

March 27, 2016

Easter Sunday



Mass Schedule:

Sunday 10:00 a.m.
and 5 p.m.

**At Masses today
we remember:**

10 am:

Karen McLean

5 pm:

Lawrence R. Wright

March 20 collection:

\$251.00

Thank you for
your support.

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- ***Coffee Hour– two weeks in a row! April 3 and April 10. April 3 is also our quilt raffle and beginning of our collection for the homeless of Rochester. More information to come!***
- ***We have several retreat opportunities and chances to get off campus for a night or a weekend. Check out the electronic Newman Notes or check the bench after Mass.***
- ***Ever thought about a year of volunteer service after college? A team from Franciscan Volunteer Ministry will be here on April 10 and talk at Mass and April 11—chew and chat and gather information.***

RIT Nation Happy Easter!

The last three weeks have offered my family and community of Livonia, NY an experience many of us did not see coming. Livonia is a very small town, about 25 minutes from RIT. My youngest child, Sarah is on the girl's basketball team and the six seniors on the team have played ball together since fourth grade. The team had a great season, continued to do well in the post season and won the State Championship and went on to the Federation of Champions tournament, won the semi-final game to advance to the finals on Palm Sunday. They lost the finals game by four points to the Harlem Pride from Harlem, NY.

Monday morning, while I was taking my customary quiet time, I made a list of all that I had learned from this team of high school girls. I became well aware that these young women taught me lessons for life, not just about how to play basketball.

1. "Me-basketball" doesn't win games. "Team-basketball" wins games. This can be applied to the many organizations, committees and groups that we find ourselves giving our talents and time.
2. As hard as losing can be, it makes a person real. Losing helps us to empathize and understand others and life a bit better.
3. Sharing the glory with others is a good thing. There is very little that any of accomplish alone in life. Give others credit, it pays off in really big ways.
4. Include others. Build circles of communities that include others rather than exclude.
5. Whatever we give our time and energy to, find some passion and heart to give to it also. "Heart" is like the salt we put on our food to add flavor. "Heart" is the warmth and energy that is present when someone we love walks into the room. Whatever we do, do it with "heart".
6. Excuses. When things don't go the way we hoped, we don't need to bother offering excuses. Sometimes, other projects are better than ours, other people do outstanding work or other teams play better than ours. It's ok. It's life. And it gives us something to work towards.

I think it is fitting that I reflect on all these young people taught me as we move from Lent to the season of Easter. Easter is a season of joy, a time to remember that good can indeed come out of very difficult situations. Easter is a promise that God's love and mercy is ours...every single day! The celebration of Easter is also a time to remember that it was never intended that we walk this journey of life alone. Jesus had a community of men and women who were his community. We continue to be invited and sometimes challenged to live our lives in the context of community, supporting and encouraging, learning from others and loving and forgiving one another over and over and over again.

Happy Easter...it's not about the chocolate bunny...but the chocolate bunny might just be a reminder of how sweet life can be when we walk with others and learn from them. Take some time this Easter season and reflect on the things you have learned from others and how they just might connect with God's promise that we have always been loved and will always be loved beyond our imagination.

Peace and good, Alice MN