

Fr. Simon Sez

We have two senior (a.k.a. retired) priests pass away this past Thursday morning. They both had health complications. Fr. Ken Bain was 69 years old. He was the Moody County Sheriff before serving as a priest for thirty-two years. He was an associate priest at Christ the King Parish in Sioux Falls just before I was assigned there as a newly ordained priest. His funeral Mass will be this Thursday, September 1, 2022, at 10:30 am in St. Mary Church, Sioux Falls. The wake service is this Wednesday, August 31 at 7:00 pm.

Fr. Bill Osborn dedicated 52 years of priestly service of his 82 years on earth. He was well known by parishioners in the Hoven and Lebanon areas. St. Anthony of Padua parishioners introduced him to parish-based Koinonia retreats. Subsequently, he promoted these retreats in his future parishes, being involved in a total of 80 Koinonia retreats. He was an associate priest in Hoven when I was in early elementary school, and he was the pastor in Hoven when I was a seminarian for the Diocese of Sioux Falls and celebrated my Mass of Thanksgiving after priesthood ordination in Hoven. His funeral Mass will be this Monday, August 29, 2022, at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Huron beginning at 10:30 am. A rosary and liturgical wake service will be prayed at Holy Spirit Church in Sioux Falls beginning at 2:00 pm.

Fr. Bernard Rosinski, SCJ is a senior Sacred Heart Fathers religious order priest who lives at the St. Joseph Indian School in Chamberlain. He has a very faithful perspective, having been diagnosed with terminal cancer, which includes the new importance he is placing on personal prayer. The following excerpts are from the letter he wrote to his brother clergy: “I have been diagnosed with terminal cancer. In whatever time is left for me, I plan to continue doing as I had done: teaching scripture to deacons, providing spiritual direction, maintaining interest in the affairs of the diocese, providing support and encouragement to St. Joseph’s Indian School personnel and staff, being useful to my local community, and above all, praying with far more devotion and attention than I have for centuries, so that I am somewhat prepared for the divine liturgy of heaven. I had better get used to it. After all it’s the place I want to be – eternally.

All good things on earth must come to an end and be, finally, subjected to the Son. And as a creature “thing” I am no exception (though some may quibble about whether I am “good”). I am looking forward to walking through that portal of new life we call death. To do that well, I need the help of your prayers. Keep me in mind as I face what, for all of us, is the UNKNOWN. Much love, Bernie, SCJ

To Go Up Higher: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time



Sirach 3:17–18,
20, 28–29
Psalm 68:4–7,
10–11
Hebrews 12:18
–19, 22–24
Luke 14:1, 7–
14

We come to the wedding banquet of heaven by way of humility and charity. This is the fatherly instruction we hear in today’s First Reading, and the message of today’s Gospel.

Jesus is not talking simply about good table manners. He is revealing the way of the kingdom, in which the one who would be greatest would be the servant of all (see Luke 22:24–27).

This is the way, too, that the Father has shown us down through the ages—filling the hungry, sending the rich away empty, lifting up the lowly, pulling down the proud (see Luke 1:52–53).

We again call to mind the Exodus in today’s Psalm—how in His goodness the Lord led the Israelites from imprisonment to prosperity, rained down bread from heaven, made them His inheritance, becoming a “Father of orphans.”

We now have also gained a share of His inheritance. We are to live humbly, knowing we are not worthy to receive from His table (see Luke 6:7; 15:21). We are to give alms, remembering we were ransomed from sin by the price of His blood (see 1 Corinthians 6:19–20).

The Lord promises that if we are humble we will be exalted and find favor with God; that if we are kind to those who can never repay us, we will atone for sins and find blessing in the resurrection of the righteous.

We anticipate the fulfillment of those promises in every Eucharist, today’s Epistle tells us. In the Mass, we enter the festal gathering of the angels and the firstborn children of God. It is the liturgy of the heavenly Jerusalem in which Jesus is the high priest, the King who calls us to come up higher (see Proverbs 25:6–7).

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