



February 7, 2021 Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

St. John^{the} Baptist Catholic Church

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5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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. - Mk 1:32-34

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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Holy Mass Saturday 5:00 PM; Sunday 8:00 AM & 11:00 AM
Monday– Friday 8:00 AM

Sacrament of Reconciliation Monday, Tuesday and Friday 6:00 PM;
Saturdays 4:00 PM; or by appointment

**BULLETIN
STANDARD DEADLINE:
9:00 A.M. MONDAY**

Dear Parishioners,
Today (Sunday) we celebrate the World Day of Consecrated Life. A few years back Pope Francis challenged those who live the consecrated life to wake up the world. Who are the consecrated and how can they wake up the world? Those living the consecrated life include the men and women who live as hermits, consecrated virgins and consecrated widows and those we are most familiar with, our religious brothers and sisters. So many in the world are lethargic or lukewarm when it comes to their faith in God. So, we need the example of those in consecrated life. The evangelical counsels they profess couldn't be more countercultural. In fact, we need to heed their example and try to imitate them in being more chaste, poor, and obedient in our own lives. When we do, everything goes better. While the world tries to suck us into more unfaithfulness, individualism and materialism, God simply calls us to Himself. May we through the example and prayers of those in consecrated life wake up and give our lives to Our Lord. I have had two memorable experiences with nuns that I remember vividly. First, one year when I was discerning my vocation to the priesthood I attended the Institute of Religious Life National Meeting at St. Mary of the Lake Seminary in Mundelein. I remember when I came out of a conference that morning when I came outside I came across the most joyful person I ever met in my life. It was a nun who was radiant with joy. A second experience I had when celebrating Mass at the Poor Clare Monastery in Rockford where the Poor Clare sisters live in cloister. That is a humbling experience to say Mass and to preach to a group of holy nuns. Also, it was powerful to give them Holy Communion through the grate. They received our Lord in the Eucharist with such reverence. It moved my heart to joy. As we celebrate today the World Day of Consecrated Life it is very possible that God is calling some of you from our parish to this life to live in community and to give that countercultural witness to the world. If so, be not afraid.

God Bless,
Fr. Butler

SUMMER CAMP !

Consider making a donation to help defray the cost of Catholic summer camps. If you'd like to support our students, there are youth camp donation envelopes in the back of the church.

Please return the envelope with your donation to the parish office by February 14TH.

STEUBENVILLE !

THE SEARCH

As Catholics we know life is a beautiful mystery. Now explore the depths of that mystery and what it means for you. Join us this Lent for *The Search*, a beautiful new video program that explores life's big questions. Sign up for a small group or watch in the comfort of your own home. Visit stjbsom.org/lent or call the office at 815-498-2010 for details and to sign up. Small groups start the week of February 14.

Sundays: 9:15am-10:45am

Mondays: 7:00pm-8:30pm

Wednesdays: 8:45am-10:00am

Wednesdays: 7:00pm-8:30pm(Begin 2/24)

For parishioners unable to attend a small group or prefer to watch at home, "The Search" Flocknote group has been created. Each week of Lent, a message with that week's video link will be sent to those who join the group.

Parishioners can opt-in to receive these messages by texting STJBSEARCH to 84576.

ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES

February 17

7:00 AM and 7:00 PM

Corned Beef & Cabbage



Committee



Planning meeting will be held

Monday, February 15th at 7PM

in the Parish Center.

Committee chairmen are invited to attend.

The dinner this year will be on

Saturday, March 13th.

Adoration

All Fridays of Lent

February 19,26 March 5,12,19,26

8:30 AM- 7:00 PM

GOSPEL MEDITATION
February 7, 2021
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

If I only knew then what I know now, how different life would be. This sentiment, expressed in myriad ways, is found on every human being's lips at one point or another. Life may have brought us to a vulnerable place where we see some of the poor choices we made and the effects they are having. Perhaps we fell into some destructive and dysfunctional relationships or behaviors and are finding how they held us captive. Our zeal and passion for life may have drifted away and we are waking up to the reasons apathy has taken hold. Life can be hard. In fact, some would describe their lives as a drudgery. They walk through each day with an anxious unsettledness, wondering when their restlessness will cease. There is a temptation to believe that what I see is all I will get. Mortality and hopelessness await the dawn. If I could only have known what would come in the future, I could have made better choices and avoided all of this misery!

Really? While we can certainly give into weakness, sin, impulsiveness, and idiosyncrasies that cause us to stumble over ourselves, life is really a journey. If we don't make the mistake of wallowing in the mire of self-pity and realize the new life God is calling us to, then there are thrills, adventures, surprises, and soul-searching graces we can surely miss. We are not tethered to our past nor are we bound to the ills life can bring upon us. We are never hopeless or helpless. The problem is that our myopic vision only allows us to see the misery and misfortune that is before us, not the potential that can come from choosing healthier and more life-giving options. Jesus came that we might have fullness of life. We need to learn how to reach for Jesus' hand and let him help us to our feet.

We need to allow God into our pain and heal our past. We have to wrestle with our histories, agonize and search and cry out for the Divine healing we need to restore our faith, hope, and love. Job could not see how his story would end or trust the guidance of the God who called him. We live in that same blindness and suffer from the same lack of confidence. Once we allow ourselves to be touched by God's healing power, we begin to see that all of the pieces of our lives are necessary parts of a greater whole. Along the way of our lives, God uses our omissions and failures to create new things and possibilities. When doors close, others open and we can be amazed by the joyful and unexpected surprises we receive. Once we know the power of God's creative, healing, life-giving, forgiving, and dynamic presence, it is no wonder we want to put ourselves at the service of others and show them what life can be.



Suzanne Burton, Patricia Butler, Kathleen Carr, Patrick Doherty, Joann Duffy, Joan Frieders, Sharen Gavin, Michael Geever, Denise Green, Virginia Hann, Margaret Hardekopf, Linda Hickey, Jerry Hinterlong, Mary Holevas, Leslie Hollarbush, Ted Ivanauskas, Jim Johnson, Jan Magioni, William McKillip, Irene Osifchin, Bob Scholl



SANCTUARY LIGHTS

Our candle offerings this week
are in memory of:
Don and Jean Wegener
Req by Wegener Family



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**Have you ever dreamed
of going to the Holy Land?**



**Fr. Butler's pilgrimage to the Holy Land that was
scheduled in January has been rescheduled
November 8-18, 2021**

MASS INTENTIONS

February 8-14, 2021

Monday	8:00 am	Don Wegener Req by Janet Kessler
Tuesday	8:00 am	Jean Wegener Req by Delores Devine
Wednesday	8:00 am	Charlie Julane Krupiczowicz Req by Chuck & Sandy Durancik
Thursday	8:00 am	Helen Killian Req by Her Family
Friday	8:00 am	Don Wegener Req by John & Tony Clapper
Saturday	5:00pm	Joseph M. Muretic Sr. Req by Connie Kauffman
Sunday	8:00am	George Weseman Req by Mike Willett
	11:00am	Pro Populo People of the Parish

LITURGICAL ROLES

February 13-14, 2021

Saturday 5:00 pm	Lector	N/A
	Extraordinary Ministers	N/A
Sunday 8:00 am	Lector	N/A
	Extraordinary Ministers	N/A
Sunday 11:00am	Lector	N/A
	Extraordinary Ministers	N/A

ALTAR SERVERS

February 13-14, 2021

Saturday 5:00 pm	N/A
Sunday 8:00 am	N/A
Sunday 11:00 am	N/A

FEBRUARY USHERS

Saturday 5:00 pm	N/A
Sunday 8:00 am	N/A
11:00 am	N/A

THE WEEK AHEAD

SUNDAY, February 7, 2021

Religious Ed 9:15am
Loss and Transition 9:00 am

TUESDAY, February 9, 2021

Knights of Columbus 7:15 pm

WEDNESDAY, February 10, 2021

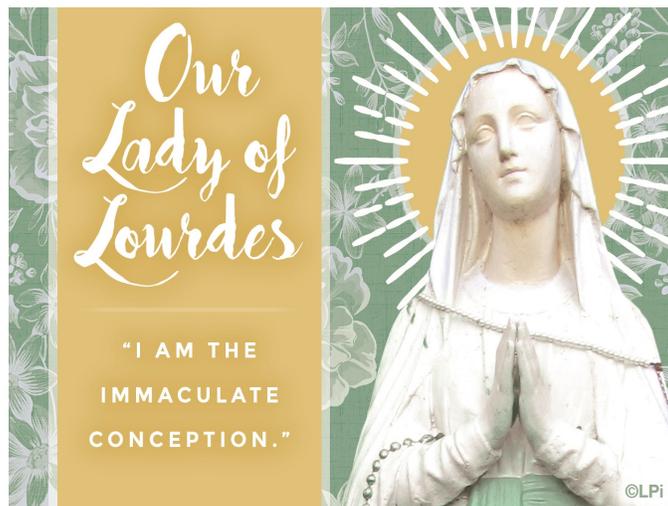
RCIA 6:00 pm
Confirmation 7:00 pm

FRIDAY, February 12, 2021

Pray the Rosary 8:30am

SUNDAY, February 14, 2021

Religious Ed 9:15 am
"The Search" small group 9:15 am



SCRIPTURE READINGS

Readings for the week of February 7, 2021

Sunday: Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. 3a]/1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/Mk 1:29-39

Monday: Gn 1:1-19/Ps 104:1-2a, 5-6, 10 and 12, 24 and 35c [31b]/Mk 6:53-56

Tuesday: Gn 1:20—2:4a/Ps 8:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [2ab]/Mk 7:1-13

Wednesday: Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17/Ps 104:1-2a, 27-28, 29bc-30 [1a]/Mk 7:14-23

Thursday: Gn 2:18-25/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1a]/Mk 7:24-30

Friday: Gn 3:1-8/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7 [1a]/Mk 7:31-37

Saturday: Gn 3:9-24/Ps 90:2, 3-4abc, 5-6, 12-13 [1]/Mk 8:1-10

Next Sunday: Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11 [7]/1 Cor 10:31—11:1/Mk 1:40-4