# ORDINARY TIME AND THE SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FEBRUARY 5 - 11, 2024

Monday, 2/5 † Saint Agatha, Virgin & Martyr 6pm: Doris Neumaier by The Menis Family

Tuesday, 2/6 † Saint Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs

8am: Don Kindt by Larry & Sharon Richie

9am: A.S.

Wednesday, 2/7 † Weekday

6pm Jared Dembowski by Larry & Sharon Richie

Thursday, 2/8 † Weekday, Saint Jerome Emiliani; Saint Josephine Bakhita, Virgin

8am: Jamie 9am: A.S.

Friday, 2/9 † Weekday

8am: Jamie 9am: A.S.

Saturday, 2/10 † Saint Scholastica, Virgin

8:30am: McKenzie

Saturday, 2/10 † Vigil: The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary time

4:30am: Linda Potempa by The Scamerhorn Family

Sunday, 2/11 † The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary
Time

7:30am: Rolly Nielsen by Kevin & Betty Bobcek 9am: A. S. Alexia (Sis) Scutchfield (80<sup>th</sup>) Birthday

By Family 11am: Parishioners

Msgr. Richard Zollinger

#### This week at SS. C & M & All Saints

Tues., Feb. 6 – 6:30pm – Christian Ladies Mtng.,

Wed., Feb. 7 - 6:30pm - K of C, Parlor

Wed., Feb. 7 – 6:30pm – Parish Council, Rectory

Thurs., Feb. 8 – 2:15pm - Legion of Mary, SS.C & M

Thurs., Feb. 8 – 4pm - Our Lady of Perpetual Help,

SS. C & M

Thurs., Feb. 8 – 7pm – Men's Group, All Saints Sun., Feb. 11 – 9:30am – Religious Education

The Christian Ladies will meet on Tuesday, February 6th at 6:30pm in the church parlor. Their meeting is scheduled a week earlier due to the K of C's Fat Tuesday Dinner.

The Knights of Columbus will have their regular meeting this Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in the parlor.

On Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup> the K of C will hold their annual "Fat Tuesday" Dinner in the church parlor at 6pm, Everyone is invited to attend.

On Thursday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, the Men's group will meet at 6:30pm at All Saints.

February 14 is not only Valentines Day, but Ash Wednesday as well, so therefore it is a Fast & Abstinence Day. Guess sweets for your sweets will have to wait until Thursday!!

### CATHOLIC CHARITIES MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

Tuesday, February 6<sup>th</sup> – 10 a.m. until bags are gone. SS. Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church Parking Lot at the corner of Adair Street & Keller Ave., North Judson.

The mobile food pantry is open to anyone living in Indiana; proof of residency is required or driver's license.

In the Gospel today, we find that Jesus would rise very early before dawn and go to a deserted place to pray and then he went out to preach and to heal.

Please pray for the poor and suffering, knowing that you are bringing the love and peace of Jesus to those who live in fear and doubt, loneliness and dread.

## Dear Padre

February 4, 2024

In the Our Father, we pray, "thy kingdom come." Will God's kingdom come only at the end of the world?

God's kingdom will come in its fullness only at Jesus' Second Coming, but the kingdom came into the world with Jesus' first coming as a man. That means we are in God's kingdom right now, but not in its fullness.

In the Scriptures, we read that John sends his disciples to ask Jesus if he is the messiah or if they need to wait for another. Jesus responds, "The blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, the poor have the good news proclaimed to them" (Luke 7:22). These are all signs of the kingdom of God.

In the meantime, we don't have to just wait for God's kingdom to come in its fullness. We can make God's kingdom more of a reality on earth by visiting the sick, caring for the poor, and being kind to others. Loving your spouse is a sign of the kingdom of God. God's kingdom is among us, not completely but partially, and we can make it more of a reality in the good that we do for each other.

Jesus' Second Coming will be at the end of time, an event Jesus himself did not know the time of: "But of that day or hour, no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father" (Mark 13:32). ●

Fr. Patrick Keyes, CSsR / DearPadre.org

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"Rising very early before dawn, he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed...He told them, Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come." - Mark 1:35, 38

In today's Gospel reading we see a perfect example of stewardship. Jesus gives His time to do all that God wishes - healing the sick and preaching. But before He begins, Jesus takes time to be alone with God in prayer. It is through prayer, spending time with God, that we are given the graces needed to do what He wishes us to do. Praying before acting is a great habit to develop.

## **Good News!**

February 4, 2024

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)
Job 7:1-4, 6-7 / 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23 /
Mark 1:29-39

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

At some point in one's faith journey, every believer asks: If God is good and loving, why is there evil in the world? Why is there war? Why do children die prematurely? Why do pandemics rage? The biblical story of Job seeks to speak to that question, though it never really answers it.

God and the satan (the name he is called in the Book of Job) are discussing Job and what a fine man he is. The satan suggests Job is a good man only because everything is going well for him. God then tells the satan that he may do whatever he wishes to test Job but may not harm him. By a series of catastrophes, then, Job loses his flocks, his camels, and even his sons and daughters. It is at this point that we hear today's first Scripture reading—Job's lament of misery and hopelessness.

Though Job's friends suspect that the cause of all that has befallen him must be due to some grave sin on his part, Job denies this accusation and continues believing in the goodness of God, never wavering in his faith. Though frustrated by what life has brought, Job never blames God or asks God to fix his life. God is God, concludes Job, whether we understand the ways of life or not. To seek any more is to seek to be God. He continues to trust in God and admits that the ways of God are incapable of being understood. This becomes Job's only answer to the question about the "why" of evil.

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#### Ten Tricks of the Devil to Watch Out For January 10, 2016 by Fr. Dwight Longenecker

Satan is a snake. Remember that.

He is a liar and the Father of Lies.

He is at work in your life trying to tempt you into sin and to draw you away from God, but he is also at work in the world, trying to deceive you, confuse you. He wants you to lose your faith and turn away from God.

Here are ten of his tricks. Watch them and be aware of what he is up to.

- 1. **Relativism** Relativism is the idea that there is no such thing as truth. The devil doesn't want you to believe in truth because if there is not truth, then there is also no right and wrong, and if there is no right and wrong, then anything goes. He can tempt you into sin much more easily if he can first get you to believe there is no such thing as sin. Relativism is everywhere in our society. It takes many different forms. The other tricks of the devil in this post explain some of the different forms of relativism that are traps you can fall into.
- 2. Indifferentism This is the idea that all religions are pretty much the same and it doesn't matter which one you follow. Indifferentism is common within Protestantism. How often have you heard someone say. "It doesn't matter what church you go to as long as you love Jesus"? This indifferentism extends to multi culturalism as well. People say it doesn't matter if you are Hindu, Muslim, Jew, Sikh, Buddhist, Catholic—whatever. "We're all climbing the same mountain but by different paths." Well maybe so in a way, but some paths are better than others because they're more true and to be honest, some of the paths are going down the mountain not up. Be clear. Jesus Christ is the fullest and most complete and final revelation of God to the human race and Catholicism is the fullest, most ancient and most complete union with that unique revelation of God in Jesus Christ.
- 3. **Eclecticism** This is a close cousin of Indifferentism. Eclecticism is the idea that you can mix and match different religions and spiritualities all together—kind of like those places where you make your own ice cream sundae. People think this is possible because they have already subscribed to indifferentism. Think it through. You can't mix up Islam with Christianity or Buddhist spirituality with Catholic prayer. It's not like making your own sundae. It's more like putting ketchup on ice cream or using white paint as coffee creamer. Don't bother.
- 4. **Sentimentalism** This is basing moral choices and belief choices based on emotion rather than eternal truths. It can be good emotion or bad emotion. You get mad at someone or some choice someone has made so you base your moral or faith decision on your anger. Or you might feel syrupy and nice about something so you base your emotional choice on that. Here's an example: Two guys want to get "married" and you say, "Aww, Ronnie and Donnie are *such* nice guys! Why shouldn't they get married just like everyone else?" You're basing your decision on your emotions about Ronnie and Donnie, your desire to be a "nice" person and sentimental ideas about weddings and celebrations and big days. Don't make important decisions only on your emotions. That way chaos and darkness lies.
- 5. **Utilitarianism** This is basing moral choices and belief choices only on what seems to be effective, efficient and economical. Mom's in a rest home. She has dementia. Its expensive to keep her there. The doctors offer to give her an injection so "Her problems will be over." Don't do it. Utilitarianism is why we kill millions of babies through abortion. It seems like the easy thing to do. Observe how utilitarianism is usually linked with sentimentalism: "You wouldn't want your mother to

suffer any further would you? Why you wouldn't even treat your dog this way!" You see where this goes.

- 6. Incrementalism This is just a long word for "drip, drip, drip." In other words, the devil doesn't put his plan in place all at once. He takes over brick by brick. It is one little lie, then one little half truth, then one more little lie, then one more little half truth. Be clear what he is doing from the start and don't give in. He will get you to give in to his ways through sentimentalism here, utilitarian arguments there, here a bit of indifferentism, there a bit of relativism. He's working all the time, nibbling away, never sleeping, never at rest.
- 7. **Materialism** I'm not talking about going to the mall to shop until you drop. That's a minor form of materialism. The deeper problem is the growing conviction that there is no supernatural realm. God, the angels, demons, heaven and hell? They're all just a myth. There s not invisible world. The sacraments are just symbols. The church is just a human institution. The priests are no more than social workers dressed in black. Marriage is just a piece of paper, confession is no more than therapy and self help and baptism and confirmation are just nice rites of passage for our kids. That's materialism. Do you recognize it? Repudiate it with all your heart. It's a lie.
- 8. **Scientism** This is the idea that the only kind of truth you can know is scientific truth. Nobody states this as such. It's a powerful lie of Satan because it is one of those things which is simply assumed in society. "We all know that science has disproved the Bible right?" Wrong. All truth is God's truth and true science is always the sister of true theology. Scientism is an offshoot of assumed atheism. "There isn't a God. There is just the laws of science. That's all." Spot it and name it.
- 9. **Situational Ethics** This is another name for moral relativism. The idea is that nothing is right or wrong except for the intentions and circumstances of the moral choice. If you mean well and the circumstances justify it, then what you've chosen to do is okay. Huge numbers of Catholics have accepted first artificial contraception and then abortion because of situational ethics. It's easy to see that this form of relativism is usually linked with sentimentalism and utilitarianism to bring people to the point of choosing mortal sin, but never admitting it and justifying their choice. It's not Catholic. Don't fall for it. If you are faced with a difficult moral decision talk to your priest or a good spiritual advisor.
- 10. **Universalism** This poison straight from hell is the idea that God is so loving, kind and merciful that he won't send anyone to hell. In other words, everybody will be saved. This not only directly contradicts Sacred Scripture, but it contradicts all the teaching of the church for the last two thousand years. It has lulled thousands into the false security that in the end it doesn't matter what they do and what they choose because they will all make it to heaven at last. Satan loves universalism because he gets to dress up his lie in the clothes of the Father's greatest attribute: the Divine Mercy. The best way to repudiate this lie is to fear hell.

### Suggestions for Lenten mortifications

Lent is not about undergoing some suffering just to punish ourselves, even in union with Christ's suffering on the Cross. Lenten mortification must have a much higher purpose, that being our personal conversion into a life of sanctity. Thus, these Lenten sacrifices must be engaged in not with a downtrodden spirit, or with many complaints over what you're suffering. In fact, if you do that, you will get little if any Grace from your mortifications. No, these mortifications must be undertaken with a willing, happy spirit, with an open heart that looks forward in hope to the great work of conversion the Graces earned during Lent will make in our souls. This is our yearly opportunity to practice some serious sanctity, maybe even heroic sanctity! Here are some ideas for now (and remember, it is highly advisable to start on many of your mortifications before Lent even formally starts, so you don't get caught "cold"):

- Avoid foods you really like. Take more of foods you don't like, and less of ones you do
- Season your foods in ways you really don't like. If you like salt, have it bland. If you hate salt, salt it up.
- Avoid meat at one meal a day. Men, have a salad at one meal (or not, if you love salad).
- Give up flesh meat entirely for Lent. The devout Orthodox still give up not only ALL meat, including fish, but also ALL animal products, including butter, eggs, cheese, etc. Only do so if you are physically able.
- Even more hardcore, go with the traditional Lenten fast on all days save Sunday and Feast days, only eat one full meal with two small snacks. You could add abstinence to this, as well, skipping meat except at the main meal
- Take your shower hotter or colder than you like
- If you drive a lot, practice patience by staying in the slow lane and keeping a good distance between you and the car in front of you. Don't speed. Every time you have to slow down, remember that you are growing in patience.
- For that matter, practice patience by getting in the long line at the store/supermarket. Let people get in front of you
- · Abstain from all TV during Lent
- Abstain from radio. Instead of listening to the radio while driving, pray.
- Abstain from the internet (I get the blogger's exception on this one-heh)
- If you have some favorite hobbies or activities, consider giving one or more of them up for the duration of Lent
- Don't go out to eat during Lent. Donate the money saved to local pro-life efforts
- Along with avoiding favorite foods, don't eat dessert for the duration of Lent. Or avoid all snacks. Only eat fruit, instead of sweets. No processed sugar (can you tell I need to lose weight?).
- Practice willful spiritual poverty. Deny yourself things. No impulse buying. Only purchase what is truly necessary. Again, donate the money saved (almsgiving is another necessary Lenten practice).
- If you find your job a chore, consider working more. If you love work, try to spend more time away from work (within reason, of course). Do more chores around the house.
- Do what your spouse/kids/friends/siblings want, instead of having things your way. Within prudence.
- If you have any strong/bad habits, strive to eliminate them entirely or reduce them to a point of true moderation. This could apply to coffee, nicotine, alcohol (if you love your evening wine, skip it), all kinds of things.

Hopefully, that will get you started. You obviously don't have to do all the above, but choose some, or think of your own. Think of what you really like to do, and even if it is something relatively good, consider giving it up for Lent.

In addition to denial, there are positive acts that can and should be taken as part of spiritual mortification:

- Commit to reading a selection of spiritual books during Lent
- Assist at Mass everyday, or every day you possibly can
- Commit to weekly/regular Confession and arrange to receive spiritual direction if it's been a while
- Pray the Stations daily, not just Friday
- Take up some special Lenten Novenas
- · Commit to praying the Divine Office, or parts of it
- Practice spiritual and corporal almsgiving. Set aside time to pray for the Poor Souls in Purgatory. Give more money to charity/Church.
- Perform daily Adoration, or more adoration. Note: the Blessed Sacrament need not be exposed for Adoration. You can adore Our Lord just as well in the tabernacle
- Pray and/or counsel outside abortion mills in your area
- Exercise more. If you are accustomed to watching TV or other sedentary activities, commit to mortifying yourself by performing more physical activities. Get in shape for Jesus. Our Body is the Temple of the Holy Spirit, treat it as such.
- Say an extra daily Rosary. Or commit to saying all three (or four, if you are mod) sets of Mysteries daily.
- Practice devotion to the Sacred Heart, or Immaculate Heart of Mary, or.......
- Pray, pray, pray. Develop a plan of prayer before Lent begins, and stick to it.

There are two critical considerations. First, have a plan before Lent starts next week on Ash Wednesday. Be ready to fast or perform whatever mortification you choose well before Ash Wednesday. It really helps to take advantage of Septuagesima to start these mortifications in a voluntary way, or at least think them through. Secondly, if you fall down, don't worry about it, get back up. If you come across this post 2 weeks into Lent and haven't started anything, start then. Another advantage of trying to start your mortifications during Septuagesima, when it is more voluntary, is that if you pick something that just won't work, you have time to try another mortification. But if this happens during Lent, pray about it, and change if you absolutely must. You don't want to get into a merry-go-round where you keep hopping on and off mortifications. That would really defeat the purpose.

A final key consideration, to reiterate do not make Lent an unpleasant experience. Yes, we are denying ourselves things, or adding more, but with a purpose, to be more Christ-like and to receive Grace in order to greatly advance our conversion! Lent can be a time of great spiritual growth, if we take advantage of it, and that should fill our hearts with joy! As Christ said, when we pray, do it privately, and when we fast, don't look all miserable and downtrodden, but be happy, look nice, and offer it up!