



Love Takes Work

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

If you believed your own natural death was imminent, would that affect the decisions you make? When St. Paul wrote to the church in Corinth, that was his expectation—that the Lord's return was going to take place quickly, that the Second Coming was just about to occur and could happen at any time.

While St. Paul writes to the Corinthians that it is better to be unmarried than married, the purpose of this advice is to keep life simple and focused on what is important. Don't make any long-term commitments like buying a field, or starting a business, or even getting married. Be ready and prepared because the end of the world could literally be tomorrow. "I should like

you to be free of anxieties," he wrote. Much later, St. Paul realized the end was not going to happen as soon as originally expected.

Saint Paul was not against marriage. He would be the first to say that, ideally, marriage can and often does reveal the depths of human love, but he would also say that it takes work; it doesn't happen all by itself. Just as readily, St. Paul would also note that, ideally, celibacy can and often does reveal the breadth of love given in service to others, whether the celibate

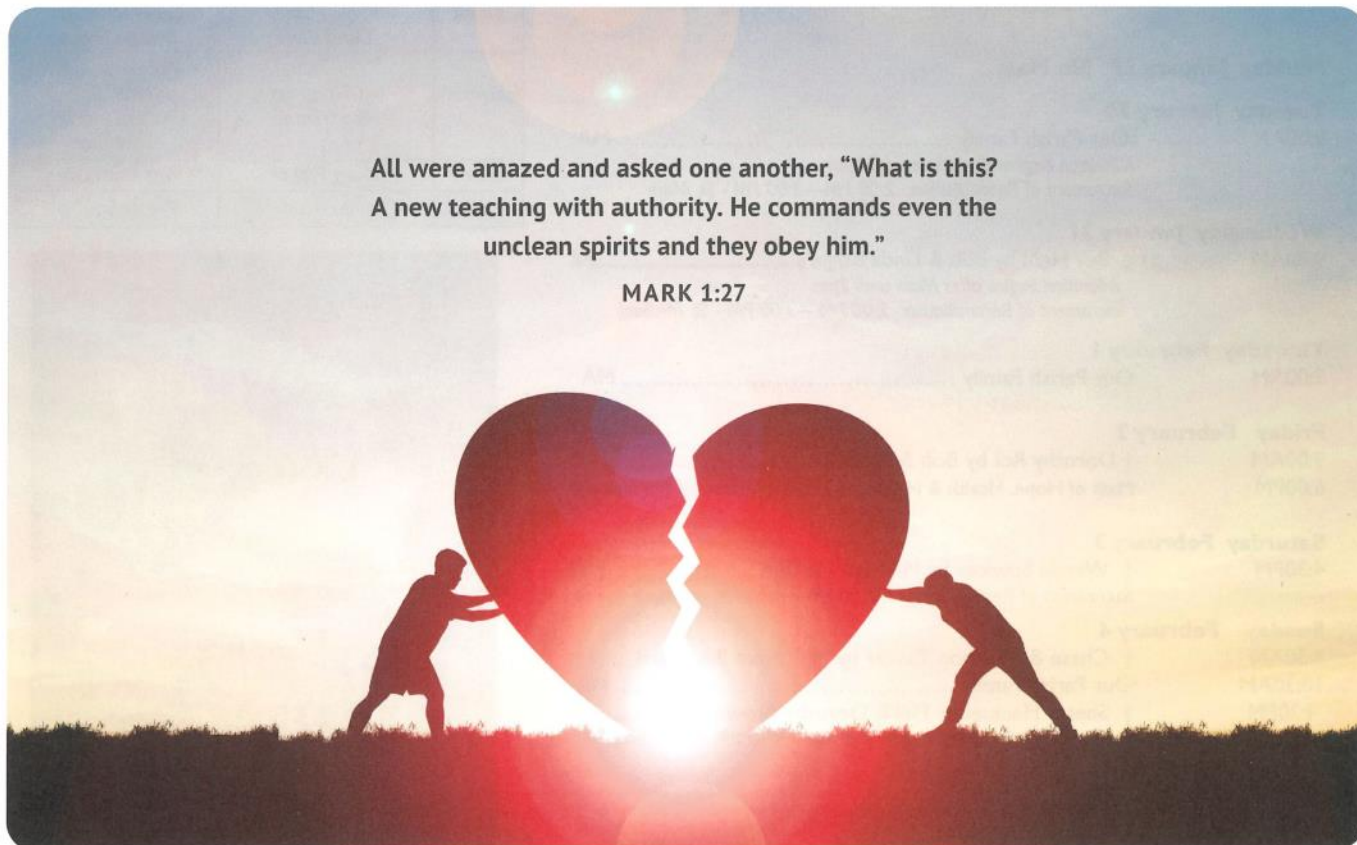
person is lay, a priest, or a religious. It can seem, however, that the unclean spirit that Jesus cast out continues to roam human lives. All of us struggle to live out love as best we can, wherever we find ourselves in life. ●

Reflect

What in your life gets in the way of loving as well as you would wish?

All were amazed and asked one another, "What is this?
A new teaching with authority. He commands even the
unclean spirits and they obey him."

MARK 1:27



Saint Michael's Catholic Church

17150 - 88th Ave, Coopersville, MI 49404
Parish Office: 616-384-4026

*Saint Michael's Catholic Community is a family challenged by Christ,
inspired by the Holy Spirit, to care for others and to become the body
Of Christ through worship, hospitality and service.*

Pastor: Fr. Michael Hodges—frmhodges@grpriests.org
Deacon: Deacon Tom Roberts—troberts@saintmarysmarne.org

For more information on staff, councils, ministries and schedules,
visit our website : www.saintmichaels.us
Prayerline: Chris Albrecht, 616.403.7110 or Judy Driedger, 616.899.2470

Mass Intentions

Saturday January 27

4:30PM † Winnie Spencer by M/M Rob Rander **MA**
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:30 PM—4:15 PM - St Mary

Sunday January 28

8:30AM † Richard Barkel by Curt & Sue DeVos **MI**
10:30AM † Mike Magnotta by Knights of Columbus #11581 **MA**
4:30PM † Winnie Spencer by Curt & Joan Kutchin **MI**
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:30 PM—4:15 PM - St Michael

Monday January 29 No Mass

Tuesday January 30

9:00AM Our Parish Family **MA**
Adoration begins after Mass until 2pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 2:00 PM—3:00 PM - St. Mary

Wednesday January 31

9:00AM † Bev Hehl by Bob & Linda Rogers **MI**
Adoration begins after Mass until 2pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 2:00 PM—3:00 PM - St. Michael

Thursday February 1

9:00AM Our Parish Family **MA**

Friday February 2

9:00AM † Dorothy Roi by Bob & Linda Rogers **MI**
6:00PM Mass of Hope, Health & Healing w/The Sacrament of the Sick .**MA**

Saturday February 3

4:30PM † Winnie Spencer by M/M Jim Harlett..... **MA**
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:30 PM—4:15 PM - St Mary

Sunday February 4

8:30AM † Chase & Harrison Tasker by M/M Kurt Bouchard **MI**
10:30AM Our Parish Family **MA**
4:30PM † Sherm Hecksel by Phil & Dorothy Brown **MI**
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:30 PM—4:15 PM - St Michael

MA=St. Mary

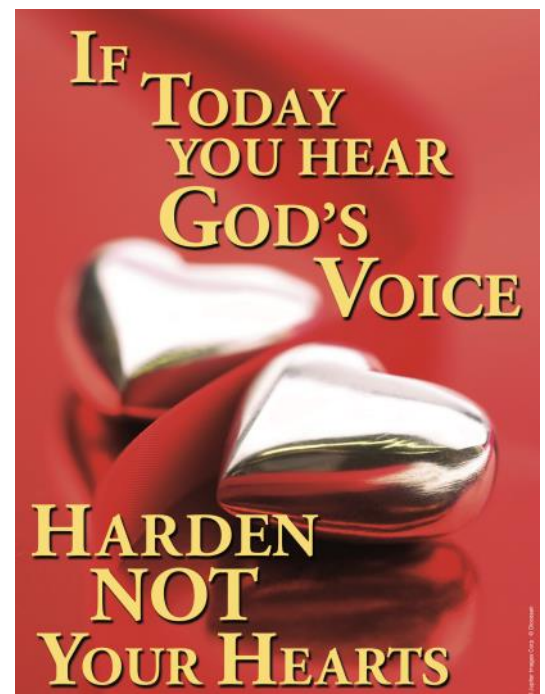
MI=St. Michael's

St. Michael's Liturgical Ministers

	Feb 4 / 8:30 AM	Feb 4 / 4:30 PM
Altar Servers	Lauren Meerman Alivia Kosten Hyde Kosten	NEED TWO
Eucharistic Ministers	Deacon Tom Sharon Carlson Zack Nelson Andrew Bonter Peter Nielsen Jennie Taylor Joe Hitchings	Deacon Tom Greg Helsen
Lector	Cindy Lindberg	Chris Albrecht
Sacristan	Jane Vitunskas	Sue DeVos
Ushers	Calvin Lindberg Dave Tronovich Deb Tronovich Ed Irwin	NEED TWO
Music	Craig Bleckley	Craig Bleckley

St. Mary's Liturgical Ministers

	February 3 - 4:30PM	February 4- 10:30AM
Sacristan	Vito Dolci	Gary Karr
Altar Servers	MaKaelyn Britt Kassidy Britt	Madeline Serge Lauren LeMieux
Precious Body	Deacon Tom Matt Karr Mary Kirkwood	Deacon Tom Marian Looks Jim Looks
Precious Blood	Geary Farrell Breton Petrauskas Angie Hanks Need One	Geary Farrell Christina Withers Becky Warners Margie Jirous
Hospitality	Jeff Schneider Need Three	Anthony Leale Nettie Leale Leonard Horter Need One
Lector	Doug Frantz	Rita Carmody
Music	Bernie Stanko	Bernie Stanko



St. Michael's Parish News



Scrip News—Scrip numbers will be updated next week.

CSA 2023 — Thank you for your gifts to 2023 Catholic Services Appeal! Your generous support funds essential diocesan ministries that strengthen us in Christ. Our parish goal for 2023 is \$59,280.00 and 100% participation, which means every parishioner should return their pledge card. To date, we have pledged \$44,875 (or 75.70%) toward our goal. We still have \$14,405.00 to go to reach this goal. If you haven't already contributed, please consider doing so soon. Any remaining balance at the end of the campaign will come out of our general operating funds. Please continue to pray for the success of this important effort.

St. Michael's Parish Family

Remembers in Their Prayers: Kevin Johnson, Anne Pols, Alexandria Gordon, George Langlois, Brooke Campbell, Linda Abel-Carroll, Jackie May, Dennis Goosen, Jean Mayse, Ken Heflin, Payton Patterson, the victims of abortion, & the men and women in the military.

Photo Directory — If you haven't already turned in your family photo for our directory, please do so ASAP. You may email a photo to: secretary@saintmichaels.us or call the office (616) 384.4026 to schedule a time to stop in and have a simple photo taken by Beki. It is not too late to take part, and we want all to be included!

St. Michael's Faith Formation

Children's Liturgy of the Word: program is offered on Sunday during 8:30 Mass. Children 3-9 years old are welcome to join us each week as we pray, read and explore the Sunday Gospel from a child's viewpoint. We include the Gospel Acclamation so children understand the importance of preparing our mind and heart for the Gospel reading. Today we hear how Jesus expelled a demon from a man. Many people are mastered by certain things of desires and do not allow themselves to orient their lives to God. How do model our lives as Christians?



Elementary Faith Formation: The elementary program is for students in grades 1-5. We meet on Wednesday from 6:15- 7:30 pm. **Families are asked to join us on Wednesday, January 31st for Eucharistic Adoration at 6:15 pm in the church. Adoration will last about 30 minutes then students will go to class.**

Middle School Faith Formation: Grades 6, 7 and 8 will meet on Sundays after the 8:30 am Mass from 9:45 to 11:15 in the Youth Room. The 8th Grade students will also receive Confirmation Preparation. Confirmation candidates and their sponsors have a mini retreat February 4, 2024 from 9:45-12:45. If you have any questions please contact Debbie Veneklas. 616-384-4026.



St. Michael's Sanctuary Lamp

for special intentions of St. Michael's Parishioners

2023 Contribution Statements —

Can be found in the glass hallway this week-end. If they are not picked up, they will be mailed out. Thank you for your generosity to St. Michael's.



Knights of Columbus News

We are in the middle of our membership drive. St. Michael Knights of Columbus would like to invite all Catholic men of the parish to join our council. All of our activities are to bring us together to experience "Faith & Family First". There are also insurance and financial opportunities to benefit your family and protect our Catholic faith. Please scan the QR code and join us today.



Giving Back to God

January 21, 2024

Adult Envelopes	\$2,938.00
Loose Cash	\$17000
Children's Envelopes	\$13.00
Holy Day	\$10.00
Total	\$3,131.00
Building Fund	\$25.00
Financial Assistance	\$20.00

Thank you for your continued support!

St. Michael's Preschool

Have you considered St. Michael's Preschool for your child or grandchild? If not, you should! Come see what a great experience St. Michael's Preschool can provide.



Come meet our Director/Teacher, Cindy Lindberg! Preschool meets on MWF from 8:45—11:45 am. For more info, call the Parish Office at 616-384-4026.

January 28, 2024 ~ The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Cluster News and Community News and Events

Mass of Hope, Health & Healing Healing Mass with The Sacrament of the Sick. February 2 at 7PM at St Mary.

All are welcome. Please come and receive the healing power of God. "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest" Matthew 11:28



St Mary & St Michael Valentine Dinner & Dance

We are excited to announce that after four long years... ♥ The St Mary & St Michael Valentine Dinner & Dance is Back and You are Invited! ♥

Make plans to join us on Saturday, February 10.

- We are inviting past, present and future parishioners to join us...
- Enjoy an Adults only evening with a delicious catered dinner and a night of dancing.
- Music will be provided by the Band -The Big Dogs. <https://www.facebook.com/TheBigDogsGR/>
- Cash Bar available..
- Purchase your Tickets after Masses.. They will not be available at the Door.

For More Info Contact:

David & Sara Lothschutz 1.616.340.9130

Anthony & Theresa Serge 1.616.389.4742



Meal Train for Fr Mike

Scheduling now for 2024! It really is as easy as making an extra serving of whatever you are preparing your family for dinner. Put it in a microwavable container and drop it off at the Parish Office on your way to (or home) from work.. Or call the office to make special drop off arrangements. (Sign up online: or call the parish office) <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/8vv97n>

Please Pray for our Engaged Couples

Julia Delaney & Logan Brouwer

.....April 13, 2024 (Cathedral of St Andrew)

Rachel Berg & Joseph Elenbaas

.....September 21, 2024 (St Mary)

Lord God, the source of all love, the wise plan of your providence has brought these young people together. As they prepare themselves for the sacrament of marriage and pray for your grace, grant that, strengthened by your blessing, they may grow in their respect for one another and cherish each other with a sincere love. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen



Fr Mike's Musings



During my time at St. Mary and St. Michael I have had a few people comment that the Eucharistic Prayers I use "sound different" or have asked if I have written or come-up with new prayers to use at Mass. Let me address the second comment first. No, I did not write new Mass prayers. This I would not and cannot do, as it is strictly forbidden to do so. As to the first observation; yes, the prayers do "sound different" because they are different in their wording, but in essence they are serving the same function in giving thanks to God for His goodness and imploring His power to confect the earthly offering of simple bread and wine into the Real Presence of the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. Another reason for sounding "different" is that too many celebrants rely on only one or two select prayers to use when they offer the sacrifice of the Mass—a very bad, and unnecessary habit.

In the current liturgy, there are thirteen Eucharistic Prayers. The General Instruction of the Roman Missal offers guidance on the use of each. Eucharistic Prayer I (The Roman Canon), "may always be used...it is especially suited for use on Sundays." Eucharistic Prayer II "is more appropriately used on weekdays or in special circumstances." Eucharistic Prayer III "should be preferred on Sundays and festive days." Eucharistic Prayer IV includes its own preface, and so may only "be used when a Mass has no preface of its own and on Sundays in Ordinary Time."

In addition to these four, there are two Eucharistic Prayers for Reconciliation. These "...may be used in Masses in which the mystery of reconciliation is conveyed to the faithful in a special way...as well as in Masses during Lent." There are four Eucharistic Prayers for Various Needs and Occasions to be "...used in the various occasions of Christian life for the needs of the whole world or for the needs of the Church, whether universal or local." These ten Eucharistic Prayers are in the Third Edition of the Roman Missal. In a separate volume, there are also three Eucharistic Prayers for Masses with Children that are only to be used in Masses celebrated with children.

Every Eucharistic Prayer is addressed to God the Father and is composed of the same elements: thanksgiving, acclamation, epiclesis, institution narrative and consecration, anamnesis, offering, intercessions, and final doxology.

The **thanksgiving** refers primarily to the preface, which praises and thanks God the Father "for the whole work of salvation or for some particular aspect of it, according to the varying day, festivity, or time of year." The **acclamation** is the "Holy, holy, holy/Sanctus" which leads into one of the thirteen Eucharistic Prayers described above. We will look at Eucharistic Prayer II to illustrate the remaining elements.

The **epiclesis** asks the Father to send the Holy Spirit "like the dewfall" upon the bread and wine "so that they may become for us the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ." Then begins the **institution narrative** when, before He "entered willing into His Passion," Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to His disciples saying the words of **consecration**, "this is my body," and then "in a similar way" gave the chalice to His disciples saying, "this is the chalice of my blood...do this in memory of me." Through the epiclesis and the words and actions of Jesus, the bread and wine are now Christ's Body and Blood. The **anamnesis** proclaims that "we celebrate the memorial of His death and resurrection," and in the **oblation** (offering) "we offer you, Lord, the Bread of Life and the chalice of salvation."

Then comes a series of **intercessions**: for the Church, the Pope, the Bishop, and the clergy, "all who have died in your mercy," and for "mercy on us all." We invoke the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, blessed Joseph, and all the Saints that "we may merit to be coheirs to eternal life."

The **doxology** gives glory and honor to the Father through, with, and in Christ, "in the unity of the Holy Spirit", and is affirmed and concluded by the people's acclamation,--**The Great Amen**.

"The liturgy is the school of the prayer of the Church," wrote St. John Paul II in 1988. The Eucharistic Prayers, he continued, "are to enrich the Church's treasury of prayer and an understanding of the mystery of Christ." These prayers enrich not only our liturgical prayer but also our personal prayer so that we may all truly become a living sacrifice in Christ to the praise of God's glory.

Coopersville Cares Winter Benefit Sale

The sale will be **Tuesday, Feb. 6, 8 am-6 pm** at the Community Building, 182 East street, Coopersville. **All proceeds will go to Coopersville Cares.**

January 28, 2024 ~ The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

St. Mary's Parish News

St Mary Religious Education

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLW)

During 10:30AM Mass.

Today is the fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time. In today's Gospel passage, we hear that everyone listened to Jesus. We also hear that Jesus is not just a man who could do special things. In fact, he has authority over all creation because he is God.



Religious Education Classes

1st-7th Grade

Wednesdays at Hall / 6:15- 7:30pm

Congratulations to the second graders who made their First Reconciliation this past Wednesday. May they always know the love and mercy of our Lord and Savior.

8th Grade -Confirmation Classes

Wednesdays at Hall / 6:15- 7:30pm

- Confirmation students have a retreat on Sunday, February 11 from 9am-3pm.

Questions or comments:

Please contact the Parish Office. 616.677.3934 or dre@saintmarysmarine.org

2023 Church Contributions

2023 Contribution Statements are now available in the Narthex.

Please pick up after Mass or during parish open office hours. If you would like yours mailed or emailed, please call the parish office. Thank You.

Please Note: In an effort to save money on postage we will only mail statements if requested.



Winter Weather Closings

When there is inclement weather and Coopersville Public Schools or Kenowa Hills Public Schools are closed. The Parish Offices will be closed and all events scheduled for that day will be cancelled. Daily Mass will also be cancelled. The Mass intention for that day will be rescheduled at our earliest opportunity.

Catholic Service Appeal 2023

Thank you for your gifts to 2023 Catholic Services Appeal! Your generous support funds essential diocesan ministries that strengthen us in Christ.

CSA 2023 Pledge Goal: \$51,834.00

Total Pledges Made: \$46,480.00 (90%)

Balance: \$5,354.00

Participation: 122 of 292 Active Households (42%)

Totals as of January 4, 2024

Thank you for your stewardship

Please Note, if we do not reach the parish goal set by the diocese, the shortage will need to come out of our church operating account. Please help us reach our goal and send in your pledge card ASAP.



Thank You

Dear St. Mary's Church- Thank you so much for hosting our family, friends and loved ones as we remembered the life of Rhonda Grabinski. Your support and help during this time has been invaluable to our family and we are blessed to hold services at St. Mary's. We would also like to thank those involved in the luncheon. All the food was delicious. Thankyou to all who supported our family during this time.

Warmly, Joseph Grabinski, Ross & Amanda Eardley and Jason & Abby Brouwer

Knights of Columbus #11581 News

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A KNIGHT

We are Catholic men who lead, serve, protect and defend. We share a desire to be better husbands, fathers, sons, neighbors and role models and to put charity and community first. **To learn more** about the Knights of Columbus' activities and what they do to support our parish community, the surrounding area and the world, please contact Grand Knight: Rob Rander at: roblander82@gmail.com or come to a General Membership Meeting. Meetings are held the 1st Thursday of the month at 7:00pm in St. Mary's Parish Hall.

Next Meeting - February 1 at 7PM at the Parish Hall.

SAVE THE DATE! Breakfast & Blood Drive - Feb 4, 2024

The Knights of Columbus #11581 are hosting a Community Breakfast & Blood Drive. Breakfast will be served 9AM till noon.

The price will be \$8 for adults.

\$6 for seniors and

\$4 for kids 5-11.

Come out and support our Knights! Blood Drive will be from 8:30 to 1:00:

If you haven't donated in the past, please consider donating the gift of life.

Walkins are welcome or

Register here:

<https://donate.michigan.versiti.org/.../drive.../156075>

All are welcome to come and enjoy a homemade breakfast and fellowship with you parish family even if you do not donate blood. Come Support Our Knights!



Giving Back to God ~ Time, Talent & Treasure

Attendance at Mass:				Jan 20/21
Jan 20	4:30PM:	81	Jan 21	10:30AM: 161
Adult Contributions				\$3385.00
Children Contributions				\$15.00
Loose Contributions				\$166.00
Capital Improvement				\$50.00
Online Giving				n/a
Total				\$3616.00
Weekly Offertory Needed for Budget				\$5397.83
Budget vs Actual to Date (since July 1)				+\$7232.00

Thank you for your continued support and generosity!

St. Mary's Sponsor of the Week

THROOP FUNERAL HOME

214 Church St., Coopersville ~ 1.616.837.8161

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR BULLETIN!

Welcome to the Cluster Parishes of St. Mary and St. Michael

Dear Padre,

**Why is the Old Testament part of Christian worship?
Parts of the Old Testament seem to be opposed to the
teachings of Christ.**

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* says it best: “The Old Testament is an indispensable part of Sacred Scripture. Its books are divinely inspired and retain a permanent value, for the Old Covenant has never been revoked” (CCC 121).

The Old Testament, also referred to as the Hebrew Scriptures, is the only Bible Jesus ever knew. That is an important reason to try to understand these Scriptures. The Pentateuch (first five books), the prophets, the Book of Psalms, and the wisdom writings all had a profound impact on Jesus. His image of God as Father, his preaching, his parables, and his proclamation of the reign of God were all influenced by the Hebrew Scriptures.

It is true that Jesus’ preaching also goes beyond the Old Testament. At times he substitutes what the law has to say with an even more demanding requirement (see, for example, the Sermon on the Mount). In general, however, the Old Testament forms a context for understanding what Jesus was doing. His passion and death made no sense to his first followers except in light of the Suffering Servant of the Old Testament (Isaiah 52:13–53:12). There are many more examples like this one. Thus, the *Catechism* says “the Old Testament bears witness to the whole divine pedagogy of God’s saving love” (CCC 122). ●



VOLODYMYR ZACHAROV / SHUTTERSTOCK

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
January 29 Weekday 2 Sm 15:13–14, 30; 16:5–13 Mk 5:1–20	January 30 Weekday 2 Sm 18:9–10, 14b, 24–25a, 30–19:3 Mk 5:21–43	January 31 St. John Bosco, Priest 2 Sm 24:2, 9–17 Mk 6:1–6	February 1 Weekday 1 Kgs 2:1–4, 10–12 Mk 6:7–13	February 2 Presentation of the Lord Mal 3:1–4 Heb 2:14–18 Lk 2:22–40 or 2:22–32	February 3 Weekday 1 Kgs 3:4–13 Mk 6:30–34	February 4 Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Jb 7:1–4, 6–7 1 Cor 9:16–19, 22–23 Mk 1:29–39



CHAT KAREN STUDIO / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

**Do we listen to Jesus’ words, which are authoritative?
Always...carry a small copy of the Gospel...to read throughout
the day, to listen to that authoritative word of Jesus. And
then...let us ask Jesus: “Jesus, you are the prophet, the Son of
God, the one who was promised to us to heal us. Heal me!”**

ANGELUS, ROME,
JANUARY 31, 2021

Timely topics viewed with a Catholic perspective

Catholic Update explores contemporary issues through the lens of Catholic teaching and traditions.

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