



LOVE YOUR ENEMIES,  
THAT YOU MAY BE CHILDREN OF YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER,  
FOR HE MAKES THE SUN RISE ON THE BAD AND THE GOOD.

MATTHEW 5:44-45

## SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FEBRUARY 23, 2020

Today's readings reflect on our communal identity as disciples. Before we begin Lent together in a few days, we take time to appreciate what God has done by giving us our family of faith. In Leviticus, God tells Moses to "speak to the whole Israelite community" and give them instructions for living in love. Moses passes along the message—to each and every believer—that God's people must strive together for holiness. Saint Paul echoes this message, insisting

that we are indeed God's holy children. As temples of the Spirit, we belong to Christ and to one another. This mutual belonging is a blessing and a challenge. In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus sets a high bar for Christian community: his followers must love not only those who are easy to love, but also the people who upset us. Together, let us ask God to give us this kind of love.

SAINT PATRICK  
CHURCH  
14936 W. PEOTONE RD.  
MANHATTAN, ILLINOIS 60442



SEVENTH SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME  
FEBRUARY 23, 2020

FR. SEBASTIAN GARGOL PASTOR  
Email: [fr.sebastiangargol@gmail.com](mailto:fr.sebastiangargol@gmail.com)  
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### Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 22, 2020  
5:45 pm Parish Family of St. Patrick

Sunday, February 23, 2020  
9:00 am +Jerry Ulman req. by the Family

Monday, February 24, 2020  
9:00 am Intention of the Celebrant

Tuesday, February 25 – NO MASS

Wednesday, February 26, 2020 – ASH WEDNESDAY - Fast & Abstinence  
6:00 pm +John & Ann Shields

Thursday, February 27, 2020  
9:00 am +Katherine Stromski

Friday, February 28, 2020 - Fast  
9:00 am Adoration until 11am  
6:00 pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday, February 29, 2020  
5:45 pm +Loretta Tulley

Sunday, March 1, 2020  
9:00 am Parish Family of St. Patrick



### Altar Servers:

Wednesday, February 26 - 6:00pm  
Volunteers

Saturday, February 29 - 5:45 pm  
Madi & Ella Phelps

Sunday, March 1 - 9:00 am  
Ian & Lily Kreske

### Cantor / Lector (Reader) :

Wednesday, February 26 - 6:00pm  
Linda Cakora / Jim Kreske

Saturday, February 29 - 5:45 pm  
Linda Cakora / Jim Kreske

Sunday, March 1 - 9:00 am  
Angie Kreske / Josh Kreske

### Extraordinary Minister:

Wednesday, February 26 - 6:00pm  
Steve Hoehn

Saturday, February 29 - 5:45 pm  
Jim Kreske

Sunday, March 1 - 9:00 am  
Steve Hoehn

### Usher:

Wednesday, February 26 - 6:00 pm  
Steve Hoehn / Volunteer

Saturday, February 29 - 5:45 pm  
Mark Tillotson / Brad Phelps

Sunday, March 1 - 9:00 am  
Bruce Boyle / Jim Ciesla

Music: Cathy Engler

Collection Counters for 3/01/2020: Bell, Mooi, Musson

## STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

For the new fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019, the weekly Sunday collection goal is \$2,090.37  
**Sunday, February 16.....\$1,396.00**

**Thank you for your support of our Parish**

Anyone wanting their 2019 donation statement is asked to contact the office or put a note, along with your name and address, in with your regular Sunday collection. Your statement will be mailed to you.

If you are unable to come to church because of illness, rehab, or living at a health care center please let the office know. A priest or home bound minister can come to your home. If there is an emergency and you need a priest, Fr. Sebastian can be reached at : 1(815) 478-3440 ex. 102.

Our collection on Ash Wednesday will be for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. Thank you for your generosity.



## Be Kind and Merciful through the 2020 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal

This is Commitment Weekend for the 2020 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA). Please prayerfully reflect on how you can best support our annual appeal and help our

parish reach its goal of \$10,200.

This year's CMAA theme is *Be Kind and Merciful*. In this spirit, the 30 ministries our CMAA supports help us do God's work here on earth. Providing these ministries is not only beyond the means of any one parish, the ministries benefit all of us, including our most vulnerable brothers and sisters.

Seventy percent of the amount we raise over our goal will be returned to our parish, for our needs. Please make a commitment to the CMAA today by completing a pledge envelope available in the pews. Our parish is counting on you for your support. Thank you for making the most generous pledge possible to this year's CMAA.

Mass intentions can be requested through the office, or dropped in any weekend collection, please mark in a separate envelope. Think about having a Mass for a loved one. Weekday and weekend Masses are available. We are also accepting requests for our 2-week Sacred Heart Candle.



Saint Patrick's Church volunteered Saturday, January 25th at the Northern Illinois Food Bank's South Suburban Center. Along with others, we labeled and bagged rice and boxed cans for distribution to those in need. Please consider joining us next time on Saturday, February 29th from 9:00 – 11:30. Signup sheet is in the vestibule. The consent form only needs to be filled out once.



**BRING IN YOUR OLD PALMS**

**BY FEBRUARY 22**

***ASH WEDNESDAY IS***

***FEBRUARY 26***

*We are collecting old palms that will be  
burned and used on Ash Wednesday.*

*There is a container in the Vestibule  
for your old palms.*

Applications the Joliet Diocesan Council of Catholic Women Bishop Blanchette Scholarship are now available to those students planning on attending a Joliet Diocesan Catholic High School for the 2020-2021 school year. Contact the parish office to obtain a BBSF Application form. Forms should be submitted back to the parish office by March 31. FACTS must be applied for online at <https://online.factsmgmt.com>. Request to be added to the Joliet Diocesan Council of Catholic Women-BBS FACTS ID#32463. If the family has already submitted a FACTS application for the upcoming year for another award, they are still eligible for the JDCCW-BBSF scholarship. Only one application need be submitted to FACTS at their online site. If you have any questions regarding FACTS call: 1-866-441-4637. DO NOT SEND FACTS to the JDCCW office. There is a \$35/pp fee for the FACTS application that needs to be submitted to FACTS at the time of application, along with a copy of the family's 2019 Income Tax report..



St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church in Peotone  
Invites you to the Council of Catholic Women's

**49th Annual SHROVE TUESDAY BEEF DINNER**  
**Tuesday, February 25, 2020**  
**At the Will County Fairgrounds Atrium**

**Serving Times:**  
5pm and 6pm  
**Ticket Prices:**  
\$12 for Adults,  
\$6 for Children 6-12  
Children 5 & under Free!  
Carryout's \$12

**Juicy Roast Beef and Gravy,**  
**Mashed Potatoes,**  
**Hot Vegetables,**  
**Cole Slaw, Jell-O**  
**Rolls & Butter**  
**Beverages and**  
**Delicious Homemade Desserts!**

Tickets are available at First Community Bank & Trust (Peotone & Beecher)  
First Midwest Bank (Peotone), Berkot's Super Food (Peotone),  
Professional Hair Design (Peotone) and St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church.  
Questions: Please call 708-258-6917



IRISH MASS WILL BE CELEBRATED  
SATURDAY, MARCH 7 AT 9:00AM  
ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH  
MANHATTAN  
FR. KARL LANGSDORF CELEBRANT  
TEA AND SCONES WILL BE SERVED AFTER MASS



**CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE**

This week, our special collection supports the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. Your donation on Ash Wednesday helps restore the Church and build the future in more than 20 countries still struggling to recover from Communist rule. Funds from this collection support reconstruction, education, formation, and poverty outreach. Please be generous to the collection today. For more information, please visit [www.usccb.org/ccee](http://www.usccb.org/ccee).

## ASH WEDNESDAY

Prayer, fasting, and almsgiving: these disciplines, prescribed by Jesus himself in the Sermon on the Mount, along with strict instructions not to flaunt them in public to win recognition and praise (Matthew 6:1-18), have been embraced by all the saints at the beginning of every Lent for almost two thousand years. But mention Lent, and many react with a grimace or slight shudder – even now, years after official obligations have been reduced to a minimum! No wonder the Eastern Rite’s “Lenten Announcement” sounds surprising: “Let us receive with joy, O faithful people, the divinely inspired announcement of Lent! The Lenten Spring shines forth! Begin the fast with joy! Let us fast from passions as well as food, taking pleasure in the good works of the Spirit, and accomplishing them in love!” Saint John Chrysostom, whose feast is September 13, elaborates: “Do you fast? Give proof by your works. If you see a poor person, take pity. An enemy, be reconciled. A friend gaining honor, don’t be jealous.” A positive approach! May the saints help us keep such a Lent! –Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

### LENT BEGINS ON ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2020 MASS WITH DISTRIBUTION OF ASHES WILL BE CELEBRATED AT 6:00PM

#### Lenten Regulations

1. Everyone 14 years of age or over is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays of Lent.
2. All from the age of 18 years up to the beginning of their 60th year are bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
3. On these two days of fast and abstinence, only one full meatless meal is allowed. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one’s needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted on these two days, but liquids, including milk and fruit juices are allowed. When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige.
4. To disregard completely the law of fast and abstinence is sinful.
5. Lent is the principal season of penance in the Church year. Therefore, all the faithful are strongly urged to develop and follow a program of voluntary self-denial. All Catholics are encouraged to support generously the charitable works of the whole Church, pray and perform works of charity and mercy.
6. Those who are sick, pregnant, or nursing, or whose health would adversely be affected by fasting or abstinence, should not consider themselves bound by these norms.



## PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Marge Flint; Nancee Long, Shay Phelan, Lisa Bernhard, Cecelia Mundt; Fr. Jim Lennon; Gary Ulman; Jessica Lagan; EJ Lagan; Nicole Flint; Brett Burkhalter ; Cathy Engler; Grace Niemiec; Fr. Joe Follmar; Russ McClellon; Bob O'Neil; Bob Johnson

PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE PUT ON THE PRAYER LIST.

## Intention of the Holy Father MONTH OF FEBRUARY

- We pray that the cries of our migrant brothers and sisters, victims of criminal trafficking, may be heard and considered.

Our parish offers Online Giving, a web based electronic contribution application. We are providing this service so that you have the option to manage our contributions online or with your offering envelopes. This service is safe and secure. It is convenient for you and for our parish staff. Sign up for Online Giving by visiting our parish website at: [www.stpatrickwiltoncenter.org](http://www.stpatrickwiltoncenter.org) and selecting one Online Giving link.

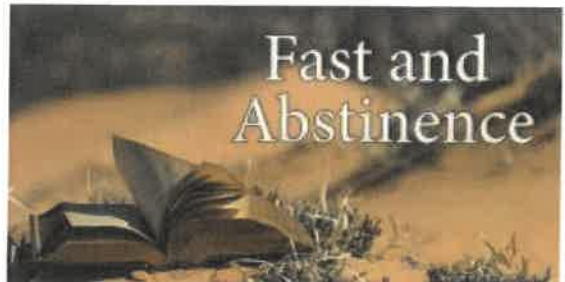
## READINGS FOR THE WEEK FEBRUARY 23, 2020

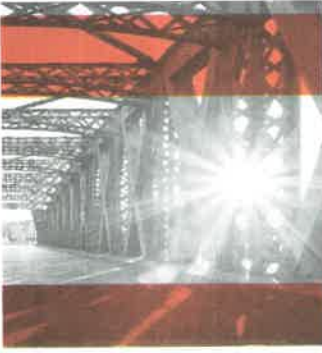


- Monday: Jas 3:13-18; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mk 9:14-29
- Tuesday: Jas 4:1-10; Ps 55:7-11a, 23; Mk 9:30-37
- Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-6ab, 12-14, 17; 2 Cor 5:20 – 6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
- Thursday: Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 9:22-25
- Friday: Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-6ab, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15
- Saturday: Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-6; Lk 5:27-32
- Sunday: Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7; Ps 51:3-6, 12-13, 17; Rom 5:12-19 [12, 17-19]; Mt 4:1-11

## SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCE

- Sunday: Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Wednesday: Ash Wednesday; Fast and Abstinence





## I AM THE LORD

Today's first reading concludes in classic Levitical style: "I am the LORD." Over and over again, the book of Leviticus punctuates its paragraphs with that simple statement: "I am the LORD." Relentlessly repeating that phrase, the word of God reminds us that God is the LORD—and we are not. We did not construct the world; we did not create ourselves. Remembering our status as mere creatures comes as a shock to us at times, especially when we flex and pose as masters of our own tiny universes. On the other hand, knowing we are "merely" God's beloved children can free us. When we accept that God is the source and summit of all wisdom, we approach life with a growing stillness, an openness to God's powerful action in the world.

## HOLY AND PERFECT

Our openness to God's powerful action helps us understand Jesus' words in today's Gospel, when he demands that we become "perfect." Most of us shudder at the thought of having to be perfect. The idea of achieving perfection seems impossible, frankly. But, just before despair sets in, we recall that we are merely creatures. If God wants us to be "holy" and "perfect," as today's readings emphasize, then God will provide all we need to chip away at our imperfections. If we nurse a hateful grudge against someone and cannot imagine being free of the resentment, God can help. If we harm our own bodies through bad habits, the holy Spirit can strengthen our resolve and transform our daily behavior. If we long for advantage over others, if we are disgusted by the thought of loving "unworthy" people, if we overwhelmingly prefer comfort and stability over the wildness of lavish generosity—Jesus Christ, King of glory, can convert our timid hearts. These transformations take time, patience, and prayer. Sitting quietly to reflect over today's readings is an excellent kind of prayer, and an inspiring way to begin.

Today's Readings: Lv 19:1–2, 17–18; Ps 103:1–2, 3–4, 8, 10, 12–13; 1 Cor 3:16–23; Mt 5:38–48

2/23/2020