



St. Regina's Church Staff

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Remember In Prayer

Michaelle Box, Fr Robert Ponticello ,
Emanuel Milligan, Leonard Humble ,
Judy Hendricks

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 24, 2021

The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.

A NEW DAY DAWNS

Today we hear how Jonah, sent by God to warn the people, storms through the streets of Nineveh, scaring the citizens out of their wits. And it works! God has a change of heart, seeing “by their actions” how the people turn from evil (Jonah 3:10). A new day dawns.

Next we hear Paul telling the Corinthians, “The world in its present form is passing away” (1 Corinthians 7:31). He calls for a change of heart. Stopping short of telling them to stop carrying out their everyday activities, he urges them—rather mysteriously—to live “as though” they aren’t doing the things they are doing. A new day has dawned.

Finally, Jesus stands on the shore and cries, “The kingdom of God is at hand!” (Mark 1:14). Simon and Andrew abandon their nets—and even their father—and follow him. A new day had dawned.

Everyone has to change when a new day dawns: the Ninevites, the Corinthians, the apostles, even Jesus! Didn’t a new day dawn today for us as well?

The Penitential Rite

Standing together in the presence of the Lord, we acknowledge our weakness, our sins and faults and failings. But the penitential rite is really less about our sins than it is about God’s mercy. It is not a time for individual confession, like a mini-sacrament of reconciliation. It is, rather, a preparatory rite, preparing us to praise the mercy of Christ as we acknowledge our own weakness. When Simon Peter witnesses the miraculous catch of fish—when he realizes who is in the boat with him—he falls at Jesus’ feet with the words, “Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man” (Luke 5:8). We are like Peter. The more aware of the Lord’s presence we become, the more awareness we also have of our sinfulness, our weakness.

The penitential rite of the Mass takes several forms, from the traditional *Confiteor* or “I confess” to a litany, spoken or sung by the deacon or cantor with responses by the entire assembly. The penitential rite always includes the words *Kyrie, eleison; Christe, eleison*—Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy. This ancient Greek prayer came to the Roman liturgy from the East, and still echoes in many of the litanies of the Eastern Rite Churches. These words turn our gaze from our own weakness to the gentleness, the kindness, the forgiving love of Christ.

TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — The Ninevites turn from their evil ways in response to Jonah’s message (Jonah 3:1-5, 10).

Psalms — Teach me your ways, O Lord (Psalm 25).

Second Reading — The world in its present form is passing away (1 Corinthians 7:29-31).

Gospel — Jesus proclaims, “Repent, and believe in the gospel.” The new disciples abandon their nets and follow him (Mark 1:14-20).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Mk 16:15-18

Tuesday: 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5; Ps 96:1-3, 7-8a, 10; Mk 3:31-35

Wednesday: Heb 10:11-18; Ps 110:1-4; Mk 4:1-20

Thursday: Heb 10:19-25; Ps 24:1-6; Mk 4:21-25

Friday: Heb 10:32-39; Ps 37:3-6, 23-24, 39-40; Mk 4:26-34

Saturday: Heb 11:1-2, 8-19; Lk 1:69-75; Mk 4:35-41

Sunday: Dt 18:15-20; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; 1 Cor 7:32-35; Mk 1:21-28

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday: The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle

Tuesday: Ss. Timothy and Titus

Wednesday: St. Angela Merici;

Tu B’Sivat (Jewish new year of trees) begins at sunset

Thursday: St. Thomas Aquinas

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

“Ordinary” is not always a desirable adjective. Who would not be insulted to receive a thank-you note for your “ordinary birthday gift,” or “the ordinary hospitality at the dinner party”? No restaurant advertises its “ordinariness,” no car dealer seats a customer at the steering wheel and whispers, “Look how ordinary it is!” Yet here we are in “Ordinary Time.” The word carries a different meaning here: it does not mean these days are dull, boring, pedestrian, uninteresting. It means “ordinal,” or “numbered” Sundays, a season of the year when we follow the story of Jesus’ life and ministry in an ordered way, with each Sunday assigned an ordinal number.

You can amaze your friends with this example of Catholic arithmetic: the “Ordinary Sundays” begin with the last Sunday of Christmas, the Baptism of the Lord, continue until the Sunday before Ash Wednesday, and resume after a cluster of feasts following Pentecost Sunday. The numbers are calculated by counting backwards from the Solemnity of Christ the King, the Thirty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time. Now you know there is nothing “ordinary” about “Ordinary Time!”

FAMILY INFLUENCE

Disorder in the society is the result of disorder in the family.

Jan 31st

Lector Peggy

WEEKLY OFFERING

BUDGET

\$ 1351.00

Jan 17th

\$891 .00