



# & ST IGNATIUS & ST LUKE'S

9 February 2020



## The Gesima Sundays



## PRELENT

*"The grave maternal voice of the Church will soon be heard, inviting us to the Lenten penance; but she wishes us to prepare for this laborious baptism, by employing these three weeks in considering the deep wounds caused in our souls by sin."*

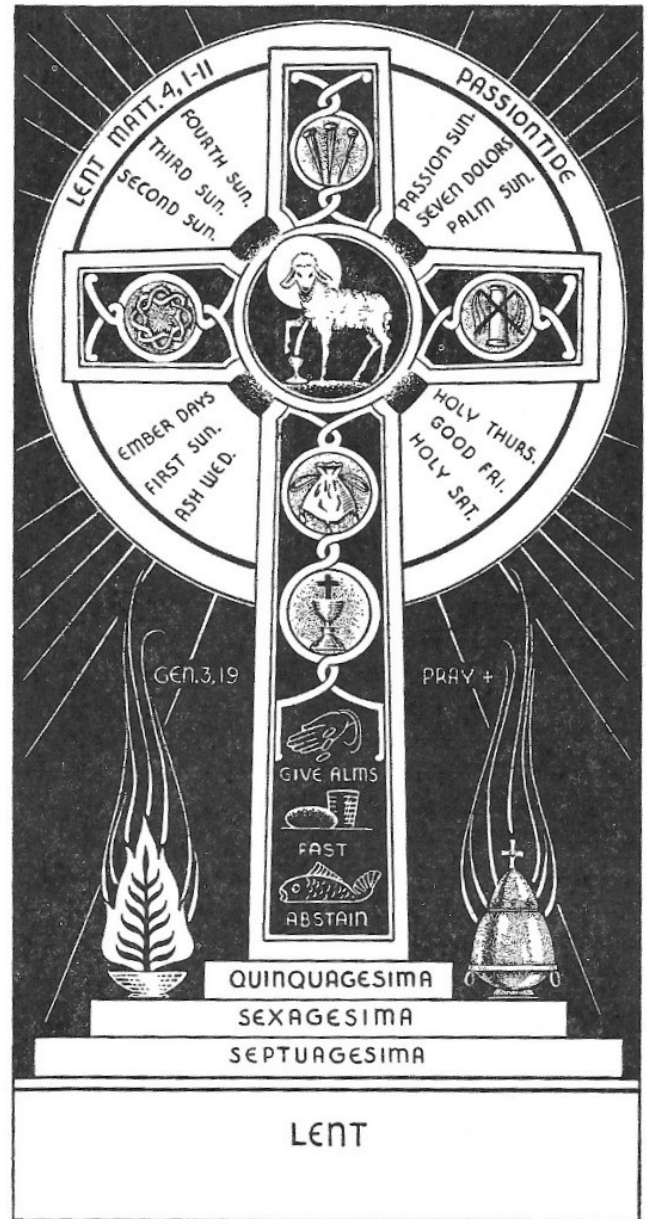
Dom Prosper Guéranger, "Practice during Septuagesima", *The Liturgical Year*

Today is Septuagesima Sunday. In three weeks our heads will be marked with the ashes of penitence. The three Sundays preceding Ash Wednesday are called Septuagesima, Sexagesima, and Quinquagesima, meaning respectively, the seventieth, sixtieth, and fiftieth days before Easter. The First Sunday of Lent is, of course, Quadragesima, the beginning of the Lenten fast of forty days. Those who observe the day mark Septuagesima Sunday by putting away the Alleluia; the Gloria is omitted and, prior to the Great Fast, the priest dons violet vestments in preparation for Lent. It is both psychologically sound and practical in the worldly sense to enter a kind of countdown before Ash Wednesday, lest Lent come upon us all of a sudden, catching us off-guard and poorly prepared.

Though set aside for the Ordinary Form of the Roman Rite in the simplifications of the liturgical year that followed on the Second Vatican Council, these old pre-Lenten Sundays are retained in the Extraordinary Form and the Ordinariate Form of the Roman Rite. These three Sundays, so quaintly named to the modern ear, note the time ahead to the greatest of all Christian feasts, Easter. But their purpose is to prepare Christians to undertake the most penitential season in the Christian year, Lent. By the observation of the Gesima Sundays, we can begin to detach ourselves from the celebratory seasons of Christmas and Epiphany, and start to turn our minds to the great work of penance we are about to undertake.

Dom Prosper Guéranger, in his masterwork *The Liturgical Year*, tells us that a special time of preparation for Lent emerged in the liturgy of the 6th and 7th centuries; influenced in all likelihood by the example of Greek Christians living in Rome and observing the more rigorous Eastern preparation for Great Lent, Pope Saint Gregory the Great instituted the season of Septuagesima.

In the days leading up to Lent, the Eastern Church begins a period of voluntary fasting that grows more severe as it approaches the full and obligatory fast of Lent. The amount of food is reduced, and the consumption of certain items, such as butter, milk, eggs, and cheese, is gradually abandoned. Starting on the Thursday before Ash Wednesday, this self-imposed asceticism culminates in complete abstinence from meat.



In many countries in the West, however, Septuagesima Sunday marked and still marks the traditional start of the Carnival season, culminating on Mardi Gras (which means Fat Tuesday), with a somewhat more celebratory aspect to these last days, almost a party to use up the last of the soon-to-be-forbidden foods ["Carnival," from the Latin *carne levarium*, meaning "removal of meat"]. Within the final week of Carnival, the last three days (the three days prior to Lent) were historically reserved for going to confession. This period was known as "Shrovetide," from the old English word "to shrive," or to have one's sins forgiven through absolution. The English tradition marks the last day before Lent on Shrove Tuesday, usually with a pancake dinner.

## REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

All who are suffering or sick and all caregivers who minister to the sick: Mary Morehead and family, Curtis Bailey, Leondre Massey, Sister Constance Ward, George Cochran, Mark Anthony Turner, Rachel Fisher, Patricia Ransom, David Hoppe, Jacqueline Chancio, Victoria P.; C.M., C.A., E.D., E.G., W.B., J.M., and J.G.

*Please call or email the office to add a name to the prayer list. **Before calling, please be sure you have spoken to the person [or a member of his family] about adding the name—we do not want to inadvertently disregard someone's desire for privacy.***

Names of those who are sick or suffering will be kept on the list for one month; to keep a name on the list for longer, you must email the parish office.

## MASS READINGS THIS WEEK

### **9 February** *5th Sunday in Ordinary Time*

Isaiah 58: 7-10; Psalm 112: 4-9;

1 Corinthians 2: 1-5; Matthew 5: 13-16

### **10 February** *Scholastica, Virgin*

1 Kings 8: 1-7, 9-13; Psalm 132: 6-10; Mark 6: 53-56

### **11 February** *Our Lady of Lourdes*

1 Kings 8: 22-23, 27-30; Psalm 84: 3-5, 10-11; Mark 7: 1-13

### **12 February** *Feria*

1 Kings 10: 1-10; Psalm 37: 5-6, 30-31, 39-40; Mark 7: 14-23

### **13 February** *Feria*

1 Kings 11: 4-13; Psalm 106: 3-4, 35-37, 40; Mark 7: 24-30

### **14 February** *Cyril, Monk, and Methodius, Bishop*

1 Kings 11: 29-32; 12: 19; Psalm 81: 10-15; Mark 7: 31-37

### **15 February** *Feria*

1 Kings 12: 26-32; 13: 33-34; Psalm 106: 6-7, 19-22;

Mark 8: 1-10

### **16 February** *6th Sunday in Ordinary Time*

Sirach 15: 15-20; Psalm 119: 1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34;

1 Corinthians 2: 6-10; Matthew 5: 17-37

## MASS INTENTIONS

### **Saturday, 8 February**

*Anticipated Mass for Sunday*

4:30 pm Kathleen Hickey Lee + [George F. Hickey, Jr.]

### **Sunday, 9 February**

*Septuagesima [3rd Sunday before Lent]*

8 am Pro populo

9:30 am Juliana Manlapaz + [Susie Martinez]

11 am James Fox + [Susan White]

### **Monday, 10 February**

*Scholastica, Virgin*

9 am *no public mass*

### **Tuesday, 11 February**

*Our Lady of Lourdes*

9 am Lloyd Beebe + [Evie Riley]

### **Wednesday, 12 February**

*Pre-Lenten Feria*

9 am Msgr. William J. O'Donnell +

### **Thursday, 13 February**

*Pre-Lenten Feria*

9 am Dusan Zivkovic + [Mark Arbeen]

### **Friday, 14 February**

*Cyril, Monk, and Methodius, Bishop*

9 am Msgr. William J. O'Donnell +

### **Saturday, 15 February**

*Anticipated Mass for Sunday*

4:30 pm Mary Morehead and family

### **Sunday, 16 February**

*Sexagesima [2nd Sunday before Lent]*

8 am Pro populo

9:30 am special intention [Rosemary Collier]

11 am special intention [Susan White]

#### St. Ignatius Finance Council

Florian Hocke - *Co-Chair*

Jackie Chancio

Deacon Clark Glenn

Joseph Somerville

Clifford Woods

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*historic*  
**ST IGNATIUS**  
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Pastor, St. Luke's

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Fran Doyle • James Guinivan

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