



Bulletin

Sacred Heart Parish

Mass: 4:00 pm – Saturdays

Fr. John Yake, I. V. Dei

(902) 535-2053 – Fax: 535-3127

February 19, 2022

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

The **First Reading** is taken from the First Book of Samuel (1 Sam 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23). The prophet Samuel, on the instruction of God, anointed David to be the second king of Israel. Saul the first king, because he had displeased God, was to lose his kingship. His throne was to pass not to his son, but to David, an unknown stranger from the village of Bethlehem. This reading describes the event that occurred during Saul's search for David.

The **Second Reading** is taken from St. Paul's First Epistle to the Corinthians (1 Cor 15:45-49). In this Chapter of Paul's first letter to Corinthians the Apostle is speaking of the resurrection of all men from the dead.

The **Gospel** is taken from St. Luke (Luke 6:27-38). It would at first sight appear that the demands that Christ makes on our charity here are anything but easy. Loving one's enemies is asking a lot. Blessing them and praying for them might be all right for St. Francis but expecting it of us seems to be going very far. Asking for a blow on the second cheek while the first is still twinging with pain seems fit only for a martyr. Not to try to take tack what was stolen from us looks very foolish. Yet it was Christ who made all these demands.

However, before we give up in despair, and decide that this type of Christianity is not for us, let us look a little more closely at the demands that are made. To love our enemy does not mean we must throw our arms about him every time we meet him (he would not let us anyway !). It means we must do all in our power to rid our minds of any hatred of him, and try to see the good that is in him.

Not judging and condemning comes under this heading. Human sinful beings that we are, our faculty for seeing in our neighbor the real man as he is before God, is very limited and very prone to error. There are justly convicted robbers and murderers in our jails, in whom God can see a lot of goodness even now, and perhaps future citizens of heaven later on.

Not demanding back what was unjustly taken from us does not mean that we may not have recourse to the legal or other means available to us for obtaining compensation in such cases. What it does forbid is personal (generally forceful) restoration of our rights and property.

Another consoling point to bear in mind is that the vast majority of our fellowmen have no inclination to injure us in our person or our property and will never do so. If we feel we have a lot of enemies only waiting for the chance to pounce on us, we would do well to examine our own consciences very carefully and then look for the many good points there are in our neighbour's character.

"An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth, life for life" was the practice amongst the Jews at the time of Christ and for centuries before (Ex. 21 :23-25). Christ sets up the "golden rule" of fraternal charity in place of this Law of Talon. Every man should truly love his neighbor for he is his brother. What is more, Christ's mission on earth has made him a son of God and an heir to heaven. Our chief interest in our neighbor must therefore be a spiritual interest. If he offends us, he offends God which is much more serious. Our charity should help him to seek God's forgiveness. That he should seek ours is of very minor importance in comparison with that.

You would like your neighbour to help you to reach heaven. "You go and do

likewise" to your neighbor, and you will both get there.

—Excerpted from *The Sunday Readings* by Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M.

ASH WEDNESDAY LITURGIES

(Ash) Wednesday, March 2, 2022
As with last year the three parishes will celebrate Holy Mass on Ash Wednesday at the time of their usual weekday Mass as follows:

St. Peter's – 9:00am
Holy Guardian Angels – 11:00am
St. John the Baptist – 4:00pm

Collections:

Feb 12, 2022

Envelopes	\$530.00
Loose	\$20.00
Heating	\$90.00
Initial Offering	\$55.00
Donation	\$40.00
Donation to Cemetery Fund I/M of MA Collet	\$25.00
Donation I/M of Donna Boudreau	\$25.00
	\$785.00

Notices:

1: Mass today Saturday Feb 19th, will be in memory of M.A. Collet, who passed away last week

2: Yoga with Lynn Doucette will start on Monday February 28th, and run for 4 weeks. Time: 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm. This will take place at the Parish Hall

3: The Solemn Feast of St. Joseph is on Saturday, March 19

Pope Francis has blessed a number of icons of St. Joseph, one of which will be available to our parishes from Feb 14th to Feb 21st. Veneration of St. Joseph via the icon will be held in our parishes beginning with SH, Saturday Feb 19th, at 4:00 pm, HGA Saturday, Feb 19th at 5:30pm Mass, SJB Sunday, Feb 20th at 9am Mass and SP Sunday Feb 20th at 10:30am Mass. If you wish, a full copy of the complete prayer service can be viewed online on our website: <http://www.eastrichmondcatholic.com>

PATRIS CORDE PRAYER Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man. Blessed Joseph, to us too, ^[I]show yourself a father ^[sEP]and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen. (From the Apostolic Letter of Pope Francis on the 150th Anniversary of the Proclamation of St. Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. Icon by the hand of Elizabeth Bergeron. Based on a drawing by Alexandre Sobolev. Photograph by GrapheStudio.)

Compliments of the KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

A reflection from Fr. Joseph at EWTN on Lent:

The Church gives us the liturgical year — complete with memorials, feasts, solemnities, and special seasons — to help us to grow spiritually and to live our Christian lives more fully.

This is especially true during Lent.

In this season, we willingly join Jesus in His sacrifice. He has given us the dignity to be able to share in His work of redemption, a redemption accomplished through sacrifice and love. That's what gives meaning to our Lenten observances, penances, and sacrifices.

Our Christian life is not just following the Bridegroom and enjoying the Wedding celebration. It's also joining Him in the Cross with the sacrifices that we make during the season of Lent. When we make this journey — a journey of love — we can grow in a life of union with the Beloved of our souls, Jesus.

Join me this season of Lent, as we journey together with Christ on His way to the Cross. You can sign up to receive weekly Lenten meditations and this year's Lenten eBook here: ewtn.com/lent.

I pray that these Lenten reflections will help us all to grow in love and understanding of the Suffering Servant, Jesus Christ.

In Christ,
Father Joseph,