



FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday / Sunday February 6 & 7, 2016

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat. Feb. 6: 5pm: For the Sick

Sun. Feb. 7: 7am: Lucas Fileman
8:30am: For the Sick
10:30am: *Pro Populo*
12:30pm: For the Sick

Mon. Feb. 8: 8am: For the Sick
6pm: Quirin Abidan

Tues. Feb. 9: 8am: For the Sick
6pm: For the Sick

Wed. Feb. 10: 8am: For the Sick
12.30pm: +Samuel Ernesto Mendoza
6pm: For the Sick
7.30pm: Gladys and Family

Thurs. Feb. 11: 8am: Betty Garland
12pm: For the Sick
6pm: Anora, Joseph Daniel & Family

Fri. Feb. 12: 8am: Jeff Hansen
6pm: +Eileen Sweeny

Sat. Feb. 13: 8am: Joe Martinez
10am: Peter Martinez Family (plus)
5pm: Bella Agtarap

If you would like to have a Mass offered for a deceased loved-one or for your intentions, please contact the Parish Office. There are Masses still open for February 18-20, 23-27, and 29 •

Please keep in your prayers.... Fr. Stan Zak, Fr. Bill Marshall; Lianne Claver; Betty Garland; Alex Porcuna; Lewis Mullen; Carmel Mahoney; Nancy Duenas; Brad O’Leary; Titus Ekanem; Elisa & Giovanni Mancarti; Vic and Nancy Miloslavich; Kathryn Rieger; Judy & Louis Delligatti; Eugenia Hunter; Rose Bloom; Stella Lurton; Sue Weber; Cornelius McCauley; Laura Montgomery; Sara Zendejas; Rosaline White; Josephine Palacios; Annie Bozzardi; Francis Martinez, Mike Rodriguez; Patrick Ventanilla; Paul Ehrfurth; John Ehrfurth; Lily McWilliams; Anaidel Perezarevalo; Janice Siliger; Claudia Bermudez; Robert Martinez, Laverne Seliger; Eddie Martinez; Jim Gilheany,Sr.; Nathan Knight, AJ Garcia; Sylvester Bell, Arthur Connick. •

In Memoriam: +Virgil Garcia, +Bill Leitao, +Inetta Calori, +Michael Smith, +Rolando “Ron” Arnaldo, +Taro Yamaguchi. +Wanda Krawczyk.

Requiescat in pace •

The Mightiest Arrow in the Divine Quiver

Our Blessed Lord worked miracles never for Himself, but as credentials for His Person. They were manifest signs that He had a special mission for the realization of God's work among men. Even in the Old Testament there were miracles demanded as a sign to confirm a prophet's word. It was a mark of unbelief in Achaz that he would not ask God for a sign in confirmation of the prophet's word. But the prophet, nevertheless, gave him a sign of the Messiah, namely, the Virgin Birth.

The miracles of Our Blessed Lord moved within a sphere of redemption. They were not merely manifestations of power but an index of man's deliverance from something, namely sin. Hence in the moral order there were miracles of redemption from the tyranny of demons; in the physical order, redemption from other manifestations of sin, such as fever, palsy, leprosy, blindness, and death; redemption of nature in the quelling of the sea and making the winds His servants.

Not including summaries of miracles, which are numerous, there are twenty miracles mentioned in Matthew, twenty in Luke, eighteen in Mark and seven in John. No one can say how many miracles the Savior worked, for many of them are referred to collectively, such as "He cured the sick, the blind, and the lame." The last words of the Gospel of John are:

*There is much else that Jesus did.
If it were all to be recorded in detail,
I suppose the whole world could not
hold the books that would be written.
(John 21:25).*

The refusal of men to accept the indisputable evidence of the senses made their unbelief inexcusable.

*If I had not come and spoken to them,
they would not be guilty of sin; but
now they have no excuse for their sin:*

he who hates me, hates my Father (John 15:22)

Miracles are no cure for unbelief. Some would not believe though one were to rise daily from the dead. No sign could be wrought which would bring complete conviction, for the will can refuse assent to what the intellect knows to be true. The Pharisees admitted: *This man is performing many signs.* (John 11:48). (Taken from *Life Of Christ* by Fulton J. Sheen). ●

MESSAGE FROM FR. GLENN

As of this writing, the work on the Parish Hall's floorboards is still ongoing. I am grateful for the patience of many folks: the CCD instructors and students, among others. Many thanks to Valerie Burkart for making alternative arrangements. Other events had to be relocated or cancelled such as the Wednesday seminars, the receptions after the 12.30pm Mass, choir practices, Knight of Columbus meetings, and so on. Thank you for your patience. I hope to give you more information soon.

Contractors have looked at ways to possibly create a natural water flow out of the Rectory's backyard. Failing to come up with a feasible plan, the focus returned to just having a reliable main water pump and having a sensor that will alert the residents in the Rectory that the water level in the backyard has risen. Investing in a backup pump that can run from an outside power source such as a generator is also part of the plan.

Throughout the Diocese, this weekend marks the kickoff of **The Bishop's Appeal**. There was no Bishop's Appeal last year because of the focus on the Diocesan-wide Capital Campaign. Our Parish exceeded the goal set for us in the Campaign, as we also did in the previous Bishop's Appeal. Many thanks to the generosity of our Parishioners!

This year, our Parish has been given the goal for the **Appeal of \$18,424.95**. Funds raised for the Appeal supports the many educational, charitable, and evangelical missions of the Diocese. More information will be forthcoming. ●

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Services for **Ash Wednesday**, February 10, are as follows:

8am Mass in the Ordinary Form

10.30am Liturgy of the Word with only the distribution of ashes

**12Noon
and 6pm** Masses in the Extraordinary Form

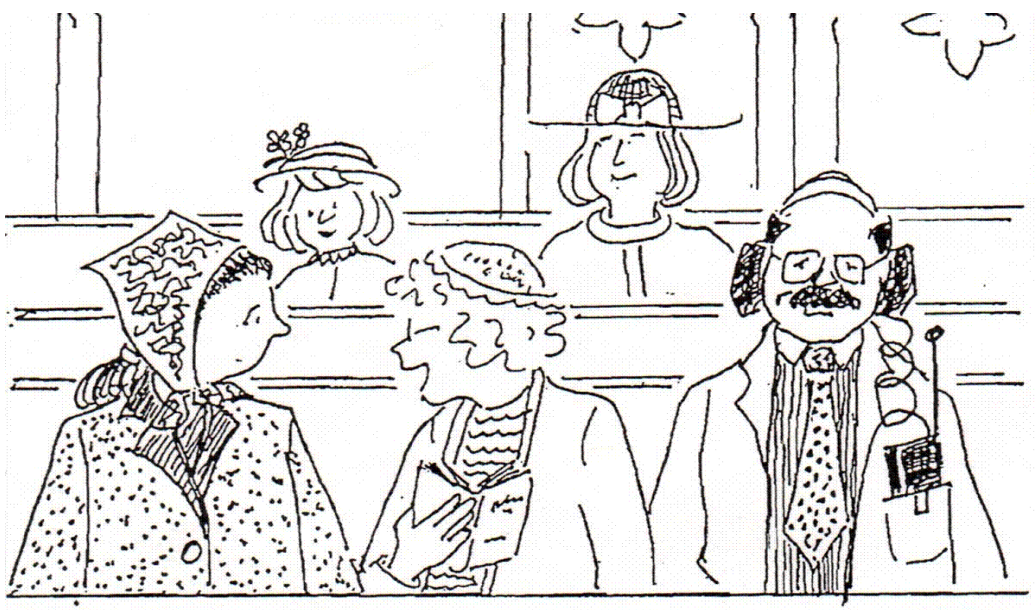
7.45pm Mass in the Ordinary Form

Ashes will be distributed at all of the services.

Ash Wednesday is a day of **fasting**. Catholics from the ages of 18 to 59 are obliged to fast on that day. Those that are excused from fast and abstinence outside the age limits include the physically or mentally ill including individuals suffering from chronic illnesses such as diabetes. Also excluded are pregnant or nursing women. In all cases, common sense should prevail, and ill persons should not further jeopardize their health by fasting.

Fasting on these days means we can have only one full, meatless meal. Some food can be taken at the other regular meal times if necessary, but combined they should be less than a full meal. Liquids are allowed at any time, but no solid food should be consumed between meals.

During Lent, the Church asks us to surrender ourselves to prayer and to the reading of Scripture, to fasting and to giving alms. The fasting that all do together on Fridays is but a sign of the daily Lenten discipline of individuals and households: fasting for certain periods of time, fasting from certain foods, but also fasting from other things and activities. Likewise, the giving of alms is some effort to share this world equally—not only through the distribution of money, but through the sharing of our time and talents. ●



"That's his 'Walkman' - he didn't want to miss the beginning of the 49'ers Championship game!"

From *Father's Flock of St. Margaret Mary's Parish* by Arden Glass

ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued):

Please join us for **Stations of the Cross** on Lenten Fridays, beginning this Friday. The Stations are prayed after the 8am and 6pm Masses. ●

This weekend **Ron Montgomery** will be accepted into the order of catechumen. Ron wishes to be baptized into the Church. Since the fall of last year, he has been receiving instructions in the faith from Steve Cortright and Lynn Suer. The rite of acceptance into the order of catechumens will be held at the 8.30am Mass.

Four other individuals are in this year's catechumenate process in the Parish: **Evan Corley, Kimberly Flanary, Victoria Gay, and Karen Melzer.** They're in various stages of the catechumenate. Please pray for them as they journey through Lent with us, preparing to be received in the Catholic Church.

Next Sunday, some of them will be going to the **Cathedral** in Oakland and be received by Bishop Barber. ●

Our annual Parish's **Novena For the Sick** continues through February 11th—the **Memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes** and **World Day of the Sick.**

The names for whom the Novena Masses are offered are in a Book of Prayer enshrined in front of the image of Our Lady of Lourdes. The remaining Novena Masses are Feb. 7 (8.30am, 12.30pm), Feb. 8 (8am), Feb. 9 (8am, 6pm), Feb. 10 (8am, 6pm), and Feb. 11 (12pm).

At the 8am and 6pm Masses on February 11 (Thursday), the **Sacrament of Anointing for the Sick** will be made available. Please inform or accompany someone you love who needs anointing to Mass. Please occupy the front pews. Those who may receive the Anointing are those suffering from chronic illness and are in danger of death due to illness or old age. If they cannot come to Mass, call the Parish Office and one of the priests of the Parish will visit and administer the Sacrament. ●

Rice Bowls from **Catholic Relief Services (CRS)** are available this weekend. They are in the vestibule Please bring the Bowls back to Church on Palm Sunday, March 20, 2016.

Operation Rice Bowl is a Lenten program of CRS: The official relief & development agency of the Church in the USA. 75% of offerings to Operation Rice Bowl fund CRS' development projects overseas. 25% of contributions support hunger & poverty alleviation efforts in dioceses across the USA. ●

To-day

“To-day,” says the Holy Spirit, “if you will hear his voice, do not harden your hearts.” Yesterday and the day before you neglected it; but to-

day is a fresh day, with a separate existence from the others; let it be the first of a fresh series of days, in which you will listen to the divine call. We may think of it as one day among others, with the same duties, cares, temptations as the others. “Deign, O Lord, to keep us, just for this one day, without sin.” The day’s evil is sufficient for it; if you will only preserve us from sin to-day, we can leave to-morrow to look after itself. Or we may think of it as the last day of a series; one to-day will be the last of all our to-days; and it may be this. If to-day is to be the last, how are we to bear the thoughts of all our wasted yesterdays? Listen to our Lord speaking from his Cross, “To-day thou shalt be with me in Paradise”; it is never too late, for the Penitent Thief or for you and me.

First, then, we are to think of to-day as the beginning of a new series. I mean, O my God, to hear your voice to-day, not to neglect it as yesterday and the day before. There are, perhaps, words of yours which I have hitherto neglected or set aside, but not quite managed to forget; they still echo in my ears, like some human utterance which comes back to me after a little, although at the time I was not attending to it. Your voice has been suggesting to me that in this or that matter I might reform my habits; that I might serve you better by making this or that small sacrifice. And I heard the suggestion, and said to myself, “Oh, well, I can do that any day.” Yes, but any day is no day; the only solution of the difficulty is “to-day.” This is the day which the Lord has made—it was to-day you meant me to start. The long-refused invitation shall be accepted, at last.

Before we listen to the voice of God, we must listen for the voice of God; he speaks to us in a whisper, as he spoke to Elijah—we shall miss the sound if we do not make a silence to hear it in. When I say that, I don’t want you to mistake my meaning. I don’t think—this may be the most frightful heresy, but I don’t think—that God very often puts things into your mind or mine when we are at prayer—inspirations, I mean, resolutions about what we ought to do for him. With the saints, evidently he does that; their prayer moves on an altogether higher level than ours. But the inspirations he sends to us are much more likely, I think, at other times of the day, when we aren’t particularly attentive to him, or to the things of heaven. (Taken from *A Retreat For Lay People* by Ronald Knox) ●

ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued):

The Diocese has made available a video series that follows the stories of the 14 **Works of Mercy** in action throughout the Diocese of Oakland. The videos, each focused on one specific Work of Mercy, tell the stories of people from different parishes and all walks of life who have found ways to let God's Mercy shine through their actions. The videos will be released in pairs (one Spiritual Work video and one Corporal Work video) over the next three months. Two new videos in the Mercy Project series—"visiting those in prison" and "praying for the living and the dead"—were released January 26.

Both videos can be viewed at <http://jubileeofmercy-eb.org/> which is the Diocese's website marking the **Jubilee Year of Mercy**. Please reflect on these two videos. ●

This week's **second collection** is for the Building Fund. Last week's second collection for the St. Vincent dePaul Society totaled \$1,512. Next week's second collection will be for the Bishop's Appeal. Thank you for your support. May God reward your generosity.

Weekly update January 30th and 31st	Year-to-Date	
Actual - 1st Plate	\$3,882	\$20,259
Parish Pay 1st Plate	\$2,300	\$6,940
Total 1st Plate	\$6,182	\$27,199
Goal	\$6,400	\$32,000
Shortfall	\$218	(-\$4,801)

MUSIC FOR THIS WEEKEND'S MASSES

Prelude: "Antienne dans le mode de ecclesiasitique", E. Gigout

Hymns for today: #483 O Worship the King, #600 All creatures of our God and King

5pm (Sat.) The Heritage Mass, O. Alsott

10:30am: Missa Orbis Factor. **Offertory:** Lord for thy tender mercies sake.

Communion: Come let us Sing to the Lord

12:30pm: Mass IX (Cum júbilo) Credo III
Postlude: Toccata in B minor, E. Gigout •

[Little Catechism Of The Life Of Prayer](#)

Chapter I: Prayer In The Contemplative Life
(continued)

Which of these is true love?

Love of the will, because the will is what is most personal in us. Our liberty resides in the will, and it is precisely with this that we give ourselves to God. For this reason He asks of man exactly the “gift of his will.” It is in this full consecration to God that the total giving of self on the part of a human being consists.

Sensible love is a complement of quite secondary importance. However, to experience this does not depend on us, whereas it does depend on us to love with the will.

Why do we naturally desire sensible love?

We desire it for its sweetness and because it provides comfort and consolation. It is precisely for this reason that in sensible love we often seek ourselves, while with the love of the will we seek God. Thus He often takes sensible love away from us, to make us walk more resolutely with the will alone.

With which love should we love God in prayer?

Certainly with the love of the will, this being more important. If sensible love happens to be added to this, then instead of seeking our pleasure in it, we should profit by its aid to strengthen our will in giving ourselves to God. When sensible love is lacking we should continue with the will alone.

How can I spend a whole hour in this loving conversation with our Lord?

In the beginning of the life of prayer, many people encounter great difficulties and experience tedium or else they are conscious of being very distracted. It is necessary therefore for them to understand that “to make

prayer” is something that “is learned.” Exactly in order to teach this, the Carmelite theologians who have made a study of the life of prayer, have devised their “method of mental prayer.”

Chapter II: The Method of Mental Prayer

What is meant by a method of mental prayer?

A method of mental prayer is a practical guide for walking quickly in the way of prayer. In fact it indicates the various acts that should be made in order to make better progress.

(By Fr. Gabriel of St. Mary Magdalen, OCD) ●

[**RETURN TO HOMEPAGE**](#)