

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 31, 2021

Come, let us bow down in worship; let us kneel before the LORD who made us.

— Psalm 95:6

FALSE PROPHETS, TRUE PROPHETS

In Deuteronomy today we hear that God's very words will fill the mouth of a true prophet, but a false prophet will, in a manner of speaking, put mere mortal words into God's mouth. In Mark's Gospel, we see Jesus teaching and healing as a true prophet, one filled with the authority of God's own voice, the Holy One of God.

The whole history of our church is filled with both true and false prophets. But in today's Gospel we learn that Jesus' fame spread because he taught with authority; he wasn't an authority because he was popular or famous. We also learn from him, in his desert temptation confrontations with Satan, that anyone can quote scripture, even against God's purposes. And today we hear that his authority was not like that of the scribes, who held the official positions of religious authority in his day. Our work is to do our best to discern the true prophets in our midst, and to be true prophets as well. The psalmist tells us how to do this: by not hardening our hearts when God speaks. If we truly listen to God, it will be God's very words filling our mouths.

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Moses spoke to all the people, saying: "A prophet like me will the LORD, your God, raise up for you" (Deuteronomy 18:15-20).

Psalm — If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts (Psalm 95).

Second Reading — Brothers and sisters: I should like you to be free of anxieties (1 Corinthians 7:32-35).

Gospel — The people were astonished at Jesus' teaching; he taught them as one having authority (Mark 1:21-28).

OUR GIFTS RECORD

Offertory Development

	Offertory	Development
Last Week's Collection	\$3,475.00	\$2,667.00
Number of Families contributing	114	91
Total Pledge for 2021	\$161,051.00	\$162,928.00
Pledged to Date (4 Weeks)	\$13,668.00	\$13,720.00
Received to Date	\$9,325.00	\$7,776.00
Envelopes Outstanding	\$4,343.00	\$5,944.00

LADIES OFFERTORY RECORD

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2021
\$214.00	\$767.00

Nineteen ladies made a contribution last week.

PARISH LIFE CENTER HALL FUND WEEKLY REPORT

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2021
\$3,160.00	\$50,710.00

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

BICENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN

GOAL	\$165,000.00
Total Pledged	\$210,300.00
Total Received	\$63,780.00

POOR BOX totaled \$50.00.

22 **CHILDREN** contributed \$99.00.

BAA totaled \$110.00.

CHURCH IN LATIN AMERICA totaled \$288.00.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

From La Verne, California, comes the story of a plant that turns garbage and trash into oil, metals, glass and charcoal. The Occidental Petroleum Corporation demonstrated a four-story-high pilot plant that can process four tons of waste a day. A research engineer vacuumed some trash into a pipe, and oil gushed out the other end. The management stated that the by-products of trash can be sold and the money used to pay for some of the cost of collecting America's millions of tons of waste.

Great day in the morning! Just think, the day may come when, instead of paying for garbage pickup, we are paid for our garbage.

As I read this story I thought of the "garbage" in man's life, moral and spiritual garbage. Isaiah wrote that "all our righteousness are as filthy rags." David gave this sad commentary: "There is none that doeth good, no, not one." All of us are as filthy rags, or garbage, in the sight of God until...until we are born again, made from waste to worth, from trash to treasure, from filthy sinners to forgiven saints. This is the reason Christ gave his life at Calvary — that He might reclaim, through His blood, men and women, boys and girls.

Wouldn't you say that saved souls are a tremendous by-product from the trash of human degradation?

"Treasure" or "trash," the choice is yours.

All our righteousness are as filthy rags. —ISAIAH 64:6

FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH ARE OFFERED BY:

1. a Parish Member in thanks to St. Expedite.

BANNS OF MARRIAGE are announced for the first time for Jim Ryan Riley and Dior Gorman.

THANK YOU to a member for a \$100 donation in thanks to St. Philomena for a favor received and to a member for a donation in honor of the Infant of Prague for a special intention.

BEST MATHEMATICAL EQUATION

1 CROSS

+

3 NAILS

4 GIVEN

FEAST OF ST. BLAISE St. Blaise is the patron saint of those with throat maladies. We shall celebrate the Feast of St. Blaise this Wednesday, February 3rd at 10:00 A.M. with Solemn Mass and Blessing of Throats.

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

GOD IS ALWAYS THERE

There is never a day that God isn't there.

So don't give up and surrender to your circumstances.

You are loved by God. There may be days you feel weak.

But there is never a day that God isn't there.

His love will give you the strength to continue to go forward.

SIGNS IN FRONT OF CHURCHES

- ❖ **Man’s way leads to a hopeless end! God’s way leads to an ENDLESS HOPE!**
- ❖ **A lot of kneeling will keep you in good standing.**
- ❖ **He who kneels before God can stand before anyone!**
- ❖ **We’re too blessed to be depressed!**
- ❖ **God grades on The Cross, not on the curve.**

TWO BELIEFS

Almost every successful person begins with two beliefs:

- 1. The future can be better than the present.**
- 2. I have the power to make it so.**

JOKE OF THE WEEK

A successful businessman who lay dying insisted that his remains be cremated. A friend agreed and asked cautiously: “And what do you want done with your ashes?”

“The ashes?” said the dying man. “You will place them in an envelope addressed to the Revenue authorities and tell them now they have everything.”

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Sunday:** Catholic Schools Week
- Tuesday:** The Presentation of the Lord; Blessing of Candles; Groundhog Day
- Wednesday:** St. Blaise; St. Ansgar; Blessing of Throats;
- Friday:** St. Agatha; First Friday
- Saturday:** St. Paul Miki and companions; First Saturday

MASS INTENTIONS

- Monday:** For the repose of the soul of Cannon on his Birthday.
- Tuesday:** For the repose of the soul of Beasley on the 3rd Anniversary of his death.
- Wednesday:** In honor of the Infant Jesus for the sick and the Holy Souls and for Brian Jude Carroll.
- Thursday:** For the repose of the souls of Pete Jason Carroll on the 13th Anniversary of his death and Barbara Jean Carroll on her Birthday.
- Friday:** For the repose of the soul of Paco on the 6th Anniversary of his death.

OH, GRACIOUS LORD

*Oh, gracious Lord and Savior,
We give our hearts to Thee;
We need Thy everlasting love
To set our spirits free.*

*Oh, gracious Lord and Savior,
We kneel to Thee in prayer;
We raise to Thee our voices, Lord,
For thou art ever there.*

*Oh, gracious Lord and Savior,
Come hold us in Thy hand,
And teach us what we need to know
That we may understand.*

READERS

- Sat. Jan. 30th, 4:00 P.M.** Christina & Natalie
- Sat. Jan. 30th, 7:00 P.M.** Carolyn & Bridgette Anna
- Sun. Jan 30th, 10:00 A.M.** Jimmy Joseph & Jersey
- Sat. Feb. 6th, 4:00 P.M.** Julie Ann & Mary Martha
- Sat. Jan. Feb. 6th, 7:00 P.M.** Ritz & Savannah
- Sun. Feb. 7th, 10:00 A.M.** Jimmy Joseph & Jersey

READERS – WEEKDAYS

- Monday** - Taniel
- Tuesday** - Misty
- Wednesday** - Cathy Lisa
- Thursday** - Claire
- Friday** - Mary Cabrina

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS - WEEKDAY

- Monday** - Cathy Pole
- Tuesday** - Kim Gallon
- Wednesday** - Rosie Cat
- Thursday** - Mary Cat
- Friday** - Rose Marie

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS – WEEKEND

- Saturday 4:00 P.M.** **January 30th**
Front Mary Margaret
Right Cathy Pole
Left Kim Gallon
- Saturday 7:00 P.M.**
January 30th **February 6th**
Mary Margaret Cathy Pole
- Sunday 10:00 A.M.**
January 31st **February 7th**
Rose Marie Rose Marie
Mary Cat Mary Cat

LIFE IS LIKE A BOOK

Life is like a book: some chapters are sad, some happy, and some exciting. But if you never turn the page, you will never know what the next chapter holds.

JUST SMILE

**If you stress, you get pimples.
If you cry, you get dimples.
So just smile and get dimples.**

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

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your spirit and they shall be created, and you will renew the face of the earth.

Lord, by the light of the Holy Spirit you have taught the hearts of your faithful. In the same spirit help us to relish what is right and always rejoice in your consolation. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.