

A very special thank you to Father Timby for being here with us this month.



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Remember In Prayer

Fr Robert Ponticello, Martha Jo, Kaylee Bowling, ,Michaelle Box James Ferebee, ,Leo Cortez, Abel Cortez,

Danny Pratt, Diana Schachle

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 28TH

FALSE PROPHETS, TRUE PROPHETS

In Deuteronomy today we hear that God's very words will fill the mouth of a true prophet, but a false prophet will, in a manner of speaking, put mere mortal words into God's mouth. In Mark's Gospel, we see Jesus teaching and healing as a true prophet, one filled with the authority of God's own voice, the Holv One of God.

The whole history of our church is filled with both true and false prophets. But in today's Gospel we learn that Jesus' fame spread because he taught with authority; he wasn't an authority because he was popular or famous. We also learn from him, in his desert temptation confrontations with Satan, that anyone can quote scripture, even against God's purposes. And today we hear that his authority was not like that of the scribes, who held the official positions of religious authority in his day. Our work is to do our best to discern the true prophets in our midst, and to be true prophets as well. The psalmist tells us how to do this: by not hardening our hearts when God speaks. If we truly listen to God, it will be God's very words filling our mouths.

.FEAST OF FAITH

I Confess

One form of the penitential rite at the beginning of Mass is the traditional *Confiteor*, or "I confess," a prayer that was formerly prayed by the priest alone at the foot of the altar, bu t which is now prayed by the entire assembly. The Confiteor is at once personal-"I confess"-and communal, prayed aloud, together. We recognize that sin does not just separate us from God; sin comes between us and others, isolating us. We acknowledge that sin has many dimensions, individual and communal: sins of thought, sins of speech, sins of action, sins of omission. Sin is not something that happens to us; sin is something we do. In the Confiteor, we take responsibility for our own actions. The repeated insistence on our "fault," with the ritual gesture of striking the breast, an ancient sign of penitence, is not meant to lower our self-esteem. Rather, it acknowledges our human instinct to transfer the blame whenever we can ("The devil made me do it!"). This prayer stops us short. We take responsibility for ourselves, our actions, our failure to act. Then we cry out to God in those ancient words, Kyrie, eleison-Lord, have mercy. For the sinner who repents, there is mercy. This truth is at the heart of our faith, and it is where the Mass, our feast of faith, begins.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Moses spoke to all the people, saying: "A prophet like me will the LORD, your God, raise up for you" (Deuteronomy 18:15-20).			FEB 4TH	
			LECTOR	MARK
Psalm — If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts (Psalm 95).			SERVERS	LESLIE & MARINA
			COUNTER	TOM & BEVERLY
Second Reading — Brothers and sisters: I should like you to be free of anxieties (1 Corinthians 7:32-35).			FEB 11 TH	
			LECTOR	PEGGY
Gospel — The people were astonished at Jesus' teaching; he taught them as one having authority (Mark 1:21-28).			SERVER	CARLOS & MAX
			COUNTER	MARY & ANN F
			FEB 18TH ^T	
READINGS FOR THE WEEK			LECTOR	BEVERLY
Monday: Gospel: Tuesday: -19:;	Reading 1: 2 Samuel 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13; Mark 5:1-0 Reading 1: 2 Samuel 18:9-10, 14b,24-25a, 30 Gospel: Mark 5:21-43		SERVERS	JESUS & LESLIE
			COUNTER	TOM & BEVERLY
			FEB 25TH	
Wednesday: Mark 6:1-6	Reading 1: 2Samuel 24:2, 9-17; Gospel:		LECTOR	JANET & MARINA
Thursday: Mark 6: 7-	Reading 1: 1Kings 2:1-4, 10-12; Gospel: 13		SERVER	CARLOS & MAX
			COUNTER	MARY & ANN F
Friday:Reading 1: Malachi 3:1-4; Reading 2:Hebrews 2:14-18 Gospel: Luke 2:22-40				
Saturday:	Reading 1: 1 Kings 3:4-13; Gospel: Mark		MORE	
4:35-41			Care more than others think necessary.	

SUNDAY COLLECTION 1-21-2024 \$305.00

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Forty days after Christmas, this week's ancient feast of the Presentation of the Lord is an extension of the shining days of Christ's coming into the depths of winter. This is the day when, for a thousand years, the Church has blessed a year's supply of candles. In many places, a procession forms outside the church. The core memory is of Simeon and Anna's meeting with the infant Jesus and his parents outside the temple on the fortieth day after the child's birth, and the delight of going to the table of the Lord for the Eucharist, a foretaste of our final meeting with Christ.

For some Christians, today is known as "The Meeting," suggesting not only the encounter in the temple, but also our assembly at the Lord's table and our longing for the kingdom. One story suggests that the commotion made by so many candle-bearing, hymn-singing faithful in the wintry fields of Germany on their joyful way to Mass stirred the badger from hibernation to examine this promise of springtime. The interrupted nap of the groundhog is amazingly linked to the light of Christ driving away the shadows of the world's darkness. This beautiful feast only rarely falls on a Sunday. What better reason could there be for candles at dinner tonight?

FEBRUARY 2024

Trust more than others think wise.