

St Bernadette Catholic Church
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stbernadettela.org



February 03/04, 2024
Volume 04, Issue 05

February 04, 2024: The Healing of Peter's Mother

The story of Jesus healing Peter's mother-in-law appears in all three synoptic gospels: While the three accounts are very short they have some interesting differences of detail: There are interesting variations on how Jesus healed the woman: Matthew says he touched her hand; Mark says Jesus took her hand and Luke says Jesus bent over her.

At that time, if a Jewish person touched someone who was sick they would become unclean. Jesus is defying the rules while remaining undefiled. Since Matthew is writing for a Jewish audience this event would be scandalous. Whereas Mark emphasises the servant nature of the story with the idea of taking the woman's hand and then helping her to stand up. And she in turn serves him in gratitude. As Luke is a doctor he includes more medical elements in his account – he bends over the woman to heal her just as a wise doctor knows the importance of a good bedside manner. Only Luke states that she had a high fever. In Jesus' time, a doctor would have assessed the severity of the fever first, and so Luke would have wanted to know the precise details of this episode to ensure that he recorded the facts accurately in his gospel. This would have given his account real medical authority and therefore, be received as a genuinely true miracle.



Quinquagesima Sunday Quinquagesima, in the Western Christian Church, is the last Sunday of Shrovetide, or the Sunday before Ash Wednesday. It is also called Quinquagesimae, Estomihi, Shrove Sunday, Pork Sunday, or the Sunday next before Lent. In the Roman Catholic Church, the terms for this Sunday and the two immediately before it (Sexagesima and Septuagesima Sundays) were eliminated in the reforms following the Second Vatican Council. They are now part of "Ordinary Time." This Sunday is now known by its number within Ordinary Time – fourth through ninth, depending upon the date of Easter. The earlier form of the Roman Rite, with its references to Quinquagesima Sunday, and to the Sexagesima and Septuagesima Sundays, continues to be observed in some communities. In traditional lectionaries, the Sunday concentrates on Luke 18:31–43, "Jesus took the twelve aside and said, 'We go to Jerusalem, and everything written by the prophets, about the Son of Man, shall be fulfilled' ... The disciples understood none of this." Verse 35 is followed by Luke's version of Healing the blind man near Jericho. The passage heralds the themes of Lent and Holy Week. In most churches, palms blessed on Palm Sunday of the previous year are burned on this day after the last Mass of the day, the ashes of these burned palms are used for the of Ash Wednesday Liturgies.



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*God Isn't Asking You to Figure
it Out?*

*He's Asking you to Trust He
Already Has.*



Saint Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs During the 16th century, the Catholic faith reached Japan by the efforts of the Jesuit missionary Saint Francis Xavier (1506-1552). Jesuit outreach to the Japanese continued after his death. 200,000 Japanese entered the Church by 1587. Religious tensions led to a period of persecution, during which many churches were destroyed and missionaries forced to work in secret. Within a decade 100,000 more Japanese became Catholic, despite the restrictions. During 1593, Franciscan missionaries came to Japan from the Philippines by order of Spain's King Philip II. The new arrivals gave themselves zealously to the work of charity and evangelism. Their presence disturbed a delicate balance between the Church and Japanese authorities. Suspicions grew when a Spanish ship was seized off the Japanese coast and found to be carrying artillery. Toyotomi Hideyoshi, a powerful imperial minister, responded by sentencing 26 Catholics to death. The group was comprised of three native Jesuits, six foreign Franciscans, and several lay Catholics including some children. Sentenced to die by crucifixion and lancing, they were marched 600 miles to the city of Nagasaki. During the journey they underwent public torture meant to terrorize other Japanese believers in Christ. All of the 26 held out courageously, even singing the hymn of praise "Te Deum" when they arrived at the hill where they would be crucified. Three of the best-known martyrs of Nagasaki are Saints Paul Miki, John of Goto, and James Kisai. Miki was training for the priesthood. Paul Miki offered an especially strong witness to his faith during the group's month-long march to Nagasaki, as he joined one of the captive Franciscan priests in preaching to the crowds who came to mock the prisoners. The son of a wealthy military leader, Miki was born in 1562 and entered the Church along with the rest of his family. He joined the Jesuits as a young man and helped many Buddhists to embrace Christianity. His last act of evangelism took place as he hung on his cross, preaching to the crowds. "The only reason for my being killed is I have taught the doctrine of Christ," he announced. "I thank God it is for this reason that I die. I believe that I am telling the truth before I die." "After Christ's example, I forgive my persecutors. I do not hate them. I ask God to have pity on all, and I hope my blood will fall on my fellow men as a fruitful rain." St. Paul Miki and his 25 companions were stabbed to death with lances on Feb. 5, 1597, at the site which became known as "Martyrs' Hill."

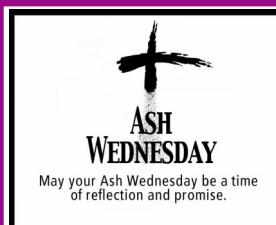
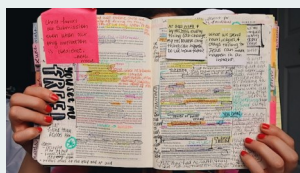
**Join us for
Bible Study
1st and 3rd Thursday
1:00 & 7:00 PM
Via ZOOM**

**1:00 pm Meeting
ID: 87233018319
Passcode: 689472**

**Contact:
Carolyn James
(323) 394-5441**

**7:00 pm Meeting
ID 811 5705 8134
Passcode: 6FuFf7**

**Contact:
Elsie Dixon
(310) 410-2962**



The ashes used for Ash Wednesday are the burned, blessed palms of the previous year's Palm Sunday liturgies. "The palms are burned in a metal vessel and then broken down into a powder. Ashes can also be purchased from Catholic supply companies. Parishes normally ask parishioners to bring their palms shortly before Ash Wednesday, so there is no need to store them. People usually keep the blessed palms in their crucifixes at home. Almost half of adult Catholics (45 percent typically) receive ashes during Ash Wednesday services, according to the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate at Georgetown University. You might not have noticed, but the use of the word "Alleluia" is not spoken or sung during Lent. The "Alleluia verse" preceding the Gospel, during Lent becomes "the verse before the Gospel." A variety of possible phrases to be used — none of which include an alleluia. The "alleluia," in the early church, was intended to "ornament the liturgy in a special way." It was banned from Lenten Masses in the fifth or sixth century. Ash Wednesday is a day of abstinence and fasting; Good Friday is another. Abstinence means refraining from eating meat; fish is OK. Fasting means reducing one's intake of food, like eating two small meals which, together, would not equal one full meal. Fasting, during Lent, followed the example of Jesus' 40-day fast in the wilderness. It also recalls the 40 days Moses fasted on Sinai and the 40 days Elijah fasted on his journey to Mount Horeb. In the second century, Christians prepared for the feast of Easter with a two-day fast. This was extended to all of Holy Week in the third century. In 325 the Council of Nicea spoke of a 40-day period of preparation for Easter as something already obvious and familiar to all." The U.S. Catholic Church's Collection for Aid to the Church in Central and Eastern Europe is taken up on Ash Wednesday, as it has been since its inception in the early 1990s.

FASTING? Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and all Fridays of Lent: Everyone of age 14 and up must abstain from consuming meat. On Ash Wednesday and Good Friday: Everyone of age 18 to 59 must fast, unless exempt for a medical reason.



We need "Coffee and Donut Sponsors"
No Set Up, or Pick Up, Just Pay Up.
We will take care of the rest.
Whether you are a Couple, a Family, a Parish
Ministry, a Local Business
Owner, or a Service

Organization. ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS: DONATE ALL OR PART OF THE (ONE TIME) WEEKLY COST TO THE CHURCH, WE TAKE CARE OF THE REST. FOR DETAILS CALL THE PARISH OFFICE at (323)293-4877 .



St Scholastica (c. 480 – 10 February AD 543) A saint of the Catholic Church, Eastern Orthodox Church and Anglican Communion. She was born in Italy, and a ninth-century tradition makes her the twin sister of Saint Benedict of Nursia. Her feast day is 10 February, Saint Scholastica's Day. Scholastica is traditionally regarded as the founder of the Benedictine Order of nuns.

Things to Give Up For Lent—Don't eat what you want.

Matthew Kelly talks about the power of never leaving the dinner table without making an act of self denial. Take it to heart at every meal this Lent. If you want waffles for breakfast, make eggs instead. Instead of drinking orange juice, drink water. Give something away—every day. Maybe it's not your wardrobe which needs cleaning out, but consider giving something away each day, or each week, during Lent. Do not interrupt people. We could probably all do well to spend more time listening, and less time interjecting.

Stop complaining. Have you ever stopped to think about how many times a day you complain about something? What if, instead, you find constructive ways to talk about your difficulties? What if you look for the good in people instead of focusing on any inconvenience we experience?

Don't waste downtime.

You do not have to give up social media or the like entirely, but you can be intentional about not using it during specific times. Take that time instead to pray, to breathe, to reach out to someone around you. You'll be amazed at the difference it can make in your day.

What Are You Giving Up?



MARK Your Calendars: February 14: Ash Wednesday

Services: 8:00 a.m. 12:00 Noon 7:00 p.m.

Ashes on the Go? 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Unusual Lenten Practices

In Czech tradition, bells in village churches become silent from Holy Thursday. Children are told the bells are silent because they went to Rome to make a confession. Since there are no bells, children are sent out with wooden clappers to call the villagers to attend religious services. The Wednesday of Holy Week is often referred to as Black Wednesday because chimneys were traditionally swept on this day to prepare for Easter.

The night before Ash Wednesday, Lithuanians celebrate Užgavėnės, a popular holiday of which the major element is a theatrically staged battle between Lašininis, a "porky figure" symbolising winter and Kanapinis or "hempen man", a symbol of spring.



LITURGY SCHEDULE

MONDAY,
FEBRUARY 05, 2024
TO SUNDAY,
FEBRUARY 11, 2024

Monday, Feb. 05, 2024

8:00 Communion Service

Live-Streamed and In-Person

St Agatha

Tuesday, Feb. 06, 2024

8:00 Communion Service

Live-Streamed and In-Person

St Paul Miki & Companions

Wednesday, Feb. 07, 2024

8:00 am Mass

Live-Streamed and In-Person

Thursday, Feb. 8, 2024

8:00 am Mass

Live-Streamed and In-Person

St Jerome Emiliani

St Josephine Bakhita

Friday, Feb. 09, 2024

8:00 am Mass

Live-Streamed and In-Person

Saturday, Feb. 10, 2024

3:00 pm Reconciliation

4:00 pm Vigil Mass

St Scholastica

Sunday, Feb. 11, 2024

10:00 am Mass

Coffee & Donuts

Sponsored by the Parish

(Sacraments

as Scheduled)

Mass Intentions

(323) 293-4877

j.carper.sbccc@gmail.com

***LOTW: Liturgy of the Word**

PARISH STAFF

DCN JIM CARPER, PLD
MSGR LORETO GONZALES
FR MARCELLINUS MBATA
DCN EMILE ADAMS, RIP
DAVID CHRISTENSEN
EMANUEL HOLDER
CLARENCE DIXON
MARGARITA HURST
MARINA AYALA

(OFFICE VOLUNTEERS)
TERESA CARPER

1 Corinthians 15:58

*Oh Lord, help every worker to
work wholeheartedly for the
church. Help them to remember
the work they do in the church is
not in vain as Your Word
declares Your work is never
wasted.*



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stbernadettela.org

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Mass Intentions: February 03 to 09 2024

Saturday, February 03, 2024 at 4:00 pm

Diane D'Antignac (RIP)

Dcn Emile & Anona Adams (RIP)

Anthony Hurst (Health)

Sunday, February 04, 2024 at 10:00 am

Clarence & Fanella Dixon

Sanders and Isabella Boutte

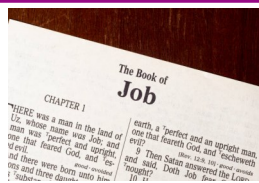
Requesting a Mass Intention? Contact the Parish Office (323) 293-4877

Did you Know February 3-4 Effectively communicating with your teenagers

During conversations with teenagers, focusing on the matter at hand is essential. It is tempting to make every dispute an opportunity to discuss multiple issues at the same time, but this is often counterproductive. Instead, addressing a particular issue at a time you are better able to guide and mentor teenagers by helping them look with clear eyes at the situation in front of them and work toward a solution.

For more information, read the VIRTUS® article "Communicating Tip No. 9: Avoid "Scope Creep" with Teens" at lacatholics.org/did-you-know/.

Read the VIRTUS® article "Communicating Tip No. 9: Avoid "Scope Creep" with Teens".



In his lifetime, Job complained mightily to God, demanding answers to the injustice of life. When God finally answered him, all Job could do was admit God's ways were beyond his comprehension (Job 38-40). The restoration of Job's fortune does not answer the question of suffering, nevertheless, it points to

Christ and the resurrection, God's definitive response to evil. We might not be very different from Job. We see innocent suffering in so many parts of our world and feel helpless to respond. It seems evil and violence have the upper hand. If we can give ourselves over to belief in the Gospel, we can enter into the sacramental dynamic of the self-fulfilling prophecy which is the "Reign of God". Job would tell us, "Beware! Feel free to complain, to lament, to interrogate God, but know you do so at great risk." We never know when God will appear out of the whirlwind and give us a mission beyond our wildest dreams.

CONGRATULATIONS!

**Bara King: Keeper of the Flame Award Recipient
To be presented Saturday, February 10, 2024 5:00
PM Mass Our Lady of the Angels Cathedral**

