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Gospel Meditation

What does it mean to be salt and light? If we listen carefully to Jesus' words, we gain some direction. To be salt means to bring taste, zest, and joy to life. We are asked to liven things up a bit by allowing the joy of our faith to spill over into the lives of others. Only a sincere and deep relationship with God can freshen up humanity and set it on proper course. To be light means that our faith must translate into action so that we can be Christ for others and extend the same arm of mercy and compassion that Christ did. Our acts of piety, then, cannot be directed solely at ourselves. Prayer is never about self-benefit but must always be directed toward union with God, deepening our relationships with one another and learning how to be effective stewards of the beautiful universe God has entrusted to our care.

The Master gives us wise direction in terms of how we can best become the salt and light he desires. Listen carefully to the Beatitudes. Think about the oppression and alienation that exists in our world, the violence and prejudice, the anger and the hatred, the fear and the shame. All of these things require action. The poor need food, housing, and clothes. Hatred must be replaced by love. Retaliation and violence by forgiveness. Our thoughts and speech can become more like Christ. We can change and continue to change. Blessed John Henry Cardinal Newman said, "To live is to change and to be perfect is to have changed often."

But it doesn't end with just offering the bandages needed to heal wounds. It must go deeper. We must ask ourselves what has happened that we have found ourselves in this place with these wounds and divisions. What are their causes? Together we must address these systemic problems, politically and spiritually, and face the truth. Only then will we truly be salt and light.

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Prayer Support for Our Pastor and Parish

Let's join together during this time by praying the Rosary and the Memorare daily at 4:00 pm. God's grace always remains with us.

**Feb 9 - Feb 16, 2020
 Readings and Mass Intentions**

Sunday, February 9 9:00am-Mass
 Is 58:7-10/Ps 112:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [4a]/1 Cor 2:1-5/Mt 5:13-16
Mass intention for the People of the Parish
Monday, February 10 4:30pm-Communion Service
 1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13/Ps 132:6-7, 8-10 [8a]/Mk 6:53-56
Tuesday, February 11 10:00am-Mass
 1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30/Ps 84:3, 4, 5 and 10, 11 [2]/Mk 7:1-13
Mass Intention for John Dumesnil
Wednesday, February 12 4:30pm-Communion Service
 1 Kgs 10:1-10/Ps 37:5-6, 30-31, 39-40 [30a]/Mk 7:14-23
Thursday, February 13 4:30pm-Communion Service
 1 Kgs 11:4-13/Ps 106:3-4, 35-36, 37 and 40 [4a]/Mk 7:24-30
Friday, February 14 9:30am-Communion Service
 1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19/Ps 81:10-11ab, 12-13, 14-15 [11a and 9a]/Mk 7:31-37
Saturday, February 15 4:30pm-Mass
 6:30pm-Spanish Mass
 1 Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34/Ps 106:6-7ab, 19-20, 21-22 [4a]/Mk 8:1-10
Mass Intention for John Dumesnil
Sunday, February 16 9:00am-Mass
 Sir 15:15-20/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34 [1b]/1 Cor 2:6-10/Mt 5:17-37 or 5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37
Mass intention for the People of the Parish

**The just man is a light in the darkness
 to the upright. (Ps 112)**



February 22, 2020 11:00am-5:00pm
 Infant Jesus Parish Lumberton, TX


*All who have attended an ACTS Retreat are invited to
 A Day Celebration in preparation for Lent,
 building on fellowship and community.
 Music by the ACTS Community
 Lunch provided*

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for: Jessica Pierson, Tony Cummings, Dianne Necessary, Zane D., Mike Satterthwaite, Ricky Neilson; Selina Chadwick, Mark Gore, Mishelle Jou, Addie Rohl; Norton Leger, Dan Salzer, Steve Tompkins, Don Watt, Henry Rossi, Bennie Mahaffey, Linda Dipuccio, Shirley Anderson, Ted Koch, Fr. Frank Rossi, Cheyenne Courtney, Audrey Douzant

Repose of the soul: Pat Brito; Yadi Jou, Shelly Horton Smily

Names will remain on the prayer list for two weeks. Names written in the Prayer Book in the vestibule of the church will be offered as daily Mass intentions.

Sun. Feb 9	Mon. Feb 10	Tues. Feb 11	Wed. Feb 12	Thurs. Feb 13	Fri. Feb 14	Sat. Feb 15
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time 9:00am - Mass Adult Faith Formation following Mass	4:30pm-Communion Service 6:30pm-Finance Committee	10:00am-Mass 3:30pm-Choir Practice 6:30pm-RCIA: Exploring the Catholic Faith	2:00pm-Bible Study 4:00pm-Rosary 4:30pm-Communion Service 6:00pm-CCE	10:00am-Stewardship 4:30pm-Communion Service 5:00pm-Divine Mercy Chaplet 6:00pm-Ecumenical Dinner & Faith Sharing	9:30am-Communion Service 	3:45-4:15pm-Confessions 4:30pm-Mass 6:30pm-Spanish Mass
Sun. Feb 16	Mon. Feb 17	Tues. Feb 18	Wed. Feb 19	Thurs. Feb 20	Fri. Feb 21	Sat. Feb 22
Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time 9:00am - Mass Adult Faith Formation following Mass	4:30pm-Communion Service	10:00am-Mass 3:30pm-Choir Practice 6:30pm-RCIA: Exploring the Catholic Faith	2:00pm-Bible Study 4:00pm-Rosary 4:30pm-Communion Service NO CCE (Winter Break)	4:30pm-Communion Service 5:00pm-Divine Mercy Chaplet	9:30am-Communion Service	3:45-4:15pm-Confessions 4:30pm-Mass 6:30pm-Spanish Mass

ECUMENICAL DINNER & FAITH SHARING

Thursday, February 13th
 Family Center, 6pm

Speaker: Hon. Jacques Blanchette
 of the First Baptist Church

Complimentary BBQ Dinner

RSVP with your name and the number attending
 by Monday, February 10, to the church secretary at
 (409) 283-5367 or to olopce@sbcglobal.net

**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS
 EXPLORING THE CATHOLIC FAITH**

Tuesday, February 11, 2020, 6:30 pm
 Family Center

Mt 5:17-37
 Sacramental
 Praying the Rosary

Charismatic Renewal

All are welcome!
 Saturday, February 22, 2020 10:00am-12:00pm

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church Cafeteria
 2006 Nall St. Port Neches, TX

Speaker: Rev. Shiju Augustine, C.M.I., Pastor
 Topic: Forgiveness Music by Ted Nelson
 For more information call 409-724-0650

**9th Annual Lenten Walking Pilgrimage
 to Shrines of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

February 29, 2020 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
**Come walk, pray and immerse yourself in traditions
 of centuries of the faithful during Lent.**
 Bring your rosary and flowers for Mary.
 For more information call 409-724-1456

8:00am: Park at Queen of Peace Shrine
 800 9th Avenue, Port Arthur
 8:10 am: Shuttle to Our Lady of Guadalupe Church
 9:00am: Latin Mass at Our Lady of Guadalupe
 5 mile walk with intermediate stops

Weekly Stewardship

Feb 1 & Feb 2 Weekly Offering \$ 3,786.83
 Average Weekly Cost \$ 3,152.00
 Excess/Deficit \$ 634.83

Thank you for your generosity.

If you would like to give electronically, visit our
 website, www.ourladyofthepinescatholicchurch.com
 and click on **Donation**.

Upcoming Events

Feb 13: Ecumenical Dinner & Faith Sharing,
 OLOP Family Center, 6pm
 Feb 22: Charismatic Renewal, St. Elizabeth, Port Neches, 10am
 Feb 22: ACTS, A Day Celebration, Infant Jesus,
 Lumberton, 11am
 Feb 23: King Cake Breakfast, OLOP Family Center, 10am
 Feb 26: Ash Wednesday
 Feb 29: Lenten Pilgrimage Walk, Port Arthur, 9am