 6th-12th graders are welcome. Youth are asked to bring an item from home that depicts a specific family member they respect and a trait of theirs they aspire to mimic in their own life. We will be playing games and celebrating life.

We are still looking for some more adults to help with the meetings. If you are interested, let us know.

Mark your calendars for these upcoming gatherings: February 13, February 27, March 13, March 27, April 10, April 24, May 1, May 22

Questions? Contact Nancy Furlow @ 222-0585 or [nancy.furlow@charter.net](mailto:nancy.furlow@charter.net).

Sunday January 23	Monday January 24	Tuesday January 25	Wednesday January 26	Thursday January 27	Friday January 28	Saturday January 29
7:00 am ST 9:00 am SL 11:00 am ST	<b>Mass</b> 8:30 am St. Luke	<b>Mass</b> 5:30 pm St. Teresa	<b>Mass</b> 8:30 am St. Teresa	<b>Mass</b> 6:30 am St. Teresa	Adoration 11:00 am ST Church	<b>Mass</b> 7:00 am St. Teresa
<b>PSR</b> 8:45 am St. Augustine	<b>Joint Pastoral Council</b> 6:30 pm	Adoration 6:00 am-6:30 pm Chapel	<b>PSR</b> 6:00 pm St. Augustine	Adoration 6:00 am-6:30 pm Chapel	Confessions 11:00 - 11:45 am ST Church	Confessions 4:00 pm St. Teresa
<b>NO</b> Children's Liturgy		Evening Prayer 6:30 pm Chapel		<b>Quilters</b> Quilters	<b>Mass</b> 12 Noon St. Teresa	<b>Mass</b> 5:00 pm St. Teresa
Youth Group 6:30 pm St. Augustine		<b>SL Finance</b> 10:00 am		Legion of Mary 12:30 pm Community House		
		ST Finance 6:30 pm		<b>ST Bingo</b> 6:30 pm Tribout's		

**Please Note: Items in Green are at St. Luke; Items in Black are at St. Teresa**

St. Luke	St. Teresa
<p><b>Winter Collection</b></p> <p>The St. Luke's St. Vincent de Paul will be collecting <b>new or gently-used coats, gloves, hats, scarves, blue jeans or other warm clothing</b> (in all sizes) and <b>blankets</b> for those being served at the SVdP Outreach and Drop-In Centers. These items will be collected through <b>Sunday, January 30<sup>th</sup></b>. Please place donated items in our collection bin located in the main entrance at St. Luke's. Thank you for your support.</p> <p><b>St Luke Sodality Update!</b> <b>There will be NO February Noon Luncheon.</b></p> <p><b>Book Club</b></p> <p>The next selection for the book club is <b>Gifts from Friends We've Yet to Meet, a memoir of biblical encounters, by Virginia Herbers</b> (a St. Louis author). The author introduces us to "nameless Gospel characters, each of whom provides us with a story, a journey, and a gift." The book discussion will be on <b>Tuesday, March 8</b> at 7:00 pm at Community House. For information about the book club or to obtain a copy of the book, please contact Susan at (618) 397-2295 or <a href="mailto:susan.evers@sbcglobal.net">susan.evers@sbcglobal.net</a>.</p> <p><b>Save the Date: St. Luke's Rummage Sale</b></p> <p>St. Luke's annual rummage sale is returning this spring: the weekend of <b>April 22-23</b>. As you begin cleaning out your closets, drawers, cabinets, etc. keep the sale in mind and hold onto your treasures to donate. More detailed information will follow in the coming months.</p>	<p><b>Interest In A Prayer Shawl Ministry at St Teresa</b></p> <p>Hi all! My name is Nancy Polen and I am looking for anyone interested in participating in a Prayer Shawl Ministry at St. Teresa. Your participation would include prayer for and knitting, crocheting or no sew shawls/wraps for people of our community. Shawls can be used for: undergoing medical procedures; as a comfort after a loss or in times of stress; during bereavement; prayer or meditation; marriage ceremonies; a birth or baby shower; bridal shower or wedding gift; during an illness and recovery; ministering to others; graduation, birthday, or a special anniversary. When creating a prayer shawl the individual making it begins with a recipient in mind. This person is held in the crafter's thoughts from beginning to end. The maker of the shawl is encouraged to compose a prayer to accompany the shawl when it is presented. Then whenever the recipient wears the shawl they have a tangible reminder of the care and prayers directed their way.</p> <p>If you are interested or have questions please contact me: Nancy Polen @ (360) 440-4459</p> <p><b>Accepting Nominations</b></p> <p>The St. Teresa School Board is accepting nominations for its annual awards. Nominations are requested for the following categories: Academic Excellence, Faith Formation, Volunteer of the Year, and Distinguished Alumni. If you would like to nominate an individual at St. Teresa School who demonstrates excellence in Catholic education, please contact Janet Kaemmerer at <a href="mailto:jk0995@hotmail.com">jk0995@hotmail.com</a> or 618/806-6533.</p>

## School News

COME JOIN US

# ST. TERESA OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, January 30th

12-1:30 PM

Check-In at the School Office

E-Mail the Principal with any questions  
danielle.schnable@stteresatigers.org

NEW this year!  
Part Time  
Preschool  
& Pre-K  
options



The 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual  
St. Teresa Dinner Auction  
**Tigers Go For The Gold**  
**Saturday, February 5**  
**Gateway Classic Cars**  
**Doors Open at 4:30 pm**  
**Dinner Served at 5:30 pm**

Register now at:

[www.tigersgogold.givesmart.com](http://www.tigersgogold.givesmart.com)

Tickets: \$50 per person (includes dinner, beer, water, soda)

\*\*Featuring music by The Landlords\*\*

**St. Teresa Tigers**  
**Go For The Gold Raffle**  
**is going on now!**

\$2500 cash prize

Tickets are \$25/each;

5 tickets for \$100 (buy 4 get 1 free); or  
11 tickets for \$200 (buy 8 get 3 free)

Click here to purchase tickets:

<https://www.goraisedough.com/tickets.html?raforg=1020>

or ask your favorite little tiger for their personal sales link!

## The Chosen

**Adult Faith Formation** sessions will be resuming in February. Our spring sessions will feature **The Chosen, Season One**. If you are not familiar with *The Chosen*, it is a multi-season TV series about the life of Christ produced outside of the Hollywood. It is beautifully filmed and the producers have gone to great trouble to reproduce the 1<sup>st</sup> century settings. Go to [The Chosen TV \(angelstudios.com\)](https://angelstudios.com) to watch the trailer or even view episodes. Or go to Word on Fire Institute to read articles about the series. [Results for "the chosen" \(wordonfire.org\)](https://wordonfire.org)

Our 8 sessions will each consist of viewing one episode together and then discussing what we saw. Sessions will last about 1 1/2 hours. We will meet every other Wednesday evening starting **February 9 at 6:30 pm at the Community House**. Our group will be limited to 12 people due to the size of the room. **Registration will close February 1**.

For more information or to sign up, please contact Susan at (618) 397-2295 or [susan.evers@sbcglobal.net](mailto:susan.evers@sbcglobal.net). I hope to see you there!

## Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – 23 January 2022

We devote this day to the  
celebration, study, and spread of the Word of God.

Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10. Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 15.

1 Corinthians 12:12-30. Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21.

**Believing the Word of God.** We are the Body of Christ (Corinthians) assembling as the graced community of believers (Nehemiah) each week to give thanks and praise, to share in Communion, and then sent to serve. We are part of the great Communion of Saints to whom is handed down the living Word of God – both the Scriptures and the Tradition as well as the very person of Christ who is the spoken Word of God (Luke). During the first Mass in a brand-new church building, the bishop shows the Lectionary to the assembly and says:

“May the word of God resound always in this building,  
to open for you the mystery of Christ  
and to bring about your salvation in the Church.”

The Order of the Dedication of a Church and an Altar, Chapter II, no. 53, ©2018, ICEL. All rights reserved.

The Word of God is central to faith.

- ◆ How will I set aside a few minutes each day to read/reread Scripture? What is a good time?
- ◆ How will I look for the unfolding mystery of Christ in little and big ways today?
- ◆ How will I be “good news” this week by what I say and do?



Archbishop Rozanski will celebrate a Mass for World Marriage Day at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis, 4431 Lindell Blvd. St. Louis, MO, on **February 13, 2022 at 2:30 pm**. All married couples are invited to attend and celebrate the gift of marriage. World Marriage Day honors husband and wife as the foundation of the family – the basic unit of society. It emphasizes the faithfulness, sacrifice and joy of daily married life.

World Marriage Day started in Baton Rouge, LA in 1981 and was later adopted by Worldwide Marriage Encounter who now is sponsoring this event on February 13<sup>th</sup>.

## World Marriage Day

### "As a seal upon your heart . . ."

It was one of the toughest challenges in his ministry: officiating at the funeral a young woman who died at the age of 24 from a contaminated drug injection. What do you say in the face of such indescribable tragedy? He preached on the words from the Song of Solomon, *Set me as a seal upon your heart, a seal upon your arm; for love is strong as death.* Our faith as Christians is stronger than death, he said. Our hope is simply that we are "sealed" upon God's heart.

The priest always wondered if his words had made any difference to the woman's grieving family.

Then he received an extraordinary message from the woman's father. He wrote that at his daughter's funeral, "her brother was so upset that I wondered whether he'd taken much from it. For the rest of that summer, he withdrew from us and from most people. Some weeks later he acquired, on the inside of his right forearm, an indecipherable tattoo. It turned out that he'd asked my wife, in her beautiful handwriting, to write eight short words, which he then had permanently tattooed in mirror image. He decided on a mirror image, he said, 'because I don't want people knowing my business.' The eight words were: *Set me as a seal upon your heart.*"

The priest, Rev. Samuel Wells, the vicar of St. Martin-in-the-Fields Church in London and former Dean of Duke University Chapel, tells the story in an essay in **The Christian Century** [January 29, 2020]. He writes that at first, he didn't know how to respond to the father's letter.

"How can we know what ministry truly means to people since we so seldom ask them to roll up their sleeves and provide the evidence? But what I know is this: Christ rolls up his sleeves in ministry around Galilee. In Jerusalem he rolls up his sleeves and bares his arm and shows us that love is strong as death, passion as fierce as the grave."

If the Holy Spirit provides the vision of what it means "to be set as a seal upon Christ's heart, like a tattoo upon his arm," Wells writes, "then all I can do is roll up my sleeves and say, bring it on."

**All of us, at one time or another, doubt we can realize the good we are called to do. We don't think we can measure up to the expectations of others — and we're not sure we want to. We struggle to make sense of our lives and to understand what we want to make of them. Isaiah's vision read by Jesus in today's Gospel includes us: the Spirit of God "is upon" us, too, leading us to the other side of doubt, setting us to the work of creating God's Kingdom here and now, enabling us to see our lives and world illuminated with the peace and hope of our Creator. As Jesus realizes his identity in the Spirit of God at his baptism, we find our identity in that Spirit at our baptisms, as well.**

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Stephen J. Clement, R.Ph.

Parish Family



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