

FEBRUARY 12, 2012: Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time



A leper came to Jesus and kneeling down begged him and said, "If you wish, you can make me clean." Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand, touched him, and said to him, "I do will it. Be made clean."

— Mk 1:40-41

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LITURGY

MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS

Sunday, February 12 (Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/1 Cor 10:31, 11:1/Mk 1:40-45)

8:00 am- Fred & Angeline Pustejovsky

10:30 am- Anton Vavrusa, Stacey Harned, John & Mary Mozisek

Monday, February 13 (Jas 1:1-11/Mk 8:11-13)

7:00 am- Dolores Appelt

10:00 am- Alvin & Kathryn Munke (H'ville Rehab)

Tuesday, February 14, *Sts. Cyril, monk, & Methodius, bishop* (Jas 1:12-18/Mk 8:14-21)

7:00 am- Otto Lee & Ethlyne Zappe

Wednesday, February 15 (Jas 1:19-27/Mk 8:22-26)

7:00 am- Living & deceased members of the Theo & Mary Golsch Family

8:05 am- Deceased members of the Henry & Emilie Schroeder Family

Thursday, February 16 (Jas 2:1-9/Mk 8:27-33)

7:00 am- John Lell

10:00 am- John Pavliska, Jr. (Stevens)

Friday, February 17, *The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order* (Jas 2:14-24, 26/Mk 8:34--9:1)

7:00 am- Dennis & June Janak & Russell

8:05 am- Kathy Gillar

Saturday, February 18 (Jas 3:1-10 /Mk 9:2-13)

5:30 pm- Living & deceased members of the Roman F. Rainosek Family

Sunday, February 19 (Is 43:18-19, 21-22, 24b-25/2 Cor 1:18-22/Mk 2:1-12)

8:00 am- For our Parish Family

10:30 am- Mass of Thanksgiving – Lester & Dorothy Sicko's 52nd Anniversary

Bulletin & Radio Broadcast Sponsor: In memory of Leroy Bludau by his family

Vigil Light: Living & deceased members of the Neskora & Hermes Families.

Our Gift to God: Envelopes-\$6,223; Building Repair Fund-\$2,969; Catholic Education-\$575; Church Endowment-\$75; Loose-\$1,401; Children's-\$31.

Anniversaries:

Clarence & Beatrice Brown	54 years	Feb. 15
Vernon & Esther Supak	64 years	Feb. 18

Please pray for the repose of the souls of *Emmerlin Dworsky & Josephine Janak* of our parish family. *May they & all the faithful departed rest in the peace of Christ.*

Catholic Daughters members, please mail your \$20 dues for 2012 to Anita Steffek, 549 C R 186, Hallettsville.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12

-Catholic Daughters Court St. Roch, Mentz. Turkey & Dressing Dinner, 11am, \$8/plate. Drive thru only. Raffle.

-St. Mary Parish Festival, Victoria Community Center. Fried Chicken Meal 11am-2pm, \$8/plate. Live auction, games, booths, silent auction, family entertainment.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13

-Rosary & Evening Prayer, 5:30 p.m., Church.

-KJZT meeting, 6:30 p.m., Bea Heinzl's home.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

-Quilting Circle, 9:00 a.m., KC Hall of Fame Room.

-Adult Education Class, 7:00-8:30 p.m., Family Center.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15

-CCD: Grades K-12th, 6:00-7:15 p.m.

-English Second Language Class, 6:00 pm, Family Center.

-Divine Mercy Study/Prayers, 7:30 p.m., Church Cry Rm.

Among our sick: Edna Key, Frank Fishar, Faith Del Castillo, Michael Gerdes, Renae Ross, Doug Blumberg, Dan & Danielle Grady, Rose Thumann, Bill Gohlke, Sterlin Ritchie, Ed Aulick, Ricky Skelton, Larry Appelt, Victor Pavliska, Anita Bohuslav, Paul Najvar, Irene Bordovsky, Milissa Zamora, Rhonda Janak, Larry Korenek, Red Kahane, Theresa (Alvin) Steffek, Liz Woytek, Hank & Marion Morris, Angela Hermes, Chris Layton, Wade Amsden, Vernell Bozka, Denise DeBord, Frank, Patrick & Robben Nemec, Geneva Strmiska, Bea Heinzl, Damas Garcia, Brenda (Orsak) Bludau, Lois Dornak, Patricia Schlageter, nursing home residents & the home-bound.

Pro-life speaker Abby Johnson is coming to share her conversion story on Monday, February 27 at 7:00 p.m. in the church. Abby was a pro-abortion employee of Planned Parenthood until she had a conversion and is now a prominent advocate of the pro-life cause. She will also be speaking with the high school students of Sacred Heart School on Monday morning at 9:00 a.m. in the church. Everyone is invited to these talks.

Registration for NEW Altar Servers being accepted

now: Sacred Heart Parish is accepting applications from boys and girls of the parish to become an altar server for the parish. The requirements to be a server are as follows:

1. Must be a baptized or professed member of the Catholic faith.
 2. Must have already received First Holy Communion.
 3. Must be currently enrolled in at least the 4th grade.
 4. Must be a parishioner of Sacred Heart Church.
 5. Must be mature enough to understand and carry out the responsibilities of the altar server with attention and reverence.
 6. Must have the support of one's parents or legal guardian. The blue registration forms are available on the table in the narthex of the church. Forms are due to Fr. Tommy by Friday, March 9, 2012.
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Please pray for an end
to abortion.

From the Desk of Father John

The new Federal law concerning health care violates Catholic teaching and the conscience of citizens. "The Department of Health and Human Services has issued a rule forcing nearly all private health plans to include coverage for all FDA-approved prescription contraceptive drugs and devices, as well as surgical sterilization. These are listed among 'preventive services for women' that all health plans will have to cover without co-pays or other cost-sharing – regardless of whether the insurer, the employer or other plan sponsor, *or even the woman herself* objects to such coverage" (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops). Because this law requires reproductive practices that are incompatible with the truth of the gospel and would mandate Catholics to violate their conscience in order to obey federal law, our government has now overstepped its bounds ignoring the protection of the free exercise of religion guaranteed to us by the First Amendment of the Constitution. Please carefully read the bulletin insert to understand more completely how this new policy denigrates our religious freedom as Catholics. We must voice our disapproval of this unjust action of our government. Please send letters to our two U.S. Senators: **Senator John Cornyn**, United States Senate, 517 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510-4304 (phone 202-224-2934) and **Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison**, 284 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510-4304; and, **Congressman Lloyd Doggett**, 300 E. 8th #763, Federal Building, Austin, TX 78701. The phone number to the Congress switchboard is (202) 224-3121 and the phone number to the president's switchboard is (202) 456-1111. A suggested message might read: **"Please co-sponsor the Respect for Rights of Conscience Act (H.R. 1179) and help enact it into law. The Obama Administration's decision to require even religious institutions to provide coverage of sterilization and contraceptives, including drugs that can cause an abortion, makes passage of this measure especially urgent. Please ensure that the rights of conscience of all participants in our nation's health care system are respected."** Please include your name and address, so that they know that the letters are coming from "real" citizens.

Sacred Heart Catholic School News
Office 798-4251

Feb. 13: School Advisory Council Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

Religious Education (CCD) ~ Office 798-3124
Angela McConnell, Coordinator

Feb. 22: Ash Wednesday Parish Mass 6:15 p.m., 10th
Grade participate.
Feb. 29: Penance Service for 9th, 10th & 12th Grades.

FINANCIAL REPORT – DECEMBER, 2011

Church Income:

Sunday Collection	\$ 39,397.00
Other Donations	3,408.80
Interest	448.51
Religious Articles	1,810.00
Retired Religious Collection	819.00
Family Center Rental	1,365.00
Picnic Transfer	5,000.00
Total Church Income	<u>\$ 52,248.31</u>

School Income:

Bus Fees	\$ 50.00
Friends for Catholic Education	4,710.00
PreK-12 th Grade Tuition	58,810.00
Extended Day Care	2,255.00
Catholic Education Envelopes	2,620.00
Memorials	1,610.00
Donations, Gifts & Miscellaneous	2,770.10
Grants	106,600.00
Total School Income	<u>\$179,425.10</u>

Church Expenses:

Salaries	\$ 7,816.73
Utilities	1,413.70
Church Expense	2,288.64
Office & Rectory Expense	2,820.72
Religious Articles	461.57
Building Insurance	1,803.95
Family Center Expense	457.31
Retired Religious Collection	819.00
Medical Insurance & Retirement	2,507.00
Repairs & Maintenance	468.24
Total Church Expenses	<u>\$ 20,856.86</u>

School Expenses:

Salaries	\$ 75,740.94
Contracted Services	924.09
Office, Teaching & Staff Development Exp.	1,210.47
Extended Care Supplies	152.00
Postage	229.31
Public Relations	311.75
Library Expense	100.00
Utilities	3,617.20
Plant Repairs & Miscellaneous Expense	1,032.53
Custodial Supplies	673.75
Bus & Van Expense	2,916.87
Payroll Taxes	5,566.27
Medical Insurance & Retirement	18,520.40
Property Insurance	3,274.87
Convent Expense	639.24
Acquisition of Equipment	20,573.15
Technology	651.62
Alumni Gifting	<u>1,236.48</u>

Total School Expenses	<u>\$137,370.94</u>
Parish Income	\$231,673.41
Parish Expense	<u>-158,227.80</u>
Parish Balance	<u>\$ 73,445.61</u>

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

Leviticus 13:1–2, 44–46
1 Corinthians 10:31–11:1
Mark 1:40–45

MONDAY

Mark 8:11–13
“Why does this generation ask for a sign?”

TUESDAY

Mark 8:14–21
“Are your hearts hardened?”

WEDNESDAY

Mark 8:22–26
“Can you see anything?”

THURSDAY

Mark 8:27–33
“Who do people say that I am?”

FRIDAY

Mark 8:34–9:1
“... let them ... take up their cross and follow me.”

SATURDAY

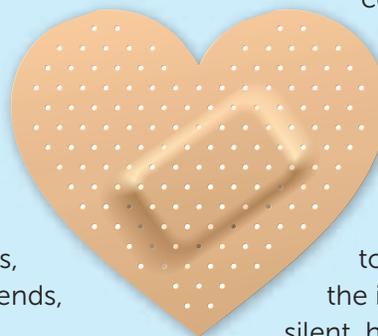
Mark 9:2–13
“Elijah is indeed coming first ...”

Healed and Restored

Today’s Gospel reading starts off with a leper approaching Jesus. The lepers of this time not only suffered from their physically disfiguring ailment, they were also socially segregated, that is, separated from family, friends, and community.

The Law stated, in the first reading from the Book of Leviticus, very clearly that someone identified as a leper would be pronounced unclean by the priest, and then, “He shall live alone.” Think of how horrible this sentence of separation was to those who had skin diseases.

When Jesus heals the leper in this Gospel story, he not only frees him from his physical ailment, he also restores the now-cured leper back to the community. The man can return to his family and his friends and the life he had before. This healing is an integral kind of healing. It



certainly touches the body, physically. But it also deeply affects the spirit of the man who was healed.

In fact, this integral healing and restoration so deeply affects the man in today’s reading that, despite the instruction by Jesus to remain silent, he cannot restrain himself. He must proclaim the great and good thing that has happened to him.

As we step back and consider the healing provided by Jesus, we recognize immediately that it is not just a demonstration of a special power. Jesus’ healing is, in the first place, a manifestation of the compassion of God. He heals the leper because he is “moved with pity.”

Jesus’ healing foreshadows what will happen to us, when, through faith and the sacraments, we experience a total and integral transformation of our own lives.



The Faith of the Church

The Church continues the healing ministry of Jesus and does so in several ways. The ministry of health attends to the physical needs of the sick. In a particular way, through the Anointing of the Sick, the Church accompanies those who are ill. Finally, through her prayer, the Church intercedes on behalf of all who are not well (Cf. *Catechism of the Catholic Church* 1499–1525).



Questions of the Week

All of us have encountered illness either in our own lives or in the lives of those who are close to us. We can recognize the impact of illness. We know it takes physical toll but also a social and spiritual toll as well.

Adults

How do I understand the “integral healing” and the restoration that only God can offer, as I reflect on my own experience of illness and limitation?

Children

When has God helped me to feel better?

Responding to God's Word . . .

The Church, as we have already noted, continues the healing ministry of Jesus in today's world. The care of the sick is not just the responsibility of Catholic healthcare institutions or ordained clergy who administer the sacrament to the sick. The responsibility touches all of us in the Body of Christ.

This responsibility means that we are committed to being a healing presence in our world. This may take a number of practical directions. As citizens, for example, our concern for healthcare is more than a political consideration. Our faith should lead us to take positions that address the

most vulnerable of God's sons and daughters, because we share God's compassion for his children.

Moved by faith and a sense of responsibility for healing, we can visit the sick and offer words of encouragement and hope. We can let people know that they do not "dwell apart" from us. For some in a given parish, to be a healing presence means to assume a role in the ministry of care.

All of us extend Jesus' healing presence to the world by being a community of intercession that remembers and lifts up to God all who are in need of healing.

SUGGESTIONS

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

In the home. Make a list of family and friends who are ill and in need of prayers. Let their names and intentions be mentioned as the family gathers to pray and eat.

In the workplace or in school. If you are aware that someone is struggling with illness or has a family member who is, make a special effort to assure them of your prayers and support.

In the community. Identify some of the specific health care needs of the community and consider steps that can be taken to address them.



Meditation Moment

Jesus' miracles made people take notice. They were "signs," proclaiming that something historic was happening. They were "signs," proclaiming that Jesus was setting in motion the long-awaited Kingdom of God. And what was this Kingdom of God? It was a new world order in which love would replace hate, concern would replace apathy, light would replace darkness, and life would replace death. It was a new world order in which God's will is to be done "on earth as it is in heaven."

For reflection . . .

What is one way my personal life reflects to those around me the new world order that Jesus began?

I ALONE CONTROL THE INNER SWITCH
THAT CAN MAKE A LIGHT IN OUR WORLD.

FROM *MISSION* BY MARK LINK, SJ

Let Me Be Your Healing Hand

Jesus, let me
be your healing hand.
May I follow you and see
others through the eyes of your
compassion. Give me the courage,
patience, and power to face the
illnesses of my brothers and sisters and
to be an instrument of their healing.
Above all, enable me to welcome
and keep those who suffer
in a place of hope, a hope
rooted in you.
Amen.

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

The Lord sustains them
on their sickbed;
in their illness you heal
all their infirmities.

Psalm 41:3

Profile in Faith

Saints Cosmas and Damian

(?– c. 303) were martyrs of the Early Church. They were brothers and doctors, known for their devotion to their patients and a willingness to exercise their healing skills for the poor. They are patrons of physicians, and their feast is celebrated on September 26.

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