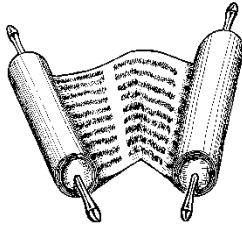


February 16, 2020

## Ordinary Time

Sixth Sunday



### **“I Have Come Not to Abolish But to Fulfill”**

Today’s gospel reading involves a teaching about the Torah, the Law. For Jews, the Torah is the revelation of God’s will. Living the Torah is a privilege for Jews.

When Jesus says he has come not to abolish but to fulfill the law, it is incorrect to assume that he is dismissing the Old Testament. Rather, the Torah is so important to Jesus that he is suggesting deeper ways to fulfill it. Jesus suggests that followers go beyond a minimal observance of the law and follow it in a deeper way.

### MASS INTENTIONS



Saturday, February 22  
4:30 p.m. William Pinebrook  
Sunday, February 23  
8:00 a.m. Lillie Zimmerhanzel

### Full, Conscious and Active Participation in the Liturgy



Next weekend is *The Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time*. Prepare for the liturgy by reflecting on these passages from your Bible.

**First Reading: Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18**

**Responsorial Psalm: 103**

**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 3:16-23**

**Gospel: Matthew 5:38-48**

### Sanctuary Light Bookings Available

March 1, 8 & 22 April 5 & 26



Remember the sick in your prayers this week, especially Michael Fishbeck.

### 2019 DIOCESAN SERVICES APPEAL

2019 Assessment ..... \$7,813.00  
Contributions So Far ..... \$ 6,775.00  
Amount Yet to be Contributed ..... \$ 1,038.00

We thank for following for their recent contribution:  
*Josephine & Alphonse Kubenka*

*The Diocese is accepting contributions for the 2019 D.S.A. until the end of February. Let’s make our quota to the bishop.*

### LENTEN BULLETIN BOARD

#### Ash Wednesday – February 26



#### Mass Schedule:

St. Joseph’s, Moulton  
8:15 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.

St. Mary’s, Praha  
4:30 p.m.

#### Stations of the Cross

Fridays of Lent, 6:00 p.m.

#### Lenten Fasting and Almsgiving

As Jesus’ disciples we have a responsibility to care for our brothers and sisters at home and in all nations. The Season of Lent provides us the opportunity to help those in need.

#### *Second Collection (Rice Bowl)*

All Sundays of Lent and Easter Sunday

#### *Lenten Food Drive*

We will once again be collecting canned goods for our less fortunate brothers and sisters.

### ORIENTATION

#### *Are You A True Disciple?*

Matthew’s Sermon of the Mount portrays Jesus as the new Moses giving the people God’s commands. Jesus, however, takes the original Ten Commandments to a new level. It is no longer enough to keep the letter of the Law; we must also keep the spirit. Gods sees not just our actions, but our hearts as well. Murder and adultery were forbidden, but now so are anger and lust. It seems an impossible challenge. But Jesus offers a different kind of perfection, one marked by patience and humility and openness to others even when we are challenged or criticized. A true disciple is always a work in progress, a sinner in need of forgiveness, a seeker who does not have all the answers, only better questions. Are you a true disciple?

## REFLECTION

### *Jesus Takes The Law To The Next Level*

Today's Gospel, a continuation of Jesus' instruction of his disciples, begins with a statement of intent and a general principle. Jesus' words and position, as recorded by Matthew, answer the twofold question: What attitude should we take concerning the traditional commandments and what is the relationship between "righteousness" taught to us by the Old Testament and that preached by Jesus?

Jesus states with utmost clarity that he has come not to abolish the law of the prophets: "I have not come to abolish but to fulfill". Jesus has come so that all its potential may unfold, that it may be understood and observed in the Spirit that enlivens it more and more, and in order to "fulfill" it, to take it to its completion. From now on, whoever rejects one of the least commandments of the Law and teaches others to do so will be last in the Kingdom of Heaven. To give a bad example by contemptuously disobeying a commandment, even a "little" one is a scandal. Worse still is to teach others to do the same. The warning addressed to the scribes and Pharisees is directed also to all the disciples of Christ. The practice of justice specified by the Law, down to its least commandments, is the condition of entrance into the Kingdom of Heaven.

On the contrary, whoever observes the least commandments and teaches them to others will be declared great in the Kingdom of Heaven. This judgment must be understood in connection with the Beatitudes and in the general context of Matthew's Gospel. Jesus says to those he addresses as blessed, "Your reward in heaven is great."

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



February 16 – Patricia Gready  
February 19 – Jill Noska  
February 21 – Susan Ivey  
– Barbara Prause

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!



February 17 – Congratulations Pam & Nathan Vrazel  
on your 30th Wedding Anniversary  
February 18 – Jill & Brain Noska



**St. Joseph's Church Altar Society**  
**Noodle Soup Dinner Next Sunday, Feb. 23**  
**St. Joseph's Parish Hall, Moulton**

Dine In or Soup, Sandwiches and Desserts To-Go

## THANK YOU NOTES FROM THE CELEBRATION HOUSE

Fr. Gabriel and St. Mary's – Praha Parishioners,  
Celebration House Food Pantry (Flatonia) was very blessed by your donation of \$1,000.00. Our clients and the Board of Directors (Evelyn Miller, Enid Waska, Pam Cunningham, Judy Bujnoch) along with the churches (Sacred Heart, Flatonia Baptist, Methodist & Cistern) hosting it providing volunteers ... and many others who are all volunteer who help run it. Your donation and support keep us able to help feed those in need. Your donation is greatly appreciated. The Food Pantry has been blessed by community supporters and their thoughtfulness, thinking of Celebration House.

May God bless and keep you.

Thankful,

*Director Evelyn Miller and clients of Celebration House*

Celebration House would like to thank you so much for the food collected for the Food Pantry last month.

We are very fortunate to have your continued support which helps to keep our organization in business. Our clients have greatly benefited from the additional food your members donated.

*Board Members*

*\* St. Mary's Church, Praha donated \$1,000.00 to the Celebration House in Flatonia in December 2019. We thank all those who contributed to the Thanksgiving and Christmas Food Drives.*

## THANK YOU NOTE

A big thank you to all the ladies from the Praha Parish Family for all the cookies, cake and pretzel trash snacks. Everything was very good.

To all a Happy New Year!

*Earline O'Brien*

## Update on Altar Society Members

Welcome Celine Kalina, Staci & Scott MacDonald, Tracie Holub and Jim Pfeil. They are now members of the Praha Altar Society for 2020. Won't you please consider joining? Dues are \$5.00 per person. You may drop your check in the collection basket or you may mail your dues and information to Tracie Holub, treasurer, 3146 E. FM 2237 Muldoon TX 78949. Please also include your mailing address, email address and birthday.

## LENTEN FISH FRY

**St. Joseph's Church, Moulton**



**Ash Wednesday & Fridays of Lent**  
5:00-7:00 p.m., \$10.00 Per Plate  
Fish, Hush Puppies, Sides & Dessert

**Dine in the Social Center**  
**Or Drive-Thru Plates-To-Go**

\*All proceeds go to charities.