

**PRAYER CORNER**

Almighty God, as we ask your help  
for our brothers and sisters who are ill,  
we ask you to help us to be healing people in our time and place.  
May your love touch others through us,  
and may I help all people to live in peace.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

St. Frances of Assisi

**JESUS SPEAKS TO US**

When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at the knees of Jesus and said,  
“Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man.”  
For astonishment at the catch of fish they had made seized him and  
all those with him,  
and likewise James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were  
partners of Simon. Jesus said to Simon, “Do not be afraid; from  
now on you will be catching men.”  
When they brought their boats to the shore, they left  
everything\* and followed him. -”

Luke 5:8-11

**February 14th Collection**

Regular:	\$1,801.17
Parish Maintenance:	\$185.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$140.00
St. Anne’s:	\$105.00
Mass Intentions:	\$30.00
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Thank you so much  
for your generosity and support



# OUR MOTHER OF MERCY

Historically African-American Catholic Church—all are welcome!

February 21, 2021



Bulletin printed in-house at:  
**Our Mother of Mercy  
Catholic Church**

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Fort Worth, TX 76104  
**817-335-1695**  
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SVD



**Parish Secretary:** Lydia Salas



**Bookkeeper:** Jennifer Rattliff



**Musician:** Zenobia Collins



**Society of St. Vincent de Paul**

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svdpomm@gmail.com



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817-551-1449/bacarter913@gmail.com



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**FIRST SUNDAY OF  
LENT—FEBRUARY 21ST**

**The Gospel** is from St. Luke 5:1-11. Christ's voluntary self-mortification of forty days' fast, with its accompanying temptations, was but part of the self-mortification, with its climax on the Cross, which He gladly underwent for our salvation. He did not need to fast in order to keep the inclinations of the body in subjection, He did not need to allow the insult of temptation. He could have said, "be gone Satan" at the beginning as easily and as effectively as he said it at the end. But He willingly underwent this humiliation in order to set us an example and to prove to us the infinite love He bears us and the value, the priceless value, He sets on our eternal salvation. He became like us in all things (except sin) in order to make it possible for us to become like Him—the beloved of his Father—and co-heirs with Him in the kingdom of heaven.

With this example given us by Christ no Christian can or should expect to travel the road to heaven without meeting obstacles and temptations. Our weak human nature is of itself, even without any external tempter, a source of many temptations to us, especially of those three illustrated in the case of Christ. Our body desires all the pleasures and comforts that can be got out of life

and resents any curtailment of these desires even on the part of our Creator and Benefactor. Our gifts of intelligence and free-will often tempt most of us to look for power, political or economic, over our fellowmen. We want to be better off than others in this world, when our purpose in life is to help ourselves and our fellowmen to the better life. Finally, so fully occupied are many in the mad rush after pleasure and power that they have no time to devote to the one thing that matters, the attainment of eternal life.

Yet, through some foolish logic of our own, we expect God to do for us what we refuse to do for ourselves. We are tempting God by presuming he will save us if we have deliberately chosen the road to perdition.

There are few, if any, amongst us who can honestly say: "I am free from such inclinations or temptations." The vast majority of us can and should beat our breasts and say with the publican: "O God, be merciful to me a sinner." And merciful he will be if we turn to him with true humility. He may not remove all our temptations, all our wrong inclinations, but he will give us the grace to overcome them if we sincerely seek his aid.

Excerpted from *The Sunday Readings* by Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M.

**Mass Schedule:**

Monday-Friday — 7 a.m.

Saturday — 8 a.m.

Saturday — 5 p.m.

Sunday — 10 a.m.

Holy Day -- see bulletin

**Reconciliation  
(Confession):**

Friday & Saturday Confessions  
9:00 a.m. — noon

**Office Hours:**

Mon, Wed, & Fri  
10 a.m. — 3 p.m.

**Bulletin Sponsors—Thank You for Supporting our Parish Family!**

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Larry & Olga Martinez,  
One Day at a Time.**

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February 26, 1930—January 7, 2019

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**FATHER BART'S CORNER****My sisters and brothers:**

When we are planning an important project or a vacation trip we take the time to prepare. This is necessary to fulfill or achieve plans or goals. So then in this same manner confessions need to be preceded by a good preparation. During Lent we will go through 5 Main Steps of a Good Confession.

**Step 1-Examine your conscience**

**1440** Sin is before all else an offense against God, a rupture of communion with him. At the same time it damages communion with the Church. For this reason conversion entails both God's forgiveness and reconciliation with the Church, which are expressed and accomplished liturgically by the sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation.

**1441** Only God forgives sins.<sup>39</sup> Since he is the Son of God, Jesus says of himself, "The Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins" and exercises this divine power: "Your sins are forgiven."<sup>40</sup> Further, by virtue of his divine authority he gives this power to men to exercise in his name.<sup>41</sup>

**1454** The reception of this sacrament ought to be prepared for by an *examination of conscience* made in the light of the Word of God. The passages best suited to this can be found in the Ten Commandments, the moral catechesis of the Gospels and the apostolic Letters, such as the Sermon on the Mount and the apostolic teachings.<sup>53</sup>

Excerpts from Catechism of the Catholic Church:

**With prayers and love,**

*Fr. Bart, S..V.D*

**WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

**Monday, February 22**

Live Stream on  
our Church Website  
Mass: 7 a.m.

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**Tuesday, February 23**

Live Stream on  
our Church Website  
Mass: 7 a.m.

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**Wednesday, February 24**

Live Stream on  
our Church Website  
Mass: 7 a.m.

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**Thursday, February 25**

Live Stream on  
our Church Website  
Mass: 7 a.m.

**Vocation View**

In order to hear a call from the Lord, our hearts must be opened to receive His Word. Lent begins with a call to repent so that all which clouds our ears might be stripped away to hear His voice clearly.

**Divine Word Vocation Office**  
1-800-553-3321  
www.svdvocations.org

**Friday, February 26**

Live Stream on  
our Church Website  
Mass: 7 a.m.

**Adoration: 8:00 a.m. — noon**

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**Saturday, February 27**

Live Stream on  
our Church Website  
Mass: 8 a.m.

Mass: 5 p.m.

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**Sunday, February 28**

Live Stream on  
our Church Website  
Mass: 10 a.m.

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**Weekly Readings**

2/22— 1 PT 5:1-4; MT 16:13-19

2/23—IS 55:10-11; MT 6:7-15

2/24—JON 3:1-10; LK 11:29-32

2/25—EST C 12, 14-16, 23-25;  
MT 7:7-12

2/26—EZ 18:21-28; MT 5:20-26

2/27—DT 26:16-19; MT 5:43-48

2/28—GN 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18;

ROM 8:31b-34; MK 9:2-10

**PARISH CORNER****Seven Steps For Spiritual Growth**

If we want to have a deeper relationship with God these exercises will increase our faith.

**Monthly:** 1) Confession;

**Weekly:** 2) Sunday Mass; 3) Visit Holy Sacrament at least one hour per week; 4) Attend daily Mass at least once per week;

**Daily:** 5) Read and reflect on the Bible; 6) Pray the Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet; 7) Spend 10-15 minutes per day in silence.

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Statue of the Sacred Heart Of Jesus was found in the balcony of our Church. Unfortunately, it had suffered sufficient damage.

One of the friends of Our Mother of Mercy had the skills to renovate the statue at no charge. The blessings received from the Sacred Heart of Jesus were payment enough. The statue will be placed in our church.

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS****2021 Lenten Schedule****Adoration—(daily)**

Monday thru Friday 6:00pm-7:00pm

Saturday 4:00pm—5:00pm

**Stations of The Cross—**

February 17 thru March 31

Monday thru Friday 7:00pm

Saturday

(Adoration with The Stations of the Cross) 4:00pm—5:00pm

**Holy Thursday—April 1**

No Confessions

Will be live streamed

Mass of Holy Thursday 7:00pm

**Good Friday—April 2**

No Confessions

Stations of the Cross 3:00pm

Liturgy of Good Friday 7:00pm

**Holy Saturday—April 3**

No Confessions

Will be live streamed

Vigil Mass after Sunset TBD

**Easter Sunday—April 4**

No Confessions

Will be live streamed

Mass 10:00am

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St. Anne's will be having their Annual Soul Food Dinner on Sunday, February 28th, 2021 after the 10:00 a.m. mass. Dinners are for a donation of \$10.00. The dinners will consist of Barbeque Chicken, Baked Beans, Potato Salad, Tossed Green Salad, Roll and Cake. Dinners will be served ONLY as "Take OUT" at the Garage Door of the Parish Life Center. Please call ahead! Call the office at 817-335-1695 to reserve your order.

**CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH****PRAYER IN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE**  
**Jesus prays****I. BLESSING AND ADORATION**

**2626** *Blessing* expresses the basic movement of Christian prayer: it is an encounter between God and man. In blessing, God's gift and man's acceptance of it are united in dialogue with each other. The prayer of blessing is man's response to God's gifts: because God blesses, the human heart can in return bless the One who is the source of every blessing.

**2627** Two fundamental forms express this movement: our prayer *ascends* in the Holy Spirit through Christ to the Father - we bless him for having blessed us;<sup>97</sup> it implores the grace of the Holy Spirit that *descends* through Christ from the Father - he blesses us.<sup>98</sup>

**2628** *Adoration* is the first attitude of man acknowledging that he is a creature before his Creator. It exalts the greatness of the Lord who made us<sup>99</sup> and the almighty power of the Savior who sets us free from evil. Adoration is homage of the spirit to the "King of Glory,"<sup>100</sup> respectful silence in the presence of the "ever greater" God.<sup>101</sup> Adoration of the thrice-holy and sovereign God of love blends with humility and gives assurance to our supplications.

<sup>97</sup> Cf. Eph 1:3-14; 2 Cor 1:3-7; 1 Pet 1:3-9.

<sup>98</sup> Cf. 2 Cor 13:14; Rom 15:5-6,13; Eph 6:23-24.

<sup>99</sup> Cf. Ps 95:1-6.

<sup>100</sup> Ps 24, 9-10.

<sup>101</sup> Cf. St. Augustine, *En. in Ps. 62,16:PL 36,757-758.*

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