

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday, February 14, Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 **SA** Special Intentions of Parishioners and Friends of St. Rose

10:30 **DE** Michael Clauder from Jim & Patricia Stahl

12:00 **DE** Bill Earls from Mary Earls

Monday, February 15

12:10 Jeff Luther from Carol & Larry

Tuesday, February 16

12:10 Howard Mushaben from Mary Earls

Wednesday, February 17, Ash Wednesday

12:10 Purgatorial Society

Thursday, February 18

12:10 Stan Stanley from Karen, Todd & Kathryn

Friday, February 19

12:10 Diane Zuk from The Zuk Family

Saturday, February 20

12:10 **BW** Terry Bolton from Ray and Sharon

7:00 **BW** Ann Macke from Nicholas, Kathy & Dana Macke Family

Sunday, February 21, First Sunday of Lent

8:30 **DE** Special Intentions of Parishioners and Friends of St. Rose

10:30 **BW** Alan Haines from Carolyn Jones

12:00 **BW** Thomas Butler from Joe & Joanne Dolwig

From the Pastor's Desk

PUBLIC MASSES WITH RESTRICTIONS WILL BE HELD UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

PLEASE REGISTER for Saturday evening and Sunday masses at strosecincinnati.org

ALL INDIVIDUALS MUST WEAR A MASK WHILE INSIDE THE CHURCH. Thank you for your understanding, patience and cooperation.

THE CATHOLIC FAITHFUL WHO RESIDE IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF CINCINNATI CONTINUE TO BE DISPENSED FROM THE OBLIGATION OF ATTENDING SUNDAY MASS.

To join us for Live Streaming of mass go to our website STROSECINCINNATI.ORG and click on [WATCH LIVE](#). I want to thank everyone who continues to support us with their generous contributions. God Bless, Fr. Barry

PRAYER AGAINST CORONAVIRUS

Lord Jesus Christ, our Divine Physician, we ask you to guard and protect us from Coronavirus COVID-19 and all serious illness. For all that have died from it, have mercy; for those that are ill now, bring healing. For those searching for a remedy, enlighten them; for medical caregivers helping the sick, strengthen and shield them. For those working to contain the spread, grant them success; for those afraid, grant peace. May your precious blood be our defense and salvation. By your grace, may you turn the evil of disease into moments of consolation and hope. May we always fear the contagion of sin more than any illness. We abandon ourselves to your infinite mercy. Amen. -Pedro de la Cruz

Lent †

[Ash Wednesday Mass • February 17th 12:10 p.m.](#)

Stations of the Cross & Benediction

Wednesdays in Lent beginning February 24 at 7:00 PM

Lenten Penance Service • Tuesday March 16th at 7:00 p.m.

FAST AND ABSTINENCE Ash Wednesday, February 17th and Good Friday, April 2, 2021 are days of abstinence from meat and also days of fast—that is, limited to a single full meal. With regard to Good Friday, the teaching of the Second Vatican Council should be recalled:

Let the Pascal fast be kept sacred. Let it be celebrated everywhere on Good Friday and, where possible, prolonged throughout Holy Saturday, so that the joys of the Sunday of the Resurrection may be attained with uplifted and clear mind. (Constitution on the Liturgy, No. 110)

The other Fridays of the season of Lent are days of abstinence from meat. The law of abstinence binds all Catholics 14 years and older. The law of fasting binds all Catholics from their 18th birthday until their 59th birthday. (Canons 97 and 1252)

With regard to the obligatory days listed above, there are frequent questions about the degree of seriousness of the matter. The teaching of the Holy Father may be simply paraphrased: the obligation to do penance is a serious one, as is the obligation to observe, wholly or substantially, the penitential days specified by the Church. No one should be scrupulous in this regard. Failure to observe an individual day of penance is not considered serious.

People should seek to do *more* rather than less. Fast and abstinence on the days prescribed should be considered a minimum response to the Lord's call to penance and conversion.

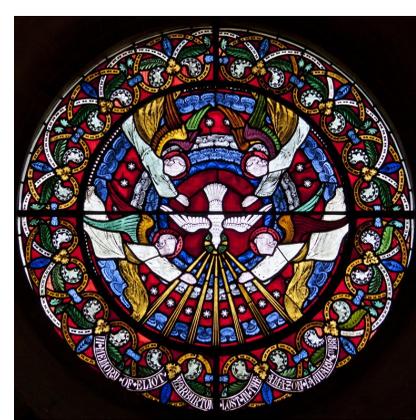
2021 Catholic Ministries Appeal (CMA)

Please prayerfully complete your pledge card and return it in the envelope provided, or bring your completed pledge card to Mass. This year, our goal is \$35,000. For more information, please visit CatholicAppeal.info. Thank you!

Our Annual Collection for **Pregnancy Center East** is being held the weekend of February 27 & 28. This collection helps the Center promote life and protect the unborn. They provide many services to pregnant woman so they choose life over abortion. I invite and encourage you to be generous in our second collection on that weekend.

SUNDAY SUNSHINE

One day a man was crossing a bridge in life but was scared so he turned and asked God, "Can I hold your hand so I may not fall?" God said, "No, my child, I will hold your hand". He asked, "What's the difference?" God replied, "If you hold my hand and something happens, you might let go but if I hold your hand, no matter what happens, I will never let you go". May the Lord hold your hand tightly in all your ways in 2021 and beyond .



A reading from the first Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians:

Brothers and sisters, Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God.

Avoid giving offense, whether to the Jews or Greeks or the church of God, just as I try to please everyone in every way, not seeking my own benefit but that of the many, that they may be saved. Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

Rev. Barry Windholtz

Pastor

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Opening Prayer

O God, who teach us that you abide in hearts that are just and true, grant that we may be so fashioned by your grace as to become a dwelling pleasing to you. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Reflecting on Living the Gospel

In the gospel, Jesus is approached by a leper. He makes no attempt to move away from him. He is moved by compassion, the deep, gut-wrenching response that identifies with the suffering of another, and his hand stretches out to touch the man and affirm his choice to heal him. How long had it been since the leper had felt the touch of another human being on his diseased flesh, had heard words of affirmation rather than insult? We should be more enlightened about the importance of touch—the holding of the hand of the seriously ill or dying person, the silent embrace of the bereaved. Jesus's compassion and humanity bridge the gap between the holy and the unclean, freedom and taboos, sickness and health.

Jesus tells the man to observe the Mosaic Law by showing himself to a priest for the confirmation of his healing, and to offer a public sacrifice, an act of worship from which his leprosy had excluded him. By this instruction Jesus shows that he respects the Mosaic teaching, even though he will soon clash with some of the scribes' interpretation of this. Ironically, the man now goes around publicly and freely, while Jesus must leave the town and go into the country to escape his unwanted publicity. Because he has touched the leper, according to the Law Jesus is also regarded as unclean and excluded. He has taken upon himself another's infirmity; in his passion and death he will be the Suffering Servant who bears all our infirmities and transgressions for the sake of our salvation (cf. Isa 53:4-5). Yet people still come to him, caring nothing for his "infection" and everything for his miraculous power. As those who come to Jesus, what are we seeking from him? Do we want to be infected with his compassion or with the miraculous? How does Jesus touch us—and how do we touch others?

Closing Prayer

God who sanctifies, you are able, by love and compassion, to cleanse our soiled hearts and heal our very souls. We come to you, longing to hear you say, *be made clean*. You alone are holy, you alone can make us whole. Be this your holy will today. Amen.

For Reflection:

• We hear that Jesus is "moved with pity" at the plight of the leper and reaches out to touch him, breaking the law of the time. How as Christians shall we respond when laws, rules, or regulations stand in the way of compassion?

Suggestions for group and individual use:

1. Pray aloud the "Opening Prayer" (in *The Roman Missal* called the "collect").
2. One person read aloud the gospel.
3. Each read prayerfully "Reflecting on Living the Gospel" and spend some time in personal prayer.
4. Share together responses to "For Reflection."
5. Pray the "Closing Prayer."

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Gospel

Mark 1:40-45

A leper came to Jesus and kneeling down begged him and said, "If you wish, you can make me clean." Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand, touched him, and said to him, "I do will it. Be made clean." The leprosy left him immediately, and he was made clean. Then, warning him sternly, he dismissed him at once. He said to him, "See that you tell no one anything, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer for your cleansing what Moses prescribed; that will be proof for them."



The man went away and began to publicize the whole matter. He spread the report abroad so that it was impossible for Jesus to enter a town openly. He remained outside in deserted places, and people kept coming to him from everywhere.

Readings for the week:

6th Sunday in Ord. Time Lev 13:1-2, 44-46 Ps 52:1-2, 5, 11 1 Cor 10:20-11:1 Mark 1:40-45	Monday Gen 4:1-15, 25 Ps 80:1 and 8, 160c-17, 20-21 Mark 8:11-13	Tuesday Gen 6:5-8, 7:1-5, 10 Ps 28:1a and 2, 3ac-4, 3b and 9c-10 Mark 8:14-21	Ash Wednesday Jud 2:12-18 Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17 2 Cor 5:20-6:2 Matt 8:1-6, 16-18	Thursday Deut 30:15-20 Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 Luke 9:22-25	Friday Isa 58:1-9a Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19 Matt 9:14-15	Saturday Isa 58:9b-14 Ps 82:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 Luke 5:27-32	1st Sunday of Lent Gen 9:8-15 Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 1 Pet 3:18-22 Mark 1:12-15
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