



*Founded in 1894 our parish is served by the Mercedarian Friars
Father Michael Rock, O. de M., pastor
Father Scottston Brentwood, O. de M., associate pastor*

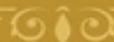


OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH

LANCASTER AVE & 63RD ST., PHILADELPHIA | 215.473.1669 | WWW.OURLADYLOURDES.ORG

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2021

5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



When it was evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were ill or possessed by demons. The whole town was gathered at the door. He cured many who were sick with various diseases, and he drove out many demons, not permitting them to speak because they knew him. - Mk 1:32-34

If I only knew then what I know now, how different life would be. This sentiment, expressed in myriad ways, is found on every human being's lips at one point or another. Life may have brought us to a vulnerable place where we see some of the poor choices we made and the effects they are having. Perhaps we fell into some destructive and dysfunctional relationships or behaviors and are finding how they held us captive. Our zeal and passion for life may have drifted away and we are waking up to the reasons apathy has taken hold. Life can be hard. In fact, some would describe their lives as a drudgery. They walk through each day with an anxious unsettledness, wondering when their restlessness will cease. There is a temptation to believe that what I see is all I will get. Mortality and hopelessness await the dawn. If I could only have known what would come in the future, I could have made better choices and avoided all of this misery!

Really? While we can certainly give into weakness, sin, impulsiveness, and idiosyncrasies that cause us to stumble over ourselves, life is really a journey. If we don't make the mistake of wallowing in the mire of self-pity and realize the new life God is calling us to,

then there are thrills, adventures, surprises, and soul-searching graces we can surely miss. We are not tethered to our past nor are we bound to the ills



life can bring upon us. We are never hopeless or helpless. The problem is that our myopic vision only allows us to see the misery and misfortune that is before us, not the potential that can come from choosing healthier and more life-giving options. Jesus came that we might have fullness of life. We need to learn how to reach for Jesus' hand and let him help us to our feet.

We need to allow God into our pain and heal our past. We have to wrestle with our histories, agonize and search and cry out for the Divine healing we need to restore our faith, hope, and love. Job could not see how his story would end or trust the guidance of the God who called him. We live in that same blindness and suffer from the same lack of confidence. Once we allow ourselves to be touched by God's healing power, we begin to see that all of the pieces of our lives are necessary parts of a greater whole. Along the way of our lives, God uses our omissions and failures to create new things and possibilities. When doors close, others open and we can be amazed by the joyful and unexpected surprises we receive. Once we know the power of God's creative, healing, life-giving, forgiving, and dynamic presence, it is no wonder we want to put ourselves at the service of others and show them what life can be.

Readings for the Week of February 7, 2021

- Sunday: Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/Mk 1:29-39
- Monday: Gn 1:1-19/Ps 104:1-2a, 5-6, 10 and 12, 24 and 35c/Mk 6:53-56
- Tuesday: Gn 1:20—2:4a/Ps 8:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mk 7:1-13
- Wednesday: Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17/Ps 104:1-2a, 27-28, 29bc-30/Mk 7:14-23
- Thursday: Gn 2:18-25/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5/Mk 7:24-30
- Friday: Gn 3:1-8/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7/Mk 7:31-37
- Saturday: Gn 3:9-24/Ps 90:2, 3-4abc, 5-6, 12-13/Mk 8:1-10
- Next Sunday: Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11/1 Cor 10:31—11:1/Mk 1:40-45



Sunday, February 7

- 8:00am Pro Populo
- 9:30am +Joyce Fries
- 11:30am Mary Finnegan
- 8:00pm Roselyn Burgos

Monday, February 8 *St. Jerome Emiliani*

- 8:30am Jenell Sifontis

Tuesday, February 9

- 8:30am +Jane Bradley

Wednesday, February 10 *St. Scholastica*

- 8:30am +Eximaine Jeanty

Thursday, February 11 *Our Lady of Lourdes*

- 8:30am +Deceased Members of Our Parish
- 6:30pm Solemn Vespers and Holy Hour

Friday, February 12

- 8:30am +Paulette Kersaint

Saturday, February 13

- 8:30am For Vocations
- 4:00pm +Robert J. Lyon

Sunday, February 14

- 8:00am Pro Populo
- 9:30am Barbara Janssen
- 11:30am +Guerino and Carmelo DiDiodoro
- 8:00pm Miraglia Family



*Some passages of Pope Francis's letter for
World Day of the Sick*

Dear brothers and sisters,
The celebration of the XXIX World Day of the Sick on 11 February 2021, the liturgical memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Lourdes, is an opportunity to devote special attention to the sick and to those who provide them with assistance and care both in healthcare institutions and within families and communities. We think in particular of those who have suffered, and continue to suffer, the effects of the worldwide coronavirus pandemic. To all, and especially



to the poor and the marginalized, I express my spiritual closeness and assure them of the Church's loving concern. Sickness always has more than one face: it has the face of all the sick, but also those who feel ignored, excluded and prey to social injustices that deny their fundamental rights (cf. *Fratelli Tutti*, 22). The current pandemic has exacerbated inequalities in our healthcare systems and exposed inefficiencies in the care of the sick. Elderly, weak and vulnerable people are not always granted access to care, or in an equitable manner. This is the result of political decisions, resource management and greater or lesser commitment on the part of those holding positions of responsibility. Investing resources in the care and assistance of the sick is a priority linked to the fundamental principle that health is a primary common good. Yet the pandemic has also highlighted the dedication and generosity of healthcare personnel, volunteers, support staff, priests, men and women religious, all of whom have helped, treated, comforted and served so many of the sick and their families with professionalism, self-giving, responsibility and love of neighbor. A silent multitude of men and women, they chose not to look the other way but to share the suffering of patients, whom they saw as neighbors and members of our one human family.

Dear brothers and sisters, the commandment of love that Jesus left to his disciples is also kept in our relationship with the sick. A society is all the more human to the degree that it cares effectively for its most frail and suffering members, in a spirit of fraternal love. Let us strive to achieve this goal, so that no one will feel alone, excluded or abandoned.

To Mary, Mother of Mercy and Health of the Infirm, I entrust the sick, healthcare workers and all those who generously assist our suffering brothers and sisters. From the Grotto of Lourdes and her many other shrines throughout the world, may she sustain our faith and hope, and help us care for one another with fraternal love. To each and all, I cordially impart my blessing.

Franciscus



Join us in celebrating our parish Patroness on Thursday, February 11th at

Solemn Sung Vespers of Our Lady of Lourdes, the celebration of Anoint of the Sick, and benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament, beginning at 6:30 p.m.



ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM

Please remember the souls of the faithfully departed.

REMEMBER OUR SICK

Dorothy Hardy, Kurt Mohammed, Patricia Nicholson, Colin Ramberan, Avery Lofton, Eugene Colombaro, Monica Ramberan, Margaret Davis, Kaela Davis, Yosan Gabriel, Daisy Gray, Jenell Sifontis, Cathy Norman, Sabrina Freeman, Leslie Wade, Esmond Family, Aileen Regan, Sarah and Michael Regan, Kelly Regan, Scott Stierbeim, Sr. Mary Charles, A.S.S.P., Mecca Taylor, Melissa Becker, Christian Laffy, Lisa Becker, Debbie Everett, Nigel Simon, Donald Graham, Jean Hargraves, Marvi Wade, Mary Frances Doran, Maureen Doran Hendrix, Melissa Potts, Cayla Wade, Theresa Gilliam, Suzanne Dupre, Indramattie Somwaru, John Bricker, Alina Simon, Carmelina Desiderio, Graham Family, Carol Howe, Samantha Johnson, Christopher Murrin, Holly, Damon, and Stephen Anthony, Charles Epps, Ramona Wade

++++++

The Sanctuary Lamp intention is:

For the Sick and Suffering

++++++

We offer to anyone who may wish to 'donate' for the following "Memorials":

For personal intentions;

For your beloved dead; and/or For the living

Sanctuary Lamp in the Church - \$15.00 per week



**Mass schedule for
Ash Wednesday**

7:00 and 8:30 am, 12 noon,
6:30 pm (*in Latin*) and 8:00 pm

DURING LENT

Daily Confessions –Monday through Friday
from 6:00 to 7:00 pm
Saturday and Sunday from 2:30 to 4:00 pm

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Friday in Lent at 6:30 pm

Is Ash Wednesday a holy day of obligation?

Despite the often packed churches, you may be surprised to hear that the answer is no! Holy days of obligation commemorate a particular event (*such as the birth of Christ at Christmas*) or celebrate particular people (*such as Mary's Immaculate Conception or the feast of All Saints*). Ash Wednesday is a day of penance, fasting, and abstinence to begin the season of Lent. In a sense, it focuses on a concept rather than something particular and concrete.

Of course, repentance ought to be reflected in particular, concrete ways! That's one of the reasons that attending Mass on Ash Wednesday is a very good idea. It marks the beginning of a solemn season of penance. Despite all its comparisons to the desert, Lent can be very fruitful for our spiritual growth! Beginning this season with the celebration of Mass and the reception of ashes is a sign of our commitment to God and to spiritual growth.



FOR ALL YOUR TAX AND BUSINESS NEEDS



We specialize in individual and business tax returns, payroll, accounting, bookkeeping and write-up services. Call us, we have the solution you are looking for!

Call parishioner Joseph Hare, CPA

Hare, Nichols & Company, LLC
610-566-7966
www.hare-nichols.com

Professional Income Tax Service, Inc.
610-566-1165
www.protaxinc.com

1 State Road, Media, PA 19063

Overhill Flowers

63RD & LANCASTER

*YOUR
NEIGHBORHOOD FLORIST
FOR OVER 40 YEARS*



Hugh McHugh and Family
215-473-1842
www.overhillflorist.com

DAVOLOS CLEANING

Home, Office & Commercial
Email: wecleanu@gmail.com
267-918-3008



Serving East Montco,
Philadelphia & South Jersey

Our Family Serving Your Family for Over 70 Years

STRETCH Funeral Service, Inc.

East Eagle at St. Denis Lane - Havertown, PA 19083



610-446-1075 Main Line
www.stretchfuneralhome.com

SPECIALIZING IN FULL SERVICE • CREMATION, PRE-PAID FUNERALS
John J. Stretch III, F.D. Supervisor • John J. Stretch, IV, F.D.
Timothy J. Stretch, F.D. • Edward Powers, F.D.

Ground Maintenance
Design/Construction
Tree Work Snow Removal

TRIVERS

Landscape Contractors
John Travers • Kieran Travers
(610) 446-5007

D'Anjolell Memorial Homes



610-356-4200
www.danjolell.com

AVAILABLE
FOR A LIMITED TIME

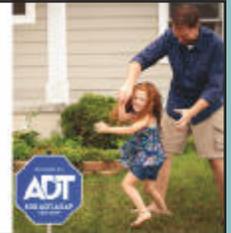
ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE

Contact **Kathleen Zechello** to place an
ad today! kzechello@4LPi.com or
(774) 245-9057

ADT-Monitored Home Security

Get 24-Hour Protection
From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Flood Detection
- Fire Safety
- Carbon Monoxide



SafeStreets

1-855-225-4251

Only One Mile From the Church



Avenue Smiles

Family & Cosmetic
Dentistry
215-877-0900

www.AvenueSmilesPhilly.com
7300 City Ave Suite 350, Philadelphia



SUPPORT THE ADVERTISERS THAT SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY

