


 Our four week Lenten Lecture Series begins this Wednesday evening, **February 25th** following our Lenten Soup Meal. I've decided to provide a sampling of goals we desire to achieve as Catholic Christian men and women. This lecture series, I'm sorry to say, may only appeal to Catholics who are serious about their faith and entering into a deeper and more loving relationship with Jesus Christ.

At the end of the Second Vatican Council the Church Fathers asked the laity to take their rightful place alongside religious Orders and Congregations and embrace the mission of the Church - go out to all the world and proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ. Along with our sisters and brothers of consecrated life, the laity were also challenged to "*consider carefully that through them, to believers and non-believers alike, the Church truly [wishes] to give an increasingly clearer revelation of Christ.*" In other words, all Christians are to be radical Christians, totally committed to God's service and to the imitation of Jesus in such a way that their lives would more clearly reflect Christ's life in the world today.

Catholic Christians - Going Where No One Else Dared To Tread

To be a radical Christian in this sense is no easy task. It demands that a person literally want to "put on Christ," **to** be Christ for others, with the same gentleness and mercy that Jesus showed during his earthly life. This of course means that we are willing to love as Christ did, strip themselves of all that could get in the way of communicating him and his message to others, and be prepared to sacrifice, not others, but ourselves, for the spreading of his kingdom. Becoming more like Christ, however, is not something that happens suddenly, or once and for all. Like any conversion it is an ongoing process, which requires concerned cooperation and a willingness to struggle all during life. Human nature does not yield easily to the growth of a selfless love such as Jesus modeled in his life. There are strong egotistical tendencies and instincts **to** overcome, as well as that fundamental craving of the flesh, the eyes and worldly ambition which exert such a strong pull on our whole being. One thing we have to bear in mind is the fact that, in the Christian view of life, love and the cross are intimately bound together. This is so, not only because Jesus taught us this, but particularly because he practiced what he preached: *There is no greater love than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you* (John 15:13-14). The supreme sign of God's love for us is seen precisely in the offering that Jesus made of himself on the cross to redeem us.

In Christ Jesus and St. Augustine,
 Fr. Gregory Heidenblut, O.S.A.

LENTEN LECTURE SERIES

*Reclaiming Our First Love:
God's Call to Holiness of Life*

All are invited to Fr. Greg's Lenten Lecture series on four Wednesdays in Lent following our soup meals.

By virtue of our baptism into Christ, God has called each of us into a deeper relationship with Himself. We find this calling to be triune; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. This lecture series is intended to provide proven methods and examples, based on the teachings found in Sacred Scripture and the Church, on how to reclaim our first love - Jesus Christ - and how to live a life founded on God's word and the Tradition of the Catholic Church.

The lecture will begin at the end of our soup meals; around 7:00 p.m. and last until 8:30 p.m. The four Wednesday evenings for this lecture series are as follows:

- Wednesday, **February 25th** - Personal Evaluation (Inventory): Where We Are as Lay Catholics
- Wednesday, **March 4th** - Jesus, Our Model for Life as Catholic Christians
- Wednesday, **March 11th** - Where It All Begins: Following Jesus and Asceticism
- Wednesday, **March 25th** - Socio-political dimension of the radical following of Jesus

The lecture series is intended to provide a deeper understanding and more intimate relationship with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.



**A NOTE FROM
OLG PASTORAL PLANNING
COUNCIL**

We would like to hear your comments, suggestions and questions. The OLG PPC will host a table in Stack Center following the 9:00am Mass the first Sunday of each month (next week, **March 1st**) Please come visit with us with questions, concerns or any observations that you might have. We look forward to hearing from you on **March 1st**.



LENTEN WEDNESDAY SOUP MEAL

Please plan on joining us for a simple meal of soup and bread each Wednesday during Lent. It will be a time for fellowship and families coming together. Our Soup Meal follows the 6:00pm Mass. This Wednesday, **February 25th** Soup Meal is sponsored by one of our Small Christian Communities. We thank them for their ministry of hospitality for this meal.

Donations will be accepted to benefit Operation Rice Bowl.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross are offered at Our Lady of Grace, Fridays at 2:30pm and Transfiguration Church, Fridays at 7:30pm during Lent.

OLG FOLK GROUP CD

Our Lord's Grace

During this Holy Season of Lent allow the Folk Group's music to accompany you through this time of prayer and Reconciliation with God and lead you into the joy of Easter and Pentecost. You will find on this 16-track CD songs like "Day of Peace," "I Hunger and Thirst," "My God, My God" and "O Sacred Head," and many more. The CD is available for purchase in the parish office. Share this prayerful gift with your family and friends and don't forget yourself! The CDs are \$15.00. Proceeds from the sales benefit upgrading the OLG sound system.

Thanks for your support and may God's mercy and peace embrace you during this most holy Lenten Season.

Our Lady of Grace Folk Group

BUNDLE SUNDAY IS COMING !

It's time for Spring Cleaning! The St. Vincent de Paul trailer will be at Our Lady of Grace the weekend of **March 14th & 15th** to accept your donations. Conference Members will be available to help you carry the items from your car after all the Masses on that weekend. Thank you for helping us to help others.

REGULATIONS FOR LENT

Abstinence and Fasting:

Abstinence from eating meat is to be observed on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and all Fridays during Lent. This applies to all persons 14 and older. The law of fasting on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday applies to all persons 18 or older and younger than 59.

Fasting means that one full meatless meal per day may be eaten. Two other meatless meals may be taken sufficient to maintain strength, but together they should not equal a full meal. Liquids, including milk and fruit juice, may be taken between meals. If health or ability to work is affected, fasting does not oblige.

Private, self-imposed observance of fasting on Lenten weekdays is strongly recommended. Parents should ensure that children who are not bound by the laws of fast and abstinence are taught an authentic sense of penance, conversion and reconciliation.

Lenten Observance:

Catholics are encouraged to participate in Holy Mass and in the Sacrament of Penance during Lent, and parishes are encouraged to provide regular and frequent opportunities for such participation. Likewise encouraged are devotions such as Stations of the Cross, vigils and prayer services (with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, if opportune). Traditional practices - including increased prayer, Scripture and spiritual reading, alms, personal self-denial in food and drink, increased care and service to the sick and needy - are also suggested.

Easter Duty:

All initiated Catholics are bound by the obligations of receiving Communion at least once a year and to confess sacramentally all serious sins not previously acknowledged in individual Confession. This precept must be fulfilled during the Easter duty season, which is from the first Sunday of Lent until Trinity Sunday.

NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION

We extend a warm welcome to new parishioners and guests. If you would like to register or update information, please stop by Stack Center on either the 2nd or 4th Sunday of the month immediately following the 9:00am Mass. There will be a hospitality volunteer there to greet you at the New Parishioner Registration Table. We are grateful to our volunteers for providing this ministry on our behalf.

Next registration date: February 22nd.

SUNDAY COLLECTION

Stewardship of treasure involves trust in God. You have to really believe in God's Providence and trust that if you give ten percent of your income to the Church and charity for example, God will help you live on the rest.

Offerings of February 15th

Sunday Plate:	\$ 9,360.00
Last Year this week	\$ 10,057.00
Weekly Budgeted Goal:	\$ 8,815.00
Year-to-date this year:	\$ 58,426.00
Year-to-date last year:	\$ 55,783.00

February Budgeted Expenses \$60,000.00

May God bless your continuing generosity.



Your Prayers Are Requested

Please lift up in your prayer those many among us who are ill and those who have asked for our prayerful remembrance:

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| Jose Cisneros | Raymond Lowe |
| Kathleen Denning | Richard Martin |
| Estela Enriquez | Florence Sharp |
| Mary Franks | Josephine Sisler |
| Byron Griffith | James Van Wert |
| Liz Griffith | Yvonne Wheeler |
| Nicholas Guinea | |

As we pray for an end to war and violence in our world, let us remember in prayer those family members of our parish community serving on active duty, including:

- DAVID SANCHEZ MICHAEL SANCHEZ



Please remember in your prayers the recently deceased in our parish families and all who mourn the loss of a loved one.

MILDRED "MILLIE" CUTTS

**Gospel for The Second Sunday of Lent
(March 1st) Mark 1:21-28**

Then they came to Capernaum, and on the sabbath Jesus entered the synagogue and taught. The people were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority and not as the scribes. In their synagogue was a man with an unclean spirit; he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!" Jesus rebuked him and said, "Quiet! Come out of him!" The unclean spirit convulsed him and with a loud cry came out of him. All were amazed and asked one another, "What is this? A new teaching with authority. He commands even the unclean spirits and they obey him." His fame spread everywhere throughout the whole region of Galilee.

WINGS

(Women in God's Spirit)

We invite all women to join us for *WINGS*.

WINGS is a faith enhancement group that encourages Spiritual growth through prayer, scripture study, catechesis, life sharing and community.

We meet at Transfiguration Church
Marion Room

Next Meeting: Thursday, **March 5th**
9:15 to 11:15 a.m.

Speaker: Dr. Doreen Jones

Topic: Lent: Spirituality's Sacred Response:
Witnessing Faith, Hope and Love

**DEVOTIONAL CANDLES
OUR LADY OF GRACE**



Candles for our candle stand are available for purchase in the Parish Office or in the Sacristy after mass on Sundays. The candles will burn for 5 days. The cost per candle is \$3.00. *The glass globes in the candle stand must be left in the church. Simply insert the plastic candle purchased from the Parish in to the globe in the candle stand.*

THIS WEEK

Sunday, February 22nd:

Coffee & Donuts After All Masses

Children's Liturgy of the Word
9:00am--Mass

Religious Education Classes
10:30am--Stack Center

Youth Ministry
After 9:00am Mass in the Gym

Tuesday, February 24th:

Bible Scripture Study
9:30am--Parish Office

Religious Education Classes
3:45pm--Stack Center

Wednesday, February 25th:

Lenten soup Meal
Following 6:00pm Mass

Lenten Lecture Series
Following Soup Meal

Thursday, February 26th:

Serenity Group
8:15pm— Stack Center

Sunday, March 1st:

Coffee & Donuts After All Masses

Children's Liturgy of the Word
9:00am--Mass

Religious Education Classes
10:30am--Stack Center

Youth Ministry
After 9:00am Mass in the Gym

A NOTE FROM THE ICF

Here is a double Italian thank you to all who supported our wonderful bake sale and to the 100+ who attended the Polenta dinner. We hope that everyone enjoyed themselves and are looking forward to seeing many more of you at our March, St. Patrick's day dinner.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Please note: During the school year, our 8:30am Monday Mass will be celebrated in the Church. Unless otherwise noted all other weekday masses will be held in the Chapel.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23rd (CHURCH)

St. Polycarp, Bishop, Martyr
8:30am Jose Daniel Tellez (D)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24th

7:00am Joseph Gomes (D)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25th

7:00am Marvin Picha (D)
6:00pm Maria & Estela Velasquez (D)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26th

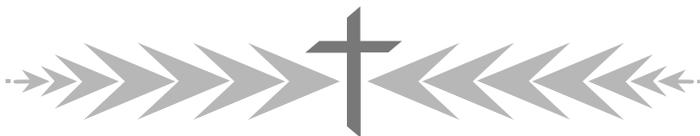
7:00am Vincenzo Latora (D)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27th

7:00am Marvin Picha (D)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28th

8:30am Eutropia Childs (L)



Misa en Español
A las 2:00pm
SPANISH MASS

Fr. Greg will be offering a mass in Spanish one Sunday of every month at 2:00pm in the Church. The next Spanish Mass will be Sunday, **March 15th** at 2:00pm.

EXECUTION ALERTS

The following executions are scheduled to take place in **February**:

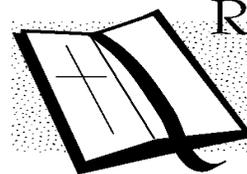
February 19th	John Grant	OK
February 19th	Tommy Arthur	AL
February 26th	Jerry Correll	FL

We ask your prayers for these persons, for the victims of their crimes, and for their families.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

February 23rd through March 1st

- Monday: Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18; Matthew 25:31-46
- Tuesday: Isaiah 55:10-11; Matthew 6:7-15
- Wednesday: Jonah 3:1-10; Luke 11:29-32
- Thursday: Esther 12: 14-16, 23-25; Matthew 7:7-12
- Friday: Ezekiel 18:21-28; Matthew 5:20-26
- Saturday: Deuteronomy 26:16-19; Matthew 5:43-48
- Sunday: Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Romans 8:31b-34; Mark 9:2-10



Repent and believe in the gospel

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ST. VINCENT DE PAUL COLLECTION

The last Sunday of every month our St. Vincent de Paul Society members are outside to receive your financial donations. Your generosity enables this ministry to help the less fortunate in our parish community. With your support our community families will be more able to handle the economic challenges that are impacting their lives. Thank you for your past support and current generosity.



ROSARY FOR WORLD PEACE

The rosary will be recited for World Peace after the 8:30 am Mass each Monday in the Church. Please join us.

THANK THEM WITH YOUR SUPPORT

Please support our advertisers who make our weekly bulletin possible and so generously support our parish. We are grateful to them!

This week we extend our gratitude to:

DON'S BODY SHOP