

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 31, 2021



Reading I: Deuteronomy 18: 15-20

The author wants to find a place for prophecy in his country. He describes a true prophet as a native Israelite who is called by Yahweh and continues the prophetic role of Moses.

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 7: 32-35

Paul is addressing newly married couples. We note his view of the equality of men and women. He advises couples but does not impose any solutions.

The Gospel: Mark 1: 21-28

Capernaum is the setting for this last section of Chapter One. Jesus' "amazing" teaching did not rely on appeals to Scripture or other teachers for verification. The healing He works presages the end of the power of demons.



5 p.m.: Evelyn Burns, Richard Burns, Susan Burns and Harold Horch

10 a.m.: Eileen Carson, Gary Baronowski, Evelyn Joyce and Anthony "Tony" Sustack

LAST WEEK'S MASS ATTENDANCE

5 p.m. Saturday, January 16: **42**

10 a.m. Sunday, January 10: **54** in the church;
14 in the hall

GRATITUDE

Your Parish Community is

GRATEFUL

for your consistent contributions.

TREASURER'S REPORT

January 17-24: Totaled \$ 4,471.94

Envelopes: \$ 2,192.00 – Online: \$ 2,279.94

'PROMISE' IS A POWERFUL WORD

Live a while in our very human world and you soon learn that many a promise is broken - so much so that we are amazed when they are kept, especially over a long time. How many hearts have been broken by this very human failure we can only guess; so it is very reassuring and

definitely cause for rejoicing to learn from the Bible that God is the exception. He keeps every promise

He makes. Admittedly, there may be extensive time gaps between promise made and promise kept, but then we also know that God's ways are not ours. The times described in Deuteronomy, our First Reading today, were long gone when events like those recounted in the Gospels took place.

Deuteronomy captures the day when, speaking through Moses, God guarantees that a prophet very much like Himself will be "raised up for you from among your own kin. ... And to Him you will listen." This is very much a command added to a promise.

Fast forward to that day at the Capernaum synagogue. Just as Jesus started His teaching, He was rudely interrupted by a foul-mouthed demon living in an otherwise innocent man. Jesus hears him out. "What have you to do with us Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us?"

Most likely this group of demons knew the answer to their questions, but they wanted confirmation of their conclusion. Jesus doesn't answer their impertinent questions. Instead He commands: "Quiet! Come out of him!" This was foretold by Moses.

The power of Jesus, able to cross over to the world of the supernatural, should be a comfort to us - especially as we can be quite devilish in our inner lives. Christ has kept His promises. All we have to do is keep our own to Him. Allow me to tell, on a much lower level of example, what just might happen to us if we don't.

Three men died and went to heaven. Upon their arrival, St. Peter asked the first if he had been faithful to his wife. The man admitted to two affairs during his marriage. St. Peter told him that he could receive only a subcompact car to drive in heaven.

Then St. Peter asked the second man if he had been faithful to his wife, and the man admitted to one affair. St. Peter told him that he could have a mid-size car to drive. The third man was asked about his faithfulness, and he told St. Peter he had been true to his wife until the day he died. St. Peter praised him and gave him a luxury car.

A week later, the three men were all stopped at a red light. The men in the subcompact and mid-size cars saw the man in the luxury car crying. They asked him what could possibly be the matter. After all, he was driving a luxury car. "I just passed my wife," he told them, "and she was on a skateboard!"

God love you and give you His peace,
- **Rev. Leonard N. Peterson**



IN THE LOOP ...



the CARDINAL'S
ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL
Sharing God's Gifts

❄️ This past year has seen a world marked by much pain, hunger and sickness; however, the response of our parish community and the Catholic Church at large has set an example of sacrificial love.

The 2021 Cardinal's Appeal continues to address the needs of the less fortunate and makes possible works of mercy across the Archdiocese, including:

- Much-needed COVID-19 relief
- Financial support to vulnerable parishes
- Catholic Charities and pastoral programs

Our parish goal is \$43,000, and no gift is too small. Your prayerful consideration is greatly appreciated.

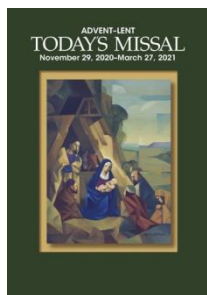


❄️ The 5 p.m. Saturday Mass and the 10 a.m. Sunday Mass are being live-streamed into your home via the following link (which can be copied into your browser):

<https://www.twitch.tv/10915spmb>

However, we still need to train a few more volunteers in the art of streaming. The streaming setup is simple, does not require lengthy training and no professional background is necessary! Interested? Let the office know.

❄️ COVID-19 safety protocols preclude any papers or booklets from being left in the pews. However, there are copies of the current Missal, which runs through the end of Lent, at the doors to the church. You are welcome to take your personal copy to bring back and forth to Mass with you.



Celebrate Catholic Schools Week
January 31-February 6,
2021



YOUTH MINISTRY UPDATE

Last week, the Youth Ministry participants were asked what they would choose for a nickname or code name. The answers were entertaining:

Card Shark Burrito Banana Silver Card
Rapunzel Sparkly Space Warrior Flow
Justice Pugington The Ram 23 Silver Onyx

The shared Scriptures included:

1 Samuel 3:19 - The Lord was with Samuel as he grew up, and he let none of Samuel's words fall to the ground.

Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; 6 in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

1 John 3:18 - Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

Psalms 23:1-3 - The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing. 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, 3 he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake.

Isaiah 35:4 - Say to those with fearful hearts, "Be strong, do not fear; your God will come, he will come with vengeance; with divine retribution he will come to save you."

Phillipians 4:13 - I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

Hebrews 6:18 - God did this so that, by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to take hold of the hope set before us may be greatly encouraged.

2 Timothy 1:12 - That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet this is no cause for shame, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him until that day.

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Please support our sponsors as they have supported us.

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