

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

Father Bill Fisher, Pastor

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - February 7, 2021



Photo: Old Farmer's Almanac

Prayer of Love

Love of God is expressed in many ways, such as praying, faithfully carrying out our daily duties, loving and serving others, and putting others ahead of ourselves.

If we truly love God, we will also love our neighbor.

Our Parish Family

Happy Anniversary to the Reynolds!

Our parish friends, Walter and Encina Reynolds, celebrated 62 years of marriage this week.

When they met in Italy, Walter was serving in the U.S. Navy. Encina lived in Naples where she grew up.

After the wedding, the two settled in Kansas City, near Strawberry Hill, and became active at St. John the Baptist. Together they raised four beautiful children who attended our grade school.

Many of us remember "Mrs. Reynolds" who worked in the cafeteria. The couple continues to generously devote their time to the parish seniors, the Festival and to the Sister Servants of Mary Guild.

Congratulations to the Reynolds on their long and happy marriage!

Let us include your family!

If you have parishioner news to share, send it to OurCroatianParish@gmail.com, or call Joanne Lally at the number in your parish directory.

It is important to celebrate the joyous moments of our parish.

Ash Wednesday Services

Holy Mass and distribution of ashes has been scheduled for our two churches on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 17:

10 a.m. - St. John the Baptist

5:30 p.m. - Holy Family Church

Ashes will be sprinkled on the head rather than a cross marked on one's forehead. The Vatican is heeding the worldwide concern over COVID-19.

This begins the season of Lent which continues through Holy Saturday to prepare us for Easter on April 4.

Our Lady of Lourdes - Feast Day, Feb. 11

Pope Pius IX proclaimed the dogma of the Immaculate Conception in 1854.

A few years later, the apparition of a young lady appeared several times to a humble French girl, Bernadette Soubirous, in Lourdes. In one, the lady identified herself, saying "I am the Immaculate Conception."

Church authorities later confirmed the authenticity of the apparitions and the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes began in 1907.

"For those who believe in God, no explanation is necessary. For those who do not believe, no explanation is possible."

The Song of Bernadette

Lourdes has become a place of pilgrimage, healing and faith where the Church has recognized many miraculous cures. To people of faith this is not surprising. It is a continuation of Jesus' healing miracles—now performed at the intercession of his mother.

Many who visit Lourdes return with renewed faith and a readiness to serve God.

Weekly Collections

Jan. 31, 2021

Envelopes:	\$	3,337
Maintenance:	\$	615
Candles:	\$	32
Solemnity of Mary Priest	\$	5
Retirement	\$	5
Easter Flowers	\$	5
Catholic Relief	\$	5
Central/Eastern Europe	\$	25
Black & Indian Mission	\$	25



Readings
February 7, 2021
Fifth Sunday in
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bible.usccb.org

Christ Healing
Peter's Mother-in-Law

Artist:
Meister des Hitda-
Evangeliers
circa 1020

Source:
LiturgyTools.net

First Reading

Job spoke, saying: Is not man's life on earth a drudgery? Are not his days those of hirelings? He is a slave who longs for the shade, a hireling who waits for his wages.

So I have been assigned months of misery, and troubled nights have been allotted to me.

If in bed I say, "When shall I arise?" then the night drags on; I am filled with restlessness until the dawn.

My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle; they come to an end without hope. Remember that my life is like the wind; I shall not see happiness again.

Responsorial Psalm

R. Praise the Lord, who heals the brokenhearted. or: Alleluia.

Praise the LORD, for he is good; sing praise to our God, for he is gracious; it is fitting to praise him. The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem; the dispersed of Israel he gathers.

R. Praise the Lord, who heals the brokenhearted. or: Alleluia.

He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. He tells the number of the stars; he calls each by name.

R. Praise the Lord, who heals the brokenhearted. or: Alleluia.

Great is our Lord and mighty in power; to his wisdom there is no limit. The LORD sustains the lowly; the wicked he casts to the ground.

R. Praise the Lord, who heals the brokenhearted. or: Alleluia.

Second Reading

Brothers and sisters: If I preach the gospel, this is no reason for me to boast, for an obligation has been imposed on me, and woe to me if I do not preach it!

If I do so willingly, I have a recompense, but if unwillingly, then I have been entrusted with a stewardship. What then is my recompense? That, when I preach,

I offer the gospel free of charge so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel.

Although I am free in regard to all, I have made myself a slave to all so as to win over as many as possible. To the weak I became weak, to win over the weak.

I have become all things to all, to save at least some. All this I do for the sake of the gospel, so that I too may have a share in it.

Alleluia

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Christ took away our infirmities and bore our diseases.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

On leaving the synagogue Jesus entered the house of Simon and Andrew with James and John. Simon's mother-in-law lay sick with a fever.

They immediately told him about her. He approached, grasped her hand, and helped her up. Then the fever left her and she waited on them.

When it was evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were ill or possessed by demons. The whole town was gathered at the door.

He cured many who were sick with various diseases, and he drove out many demons, not permitting them to speak because they knew him.

Rising very early before dawn, he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed.

Simon and those who were with him pursued him and on finding him said, "Everyone is looking for you."

He told them, "Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come."

So he went into their synagogues, preaching and driving out demons throughout the whole of Galilee.