



February 14, 2021

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Collection February 7, 2021

Collection No Mass
Attendance No Mass

February 17, 2021 Ministers

Lector Donna Hathaway Commentator: TBA

February 21, 2021 Ministers

Lector: Gaby Stanley Commentator: Debbie Grubb

Please be respectful and quiet for those praying before Mass as you enter the sanctuary.

Readings for February 17, 2021

Reading 1: Joel 2:12-18
Reading 2: 2 Corinthians 5:20—6:2
Gospel: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

Readings for February 21, 2021

Reading 1: Genesis 9:8-15
Reading 2: 1 Peter 3:18-22
Gospel: Mark 1:12-15

Information about St. Edward- Daily readings, the bulletin, and other information can be found on our webpage at: <https://stedwardpulaski.org>

Donations- please mail your regular donations to St. Edward's Catholic Church, PO Box 1670, Pulaski, VA 24301 if you are not attending Mass.

Mass Live-Stream- Mass is still live-streamed every Sunday morning at 9:00 at <http://www.facebook.com/stmaryschurchwytheville>

Prayer List- Mike Malloy, Tim Kimbleton, Doug Waldrop, Carol Luttrell, Brenda Lee, Brenda McLawhorn, John Balconi, John McNair, Joan Jennings, Amanda Linkous, Sharon Dalton, Jerry Dalton, Tia Scarpinato, Bill Jennings, Angelo LoMascolo, Lynn Canty, Rick Yost, Carrie Lane, Connie Armentrout, Gerald Kellar, and Father Bernie.
(Please contact Stan Stanley if you have additions or deletions)

Increment Weather- Any time Mass has to be cancelled, an email will be sent out as soon as possible. Also, cancellation will be posted on WSLs 10 and WDBJ 7.

Ash Wednesday Service- Mass and distribution of ashes will be this Wednesday Feb. 17th at St. Edwards at 3:30pm & St. Mary's 5:30pm.

Diocese of Richmond- Check out the website for the Richmond Diocese for what's happening, and updated information on issues that affect Catholics. <https://richmonddiocese.org>

Happy February Birthdays!

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|-------------------------|----------------|
| Cole Trail | Feb. 1 |
| Jennie Willett | Feb. 5 |
| Stephanie Tedesco | Feb. 9 |
| Nancy Bishop | Feb. 9 |
| Melody Riffey | Feb. 11 |
| Amanda Williams | Feb. 11 |
| Karen Audas | Feb. 14 |
| Rebecca Harriman | Feb. 15 |
| Hannah Fleenor | Feb. 18 |
| Dan Butler | Feb. 20 |
| Emelda Tabar | Feb. 27 |

HAPPY VALENTINES DAY!

Happy February Anniversaries

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------|
| John & Mickey Balconi | Feb. 4 |
| Pam & Lee Crowder | Feb. 15 |
| Tim & Mariah Taylor | Feb. 29 |

Covid Tip of the Week- Call your friends and neighbors to check on them. You might find an elderly neighbor or friend who needs help or would just like to talk.

Be Safe!

"Taken from the *Praying Lent* pages of Creighton University's *Online Ministries* web site: www.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online.html. Used with Permission."

Preparing Before Lent Begins

Taking some time to get ready for Lent will ensure that we aren't going to miss the first week or two of Lent, because we are just getting started. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, but we want to be ready to really take off on that day, rather than just beginning to think about Lent on that day. Part of what makes a vacation or a special anniversary so special is the build-up to it.

Before we get to Ash Wednesday, we should start asking ourselves some questions and we should start with some preparations. "What does God want to give me this year?" This question may require that I slow down a bit and listen to my inner spirit. For example, even if I'm very busy, I realize I'm hungry when I hear my stomach start "growling." "What am I going to be doing on Ash Wednesday?" Too often, Ash Wednesday is like every other day, except that I manage to get to church and get ashes on my forehead. Is there anything else I can do on Ash Wednesday? How will fasting and abstaining happen for me, for my family on that special day?

It doesn't take a lot of time to prepare for the beginning of Lent. It just takes desire and focus. God can do so much with that. We can give God more of a space to touch our hearts if we begin to establish some simple patterns. We could wake up each morning, and for something like a half a minute to a minute, stand by the edge of our beds, and just ask the Lord for the grace to let this day be one in which I long for the beginning of Lent. Perhaps we need to ask for specific helps or graces to get ready to begin Lent. Whatever we try to say, our Lord can understand the Spirit trying to speak through our simple words. And all it takes is the time to find and put on our slippers. And each night, in the days ahead, we can practice giving thanks to God before I go to bed. This simple pattern, in the morning and evening can stir our spirits to look forward to and prepare for Lent, as a season of grace.

May our Lord bless us all on this journey ahead.

Ash Wednesday

The ashes we use are the burnt palms from last year's celebration of Passion Sunday. We begin our Lenten journey aware of where we are going.

We want to enter into the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus for us more fully. That is the purpose of our journey. It is why we mark our heads with his cross. It is why we fast today and abstain from meat.

Our Lenten program is not an effort to save ourselves. We have been saved by his sacrifice. Our self-denial helps us, in the darkness that surrounds us, to prepare ourselves to receive his light. For this is a journey to the Easter font, where we will renew the promises of our Baptism, remembering that in dying with him in the waters of Baptism, we are re-born with him to everlasting life.

This year's journey begins today

The First Four Days of Lent

These days serve as an introduction to our Lenten journey. Before we begin the first full week of Lent, we have a powerful set of readings about our Prayer, Repentance, Almsgiving and Fasting. We place ashes on our foreheads and learn about the meaning of death and life. Over two days we pray over the powerful challenge of Isaiah 58. And Jesus reminds us that he is inviting us to a "change of heart."