

MINISTRY OF PRAISE

**St. Casimir Parish
July, 2018**

**Almighty God,
grant that with the help of St. Casimir's intercession
we may serve you in holiness and justice.**



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING INTENTIONS

- ***That priests, who experience fatigue and loneliness in their pastoral work, may find help and comfort in their intimacy with the Lord and in their friendship with their brother priests.*** (July Papal intention)
- That God will bless our nation and guide it in living out Gospel freedom and justice.
- That the shepherds of the Church will proclaim Christ, admonishing and teaching everyone with wisdom.
- That our parish community will commit itself to the truth of the Gospel with zeal, self-sacrifice, and hope.
- That young people will strive toward a renewal of the world in the light of the Gospel, and will oppose violence and the illusions of instant happiness.
- That God bless Father Bacevice and the Pastoral and Finance Councils in their efforts to secure the future of St. Casimir Parish.
- That all parishioners recognize their responsibility to St. Casimir Parish's future through financial support, commitment to parish activities, sharing ideas, and most importantly prayer.
- That those facing difficult decisions or stressful situations may be blessed with the serenity and assurance to meet each need with faith.
- That those who risk their lives in order to protect the lives of others will be strengthened, shielded, and aided.
- That those who pray be validated in their belief of its power.



WHAT'S HAPPENING

AT ST. CASIMIR PARISH?

- July 6th **First Friday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 8:00 – 9:00am in Church**
- July 11th **Eucharistic Adoration, 6:00-7:00pm in Church**
- July 25th **Annual Holy Name picnic (check the bulletin for time and location)**

SAINT FOR JULY

SAINT ELIZABETH OF PORTUGAL

“Peacemaker”
(1271-1336)

July 4th



Elizabeth was not well enough to undertake her final peacemaking journey, made all the more difficult by the oppressive heat of the season. She would not, however, permit herself to be dissuaded from it. She answered that *there was no better way to give of her life and her health than by averting the miseries and destruction of war*. By the time she had successfully brought about peace, she was so sick that death was imminent.

At Elizabeth’s birth her father, Pedro III, future king of Aragon, was reconciled with his father James, the reigning monarch. Thus, she grew up during a time of peace. She learned self-discipline and acquired an interest in spirituality. This prepared her to meet the challenges ahead, when, at the age of 12, she was given in marriage to Denis, king of Portugal.

Elizabeth’s marriage was a difficult one, as her husband was unfaithful, jealous and quarrelsome. Early in her life as queen she was able to establish for herself a pattern of life open to growth in God’s love. Elizabeth practiced works of mercy. She was the mother of two children and showed great concern for abandoned children and wayward girls. She built a hospital, an orphanage and a shelter for poor travelers.

Throughout her life, as queen, and later as a widow and a lay member of the Franciscans at a monastery of the Poor Clares, she promoted peace among arguing factions in her own family. She repeatedly sought and effected peace between the king and their rebellious son, Alfonso, and acted as a peacemaker in the struggle between Ferdinand, king of Aragon, and his cousin James, who claimed the crown. In her final days she brought about a lasting peace between her son who was now the king of Portugal, and his son-in-law, the king of Castile. Elizabeth is usually pictured in royal clothing with a dove or an olive branch.

Source: IN HIS LIKENESS, Rev. Charles E. Yost; SAINTS AND FEAST DAYS, Loyola University Press;
SAINT OF THE DAY, Rev. Leonard Foley, O.F.M., Editor



THOUGHTS FROM THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH Freedom and Responsibility

1731 Freedom is the power, rooted in reason and will, to act or not to act, to do this or that, and so to perform deliberate actions on one’s own responsibility. By free will one shapes one’s own life. Human freedom is a force for growth and maturity in truth and goodness; it attains its perfection when directed toward God, our beatitude.

#1733 The more one does what is good the freer one becomes. There is no true freedom except in the service of what is good and just. The choice to disobey and do evil is an abuse of freedom and leads to “the slavery of sin.”



THE GRACE OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN

The more repugnant the work, the greater should be our faith and cheerful devotion. That we feel the repugnance is but natural, but when we overcome it for love of Jesus we may become heroic. Very often it has happened in the lives of the saints that a heroic overcoming of repugnance has been the key to a high sanctity. Such was the case of Saint Francis of Assisi, who when meeting a leper completely disfigured, drew back, but then overcoming himself, kissed the terrible disfigured face. The result was that Francis was filled with an untold joy. He became the complete master of himself and the leper walked away praising God for his cure.

When we handle the sick and the needy we touch the suffering body of Christ and this touch will make us heroic; it will make us forget the repugnance and the natural tendencies in us. We need the eyes of deep faith to see Christ in the broken body and dirty clothes under which the most beautiful one among the sons of men hides. We shall need the hands of Christ to touch these bodies wounded by pain and suffering.

(by Saint Teresa of Calcutta)