

# Dear Padre,

**Are the readings at the beginning of Mass equal to the celebration of the Eucharist?**

The Mass is celebrated in two major parts: the **Liturgy of the Word** and the **Liturgy of the Eucharist**. These parts complement each other in a balance of word and sacrament. In his 2004 apostolic letter *Mane Nobiscum Domine* (Stay With Us Lord), Pope St. John Paul II described these complementary elements. Using the story of the two disciples on the road to Emmaus on the night of Easter Sunday, the Pope likened the two parts of the revised liturgy to these disciples' journey. First, Christ breaks open the word for them, preparing their hearts with an interpretation of the Scriptures. Then, they recognize Christ as they break bread.

The Liturgy of the Word, proclaimed and preached well, allows time for silence and reflection on the wisdom offered. It becomes the necessary overture for the celebration of thanks and praise and the gift of the sign and sacrament to follow. Parishes are called to take the Liturgy of the Word most seriously and to bring it to a new level of proclamation. Pope St. John Paul II admonished all involved, but especially preachers, to cherish the word and preach it so the depths of the mysteries celebrated may be recognized and received into the burning hearts of Christians. In this context, the Scripture readings are given a prominence they didn't have in the older Roman rite. ●

From *The Eucharist: 50 Questions from the Pews* by Fr. Richard Fragomeni, PhD (816994), © 2009 Liguori Publications



## A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

*In a divided and troubled world, the Holy Spirit teaches us to walk together in unity. The earth will rest, justice will prevail, the poor will rejoice, and peace will return once we no longer act as predators but as pilgrims. No longer each of us for ourselves but walking alongside one another. Not greedily exploiting this world but cultivating it and protecting it.*

HOMILY, ROME, JUNE 7, 2025



## Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

### Monday

February 9  
Weekday  
1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13  
Mk 6:53-56

### Tuesday

February 10  
St. Scholastica, Virgin  
1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30  
Mk 7:1-13

### Wednesday

February 11  
Weekday  
1 Kgs 10:1-10  
Mk 7:14-23

### Thursday

February 12  
Weekday  
1 Kgs 11:4-13  
Mk 7:24-30

### Friday

February 13  
Weekday  
1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19  
Mk 7:31-37

### Saturday

February 14  
Sts. Cyril, Monk, and Methodius, Bishop  
1 Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34  
Mk 8:1-10

### Sunday

February 15  
Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Sir 15:15-20  
1 Cor 2:6-10  
Mt 5:17-37  
or 5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37

## St. Agnes • St. Boniface • St. John the Evangelist

Rev. Michael Pampara Pastor email: [pamparasdb@gmail.com](mailto:pamparasdb@gmail.com)

Father Michael Cell 308-660-5730

P O Box 309, Stapleton, NE 69163, email: [abj Catholics@gmail.com](mailto:abj Catholics@gmail.com)

Parish Office 308-636-2421; Secretary, Kristie Walz Cell 308-636-8399

Website: [www.abj Catholic.org](http://www.abj Catholic.org) - Facebook Page: St Agnes, St Boniface & St John the Evangelist

## That Our Wounds Might Be Quickly Healed

ANN M. GARRIDO

**S**ome years ago, I took a crash course in chaplaincy. Chaplains are often called on to accompany people through life's gloomier seasons—be it in a hospital, in a nursing home, in prison, or following a disaster. As you might imagine, our training involved sessions on how to best alleviate the isolation and despair many people experience in these places and situations. Pray with people? Invite them outside into nature? Make sure physical discomfort is mitigated? All of these are good practices, my chaplain supervisor emphasized, but research indicates that the quickest way to lift the heaviness many feel is to get them involved in alleviating the suffering of others.

I suspect neither Isaiah nor Jesus would have been surprised by this research. In today's first reading, Isaiah says that if we feed the hungry and give shelter to the homeless, if we clothe the naked and care for our family members in need, we will know what it means to have light in the midst of darkness, and our gloom will melt away as if under the noonday sun. Similarly, Jesus describes our good deeds as being like light, meant to be shared generously with others.

In recent years, we have seen an uptick in depression and anxiety, even among the young. We can be tempted to focus more inwardly on our own lives, our own griefs and shortcomings. Self-awareness is certainly a good trait to have! But, perhaps counterintuitively, today's readings remind us that our "wounds shall quickly be healed" more readily when we focus on the needs of others. ●

### Reflect

*Why does helping another lift our own spirits?*



LEARN ABOUT THE AUTHORS OF OUR PARISH COMMUNITY



"Your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your wound shall quickly be healed."  
ISAIAH 58:8

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) February 8, 2026

Following upon the teaching of the [Beatitudes](#), Jesus uses the now familiar metaphors of salt and light to describe the life of discipleship. We take salt and light for granted in our society, but these commodities were more precious in ancient cultures. Just as now, salt was used in Jesus' time for flavoring, as a preservative, and as a healing agent. Similarly, the widespread use of electricity in the modern world makes us less aware of the value and importance of light in our lives.

Still, our familiarity with this passage from Matthew's Gospel speaks well to the abiding power of the imagery that Jesus presented. Jesus' call to be salt for the earth and light for the world powerfully states our mission as Church and as Christians. Our commitment to social justice flows from the exhortation that Jesus gives us in today's Gospel. Some of the activities that this commitment leads us to are given more concrete expression as the Corporal and Spiritual [Works of Mercy](#). When we feed the hungry, clothe the naked, console those who mourn, and so on, we show ourselves to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. When we do these things with the community of faith, the Church, we are indeed acting as "a city set on a mountain" that cannot be hidden!

**Mass Schedule & Intentions**  
For the week of Feb 8, 2025

<b>Mon.</b>	<b>Feb.</b>	<b>09</b>		<b>No Mass</b>
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>Feb.</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7:00 AM SJ</b>	<b>No Mass</b>
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>Feb.</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>5:30 PM SA</b>	<b>No Mass</b>
<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>Feb.</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5:30 PM SB</b>	<b>No Mass</b>
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>Feb.</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>8:30 AM SJ</b>	<b>No Mass</b>
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>Feb.</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>8:00 AM SJ</b>	<b>Jack A. Walz</b>
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>Feb.</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>9:30 AM SA</b>	<b>Sue Beshaler †</b>
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>Feb.</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>11:00 AM SB</b>	<b>People of the Parish</b>

**Save The Date!**

St Agnes will be hosting Totus Tuus this Summer!

June 21-26<sup>th</sup>.

Registration will open March 16<sup>th</sup>.

*Students that have completed K to 12<sup>th</sup> grade are invited.*



- Carrie Duponcheel Feb 10<sup>th</sup>
- Mike Pandorf Feb 11<sup>th</sup>
- Robin Garlett Feb 11<sup>th</sup>
- Rick Beshaler Feb 13<sup>th</sup>
- Rex Walz Feb 13<sup>th</sup>
- Molly Walz Feb 15<sup>th</sup>
- Abby Stallbaumer Feb 15<sup>th</sup>

Fr Mike is scheduled to be home for mass on February 15<sup>th</sup>

**Ministry Schedule**

<b>Date: Feb 15</b>	<b>St John's</b>	<b>St Agnes</b>	<b>St Boniface</b>
<b>Time</b>	<u>Sunday 8 AM</u>	<u>Sunday 9:30 AM</u>	<u>Sunday 11:00 AM</u>
<b>Hospitality</b>	Youth	Julie B.	Rod & MaKayla D.
<b>Lector</b>	Youth	Evan B.	Molly P.
<b>Server</b>	Youth		Katie P. & Olivia D.
<b>EMHC</b>	Youth	Evan B. & Gary M.	Rhonda P. & Dylan P.
	<b>Music: youth</b>		<i>Communion to shut ins</i> Kristen B.

**St. John's**

*Our Gifts to God & Church*  
February 1, 2026  
Total Collection: \$2775.75

Diocesan Appeal

Dollar Goal \$4150 of \$5179  
with 11 of 15 Donors

CCD Wed, Feb 11th  
PreK to 5th 3:40 PM  
6th -12<sup>th</sup> Supper 6:30  
Class Begins 7:00 PM

Feb 18<sup>th</sup> After Ash Wed Mass the Jr High and High School will be Host a pancake breakfast

**St. Agnes**

*Our Gifts to God & Church*  
February 1, 2026  
Total Collection: \$2352.00

Diocesan Appeal

Dollar Goal the **GOAL is MET!!!**

Thrift Store  
Open Feb 13 9AM to 4PM

CCD Wed Feb 11  
Elementary 3:40 PM  
High School 7:30 PM Meal

**St. Boniface**

*Our Gifts to God & Church*  
February 1, 2026  
Total Collection: \$1490.00

Diocesan Appeal

Dollar Goal \$6800 of \$7452  
with 15 of 17 Donors

CCD Wed. Feb 11th  
PreK to 2<sup>nd</sup> 4-5 PM  
Supper 6:10  
Class 6:30 to 7:30 PM

Parish Potluck Feb 15<sup>th</sup> after mass. Hosted by Stewardship Group 2

Registration Opens Feb 1<sup>st</sup> – Feb 8<sup>th</sup>

Higher Ground Extreme Faith July 5-9 Grades 6-8

Steubenville (June 19-2) Grades 9-12

Higher Ground May 24-29 or May 3 -June 5  
Grades 10-12

Each parish has stipends to help cover the cost.

**Ash Wednesday Masses**  
**February 18<sup>th</sup>**

**St John 6:00 PM**

**St Agnes 5:00 PM**

**St Boniface 6:30 PM**