

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FEBRUARY 23, 2020

Be holy, for I, the LORD, your God, am holy.

— *Leviticus 19:2b*

FOOLISHNESS

Sometimes the idea of repentance seems old-fashioned, naïve, even foolish. But if you're looking for real foolishness, you'll find it in today's readings.

We begin with Leviticus and the admonition, "Take no revenge and cherish no grudge" (Leviticus 19:18). We've heard that message before, of course, so we might forget how far it is from the so-called "practical realities of life." Saint Paul warns us about being practical, though. Whoever considers oneself wise had better "become a fool," because "the wisdom of this world is foolishness in the eyes of God" (1 Corinthians 3:18, 19).

This "foolishness" continues in the Gospel: "Offer no resistance to one who is evil" (Matthew 5:39). In fact, offer the other cheek when you've been slapped. Hand over your coat as well as your shirt. Be like God, who sends sunshine and rain on the bad as well as the good. "So be perfect," says Jesus, "just as your heavenly Father is perfect" (5:48).

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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 — The Lord is kind and merciful (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).

OUR GIFTS RECORD

	Offertory	Development
Last Week's Collection	\$2,864.00	\$1,618.00
Number of Families contributing	95	67
Total Pledge for 2020	\$167,031.00	\$162,928.00
Pledged to Date (7 Weeks)	\$23,826.00	\$23,188.00
Received to Date	\$16,313.00	\$11,789.00
Envelopes Outstanding	\$7,513.00	\$11,399.00

LADIES OFFERTORY RECORD

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2020
\$191.00	\$1,678.00

Twenty-five ladies made a contribution last week.

PARISH LIFE CENTER HALL FUND WEEKLY REPORT

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2020
\$850.00	\$28,295.00

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

BICENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN

GOAL	\$165,000.00
Total Pledged	\$210,300.00
Total Received	\$43,642.00

25 **CHILDREN** contributed \$90.00

BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL totaled \$50.00.

The **ATTENDANCE** for last Saturday 4:00 p.m. Mass was 70; Saturday 7:00 P.M. was 150 and Sunday 10:00 a.m. Mass was 80.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Because thou obeyedst not the voice of the Lord,...therefore hath the LORD done this thing unto thee this day. —1 Samuel 28:18

In the last decaying days of the Third Reich, Hitler acted out of panic and gave orders no responsible man would have ever given.

Saul, the bright young man decided he alone was able to lead Israel. He ignored God only to find that without His strength, fondest dreams are cruelly crushed.

Sin has a decaying effect. There is a progression of evil—"Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death" (James 1:15). Let's realize that the only positive progression comes when we grow "in the vine." In Him we move and have our being. When we separate ourselves from Him, decay and death result.

"As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in Me" —John 15:4

FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH ARE OFFERED BY:

1. the Wife and Family of Big Joe Riley in loving memory of him on his 65th Birthday;
2. the Gallons in loving memory of Johnny and Catherine Ann Gallon on their Birthdays and Wedding Anniversary;
3. the Family of Nora Dempsey and Mary Carroll in loving memory of them on the Anniversaries of their deaths;
4. and a Parish Member in thanks to St. Expedite.

FUNERAL SERVICE FOR REV. PETER CLARKE A Vigil will be held this Thursday, February 27th at 7:00 P.M. and the Mass of Christian Burial will be held this Friday, February 28th at 11:00 A.M. here at St. Edward Church.

Messages of condolence may be sent to Rev. Peter Clarke's family:
Steve Clarke
257 Wickford Court
North Kingstown, RI 02852

ASH WEDNESDAY Lent begins with **ASH WEDNESDAY**. Mass on Ash Wednesday, February 26th, will be celebrated at 12 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.

SPECIAL COLLECTION The collection on Ash Wednesday will be for *Aid to the Church in Central and Eastern Europe*. Please be generous in this collection.

CONGRATULATIONS to Patrick D. Carroll who is Student of the Month at Our Lady of Peace School.

JOKE OF THE WEEK

A young minister, in the first days of his first parish, was obliged to call upon the widow of an eccentric man who had just died. Standing before the open casket and consoling the widow, he said, "I know this must be a very hard blow, Mrs. Vernon. But we must remember that what we see here is the husk only, the shell—the nut has gone to heaven."

MEANING OF LENT

PRAY

IS LOVE FOR GOD

FAST

IS LOVE FOR YOURSELF

GIVE

IS LOVE FOR OTHERS

MASS ON FRIDAYS during Lent will be at 7 P.M.

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. 28th:** Legion – O.L. of Presentation
- Mar. 6:** Legion – O.L. of Epiphany
- Mar. 13:** Religious Education Teachers
- Mar. 20:** Lectors
- Apr. 27:** Youth Group & Young Girls Org.
- Apr. 3:** Society of Mary Immaculate
- Apr. 10:** Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

ENJOY THE LENTEN SEASON

- Give up complaining...and focus on gratitude.**
- Give up harsh judgments...think kind thoughts.**
- Give up bitterness...turn to forgiveness.**
- Give up hatred...return good for evil.**
- Give up anger...practice patience.**
- Give up gossiping...control your tongue.**
- Give up sin...turn to virtue.**
- You can't direct the wind,**
- But you can adjust your sail.**

MASTER'S TABLE Scully's Mary Rita's Legion Group is scheduled to prepare and serve a hot meal to their guests at the Master's Table in Augusta on Thursday, March 5th. If you would like to participate in this God rewarding opportunity, please contact Jaqueline.

THANK YOU to a member for a donation in thanks to St. Mother Theresa and St. Raphael; and two members for their donations in thanks to St. Expedite.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Sunday:** Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Wednesday:** Ash Wednesday; **Fast and Abstinence**

MASS INTENTIONS

- Monday:** For the repose of the soul of Eddie Big Shot on the Anniversary of his death.
- Tuesday:** In honor of the Infant Jesus of Prague for all the sick and St. Joseph for all the holy souls in purgatory.
- Wednesday:** For the repose of the soul of Big Johnny and for the repose of the soul of Big Johnny's Winnie on the Anniversary of her death; for the repose of the soul of Black Pete Sherlock and for the repose of the soul of Black Pete's Winnie Ann on her Birthday and in thanks for Juda on her 4th Birthday.
- Thursday:** For the repose of the souls of Betty McGuire and Huey Gabe Sherlock on their Birthdays.
- Friday:** *Funeral.*

READERS

- Sat. Feb. 22nd, 4:00 P.M.** Ritz & Joy
- Sat. Feb. 22nd, 7:00 P.M.** Carolyn & Jay
- Sun. Feb. 23rd, 10:00 A.M.** Jimmy Joseph & Mary Cat
- Sat. Feb. 29th, 4:00 P.M.** Cathy Lisa & Karen
- Sat. Feb. 29th, 7:00 P.M.** Christina & Natalie
- Sun. Mar. 1st, 10:00 A.M.** Jimmy Joseph & Mary Cat

READERS – WEEKDAYS

- Monday** - Cheryl
- Tuesday** - Rose Marie
- Wednesday** - Cathy Lisa
- Thursday** - Annette
- Friday** - Christina

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS – WEEKEND

- Saturday 4:00 P.M.** Feb. 22nd
- Front Bridget Ann
- Left Cup Winnie Ann

Sunday 10:00 A.M.

- Feb. 23rd** Mar. 1st
- Pete Man's Nora Pete Man's Nora
- Rose Marie Rose Marie

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS - WEEKDAY

- Monday** Cathy Pole
- Tuesday** Pete Man's Nora
- Wednesday** Margaret Butts
- Thursday** Betty Jo
- Friday** Mary Cat

WELL SAID

If you marry the right person,

Everyday is Valentine's Day.

Marry the wrong person,

Everyday is Martyrs Day.

Marry the lazy person,

Everyday is Labor Day.

Marry the rich person,

Everyday is New Year's Day.

Marry an immature person,

Everyday will seem like Children's Day.

Marry a cheater or liar,

Everyday will become April Fool's Day.

And if you don't get married,

Everyday is Independence Day!

LIFE IS LIKE A CAMERA

Focus on what is important capture the good times develop from the negatives and if things don't work out TAKE ANOTHER SHOT.

PRAYER CORNER

A LENTEN PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ, you have all power to heal and deliver from harm. There is no trouble, nor bondage you cannot overcome. Set me free to serve you joyfully and to love and serve others generously. May nothing hinder me from giving myself wholly to you and to your service. Amen.

