

# Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time February 4, 2024



Live the Liturgy - Inspiration for the Week  
Jesus went from town to town, synagogue to synagogue, following the need. He follows it still, to this very day. Your life is the town he is visiting, your heart the synagogue where he preaches. Remember that for this purpose he has come. ©LPI

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*The Staff is unavailable during weekly meetings at 10:30 a.m. on Mondays and 11:00 a.m. on Thursdays.*

## Liturgy Schedule

Saturday                      5:00 pm  
Sunday                        8:30 & 11:00 am, 5:00 pm  
Monday-Thursday        5:00 pm  
**Sacrament of Reconciliation**  
Wed & Saturday            4:00 pm



## Feb 3 - February 11

### Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

|       |          |                            |
|-------|----------|----------------------------|
| Sat   | 5:00 pm  | Parishioners of St. Paul's |
| Sun   | 8:30 am  | no intention               |
|       | 11:00 am | Monica Morin               |
|       | 5:00 pm  | no intention               |
| Mon   | 5:00 pm  | no intention               |
| Tues  | 5:00 pm  | Mary Stack                 |
| Wed   | 5:00 pm  | no intention               |
| Thurs | 5:00 pm  | no intention               |

### Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

|     |          |                            |
|-----|----------|----------------------------|
| Sat | 5:00 pm  | Beverly Jean Candelaria    |
| Sun | 8:30 am  | Parishioners of St. Paul's |
|     | 11:00 am | Carlos Mellizo             |

**No Sunday 5pm on February 11**

**THANK YOU**  
for your generosity

## Sunday Gift Offering

**January 28 donations: \$5,151.46.** 10% tithe for charitable outreach: **\$515.15.**

*"Whatever you did for one of these brothers and sisters, you did for me." -Matthew 25:40*

## Super Bowl Sunday

Due to a major sporting event being aired at 4:30 pm on February 11, there will be no 5:00 pm Mass on Super Bowl Sunday. Plan to attend one of the other liturgies next weekend.

## 2024 Lenten Project

This year's Lenten Project will support the **Andre House** in Phoenix, AZ. A number of our students recently spent a week providing service to those experiencing poverty and homelessness.

*More information forthcoming.*

## Upcoming Events

**No 5:00 pm Sunday Liturgy on February 11**

**Ash Wednesday, February 14**  
Liturgies at 7:00 am & 5:15 pm  
Ecumenical Worship at 12:10 pm  
at St. Paul's Newman Center

**Stations of the Cross and Simple Meal**  
Fridays during Lent at 5:30 pm  
February 16, 23 and March 1 at St. Paul's  
March 8, 15 & 22 at St. Laurence

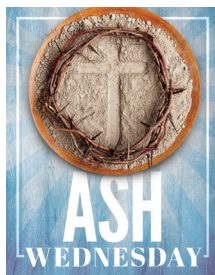
**Resident SEARCH**  
Friday - Sunday, February 23 - 25

**First Communion Preparation**  
Tuesdays at 5:30 pm  
February 27, March 5 & 19

**Ash Wednesday is February 14.**

**This year, all liturgies will be held at the Newman Center**

Liturgies: 7:00 am & 5:15 pm  
Ecumenical Service: 12:10 pm  
including distribution of ashes.  
(Liturgies at St. Laurence:  
8:00 am & 5:30 pm)



### First Communion Preparation



Children who have completed and celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation are ready to prepare for their next sacrament of initiation, **First Communion**. Preparation dates and times are Tuesdays from 5:30 - 6:30 pm on February 27, March 5 and 19. Those who have not completed formation for reconciliation...not to worry! Contact lillie@newmancenter.org to make that happen.

### Slow Motion Mass

**Saturday, March 2 & Sunday March 3**

At the 5:00 pm Saturday and Sunday Liturgies, you will have an opportunity to pause liturgy to ask questions about the Catholic Mass.

### Rite of Acceptance and Welcome

This Sunday, at the 11:00 am Liturgy, 11 individuals, participating in the Order of Catholic Initiation for Adults, will express their desire to share fully in the life of the Catholic Church. This is a beautiful rite when candidates are signed with the cross on the forehead, as well as all the senses, and hands and feet. Please pray for these individuals as they continue their journey toward full communion in the Catholic Church.

### Resident SEARCH 2024

**Friday - Sunday, February 23 - 25**

Regardless of where you are on your faith journey, SEARCH offers you more. Applications are available in the entryway or scan the QR code to fill out an on line application which is due February 9. If you have any questions, please reach out to one of the directors Zach Parsons, Aimee Gray, or Nick Staiano.



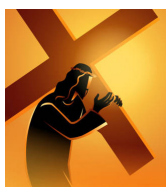
### Ash Wednesday Special Collection

Bishop Steven Biegler requested that a special collection on Ash Wednesday be offered to **Catholic Charities of Wyoming**, a non-profit organization in the Diocese of Cheyenne that "fosters community action" by calling upon all to join in serving and advocating for persons in need.

CCWyo has identified four areas of work:

- Immigration Services
- Affordable Housing & Advocacy
- Elderly Care and Senior Ministries
- Native American Solidarity

Checks should be made payable to the Newman Center.



### Stations of the Cross & Simple Meal

On Fridays during Lent, plan on praying Stations of the Cross beginning at 5:30 pm following by a simple meal. The Newman Center will host that event here the first three Fridays on February 16, 23 and March 1. St. Laurence will host March 18, 15, and 22.



# Bringing Home the Word

*Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)*  
February 4, 2024

## Grin and Bear It

*Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA*

This harsh bit of advice is more military than religious. However, it does carry some truth. There are times when there is no way to avoid hardship, so all we can do is find some way of dealing with it. This is the situation in today's reading from Job. He experiences life as burdensome. To make matters worse, life is too short to be able to get beyond the difficulty. So what does he do? What might most of us do in similar situations? Complain.

There is really nothing wrong with complaining. The problem is to whom and for how long. A large number of the psalms are complaints or, to use the

theological term, laments. To complain to God can be a profound prayer, for it admits our human inability to fix everything. And, it presumes that God can and just might fix the problem. The psalm response continues this train of thought with a prayer of confidence that God will fix it. The Gospel reading then provides examples of how Jesus did just that.

These are not merely stories of past events. Rather, they trace a profound yet difficult-to-accept religious belief: when we are overwhelmed by hardship, we should turn to God and place our need in God's care, believing that God wants what is best for us. Perhaps the rest is out of our hands, but we must believe that we are in God's hands and, therefore, safe. †

## Sunday Readings

### **Job 7:1-4, 6-7**

Is not life on earth a drudgery, / its days like those of a hireling?

### **1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23**

If I preach the gospel, this is no reason for me to boast, for an obligation has been imposed on me.

### **Mark 1:29-39**

[Jesus] told them, "Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come."



***To complain to God  
can be a profound prayer,  
for it admits our human  
inability to fix everything.***

## A Word from Pope Francis

I turn a grateful thought to all those who, in their life and work, are close to the sick every day....And I pray in a special way for all the sick, in every corner of the world, especially for those who are most alone and have no access to healthcare services.

VIDEO MESSAGE, WORLD DAY  
OF THE SICK, FEBRUARY 11, 2022



REFLECTION  
QUESTIONS  
**QUESTIONS**  
REFLECTION

- Has hardship ever tested your faith?
- How has your faith helped you in difficult times?

# Keeping the Sabbath

Paige Byrne Shortal

Let's consider the Sabbath. People identify themselves by the time they keep. The Jewish people observe their Sabbath on Saturday. In the early church, Jewish Christians distinguished themselves from other Jews by observing Sunday as their Sabbath. The Muslim Sabbath is Friday.

Voltaire, a French rationalist philosopher, wrote: "If you wish to destroy the Christian religion, you must first destroy the Christian Sunday." In his book *Waiting for the Weekend*, Witold Rybczynski describes several attempts to destroy the Sabbath. During the French Revolution, they dispensed with *Anno Domini* (AD, the year of the Lord) and instead, pronounced 1792 (the year of the revolution) as "Year One." A ten-day week was instituted with the tenth day as a holiday. But the revolutionaries underestimated the influence of Christian practice, and the Sabbath was celebrated



in secret until the experiment was deemed a failure.

Joseph Stalin, during the days after the Russian Revolution, attempted a similar attack on Sunday. There would be no more universal rest day. Workers labored four days, on staggered shifts, and had every fifth day off. Even though this gave people twenty more days off a year, it

was unpopular. Everyone worked on a different schedule and family members were never at home on the same day. (Sound familiar?)

In our society, we are also experiencing an attack on the Sabbath. Many activities, formerly reserved for weekdays, now occur on Sundays. The days of the week are less and less distinguishable from one another, especially for those in factory or retail work. Our teenagers are especially vulnerable to Sunday work. We've found that simply informing our son's fast-food employer that he is not available to work on Sundays has not only gained respect for him, but for our church as well.

Observing one day of rest a week protects human beings. Nothing is more restorative as a long, slow Sunday afternoon and evening with no projects, no shopping, no games to attend, no meetings, and maybe no television or internet. Just time together around good food, home chores, and rest. †

Source: A Liguori Publications bulletin, June 27, 2004

## Wisdom from Catholic UPDATE

Excerpt from *Jesus' "Mighty Deeds" of Healing in Mark's Gospel* by John R. Barker, OFM

Today we understand the natural world to operate according to impersonal forces or "laws of nature." When someone experiences healing that cannot be explained according to our understanding of these laws, we call it a miracle—as God interfering with the laws of nature. This is not the way people in Jesus' time understood the extraordinary. They believed God's will and purpose supported and guaranteed the world's normal functioning. God's power was always at work, keeping things moving according to divine wisdom. The extraordinary such as a sudden or unexpected healing was considered an eruption of God's power rather than an interruption of the laws of nature. †

## PRAYER

*Merciful God, encourage those who are facing a long illness, strengthen those who care for the sick, and comfort those who must witness a loved one's suffering. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.*

The Redemptorists

## WEEKDAY READINGS

February 5–10

**Monday, St. Agatha:**

1 Kgs 8:1–7, 9–13 / Mk 6:53–56

**Tuesday, St. Paul Miki and Companions:**

1 Kgs 8:22–23, 27–30 / Mk 7:1–13

**Wednesday, Weekday:**

1 Kgs 10:1–10 / Mk 7:14–23

**Thursday, Weekday:**


1 Kgs 11:4–13 / Mk 7:24–30

**Friday, Weekday:**

1 Kgs 11:29–32; 12:19 / Mk 7:31–37

**Saturday, St. Scholastica:**

1 Kgs 12:26–32; 13:33–34 / Mk 8:1–10

Bringing Home  
the Word 

February 4, 2024

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