



# Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

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**WELCOME!**

Thank you for celebrating with us today. We invite you to come and worship with us again. If you would like to be a member of our faith community, please take a moment to register. We would love to have you as our spiritual companion.

## MASS SCHEDULE

### ASH WEDNESDAY 2/17

10:30 am Mass - Bilingual  
(English & Vietnamese)

6:00 pm Mass (Vietnamese)

### SATURDAY

5:00 pm Vigil Mass (Vietnamese)

### SUNDAY

8:30 am Mass (English)

10:30 am Mass (Vietnamese)

Livestream (Facebook and Youtube)

## ANOINTING OF THE SICK MASS

1st Friday of the Month - 5:30pm Adoration  
6:00pm Mass

## CONFESSIONS

Saturday 4:30pm – 4:50pm  
Sunday 8:00am – 8:20am  
Also by Appointment

## Our Lady of Lourdes Parish



### PARISH STAFF

#### PASTOR:

Father Joseph Vu, S.D.D., STL  
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#### Liturgy Coordinator

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### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday: Closed  
Tuesday & Friday: Please Call for Appointment  
Wednesday: 9:30am - 3:00pm  
Thursday: 9:30am - 3:00pm  
Please leave a message if no one answers and your call will be returned.

### FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP:

Donation	\$1,354.00
Donation Online	\$972.00
Maintenance Fund	\$60.00
Debt Reduction	\$0
Children's Donation	\$0
Total Donation	\$2,386.00

**\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE!\*\*\*** You will receive a new tax donation letter with the correct total. The previous letter contained a system error, please accept our apologies.

**THANK YOU to all who donated to Northwest Catholic Magazine last weekend!**

### SPECIAL PREPARES COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND February 13 & 14, 2021

This Catholic Community Service program offers low-income families vital life affirming emotional, material and spiritual support and ensures that no child - born or unborn - is ever abandoned or alone. For more information please visit:

[PREPARESforlife.org](http://PREPARESforlife.org)

PREPARES provides pregnancy & parenting support to mothers and fathers who have chosen life, from pregnancy to their child's fifth birthday.

[www.preparesforlife.org](http://www.preparesforlife.org)

*Statewide Bishops' Valentine Appeal*  
100% of your donation will go directly to serve families in need thanks to the generous sponsorship of the Knights of Columbus Council #676.

### Sunday Readings

#### 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Job 7: 1-4; 1 Corinthians 9: 16-23

Mark 1: 29-39



**He went into their synagogues, preaching and driving out demons.**

**Mark 1: 39**

## Christ Is a Man for Others

Christ is a man for others.

Simon Peter and the other disciples come to him the morning after a day like none they had ever known before.

- Christ's popularity was at a zenith. His preaching was a huge success.
- He dramatically expelled a demon right in the middle of the synagogue.
- And he had spent the entire evening of the Sabbath working miraculous cures and amazing exorcisms. The next morning, his disciples must have been wild with excitement. They may have even thought that Jesus would claim the Messianic kingship right away and gather an army to cast off the despicable Roman occupiers.
- And so, when they awoke to find him gone from the house, and a growing crowd of townspeople clamoring to see him, they were confused.
- They frantically organized a search party and scour the area.
- But when they find him, alone in prayer on the mountaintop, and they tell him that everyone is looking for him, Christ's answer is surprising.
- He tells them it's time to move on, that his mission isn't to maximize his popularity, but to preach the gospel to all of Israel - this is what his Father sent him to do, and no opportunity for mere personal glory will distract him from it.

This was the first installment of a lesson that Jesus would teach over and over, by words and actions: he is not a political figure looking to climb the ladder of success; he is a servant and a messenger, a man for others. In a world that tends to idolize "success" and "achievement," where great souls are withered by the rat race of petty promotions and vaporous rewards, the selfless, transcendent purpose of a man entirely focused on fulfilling someone else's plan (i.e., God's), is like a bright star shining in the darkness.

### Being Advertisements for Christ

One reason so many people find it so hard to believe in Jesus or to follow him is because they don't see Jesus as a man for others.

- Instead, they see Jesus as harsh and judgmental. That is not the Jesus of the Gospels, the Jesus of the crucifix, the Jesus of the Eucharist. So why do they think of him that way?

One of the most common reasons is what the Catechism calls the "counter-witness" of Catholics.

- Every one of us is an advertisement for Christ. As Catholics, we have identified ourselves with Christ and his Church. And so, people who are outside the Church look at us to get an idea of what Christ is like.
- If we gossip, criticize, and talk trash just as much as everyone else, if we live pleasure-seeking, self-indulgent lives, getting drunk and sleeping around just like everyone else, if we look out for number one instead of looking out for our neighbor, if we lie, cheat, cut others down, and manipulate, just like everyone else, well then, is it any mystery why people who know that we are Christ's followers don't decide to follow Christ themselves?

But if they see us walking away from gossip sessions and defending people's reputations,

- if they see us living balanced, well-ordered and joyfully disciplined lives,
- if they see us as compassionate, forgiving, and yet firm in our moral commitments, if they see us trying to swim against the current of the corrupt, ego-centric culture that is tearing society apart, well, then, in that case, they will be drawn towards Christ, not pushed away from him.

As Jesus gives himself to us in today's Mass, let's beg his pardon for the times we have been counter-witnesses, and let's beg his grace to help us be better advertisements for his Kingdom during this coming week.

# SUNDAY'S READINGS

## FIRST READING:

I am filled with restlessness until the dawn. (Jb 7:4)

## PSALM:

Praise the Lord, who heals the brokenhearted. (Ps 147)  
Or Alleluia.

## SECOND READING:

I have become all things to all, to save at least some.  
All this I do for the sake of the gospel,  
so that I too may have a share in it. (1 Cor 9:22-23)

## GOSPEL:

He cured many who were sick with various diseases,  
and he drove out many demons,  
not permitting them to speak because they knew  
him. (Mk 1:34)

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## OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 7, 2021

Sunday: 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Monday: St. Jerome Emiliani; St. Josephine Bakhita, Virgin  
Wednesday: St. Scholastica, Virgin  
Thursday: Our Lady of Lourdes  
Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary  
Next Sunday: 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time; World Marriage Day;  
Valentine's Day



## REFLECT

### FIRST READING

We hear how Job struggled to find meaning and hope in his life. How does your faith help you get through difficult times in your life?

### SECOND READING

Paul speaks of his singular desire to preach the "gospel" (the Good News of Jesus Christ). When do you share the gospel message with others?

### GOSPEL READING

We learn that from the beginning of his public ministry Jesus was very purpose-driven: healing the sick and preaching the good news. How intentional is the practice of faith in your daily life?