# In the Divine Potter's Hands

*By Johan van Parys*

My father was a great storyteller. Every night he read from the Bible. He had the talent to depict biblical scenes in such a way that we could see them unfold in our minds' eyes.

I clearly remember the night he read the creation story to us. Though I loved all the other stories, I was mostly intrigued by the creation of Adam. I visualized God collecting the clay before lovingly molding Adam and blowing life into him. This image of God as primordial potter molded and shaped *me* as well.

There is something wholesome, something sacred, about pottery. Pottery is about clay, and clay is about soil—in Adam's case, primordial soil.

Pottery, of course, is not only about clay; it also bears the imprint of the potter's hands. A potter takes the clay and judges its quality and its consistency. She carefully places a lump of clay on the potter's wheel and starts spinning it. She works the clay with her skillful hands as the undefined mass of clay takes shape, never giving up on the clay, starting over until she is pleased with the result.

As every cup bears the imprint of its maker's hands, so each member of the human race bears the imprint of the Divine Potter's hands. But unlike a cup, which can't be changed once it's fired, humans can be reshaped. God shaped humans in his own image, and he continues to mold and remold us.

In the sacred liturgy, we're molded and remolded by God; this is our time to worship and God's time to shape.

During the celebration of the liturgy, God molds us into the Body of Christ. The liturgy is the divine hands, and we are the clay. Sunday after Sunday, we're shaped and reshaped. In liturgy upon liturgy, God focuses and refocuses us on what is right. During our ongoing catechesis, we have the opportunity to learn more about what God has in mind for us as it is revealed to us through Scripture and Tradition. The goal, of course, is to go into the world and do what is right in the eyes of God.

Any potter knows it's difficult to create the perfect shape and that it takes a long time to get it just right. Similarly, becoming a good Christian isn't an easy task. It takes a lifelong commitment to celebrate the liturgy and to engage in learning so we can live a truly Christian life. However, thanks to God's persistence and unfailing commitment to keep shaping and reshaping us, one day we'll be molded into perfect shape as members of the Body of Christ. +

***Unlike a cup, which can't be changed once it is fired, humans can be reshaped.***

## PRAYER

*Lord, you hear the cry of the poor. Hear my cry for inner peace and happiness.*

—From *Peaceful Meditations for Every Day in Ordinary Time*, Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeny

## WEEKDAY READINGS

*February 8–13*

**Monday,** Weekday:
Gn 1:1–19 / Mk 6:53–56

**Tuesday,** Weekday:
Gn 1:20—2:4a / Mk 7:1–13

**Wednesday,** St. Scholastica:
Gn 2:4b–9, 15–17 / Mk 7:14–23

**Thursday,** Weekday:
Gn 2:18–25 / Mk 7:24–30

**Friday,** Weekday:
Gn 3:1–8 / Mk 7:31–37

**Saturday,** Weekday:
Gn 3:9–24 / Mk 8:1–10

Bringing Home the Word
**February 7, 2021**

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# St. Rose of Lima
**Council Grove**

# St. Anthony
**Strong City**

**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

## St. Rose Confirmandi

**Alison Barhura –**
daughter of Ed & Marita Bachura
**Abigail Bachura –**
daughter of Christopher & Sandy Bachura
**Fulton Bachura –**
son of Christopher & Sandy Bachura
**LaKoddah Downes –**
son of Charles & Cheryl Downes
**Konner Farr –**
son of Jeremy & Erica Farr
**Camryn Frazier –**
daughter of Jason & Stephanie Fraizer
**Elizabeth Galloway –**
daughter of Julie Galloway
**Mason Goeckel –**
son of Chuck & Marla Goeckel
**Allen Hoffman –**
son of Michaelle Hoffman
**Valentin Mascote –**
son of Nicholas & Maria Mascote
**Creighton Simecka –**
son of Jay & Monica Simecka
**Amanda Talley –**
daughter of John & Patty Talley
**Evelyn White –**
daughter of Steve & Laura White

## St. Anthony Confirmandi

**Avery Beyer –**
daughter of Alex & Mandi Beyer
**Maddox Beyer –**
son of Alex & Mandi Beyer
**Clay Dold –**
Son of Chris & Nicol Dold
**Maesea Dold –**
daughter of John & Bonnie Dold
**Paden Jahnke –**
son of Cheryl Jahnke
**Makayla Matile –**
daughter of Gene & Paula Matile
**Sadie Mushrush –**
daughter of Daniel & Christine Mushrush
**Athena Soria –**
daughter of Alejandro & Iris Soria
**Valeria Soria –**
daughter of Alejandro & Iris Soria
**John Paul Ubert –**
son of Kelly & Allison Johnson
**Madelyn Wilson –**
daughter of Ty & Rachel Wilson

Come Holy Spirit

## Stewardship of Treasure
St. Rose
January 31, 2021

| | |
|---|---|
| Contributions.....$ | 2,127.50 |
| Call to Share.....$ | |
| Building Fund.....,$ | |
| Landscaping.....$ | |
| Total Collections.....$ | 2,127.50 |
| Avg. Weekly Expense.....$ | 2,447.70 |

## Parish Office

300 Spencer St.
Council Grove, Kansas 66846

Tele.- 620-767-6412
Email -
rosalima@tctelco.net

Webpage -
www.stanthonystrose.org

## Stewardship of Treasure
St. Anthony
January 31, 2021

| | |
|---|---|
| Contributions.....$ | 1,322.00 |
| Building.....$ | 850.00 |
| Call to Share.....$ | |
| Votive.....$ | 135.00 |
| Total Collections.....$ | 2,307.00 |
| Avg. Weekly Expense....$ | 1,272.71 |

## Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
## February 07, 2021 Lectionary: 74

### Reading I Jb 7:1-4, 6-7

Job spoke, saying:
Is not man's life on earth a drudgery?
Are not his days those of hirelings?
He is a slave who longs for the shade,
a hireling who waits for his wages.
So I have been assigned months of misery,
and troubled nights have been allotted to me.
If in bed I say, "When shall I arise?"
then the night drags on;
I am filled with restlessness until the dawn.
My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle;
they come to an end without hope.
Remember that my life is like the wind;
I shall not see happiness again.

### Responsorial Psalm Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6

**R. Praise the Lord, who heals the brokenhearted.**
Praise the LORD, for he is good;
sing praise to our God, for he is gracious;
it is fitting to praise him.
The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem;
the dispersed of Israel he gathers.
**R. Praise the Lord, who heals the brokenhearted.**
He heals the brokenhearted
and binds up their wounds.
He tells the number of the stars;
he calls each by name.
**R. Praise the Lord, who heals the brokenhearted.**
Great is our Lord and mighty in power;
to his wisdom there is no limit.
The LORD sustains the lowly;
the wicked he casts to the ground.
**R. Praise the Lord, who heals the brokenhearted.**

### Reading II 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23

Brothers and sisters:
If I preach the gospel, this is no reason for me to boast,
for an obligation has been imposed on me,
and woe to me if I do not preach it!
If I do so willingly, I have a recompense,
but if unwillingly, then I have been entrusted with a
stewardship.
What then is my recompense?
That, when I preach,
I offer the gospel free of charge
so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel.
Although I am free in regard to all,
I have made myself a slave to all
so as to win over as many as possible.
To the weak I became weak, to win over the weak.
I have become all things to all, to save at least some.
All this I do for the sake of the gospel,
so that I too may have a share in it.

### Alleluia Mt 8:17

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**
Christ took away our infirmities
and bore our diseases.
**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

### Gospel Mk 1:29-39

On leaving the synagogue
Jesus entered the house of Simon and Andrew
with James and John.
Simon's mother-in-law lay sick with a fever.
They immediately told him about her.
He approached, grasped her hand, and helped her up.
Then the fever left her and she waited on them.
When it was evening, after sunset,
they brought to him all who were ill
or possessed by demons.
The whole town was gathered at the door.
He cured many who were sick with various diseases,
and he drove out many demons,
not permitting them to speak because they knew him.
Rising very early before dawn, he left
and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed.
Simon and those who were with him pursued him
and on finding him said,
"Everyone is looking for you."
He told them, "Let us go on to the nearby villages
that I may preach there also.
For this purpose have I come."
So he went into their synagogues,
preaching and driving out demons
throughout the whole of Galilee.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Saturday** | @ St. Rose | **Feb. 6th** |
| 5:30pm | †Connie Thomas | |
| **Sunday** | @ St Anthony | **Feb. 7th** |
| 8:30am | †Ernest Davis | |
| **Sunday** | @ St. Rose | **Feb. 7th** |
| 10:30am | People of the Parishes | |
| **Monday** | | **Feb. 8th** |
| | No Mass | |
| **Tuesday** | @ St. Anthony | **Feb. 9th** |
| 12:15pm | Kelly and Danielle | |
| **Wednesday** | @ St. Rose | **Feb. 10th** |
| 5:30pm | Ted and Terri | |
| **Thursday** | @ St. Anthony | **Feb. 11th** |
| 12:15pm | †Gerald Ingalls | |
| **Friday** | @ St. Rose | **Feb. 12th** |
| 8:30am | Jerry | |
| **Saturday** | @ St. Rose | **Feb. 13th** |
| 5:30pm | †Anita Thomas | |
| **Sunday** | @ St. Anthony | **Feb. 14th** |
| 8:30am | People of the Parishes | |
| 10:30am | @ St. Rose | |
| | †Kenny Hiegert | |

**The St. Anthony Parish Hall Committee** has completed a rental contract for use of the New Parish Hall. The contract outlines acceptable uses for the space and a fee schedule. Mike Holder would like to retire from his current duties of maintaining the schedule for our facilities and we are looking for a volunteer to take over that responsibility and possibly create an online shared calendar to note when our facilities are rented, etc. If you are interested in this position, please contact one of the following member of the Parish Hall Committee- Katrina Griffin, Mike Kuhlman, Cindy Cooper, Clarita Baker, Mike Holder or Fr. Andy.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR -**
**OUR SICK:**
David Bachura, Dale Baragary, Brooklyn Barrett, Brad Brintle, Frank Buchman, Margaret Mary Buchman, Sally Colbert, Stephanie Diehl, Patrick Disberger, Teresa Disberger, Eddie Ebert, Charlie Fooke, Ranell Foxoven, Tana Griffith, Mark Hayes, Norma Hisey, Mikala Hodges, Cindy Hogman, Christy Jimerson, Tylor Kaminsky, Brendon Kassleman, Doug Kohlhase, JoAnn Larson, John Newland, Gary Schout, Malinda Schraeder, Patty Sevenans, Nick Simmons, Cole Svensen, Marie Tonkins, Joseph Weaver, Megan Weaver, Connie I. Werth, RaeLynn Werth, Vince Werth, David Wertzberger, Pete Wolf

**OUR MILITARY:**
Col. David Buchanan, Sgt. Brian Ash, SSgt. Stevi Makripodis, PR2 Teryn Grafel, PFC David Hutley

**SOULS OF OUR FAITHFUL DEPARTED:** Mary Alice Waylan, Joyce Fisher, Armando Mascote, Jerry Drummond, Marvin Lickfeig, Bud Orr, Marcelo Reynozo, Karen Crichton, Alvin Hailey, Leo Hultgren, Jim Luder, Anita Thomas, Loretta Luder, Kenny Hiegert, D. J. Bremer

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