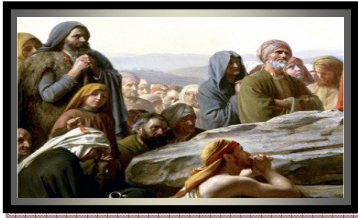


# The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Blessed are you who are poor, for the kingdom of God is yours.  
Woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.  
Blessed are you who are no hungry, for you will be satisfied.  
Woe to you who are filled now, for you will be hungry.  
Blessed are you who are now weeping, for you will be satisfied.  
Woe to you who laugh now, for you will grieve and weep.  
Blessed are you when people hate you, and denounce your name as  
evil on account of the Son of Man.  
Woe to you when all speak well of you, for their ancestors treated the  
false prophets in this way.

## *This Week in Our Parish*

*February 14, 2010*

- Sunday:** Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time / No PSR  
St. Valentine's Day 8:30 am: Mass 9:30 am: RCIA  
10:00 am: Spanish Mass 11:30 am: Life Teen Mass  
/ESOL class 12:45pm: Citizenship classes  
1:00 pm: Spanish Mass 7:00 pm: Spanish Mass
- Monday:** 12:15 pm: Daily Mass
- Tuesday:** 12:15 pm: Daily Mass
- Wednesday:** Ash Wednesday  
8:00 am: Prayer Service with ashes 12:15 pm: English Mass  
4:00 pm: Prayer Service with ashes 5:30 pm: Spanish Mass  
7:00 pm: English Mass 8:30 pm: Spanish Mass
- Thursday:** 12:15 pm: Communion Service 5:00 pm: Girl Scouts
- Friday:** 🧹 Cleaning Team Two/ John Retreat (Sp)  
6:00 pm: Stations in (Eng.) 6:30 pm: Lenten Meal  
7:30 pm: Stations in (Sp.)/Prayer group
- Saturday:** Johns Retreat (Sp)  
10:00 am: PSR in Spanish 12:30 pm: PSR Session II  
2:00 pm: Sp. Youth Int. Group 5:30 pm: Vigil Mass
- Sunday:** 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent/Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time  
8:30 am: Mass 9:30 am: RCIA 10:00 am: Spanish  
Mass PSR 2<sup>nd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> 11:30 am: Life Teen Mass /Pre-K-1<sup>st</sup>  
/ESOL class 12:30 pm: Youth Group  
12:45pm: Citizenship classes 1:00 pm: Spanish Mass  
3:00 pm: Baptism Class (Sp.) 7:00 pm: Spanish Mass

### **Why We Do What We Do**

What shocks me and saddens me is that Catholics who disagree with the Church most often disagree over the things that make us Catholic. Core beliefs.

One will say, "I'm Catholic, but I don't believe the Eucharist is the Body and Blood of Christ. It's just a symbol." In fact a survey about 15 years ago showed that more than 60 percent of Catholics in the United States did not have an understanding of the Eucharist as the Real Presence of Christ. Other Christians have symbolic communion services. Catholics celebrate the Last Supper each Sunday and from the time of the Apostles we believe we receive the Body

and Blood of Christ, offered under the appearance of bread and wine, but changed by the power of the Holy Spirit. That change—a change of substance or *transubstantiation*—is something we believe in faith even if we cannot see it with the human eye.

Others accept Catholic beliefs *they find* directly in Scripture, but not any insights since the first century. The Church states: "Yet even if Revelation is already complete, it has not been made completely explicit; it remains for Christian faith gradually to grasp its full significance over the course of the centuries." (*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 66*) This we call Sacred Tradition. For some, everything is in the "eye of the beholder." They claim that Catholic beliefs and traditions are the least Scripturally based when in fact ours are the most Scripturally based.

Others deny the Church's moral and teaching authority. They fail to see the connection of today's Pope back to the first Pope, St. Peter. They refuse to listen to anything the Church's teaching office or the bishops have to say—especially if the individual disagrees or the teaching is in conflict with his/her life choices. "The task of interpreting the Word of God authentically has been entrusted solely to the Magisterium of the Church, that is, to the Pope and to the bishops in communion with him." (100)

Many want the Church to "change" its beliefs according to modern times or based on a "democratic" vote. Many Catholic politicians are in open conflict with the Church over the issue of abortion. They claim this is a modern issue that the Church has only recently spoken on. This despite documents condemning abortion going back to the second century. They also forget that Jesus did not set up a democracy. He chose Peter to be the first leader (His successor). Through the Apostles he set up the offices of bishop, presbyter/priest, and deacon.

We now have Catholics who deny the need for the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession), the Sacrament of Marriage, and the Sacrament of Holy Orders, despite clear biblical evidence and Church Tradition. The Seven Sacraments are fundamental and essential.

One of the areas of greatest defiance is with regards to the human body and human sexuality. Despite clear teachings in the Bible and from the Church over the centuries, many people want to ignore the Ten Commandments and Christ's call to conversion, even after seeing the consequences of immoral activity and bad behavior. One of the blessings of the Holy Spirit is self-control, yet today many people want no control and no responsibility when it comes to their lives. They don't believe in any permanent, eternal truths or any code of behavior. There is no right and wrong for them. They also want to make excuses, blame others, and expect others to help fix their problems, pay for their mistakes, and support their ongoing poor choices.

The Church will be glad to help enlighten or to help guide a person back to the right way.

St. Paul in his First Letter to the Corinthians (and other letters) has several words of warning and challenge. They echo Christ's clear teachings in the Four Gospels.

All Christians should be concerned with modern attacks on the divinity of Christ, his miracles, the Cross, and even questions about whether He is the Savior.

In the early Church, a dispute arose over what to do with those who had committed apostasy (*abandonment or renunciation of one's religion*) during persecutions by the Roman government. The hardliners said they should not be allowed to return (permanent excommunication). The moderates said they could return by making a sincere confession and a profession of faith, but that they would have to do a heavy penance for the rest of their lives. For them the Catholic faith was everything. It should be for us.

We pray for those who have strayed from/left the faith and those who are spiritually and morally lost. "O Almighty God, you have given us faith in Christ as a beacon to light our way amid the darkness of the world. Have mercy on all who have strayed from the path of salvation even though they may not know it. Send your message into their hearts, and grant them the grace to receive it with sincerity and thankfulness." (*New Saint Joseph People's Prayer Book, 1980*)



<b>"2010" Weekly Budget</b> .....	\$5,350.00
Offertory collected February 7 <sup>th</sup> .....	\$ 6,365.50
<b>Difference</b> .....	+ \$ 1,015.50
<b>Second Collections</b>	
02/07/10 "Building Fund " .....	\$1, 784.23
<b>Haitian Relief</b> .....	\$ 190.00
<b>Campaign '10 Pledges:</b>	
Total donations made (from pledges) as of 01/31/10.....	\$ 89,182.33
February 7 <sup>th</sup> Collections.....	\$ 952.00
New Campaign total donations from pledges.....	\$ 90,134.33

**Second Collection:** Next week's second collection will be for Black and Indian Missions. Established in 1884 as the embodiment of the Church's concern for evangelizing the Black and Indian peoples of the United States, the National Collection for the Black and Indian Missions offers a tremendous opportunity for Catholics to actively participate in the evangelizing programs made possible by the collection. Together, let us truly be missionaries with them as our gifts help their evangelization programs. The following are bulletin and pulpit announcements; please use them to encourage your parishioners to be generous.

**Note:** Please disregard the Eastern Europe envelopes that came in this month's envelopes. This collection was combined with Churches of Latin America on January 24<sup>th</sup>.

## The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### February 14, 2010

**First Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-8**

Cursed is the one who trusts in human beings; blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord.

**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20**

If Christ has not been raised, your faith is vain.

**Gospel: Luke 6:17, 20-26**

Blessed are the poor. Woe to you who are rich.

**Living the Paschal Mystery**

Most of us live just barely getting by—we never have enough time, enough money, and enough energy. We tend to keep our focus on now and, to a large extent, this is necessary. The Beatitudes, however, invite another stance. Even in being caught up in the cares of everyday living, we can still keep our eyes on Jesus Christ and what we are really seeking—everlasting glory with him in the time to come. We Christians are not so much now people as future people. This is why social status, or what people think of us, or possessions, lead to woes—they turn our eyes from the future glory that awaits us when we keep our eyes on Christ. It is our relationship with God that motivates us to reach out to others with good "on account of the Son Man." ~**Living Liturgy**

The words of the psalmist echo the theme of all of today's readings. "Blessed are they who hope in the Lord." As good stewards, firmly grounded in that hope, may we bear fruit in due season—assisting the poor, feeding the hungry, and consoling the sorrowful whenever we have the chance.

Saturday February 13, 5:30pm.....	Frank Headly (RIP)
Sunday, February 14, 8:30am.....	Joseph Ulrich (RIP)
Sunday, February 14, 10:00am..(Spanish Mass) Soledad Gonzalez (presentation)	
Sunday, February 14, 11:30 am.....	Our Parish Family
Sunday, February 14, 1:00pm.....	(Spanish Mass) Our Parish Family
Sunday, February 14, 7:00pm.....	(Spanish Mass) Our Parish Family
Monday, February 15, 12:15pm.....	Mass
Tuesday February 16, 12:15 pm.....	Mass
Wednesday, February 17, 8:00am.....	Prayer Service with Ashes
Wednesday, February 17, 12:15pm.....	English Mass
Wednesday, February 17, 4:00pm.....	Prayer Service with Ashes
Wednesday February 17, 5:30pm.....	Spanish Mass with Ashes
Wednesday February 17, 7:00pm.....	English Mass with Ashes
Wednesday February 17, 8:30pm.....	Spanish Mass with Ashes
Thursday, February 18, 12:15pm.....	Communion Service
Friday, February 19, 6:00pm.....	Stations of the Cross (English)
Friday, February 19, 7:30pm.....	Stations of the Cross (Spanish)/Prayer Group
Saturday February 20, 5:30pm.....	Our Parish Family
Sunday, February 21, 8:30am.....	Our Parish Family
Sunday, February 21, 10:00am.....	(Spanish Mass) Our Parish Family
Sunday, February 21, 11:30 am.....	English Mass with Ashes
Sunday, February 21, 1:00pm.....	Our Parish Family
Sunday, February 21, 7:00pm.....	(Spanish Mass) Our Parish Family

**Upcoming Changes in the Mass**

As Lent approaches, it is worth noting that forthcoming changes in the Mass do not affect the structure or discipline of Lent. The changes in the late-1960s brought a lot of confusion.

Prior to that, the disciplines of fasting and abstinence were much more rigorous. The requirement of fasting and abstinence extended through the entire season of Lent and abstinence from meat was observed on every Friday throughout the year.

Now fasting is required on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday and abstinence on those two days and the other Fridays of Lent. "In addition to the mandatory days listed above, abstinence from meat on every Friday throughout the year which is not a Solemnity, and fasting on all Lenten weekdays (especially Wednesdays and Fridays) and on Holy Saturday, is *strongly recommended* to all the faithful. There always remains, of course, the grave obligation to participate at Holy Mass on all Sundays and days of obligation.

"Each in his or her own way, every Christian is *bound to do penance* by virtue of divine law. *Only ill health or some similar situation of urgency excuses.* During the Lenten season, Christ Jesus' own challenges to "prayer, fasting and almsgiving" are paramount (see the Gospel reading for Ash Wednesday, Mt 6:1-6, 16-18). We seek ongoing forgiveness for sin (especially in the Sacrament of Penance) and come to appreciate ever more the great sufferings and sacrifice which Our Savior experienced for the sake of our salvation." (*Diocese of Baton Rouge website*)

**Please pray for the following people who are suffering:**

Donna Thibault - respiratory illness, Barbara Smith- cancer, Marty McKinnon- ovarian cancer, Cayla Johnson-hydrocephalus, Joe



Campbell-follicular lymphoma, Tonya Isham-tumor, Curtis Lunt-ill health, Melissa Silva-health, Juanita Rochester-cancer, Chuck Terry- prostate cancer, June Macejkovic-heart condition, Fr. Denis Kolumber-health, Ernie -leukemia, Maria Farias-breast cancer, Jeanne Walraven-health, Jean Seitz-cancer, Angie Defalco-health, Erna Wyatt-health, Jim Rorer-special intention, Michael Llop-brain tumor, Erik Bigelow-special intention, Janice Miller-health, Brian Pierce-health & safety, Anthony Ortiz-health, Teresa Howard-health, Lou Brown-brain

cancer, Jim Robertson-cancer, Jaden Bates-health, Roy Davies-safety, The people of Haiti-health & safety, Chris Wable-health, Jim Wable-lung cancer, Marilyn Clayton-health, Ashlie Warren-health, Pearl Turner-Parkinson's.

### **U.S. Catholic History**

Two movies have been made entitled "Ash Wednesday." The first, released in 1973, starred Elizabeth Taylor and Henry Fonda. The second, released in 2002, stars Edward Burns and is about the Irish Mob in 1980s New York City. A nervous Catholic priest is worried about the discovery of a cover up designed to protect one of his parishioners.

### **"Out of the Mouth of Babes"**

On Dec. 26, 2009, Sloan Proffitt (AKA "The DiPrima Baby") came out church after the Vigil Mass with a special shirt saying: "I'm Going to be a Big Sister." As Father Joe talked with her parents, Sloan, age 2, walked over to the crèche/manger in the entrance to the church and started looking at the Baby Jesus and the straw. She reached in and brought over a piece of straw and handed it to her mom. It said: "Pray for Safe Deliveries."

As many of you know, Sloan had a complicated delivery and was a Christmas miracle in 2007. In the Birth of Christ—the Word made flesh—God "speaks" to us and answers all our prayers. God gets our attention when He "speaks" through the actions and words of children.

### **Stewardship**

How can I repay the LORD for all the good He has done for me? I will raise the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD. I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people." (*Psalms 116:12-14*)

### **Lent**

The word "lent" came from the Anglo-Saxon *lencten* meaning "spring" (Wikipedia). Let us reflect on the meaning and purpose of our Lenten sacrifices until we arrive upon that glorious day when our Lord and Savior will rise again.