Good News!

Today’s readings are about fraternal correction. We are responsible for our brother’s good, and God expects us to help him. This means being a good example and holding him or her to a gospel standard. If that means a hard dose of the truth, so be it, as long as that truth is given in love.

Ezekiel was a prophet who knew how to preach fire and brimstone, but he could also be tender and compassionate. He prophesied both about the destruction of Israel and how Yahweh would turn their hearts of stone into flesh. In Michelangelo’s fresco on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel, the strength of this rugged prophet is evident. That Ezekiel is turned to listen to a cherub says a lot about his humility as well.

God told Ezekiel that if he didn’t preach to the wicked, God would hold him responsible for their deaths. However, if he did preach and the wicked still didn’t heed him, Ezekiel would be safe. The moral is, when God asks us to preach, take it seriously!

Jesus tells us if our brother sins against us, we should confront him in the presence of two witnesses. He even encourages us to bring the Church in as judge if a dispute between believers isn’t resolved. However, this should always be done with love.

As humble Christians, we should accept corrections when they are done correctly. No one likes to be told he or she is wrong, but if we are we should rejoice in the truth, even if it hurts. And we should thank those who love us enough to correct us.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

September 10, 2017
Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
Ez 33:7–9; Rom 13:8–10; Mt 18:15–20
Some Enchanted Evening

12th Annual Dinner and Auction
Saturday, September 16, 2017
Tickets $40 each or Two for $70

Bob Edwards Memorial Auction
for the Caring Ministries Food Pantry and Holiday Care Project

Community of Christ Thrift Store
17 N 2nd St, Council Bluffs, IA 51503
712-328-8122 or 712-328-2267

Mid America Dr.
2702 Mid America Dr.,
Council Bluffs, Iowa 51501

Mobilis Home Medical Equipment
2711 W Broadway, Council Bluffs, IA
712-328-2288

Tickets are available at:
and proceeds go to the Community of Christ Ministries Food Pantry and Holiday Care Project.
Statement of Bishop Richard Pates
On the Cancellation of DACA

I join the voices of the leadership of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in deploiring the cancellation of the DACA program. This action engenders needless fear among many of your young people who have already established their credentials for being good citizens: education, employment in needed industries, extensive contributions throughout the economic spectrum.

I personally know many of the individuals affected. They are people of strong community and religious values. Their departure from our midst would create a cultural and societal deficit which our country can ill afford.

Governor Ray set the standard for outreach to refugees and immigrants for us Iowans. All of us have benefited from the arrival of these brothers and sisters and have been significantly enriched. I encourage the Iowa delegation to the U.S. Congress to take on the mantle of Governor Ray's compassion and caring. In the very process we will manifest our humanitarian instincts and be much the better off.
WHO? THAT MAN IS YOU!!

There once was a man . . . with a spouse, a child, or grandchildren, who wanted to know more about how his leadership could help his family grow in faith and understanding of God’s works. He asked “Who is it who can help me learn these things?” The answer came back “The best instructor is the one with motivation and determination to make it so; and . . . THAT MAN IS YOU!!”

Join us for the new year of the program designed to help men reach their full potential as a “man after God’s Own Heart.” Our fourth year at St. Patrick’s requires no previous attendance. Each year is based upon its own merits, after all, THAT MAN IS YOU!!

Starting Monday, September 11 at 6:AM-to-7:AM or Tuesday, September 12 at 6:PM-to-7:PM at 104 North Avenue Tower, Suite 7 (our temporary meeting place until the new church is finished). All sessions start on time, end on time.

Contact Larry Kenny at 712-328-8330 for more information