



## Teaching with Authority

**W**ho teaches with authority? To whose voice should we listen? The first reading provides an answer. Moses had been appointed by God to be God's voice for the Israelites—for that is what a prophet is. Moses assures the people that God will raise up a leader like himself. They are to listen to that voice just as they listened to his voice. The Gospel presents Jesus as the fulfillment of that promise.

The issues of contemporary life are extraordinarily complex. Actually, when one is in the midst of living, it is always complex. It was complex at the time of Moses and at the time of Jesus as well. So, to whose voice should disciples listen? It is easy to answer: "The one with authority." But who has authority? Recognizing genuine authority is not as easy as it sounds. Moses' position of authority was eventually recognized, but that was not the case in the beginning. The expression, "Who died and left you boss?" comes right

out of an earlier story of Moses (Exodus 2:14). As for Jesus, he never held a recognized position of authority in his society, and we know his authority seems eventually to have been rejected by most.

A sign of genuine authority is seen in the integrity of one's life. Moses led the people through the struggles of the wilderness. In this Gospel, Jesus confirms the message of his teaching with his works of healing. Who has authority? "By their fruits you will know them" (Matthew 7:16).

*Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA*

### FOR *Reflection*

- ★ As a disciple of Jesus, whose voice are you inclined to follow? Why?
- ★ What is your attitude toward official authority? Is this a good attitude to hold?



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**Pastor: Fr. Phil Schmitter – 810-252-4459**

### January 31, 2021 – Sunday

Please call Fr. Schmitter to make appointments for: Baptism, Anointing of Sick, Confession, parish registration, Communion to homebound, marriage preparations (9 months in advance), jail visits, and house blessings and information about the Church.

Please call or have someone call Fr. Phil if you or a loved one is in the hospital or is incarcerated.

**Office Hours: Currently closed to the public**

**MASS SUNDAY: 9:45 a.m.: Limited Public**

**Attendable and Live Streamed: Welcome!**

**WELCOME ~ CELEBRATE**

**NO MID-WEEK MASS this upcoming week**

### Mass Intention & Candle Remembrance Today

**BETTY ALLEN**

**Requested by Jackie Pleasant**

02/07 – Fr. Paul DeRose – Req. by Fr. Philip Schmitter  
02/14 – Franklin Maestaz – Req. by Pat Maestaz and Family  
02/21 – Barbara Parker – Req. by Jackie Pleasant  
02/28 – Melvin Jackson – Req. by Toby Jackson

### Introduction to the Celebration

God's love is manifested in Jesus Christ, who delivers us from every evil. Let us prepare ourselves to celebrate these mysteries.

### Stewardship

Stewardship calls us to live out the beatitudes!  
Show mercy, console, be peacemakers, rejoice!



WITHOUT PRAYER, WE ARE NOTHING

The Diocese continues to dispense us from Sunday mass obligation till after Pentecost. (That comes after Lent and Easter.) Please attend live stream when you can't make it physically to church.

Website: [www.christthekingparishflint.org](http://www.christthekingparishflint.org) or  
[www.ckflint.org](http://www.ckflint.org) Fr Phil's Facebook page

### Please hold these brothers and sisters in prayer for healing:

Camille Turner, Bob and Linda Davison, Barbara Logan, Bill W., Barbara Staton, Jennie, Robert and Aurelia LaValley, Patricia Gardner, Lorene Ferguson, Eula Collier, Irene Tomlinson, Tamara Crupi, Sherri Woodard, Dorothy Swift, Nina Poole, Tracy French, Scott Baker, Sue Kelly, Jason Rogers, Judy Ridley, Michelle Cwiklinski, Lia Jensen- Abbatt, Roberta Rouse, Mary Yaklin, Amber Donajkowski, Kathleen Lyon, Dr Joan Martin, Joe Rowley, Mama Sol, Rose Murphy, Lynn Steelman, Sr Joanne Fedewa, Virginia Rochelle, Douglas Bland, Nancy White, Baby Hazel McKenzie, Carolyn Shannon, Kristen Smith, Jim Ryan, Michael Raymond Garland, Baby Franklin Hoffman, Stevie Hoffman, Evan Little, Lamar Hill, Wanda Nichols, Teresa Milczarski, Fr Patrick Isichai, Nancy May, Joan Renard, John Prince, Robert DuLong, Rick Davies, Mike, Darlene Verdun, Bernice Mitchell, Carl Weiskittel, Baby Chloe Carpenter, Baby Hazel, Rob Whall, Jonathon Jolly, Andrew Doig, Rudy Verdun, Ray Jenrow, Debra Tinsley, Minerva Witt, Sandra Jones, Tom Blondin, Peter Arquin, David Eccles, Bernice Mitchell, Abebe, Sonya Feliciano, Joe Forlenza, Mary Ann Wheeler, Dan Bullard, Judy Garrison, Ollie Brown, Hilda Mitchell and Mary Jane Gunderson.



**CELEBRATE  
BLACK  
HISTORY  
MONTH  
FEBRUARY**



### Catholic Charities ~ HOPE IN A BOX ~ February

**Shampoo and Conditioner / Lotion  
Prayer**

**Give the give of warmth**

**Hats, Gloves, Scarves, Boots, Coats**

### Church Schedule for this week – NO NOON MASS

- Tues., Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>** NO NOON MASS  
**The Presentation of the Lord**  
*Let us come into the presence of the Lord Jesus, whose saving light shines on all believers.*
- Wed., Feb 3<sup>rd</sup>** NO NOON MASS
- Thurs, Feb 4<sup>th</sup>:** NO NOON MASS
- Fri, Feb 5<sup>th</sup>:** NO 9:45 am MASS  
**St. Agatha, Virgin and Martyr**



## My Dear Sisters and Brothers of Christ the King,

May God especially comfort those who are in grief because of the death of loved ones. May the Lord connect you to the vaccine soon for protection from Covid-19 and any variations of that. Many are finding availability at Meijer, McLaren, The Health Department, Northwestern, and other places. In a pleasant piece of news, Aubry Pleasant, from DuKette Catholic School and Powers Catholic High School is coming to the Detroit Lions as an assistant coach. He is a really well thought of coach after several years of experience. He is a really fine man, too. Way to go, Lions! You did something right!

The scriptures invite us to listen to the prophets that God raises up for us to help direct our path to truly following God. In Deuteronomy, Moses proclaims that "A prophet like me will the Lord your God raise up for you from among your own kin; to him you shall listen." The Psalm response reminds us to be open: "If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts." In I Corinthians we are reminded to seek "adherence to the Lord without distraction." In Mark's Gospel the people listen to Jesus and marvel that "taught as having authority."

We are called to moral consistency; our words and actions should match up; and all we do should reflect God's love and our authentic love.

In the prophet Jeremiah is a beautiful message from the Lord: "But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the lord. I will place my law within them and write it upon their hearts. I will be their God, and they shall be my people." God's law is to be internalized so our loving just behavior will flow spontaneously from deep within us. I can't speak for you but I know that for myself I still have a long way to go in flowing with that love of God. There are still some situations I find pretty hard to handle with the love to which God calls me.

***Dear God help me during this time of national division, and pandemic, and the isolation of quarantine, and the middle of winter, and all other circumstances of my and our life to choose to love and seek justice. Please help me to discern those who really are your prophets and lead me to always do your will.***

In Christ's Heart,

Fr Phil

Blessings, love and congratulations to Earicia and husband, Shawn,  
as we celebrate the birth of their son,  
Roshawn Jr, RJ

Fr Phil would invite any gifts to enjoy sharing for the baby  
can be brought to the office.

**Mission Statement:** Christ the King Flint Roman Catholic Church is a faith community founded in the African American culture to answer God's "Call" to be a guiding light and disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ. Through our gifts and talents, we strive to evangelize and minister to our entire multi-ethnic community.



# Dear Padre,

**Recently my son made his first reconciliation and was told to say some prayers as his penance. Doesn't this make prayer seem like a punishment for being bad?**

**Y**ou raise a valid concern. In fact the latest rite of reconciliation suggests that, if at all possible, penance must right the wrong and be clear enough that the penitent knows he has fulfilled it. Penance should not just show God we're sorry; it should also put us on the path to a Christian life and correct the harm our sins caused.

For instance, if someone has stolen something and returning it would reveal his sin (this cannot be part of the penance), making a comparable donation might be a fitting penance. When someone confesses gossiping, I challenge him or her to tell someone else something good about the person who was gossiped about. In other words, instead of spreading pain, learn to spread joy. The penance for disobeying parents might be to do something nice for them or do chores without being asked. This type of penance is far more beneficial to the penitent and the community at large.

Using prayer as a penance can send the signal that we pray only when

we've been bad or need something from God, like forgiveness. On the contrary, prayer should be constant. We should pray always and in all ways, if for no other reason than to give glory to God.

*Fr. Rick Potts, CSSR*

*Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org*



## A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

*We must never forget that true power, at any level, is service, whose bright summit is upon the cross....Although man frequently equates authority with control, dominion, success, for God authority is always synonymous with service, humility, love. It means entering the logic of Jesus who kneels to wash the Apostles' feet.*

ADDRESS TO INTERNATIONAL UNION  
OF SUPERIORS GENERAL, MAY 8, 2013



## Calendar

### Monday

FEBRUARY 1

Weekday

Heb 11:32-40

Mk 5:1-20

### Tuesday

FEBRUARY 2

Presentation

of the Lord

Mal 3:1-4

Heb 2:14-18

Lk 2:22-40

or 2:22-32

### Wednesday

FEBRUARY 3

Weekday

Heb 12:4-7, 11-15

Mk 6:1-6

### Thursday

FEBRUARY 4

Weekday

Heb 12:18-19, 21-24

Mk 6:7-13

### Friday

FEBRUARY 5

St. Agatha,

Virgin and Martyr

Heb 13:1-8

Mk 6:14-29

### Saturday

FEBRUARY 6

St. Paul Miki and

Companions, Martyrs

Heb 13:15-17, 20-21

Mk 6:30-34

### Sunday

FEBRUARY 7

Fifth Sunday

in Ordinary Time

Jb 7:1-4, 6-7

1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23

Mk 1:29-39