



While he was in Jerusalem for the feast of Passover, many began to believe in his name when they saw the signs he was doing.
 JOHN 2:23

The Long Arm of the Law

Eventually you're going to get caught. That's what this expression means. And that is pretty much how most people understand law—as something that hems them in and, if disregarded, will get them in the end. But that is not how Israel understood its law. The psalm verses for today insist that the law refreshes the soul, rejoices the heart, enlightens the eye, is more precious than gold, and is sweeter than syrup or honey from the comb. The people cherished the law because it outlined for them how they were to live as God's Chosen People.

People who want to run a marathon, learn to fly a plane, or join a club are eager to take on the directives that will enable them to accomplish their goal. That's how Israel viewed the law outlined in today's first reading. It's as if God said: "If you want to be my people, this is the way you should live."

Whenever the law of Israel seems to be criticized (as is often the case in St. Paul's writings), it is not really the law itself but the inappropriate attitude toward it that is censured. As important and precious as the law might be, it is only a means to an end. It is not the end itself, any more than the directives for flying a plane are what are uppermost. From the Bible's point of view, the long arm of the law is meant to direct and support us, not intimidate us.

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

For Reflection

- ✦ The laws in today's first reading deal with basic living. Which ones seem to be the hardest to live by? Why?
- ✦ Which laws give you the most support as you try to live with integrity?

OUR LADY OF PEACE PARISH

PENANCE SERVICE—Mark your calendars!

There will be a penance service at OLP on Sunday, March 21 @ 4:00pm

Pope Benedict XVI on Life

"In the light of my [recent] Encyclical Letter on Christian love, I would like to underline the importance of the service of love for the support and promotion of human life. In this regard, even before active initiatives, it is fundamental to foster a correct attitude towards the other: the culture of life is in fact based on attention to others without any forms of exclusion or discrimination. Every human life, as such, deserves and demands always to be defended and promoted." – Address on February 5, 2006

We would like to get a count of those who use Word Among Us– There is a sign up sheet at both parishes. If you wish to receive it please sign up and we will reserve a copy for you

Sustainability in El Salvador Drought has become a big problem across El Salvador, making it difficult for farmers to produce enough crops to support their families. But new farming techniques-and a new generation of young farmers-are making a difference. What would you do if your livelihood was threatened? How can you support young people in your community and around the world? **Visit csrcicebowl.org**

STATIONS OF THE CROSS- FRIDAYS 7:00 PM

OLP STEWARDSHIP 2/27

Adult	\$1201.00
Plate	\$65.00
Votive	\$21.00
Easter flowers	\$50.00
St. Anne's	\$25.00
Total	\$1362.00

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Mon	No Mass
Tue	3/10 OLP 9:00am +Phyllis Ficht
Thur	3/11 OLP 9:00:am Kevin & Samantha Ronning
Fri	3/12 OLP 9:00am Joseph Kerlin
Sat	3/13 OLP 5:00pm +Rev. Walter Laut
Sun	3/14 OLP 10:30am For the People
	St. Agnes 8:30am +Ray Fugelstad
	Holy Hour OLP- Sunday's 3:00pm-4:00pm

OLP prayer chain information

Julie Lipsiea 786-2138 or Julie.lipsiea@may-porteg.com;

Marge Spies 788-8775 or maggiej@yaho.com or

Dee VonRuden 788-3334

Mary candle– special intention

ST AGNES PARISH

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT— 3rd Sunday of Lent

How many “gods” do you put before God? “Idols” do not always take the shape of physical things, things we can touch and feel. Those are easy to recognize. Many times they take the form of things we cannot touch and are much harder to spot like pride, power, ego, time, comfort or health. Pray for God’s help to prune our vices and to grow in virtue.

God’s Gift Appeal— Definition of a Good Steward

Good stewards generously return a portion of all God has given to them, as “Good Stewards of God’s Grace.” They contribute to the ongoing building of His kingdom on earth. As good stewards, we work towards the fullness of His life for us by giving of our “first fruits.” Our goal is scriptural tithing, 10% of the first fruits. (cf. Gen 14:17-20)

Here is the suggested formula for distributing tithes:

5% to the parish

4% to charitable interests that support Catholic's teaching

1% to the Diocese of Fargo



Last weeks trivia questions:

When does Lent end? Are Sunday’s during Lent fasting days?

Lent ends when the evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper on Holy Thursday begins, because the Mass of the Lord’s Supper ushers in the Holy Triduum, a liturgical season in its own right and the shortest of the liturgical year. As for the Lenten penances, those are voluntary practices that people take up as personal devotions in addition to the penances required by the Church on the Fridays of Lent. As voluntary penances can be voluntarily set aside, taking a break from them on Sundays in honor of the Lord’s Day is perfectly fine. That said, the Sundays of Lent are indeed part of the Lenten season. - *Catholic Answers*

Father Robert Smith Phone: 701-850-9708
 e-mail robert.smith@fargodiocese.org
 Rectory & Parish Office 846 5th St SE Mayville, ND 58257
 Ph: 701-788-3234
 E-mail: catholic@gra.midco.net Website: olp-stagnes.org
Office hours Mon, Tue, Thur & Fri 9am to 1pm

St. Agnes Stewardship 2/27

Adult \$520.00

Plate \$25.00

Total \$545.00

If anyone has something to share that should be included in the bulletin, please contact Lois, 874-2144, 701-238-4380, lois_ewertz@hotmail.com

Dear Padre,

Our deacon was preaching about Lent and mentioned that the Church calls us to *metanoia*. What did he mean?

Most of us think of Lent as a time of penance. We receive our ashes and take up some traditional practice of giving up something or doing something for Lent. But there’s more to Lent than just practices of piety or acts of penance and mortification. Your deacon is correct. In Lent, the Church calls us to *metanoia*, a Greek word meaning “a change of mind and heart.”



We begin a new way of thinking and acting. We take a long, hard look at our lifestyle and compare it to the values Jesus offers. Then we change our lives to match the values of the Lord. This, of course, is difficult to do alone. The Church asks us to pray during Lent that the Lord’s power will enter our lives and give us the wisdom to see a new direction and the courage to move in that direction. The Church suggests we strengthen our resolve through acts of personal mortification and sacrifice for others. This will tighten the belt of our discipline and

train us for the more sweeping changes that we must make.

The Scripture readings for the first three weeks of Lent center on *metanoia*. The readings direct us to understand what is involved with “changing our hearts” and seeking a new life direction. Listen to them well and they will lead you to *metanoia*.

From Dear Padre: Questions Catholics Ask, © 2003 Liguori Publications Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

A WORD FROM Pope Francis



I urge the members of the Church to take up the Lenten journey with enthusiasm, sustained by almsgiving, fasting, and prayer. If, at times, the flame of charity seems to die in our own hearts, know that this is never the case in the heart of God! He constantly gives us a chance to begin loving anew.

LENTE MESSAGE FOR 2018, NOVEMBER 1, 2017

Calendar

Monday

MARCH 8

Lenten Weekday

2 Kgs 5:1—15ab

Lk 4:24—30

Tuesday

MARCH 9

Lenten Weekday

Dn 3:25, 34—43

Mt 18:21—35

Wednesday

MARCH 10

Lenten Weekday

Dt 4:1, 5—9

Mt 5:17—19

Thursday

MARCH 11

Lenten Weekday

Jer 7:23—28

Lk 11:14—23

Friday

MARCH 12

Lenten Weekday

Hos 14:2—10

Mk 12:28—34

Saturday

MARCH 13

Lenten Weekday

Hos 6:1—6

Lk 18:9—14

Sunday

MARCH 14

Fourth Sunday of Lent

2 Chr 36:14—16,

19—23

Eph 2:4—10

Jn 3:14—21