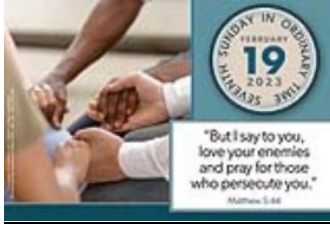


## FEBRUARY 18 & 19, 2023 SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



### DISCIPLES TOGETHER

Today's Readings reflect on our communal identity as disciples. Before we begin Lent together in a few days, we take time to appreciate what God has done by giving us our family of faith. In Leviticus, God tells Moses to "*speak to the whole Israelite community*" and give them instructions for living in love. Moses passes along the message—to each and every believer—that God's people must strive together for holiness. Saint Paul echoes this message, insisting that we are indeed God's holy children. As temples of the Spirit, we belong to Christ and to one another. This mutual belonging is a blessing and a challenge. In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus sets a high bar for Christian community: his followers must love not only those who are easy to love, but also the people who upset us. Together, let us ask God to give us this kind of love.

### ASHES

There are three major Biblical traditions concerning ashes: *repentance, mourning, and mortality*, and they are interrelated. Repeatedly throughout the Bible we encounter the use of ashes (*often together with sackcloth*) as a penitential practice. A similar practice is seen when someone is in mourning or distress. And ashes are a metaphor for human life, which is seen as brief and destined to end in death: Ashes are the result of fire, the complete burning of something that was alive. They are ephemeral; the slightest puff of air can send them away into nothingness. It is easy to see how ashes came to symbolize fleeting human life or the humility of repentance. Ashes can represent other things as well. For example, ashes are often used to fertilize our gardens and fields. Ash is therefore necessary to bring about and nourish life. We can now begin to see how appropriate a symbol ashes are for the Season of Lent. For Lent is not only a time of repentance, of sorrow for our sins. It is a baptismal season of preparation for the new life of our catechumens and of recalling the new life of our own baptism. We start Lent in ashes, and end it in Easter. What will the ashes mean to you this Lent?

### PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS

Angie Gómez, Judy Halren, Rose Cortez, Fidela Jara, Felix Santillán, Martha Sánchez, Gerardo Escobedo, Angie Freitas, Russel Bryant, Derrick Heater, Ann Gallagher, Brianna Lopez, Margaret Milliken, Gina Pivrotto, Nick Quin, Mary Servis, Matty Walker, Ofelia Ybarra.

### PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY MEMBERS IN THE MILITARY

Jovany Baez, Justin Mertle, María de la Luz Ramirez, Rebeca Sánchez, José Araiza, Jr., Marina González, Alondra Jara, Sonia Jara, Matt Mills & Jared Schroeder.



### FASTING AND ABSTINENCE DURING LENT

Lent is the time before Easter during which the faithful abstain and fast in remembrance of the ultimate sacrifice Jesus made on Calvary. It is a 40-day time of preparation before Easter, the memorial of the death and resurrection of Jesus. There are two main ways that Catholics use to focus on growing closer to God during the Lenten season: abstinence and fasting.

#### **Abstinence**

Abstinence is the act of "doing without" or avoiding something. For example, someone may abstain from chocolate or alcohol by not consuming them. Particular days of abstinence during Lent are Fridays, Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. As canon law states, Catholics over the age of 14 are expected to abstain from the eating of meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays throughout the Lenten Season (Canon 1250 -1253).

During Lent, Catholics are also encouraged to undertake some sort of personal penance or abstinence. Examples include giving up sweets, a favorite TV show or not listening to the radio in the car on the way to work. Giving up these things isn't some sort of endurance test, but these acts are done to draw the faithful closer to Christ.

For example, a person may give up his favorite TV show, but if he simply turns the television to another channel, the Lenten penance really does not mean as much. Instead, the person should consider devoting the spare time to prayer or perhaps his family.

As always, when considering acts of penance that are stricter than the norm, it is important that the Catholic would speak with a priest or spiritual director. Any act of penance that would seriously hinder one's health or the health of others would be contrary to the will of God.

#### **Fasting**

Fasting is the act of doing with less. In the Catholic Church, those ages 18 - 59 must fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday (Canon 97). On such days, those fasting may eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals, sufficient to maintain strength. However, together, the smaller meals should not equal a full meal.

Eating between meals is not encouraged, but liquids are allowed.

It is important to understand that the Church excuses certain people from these obligations. Examples include those who are frail, pregnant or manual laborers. The Church understands that certain people are not able to commit to the Lenten fast.

The time of Lent, through fasting and abstaining, may be an important reminder of what it means to suffer. This small suffering should not be met with misery but with great joy as we better understand the incredible sacrifice that Jesus Christ made for humanity.



### SCHEDULE FOR ASH WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 22, 2023

**12:05PM**  
ENGLISH MASS AND DISTRIBUTION OF ASHES  
**6:00PM**  
SPANISH MASS AND DISTRIBUTION OF ASHES



DURING LENT, THERE WILL BE STATIONS OF THE CROSS EVERY FRIDAY AT 12:45PM IN ENGLISH AND 6PM IN SPANISH.



**PALM BURNING FOR ASH WEDNESDAY**

OLD BLESSED PALMS WILL BE COLLECTED FROM MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6<sup>TH</sup> - MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20<sup>TH</sup>. THESE OLD PALMS WILL BE BURNED BEFORE ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22<sup>ND</sup>, 2023.

PLACE THEM IN THE BASKET THAT IS IN THE VESTIBULE OF THE CHURCH OR BRING THEM TO THE OFFICE. IT IS AN OLD CATHOLIC CUSTOM FOR THE PRIEST TO COLLECT THE OLD PALMS, BURN AND BLESS THE ASHES. PALMS SHOULD NOT BE DISPOSED OF AS WASTE MATERIAL.



THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20<sup>TH</sup> IN REMEMBRANCE OF PRESIDENT'S DAY.



**TAMALE SALE (PRE-SALE)**

San Jose Sanchez Del Rio Catholic School- Fundraiser

Place order by Feb. 20th

Call or Text: (209)606-9225 (text is preferred)

\$30/dozen \$15/half dozen

**PORK AND CHICKEN**

Pick up: Saturday, February 25th

Pick up time: 12-4 pm

605 Maple St. (@ the church hall)

A Group of Parishioners of OLG C invites you to a Curbside Dinner

**TACO DAY Fundraiser**



The meal will include 6 Deep Fried Potato Tacos, Beans, and Mexican Rice. \$25.00 per meal

Money raised will be donated to our Catholic School SJSDR.

The event will be on Saturday, March 18<sup>th</sup> from 12-4 pm at the Parish Hall, 605 Maple Street, Fort Bragg, CA

Please place your orders! You may contact Maria Hurtado 707-357-6742 or the Parish Office at 707-964-0229 or by email [olgcinfb@gmail.com](mailto:olgcinfb@gmail.com) .

**MASS INTENTIONS FEBRUARY 18 - 24, 2023**

Saturday (18)	5:00pm	Fred & Clara White † Thomas Galemba † James Mello † Derrick Scott †
	6:30pm	Mauricio Escobedo † Carmen & Tarsicio Garcia † Mardonio Barrera † Victor Martin Mendez † Gerardo Escobedo (healing)
Sunday (19)	8:00am	Ezequiel Sánchez (b-day)
	10:00am	Missa pro populo
Monday (20)	—	NO MASS
Tuesday (21)	12:05pm	Victor Martin Mendez †
<b>Wednesday (22) ASH WEDNESDAY</b>	12:05pm	Nora McNair (healing)
	6:00pm	Victor Martin Mendez †
Thursday (23)	12:05pm	Victor Martin Mendez †
Friday (24)	12:05pm	Victor Martin Mendez †

**WEEKLY COLLECTION**

FEBRUARY 11 & 12, 2023...\$1,382.00  
MAINTENANCE FUND...\$685.00

THIS WEEKEND OUR SECOND COLLECTION WILL BE FOR CENTRAL & EASTERN EUROPE  
NEXT WEEKEND OUR SECOND COLLECTION WILL BE FOR MAINTENANCE FUND

This week our special collection supports the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. Your donation today helps restore the Church and build the future in more than 25 countries still struggling to recover from former communist rule. Funds from this collection support reconstruction, education, formation, and poverty outreach. Please be generous to the collection today. More information can be found at [www.usccb.org/ccce](http://www.usccb.org/ccce).

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT & CHRISTIAN GENEROSITY!!

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

- Monday: Sir 1:1-10; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Mk 9:14-29
- Tuesday: Sir 2:1-11; Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40; Mk 9:30-37
- Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-6ab, 12-14, 17; 2 Cor 5:20 — 6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
- Thursday: Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 9:22-25
- Friday: Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-6ab, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15
- Saturday: Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-6; Lk 5:27-32
- Sunday: Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7; Ps 51:3-6, 12-13, 17; Rom 5:12-19 [12, 17-19]; Mt 4:1-11



We need your generous financial help so Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish now provides "ParishSOFT Giving," an online giving software! This is a convenient and secure way to make your one-time or recurring donations.

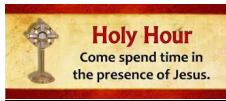
Thanking and blessing you for your kindness.

To get started, you can visit our Parish's

[new giving page at olgcinfb.org](http://new.giving.page.at/olgcinfb.org).

From this link you will be allowed to manage your own account online, set up gifts on a schedule that you choose, and can be set up with a credit card, debit card, checking or savings account!

If you have any questions, please, contact the Parish Office at 964-0229.



EVERY THURSDAY @ 11:30AM WE HAVE THE EXPOSITION AND BENEDICTION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT FOLLOWED BY MASS AT 12:05PM.



### ANOINTING OF THE SICK

When a parishioner is homebound or hospitalized and would like Father Pacheco to pay them a visit to receive Holy Communion and/or Anointing of the Sick, please call the Parish Office at 707-964-0229 and after office hours, please call 707-813-4188.



OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL HAS **AMAZON SMILE**. WHEN PURCHASING ONLINE, MAKE SURE YOU "TYPE" **AMAZON SMILE.COM** AND "SELECT" **OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL CATHOLIC CHURCH A CORPORATION SOLE**. YOU WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE A DONATION TO OUR CHURCH IN EVERY PURCHASE. **FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE AT 964-0229.**



IN THE VESTIBULE OF THE CHURCH, ON THE SOUTHERN WALL IS A BEAUTIFUL MEMORIAL TREE. ITS BRIGHT LEAVES REPRESENT PERMANENT MEMORIALS TO THE DEPARTED OF OUR PARISH.

FOR THE SUM OF \$200.00, YOU CAN GIVE TO THE PARISH SECRETARY, THE CORRECT SPELLING AND DATES OF THE DEPARTED AND IN DUE TIME THE LEAF IS PRINTED AND ATTACHED TO THE TREE, AS A PERMANENT REMINDER OF A LOVED ONE WHO IS GONE.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE AT 707-964-0229.