



**JANUARY 31, 2021**

**FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**MASS TIMES**

Saturday: 5:30 pm  
Sunday: 8:30 am  
Weekday Masses at St. Matthew:  
Tuesday and Friday: 7:45 am  
1st Friday: 6:30 pm

**PASTORAL STAFF**

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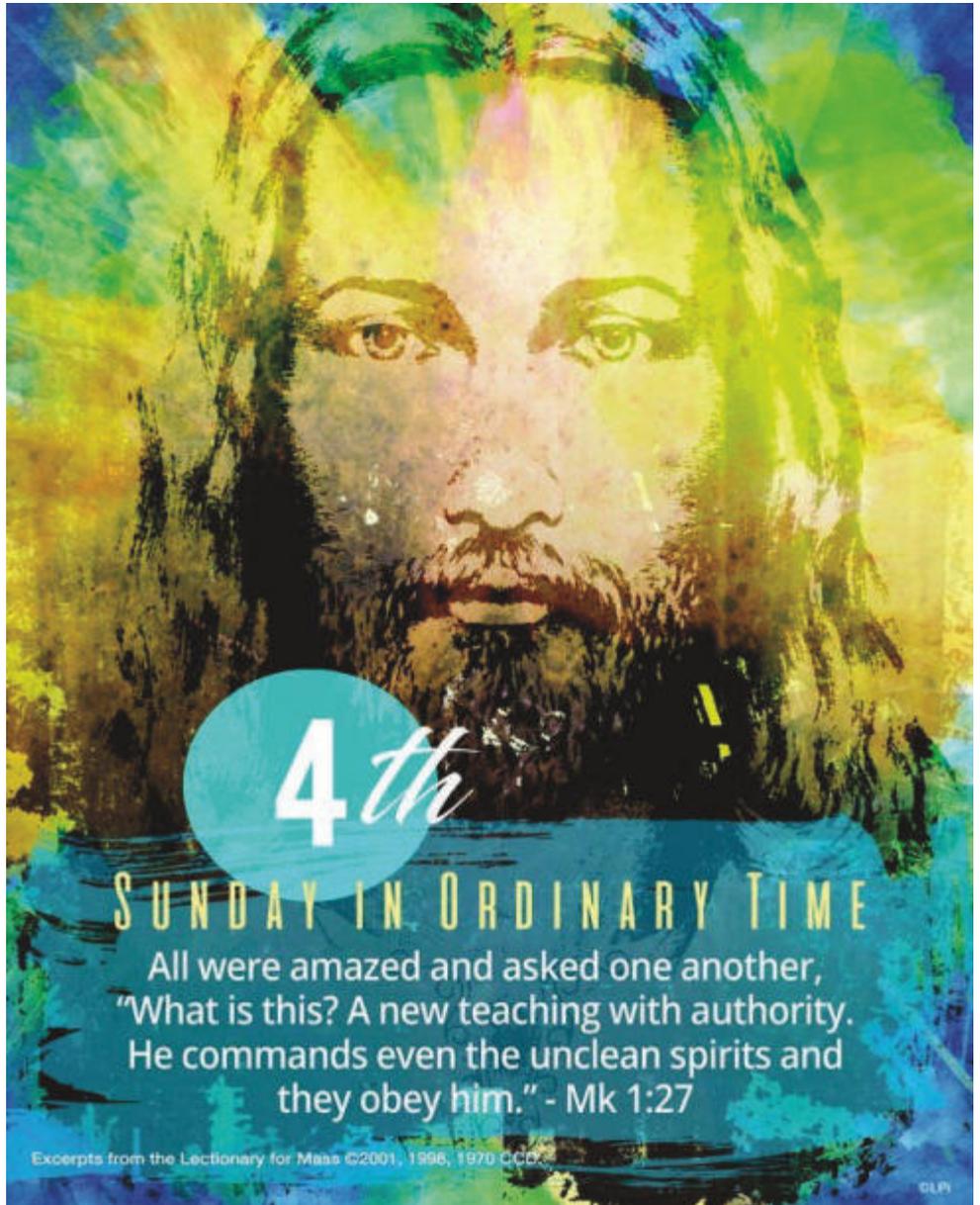
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**PARISH OFFICE**

262-639-3616  
stmarybl@wi.twcbc.com

**FACEBOOK**

St. Mary by the Lake/pages



**BAPTISMS:** A class for both parents is required before the baptism of a child. Call the parish office.

**MARRIAGES:** Registered, practicing members, call the pastor at least six months in advance to make arrangements.

**RECONCILIATION:** Anytime by appointment

**PARISH REGISTRATION:** Forms are available in the vestibule or contact the parish office.

# MASS Intentions

## This Week

Saturday	1/30/2021	5:30pm	Angie Vallin
Sunday	1/31/2021	8:30am	Richard Granger

## Next Week

Saturday	2/6/2021	5:30pm	Parishioners of St. Mary by the Lake & St. Matthew Parishes
Sunday	2/7/2021	8:30am	Lawrence Cesarz

## ATTENTION LECTORS AND USHERS!



A schedule to sign up for January and February is available in the Vestibule, or you may call or email Jen in the Parish Office to be put on the schedule. Please let us know if you have any questions.

## COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND

Are you unable to attend Mass right now due to the pandemic, but still hunger for the Eucharist? Specially trained volunteers do not come into your home, only to your door, wearing masks and gloves. The sacrament is safely dispensed along with a short prayer card. Contact Heather Warner in the parish office if you would like to receive Communion.



## MASS INTENTIONS AVAILABLE



Mass intentions for next year can be scheduled for \$10 each by contacting the Parish Office. Dates are first come, first served and are only considered scheduled when payment is received. There is a limit to the number of weekend Masses that can be scheduled per person per year. Please contact the Parish Office with any questions.



## FOOD PANTRY

The North Side Food Pantry that we support is in need of supplies. They are humbly asking us to "come thru again" with these specific items:



- Boxes of cereal
- Dry/instant potatoes
- Soup (no cream of)
- Hand soap
- Dry pasta (shells, elbow, egg noodles)
- Spaghetti O's
- Pork & beans
- Toilet paper
- Laundry soap

Food may be dropped off in the blue barrel at the Parish Office on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 8:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

## A POWERFUL STUDY OF THE BLESSED MOTHER BEGINS FEBRUARY 10TH



Filmed on location in the Holy Land, *Mary: A Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother* will place you in the midst of the powerful drama of Mary's earthly life, taking you through her joys and her sorrows. You will learn how she works in our lives today,

drawing us ever closer to her divine Son. Seeing Mary in this way will change you forever. She will become a part of your daily life and help you to become more like Christ.

Join us for *Mary: A Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother* at St. Mary by the Lake in Caledonia beginning February 10, 2021 at 1:00pm and continuing every Wednesday for eight weeks. For more information or to register for this FREE study, call Heather Warner at 262-639-3616 or email [hwarner@stmarybythelake.org](mailto:hwarner@stmarybythelake.org).

## LENTEN COMPANION SERIES

Lent is an important season in the Church's liturgical year — it is the time when we take stock of where we are in our faith so as to prepare for the death and resurrection of our Savior. Often, we lose sight of the point of this season because we get caught up in ourselves: how hard it is to fast, how we fail at fasting, and just waiting for the season to be over at Easter. Because of this we often arrive at Easter with our lives no more changed than they were on Ash Wednesday.



A way that our parish is seeking to prepare for Jesus and experience true transformation in our lives in this powerful season is by engaging with a new program called The Ascension Lenten Companion. This devotional resource follows the Gospels for each Sunday of Lent 2021 so we can better prepare for Mass and grow closer to Jesus each day. It features daily meditations, space for journaling, original sacred artwork and weekly videos that keep us on track.

The cost of the devotional is \$12 and can be ordered by contacting Heather Warner in the Parish Office and will be available for pick up after Masses February 13/14 or in the Parish Office the following week.

Beginning Ash Wednesday, February 17, accompanying videos to this devotional will be posted to the Parish website and Facebook page.

This is an opportunity for our whole community to enter into the season of Lent intentionally (in this time of social distancing) and receive the grace God is waiting to give us in this holy season.

## GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

### 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Most of us are quiet people who desire to live a good and holy life, promote the values and mission of the Gospel as best we can and desire to one day inherit the surprise of life eternal God promises to us. We are not trailblazers. We are simple people who want to do the simple things of life well. But there are others who left a more profound impact along the way of the paths they walked. Folks like Dorothy Day, Martin Luther King, Thomas Merton, Gandhi, St. Teresa of Calcutta, and many others left lasting impacts and legacies. Like Moses, they show us by word and deed who God is and what integrity and a purpose driven life look like. They show us how to be holy. We need Moses people like these to give us inspiration, hope and an example of holy living. We do not need to do what they did or even mirror their relationship with God. Each one of us is God's special creation, with a purpose and soul known only to us. We need to learn how to open up and bring, without compromise, our soul-ness to life. We know when someone is authentic and centered because they always point to truth, even though they struggle and sin themselves, and they embody an unspoken timeless wisdom that just sounds and feels right. Jesus taught with this same type of authority and it astonished many who listened. We do not need to move mountains, advance a cause, write books or become notable. All we have to do is become credible witnesses of the faith we profess. Moses people can teach us how to do this.

St. Oscar Romero was an amazing man and a Moses figure for sure. He saw God in the burning bush and brought the flame of Gospel faith to the poorest of the poor, challenging the evils of the society in which he lived. He was tireless and persistent. He must have gotten very close to the problem because it cost him his life. He suspected it would. St. Romero said, "When we leave Mass, we ought to go out the way Moses descended Mt Sinai: with his face shining, with his heart brave and strong to face the world's difficulties." We can learn from this wisdom. If we allow the power of the Mass to truly transform us, we will leave that holy encounter changed. Our face will shine, and we will have courage. We can then bring what we have received to life's challenges. That sounds doable, doesn't it? Because of the example of our simple holiness, people will be amazed.

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## LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Most of us are not trail blazers. Throughout history though, there have been many folks who tirelessly and persistently pursued the promptings of their hearts without giving any care to what others thought or trends dictated. Jesus is one of them. St. Teresa of Calcutta and St. Francis of Assisi are examples of others. The rest of us are people who take a more measured look at things, want to test the waters, and take our time choosing what path or person to follow. We need credible witnesses of faith. We need the Moses people in our lives to show us by word and deed who God is and what integrity and a purpose-driven life looks like. They are the pointers to truth, who even though they struggle themselves, seem to embody an unspoken timeless wisdom that just sounds and feels right. Jesus taught with this same type of authority and caught the attention of the greatest of skeptics. They were astonished. Even though we need our human prophets we can also be somewhat prophetic ourselves by putting integrity and conviction behind our embrace of the Gospel. Perhaps much to our surprise, we all have the power to be a credible witness. Are you willing to give it a try?

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## QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK - INVITE PARISHIONERS TO REFLECT AND RESPOND TO SCRIPTURE

### First Reading:

Moses taught the Israelites that God would send prophets to assist them in knowing His will. Why do you think people so often reject the prophetic message?

### Second Reading:

Paul speaks of the inevitability of anxiety in life. How does your faith assist you in handling what makes you anxious?

### Gospel:

In the story of the healing of a demon-possessed man, Mark reports how the demons knew Jesus' true identity as "the Holy One of God." What does this reveal about the unseen order?

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## EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

### Embracing Change in Christ

It's officially one month since we popped the champagne, toasted 2021 and wrote down a list of resolutions. This is usually the time when we start to take a good, hard look in the mirror to assess what we have done — or have not done — with the first month of this brand-new year.

New years can be scary, can't they? Full of promise, sure, but also full of room for failure. Full of space for our old baggage, old fears and the continuation of old mistakes.

The same can be said of Christ, and the new life he offers us, if we are brave enough to accept it. Opportunities like that can be intimidating. In that moment, we might find ourselves like the man with the unclean spirit crying out: "What have you to do with me, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us?"

Jesus is a comforter of the afflicted; he is a consoling figure, but he is also a challenging one. Sometimes we have grown attached to our afflictions. The idea of correcting bad habits or forming new ones is frankly terrifying to us. We have a voice deep inside who sees Christ and his invitation to repentance, and it cries out in fear: "I know who you are!"

When we live in the present, disavowing the baggage of the past or fear of the future, we submit ourselves to the promise of redemption. Let us be brave everyday stewards and invite Christ's healing power into our lives. We won't regret it — I'm sure the demoniac never did.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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