

*"This is
my beloved
Son. Listen
to him."*

MARK 9:7



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THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT FEBRUARY 28, 2021

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Mass of Anticipation for the 2nd Sunday of Lent
 4:00PM Jack Orsburn—Birthday Remembrance

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28

The Second Sunday of Lent
 7:30 AM Special Intention
 9:00AM Dr. George Cooper—Memorial
 10:30AM Mary M. Barrow—Memorial

MONDAY, MARCH 1

Lenten Weekday
 7:30AM Judge Alton W. Wiley—Memorial
 12:05PM Phyllis Dailey—Birthday Remembrance

TUESDAY, MARCH 2

Lenten Weekday
 7:30AM John F. "Jack" Quirk —Memorial
 12:05PM Helen Carr Gannon—Memorial

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3

Lenten Weekday; St. Katharine Drexel, Virgin
 7:30AM John T. Myers —Memorial
 12:05PM Robert H. Bolton—Memorial

THURSDAY, MARCH 4

Lenten Weekday; St. Casimir
 7:30AM Germaine T. Menard—Memorial
 12:05PM Rolando V. Perea, Sr —Memorial

FRIDAY, MARCH 5

Lenten Weekday
 7:30AM Fr. Frank Giudice—Memorial
 12:05PM Very Rev. Walter Voll, O.P.—Memorial

SATURDAY, MARCH 6

Lenten Weekday
 8:30AM Special Intention

Mass of Anticipation for Third Sunday of Lent
 4:00PM Albert Catanio—Birthday Remembrance

SUNDAY, MARCH 7

The Third Sunday of Lent
 7:30 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy
 9:00AM Phyllis Dailey—1st Anniversary
 10:30AM Patricia Moran—15th Anniversary





Dear Parishioners:

Many people undertake diets to lose weight and get healthier. A trendy diet these days is the intermittent fast diet. This diet establishes an eating pattern that cycles between periods of fasting and eating. It doesn't specify which foods to eat but rather when to eat them. Standard intermittent fasting methods involve daily 16-hour fasts or fasting for 24 hours, twice per week. I leave it to the medical community to determine if such a diet is fruitful and healthy.

However, the fasting we take up during Lent is a spiritual fast. While we do fast from extra food on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday and abstain from eating meat on Fridays during Lent, our fasting is truly a call to sacrifice something not to become physically healthier but rather spiritually healthier.

We fast or give things up as a reminder to remove items in our lives that get in the way of our relationship with God. When we feel hungry or choose not to do things we desire, it reminds us that everything we have is a gift from God. We strive to hunger for more of God and less of self. Our fasting mirrors Christ's fast in the wilderness for forty days as we seek to hunger for what he hungers.

Fasting is more than giving up treats and pleasures. There are other things from which we should also fast. We can fast from noise by turning off TVs, computers, and phones. Instead pray in silence or come to First Friday Adoration.

In his outstanding book, *The Power of Silence: Against the Dictatorship of*

Noise, Robert Cardinal Sarah suggests: "*Without silence, God disappears in the noise. And this noise becomes all the more obsessive because God is absent. Unless the world rediscovers silence, it is lost. The earth then rushes into nothingness.*" This Lent, we should fast from noise and rediscover silence.

Pope Francis urges fasting from gossip. He said: "*It's so rotten, gossip. In the beginning, it seems to be something enjoyable and fun, like a piece of candy. But at the end, it fills the heart with bitterness and also poisons us.*"

We can fast from talking about our family members, friends, co-workers and neighbors. Idle gossip is not only hurtful at times its very sinful. Try fasting from gossip.

We can fast from "Busyness." Our culture grants a badge of honor to those who take up "busyness." However, being too busy often distracts us from other, more important things like family, faith and God. It prevents us from hearing God's voice and appreciating God's blessings. This Lent, slow down and pray. Don't be too busy to be with the Lord.

We should fast from complaining. How often do we complain about something we don't like or cannot accept? In Lent, try to be more grateful for what we have rather than complain about what we don't.

Crabby complaints and caustic criticism can be toxic, polluting the attitudes of those around us. They tear down rather than build up a community. Fasting from complaining calls us to be part of a solution rather than contribute to a problem.

Finally, we might fast from excuses. The parents of the great Yankee shortstop Derek Jeter never permitted him to use the word "can't" around the house. They suggested that anything was possible with hard work and dedication.

The virtue of hope reminds us that all things are possible with God. We can change, resist temptations, avoid sin, and follow the path of virtue and holiness. The Saints show us the way from sin to sanctity can indeed be done. This Lent, fast from saying "can't" to the Lord and embrace "I can" for Christ.

Next weekend we welcome two very dynamic preachers, Dominican Friars Fr. James Mary Sullivan, OP, and Fr. Justin Mary Bolger, OP, for our Lenten Parish Mission. They are preaching at all the Masses, and then each night are preaching a Mission Talk at 7:00 pm. See the Mission schedule in the bulletin. The Mission entitled "*Living for the Other Side*," features music from the Hillbilly Thomists. This group is a band of Dominican Friars who play bluegrass music. Fr. Jordon, a talented musician, is a band member. The Mission is our time to retreat into prayer and reflection as we seek to convert more fully to Christ. Please join us either in person or via live stream.

Stay safe. Be well. Do good. God Bless. Pray, fast, and give alms!

Father Healey



A Word Missing?

Since Ash Wednesday a word has been missing from the prayers at the Mass. This seemingly small omission has important theological consequences. Whether we realize it or not one word can have a big effect. On February 4, 2021, the USCCB’s Committee on Divine Worship decreed that in the English translation of the conclusion of collects (opening prayers) in the Roman Missal, “one” is to be omitted before “God.” For example, at the end of the prayer the celebrant will now say: “*Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.*” This change took effect on Ash Wednesday this year.

There are a few reasons for this change. The USCCB’s Committee note said that “there is no mention of ‘one’ in the Latin, and ‘Deus’ in the Latin text refers to Christ.” Hence, omitting the word “one” more closely follows the wording and the grammar of the Latin text. Latin is the language of the Church. All official documents are translated from Latin into the vernacular languages. This is not just a holdover from times past, but preserves the communicability of Church teaching. Since Latin does not change, its words and grammar remain the same. They are not prone to the cultural shifts in meaning prevalent in our contemporary languages.

Removing the word “one” also avoids any connotation that Jesus is a distinct god from the other two persons of the Trinity. Likewise, the word “one” tends to suggest that Jesus is one God among many. Christ’s divinity is identical with that of the other two persons in the Trinity. He is God completely, with no division or separation from the other two persons. And God is not merely one god among many. He is the only God. The identity of Christ is an essential part of our faith. Many people today incorrectly think of Christ as one spiritual guru among many. By removing one word, the Church preserves the identity of Christ for her people.

Finally, the word “one” is not used in the French, German, Italian, Spanish, or Portuguese translations of the Mass. So, the English translation of the Mass now follows the practice of the universal Church and brings us closer together with those who hear the Mass in a different tongue. One word can indeed have an important impact on our faith.

Weekly Collection

February 21, 2021

| | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Weekly..... | \$8,325.00 |
| EFT..... | \$4,384.00 |
| | Total=\$12,709.00 |
| Outreach..... | \$602.00 |
| Ash Wednesday..... | \$1,851.00 |

February 23, 2020

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| Weekly..... | \$11,492.00 |
| Ash Wednesday 2020..... | \$4,900.00 |

Thank You for Your Generous Support!



Please remember Our Lady of Mercy Church in your will or estate.



2021 Goal= \$190,000

2021 Pledged (to date)=\$55,570

2021 Total of Parishioners Pledges (to date)=115

2020 Goal= \$200,000

2020 Amount Pledged= \$131,236

Total Number Parishioners Pledges=290

Please support the Catholic Charity Appeal, make your pledge today!

Thank you for your support.

Our Lady of Mercy Lenten Parish Mission

March 7-10, 2021



“LIVING FOR THE OTHER SIDE”

Fr. Justin Mary Bolger, O.P.

& Fr. James Mary Sullivan, O.P.

*Dominican Friars of St. Pius V Church, Providence, RI,
Mission Preachers*

The Friars will preach all weekend Masses

Monday, March 8, 2021 • Mission Talk at 7:00PM

*“I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say:
Faith & Why I Listen to the Lord”*

Tuesday, March 9, 2021 • Mission Talk at 7:00PM

“The Jericho Blues: Hope & Why I Trust in the Lord”

**Wednesday, March 10, 2021 • Mission Talk, Exposition
& Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 7:00PM**

“The Weight of Eternal Glory: Charity & Why I Love the Lord”

Confession each night of the Mission with four confessors beginning at 6:00PM

The Mission will be livestreamed each night at olmparish.org
and also feature the music of *The Hillbilly Thomists*,
a Bluegrass Band of Dominican Friars.



Fr. James Mary Sullivan, O.P., is a Dominican priest of the Province of Saint Joseph. He is a native of Boston, Massachusetts and graduated from Providence College in 1989. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1995. Father has served as Pastor at St. Dominic Church in Youngstown, Ohio and St. Louis Bertrand Church in Louisville, Kentucky. He has also taught theology at St. Joseph Seminary in Yonkers, New York and Mt. St. Mary's Seminary in Cincinnati, Ohio. After serving as Novice Master for the St. Joseph Province for four years and directing 65 novices, he was assigned in 2014 to serve as the Director of the Priestly Sabbatical Program at the Pontifical North American College, Rome, Italy. Since 2019 Father Sullivan has served as Pastor of Saint Pius V Church in Providence. He also serves as adjunct Spiritual Director at Our Lady of Providence Seminary.



Fr. Justin Bolger, O.P. hails from Maryland where he grew up in a big Catholic family. He graduated from the University of Baltimore and then played music professionally with his sister Maggie. After a career in the music business he worked and studied at Mt. St. Mary's University in Emmitsburg, MD where he earned a masters in philosophy. He then joined the Dominicans in 2012. He obtained a Licentiate in Sacred Theology and was ordained to the priesthood in May 2020. He now serves as Associate Pastor of St. Pius V and in campus ministry at Providence College. His bluegrass band of Dominican Friars, The Hillbilly Thomists, have just released their newest album, “Living for the Other Side.” Fr. Justin will be preaching and playing tunes from this album.

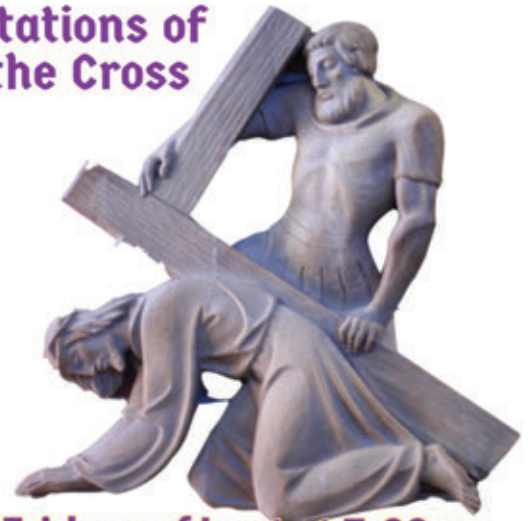
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Stations of the Cross



Fridays of Lent at 7:00pm

L Turn away
E
N
T from sin



Friday, March 5, 2021

Exposition following 12:05pm Mass

Adoration All Afternoon

Benediction at 6:45pm

*Adorers are needed,
please sign up online.*



Religious Education NEWS

First Communion & Confirmation Program Family Mass & Class

• **Sunday, February 28th:** First Communion Class Mass at 5:00PM followed by Class: *"How To Go To Confession."* Mass & Class is only open to the members of the OLM First Communion Class & their families.

First Confession for First Communion Class

Saturday, March 6th at 1:00PM: Students A—L

Saturday, March 20th at 1:00PM: Students M—Z

Guest Confessors will be available at First Confessions for parents and family members.



Outreach Update

• **OLM Food Pantry** is continually in need of food and paper goods for the members of our local community. Please place all donated **non-perishable foods only and paper goods** in the box in the vestibule of Church or the box on the porch of Mercy House. *Thank you for your support!*

• For information, please contact the OLM Outreach Director, Doug Green at 401-884-4410 or via email at outreach@olmparish.org



Striving to be Saints & Scholars!

- **Monday, March 1:** Confessions for Grades 6-7F at 1pm
- **Tuesday, March 2:** 9AM School Lenten Mass Grade 6 (*no livestream*)
- **Wednesday, March 3:** School Community Zoom Meeting at 7pm
- **Friday, March 5:** Stations of the Cross, at 9:00AM Grades 3 & 4 attend

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#WHATSMYNAME

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Samantha Josephson**



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