

FEBRUARY 14, 2021
SIXTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

Reflection from Fr. Bernard Doré

Today's Readings also speak of sickness. Leprosy is a terrible sickness, for it is a symbol of sin. We are all tainted with the leprosy of sin.

The First Reading tells us that Leprosy was the disease most dreaded by the ancient Jew, because it cut him off from the community and religious life of Israel. Our selection from Leviticus describes the ritual prescribed for one suffering from such a disease.

In the Second Reading, St. Paul asks that whatever Christians do, should be done for God's glory and the building up of the faith community.

In The Gospel, St. Mark describes how even the dreadful disease of leprosy yields to Jesus' power. We also get an insight into the very human compassion of the Lord for those who are suffering. Jesus cleansed the leper and restored him to his world; then the man could enjoy life again, work, company, family and friends. Jesus set up God's Kingdom. In that Kingdom, we are all sinners who have been restored to God's favor.

It seems unusual for Jesus to tell the leper to keep secret the news of his cure. Good News, after all, is for sharing. Yet Jesus had a profound reason for wanting the leper to keep this matter confidential. Jesus is the Messiah, The One who comes to make all things new. His Messianic Secret was meant to be revealed, not at the moment of the leper's cure, but at the hour when He would stretch out His arms upon the Cross.

We are to proclaim The Good News of The Lord to the world around us. This is our calling as Stewards and Evangelizers. Yet our proclamation has to be authentic. Our faith does not promise a quick fix to life's problems. Rather we invite others into nothing less than a sharing in the suffering and death of The Lord through which, and only through which, do we find meaning, purpose and direction for our lives.

We are called to imitate the healing and compassionate Jesus. Let us sincerely pray today for all our sick brothers and sisters for their healing, recovery and good health and also that we become very compassionate, understanding & kind towards all our suffering and sick brothers and sisters.

**I turn to you, Lord, in time of
trouble, and you fill me with the
joy of salvation.**
Psalm 32



REV. M. J. BERNARD DORÉ, PASTOR
DEACON FERNANDO BOTELHO, DEACON ASSISTANT
116A DANIELSON PIKE · FOSTER, RHODE ISLAND 02825
PHONE (401) 647-3664
EMAIL: CHURCH@STPAULSFOSTER.ORG
STPAULSFOSTER.ORG

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

ST. PAUL'S UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Saturday	February 13
5:00 PM	Mass: Fr. Francis J. Giudice (RIP)
Sunday	February 14
8:00 AM	Mass: People of the Parish
9:15 AM	Rosary
10:00 AM	Mass: Norma Gannon (RIP)
Monday	February 15
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Linda Stockwell (RIP)
Wednesday	February 17 Ash Wednesday
7:00 AM	Mass: Fr. Dore's Special Intention
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: For the Intentions of Rev. Bob Hollis
7:00 PM	Mass: Forgotten Souls
Thursday	February 18
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Arthur & Lona Robillard In Thanksgiving of 49th Wedding Anniversary
Friday	February 19
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Souls in Purgatory
9:30 AM	Stations of the Cross

NEXT WEEKEND'S MASS INTENTIONS

5:00 PM	Mass: Arlene Green (RIP)
8:00 AM	Open for your Intentions
10:00 AM	Mass: Deceased Members of the Matterese Family

PLEASE CONSIDER COMMEMORATING
A LOVED ONE AT THE EUCHARIST



ASH WEDNESDAY
TURN AWAY FROM SIN
AND BE FAITHFUL
TO THE GOSPEL

This Wednesday, February 17, we will offer Mass with Imposition of Ashes at 7:00 AM, 9:00 AM and 7:00 PM.

To “rub” ashes on the forehead in the form of a cross has been suspended for this year in light of the pandemic. So the ashes will be distributed by “sprinkling” them on each person’s head. If you are not comfortable about this form, you are not required to receive them.



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

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

As a sign of regret for sin and rededication to God, Catholics observe two simple obligations about fasting during Lent: First, if we are 14 years or older, (and in good health), we don’t eat meat on Ash Wednesday and the Fridays of Lent. Second, those of us who are between the ages of 18 and 59 have the special obligation to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday: we eat only one full meal that day and take no solid foods between meals. That means our other regular meals are of much smaller portions, with no snacking in between.

(But remember, health issues excuse a person from these obligations.)

Food Closet Ministry

This month we are in need of **Paper Products: Paper Towels, Toilet Paper., Kleenex & Napkins.** And also **Plastic Bags.** The Food Closet is open every other Saturday morning 9:30– 11 AM

May 2021 Calendar Raffle

St. Paul's is having a FUNdraiser to offset our Christmas Bazaar Shortfall.

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.*

Thank you for your support.

Commitment to Sunday Offertory

To help the parish meet its financial obligations, we ask that you remain committed to the weekly offertory.

Please consider using the parish envelopes and mailing your weekly/monthly offertory contribution. Or consider the convenient option of setting up an automatic contribution online. Details below.

Support St. Paul’s

Set up a reoccurring donation (or make a gift at anytime) using our secure, online giving tool by ParishSOFT.

Visit our website at stpaulsfoster.org, and click the “Donate Now” button.

WE ARE CALLED

Join our faith community-and more than 12,000 Catholic communities across the US– in a life-changing Lenten journey with CRS Rice Bowl. During the 40 days of Lent, we will reflect on how hunger and malnutrition affect our human family, and the need to take action to end this global injustice. Visit crsricebowl.org.

GIFTS RECEIVED

Offertory Collection - February 6/7
\$ 2,689.00

Monthly 2nd Collection - February 6/7
\$ 1,785.00

Thank you for your support!

Living the Liturgy

Inspiration for the week

Everybody has a place at the table, and nobody deserves to feel inferior, unworthy, unwanted, or marginalized. It is not part of God’s vision. Jesus came to heal, make things whole, set things right, and restore relationships, no one is to feel unwelcome or alienated from the community. Whether we like it or not, this message is at the core of the Gospel. It makes a lot of sense when you think about it. Perhaps this is why people kept coming from everywhere to listen to Jesus speak and to be in his presence. He made perfect sense. Most of us have no issue buying into this vision. We run into trouble, however, when we fall into the trap of privilege and power. We diverge from God’s vision when the powerful begin to control who is entitled to wholeness and inclusion, and greed becomes a driving force. Prejudice and entitlement have no place in the kingdom of God, and even the most needy and hurting among us are worthy of the compassion Jesus desires to offer. There are no easy solutions to the world’s dilemmas. But one thing is for certain, no one can be singled out, excluded or mistreated. Everyone matters.



KIDS CORNER

Sharing the Gospel

It is not fun to be sick. You miss your friends at school. You can’t go outside to play. On top of being bored and lonely, you don’t feel well at all. The man with leprosy in today’s gospel was sick a long, long time. He was really bored, lonely, and feeling awful. There was no medicine for leprosy. Jesus was the only one who could help him.

Prayer

God, you have the power to heal. Help me to trust you, even when I’m sick.

Mission for the Week

Visit the sick. Make a card. Take a treat to share. Give them something to read. Pray for them before you