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LUKE 6:42



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**THE SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
 FEBRUARY 20, 2022**

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19

The Mass of Anticipation of the 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time
 4:00PM D'cd of Balsamo & Prano Families—Memorial

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20

The Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
 7:30 AM Jessica T. Barrett—Month's Mind
 9:00AM Patricia McGee—Memorial
 10:30AM Jennifer DelGizzo—Memorial
 5:00PM Michael A. Rocchio—Birthday Remembrance

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21-PRESIDENTS' DAY HOLIDAY

Weekday; St. Peter Damian, Bishop & Doctor of the Church
 8:30AM Dorothy Ianacone—3rd Anniversary

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22

The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle
 7:30AM George Ferruccio—Birthday Remembrance

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

St. Polycarp, Bishop & Martyr
 7:30AM Dalia Pundys—10th Anniversary

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Weekday
 7:30AM John Carne—Memorial

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25

Weekday
 7:30AM John E. Gardner—Memorial

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Weekday; BVM
 8:30AM Eraclio Iacobucci—Memorial
The Mass of Anticipation for the 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time
 4:00PM Irene Fortunato—Memorial

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27

The Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 7:30 AM Philip Given—Memorial
 9:00AM Domenica Ruzzo—Memorial
 10:30AM Beverly A. Wareham—Memorial
 5:00PM Rick Demers—Memorial





Dear Parishioners:

That sound of silence you hear is the Annual February Winter Break! Students and teachers are off this week for a well-deserved winter vacation. We wish them well and pray for their safe travels and return to OLM School. I hope it will be a relaxing time of renewal for them.

Monday, we celebrate President's Day. It is a federal holiday celebrated on the third Monday in February. It was originally established in 1885 to recognize President George Washington's birthday on February 22. In 1968 the birth of U.S. President Abraham Lincoln on February 12 was added as part of the holiday.

The holiday became popularly known as Presidents' Day in 1971 to create more three-day weekends for the nation's workers. Presidents' Day is now popularly viewed as a day to celebrate all U.S. presidents, past and present.

In an age when statues of past Presidents of our nation are removed and their character questioned by contemporary standards and virtue signaling, it is important to stop and acknowledge all of our Presidents and their service to the nation. We remember and honor them with prayer, gratitude, and thanksgiving.

President George Washington, the Father of the Nation, said: *"It is impossible to govern the world without God and the Bible. Of all the dispositions and habits that lead to political prosperity, our religion and morality are the indispensable supporters. Let us with caution indulge the*

supposition that morality can be maintained without religion. Reason and experience both forbid us to expect that our national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principle."

Sadly, many of our government officials and elected politicians do not accept his words. They wish to remove morality and religion from the debate in public policy. Religion is a quaint social custom, and morality is all relative. Their understanding of political prosperity is far from President Washington's.

Hence, today we live in a nation with abortion on demand up until birth, assisted suicide and euthanasia for the terminally ill and suffering, neglect of the poor and homeless, the false notion of gender, and the continued undermining of family and marriage. Washington was right to be cautious to *"indulge the supposition that morality can be maintained without religion."*

Our Catholic faith and our Church's vast social teaching should inform our understanding of public policy issues. Without the truth of Christ and His teaching, we will be doomed to believe anything popular, convenient, and trendy as true.

Without the truth of Christ and His Church, children are but a choice to exterminate and not the children of God to be welcomed and cherished. The sick and the suffering are nothing more than an emotional and financial burden to be lifted through assisted suicide or euthanasia. The poor and needy are nothing more than freeloaders who drain the public expenditures rather than brothers

and sisters deserving dignity, support, and assistance.

Catholic social teaching is a central and essential element of our faith. Its roots are in the prophets who announced God's special love for the poor and called God's people to a covenant of love and justice. It is a teaching founded on the life and words of Jesus Christ, who came "to bring glad tidings to the poor, liberty to captives, recovery of sight to the blind."

Christ identified himself with "the least of these," the hungry and the stranger. Our social teaching is built on a commitment to the poor, the oppressed, the suffering, and the marginalized.

Catholic social teaching is inseparable from our understanding of human life and human dignity. Every human being is created in the image of God and redeemed by Jesus Christ and therefore is invaluable and worthy of respect as a member of the human family.

From the moment of conception to natural death, every person has inherent dignity and a right to life consistent with that dignity. Human dignity comes from God, not from any human quality or merely human institution.

Pray for our President and elected officials. May they, as Washington did, embrace those indispensable supports of religion and morality. Be well. Stay safe. Do good. God Bless! God Bless America!

Father Healey

Chasuble



The outer garment worn by the presiding priest or bishop at Mass is the chasuble.

It derives from the serviceable poncho-like cloak that was the regular overcoat of the Greeks and Romans.

The word comes from the Latin *casula* which means “little house,” and indeed, the chasuble is meant to symbolize the sheltering embrace of the Christian life.

Catholics of a certain age will remember the abbreviated Roman style chasuble of the pre-Vatican II church. Though still available in some church goods catalogues, this fiddle-shaped stiff garment has been thankfully replaced by the flowing and graceful styles we see on our presiders today.



This bulletin insert was written by Marion Eagen, a liturgist and musician in the diocese of Scranton, Pa. © 2002 Resource Publications, Inc., 160 E. Virginia St. #290, San Jose, CA 95112, (408) 286-8505. All rights reserved.

Weekly Collection

February 13, 2022

Weekly.....	\$7,155.00
EFT.....	\$5,516.00
	Total=\$12,671.00
Outreach.....	\$1,788.00

February 14, 2021

Weekly.....	\$11,315.00
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Every penny counts!



Thank you for your contribution - big and small!

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

PRESIDENT'S Day

Monday, February 21, 2022

Mass at 8:30AM.

The Parish Office is closed for the holiday.



The flowers at the Marian Shrine are donated in loving memory of Eraclio Iacobucci In your kindness and charity, please pray for the gentle repose of his soul.



Religious Education
NEWS

RE Calendar of Events

Sunday, February 20:

Mass 5:00pm and NO CLASS, School Vacation Week

Sunday, February 27:

5:00PM Mass and Class: Grades 3,4,5,6 and 7

Sunday, March 6:

5:00PM Mass and Class: Confirmation 2022

Both Parents & Students must attend Mass & Class



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Schedule of Events

- **Monday, February 21:** Winter Vacation begins! Enjoy your time off! Stay healthy, happy & holy!!
- **Monday, February 28:** Vacation ends! Classes resume!
- **Wednesday, March 2:** Ash Wednesday, OLM School Mass at 9:00am. Lent Begins!

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and their caregivers



• OLM Food Pantry is always in need of food items and paper goods for the members of our local community. **Please place all donated NON-EXPIRED AND non-perishable food items only and paper goods in the box in the vestibule of Church or the box on the porch of Mercy House.** Please do not leave medical supplies. Thank you for your support!

• **OLM Bereavement Group: Next Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 3, 2022 at 4:00PM** in Mercy House. All those who are grieving are invited to join with us.

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

OLD PALM BRANCH COLLECTION



Baskets will be readily available beginning the weekends of February 20 & 27, in order to collect old and blessed palm branches.

Please deposit any palm branches in the proper baskets as they are to be burnt for use as ashes for Masses on Ash Wednesday.

Thank you your help and cooperation!



CST 101

THEMES FROM

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

The Church's social teaching is a rich treasure of wisdom about building a just society and living lives of holiness amidst the challenges of modern society. Modern Catholic social teaching has been articulated through a tradition of papal, conciliar, and episcopal documents. The depth and richness of this tradition can be understood best through a direct reading of these documents. In these brief reflections, we highlight several of the key themes that are at the heart of our Catholic social tradition.

LIFE AND DIGNITY OF THE HUMAN PERSON



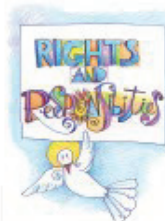
The Catholic Church proclaims that human life is sacred and that the dignity of the human person is the foundation of a moral vision for society. This belief is the foundation of all the principles of our social teaching. In our society, human life is under direct attack from abortion and euthanasia. Human life is threatened by cloning, embryonic stem cell research, and the use of the death penalty. The intentional targeting of civilians in war or terrorist attacks is always wrong. Catholic teaching calls on us to work to avoid war. Nations must protect the right to life by finding effective ways to prevent conflicts and resolve them by peaceful means. We believe that every person is precious, that people are more important than things, and that the measure of every institution is whether it threatens or enhances the life and dignity of the human person.

CALL TO FAMILY, COMMUNITY, AND PARTICIPATION

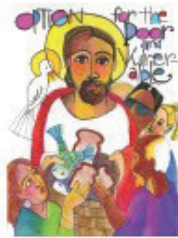


The person is not only sacred but also social. How we organize our society—in economics and politics, in law and policy—directly affects human dignity and the capacity of individuals to grow in community. Marriage and family are the central social institutions that must be supported and strengthened, not undermined. We believe people have a right and a duty to participate in society, seeking together the common good and well-being of all, especially the poor and vulnerable.

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

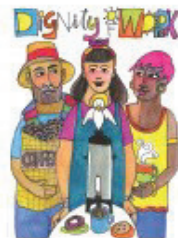


The Catholic tradition teaches that human dignity can be protected and a healthy community can be achieved only if human rights are protected and responsibilities are met. Therefore, every person has a fundamental right to life and a right to those things required for human decency. Corresponding to these rights are duties and responsibilities—to one another, to our families, and to the larger society.



OPTION FOR THE POOR AND VULNERABLE

A basic moral test is how our most vulnerable members are faring. In a society marred by deepening divisions between rich and poor, our tradition recalls the story of the Last Judgment (Mt 25:31-46) and instructs us to put the needs of the poor and vulnerable first.



THE DIGNITY OF WORK AND THE RIGHTS OF WORKERS

The economy must serve people, not the other way around. Work is more than a way to make a living; it is a form of continuing participation in God's creation. If the dignity of work is to be protected, then the basic rights of workers must be respected—the right to productive work, to decent and fair wages, to the organization and joining of unions, to private property, and to economic initiative.



SOLIDARITY

We are one human family whatever our national, racial, ethnic, economic, and ideological differences. We are our brothers' and sisters' keepers, wherever they may be. Loving our neighbor has global dimensions in a shrinking world. At the core of the virtue of solidarity is the pursuit of justice and peace. Blessed Pope Paul VI taught that "if you want peace, work for justice."¹ The Gospel calls us to be peacemakers. Our love for all our sisters and brothers demands that we promote peace in a world surrounded by violence and conflict.



CARE FOR GOD'S CREATION

We show our respect for the Creator by our stewardship of creation. Care for the earth is not just an Earth Day slogan, it is a requirement of our faith. We are called to protect people and the planet, living our faith in relationship with all of God's creation. This environmental challenge has fundamental moral and ethical dimensions that cannot be ignored.



Text for this poster is drawn from United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, *Sharing Catholic Social Teaching: Challenges and Directions*. © Copyright 2017, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and Catholic Relief Services. All rights reserved. Photos courtesy of Brother Mickey McGrath, OSFS.

¹Paul VI, *For the Celebration of the Day of Peace* (Rome: January 1, 1972).

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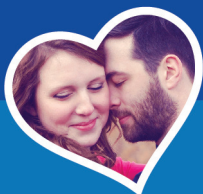
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