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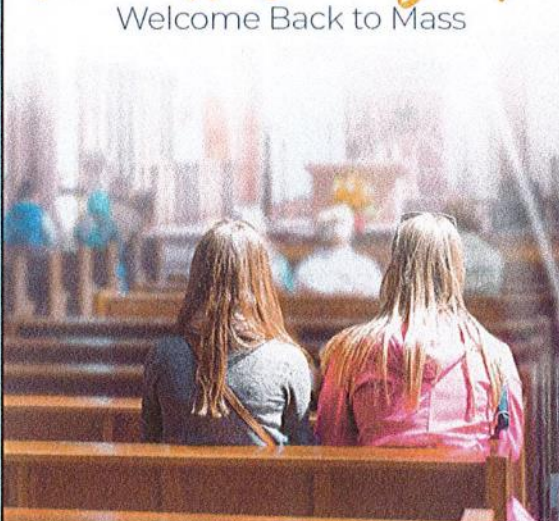
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... a Bad Tree Cannot Bear Good Fruit...

- Jesus



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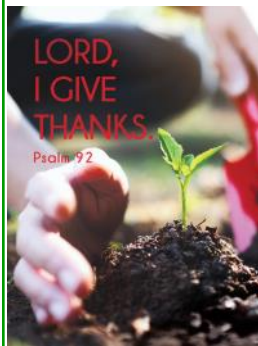


# Gospel Meditation

## ENCOURAGE YOURSELF TO A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

### 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

What we say and how we say it reveals the true intentions of our hearts. The content and manner of our speech is a window into the recesses of our souls. Our consciences, attitudes, sentiments, weaknesses, and motives are displayed. As much as we think we can hide the truth of our lives from others, we cannot. Who we really are is not only expressed on our lips but is written on our faces. Jesus says precisely this, "For every tree is known by its own fruit." What does the fruit of our lives say about us?



Because we like to play the game of hide and seek with ourselves, in pretending that we are hiding we deflect attention others may give to us by becoming more critical of others. After all, the more time one can spend analyzing others' behavior the less time one has to look at his or herself. Often, the behaviors we abhor most in others are the very ones we are guilty of ourselves. We just don't know it yet. The more we put ourselves in the role of a judge, the more satisfaction and control we seem to achieve. Yet, what about ourselves? In focusing our attention on the beams in others' eyes, the aridity and barrenness of our lives goes unchecked. St. Ambrose reminds us that "no one heals himself by wounding another." Bringing our brothers and sisters down by being overly critical, serves no positive purpose.

But the one who knows how easy it is to fall into sin and weakness and how quickly errors in judgment can be made, knows the depth of true compassion, mercy, and kindness. Having recognized our own poor choices, misguided opinions, negative emotions, and ability to do horrendous things, we can be more sympathetic and understanding of where others may be. We are designed to be mentors and guides to one another. In walking the journey together, we can help each other become the best we can be. Humility is the order of the day and the primary virtue that prevents us from being hypocrites. ©LPi

Cindy Peterson  
Bill Gray  
Leonardo Cepeda  
Edward Manzano  
Elman & Socorro  
Martinez  
Ruth Ramirez  
Fran Dreis  
Julian Lorenzo  
Helen & Buriel Smith  
Brigida McInvale  
Isela Gonzalez  
Rachel Fowler  
Esperanza Villa  
Felipe & Anita  
Pedroza  
Jackie Connolly

Stephen Sawyer  
Marilynn Nienalt  
Ciprie Powell  
Chris Sauer  
Maria Valenzuela  
Cheryl Mattas  
Diane Mattas  
Brittany Groom  
Caroline Hendrickson  
Hanna Jappaya  
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Sandra Wachholtz  
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Guzman  
Henry & Annette Moore  
Hector Arroyo



## EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP Planted in the House of the Lord

Grocery delivery apps are all the rage these days, and I can't deny the convenience of tapping your finger a few times and seeing your week's shopping dropped on the doorstep. But there is one aspect of this trend that seems to make a lot of shoppers nervous — fruits and vegetables.

A lot of us have strong opinions on our fresh produce and aren't ready to delegate this highly subjective selection process to a total stranger. My father was a produce manager and I remember as a child learning about the complexities of choosing correctly. Getting a bad bag of under ripe tomatoes after shopping on an app could easily sour one on the whole idea.

Forrest Gump said life is like a box of chocolates. I say, we're all like grab-bags of produce dumped on someone's doorstep — but if we're Christians who live our faith publicly, we're stamped with the name of God. If your thumb is green enough, you know that you can tell a lot about a gardener from the produce he grows. We who are planted in the house of the Lord — what do we reveal about our Gardener?

What do our actions show of His teachings? What do our words reflect of His voice? What does our strength reveal of the soil from which we sprang and the life-giving waters that nourished us?

When we open ourselves up to those we encounter, let's make a special effort to show the care we have had — lest our peers come away from the experience thinking God doesn't know how to garden, when in reality, it's us who don't always know how to grow. — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



## The Year of Grace

# March 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>ABBREVIATIONS:</b> K of C- Knights of Columbus MMLG - Mother Mary's Ladies Guild St Vincent De Paul Sunday K of C Breakfast After 8:30am Mass Lent Hispanic Breakfast After all Masses Youth Group Breakfast After 8:30am Mass Hispanic Breakfast After all Masses	Bible Study Join us! 7:00pm Bible Study Join us! 7:00pm	K of C Meeting 7:00pm K of C Meeting 7:00pm K of C Meeting 7:00pm Healing Mass	Ash WEDNESDAY 7:30am Grupo de Matrimonios 7:00pm Via Crucis 6:30PM Misa de Sanación 6:30PM Via Crucis 6:30PM	Adoration 8:30am - 5:00pm Adoration 8:30am - 5:00pm Adoration 8:30am - 5:00pm Adoration 8:30am - 5:00pm 7:00PM RECONCILIATION	First Friday Mass 7:30am CROSS 5:00PM BJNGO 5:00PM Dinner 6:00pm Bingo 7:00pm CROSS 5:00PM	Men's Fellowship Group 7:30am First Saturday Mass 9:00am Reconciliation 4:00pm St Patrick's Day Reconciliation 4:00pm Reconciliation 4:00pm Youth Group 1st - Mardi Gras Santa Sophia 4th - Roller Skating 5th - Helping the Homeless 29th - Foot Golf





Job opening:

The Diocese of San Diego will be hiring a new Superintendent for Catholic Schools. Applications are being accepted **until March 14**. Please visit [www.sdcatholic.org/diocese/administration/human-resources/employment/](http://www.sdcatholic.org/diocese/administration/human-resources/employment/) to view the job description.

Bilingual Lenten Spiritual Retreat

The Creation Care Ministry of the Diocesan Office for Life, Peace and Justice is offering a free, spiritual retreat as a Lenten Spiritual exercise. The three-hour retreat will develop the moral and spiritual challenges of our stewardship of the gifts of creation, as presented by Pope Francis in his encyclical *Laudato Si- The Care of Our Common Home*. The retreat will be offered virtually and in-person, in either English or Spanish, on Saturday, March 26 at 8:30 a.m. at St. James Parish Hall. Registration is required.

For more information, visit [www.sdcatholic.org/event/the-spirituality-of-creation-care/](http://www.sdcatholic.org/event/the-spirituality-of-creation-care/)

LEARNING ABOUT THE PRIESTHOOD

On **Saturday, March 19, 2022**, the Diocese of San Diego is hosting an Explorer Day for those men who are interested in exploring a possible vocation to the priesthood. The event will be held at St. Francis Center on the campus of the University of San Diego from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. If living a life of service for Christ and the people of God is attractive to you, take advantage of the opportunity to attend this upcoming Explorer Day. Pick up a registration form at the parish office or call Fr. Lauro Minimo at St. Francis Center at (619) 291-7446.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE CAMPAIGN

More than 20,000 lives have been saved since 2007! Help save babies by praying and fasting for an end to abortion during the upcoming 40 Days for Life Spring Campaign, **Mar 2 – Apr 10, 2022**. For more information and to sign up for vigil hours, please visit <https://www.sdcatholic.org/office-for-life-peace-and-justice/culture-of-life/abortion/40-days-for-life-campaign/>.

LENTEN PILGRIM WALK

All young adults ages 18-39 are invited to participate in a Lenten Pilgrim Walk co-hosted by the Office for Young Adult Ministry and Modern Catholic Pilgrim on **March 5, 2022 from 9a-2p**. The Lenten Pilgrim Walk is a seven-mile, mini pilgrimage from the Immaculata Parish on the campus of USD to St. Brigid parish in Pacific Beach. The day will consist of walking, prayer, spiritual talks and opportunity for fellowship. The cost is \$20 and includes registration, snacks, water, lunch and ground return transportation back to the Immaculata at the conclusion of the event.

Join us for the opportunity to offer ourselves to Christ in body and spirit at the beginning of our Lenten journey. Online registration is available at [sdcatholic.org/event/1...](http://sdcatholic.org/event/1...) Questions? Contact [yamsd@sdccatholic.org](mailto:yamsd@sdccatholic.org), or call (858) 490-8260.

REPORTING SEXUAL ABUSE

Complaints about Sexual Abuse by a member of the Clergy, a parish Catholic Employee or a Volunteer can be made at <https://www.safeinourdiocese.org/> or call (858) 490-8353 [misconduct@sdccatholic.org](mailto:misconduct@sdccatholic.org).

WEEKLY STEWARSHIP

February 20, 2022

Envelope Giving	\$2,036
Plate Giving	\$1,410
Online Giving	\$644.19
Total	\$4,090.19
Weekly funds needed for church operations	\$5,000.00
Overage/Deficit	-\$909.81

The Catholic Church  
wants to listen to you.



Our parish is organizing small-group sessions, to be held in March, that are at the heart of a consultation of Catholics worldwide called a synod.

The *Church needs all of us* to participate fully in its mission and renewal.

Our parish invites all members of our community – *the people in the pews, clergy, religious, seminarians* – to participate in the group sessions.

The insights that come from these sessions will be used to *strengthen the participation of all faithful* at all levels of the Church at the crucial time.

Please complete a registration form and turn it into the parish office or place it in the offertory basket.

Sessions in English will be held on  
March 22 and 24, 2022 at 7:00pm

Sessions in Spanish will be held on  
March 21 and 23, 2022 at 7:00pm



QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

First Reading:

Sirach teaches that much is revealed about someone in how they speak. How conscious are you about weighing your words with others?

Second Reading:

Paul speaks of Jesus' resurrection taking away the "sting" and "victory" of death itself. In what ways have you experienced this reality in the death of loved ones in your life?

Gospel:

Jesus challenges his disciples to exercise humility towards others and to bear good fruit with their lives. Can you cite examples of how you follow these commands of Jesus in your own life?

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WHY DO WE DO THAT?

Near-Death Experiences

Question: Are near-death experiences real?

Answer: There is a lot of curiosity and fascination with the idea of an afterlife and communicating with those who have died. In movies, television shows, and numerous books, people make claims about their ability to communicate with the dead, or having had a near-death experience. There is no objective way to verify any of this. While details about people and events can be surprisingly accurate, it is just circumstantial evidence that might be explained in other ways. On the other hand, when people have unusual experiences, sometimes called near-death or out-of-body, it is real to them. They react with the emotions and thoughts that one would expect. At times, they report details they could not have known any other way, such as bits of conversation, or meeting people they had never known in this life. So certainly, to the person, they experience something. We believe in a life after death, we believe in the communion of saints. These things are not a contradiction to faith, but we should not base our faith on them, nor change our beliefs. They are unexplained and will likely remain so. ©LPi



LIVE THE LITURGY

"From the fullness of the heart the mouth speaks." What we say reveals so much about who we are. It discloses what is really going on within us: our integrity, priorities, depth of conscience, level of compassion and understanding of mercy. People whose speech is judgmental or overly critical usually reveal an interior life that is angry, unsettled, defensive, and shallow. Our speech communicates our sense of right and wrong, the strength of our relationship with God and how we feel about our fellow human beings. We are also quick to point out the faults of others, concentrating on their shortcomings and wrongdoings before our own. Only God fully understands what is going on inside the human heart. Only God can see the depth of a human soul. Perhaps it would do us well to consider what may be happening inside our brothers and sisters and temper our critical speech of what we see occurring outside. Looking within will also help us identify our own sins and weakness so that we can be better positioned to offer the type of wisdom and compassionate guidance that can really be of help to our friends. ©LPi



Faith Formation

EVERY SUNDAY

10:00am—10:55am

EVERY TUESDAY

6:30PM



MEN'S  
GATHERING

Come and join the men of the parish to make new friends and get to know your brothers in Christ.

**Saturday, March 5 2022 7:30am**



27	28	01	02	03	04	05
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday Masses 8:30am 11:00am 12:30pm (Spanish)  Pray for: Rev. Msgr. Daniel Dillabough  Sir 27:4-7/Ps 92:2-3, 13-14, 15 -16 [cf. 2a]/1 Cor 15:54-58/Lk 6:39-45	Bible Study 7:00pm  Pray for: Rev. Minh Do  1 Pt 1:3-9/Ps 111:1-2, 5-6, 9 and 10c/Mk 10:17-27	Daily Mass 7:30am  Youth Group 6:30pm  Pray for: Pope Francis  1 Pt 1:10-16/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Mk 10:28-31	Daily Mass 7:30am  Adoration 8:30am - 5:00pm  Pray for: Bishop Robert McElroy  Jl 2:12-18/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17/2 Cor 5:20-6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18	Daily Mass 7:30am  Adoration 8:30am - 5:00pm  Pray For: Bishop John Dolan  Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 9:22-25	First Friday 7:00pm  Pray for: Bishop Ramon Bejarano  Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19/Mt 9:14-15	First Saturday 9:00am  Men's Gathering 7:30am  Reconciliation 4:00pm  Sunday Vigil 5:00pm  Pray for: Bishop Robert Brom  Is 58:9b-14/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 5:27-32

## MASS Intentions

Feb 27	<b>Sun</b>	8:30am	For the Parishioners
Feb 27	<b>Sun</b>	11:00am	+Alfredo Juarez
Feb 27	<b>Sun</b>	12:30pm	+Lourdes Ridon
Feb 28	<b>Mon</b>		<b>No Mass</b>
Mar 01	<b>Tues</b>	7:30am	For the Parishioners
Mar 02	<b>Wed</b>	7:30am	For the Parishioners
Mar 03	<b>Thur</b>	7:30am	For the Parishioners
Mar 04	<b>Fri</b>	7:00pm	+Guadalupe Rodriguez
Mar 05	<b>Sat</b>	9:00am	(SI) Maryann Gonzalez
Mar 05	<b>Sat</b>	5:00pm	For the Parishioners



St. Katharine Drexel | March 3

With a family like hers, it's no wonder that St. Katharine Drexel (November 26, 1858 – March 3, 1955) grew up to become one of the first American-born saints. Born in Philadelphia in 1858, her mother passed away when she was only five weeks old. Her father, a renowned banker, remarried a wonderful woman, and together they raised St. Katherine Drexel and her two sisters in a life of privilege. Both financially and spiritually well-endowed, the Drexels were devout Catholics and set an excellent example of true Christian servitude with prayer and care for the poor. After her father's death, St. Katharine Drexel gave up her inheritance and instead devoted her life to the material and spiritual well-being of black and native Americans. Mother Drexel, as she would become known as, established the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament for Indians and Colored, and together they opened a boarding school in Santa Fe, the first of 50 missions for Native Americans in 16 states. At 77, she suffered a heart attack and was forced to retire from active ministry. She spent the next 20 years of her life in quiet yet intense prayer. She died at the age of 96 and was canonized in 2000 by Pope John Paul II. ©LPi



## ADORATION THURSDAYS 8:30am - 5:00pm

**Observances for the week of February 27, 2022**  
Sunday: 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday:	
Tuesday:	
Wednesday:	Ash Wednesday
Thursday:	St. Katharine Drexel, Virgin
Friday:	St. Casimir
Saturday:	

**March 2, 2022**  
**Mass times**  
**7:30AM**  
**7:00PM**

**ASH WEDNESDAY**

## ASH WEDNESDAY THE FRIST DAY OF LENT



The following is a condensed version of an article by Father Michael Van Sloun, pastor of St. Bartholomew in Wayzata, that first appeared in 2008 in *The Catholic Spirit*. In 2021, Ash Wednesday is March 2, 2022

The imposition of ashes is a solemn ritual that signals the beginning of the holy season of Lent. The ceremony is distinctive; there is no liturgical action like it throughout the entire church year. The ashes come from a previous Palm Sunday. The palms are burned, the ashes collected and then crushed into a fine, sooty powder and placed into bowls.

The ashes are blessed by the priest during the Ash Wednesday Mass after the homily. Then, in a Communion-like procession, people are invited to come forward, and the ashes are applied to each person's forehead in the shape of a cross as the minister says either, "Turn away from sin and believe in the Gospel" (Mark 1:15), the usual prayer, or "Remember that you are dust, and unto dust you shall return" (Genesis 3:19), the older, more traditional invocation. Ashes symbolize two main things in the Old Testament.

### Death, repentance

Ashes are equivalent to dust, and human flesh is composed of dust or clay (Genesis 2:7), and when a human corpse decomposes, it returns to dust or ash. For example, Abraham told God, "I am but dust and ashes" (Genesis 18:27), a reference to his human mortality. Jeremiah described death as a "valley of corpses and ashes" (Jeremiah 31:40). Ashes are an ominous sign, and we use them on Ash Wednesday to remind ourselves of our own impending deaths. Death may come sooner, or it may come later, but it will surely come.

And if death is coming, we need to be prepared, and the time to prepare for death is now, and the way to prepare is to live according to God's ways. When the prophet Daniel shamefacedly clothed himself in sackcloth and ashes, they were a sign of his people's contrition for their rebellion, wickedness and treachery (Daniel 9:3).

When Jonah warned the Ninevites that God planned to destroy their city because of their corruption and depravity, the people covered themselves with sackcloth and ashes as a sign of their intention to turn from their evil ways (Jonah 3:6,10).

Ashes are a plea to God for mercy and compassion, pardon and forgiveness. Moreover, they are a public admission of guilt, an expression of sorrow for sins that have been committed, a promise to reform and a pledge to resist temptation in the future.

We, too, are sinners. When we come forward to receive ashes on Ash Wednesday, we are saying that we are sorry for our sins, and that we want to use the season of Lent to correct our faults, purify our hearts, control our desires and grow in holiness so we will be prepared to celebrate Easter with great joy.

THE YEAR OF GRACE



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\$30,000	\$150	\$15	\$300	\$30	\$300	\$30
\$40,000	\$200	\$20	\$400	\$40	\$400	\$40
\$50,000	\$250	\$25	\$500	\$50	\$500	\$50
\$75,000	\$375	\$37.50	\$750	\$75	\$750	\$75
\$100,000	\$500	\$50	\$1,000	\$100	\$1,000	\$100
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\$200,000	\$1,000	\$100	\$2,000	\$200	\$2,000	\$200

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