

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FEBRUARY 19, 2023

O Lord, I trust in your merciful love.

My heart will rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.

Psalm 13(12):6

DISCIPLES TOGETHER

Today's readings reflect on our communal identity as disciples. Before we begin Lent together in a few days, we take time to appreciate what God has done by giving us our family of faith. In Leviticus, God tells Moses to "speak to the whole Israelite community" and give them instructions for living in love. Moses passes along the message—to each and every believer—that God's people must strive together for holiness. Saint Paul echoes this message, insisting that we are indeed God's holy children. As temples of the Spirit, we belong to Christ and to one another. This mutual belonging is a blessing and a challenge. In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus sets a high bar for Christian community: his followers must love not only those who are easy to love, but also the people who upset us. Together, let us ask God to give us this kind of love.

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Take no revenge and cherish no grudge; love your neighbor as yourself. (Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18).

Psalm — Our God shows mercy and graciousness (Psalm 103).

Second Reading — You are the temple of God, and holy (1 Corinthians 3:16-23).

Gospel — Offer no resistance; love your enemies (Matthew 5:38-48).

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Ash Wednesday takes its name from the fact that many Christians anoint their foreheads with ashes on this day. The practice dates back to early Christian times. It reminds us that, like Jesus, who died on Good Friday, we are too marked for death. It also reminds us that if we want to rise to eternal life, as Jesus did, we must repent. That is, we must let our broken heart show our sorrow.

What we might be an appropriate way to let my heart show my sorrow this Lenten season? Why might this be appropriate?

When the soul has laid down its faults at the feet of God, it feels as though it had wings. —EUGENIE DE GUERIN

The Lord says, "Repent sincerely and return to me with fasting and weeping and mourning. Let your broken heart show your sorrow." —JOEL 2:12-13

FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH ARE OFFERED BY:

1. Billy Jude, Mary Rita, Matt, Jennifer, and Faro Thomas in loving memory of Tommy Jude on his 29th Birthday and the blue rose is in loving memory of Deputy's Mary Ann;
2. Jimmy Jay and Mary Melissa in loving memory of Rev. Peter Clarke on the 3rd Anniversary of his death;
3. Pete Mike, Allison, Luxe and Seve in loving memory of Ned Sherlock on the 13th Anniversary of his death;
4. the Family of Pete "Mockhem" Mulholland and Peyton Sherlock in loving memory of them on the 7th Anniversary of their deaths;
5. the Wife and Family of Pete Jude Gorman on the 2nd Anniversary of his death;
6. and a Parish Family Member in thanks to St. Expedite.

BANNS OF MARRIAGE The Banns of Marriage are announced for the second time for Danny Patrick Sherlock and Savannah Carroll.

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED The Church Office will be closed this Monday, February 20th in observance of President's Day.

ASH WEDNESDAY Lent begins with **ASH WEDNESDAY**. **Mass on Ash February 22nd will be celebrated at 12:00 NOON.** Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of 6 ½ weeks of repentance, fasting and abstinence in preparation for Easter. The ashes are symbols of being sorry for things we have done and want to get rid of them forever. This is also a reminder to us that we all come from ashes and to ashes we return.

MORNING AND EVENING PRAYER Thanks to the Legion of Mary, we will have Morning and Evening Prayer in the Church during Lent. All are requested to make use of this golden opportunity to join in the worldwide praise of God at the beginning and the close of each day. Morning and Evening Prayer will begin next Monday, February 27th.

MORNING PRAYER Monday thru Friday 9:30 a.m.
EVENING PRAYER Monday thru Thursday 3:30 p.m.
Friday 6:30 p.m.

OUR GIFTS RECORD

Offertory Development

Last Week's Collection	\$3,928.00	\$2,586.00
Number of Families contributing	109	90
Total Pledge for 2023	\$160,375.00	\$163,292.00
Pledged to Date (6 Weeks)	\$22,552.00	\$22,858.00
Received to Date	\$16,980.00	\$13,160.00
Envelopes Outstanding	\$5,572.00	\$9,698.00

LADIES OFFERTORY RECORD

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2023
\$182.00	\$1,376.00

Twenty-seven ladies contributed last week.

PARISH LIFE CENTER HALL FUND WEEKLY REPORT

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2023
\$6,104.00	\$6,698.00

Three people made a P.L.C. contribution last week.

BICENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN

GOAL	\$165,000.00
Total Pledged	\$210,300.00
Total Received	\$71,565.00

CATHOLIC APPEAL OF SOUTH CAROLINA (BAA)

Amount given to date	2023 GOAL
\$725.00	\$19,882.00

POOR BOX totaled \$199.00.

14 **CHILDREN** contributed \$70.00.

MASS ON FRIDAYS during Lent will be at 7:00 P.M. beginning Friday, February 24th./

STATIONS OF THE CROSS during Lent, will be held every Friday after 7:00 p.m. Mass. The Stations of the Cross will be led on Friday:

Feb. 24: Legion – O.L. of Presentation
Mar. 3: Legion – O.L. of Epiphany
Mar. 10: Religious Education Teachers
Mar. 17: Lectors
Mar. 24: Youth Group & Young Girls Org.
Mar. 31: Society of Mary Immaculate
Apr. 7: Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

LUCKY means, who get the **OPPORTUNITY**.

BRILLIANT means, who create the **OPPORTUNITY**.

WINNER means, who uses the **OPPORTUNITY**.

SPECIAL COLLECTION The second collection next weekend will be for *Aid to the Church in Central and Eastern Europe*.

DIVINE MERCY Beginning Ash Wednesday, the Divine Mercy Novena will be held daily at 3:00 P.M. in the Church during Lent. Betty Jo, Cathy Ann, Sherlock's Mary Theresa, Tina Johnson, Cathy Carroll, and Melissa Gallon will be leading the Novena.

THANK YOU to two parish members for their \$200 donation in thanks to Our Lady of Guadalupe; a parish member for a \$100 donation in thanks to the Sacred Heart, St. Padre Pio, St. Anthony, St. Joseph, and the Blessed Mother; and also to two parish members for their donations in thanks to St. Expedite.

JOKE OF THE WEEK During a priest's sermon, a large plant fell over right behind the pulpit, crashing to the ground. Acknowledging his reputation for long-windedness, he smiled sheepishly and said, "Well, that's the first time I actually put a plant to sleep."

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Monday: Presidents' Day
Tuesday: St. Peter Damian; Mardi Gras; Shrove Tuesday
Wednesday: Ash Wednesday; **Fast and Abstinence;**
Washington's Birthday
Thursday: St. Polycarp
Friday: Abstinence

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday: For Winnie Cat Gorman and Jeanie Riley.
Tuesday: For Pat and Joanne Gorman.
Wednesday: In honor of the Infant Jesus of Prague and St. Joseph for all the sick and for all the holy souls in purgatory; for the repose of the soul of Mary Carroll Sherlock on the 25th Anniversary of her death; and for the repose of the soul of Big Joe on his Birthday.
Thursday: For the repose of the soul of Tommy Jude O'Hara on his 29th Birthday and for the repose of the soul of Hambone's Mary Catherine on the 3rd Anniversary of her death.
Friday: For Bryan Jude Gorman on his Birthday.

READERS

Sat. Feb. 18th, 4:00 P.M. Julie Ann & Macy	Sat. Feb. 18th, 7:00 P.M. Dayna & Leah
Sun. Feb. 19th, 10:00 A.M.	Lauren Ashley & Taniel
Sat. Feb. 25th, 4:00 P.M. Montela & Christina	Sat. Feb. 25th, 7:00 P.M. Mary Martha & Natalie
Sun. Feb. 26th, 10:00 A.M.	Lauren Ashley & Taniel

READERS – WEEKDAYS

Monday	-	Christina Apple
Tuesday	-	Macy
Wednesday	-	Josie
Thursday	-	Mary Martha
Friday	-	Julie Ann

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS - WEEKDAYS

Monday	-	Theresa Hun
Tuesday	-	Jack's Mary Rita
Wednesday	-	Julie Ann
Thursday	-	Betty Jo
Friday	-	Ned's Rose Marie

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS – WEEKEND

<u>Saturday 4:00 P.M.</u>	<u>February 18th</u>
Right	Winnie Ann
Left	Bridget Rita

<u>Saturday 7:00 P.M.</u>	<u>February</u>
	Bridgette Anna & Theresa Hun

<u>Sunday 10:00 A.M.</u>	<u>February 19th</u>	<u>February 26th</u>
	Ned's Rose Marie	Nora

A FEW ONE LINERS

- **Age is a very high price to pay for your maturity.**
- **Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than going to a garage makes you a mechanic.**
- **Artificial intelligence is no match for natural stupidity.**
- **Bills travel through the mail at twice the speed of checks.**
- **It is easier to get forgiveness than permission.**
- **If you look like your passport picture, you probably need the trip.**

~~~~~PRAYER CORNER~~~~~

DEAR GOD

Dear God, I kneel down before You at this moment. Please enlighten what is dark in me, strengthen what is weak in me, mend what is broken in me, heal what is sick in me, and revive whatever peace and love that has died in me. This is my prayer for me, my family, my friends, my enemies and even those who hate me. Amen.