

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FEBRUARY 16, 2025



THIS WEEKEND'S READINGS

First Reading: *Jeremiah 17:5-8*

Put trust and hope in the Lord, not in human beings.

Responsorial Psalm: *Psalms 1:1-4,6*

Blessed are those who follow the law of the Lord.

Second Reading: *1 Corinthians 15:12,16-20*

Our hope for resurrection is sure because Christ has been raised from the dead.

Gospel Reading: *Luke 6:17,20-26*

Jesus teaches the crowd the way to happiness.

Focus: God lifts us up to greater things.

Our readings today emphasize that our eyes should not be fixed on things of this world. We will not find true fulfillment on earth, where things pass away. Rather, our focus is to be on the Lord and following his ways. He lifts us up, no matter what hardship we are facing.

Liturgy of the Word:

In the first reading, the Lord says that those who trust in him are truly blessed. In the second reading, Saint Paul teaches the truth of the Resurrection. In the Gospel, Jesus preaches the Sermon on the Plain to a crowd, lifting up those who yearn for more in this world and decrying those who have found false fullness in the world.



MASS INTENTIONS

5 p.m.: Jean Simmons, The Visco Family and Maria Gaspar

10 a.m.: Frances Hernandez, Jessica Lancellotti and Georgina Torres-Narvaez

CONDOLENCES

We extend our deepest sympathies to Mandi and Frank Beaver upon the death last week of her mother, Mary Szulwach. Please keep them in your prayers.

WHAT AM I DOING FOR LENT?



Lent is approaching very quickly, and you may already be contemplating this year's Lenten practice.

But here's a different option: Why not consider joining your fellow parishioners after Mass each Sunday of Lent to reflect and share your

thoughts on that day's Gospel reading?

Sign-up sheets will be available at the doors beginning next weekend, February 22-23. Please note you do not have to attend every Sunday to participate.

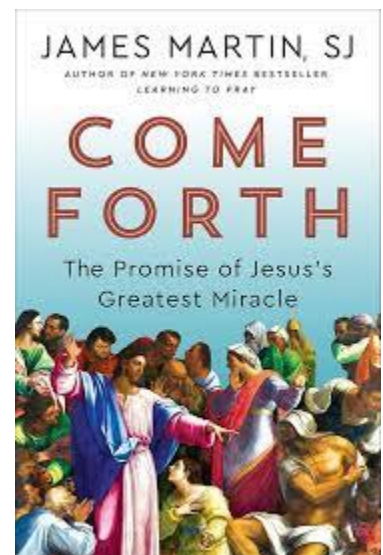
LEARN THE LESSON OF LAZARUS

Another possible Lenten practice is to participate in the Book Club. The selection for this Lent is Fr. James Martin's book, "COME FORTH: The Promise of Jesus's Greatest Miracle."

It is not only a meditation on one of the most intriguing events of the New Testament, but also a profound reflection on Jesus' lessons on love, family, sadness, frustration, fear, anger, freedom and joy.

Martin helps us experience the transformative story of Lazarus. We need only trust that God can use it to free us to experience new life, like Lazarus.

Discussion begins at 10 a.m. Thursday, March 6, via Zoom and runs until 11:15 a.m. For further information and for the Zoom link, contact the office of Deacon Carl at carlloc@yahoo.com.



TREASURER'S REPORT

Regular Sunday Collection

February 3-9: \$ 6,909.38

Envelopes: \$ 1,678.10 – Online: \$ 5,231.28

LAST WEEK'S MASS ATTENDANCE

5 p.m. – 103

10 a.m. – 30 (Snow)

HEED THE CALL OF CABBAGE

On **Saturday, March 8**, our **corned-beef-and-cabbage** tradition returns after the 5 o'clock Mass.

You might even find a Pot of Gold (a/k/a mac and cheese) on the buffet – and with a little bit of Irish luck, Irish bangers, too! And who knows what else the team of leprechauns might serve?

Adults will be able to have a gargle – that's Irish slang for beer or wine – and there will be soda, too.

Tickets, \$15 or \$35 for an immediate family, will be sold after the Masses beginning next weekend and will also be available through the office.



BLANKET MINISTRY BAKE SALE

Be sure to bring your sweet tooth to church the **first weekend of March** as it is time once again for the semiannual **Bake Sale** to benefit the Prayer Blanket Ministry.

Twice a year, the core members of this ministry gather with Confirmation candidates to make no-sew fleece blankets for those in need of comfort – and the next session is approaching. The sale of home-baked goods takes place shortly beforehand so the proceeds, along with any other donations, are available for some smart shopping. Your invaluable support continues to fund this ministry.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



Imagine that! Yes, our God desires to communicate with us always. So we say, "Yes" ... but how? Come and see!

Participate in this presentation by

Pat Davies and be introduced to the ancient prayer method called Lectio Divina – or more simply "The 4 Rs" – after the 10 a.m. Mass next Sunday, **February 23**. For planning purposes, please sign up on the website, by calling the office or on the sheets in the vestibules.



A new twist is planned for the next game night – a "big" game that can include everyone! You can count on lots of laughs beginning at 7 p.m. next **Friday**,

February 21. Don't forget to bring your snacks and get ready for an evening of great community fun!



Ash Wednesday is **Wednesday, March 5**. Mass with the distribution of ashes will take place at 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. Please let the office know if you are able to serve as a greeter.

LIVING THE BEATITUDES

If we want to understand the way of the Beatitudes, we must look to Christ. We must also look to the saints, especially those who walk the way of humility.

Two examples are St. Francis, the "little poor man of Assisi," whose spiritual biography is called the "*Fioretti*" or Little Flowers, and of course, the Little Flower herself, Therese of Lisieux, a Carmelite nun whose spirituality is called the "Little Way."

The little way of spiritual childhood is a way of trust and love, of experiencing loving confidence in God's goodness in all circumstances. The little way calls for deep awareness of our total dependence on God for all things and to abandon or surrender of ourselves, our lives, our fortunes, our future, to God's providence.

If we walk this way, we won't be swayed by the temptations and appeals in the cultural waters around us. A culture that idolizes wealth and strength creates a culture of fear and anxiety. To trust in God is to put aside fear and anxiety.

Consider the words of another great Carmelite saint, St. Teresa of Avila:

**Let nothing disturb you. Let nothing frighten you.
God never changes. Patience obtains all things.
Whoever has God lacks nothing.
God alone suffices.**

SATAN'S BEATITUDES



Blessed are those who are too tired, too busy, too distracted to spend an hour once a week with their fellow Christians in Church – they are my best workers.



Blessed are those who wait to be asked and expect to be thanked – I can use them in my business.



Blessed are those who are touchy. Soon they will stop going to Church – verily, they shall be my missionaries.



Blessed are those who have no time to pray – for they are MY prey.



Blessed are those who gossip – for they are my secret agents.



Blessed are you when you read this and think it has everything to do with other people, and nothing to do with you – I've got room for YOU at my inn.

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK



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