

# WEEK OF FEBRUARY 17, 2019

## MONDAY

Gn 4:1-15,25 \* Ps 50:1,8,16-17,20-21 \* Mk 8:11-13

## TUESDAY 8:00am Word & Communion

Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5,10 \* Ps 29:1-4,9-10 \* Mk 8:14-21

## WEDNESDAY 8:00am Mass

Gn 8:6-13,20-22 \* Ps 116:12-15,18-19 \* Mk 8:22-26

## THURSDAY 8:00am Mass

Gn 9:1-13 \* Ps 102:16-23,29 \* Mk 8:27-33

## FRIDAY 9:00am School Mass

1 Pt 5:1-4 \* Ps 23:1-6 \* Mt 16:13-19

## SATURDAY 4:30pm Mass

Heb 11:1-7 \* Ps 145:2-5,10-11 \* Mk 9:2-13

## SUNDAY 9:30am Mass

Children's Liturgy of the Word & Nursery

1 Sm 26:2,7-9,12-13,22-23 \* Ps 103:1-4,8,10,12-13 \* 1 Cor 15:45-49 \* Lk 6:27-38

## PARISH ACTIVITIES

Mon., Feb. 18	6:30pm	Choir Practice
	7:00pm	Baptism Prep II Make-up Session
Tues., Feb. 19	10:00am	Scripture Study
	6:30pm	RCIA
	6:30pm	Sacramental Prep
	6:30pm	Christian Quilters-Faith Baptist
	7:00pm	Bible Study-WC
Wed., Feb. 20	6:00pm	<b>AACS Open House</b>
Thurs., Feb. 21	6:00pm	PTO Meeting
	7:00pm	School Committee
Sat., Feb. 23	5:30pm	Education Commission
		Card & Board Game Night
Sun., Feb. 24	10:45am	Religious Education



**Help!** Lent bulk mailing will be prepared on Monday, February 25 at 1pm at the Parish Center. Everyone is welcome to come help with this mailing. Many hands make light work!!

**Family Fun Card & Board Game Night** sponsored by the Education/Formation Commission, Saturday, February 23 after 4:30pm Mass, in the Social Hall. A light dinner will be served 5:30-6pm followed by time to play your favorite card games and board games 6-7pm. Bring your favorite family board game or play one provided. Please sign up at the church entrances to help us with planning. All are welcome!!



**New Resident:** We have opened our facilities of St. Anthony's to the Rev. Brian Michael of Bethel Ministries, a Pentecostal Church. He is now going to enter into a formal usage contract with the parish. He will be using a classroom on Tuesday evenings for Bible study and the gathering space on Sunday mornings for worship services. They will be paying a rental fee to the parish based on the hours of use per month. It is their hope that eventually they might be able to lease or buy the property. At present, because of the appeal in Rome, nothing is able to occur until the church is officially closed. .

**LENT 2019 MISSION – Eucharist: A Diamond in our Midst**  
Mark your calendar: **March 10, 11 & 12.**

Join our parish community for three evenings and a morning hearing about the Eucharist. There are sign-up sheets at the church entrances for those who will be attending dinner, the Tuesday morning session and will utilize the childcare option. Please sign up by March 3.

## EDUCATION/FORMATION

**Family Talk Time** Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families, Sara McGinnis Lee  
When have you felt blessed? Have you ever felt blessed during a sad experience?

► **Reflecting on the Word:** In God's time all things are fleeting. We look forward to the day when our poverty will be replaced with the Kingdom of God. Though today we may cry over a loss, one day we will experience wholeness in God. Jesus shows the people that their tears, suffering and faithfulness to the Lord are not forgotten. They may not receive accolades in this life, but God will rejoice with them for all eternity.

► **Living the Word:** Ask each family member to make a list of their blessings. Those who feel artistic could draw their blessings. Write down a master list of the blessings and then make a paper chain of the blessings, with one blessing per link on the chain. String this up as a reminder of all the good things for which the family is thankful. When someone is feeling down, detach one of the links and read it as a reminder. Once the chain is completely dismantled the process can be started again.

### BEATITUDES FOR FAMILIES Tom McGrath, Loyola Press

1. Blessed are the families who live simply, for they will taste the joys of living in God's kingdom.
2. Blessed are the families who make time and space for each family member to mourn life's sorrows and losses, for they will receive God's comfort and consolation.
3. Blessed are the families who humbly receive life's gifts rather than grasp at power and possession, for they will discover they have been given everything they need.
4. Blessed are the families who nurtures a hunger and thirst for fairness so that others will know the justice of God's ways.
5. Blessed are families in which mercy is abundant and forgiveness is given freely so that God's mercy will be readily available to all.
6. Blessed are families who ground their lives in God and rise above the lures of temptation, for God will shine his face upon them.
7. Blessed are the families who create peace at home, at school, at work, in the community, in the world, for they will be God's very own.
8. Blessed are the families who strengthen one another, encourage compassion, and desire to do good despite life's blows and setbacks, for they help bring about the Kingdom of God.

## STEWARDSHIP

**Weekly Target: \$10,961.54 \* Offering: \$9,115.00**  
**Food Pantry: \$20.00**

**Children's Good Deeds: My Good Deed was...**

...helped clean the living room. ...make cookies with my cousin

## FROM FR. TOM'S DESK

### 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sr. Mary McGlone, Celebration

There is no getting off the hook. Luke wrote his Gospel for a community like ours, people who lived in an economically and socially unequal society. He demonstrated how Jesus consistently stood with the poor and marginalized. We will see this in detail as we go through Luke's Gospel this year.

Luke portrays Jesus as revealing his intentions when he first described his mission as good news to the poor. Luke develops that theme in multiple ways. In a society in which women were insignificant, Luke highlights their Gospel roles as disciples who loved Jesus deeply,

supported him with their goods, and participated in his mission. Jesus' special concern for the poor, the marginal and the sinner is a central feature in Luke's unique parables of the good Samaritan, the prodigal son, and the widow and the unjust judge. Zacchaeus the tax collector convinced Jesus of his conversion by promising to give ½ his possessions to the poor, and Jesus advised his wealthy contemporaries to be sure that their banquets were frequented by the poor, blind, crippled and lame. That is a quick overview of the unique features of Luke's Gospel.

What are we who live in great comfort to make of this presentation of the "good news?" Rather than quibble and wiggle with phrases like "poverty of spirit," we need to face Luke's presentation of the Beatitudes as it is. Those of us who have been nourished well and received a decent education understand that we will never experience the poverty of our brothers and sisters who lack that foundation. At the same time, we know that there is nothing virtuous about destitution or malnutrition. Both truncate people's potential and are therefore dehumanizing. That is a far cry from blessedness.

### Guiding Light (Jer 17)

Celebration

Today, we might take Jeremiah's words as advice to help us deal with scandal in the church. Jeremiah warns us that allowing anyone – pope, bishop, religious or lay – to represent the trustworthiness of Christianity and its Gospel is a first step toward blasphemy; it gives God's authority to someone who is not God. Blind trust or unquestioning obedience gives to humans what belongs to God. Ironically, to say "I won't believe in the church because it has bad leadership," is another way to "trust in human beings." When we abandon the church on account of the sin of its leaders, we are defining church by its membership rather than by the God who continually calls it into being. Instead of measuring the church by the behavior of its members, believers must call the entire church to stand before the judgment of the Gospel. When we allow the Gospel to be the light guiding our lives, we accept the fact that no one is above criticism. When we accept the fact that neither we nor any other person or group can adequately speak for God, we can begin to trust in the Spirit to lead us forward as the fallible people we are.

### Importance of Resurrection (1 Cor 15)

Celebration

This part of Paul's discussion of Christ's resurrection reveals what he saw as the razor-sharp distinction between Christianity and other expressions of an ethical life. In effect, he teaches that anyone who denied the resurrection recognized Jesus as nothing more than a good man to be honored and imitated. Paul does not deny Jesus' goodness but his understanding of Christ is radically different from such an approach. For Paul, Christianity rests on the reality that Jesus was the Son of God incarnate and that his resurrection revealed the powerlessness of sin and death. Christ was not just an example. For the believer, Christ is the risen Lord. As such, he is source of real life and the rationale for everything they do.

Christ's resurrection is the bedrock of Paul's faith. If Christ is not raised, there is no reason to bother with Christianity, and anyone who sacrifices for it is to be pitied. But Christ has become the source of life for those who have experienced the power of his resurrection (Phil 3:7-11). That power now operating in them is the source of their faith that nothing can separate them from the love of God (Rom 8:38).

### SIGNS OF THE TIMES

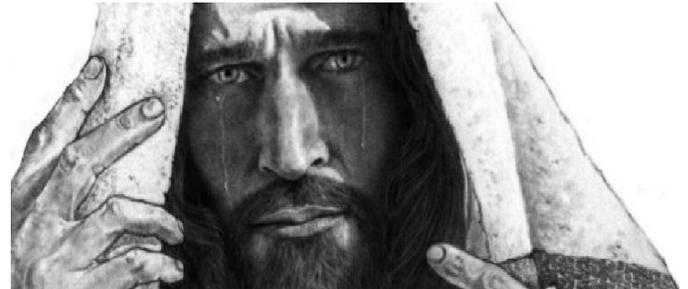
Sign in a shoe repair store: We will heel you, we will save your sole, we will even dye for you.

Sign in front of a Funeral Home: Drive carefully, we'll wait.

### The Need to Weep (Luke 6)

Celebration

If we really desire the blessings Jesus promises in this selection, it seems that our only entry point is by being among those who weep. Luke mentions weeping at least three times as often as does any other evangelist. In addition to the Beatitudes, Luke portrays people weeping over death (7:13,8:52); he shows Peter weeping after denying Jesus (22:62); and he mentions the weeping of the woman who washed Jesus' feet (7:38). Most uniquely, Luke tells us that Jesus himself wept over the city of Jerusalem, the city that was about to demand his death (19:41). Luke portrays holy tears as the response to conversion, death, betrayal and hardness of heart.



Because of our privilege, most of us will never be truly poor or hungry. But there are very few among us who are incapable of compassion, the openness to others that makes us vulnerable to their pain. If we wish to be among the blessed in Jesus' reign of God, we must learn from and about the poor so that their hope becomes our own. Then, step by step, we will experience beatitude.

### Your Treasure

Gloria Couvion, Celebration

So what shall I do with the overabundance of possessions that hinder my relationship with God? What shall I do with the things that keep me frozen in time? The kingdom of God is within our reach but until we can see God in the eyes of the poor and act on it, we linger on the periphery. In a culture where identity is often attached to some product, possession or political preference, it is difficult to break the habits that separate us from God. As for the material possession I accumulated in life, I must share them, donate them, give them away freely so that others may use them.

Jesus' Sermon on the Mount is challenging for all. The poor must have hope that there is a kingdom of God and someday they will "leap for joy" in God's presence while the rich must turn loose of those things in which they have come to find comfort. The comfort we seek is found in the kingdom of God not in wealth or possessions.

### Choices We Make

Sr. Margaret Michaud, Collegeville, MN

How do we go about living our lives? There are plenty of experts, who will tell us how to lead our lives in order to be comfortable, stress-free, and successful. In our first reading, Jeremiah tells us clearly that trusting in human wisdom is disaster waiting to happen. The only true, trustworthy guide is God, who teaches us how to live. The contrast between trusting in human wisdom and following divine guidance is described as the difference between a barren bush and a stalwart tree. Like a bush, dying in the desert heat, human wisdom is fruitless. Trusting in God, however, is enduring, secure like a majestic tree with deep roots and abundant fruit. The contrast is clear and profound. We need to choose. We need to wake up and see where our lives are going.

**"LORD, MAY I TRUST  
IN YOU AND YOU ALONE."**