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# Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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FEBRUARY 11, 2024



## THIS WEEKEND'S READINGS

**First:** Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46

**Second:** 1 1 Corinthians 10:31–11:1

**Gospel:** Mark 1:40-45

**FOCUS:** *Do everything for the glory of God.*

“Do everything for the glory of God.” Paul’s words are both commanding and encouraging. As Christians, whatever we do ought to reflect who we are: Children of the Most High God, adopted sons and daughters of the Lord. We are sisters and brothers of Christ, and our very identity should permeate all we say and do. We are encouraged in this endeavor, and aided by grace, so that we can glorify God for his sake, and for the sake of the world’s salvation.

## LITURGY OF THE WORD:

The first reading addresses dealing with people with skin disease. They are denounced unclean and must live alone. Paul calls the Corinthians to give glory to God in everything they do. In the Gospel, Jesus is moved with pity for a man with leprosy. Jesus touches the man, and he is made clean.



## MASS INTENTIONS

**5 p.m.:** Diane Esparza, Jean Simmons and Kevin Stanton

**10 a.m.:** Oswaldo Rivero, Sonia Del Pilar and Francis Stein

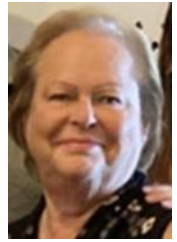
## LAST WEEK'S MASS ATTENDANCE

Saturday – 90

Sunday – 168

## MEET OUR 'NEW' DRE

Peg Hoblin is no stranger to St. Paul's or our Religious Education program. She was actually its director from 1991 through 2007. And it was Peg who recruited Ernie Martin, then a kindergarten teacher and catechist, with whom she would strategize approaches for what was to become our Children's Liturgy of the Word 28 years ago.



Although she left her employment here for a regional post with the Archdiocese, she remained a dedicated parishioner. And now that she has retired from the Archdiocese, her career is coming full circle as she returns to the post that touches her very soul.

## ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday is this Wednesday, February 14. Our Masses, with the distribution of ashes, will be celebrated at 9 a.m. and 7 p.m.

If you are able to serve as a greeter, please call the office.

## WHY ASHES

Ashes symbolize our mortality. They are a physical reminder that our bodies will decay, but our souls will live on in eternal life.

Fr. Anthony Kadavil (<https://fr.tonyshomilies.com>) reflects further: “The cross of ashes means that we are making a commitment – that we are undertaking Lent as a season of prayer and penitence, of dying to ourselves. It also describes our human condition: It says that we are broken and need repair; that we are sinners and need redemption. Most importantly, it tells us that, as followers of Jesus Christ, we are to carry our crosses.”



## LENTEN FAST AND ABSTINENCE

During the season of Lent, the Church urges the faithful to reflect a spirit of penance in their daily lives through performing acts of fast and abstinence.

- Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. This is a serious matter within Church law – even though Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day share the same day this year. It is suggested that Valentine's Day be celebrated the day before instead.
- Fasting means only one full meal a day. Two smaller meals may be eaten to maintain physical strength, but together they should not equal another full meal. Snacking between meals is not permitted. Catholics ages 18-59 are obligated to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
- Abstinence forbids the eating of meat or poultry. Those age 14 and older are obligated to abstain on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent.



## HELP FOR THE HOMELESS

The seven kids and six adults who gathered on the evening of February 2 to pack bags for the homeless didn't really notice how chilly Deacon John Hall was without a working furnace. Perhaps it's because they were thinking about how much colder it was outside, without any shelter at all.

Or maybe it was because they just didn't stop moving!

Boxes and boxes of your generous donations were sorted, then 100 bags were filled with necessities ranging from granola bars and water to toothpaste and socks. Surplus donations were organized, and everything was then tucked neatly inside a classroom.

All in only an hour!

"We played catch in the hall until 8 p.m.," says Chris

Worthington, the youth minister.

On Wednesday, the 100 bags and some of the "extras" were delivered to the Middletown Warming Station, which is run by the Greater Middletown Interfaith Council.

"They were grateful and appreciative beyond words," says Chris of the husband and wife who volunteer at the Warming Station and were on hand to receive the items. "They shared with me that often nine or 10 people are turned away because there simply are no more beds available."

Fearless, formerly known as Safe Homes, and the Guild of St. Margaret Soup Kitchen will also receive some of your donations. Nothing will be wasted!

Thank you for making all of this possible.

## WON'T LET THIS FISH GET AWAY

**Fish "Fry" Friday** is this Friday, **February 16**. Our Social Activities team will be preparing a batter-dipped fish supper for you to take home. **Pick up time is between 5:30 and 6:30 p.m.**

The cost is \$10 per person or \$20 for an *immediate* family for batter-dipped fish, French fries, coleslaw, mozzarella sticks and zucchini sticks. There will be a condiment station for those wanting tartar sauce, malt vinegar and/or marinara sauce. It's Lent, so even a sit-down meal wouldn't include adult beverages or dessert!

And that was the original intent – to have a community sit-down dinner. However, the 40-year-old furnace that keeps the hall nice and cozy has gone kaput. It's been determined that our only option is to install a new unit, which will take weeks.

Tickets can be purchased after the Masses this weekend for through the office during the week.



## CARDINAL'S 2024 APPEAL

There are so many reasons why the Appeal is important. Your support helps countless people and sustains ministries throughout our parishes.

Our parish goal is **\$50,600**, of which **\$4,545** has already been received/pledged from **19** families. Please prayerfully consider your gift, which you can also make an online at [www.cardinalsappeal.org](http://www.cardinalsappeal.org).

Thank you for your generosity.



the **CARDINAL'S**  
ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL

Sharing God's Gifts Throughout  
the Archdiocese of New York

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Regular Sunday Collection

**January 29- February 4: \$ 6,793.19**

Envelopes: \$ 3,932.00 – Online: \$ 2,861.19

**THANK YOU!**

