

February 7, 2021

Ordinary Time

Fifth Sunday



Jesus, The Giver of Hope

Jesus knows the misery of human life, because he is one of us. However, suffering can no longer be interpreted as a direct punishment from God for sins committed as it was commonly believed at the time. The miracles that Jesus worked, freeing the man of unclean spirit, the healing of Simon's mother-in-law, and the generalized summary of miracles at sundown are preliminary acts of healing that foreshadow the greatest act of healing miracle, the death and resurrection of Christ. It is in this miracle that we partake at every Eucharist. In this miracle Jesus continues to heal the broken-hearted. Come and be healed.

MASS INTENTIONS



Thursday, February 11
4:30 p.m. The Deceased of the Cerny-Patalik Family
Saturday, February 13
4:30 p.m. Jim Schneider
Sunday, February 14
8:00 a.m. Robert R. Schaefer

Individual Confessions in Praha and Moulton.

- Available anytime by appointment. Call the office.
- On Thursdays after the 4:30 p.m. Mass in Praha.
- On Fridays in the Family Room after Mass in Moulton.
- During Advent/Christmas season and in Lent.

Full, Conscious and Active Participation in the Liturgy



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

First Reading: Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 32
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:31—11:1
Gospel: Mark 1:40-45

2020 DIOCESAN SERVICES APPEAL

2020 Assessment	\$8,179.00
Contributions So Far	\$8,080.00
Amount Yet to be Contributed	\$ 99.00

We thank all those who contributed towards our D.S.A. assessment so far. With your generous support we should be able to pay off our remaining debt to the bishop. We are counting on all who have not yet contributed to the fund to do their part.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK



Good News For All

After a full day of preaching and healing, Jesus retreats to bed, then rises before dawn to slip away into the wilderness to pray.

He leaves with us a model that clearly shows that our active ministries depend upon prayer. What we accomplish in a busy day may depend on what we do early in the morning. By surrendering to God first, we are acknowledging that any good we accomplish is only flowing through us. This frees us from any notion that we ourselves are the source. For the people of Galilee, the many healings performed by Jesus in and around Capernaum in today's Gospel could have only come from the hand of God.

— Deacon Dick Folger



Rosary every Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. Come join a group of church ladies at the Zdravas Maria Plaza to pray.

DIOCESE OF VICTORIA

MEN'S CONFERENCE - FEBRUARY 20

For more information/to register (\$25) go to www.victoriadiocese.org/arise.

St. Joseph's Church Lenten Fish Fry, Ash Wednesday & Fridays of Lent. Drive-Through Plates-To-go or Dine Inside (social distancing) at St. Joseph's Social Center, Moulton.

The Sanctuary Light
will be lit this week
in memory of Robert R. Schaefer.



REFLECTION

Job 7:1-4, 6-7 Psalm: 147

1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23 Mark 1:29-39

In Today's first reading, Job complains to his friends that his days fly by faster than a weaver's shuttle. Think of the needle of a sewing machine racing up and down faster than the eye can see. This speed of Job's days is certainly echoed in what we hear about Jesus' activities in today's gospel reading. Jesus – moving from town to town, preaching the good news and casting out demons – is a bundle of energy in Mark. Within a few verses we find him healing *all who were wicked or possessed*. Indeed, *the whole city was gathered around the door* looking for his attention!

We find Jesus entering the house of Peter (Simon) and Andrew, and there is the mother of Peter's wife sick in bed with a fever. The interesting thing is not the cure, but that upon being healed, the mother-in-law immediately began to serve. (The original Greek word for *service* is *diakonein* the same word that is the origin of the church's ministry of *deacon* today.) So, when we find gifts of God in our lives today, we give thanks to God knowing that the gift is not an end in itself but to be given back to God in service.

Consider the many gifts you have received from God. How are you using these gifts in the service of others and of God?

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



February 12 – Matt Cerny
– John Decker, Jr.

PRAHA PANCAKE SUNDAY TODAY



THE FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

The Altar Society is hosting Praha Pancake Sunday starting at 9 a.m. All are welcome. Come and enjoy a great breakfast and good fellowship. A free will donation will be appreciated.

We invite Altar Society members to sign up to help with the Pancake Sundays. We need 8 volunteers each month and the time commitment is from 7:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. All supplies are provided. Contact Lori Janecka.

LENTEN BULLETIN BOARD

Ash Wednesday – February 17



Mass Schedule:

St. Mary's, Praha
4:30 p.m.

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

Why Ashes on Ash Wednesday?

Next Wednesday is Ash Wednesday the day, we usher in Lent with its three core traditional practices of **PRAYER, FASTING** and **ALMSGIVING**. Lenten discipleship is about making our way back to the Lord. Just as Jesus' disciples were not free from sin, neither are we. We need the Lord to call us back, to remind us of his everlasting mercy and forgiveness. The use of ashes for all the faithful at the start of Lent began in the tenth century with its roots in the Books of Job, Jeremiah and Daniel – the sprinkling of ashes, wearing of sack cloth and practices of fasting were central gestures of sorrow and repentance for the Israelites. Every year in the middle of the week in late winter we go to church and have ashes smudged upon our clean foreheads. We still undergo this ritual of ashes because at least once a year we need to be reminded that our deepest



hunger is the hunger for God. It is a personal act of remembrance and a sign or a witness to others. The ashes come from the burnt palms from last year's Palm Sunday celebration, which begin Holy Week. So, the ashes bring us back to our celebration of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus. On this first day of Lent, we begin a journey of renewal from death to life. This is a joyful season. We make sacrifices to let the Lord transfigure us to help us grow in holiness. As the ashes are placed on our foreheads we are reminded to **Repent and Believe in the Gospel**. We wear the ashes not as a boastful sign, showing how holy we are, but as a witness to the world of our commitment to living the commandments, to have God transfigure us.

Stations of the Cross: Fridays of Lent, 5:30 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. Make this Lent count by being charitable.

Second Collection (Rice Bowl)

Sundays of Lent and Easter Sunday

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