

More "Blah, Blah, Blah" from Msgr. Mark

Roe vs. Wade Supreme Court decision removing all limits to abortion, and the number of coronavirus deaths in the U.S. and the world continues to grow even while we wait (patiently?) for a chance to receive the vaccine. Hmm. I have several times used pieces here composed by a priest-acquaintance of mine from Boston, Fr. Austin Fleming. I used something of his in preaching two weeks ago. The prayer further below is something new.

Finger-pointing is deep in our DNA. The author of Genesis says it started with Adam and Eve in the Garden (3:12-13). Jesus, on the other hand, told his disciples to be as gracious as we can muster in judging the motives of others, while being frank and fierce in judging our own intentions. Dare I say, I tend to do it backwards: jumping all over others when they fail, while having endless excuses for my own missteps. It seems to me the only way we are going to move forward as a nation right now is by each of us examining our own hearts. Here is Fr. Fleming's prayer (slightly edited). Maybe you can clip this and pray it with me for a while:

Our nation is divided, Lord: the gap between the two sides could widen the Grand Canyon from coast to coast.

Bitterness and bias, Lord: lies, mistrust and prejudice, hostility, sneering sarcasm and violence, deadly violence.

And all of this, Lord, on both sides of the divide. It's painful, Lord, to see revealed how divided, how broken we are, how deep our common wounds, how helpless, how weak, how much in need of healing we are. Unwilling to lay aside our fictions for fact, we surrender service for comfort, justice for profit and unity for partisanship.

As you well know, Lord, there's no easy fix here, no facile reconciliation, no overnight solution: our wounds are much too deep and of the kind that only time, humility and sacrifice can ever hope to heal—and, of course, Lord, prayer—we need to pray, we need to pray for healing.

We'll not heal ourselves, we'll not right these wrongs on our own, we'll not salvage our nation's promise and glory through self-determination: only with your grace and strength and power, Lord, will we find the help, hope, and healing we seek and need so much.

And so, we pray, Lord: for the counsel we need to heal the roots of our division; for the wisdom we need to find and live by truth; for the strength we need to rebuild what we've foolishly dismantled; and for the perseverance we need to resolve what seems impossible.

Renew our faith in you, our Creator who endow us with certain unalienable rights and with their corresponding duties, responsibilities, and obligations.

Send us your Spirit, Lord, to renew us in your image, to refresh and strengthen us with your grace, to lead us and guide us to peace and to liberty and justice for all.

Help us seek and find you in the whole of creation, Lord, and especially in one another in this land we call our own, in this nation we call home. Amen.

Msgr. Mark

What to say here this week? There is so much going on right now that my head hurts: a new President was sworn into office last Wednesday, Friday was the 47th anniversary of the

Sunday, January 24

- 7:30am Confessions at CR
- 8:30am Mass at CR for the People of the Eastside Parishes
- 9:00am Elementary Virtual Faith Formation Gr. 1-3
- 9:45am Elementary Virtual Faith Formation Gr. 4-5
- 10:30am Mass +Christopher Clifford at SM
- 6:00pm High School Virtual Faith Formation

Monday, January 25

- The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle*
- 5:30pm Mass at CR: Special Intention for Our Country
- 6:00pm Confessions at CR

Tuesday, January 26

- Sts. Timothy and Titus*
- 12:10pm Mass at CR: +Ray and Lorraine, Bill, and Dick Steines
- 5:30pm Rosary and Novena at CR

Wednesday, January 27

- St. Angela Merici*
- 12:10pm Mass at CR: +Mike and Lorraine Klapatauskas and Tom and Joyce Bourdeau

Thursday, January 28

- St. Thomas Aquinas*
- 12:10pm Mass at CR: +Deceased Members of the Treptow Family

Friday, January 29

- 9:00am "What Catholics Believe" Bible Study at SM Cafeteria
- 12:10pm Mass at CR: Special intention for an efficient and safe distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine

NOTE: The rosary will be said beginning at 11:35 am before the Daily Masses. The Divine Mercy Chaplet will follow Mass.

4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday, January 30

- 3:00pm Confessions at SM
- 4:00pm Mass at SM: +Kurt Howard

Sunday, January 31

- 7:30am Confessions at CR
- 8:30am Mass at CR for the People of the Eastside Parishes
- 10:30am Mass at SM: +Bernice Domka
- 6:00pm High School Virtual Faith Formation

CR - Church of the Resurrection • **SM** - St. Michael Church

Scripture Readings for this Week can be found at:
<https://bible.usccb.org>

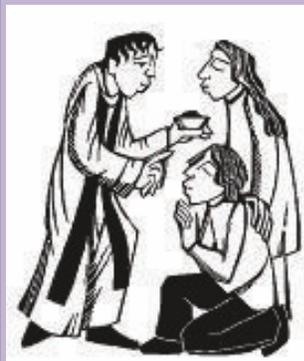
Bulletin article submission deadline:
 Monday at noon
bulletins@eastsideparishes.org

Readings for the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time January 31

*Deuteronomy 18:15-20; 1 Corinthians 7:32-35;
Mark 1:21-28*

Each evangelist chooses a different episode to introduce Jesus' public work. The calling of the two sets of fishermen brothers that we read today was a relatively private affair, so today's Gospel portion (the cure of the man with an unclean spirit) could be said to be the start of Jesus' public ministry in Mark. The focus here is Jesus' authority over the demon and the reaction of watching crowd to that and Jesus' teaching. The only "content" we have heard so far to Jesus' teaching is verse 15 from last week: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand." What Jesus teaches is not simply a set of ideas, but an announcement of God's triumph over evil. *Where can you perceive the Reign of God in your life?*

Last year's palms make this year's ashes



February 17 is Ash Wednesday. Yikes! The Eastside Parishes' keeping of this season of spring cleaning for the Christian soul will have many aspects to it, but for now we'd welcome back any remnants of dried palm that you may have tucked away in your home's prayer-corner from last year's Holy Week celebrations.

In an ancient bit of liturgical recycling, these will become the ashes we use to enter into Lent 2021. Starting next weekend, baskets will appear at the entrances to welcome your "contributions."

SAINT JOSEPH
THE WORKMAN

Cathedral
THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE DIOCESE OF LA CROSSE

If Fr. Mark thinks he has problems, at least he is not the pastor of the Cathedral Parish

It's a long way from Wausau to La Crosse, made longer in that there are no direct highways. But if you have been to La Crosse, you've likely seen at least the outside of St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral. It towers over downtown. If you took the time to pass through the doors, you know that the insides are equally as impressive. You have seen evidence of some of the things that take place there: Fr. Mark, Fr. Joe, and Fr. Sam McCarty were all ordained there; it's the location for the Bishop's annual blessing of the sacred oils that we use for Baptism and Confirmation. The cathedral casts a long shadow.

Well, for the last six months, much of the Cathedral has been wrapped in scaffolding, as pieces of the stonework on the tower have been breaking off and crashing to the ground. Eek! The fifty-eight-year-old building is needing some serious maintenance. The main responsibility for that repair job falls on the Cathedral parish's pastor and members, but as the estimated price tag for the steeple and interior electrical upgrades is \$6.1 million, they are welcoming help from everywhere in the Diocese. Perhaps this week you would enjoy watching the eight-minute video (including some amazing bird's-eye views) posted on the Eastside Parishes' website, eastsideparishes.org. At the weekend Masses on January 30-31 (including the recorded one), Fr. Mark will explain how we can help.

In the next weeks and months we have openings for the Mass intentions



In the planning and production of the Mass there are many roles: the priest/prayer leader, the congregation, the reader, perhaps a deacon, Eucharistic ministers as needed, and (in these days) those who help with seating and disinfecting. But there is also

another, often unseen, helper: **the one offering the intention.** That is, the person or group who asks the assembly to join in particular prayer for someone living or dead or for a particular human need. You are free to request a particular date or anniversary, but there is no requirement to be present at the Mass to make the intention. As part of this role there is usually the contribution of a gift (called a stipend) towards the priest's salary. The normal stipend is \$10.00, but any amount is sufficient. With two priests now on the staff at St. Michael's and Resurrection, there is more room for naming the Mass intentions. Mass intentions may be scheduled for up to twelve months from the date you make your request.

If you are interested, you can make the arrangement by writing or calling either parish office:
Resurrection at 715-845-6715
or St. Michael's at 715-842-4283.

Please remember all of our homebound and hospitalized parishioners from Resurrection and St. Michael Parishes in your prayers this week.

Resurrection Sanctuary Lamp burns
for the Special Intention of the
Gerald and Carol Feldbruegge Family

St. Michael Votive Candles burn:

- In memory of Tom Vick
- In memory of John Andraski
- For a special favor

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Financial Giving January 17, 2021

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St. Michael Parish

Adult Envelopes/Offertory	\$8,765.50
Electronic Contributions	\$6,893.33
Weekly Total	\$15,658.83
Fiscal Year-to-date Contributions	\$318,751.43

Church of the Resurrection

Adult Envelopes/Offertory	\$3,124.00
Electronic Contributions	\$2,520.00
Weekly Total	\$5,644.00
Fiscal Year-to-date Contributions	\$387,870.14



"We Believe" Giving January 17, 2021

"We Believe" cash contributions this week	\$800.00
"We Believe" electronic contributions this week	\$2,647.75
"We Believe" weekly total	\$3,447.75

Total "We Believe" pledges (including friends' match)...\$1,341,987.43
(not counting St. Ambrose Financial Services matching interest forgiveness)

Total "We Believe" cash contributions to date.....\$1,020,844.87



The end-of-the-year contribution statements that may be needed for tax filing purposes have been mailed out. If you do not receive yours by the end of the month, please give our office a call. We are in the process of using up envelope stock, so Resurrection members may notice that their statement will arrive in an envelope with a St. Michael return address. When this supply is depleted, Eastside Parishes envelopes will be ordered.

Resurrection Parish

621 Second Street • Wausau, WI 54403
715.845.6715 • www.eastsideparishes.org
Office Hours: 8:00 am-12:00 pm Tuesday thru Friday

St. Michael Parish

611 Stark Street • Wausau, WI 54403
715.842.4283 • www.eastsideparishes.org
Office Hours: 8 am-4 pm Mon. - Thurs., until noon on Friday

Parish Staff

Pastor Rev. Msgr. Mark R. Pierce
Assoc. Pastor Rev. Joseph M. Richards
Deacon Rev. Mr. Peter A. Burek
Deacon Rev. Mr. John P. McDonnell
Director of Faith Formation Michelle Fischer 715.842.1810
Director of Music and Liturgy Tom Lella
Parish Secretaries: Resurrection Cathy Hackel
St. Michael Phyllis Burclaff
Financial Secretary Sharon Michalski
Parish Nurse Pam Frary

Liturgical Schedule

4:00pm at St. Michael on Saturday, 8:30am Mass at Church of the Resurrection and 10:30am at St. Michael Parish on Sunday.
Please visit eastsideparishes.org to register to attend a weekend liturgy.

Weekday Masses (no reservation needed)
5:30pm on Monday and 12:10pm Tuesday-Friday at CR.

Reconciliation

Church of the Resurrection: 7:30am Sunday, 6:00pm Monday
St. Michael: Reconciliation 3:00pm Saturday

Reconciliation is also available by appointment.



World Mission Sunday: We in the Mission Office want to thank you for being a source of hope in a world affected by the pandemic of illness and unrest. As a result of World Mission Sunday, St. Michael and Church of the Resurrection Parishes have helped to support the work of missionaries who foster hope and bring assistance. May God bless you for your financial contribution of \$4,313, and all your prayers. We will forward the total to the national Society for the Propagation of the Faith

office. Your gifts will support projects that build God's kingdom in our midst. Thank you!

Fr. Woody Pace, Director

Pat Esselman
Parishioner



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Reading II: 1 Corinthians 7.29-31

Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel: Mark 1.14-20

Profession of Faith: Nicene Creed — *see sidebar on front*

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Preparation of Gifts and Altar [sung at recorded liturgy only]

1. You walk a - long our shore - line, Where land meets un - known sea.
2. You call us, Christ, to gath - er The peo - ple of the earth.
3. We cast our net, O Je - sus; We cry the king - dom's name;
We hear your voice of pow - er, "Now come and fol - low me.
We can - not fish for on - ly Those lives we think have worth.
We work for love and jus - tice; We learn to hope through pain.
And if you still will fol - low Through storm and wave and shoal,
We spread your net of gos - pel A - cross the wa - ter's face,
You call us, Lord, to gath - er God's daugh - ters and God's sons,
Then I will make you fish - ers, But of the hu - man soul."
Our boat a com - mon shel - ter For all found by your grace.
To let your judg - ment heal us So that all may be one.

Preface Dialogue

Eucharistic Acclamations — *see sidebar*

Song After the Reception of Communion



O Lord, in my eyes you were gaz - ing,
Kind - ly smil - ing, my name you were
say - ing; All I treas - ured,
I have left on the sand there; Close to
you, I will find oth - er seas.

EUCCHARISTIC ACCLAMATION

**Holy, Holy, Holy
Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth
are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he,
blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.**

MYSTERY OF FAITH

**When we eat this Bread
and drink this Cup,
we proclaim your Death, O Lord,
until you come again.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in
heaven, hallowed by thy
name; thy kingdom come;
thy will be done on earth as
it is in heaven. Give us this
day our daily bread; and
forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who
trespass against us;
and lead us not
into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

*Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil...
and the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.*

**For the kingdom,
the power, and the glory
are yours, now and forever.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

*Behold the Lamb of God, behold him
who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper
of the Lamb.*

**Lord, I am not worthy
that you should enter
under my roof,
but only say the word
and my soul
shall be healed.**

Sing a New Song, Dan Schutte, ©1972/OCP
Psalm 25, David Haas ©1985/GIA.
Alleluia from Mass of Joy and Peace, Tony Alonso, ©2010/GIA.
You Walk along Our Shoreline, Sylvia G. Dunstan, ©1991/GIA, AURELIA
Lord, When You Came, Cesáreo Gabardin ©1979/OCP.
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