

EXCERPTS FROM THE LECTIONARY FOR MASS ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI



——— CHURCH OF THE ———— BLESSED SACRAMENT

2119 Stillwater Ave E St. Paul, MN 55119 651-738-0677 church@blessedsacramentsp.org

Mass Times: Saturday Anticipatory: 4 pm Sunday: 8:30 am & 11:00 am Daily, T-F 8:30am

Church of the Blessed Sacrament

We Have Seen His Glory

If you're anything like me, it seems like it has been months since we celebrated Christmas. The busy and rich holy days gave way to New Year's resolutions, as we returned to work, school, and ministry. Even the memories of our recent celebrations of Epiphany and the Baptism of the Lord are quickly fading. And yet, on this Second Sunday of Ordinary Time, the gospel story of the wedding at Cana forms the third part of a sort of Epiphany trilogy and carries the

themes of these two Christmastide feasts into the green days of Ordinary Time: manifestation and transformation.

These three Epiphany events — the visit of the Magi, the baptism of Jesus by John, and the miracle at Cana — are, as Pope Francis has described them, "the three signs that the liturgy brings in



these days in order to speak to us about the manifestation of God: God makes himself known." As we know, the story of the Magi coming from the East reminds us that the child born in Bethlehem was born for all peoples, and the baptism of Jesus is the revelation that he is the Father's "beloved Son." So, then, what do we learn from the miracle at Cana? What truth is revealed in this Sunday's gospel?

To answer this question, we have to pull back the lens, as it were, to take in a broader view of salvation history.

Throughout the Old Testament, we read of how God continually called straying women and men back into right-relationship with Himself. The Hebrew Scriptures are filled with signs and stories that reveal God's covenant-love — His relationship — with His Chosen People: the rainbow after the great flood (Genesis 9:1-17), Abraham's star-filled sky (Gn 15), the giving of the Law to Moses (Exodus 15 and 24), and the promises made to King David and his descendants (1 Samuel 7:12-13). Each of these stories remind us that while the People of Israel violated this relationship time and again, God's love and mercy remained constant. Even the first reading of this Sunday's Mass reminds us of God's abiding and merciful love: "As a young man marries a virgin, your Builder shall marry you; and as a bridegroom rejoices in his bride, so shall your God rejoice in you (Isaiah 62:5)."

But those signs and symbols of the Old Testament were only representations of God's love. On that first Christmas night everything changed. In Jesus — who is the Word-Made-Flesh — God "made his dwelling among us and we have seen his glory" (John 1:14) and the miracle at Cana was the first time that Jesus manifested — remember, this is an *Epiphany* — his own transforming power and his glory. This is why Adrian Nocent, OSB, could write these beautiful words in his celebrated commentary on the liturgical year: "We were once water, now we are wine, and are judged worthy of the wedding feast … We are being invited, then, to meditate on this

renewal of our selves, of our institutions, and of everything around us, but we must bear in mind that the renewal will come in its fullness only at the wedding feast of the last day."

Cana marked a beginning and in the transformation of the water into wine we discover that Jesus wasn't simply another prophet or holy man. He was God's "Beloved" and he holds the power to transform — to recreate and renew — the elements of earth and, more importantly, the hearts, minds, and souls of his followers.

In the coming weeks of Ordinary Time, we will hear the stories of how this transforming and saving work, begun in Cana, changed the lives of Jesus' disciples, as we're invited to reflect on how that transforming power continues to shape us today.

Br. Silas Henderson, SDS

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP NEWS

Returning:

Grief Support Group

Mondays—January 24— February 28 6:00-7:30pm

For men & women dealing with loss, whether it be re-



cent or long suffering. Come and visit with us and learn ways to cope and not feel so alone. Please bring a journal. If you have any questions, please call Judith 651-795-9944, or call the parish office.

ADORATION CHAPEL NEWS

"The best, the surest and most effective way of establishing everlasting peace on the face of the earth is through the great power of Perpetual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament"

St. Pope John Paul II. Dec. 2, 1981

We are still working at expanding our hours of Adoration. Please check the website for schedule. Please contact us if you feel called to devote an hour a week to spend with the Lord. We are always in need of prayer partners. Please call Kathy at 651-247-5185 or the parish office, if you are interested.





GOSPEL MEDITATION ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

God delights in you. How do you feel when you hear that? Delight usually comes with an exuberant flow of joy that seemingly arises from one's toes with the expression of great glee. Reflecting upon the deep measure of joy God has in us can be a source of joy for ourselves. Delight is infectious. A very young brother and sis-



ter were playing on the beach when the all too familiar ice cream truck made its daily rounds. The boy shook with excitement and delight as he took his sister's hand and exclaimed, "The ice cream man is here, isn't it great!" As they ran off toward the truck, one could hear the girl reply, "Yeah, I can't wait!" The experience of a child's delight in something so simple as ice cream, lifts our spirits from our burdens and transports us to the lighter, more innocent side of life.

Life is not meant to be a burden. Believe it or not, God actually wants us to be happy! In fact, the wedding feast at Cana shows us that God even puts His blessing on our happiness. It is okay to celebrate the wonder of ourselves and others. Life is good. It is always interesting to note that Jesus saves the good wine until last. You would think it would be the other way around. The superb quality of Jesus' wine points to the superior quality of life we find in Christ. It is not a life of burdens but a life of wonder and delight! In Christ, we are lifted from the superficial and mundane to a life of purpose, hope, and love.

God is with us through the long haul, through the challenges and sorrows as well as the successes and accomplishments. In spite of the fact that we often wander from the path, God's celebratory delight in us remains. As spouses are asked to remain faithful to each other through whatever life brings, God remains faithful too. This promise remains through this life and into the next. All we have to do is take the advice of Jesus' mother to heart when she says, "Listen to Him." This wisdom saves us from foolishly giving in to the illusion that we can make better wine than Jesus. ©LPi

SOCIAL CONCERNS FOR JANUARY

2022-2023 Catholic Education Scholarship program status!

January as been designated the month for our Catholic Education Fund program. In this program, we grant scholarships to children of parishioners who elect to send their children to a Catholic grade school or Catholic high school. Our monthly second collection will take place the last weekend in January. We are accepting donations throughout the month for this worthy cause. Simply indicate "Education Fund" on the memo line of your check or you may pick up an envelope at the hospitality desk in the gathering space.

Please contact John Florin @ jflorin@blessedsacramentsp.org and an application will be sent to you. Application deadline is 2/15/2022.



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F	Land Haffman Administrative Consultination			
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R	Garot Mercenia,			
E	FAITH FORMATION & SAFE ENVIRONMENT 651-738-06//			
T	Connie Hill Director evt 1/			
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R	Jan Meulemans, Director651-307-7865			
Y	PRAYER LINE			
	Please call Carol McKenna			
	CHURCH EMAIL: Church@blessedsacramentsp.org			
	PARISH COUNCIL: parishcouncil@blessedsacramentsp.org			
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6	prerequisite for Baptism. Schedule with the Parish Office.			
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1 Sm 16:1-13/Mk 2:23-28 † Edward & Lorene Bauer

Wednesday, January 19

1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51/Mk 3:1-6 † John & Grace Carlson

Thursday, January 20

Weekday/Saint Fabian, Pope & Martyr/Saint Sebastian, Martyr 1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7/Mk 3:7-12

† Rev. Dennis Dempsey

Friday, January 21

1 Sm 24:3-21/Mk 3:13-19 † Carmel Wawra

Saturday, January 22

Weekday/Saint Vincent, Deacon & Martyr /Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children 2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27/Mk 3:20-21 (Morning Readings)

4 pm † Bernhard Drutschmann

Sunday, January 23

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10/1 Cor 12:12-30/Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21

8:30am † Barbara Luna Parish Mass 11am

Church of the Blessed Sacrament

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

January 16—January 23

Sun, Jan 16: 9:30-10:45 Coffee & Donuts

9:45-10:45 Faith Formation Classes

Mon, Jan 17: 6:30pm Movement & Christian Meditation

Tues, Jan 18: 9:30 CGS

Noon 55 Club Luncheon

Wed, Jan 19: Young at Heart after Mass Sun, Jan 23: 9:30-10:45 Coffee & Donuts

9:45-10:45 Faith Formation Classes

FINANCE

Gifts of Treasure

January 1/2, 2022

ΤΟΤΑΙ	ć	10 829 25
Building Maintenance:	\$	50.00
CFIC Children's Mission:	\$	100.00
Mary, Mother of God:	\$	120.00
Christmas:	\$	6,482.25
Sunday Envelopes & Plate		4,077.00

January 8/9, 2022

TOTAL	\$	6.143.01
Building Maintenance:	\$	45.00
CFIC Children's Mission:	\$	50.00
Other:	\$	264.00
Holy days:	\$	308.00
Sunday Envelopes & Plate		5,476.01

Divine Mercy Cenacle



"I will not allow myself to be so absorbed in the whirlwind of work as to forget about God. I will spend all my free moments at the feet of the Master hidden in the Blessed Sacrament." (#82)

Prayer cards are on the table to take. Look for a new message from St. Faustina's Diary weekly.



Friday, February 25 1:00-7:00pm

Signup on the Registration Form located in the Robertson Room, or call the parish office. Space is limited.

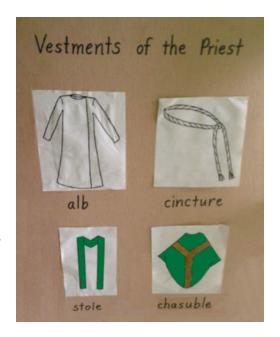
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

FAITH FORMATION: PEEK AT THE WEEK

WHAT DOES ORDINARY TIME MEAN?

The new liturgical season begins. A common misunderstanding is that Ordinary Time, means "not special, generic, or without distinction." Taken from its Latin Roots, Ordinary Time is a time of order, focusing on the life of Christ during his first three years of public ministry (just after being baptized).

The liturgical color for Ordinary Time is green. In our Catechesis of the **Good Shepherd** atria, we guide the children in seeing green as a color of growth. **Ordinary Time is** a season to grow in our knowledge and love of Jesus, especially as our Good Shepherd. Let us walk with Him always!



In our atria and

classrooms, students continue to work with materials that model the sacred vessels to learn and pray about Mass gestures. They also choose their own materials to work with such as Books of the Bible, the Sacrament of Baptism, and Infancy Narratives. The real teacher is Christ Himself and students are invited to follow the Good Shepherd to have JOY to the fullest!

WINTER CALENDAR

January 30—Parent/student meeting for First Holy Communion February 13 - Mass and sponsor meeting for Confirmation February 23—Parish Night of Service March 2—Ash Wednesday

Visit our website for further details. https://blessedsacramentsp.org/faith-formation

Parish Family Service Night is coming soon!



WANTED: FLEECE!

Colorful children's prints (1.5 yards)
Colorful teen prints (2 yards)
For our Parish Night of Service
Place in donation bin in Gathering Space
By February 7.

Thank you for being the hands and feet of Christ as we donate blankets to Project Linus for children in hospitals.



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