

FEBRUARY 11, 2024

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH



PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Very Rev. Rob Adams, STL

Deacon: Dcn. Joe Jacobs

Administrative Assistant: Becky Griffith

Custodian: Lisa Scalf

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MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, Vigil Mass: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, Mass: 10:30 a.m.

Adoration: Tuesday, 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 4:00 p.m. or by appointment.

BAPTISM - 2 WEEKS NOTICE

Please call the office for an appointment.

MARRIAGE PREP - 6 MONTHS NOTICE

Please call the office for an appointment.



6th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

A leper came to Jesus and kneeling down begged him and said, "If you wish, you can make me clean." Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand, touched him, and said to him, "I do will it. Be made clean." - Mk 1:40-41

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.



From the Pastor's Desk....

Sunday Offertory

02-04-2023.....\$4,142
 Weekly Budget.....\$2,700
Surplus/Deficit.....\$1,442

YTD Offertory.....\$99,118
 Budget.....\$86,400
Surplus/Deficit.....\$12,718

Food Pantry\$25



Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46
1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1
Mark 1:40-45

Jesus manifests the powerful, healing love of God by curing the leper who was forced to live under severe restrictions by Jewish legislation. He turned to Jesus in his need and was filled with joy. We are called to imitate the healing and compassionate Jesus.

Readings may be found in the Saint Augustine Hymnal Number 995

Hi everyone,

Normally, I like to do some reflections on the Scripture here, but this week I have quite a few announcements. First of all, this coming Wednesday is Ash Wednesday. We will have Mass at 8:30 am and 7:00 pm. For those who can't make either of those times, we will have a simple distribution of ashes at noon. Just a reminder that all Catholics over 14 years old have an obligation to abstain from meat and all Catholics from age 18 to 59 have an obligation to fast (one meal and two small snacks).

Beginning on Friday, February 16, we will have the Stations of the Cross every Friday in Lent at 6:00 pm. Please come and join us.

This coming Sunday, February 18, the Diocese will celebrate the Rite of Election at Christ the King at 4:00 pm. This is a very important moment for those who will be baptized at Easter. St. Francis has one person going, please keep him in your prayers! As a result, we will **NOT** have the 1:00 pm Byzantine Liturgy that Sunday.

Fr. Rob

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Saturday, February 10	5:00 pm Vigil Mass	For Vocations
Sunday, February 11	10:30 am Mass	For the People
Monday, February 12	No Mass	
Tuesday, February 13	Noon Mass	Poor Souls
Wednesday, February 14	8:30 am 7:00 pm	For the People For the People
Thursday, February 15	Noon Mass	Poor Souls
Friday, February 16	Noon Mass	Poor Souls
Saturday, February 17	5:00 pm Vigil Mass	+Covie and Nanette Schmidt
Sunday, February 18	10:30 am Mass	For the People

Parish Calendar & Announcements

POOR BOX - During 2023 we collected \$2,207.43 to assist the ministry of Helping Hands. Thank you!

LECTOR ROTATION - Below are the name and dates of the lector rotation.

02/11 Russ Cassidy
02/18 Doyle May
02/25 Steve Misczanski
03/03 Sidney Cline

"If you cannot make your assigned date, feel free to contact a fill in for yourself or contact Sidney Cline at 606-424-8118".

ROSARY - We will be meeting at **noon** the first Saturday of each month to say the Rosary.

IHM YOUTH GROUP - Mark Jacob, IHM Youth Group, Mission Trip Coordinator, emailed us looking for projects for this summer. They are looking for 8 of St. Francis parishioners houses to work on (ex. build ramps or painting). Please let Lisa Scalf know if you are in need. The coordinator will be here in April to elevate the projects. The group will be using the parish hall, June 10-June 14, 2024.

**GOSPEL MEDITATION -
ENCOURAGE DEEPER
UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE**

Recently I had a skin rash, and it was awful. (Please don't tell anyone.) I am embarrassed to admit that I didn't handle it well. Complaining, whining, begging for sympathy, and crying were my responses to the merciless itching and burning. In the aftermath, a silver lining emerged. I feel a new heartfelt sympathy for all those vexed with chronic skin problems. If you've ever had a seemingly unending skin problem, you know how that sympathy flows up from deep inside.

This gut-level compassion is something like what the Gospel describes in Jesus when the sore-covered leper says, "If you will it, you can make me clean." At this, just before the healing, Jesus was "moved with compassion." The Greek word used here is strong and earthy, closer to "his bowels and guts trembled with the deepest emotions of sadness, pity, and love." In Jesus, God heals our infirmities not from a divine distance but by learning what it feels like to be us. He acquires first-hand

experience of what it costs us to be afflicted and still be faithful to God. He sympathizes with the burning, itching, and blistering of human existence in the deepest, first-hand way. To discover that is to touch Jesus' heart.

What in your life, right now, is breaking out like diseased skin? What is getting worse the more you try to soothe it? Perhaps only you feel it. Or maybe it's exposed to all. A bad habit, broken relationship, loneliness, fear of failure, self-hatred? Name it, and then find a way to bring it confidently to Jesus who will feel what we are feeling, and thereby heal us.— Father John Muir OLPi

ASH WEDNESDAY

Good stewards realize they really don't own anything. It all belongs to God. It is not so much that God owns them, but they are not ours because we are called to offer them to him.

The reality is that you and I were born naked and with nothing. We will die naked and with nothing. If we really could possess something material, there would be a way to take it with us. But alas, it all slips through our grasp and passes away. And even though all of us came from dust and to dust we will return, through Jesus Christ we will live forever in a perfect state. The only thing we can take with us? Our hearts and whether or not we loved.

LENTEN DISCIPLINES OF FASTING & ABSTINENCE

Catholics in good health ages 18 to 59 are required to fast and to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Fasting consists of eating only one meal, with the possibility of two smaller snacks that do not add up to a single full meal.

Catholics age 14 and older are to abstain from meat on all Fridays in Lent.



Wilson Vanzant, Lisa Scalf's stepdad

Sister Kathy Avery

Ransom McCoy, Lindsay May's dad

Terry A. Williams, Becky Griffith's brother in law (lung cancer)

Jimmie Goss

Tim Deskins

Christine Misczanski, Steve Misczanski's mother

Melba Schmidt, Kenny Schmidt's mother

Ryan Altman, Helen Altman's grandson

Steve Misczanski, Sr. (cancer)

Erica Hunt, Lisa Scalf's friend (kidney failure)

Deacon Dirck Curry

Frank Shortridge, Becky Griffith's brother (ALS)

John Fliehman, stroke

Chona Curry

Wanda Baker

Jeffrey Scalf, Lisa's son

Sandy Lowe, cancer

Ron Saros

Kenny Blackburn

Helen Altman

Margarita Gomez

Fran Sykes

VOTIVE CANDLES:

Suggested donation: Large votives \$3.00 and small votives \$0.50



Bringing Outsiders In

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

As a child, were you teased, bullied, chosen last for a team? Did you feel apart from the in-crowd? If so, in various ways this treatment may have kept you from being fully engaged with the larger community, possibly continuing to scar you in even your grown-up world.

In 2021, the news media reported that a Louisiana cemetery refused burial for Darrell Semien because he was black. Though he had served his community as a deputy sheriff for fifteen years and had helped raise seventy-two foster children, none of that was of any significance. After the news broke, the cemetery quickly lifted its whites-only stipulation, but the damage had been done. In so many ways, we continue to exclude others from the human community, even in death.

Our Sunday Gospel tells of Jesus curing a leper, enabling the man to again become part of the community. Even more startling, by touching him, Jesus himself became “impure,” and thus isolated himself from the community, thereby switching roles with the man. Bringing others into community even at a cost to ourselves is divine.

Such compassion is exemplified when people work to reform prisons, seek to integrate immigrants into national life, give voice to the voiceless, improve mental health care, strive to alleviate paralyzing poverty, and more. The world witnessed compassion at its finest during the COVID-19 pandemic when medical personnel worked to heal the sick, even at the cost of isolating themselves from their own families. Compassion toward those in need is holy. ●

Reflect

Who made you feel welcome when you felt locked out? Can you do the same for another?

A leper came to him [and kneeling down] begged him and said, “If you wish, you can make me clean.”

MARK 1:40



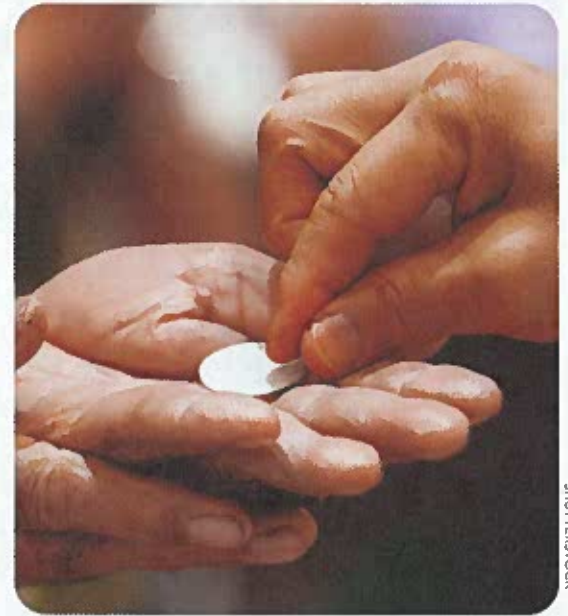
Dear Padre,

I am having a difficult time receiving Communion from a eucharistic minister who has been behaving in a manner that I don't consider moral. When I receive Communion from her, I feel like I am condoning her actions. Would it be wrong of me to go to a different person to receive Communion?

It seems unlikely that someone would assume you are condoning her actions by receiving Communion from her. We do not sin by receiving a sacrament from an unworthy person. What matters is how worthy we are to receive it. It might be wise to receive Communion from a different person if you are more concerned with this minister's behavior than you are with Jesus when you approach the sacrament.

It is not our task to expose and punish the sinner. If you look at the life of Jesus, you will see that he did everything possible not to condemn sinners but to save them. We should take that as the model for our own lives. Try to find ways to encourage her to live a good life. Perhaps friendship would serve her better than a boycott of her Communion line.

When Jesus was presented with the woman caught in adultery, he did not pretend that it was right. Neither did he rush to condemn her. He looked for his opportunity to forgive and tell her to avoid sin. Use that as your example about how to treat the woman at church.



SHUTTERSTOCK

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
February 12	February 13	February 14	February 15	February 16	February 17	February 18
<i>Weekday</i>	<i>Weekday</i>	<i>Ash Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday after</i>	<i>Friday after</i>	<i>Saturday after</i>	<i>First Sunday of</i>
Jas 1:1-11	Jas 1:12-18	Jl 2:12-18	<i>Ash Wednesday</i>	<i>Ash Wednesday</i>	<i>Ash Wednesday</i>	<i>Lent</i>
Mk 8:11-13	Mk 8:14-21	2 Cor 5:20-6:2	Dt 30:15-20	Is 58:1-9a	Is 58:9b-14	Gn 9:8-15
		Mt 6:1-6, 16-18	Lk 9:22-25	Mt 9:14-15	Lk 5:27-32	1 Pt 3:18-22
						Mk 1:12-15



VATICAN MEDIA

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Compassion means “to suffer-with-another.” Jesus’ heart manifests God’s paternal compassion for (the leper), moving close to him and touching him. And this detail is very important. Jesus “stretched out his hand and touched him.... And immediately the leprosy left him, and he was made clean” (Mark 1:41-42). God’s mercy overcomes every barrier....

ANGELUS, ROME, FEBRUARY 15, 2015

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