

**SUNDAY-FEBRUARY 5, 2012**

**Mass Intentions:**

Sunday, February 12-

9:15 a.m.-Alfred, Mary & Debbie Technik

Sunday, February 19-

9:15 a.m.-Phil Mladenka

Ash Wednesday, February 22-

6:00 p.m.-John P. Pustka

Sunday, February 26-

9:15 a.m.-Louis Rother

First Friday, March 2-

6:00 p.m.-Living & Deceased Members of  
KJZT #53, St. Mary's

Sunday, March 4-

9:15 a.m.-Living & Deceased Members of  
KJT #43, Wied

**Rosary Leaders:**

Feb. 12-Janie Fikac

Feb. 19-Dorothy Schneider

Feb. 22-CCD Class

Feb. 26-Joyce Janak

Mar. 4-Sandy Konvicka

**Lectors:**

Feb. 12-Marie Hermes

Feb. 19-Dedie Dobbs

Feb. 22-CCD Class

Feb. 26-Dorothy Schneider

Mar. 4-Anthony Matula

**Cantors:**

Feb. 12-Ruth Rouse

Feb. 19-Lucille Klekar

Feb. 22-CCD Class

Feb. 26-Richard Rouse

Mar. 4-Emily Schimcek

**Extraordinary Ministers:**

Feb. 12-Tony & Joyce Bludau & Vivian Mozisek

Feb. 19-Richard, Scott & Trina Sommerlatte

Feb. 22-Janice Rother & Vivian Mozisek

Feb. 26-Evelyn Konvicka, Janice Rother &  
Pat Pesek

Mar. 4-Mary Urbish, Billy & Bev Hrcncir

**Altar Servers:**

Feb. 12-Jacob Janak, Michael & Robbie Perdziak  
& Kasey Hairell

Feb. 19-Emilie & Ryan Mudd, Josh Bludau &  
Eric Klekar

Feb. 22-CCD Class

Feb. 26-Adam & Ryan Hermes, Luke Scherer &  
Erin Svetlik

Mar. 4-Samuel & Simon Machicek, Kaitlyn  
Rother & Derek Konvicka

**Ushers:**

Feb. 12-Roman Henke, Robert Pustka, Gilbert  
Urbish & Charles Grafe

Feb. 19-Leon Matula, Al Svetlik, Francis Klekar &  
Sidney Jasek

Feb. 22-CCD Class

Feb. 26-Eugene Gillar, Robert Sciba, Bernard  
Patek & Richard Sommerlatte

Mar. 4-Alois Bujnoch, Scott Blaschke, Gilbert  
Mozisek & Marvin Bujnoch

**Offertory Gift Bearers:**

Feb. 12-Kyle & Jessica Schumacher & Family

Feb. 19-Robert & Florence Sciba

Feb. 22-CCD Class

Feb. 26-Richard & Jeanne Sommerlatte &  
Family

Mar. 4-Allen & Anita Steffek

**Church Cleaners:**

Feb. 11-Joyce Janak, Anita Steffek, Helen  
Technik & Ruth Rouse

Feb. 18-Katherine & Vic Kahane & Sharon  
Janak

Feb. 25-Barbara Matula & Monica Matula

Mar. 3-Vivian Mozisek, Joyce Bludau & Rita  
Migl

**Memorials to CCD**

In Memory of Emily Sitka

American Legion Auxiliary #230.....\$25.00

### From the Desk of Father John

Pat Mladenka will be taking care of our office work here at St. Mary's. She will be in the St. Mary Rectory on Monday and Wednesday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Please try to take care of any St. Mary's business during those times if possible.

We now have a new water well with good water that should take care of the whole St. Mary's plant – church, rectory and hall. This past Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, was the Feast of St. Blaise. This weekend we will bless the throats of all who wish to have this done.

"Through the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr may God deliver you from ailments of the throat and from every other evil." These are the words of the special blessing of the throats customarily given on the Feast of St. Blaise. St. Blaise was bishop of Sebaste, in Armenia, in the early years of the fourth century. Legend takes over from there, and tells the story of an anxious mother who hurried to Blaise with her little boy who had a fish bone lodged in his throat. The saint called for two candles, lit them, held them in the form of a cross under the child's chin, recited prayers and blessed the boy. Immediately the bone loosened and was removed. Devotion to St. Blaise was very popular during the Middle Ages, and continues to this day.

We all want relief and protection from physical troubles and ailments of the throat - (hoarseness, choking, colds, cancer). But there are also spiritual diseases of the throat, more harmful often than the physical. We ask protection from these as well when we ask for deliverance "from ailments of the throat and *from every other evil.*" These are spiritual troubles which are beyond the cure of the

greatest throat specialists. They are the evils of unkind speech, choking curses and gagging lies.

The Apostle Paul had these in mind when he wrote to the Romans (3:13), quoting Psalm 5, vs. 11: "Their throat is an open sepulchre. With their tongues they have dealt deceitfully. The venom of asps is under their lips. Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness." Such spiritual illnesses are truly most harmful, and these, too, we want to be cured of through the intercession of St. Blaise. As you receive the blessing of St. Blaise ask through his intercession for deliverance from physical and spiritual evils of the throat and tongue.

### Our Gift to God

	<u>Loose</u>	Envelope
Jan. 1-	\$210.00	\$564.00
Jan. 8-	\$190.00	\$752.00
Jan. 15-	\$162.00	\$429.00
Jan. 22-	\$417.00	\$993.00
Jan. 29-	\$181.00	\$598.00
Children's Collection:		\$92.00
Building Repair Fund:		\$733.00
Votive Candles:		\$19.20

### CCD News

Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, & 28<sup>th</sup>-CCD Classes 6-7 PM  
Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>-Ash Wednesday Youth Participation Mass @ 6 PM  
Mar. 7<sup>th</sup>-CCD Class 6-7 PM  
Mar. 14<sup>th</sup>-No CCD Spring Break

Mark your calendar for **February 19<sup>th</sup>-Youth Spectacular (For Jr. & High School Students) @ Holy Family in Victoria.**

**Donation to St. Mary's Altar Society by Billy & Bev Hrnrcir/B&B Auto Worx...\$250.00**

**Memorials to St. Mary's Altar Society**

In Memory of Ernest Schulte

Daniel & Monica Matula.....\$20.00

In Memory of Annie Henke

Daniel & Monica Matula.....\$25.00

In Memory of Melvin & Sybil Janak

Anthony & Joyce Bludau.....\$100.00

In Memory of Gilbert Butschek

Barron, Ginny, Ella & Davis Janak.....\$20.00

**Meeting Notice**

The KJT #43-Wied meeting is Sunday, March 4<sup>th</sup> following the 9:15 a.m. Mass for living & deceased members of the society. Members are to meet in the St. Mary's meeting room.

**Financial Report for January 2012**

**Income**

Sunday Collections.....\$3,750.53  
 Children's Collections..... 97.66  
 Parish Hall Rental..... 900.00  
 Other Income..... 19.20  
 Total Income.....\$4,767.39

**Expenses**

Utilities.....\$1,446.05  
 Church Expense..... 253.17  
 Maintenance..... 150.00  
 Office Expense-CDSI..... 105.00  
 Priest's Pension Plan..... 349.00  
 Health Insurance..... 211.00  
 Administration..... 300.00  
 Hall Expenses..... 90.00  
 Total Expenses.....\$2,904.22

Balance Forward..... \$15,876.01  
 January Income.....+ 4,767.39  
 Less January Expenses.....- 2,904.22  
 Operating Balance.....\$17,739.18

**PRAYER FOR RAIN** – Heavenly Father, we believe that it is You Who created our world with all of its beauty and life. We believe that it is You Who put into place the systems of nature that sustain, nurture and renew this work of Your hands. We believe that it is You Who hears Your children when they call upon You. Hear then, this prayer which comes from a heart filled with confidence and trust. Grant to us and to all who seek it, the gift of a bountiful rain. Water our lands so that they may once again spring to life and reflect the beauty of Your creation. Fill our lakes and rivers with sufficient rain so that they may continue to provide life giving and refreshing water to all who depend upon it for their livelihood and well being. Please do not let many more days pass without sending us this most needed blessing of rain. We ask this in the name of Jesus, Your Son Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever. Amen.



## The Word of God This Week

Set time aside each day this week with other members of your household, with other members of your parish or alone to listen to and reflect on the living Word of God. Use these passages from the Lectionary that are assigned for Liturgy this week. Reflect on how the Lord is inviting you to a deeper union with him.

### TODAY

Job 7:1–4, 6–7

1 Corinthians 9:16–19,  
22–23

Mark 1:29–39

### MONDAY

Mark 6:53–56

“... and all who touched [him] were healed.”

### TUESDAY

Mark 7:1–13

“Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites...”

### WEDNESDAY

Mark 7:14–23

“... there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile...”

### THURSDAY

Mark 7:24–30

“... it is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.”

### FRIDAY

Mark 7:31–37

“Be opened.”

### SATURDAY

Mark 8:1–10

“I have compassion for the crowd...”

## An Urgent Message

The Gospel according to Mark shows the “earthiness” of his Jesus. Mark’s primary purpose was to strengthen the Early Church’s faith in Jesus as the Christ, the resurrected Son of God.

Almost from the beginning of his Gospel message, Mark shows a sense of urgency in the text, reflected by his frequent use of the word *immediately*. He quickly moves from one episode in Jesus’ life and ministry to another, and emphasizes more what Jesus *did* than what he *said*.

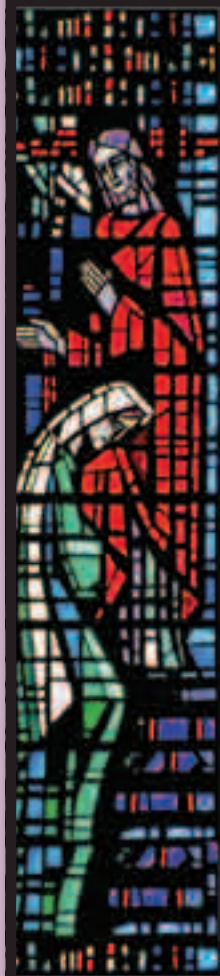
In his writing, Mark does not portray great mythic battles between good and evil. Rather, God’s power is shown in the midst of the events of day-to-day living, in specific places and with real people. For example, in today’s reading, Jesus and his disciples come from worshipping in the synagogue to the home of Simon (Peter) and Andrew, perhaps for

a meal. They find Peter’s mother-in-law in bed with a fever. With a simple touch to her hand, a small gesture that could be interpreted as simply helping the woman get out of bed, Jesus heals her.

After this quick and awesome healing, they all calmly sit and eat together, while being served by the formerly ill woman. Like it was no big deal!

Mark then moves from the individual healing of Peter’s mother-in-law to the healing of many, as the whole town gathers at the door.

It is significant to note that Jesus did not stay very long in the villages after he performed miracles of healing and driving out demons. He clearly points out that he has to go on to other villages to preach, because *it was for this purpose*—sharing an urgent message—that *he had come*.



## The Faith of the Church

When Jesus healed, he often touched the sick and asked them to believe. The sick also tried to touch him, possibly because they sensed God’s healing power coming through him. Although Jesus often prayed in solitude, the Word who became flesh included all mankind in his prayers. He sympathized with our weaknesses and today, he continues to “touch” us to heal us (Cf. *Catechism of the Catholic Church* 1504, 2602).



## Questions of the Week

Jesus told his disciples that he could not stay in one place because his mission was to preach the Good News to all towns. In preparation for this, he usually sought a deserted place so he could pray alone.

### Adults

*How can I prepare myself to be more purposeful about sharing the Good News?*

### Children

*How do I share my faith and trust in Jesus with my friends or classmates?*

## Responding to God's Word . . .

Today's Gospel reading from Mark presents four points of great importance: (1) the simplicity of Peter's faith leads him to bring Jesus home to cure his mother-in-law. Jesus asks us to visit the sick and take care of them. We need to build this action into our daily lives.

(2) We can also learn from the depth of Jesus' prayer. Although the apostles were familiar with the Psalms and the Jewish prayer tradition, Jesus brought a new dimension to prayer. His prayer displayed the full union between himself and Abba, the Father, the Creator God.

(3) The earthly and human behavior of Jesus in this Gospel helps us to know better his humanity. Jesus is real. As a man, he had feelings and showed them. In the Gospel of Mark, we see the best of the human person manifested in Jesus. We should make more of an effort to emulate him.

(4) And finally, we need to follow the commission to go and preach the Good News to other towns because that is what Jesus was sent to do. And that is what he requests of us, "Go in my name. . . ."

## SUGGESTIONS

*Use one of these suggestions or one of your own to respond to God's Word this week.*

**In the home.** Have someone read Mark 1:29–39 out loud. An adult can offer a simple explanation of it, and then everyone should share what the reading means to them.

**In the workplace or in school.** Make an effort to connect with someone who has been ill or is suffering from a medical condition. Show God's love to them.

**In the community.** Encourage your pastor and other parishioners to take a walk through the neighborhood and bless the families as you pass their homes.



## Meditation Moment

One day a friend visited Henri Matisse, the French artist. Noticing how filled with stress his friend seemed to be, Matisse said, "Andre, you must find the artichokes in your life." Then he led his friend to a patch of artichokes in his garden and said, "Each morning, after I have worked a while, I come here to be still and meditate. This simple ritual inspires me and gives me a new perspective toward my work."

### For reflection . . .

*To what extent does quiet meditation relax me and give me a new perspective toward my work?*

AT COOL OF DAY, WITH GOD I WALK /  
MY GARDEN'S GRATEFUL SHADE; /  
I HEAR HIS VOICE AMONG THE TREES /  
AND I AM NOT AFRAID.

ANONYMOUS

FROM *MISSION* BY MARK LINK, SJ

## Make Us One

God of unity  
and forgiveness: Help  
us fulfill your desire to see  
us become one, as you are one  
with Christ and the entire Creation.  
You do not want us to be clones of  
each other; You made us unique, with  
different gifts and flaws. Help us as  
we journey toward this unity, which  
is the only thing that could make  
us happy. One in you; one  
with each other; one with  
Creation. Amen.

*Carry this thought in your heart as a guide  
for your faith journey this week.*

Christ has no body but yours,  
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,  
Yours are the eyes with which he looks  
Compassion on this world,  
Yours are the feet with which he walks  
to do good,  
Yours are the hands, with which he  
blesses all the world.

Teresa of Avila (1515–1582) *The Journey with Jesus*:  
Poems and Prayers. Selected by Dan Clendenin

## Profile in Faith

**Saint Joan of Valois**  
(1464–1505)

Joan was born gifted but physically deformed. She married the Duke of Orleans. But when he became king, he decided to divorce her. The pope declared the marriage void. Joan lived a secluded life of prayer and, in 1501, founded the Sisters of the Annunciation. Her Feast Day is February 4.

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Rev. Msgr. Robert M. Coerver, Censor Librorum  
IMPRIMATUR

† Most Reverend Kevin J. Farrell, DD, Bishop of Dallas  
November 21, 2011

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Front photo: Gene Plaisted, OSC/The Crosses

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# Growing in FAITH™

Discovering **hope and joy** in the Catholic faith.

February 2012

**Sacred Heart, St. Mary, St. John and Ascension Churches**

Fr. John C. Peters, Pastor

## One Minute Meditations

### Lenten Obligations

Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast on Ash Wednesday (February 22nd) and Good Friday (April 6th). In addition, all Catholics 14 years old and older must abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all the Fridays of Lent. The U. S. bishops define fasting as eating one full meal. Some food (not equaling another full meal) is permitted as necessary to maintain strength.

### "And with your spirit" explained

When a man is ordained a priest, the Holy Spirit comes upon him, enabling him to perform the sacred rites of the Mass and consecrate the Eucharist. When we respond, "And with your spirit," we acknowledge that since God works through the priest offering the Mass, it is actually Jesus Christ who is the head of the community gathered together, and it is his Spirit who is leading the Liturgy, regardless of who the particular priest may be.



## Convert your heart during Lent

When we were young Catholics, Lent meant giving something up and welcoming it back at Easter. Now we know that Lent is so much more. Lent is about conversion. Each year we have the chance to leave behind old ways of living to embrace new life. The goal is not just to abstain from sin during Lent but to root it out of our lives forever.

### The moment of truth.

Conversion begins with accepting responsibility for our failures. Start by taking an honest look at your life and identify all the ways that sin keeps you from living the way Jesus taught us to live. Know that it may take courage to face your shortfalls.

**The moment of cleansing.** There can be no healing or conversion when you harbor unconfessed sin. Make a full Confession to a priest in the

Sacrament of Reconciliation. Tell him everything. Don't worry if you have been away for a while. The priest will be happy to guide you and to welcome you

back to God's friendship.

### The moment of

**conversion.** There can't be just one moment of conversion. It is necessary to convert our hearts every day. Daily prayer, frequent Confession, and regular reception of the Holy Eucharist will keep our hearts filled with God's love. Then we can embrace new life at Easter.

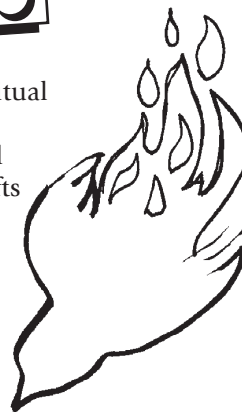


## Why Do Catholics Do That?

Charisms are special spiritual gifts given to some of the Church's members. St. Paul explains charisms as the gifts that the Holy Spirit distributes among us, such as healing, prophecy, working miracles, and uttering wisdom (1 Corinthians 12).

## What are charisms?

Other charisms include papal infallibility and priestly celibacy. Religious orders have charisms such as teaching or nursing. These charisms are not rewards for personal holiness, but are freely distributed among the faithful to be used for the good of all.

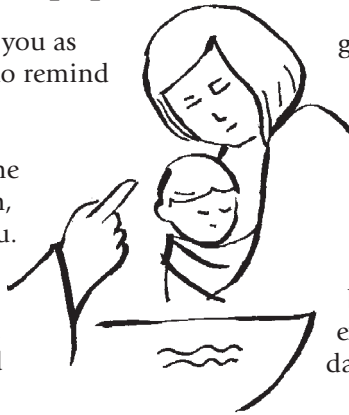


## On the day you were baptized ...

On the day you were baptized, God claimed you as his own. He gave you the name "Christian" to remind you that you belong to Christ.

On the day you were baptized, you were exorcised. The priest asked God to cast out the power of Satan, to free you from Original Sin, and asked the Holy Spirit to dwell within you.

The day you were baptized, the priest blessed the baptismal water and asked God to make it holy so that through it, you might be made holy. Then you – or our parents and



godparents for you – renounced Satan, his works and empty promises, and professed faith in the Trinity, the Holy Catholic Church, the Communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection of the Body.

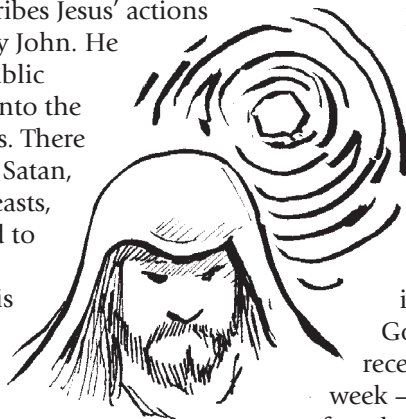
You may not remember the day you were baptized, but ask God to help you always remember your dignity, so you may live as a beloved child of a great Father and one day experience the eternal life he promised on the day you were baptized.

### from Scripture

#### Mark 1:12-15, The Path to Easter

This Gospel describes Jesus' actions after his baptism by John. He prepared for his public ministry by going into the desert for forty days. There he was tempted by Satan, was among wild beasts, and was ministered to by angels.

The lessons of this Gospel can help us prepare not only for Easter, but for the rest of our lives. Temptations surround us. Satan is constantly trying to tear us away from God. The wild beasts represent every kind of danger and evil. But the angels



provide God's protection for us. We can rely on them to help us if we ask for God's help.

We can use Lent to fulfill Jesus' proclamation, "Repent, and believe in the gospel."

The best way to resist evil is to stay in a state of grace.

Go to Confession frequently, receive the Eucharist every week – daily, if possible, and pray as often during the day as you can. When you spend as much of your day with God as possible, Satan and his temptations won't be able to get through your defenses.

### Q & A Why Do We Canonize Saints?

Canonization is the declaration by the pope that a person is worthy of veneration as a saint because he or she lived a life of heroic virtue or remained faithful to God through martyrdom and is now in Heaven with God.



The process of canonization is lengthy. After a person dies, supporters can introduce a cause for sainthood on his or her behalf. A thorough investigation of the candidate is performed which includes examining all writings and hearing the testimony of witnesses who knew the individual. If it's decided that he or she did live a life of heroic virtue, the person is declared Venerable.

Before the candidate can achieve the next step, Beatification, a miracle must be attributed to the person's intercession with God. The miracle must be a suspension of the natural law, such as a healing that can't be explained. The candidate is then known as Blessed.

The final step is canonization, which requires a second confirmed miracle. The person is then known as Saint.

### Feasts & Celebrations

**February 10 - St. Scholastica (547).** Twin sister to St. Benedict, St. Scholastica established a community of religious women about five miles south of her brother's monastery. One day during prayer, St. Benedict saw a dove rising from his sister's convent and recognized it as his sister's soul rising to Heaven upon her death.

**February 22 – Ash Wednesday.** The first day of holy and penitential Season of Lent. Ashes from the burnt palms of the previous Passion Sunday are blessed and placed on the forehead as a sign of penance.

**February 23 – St. Polycarp (156).** Bishop of Smyrna, Asia-Minor, St. Polycarp was a disciple of the apostle St. John and a friend of St. Ignatius of Antioch. He faithfully cared for his flock despite being surrounded by pagans and a government opposed to his religion. Before he was martyred, he thanked God for making him worthy of a martyr's death.



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