

FEBRUARY 12, 2023
 SIXTH SUNDAY
 IN ORDINARY TIME

Reflection from Fr. Bernard Doré

Jesus is the only one who can fulfill the law

Our Gospel readings these last couple of Sundays have been from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. He extols and honors the law that the people were given by Moses, but he also draws them into a deeper appreciation of what the commandments mean, and why they exist. The Law of Moses made the people of Israel different from the nations around them. The law was the way in which the people honored God and honored each other in relationship, and made them righteous in their faith. Jesus is extending the meaning of the law to include an interior disposition, and not just exterior actions.

It is against the law to kill, but Jesus commands that we also repent of anger and verbal attacks. The law forbids adultery, but Jesus calls his disciples to repent of the sin of lust. Even when Jesus says that the whole law can be summed up with the great commandments of loving God and loving our neighbor, he calls us to deeper commitments and sacrifices. Jesus is not giving us a pass on the commandments of Moses, but rather calling us to the virtues that make holiness possible.

This would, of course, be problematic for ancient Jewish listeners, for whom the law was already complete and not in need of "extension." While one could argue for particular interpretations of various laws and prophecies, which the ancient rabbis did all the time, no one would dare try to correct or improve upon what Moses had given them. For this young preacher to contrast himself with Moses was audacity to the extreme.

For Jesus to say, You have heard it said – and then quote Moses, only to continue, but I say – and then offer some correction or change, would have been condemned in the strongest way by the religious leaders of the time: "How dare you suggest that we should consider you a source equal to Moses!" It is another subtle way that Jesus would reveal his divine nature. The people wouldn't have completely understood that at the time, but to compare himself to Moses was a very bold and dangerous move. It is not hard to see why they accused him of blasphemy and sought to have him killed.

Moses walked with God. He spoke to God as a friend like none before him. He helped to deliver his people out of slavery. Moses is a holy man worth honoring. Matthew's Gospel portrays Christ as the new Moses. Jesus, like Moses, went up a mountain to bring the word of God to the people and to set them free. The difference is that Jesus is also the divine Son who died and rose for the salvation of the whole world.



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OFFICE HOURS	9:00 AM – 2:00 PM (MON, WED, THU, FRI)
WEEKDAY MASSES	9:00 AM (MON, WED, FRI)
SATURDAY VIGIL MASS	5:00 PM
SUNDAY MASSES	8:00 AM 10:00 AM
HOLY DAY MASSES	9:00 AM 7:00 PM
CONFESSIONS	4:00-4:30 PM, SATURDAY OR BY APPOINTMENT

ST. PAUL'S UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Saturday	February 11
8:30 AM	Men's Coffee & Gospel
9:30—11 AM	Food Closet Open
5:00 PM	Mass: Living and Deceased Parishioners
Sunday	February 12
8:00 AM	Mass: For the Intentions of Fr. Doré and Deacon Fernando
9:00-9:50 AM	Second Sunday Family Catechism Class
9:15 AM	Rosary
10:00 AM	Mass: Michael Troffi (RIP)
	Baptism: Allison & Lily Lusignan
Monday	February 13
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Living & Deceased Members of Pelletier and Coyle Families
6:30 PM	Knights of Columbus Meeting
Wednesday	February 15
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Cheryl Verchot (RIP)
Friday	February 17
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Souls in Purgatory
NEXT WEEKEND'S MASS INTENTIONS	
5:00 PM	Mass: Arthur Robillard (RIP)
8:00 AM	Mass: Shiloh van Wyk (RIP)
10:00 AM	Mass: Joseph Hawkins & Jennie Petrucci (RIP)

PLEASE CONSIDER COMMEMORATING
 A LOVED ONE AT THE EUCHARIST



For over a thousand years the Church has used this 40-day period of Lent to prepare ourselves for the celebration of Easter and renew our relationship with God. It is a time for struggling against the compulsions and demands of our material lives and creating more opportunities to grow spiritually through God's grace, which is God's own life in us.

Take advantage of these ways in which we can meet God's mercy this Lent at our parish:

Ash Wednesday

February 22, we offer Mass with Imposition of Ashes at 7 AM, 9 AM & 7 PM.

Daily Mass & Rosary

Daily Mass will be celebrated from Monday through Friday at 9 AM. The Rosary will also be prayed before Mass starting at 8:35 AM.

Stations of the Cross

This traditional Lenten devotion will be prayed every Friday at 9:30 AM.

Fasting During Lent

Saturday Morning Coffee & Gospel

Join other men on Saturday mornings to share coffee and their take on that weekend's Sunday Gospel. Come earlier for silent prayer with the exposed Blessed Sacrament at 8:00 AM. Saturdays / 8:30 – 9:30 AM

Women's Bible Group

We're planning on starting a regular Bible reflection for women. If you're interested in learning more or taking part in this please let Deacon Fernando know or return the questionnaire from last weekend.

Upcoming Catechism Classes

Families— Sun. Feb 12 @ 9AM
Confirmation—Sun. Feb 26 @ 9AM
First Communion -Sun. Feb 26 @9AM

GIFTS RECEIVED

Offertory Collection – Feb 4/5
\$2,730.00

Monthly 2nd Collection – Feb 4/5
\$2,202.00

Thank you for your support!

BAPTISM

Please welcome into the family of God's People, **Allison and Lily Lusignan**, who will be baptized Sunday afternoon. They're the newest members of Christ's Body—the Church.



Please pray that they and their families be strengthened by the Holy Spirit's gifts of faith, hope and love.

2023 Catholic Charity Appeal

Dear Parishioners,

This weekend is our parish's Catholic Charity Appeal in-pew weekend.

Christian stewards recognize Christ as the giver of all our many gifts. We are grateful for these gifts and are eager to give back and return some of these gifts in appreciation to show our love for Christ and for one another.

This year the diocesan goal is \$7,000,000 and our 2023 Goal at St. Paul's is \$15,813.

As a parish family, we have an opportunity to make our pledge in support of those less fortunate. Won't you be a part of your larger family?

Thanking you and God Bless,
Rev. Bernard Doré

May 2023 Calendar Raffle

St. Paul's is once again having a Calendar Raffle FUNdraiser.

During the month of April we will be selling Calendar Raffle Tickets for \$10 each. There will be a drawing every day during the month of May. All winning tickets will go back into the pot for another chance to **WIN!** To make this fundraiser a success we are asking for \$25 gift card donations to help fill the calendar.

If anyone:

- has a gift card to a restaurant or store you are willing to donate,
- knows a restaurant/company that would donate
- or if you are able to purchase one, that would be appreciated.

Take a reminder card and return by **March 7** and as always, we thank you for your support.

The Holy Eucharist Our All

Prayer to Jesus in Blessed Sacrament

My Lord Jesus Christ, who, through the love which Thou bearest to men, dost remain with them day and night in this Sacrament, full of mercy and love, awaiting, inviting and receiving all who come to visit Thee, I believe that Thou art present in the Sacrament of the Altar. From the abyss of my nothingness I adore Thee. I thank Thee for all the graces which Thou hast bestowed upon men, particularly for having given my Thyself in this Sacrament, for having given me Thy most holy Mother Mary for my advocate, and for having called me to visit Thee in this church. I pay my homage to Thy most loving Heart for these three ends:
1) in thanksgiving for this great Gift;
2) to make amends to Thee for all the outrages which Thou dost receive in this Sacrament from all Thine enemies;
3) I intend by this visit to adore Thee in all the places on earth in which Thou art present in this Sacrament and in which Thou are the least honored and the most abandoned.

My Jesus, I love Thee with my whole heart. I am sorry for having offended Thine infinite goodness so many times. I purpose, with the help of Thy grace, never more to offend Thee; and, at this moment, miserable as I am, I consecrate my whole being to Thee. I give Thee my entire will, all my affections and desires and all that I have. From this day forward, do what Thou wilt with me and with everything that belongs to me. I ask and desire only Thy holy love, the gift of final perseverance and the perfect fulfillment of Thy will. I commend to Thee the souls in Purgatory, particularly those who were most devoted to the Most Blessed Sacrament and to the Blessed Virgin Mary; and I also commend to Thee all poor sinners. Finally, my dear Saviour, I unite all my affections with the affections of Thy most loving Heart; and thus united, I offer them to Thy Eternal Father, and I entreat Him, in Thy Name and for Thy sake, to accept and answer them. Amen.

~ Fr. Lukas Etlin, O.S.B.

Thank You!

"I give thanks to my God through Jesus Christ for all of you..." (Romans 1:8)

My family and I were deeply touched by your kindness last weekend. Thank you for your well-wishers and prayers commemorating the tenth anniversary my ordination as deacon—and thank you for the gift of your friendship.

In Christ,
Deacon Fernando