



The people were astonished at Jesus' teaching,
for he taught them as one having authority.

MARK 1:22

FOURTH *Sunday*
in **ORDINARY TIME**

January 31, 2021

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Photo: "Statue of Medical Progress, Pomona General Hospital, Modesto, CA"

Who speaks for God? How can we determine which are authentic, authoritative expressions of God's intentions, and which are false? Today's readings explore the question of authority in distinct ways. In Deuteronomy, Moses prepares the people of Israel for his coming death, indicating that God will raise up a new prophet to guide them. Mark describes Jesus as God's authentic voice, by the authority of his teaching and the authority he commands over an

unclean spirit. In both, authority comes directly from God. Authority comes from an intimate relationship with God and with God's people. God's spokesperson is one who teaches, protects, and heals the people loved by God. As always, there is great need today for leaders in our communities who radically trust God to work through them. Let us pray that each person who performs in a role of leadership may speak for God with an authentic voice.

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



**4th SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME
JANUARY 31, 2021**

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SIGN UP FOR ALL CHUCH SERVICES AT:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904054FAEAE2FA3F58-stpatricks>

Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 30, 2021 – 5:45pm

Parish Family of St. Patrick

Sunday, January 31, 2021 – 9:00 am

+Frances & + Mary Ann Quigley, & +Margie Pyle req. by Frank Quigley

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday – NO MASS

Thursday, February 4, 2021 – 9:00am

+Joseph Dreyer

Friday, February 5, 2021 - 9:00 am - Adoration

Saturday, February 6, 2021 – 5:45pm

Parish Family of S. Patrick

Sunday, February 7, 2021 – 9:00 am

+Ed Crossin req. by Grace & Steve Niemiec

DATE	USHER/GREETER	LECTOR
SATURDAY, February 6 - 5:45pm	Roberta Stauffenberg & Ed Horath	Jim Kreske
SUNDAY, February 7 - 9:00am	Dan & Cathy Gesell	Sarah Hoehn

COUNTERS FOR FEBRUARY 7, 2021 – Mooi



**Our Two Week Candle is
burning for
Frances & Mary Ann Quigley
and Margie Pyle
Requested by
Frank Quigley**

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

For the new fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019, the weekly Sunday collection goal is
\$2,090.37

Sunday, January 10, 2021.....\$1,242.00

Thank you for your support of our Parish
St. Patrick Parish depends on offertory donations for on-going expenses. Please visit our parish website to set up online giving, if you have not already done so. Our parish website can be found at: www.stpatrickwiltoncenter.org – Online Giving is simple, convenient, and secure. Thank you



PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR
FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT FOR 2020

Shining the Light of Christ
through the 2021 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal

It is time for the 2021 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA). Your gift is especially important this year, during the pandemic, as our diocese continues to explore new and innovative ways to serve those in need.

The 2021 theme is *Shining the Light of Christ*. The 30 ministries the CMAA supports allow parishes to join together to shine Christ's light to the benefit of many, from the poor and vulnerable to seminarians and schoolchildren. No parish could provide all of these ministries on its own.

Our parish's goal for the 2021 CMAA is \$9,600.00, and 70 percent of any amount we raise over our goal will be returned to us. This is a great opportunity for our parish! Please review the materials you receive in the mail from the Diocese of Joliet and prayerfully reflect on your gift to this year's annual appeal. If you do not receive a CMAA mailing, please contact the parish office.



BRING IN YOUR OLD PALMS

By FEBRUARY 14

ASH WEDNESDAY IS FEBRUARY 17

We will be collecting old palms that will be burned and used on Ash Wednesday. There is a container in the Narthex for your old palms.

FALSE PROPHETS, TRUE PROPHETS

In Deuteronomy today we hear that God's very words will fill the mouth of a true prophet, but a false prophet will, in a manner of speaking, put mere mortal words into God's mouth. In Mark's Gospel, we see Jesus teaching and healing as a true prophet, one filled with the authority of God's own voice, the Holy One of God.

The whole history of our church is filled with both true and false prophets. But in today's Gospel we learn that Jesus' fame spread because he taught with authority; he wasn't an authority because he was popular or famous. We also learn from him, in his desert temptation confrontations with Satan, that anyone can quote scripture, even against God's purposes. And today we hear that his authority was not like that of the scribes, who held the official positions of religious authority in his day. Our work is to do our best to discern the true prophets in our midst, and to be true prophets as well. The psalmist tells us how to do this: by not hardening our hearts when God speaks. If we truly listen to God, it will be God's very words filling our mouths.

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**JOLIET DIOCESE COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN
BISHOP BLANCHETTE SCHOLARSHIP**

Students in grades 8-11 wishing to attend a catholic high school may apply for this scholarship. Students must have a significant financial need, and must actively attend a Catholic parish. Application forms are available in the parish office. FACTS application must be completed on-line and ask to be added to the Joliet Diocesan Council of Catholic Women-BBS. Submit application to St. Patrick Council of Catholic Women by April 1.



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Marge Flint; Nancee Long, Shay Phelan, Lisa Bernhard, Cecelia Mundt; Fr. Jim Lennon; Noreen McAndrew; Jan Sharp

Beginning the New Year will start a new prayer list. Please call the office to be included on the new list. Thank You.

Intention of the Holy Father MONTH FEBRUARY

- We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.

If you or a loved one would like to be put on the prayer list because of illness, rehab, or living at a health care center please let the office know. If there is an emergency and you need a priest, Fr. Sebastian will be available and can be reached at : 1(815) 478-3440 ex. 102 or 815-476-7491 and then press 1.



Please remember in your prayers CRAIG CIEPLY who entered eternal life. Remember also his family as we commend his soul to the Lord. It is holy and wholesome to pray for the dead.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

January 31, 2021



- Monday: Heb 11:32-40; Ps 31:20-24; Mk 5:1-20
- Tuesday: Mal 3:1-4; Ps 24:7-10; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40 [22-32]
- Wednesday: Heb 12:4-7, 11-15; Ps 103:1-2, 13-14, 17-18a; Mk 6:1-6
- Thursday: Heb 12:18-19, 21-24; Ps 48:2-4, 9-11; Mk 6:7-13
- Friday: Heb 13:1-8; Ps 27:1, 3, 5, 8b-9; Mk 6:14-29
- Saturday: Heb 13:15-17, 20-21; Ps 23:1-6; Mk 6:30-34
- Sunday: Jb 7:1-4, 6-7; Ps 147:1-6; 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23; Mk 1:29-39

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCE

- Sunday: Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time; Catholic Schools Week
- Tuesday: The Presentation of the Lord; Blessing of Candles; Groundhog Day
- Wednesday: St. Blaise; St. Ansgar; Blessing of Throats;
- Friday: St. Agatha; First Friday
- Saturday: St. Paul Miki and companions; First Saturday

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Come, let us bow down in worship;
let us kneel before the LORD
who made us.
— Psalm 95:6



RESCUE FROM BONDAGE

Uniquely in the Gospel of Mark, Jesus' public ministry begins with a direct confrontation with an unclean spirit. Today's Gospel passage reflects a recurring theme in Mark, that Jesus' coming is part of a cosmic battle between God and evil forces. It was commonly believed that many spirits were present in the world, and some sought to control human beings. Mark asserts that in Jesus, God has come to rescue humanity, to free us from every form of bondage.

In today's passage, the unclean spirit does not surrender power quietly. After complaints, convulsions, and screams, the spirit finally departs. As we may witness in our own experience, that which binds us—fear, injustice, resentment—often departs only after a mighty struggle. Confronting anything “unclean” in our hearts, our institutions, or our society often involves a long journey toward freedom. May we sustain our efforts and our trust in God, during these long struggles.

PROPHETS IN DAILY LIFE

Moses assures Israel of God's continued presence by promising a new prophet. Like Moses, the prophet will be raised up directly by God. But how to distinguish a true prophet from a false one? Many claim to speak for God. The task is complicated by the fact that often, true prophets make waves, cause trouble, and disturb how things are normally done. Many simply don't want to hear what God is saying, because it threatens their privilege, comfort, or sense of identity.

Like the Israelites in today's reading, it can be hard for us to bear the voice of God. For God calls us out of all the ways we avoid opening our hearts to God and to others. And so, God raises up surprise prophets in daily life. These are all the people and events who summon us to fuller maturity in love and in faith. We are called upon to always be ready for the prophetic word that may emerge from God's surprises.

Today's Readings: Dt 18:15–20; Ps 95:1–2, 6–7b, 7c–9; 1 Cor 7:32–35; Mk 1:21–28

1/31/2021