

SAINT JOSEPH PARISH

February 11, 2024

SIXTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME

520 South Garfield St. Kennewick, WA 99336

Parish Office hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 am to Noon, 1:00 pm-4:00 pm

Parish Office Phone 509-586-3820
Fax 509-586-3558

520 S. Garfield St. Kennewick, WA 99336

Email: parish.office@stjoseph-kennewick.org

Bulletin: receptionist@stjoseph-kennewick.org

Website: www.stjoseph-kennewick.org

St. Joseph School Office 509-586-0481
Children's Center 509-586-1428

WEEKEND MASSES

MISA EL FIN DE SEMANA

Saturday Vigil: 5:30 pm (English)
7:00 pm (Español)

Sunday: 9:00 am, 11:00 am and 5:30 pm
(English)
1:00 pm and 7:00 pm (Español)

WEEKLY MASSES

MISAS ENTRE SEMANA

Monday-Friday: 6:30am & 8:30am, Small Church (English)

Thursday 7:00 pm, Small Church Español)

Saturday 8:30 am, Small Church (English)

First Friday Mass 7:00 pm, Small Church (English)

CONFESSIONS/CONFESIONES

Notice: Saturdays time has been updated.

Saturdays | 3:30 -5: 30 pm | Big Church

Thursdays | 6:00 - 7:00 pm | Small Church

First Friday | 6:30 -7:00 pm | Small Church

BAPTISMS

“As a rule an adult is to be baptized in his or her parish and an infant in the parish of the parents unless a just cause suggests otherwise.” (Canon Law 587 and 2) If you are a parishioner who attends St. Joseph and would like to baptize your child in another parish, you will need a letter from the pastor of St. Joseph giving you permission to do so. If you are not a St. Joseph parishioner and want to baptize your child in this parish, you need to get permission from your pastor to baptize your child here. The parents and sponsors must attend a class before the Baptism of the child.

PRAYER CHAIN

To put someone on the Prayer Chain:

Email parish.office@stjoseph-kennewick.org

or call the Parish Office at 509-586-3820

Pastor
Parochial Vicar
Parochial Vicar
In Residence
Deacons

School Principal
Pastoral Assistant for Administration
Receptionist

Office Assistant
Rel. Education Coordinators

Bookkeeper
Music Director

Parish Staff

Fr. Jose Herrera
Fr. Ricardo A. Villarreal
Fr. Christian Melendez
Fr. Riccardo Keolker
Mr. William Mich
Mr. Juan Garcia
Mr. Herman Farias
Mr. Gustavo Valdivia
Mr. Edilberto Sanchez
Mr. Mike Palmieri

Mr. William Mich
Nancy T. nancy.stjoseph@gmail.com

Rosy M.

Tina D.

Maria R. rel.ed.sat@stjoseph-kennewick.org

Doris R. rel.ed.wed@stjoseph-kennewick.org

Jessie T./Melissa N.

Nina P.



While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. LUKE 24:51

MISSION & CORE VALUES

Our mission and sacred purpose as the parish of St. Joseph is to fully live our Catholic faith, which is rooted in Jesus Christ and the teachings of His Church, to nurture and build our parish so that every parishioner can know, love, and serve God in this world and encourage others to do the same.

Our core values include:

Hope—rooting our ministries and actions in prayer; joyfully carrying them out with competence, care and confidence in God's promise of salvation.

Liturgy—maintaining the highest of ministry standards to bring glory to God through the rites, ceremonies, prayers, and sacraments of the Church.

Community—caring about and addressing the needs of others.

Evangelism—telling others the good news about Jesus.

Giving—practicing stewardship as a way of life by sharing of our time, talents, and treasure to support the mission and ministries.

INQUIRING ADULTS-OCIA

Order of Christian Initiation Of Adults

OCIA is for all adults older than 18 years of age in need of the sacraments of Baptism, Holy Communion, and/or Confirmation. We welcome your interest in exploring the Catholic faith and invite your participation in our year-round OCIA process. Call the Parish Office for more information.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

The Sacrament of the Anointing is the proper Sacrament for those Christians whose health is seriously impaired by sickness, before surgeries, or anyone over the age of 59. Through the Sacrament of Anointing, the Church supports the sick in their struggle against illness and continues Christ's messianic work of healing. If you need the Sacrament of Anointing, please call the Parish Office.

MARRIAGE

Please contact the priest of the parish where you want to celebrate your wedding ceremony to discuss your situation and set the date in the parish calendar. Do this at least six months prior to the day you are planning to marry.

FUNERALS

Death is something that awaits all of us and our loved ones. Yet we often avoid thinking about it. Please let the Parish Office know how we can help with the farewell to your beloved family member.

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Stewardship Message

"Brothers and sisters, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God."

- 1 Corinthians 10:31

Do a quick check of your priorities. Where does God rank in that list? If He's not first, you have some work to do. Putting God first in everything keeps us from putting other "gods" (like our pride, ego, money and possessions) before God. Before making a decision, ask yourself, "Am I doing this for the glory of God or for the glory of me?"

Collection for February 4, 2024

Sunday Offerings	\$19,133.92
Building Fund	\$1079.00
School Donations	\$1,593.54
Diocese	\$13.50

The Parish Office will close early the fourth **Wednesday** of each month. We will be open from 9 am to noon on fourth Wednesdays.

Prayers: For our Armed Forces at home and overseas including **Christian Fraga, Steven Hahn, Ramon Vargas, Ian Dimmick, Christy Hylden, Andrew Jacobsen, Alexander Araujo, Tyson Kaas, Christian Shink, Juan Borrego, Estrella Gomez, Erick Miller, Eric Sheldon, and Justin Dennis Byerly, Wyatt Beaton .**

For our sick including **Drew Schreiber, Gil Gloria, Elaine Himes, Lois and Rick Rutherford, Jan Billings, Rory Valdes, Silvia Rodriguez, Kathleen Barone, Monica Moore, Lourdes Nelson, Jessica Floeter, Billy Sickles, Nestor Barba, Elizabeth Torres, Kim Davis, Kathy Ramirez, Bill Roe, Donna Whitehead, John Curran, Bob and Mary Ross, Alberto Carranza, Danika Whitsett, Father Tom Long, Jerry Mikkelsen, Kelly Freeman, Gus Perez, Jim Nicacio, Arlene Callahan, Dominic Nicacio, Luca Nicacio, Phyllis Pelletier, Nancy Park, Marlene Madrigal, Sherri McKie, Hugo Garcia, Vanessa Nicacio, Carol Smith, Pat Leskovar, Tony Wise, Patty Brown, Armando Rodriguez, Jose Del Angel, Zara Husan, Raquel Cardoza, Samuel Quintanilla, Pat McKie Szacik, Carmen Nava, Mike Draper, Peter Braun, Yolanda Quintero, Hazel Meister, Ernie Skwierczynski, Kendra Skwierczynski, Kolton Hansford, Jeannine Soehnlein, Debbie Lord, Joanne, Judy Kirk, and all parishioners with health problems and for those from our community who have passed away recently especially **Joseph Sullivan, Ofelia Vega, Eric Hernandez.** Please call when your ill family member gets better, so we can make room for**

ADORATION CHAPEL

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION



Openings:

MON. 2 am

THUR. 4 am

The Adoration Chapel is open to visitors.

Please call: Carol, 509-582-5011, or, en español, Delmi, 509-528-8896, to obtain a personal code for entry.

"Love surrenders itself in totality, it gives in profusion and without reserve. With enthusiasm, with vehemence it is sacrificed, it is immolated, it is given for those it loves... the Holy Eucharist is love to the extreme of folly." (Fatima and the Way of Divine Love, p 12)

Welcome to our Parish Community!

If you are new to St. Joseph, we welcome you – whether you have come here from another part of the country, from across the world, or simply from another parish. You have helped us celebrate the liturgy in a beautiful way. If you would like to become part of our Catholic community, please fill out a registration form available on our website. Welcome!

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

February 12-18

Monday, February 12

6:30 am

† Elaine Loftus

8:30 am

Patrick Brinkman (Healing)

Tuesday, February 13

6:30 am

No intentions for this Mass

8:30 am

No intentions for this Mass

Wednesday, February 14

Ash Wednesday

6:30 am, 8:30 am

12:05 pm, 5:30 pm (English)

No intentions for these Masses

7:00 pm (Spanish)

† Apolonio y Lorena Gómez

Thursday, February 15

6:30 am

No intentions for this Mass

8:30 am

† Alex & Clarine Lysiak

6:15 pm -

† Joaquin Vaca

Friday, February 16

6:30 am

No intentions for this Mass

8:30 am

† Beau Hall

Saturday, February 17

8:30 am

No intentions for this Mass

5:30 pm

Religious Ed Congress in LA

7:00 pm

† Agustin Martinez Mojica

† Seferino Campos

† Nicolas Y Consuelo

Manzanares

Sunday, February 18

9:00 am

† Regan Potter Denke

11:00 am

† Lorenzo Araujo

† Candido Zamora

1:00 pm

† Florita Vallejo-Meraz

† Jesus Amador

Congreso de Ed. Religiosa en California

5:30 pm

No intentions for this Mass

7:00 pm

Elba Olvera (B-day)

† Eva Nava Rebuelta



Ash Wednesday February 14, 2024

English Mass | Big Church

6:30 am, 8:30 am, 12:05 pm, 5:30 pm

Misa en Español | Iglesia Grande | 7:00 pm

Thursdays

Lenten Masses

Bilingual

6:15 pm | Small Church

February 15, 22, 29

March 07, 14, 21

Stations of the Cross

(All Fridays during Lent)

Beginning Friday, February 16, 2024

English | 6:00 pm | Small Church

Spanish | 6:00 pm | Big Church

A NOTE FROM SERRA CLUB OF TRI CITIES



Serra Club of the Tri Cities is having its annual Lenten Reflection on Saturday, March 2, 2024, at Christ the King Parish in Richland. The day will start with Mass at 8:00 am and will end by 2:00 pm. Fr. Bob Turner will be the speaker for this event. The topic is **Romans 5:20 and the Eucharist**. There is a \$10.00 Registration fee for food (breakfast and lunch.) This is a great opportunity to be with the Lord during this Lenten season, especially if you are not able to get away for a longer retreat. All are welcome. Please join us. For more information, please call anyone on the list below.

Peggy Schouviller 509-581-7110
 Celine Petersen 509-582-8738
 Bill Davis 509-438-2584

Thank you for donating the flowers for this weekend, February 10 and 11. Thank you for enhancing the Liturgy with live flowers.



MEMORIAL FLOWERS
 FLORES CONMEMORATIVAS

Please join your fellow parishioners, students, and members of local churches to pray for LIFE February 14 through March 24. Please take this opportunity to pray to end abortions at Planned Parenthood, the local abortion clinic. 40 Days for Life is organizing concerned people to pray any time that week. Parishioners are encouraged to join other Catholics on Sundays from 2 pm to 3 pm; Students for Life on Fridays from 3 pm to 4 pm; and/or Mom and Kids on Fridays from 2 pm to 2:30 pm.

We are allowed to pray on the sidewalk in front of the Mexican/Crepe restaurant just down from Hope Medical and directly across from Planned Parenthood. Parking is available along the sidewalk or up the street across from Hope Medical.

The Parish Office will be closed for **Presidents' Day** Monday, February 19, 2024



Sacrament Reception Dates

OCIA(Adults) and RCIC (Children) Easter Vigil the elect for Baptism & Full Communion March 30 • 8:00 pm	Confirmation Year Two (MS/HS): Saturday, April 20 7:00 pm (Spanish) First Communion: Saturday, April 27 • 10 am (Spanish)
Confirmation Year Two (MS/HS): Saturday, April 20 5:30 pm (English)	First Communion for Children: Sunday, April 28 11:00am (English)



SUNDAY LITURGY REFLECTION

By Fr. Riccardo Keolker

Wednesday, February 14 at 2:15 pm
 On FaceBook and YouTube.

Traveling Vocations Crucifixes

Courtesy of the Serra Club of the Tri Cities, St. Joseph Parish has two Traveling Vocations Crucifixes—one at the 9:00 am Mass and one at the 1:00 pm Mass. Sign up to take a crucifix (box includes the crucifix, rosary, and prayer cards) home for one week and pray for vocations—all vocations, but especially vocations to the Priesthood, Diaconate, and Vowed Religious Life. We pray that more men and women will hear God's call and say yes. Remember, without priests, we would not have access to the Holy Eucharist and other sacraments.

2/11 Anne Jacks
 2/18 Elissia Rodriguez

With questions or to sign up, contact Celine Petersen, 509-582-8738, or Irma Valdivia, 509-366-4422.

Bible Study

Hebrews

"The New & Eternal Covenant"

Wednesday, February 21-April 10

Time: 9:30 -11:00 am

Location: Parish Office—Second Floor

Cost: \$28 for material

For more information or to register, contact Laura Sieler at 509-585-7630.

We will have olivewood carvings available to purchase after all Masses **March 23-24**. The proceeds are to support Catholic families in the Holy Land since producing the carvings is a major source of income for Christians there. The wares were made by more than 80 families in Bethlehem. Examples of items available are: beautiful and unique nativities, crucifixes, rosaries, and statues. The Christian population in the Holy Land has decreased from 22% to less than 2% in the past two decades. You can help Christians stay in their Holy Land homes by supporting their art.

Knights of Columbus Fish Frys!

March 1 and March 22 in Dillon Hall
 Meal served from 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm

March 22 on Fish Fry will be a Clergy Appreciation Dinner. Come and show your support and appreciation for all our priests and permanent deacons.

Great Menu:

Deep Fried Fish, Clam Chowder, Baked Potatoes, Coleslaw, French Fries, Corn, Rolls, Hot and Cold Beverages

Adults \$15
 Seniors (55&over) \$13
 Takeout Meals \$13
 Youth (5-7) \$11

Meals for Children 4 and under are free.

St. Joseph Parish

Thursdays
Lenten Mass
Bilingual

6:15 PM | Small Church

February 15, 22, 29

March 07, 14, 21

NO RECONCILIATION (CONFESSIONS)



Join us for the first soup night on February 22 in Dillon Hall Soup served after Mass (doors open at 4 pm)

Soup nights are times of community fellowship which incorporate the Lenten themes of fasting (a simple meal- soups & bread), almsgiving (a donation), and prayer (for those who attended the Mass prior to eating.)

LENT 2024

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday


Friday

Saturday

"Lent is the liturgical season of forty days which begins with Ash Wednesday and ends with the celebration of the Paschal Mystery (Easter Triduum). Lent is the primary penitential season in the Church's liturgical year, reflecting the forty days Jesus spent in the desert in fasting and prayer" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*).

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
18 Scroll through your phone contacts and offer your Communion for whichever person you land on.	19 Keep custody of the thoughts: give up complaining, rash judgement, and negative self-talk. See holiness – and productivity! – increase.	20 Pick a saint to accompany you during Lent. Learn more about them and ask them to pray for you.	21 Find a pro-life pregnancy center near you and ask how you can help them support the women and their babies.	22 Put out an empty box. Throughout Lent, fill it with gently used items in good condition that you no longer use.	23 Observe a screen fast (from recreational use) from noon to 3, recalling the 3 hours Jesus hung on the Cross.	24 Make up bags of socks, oranges, and bottled water to offer people who are homeless.
25 Stay after Mass and pray for the intentions of the pope.	26 Ask God to remind you of His love for you today – it's a prayer He loves to answer. Thank Him tonight before bed.	27 Make a small sacrifice today for souls: e.g., no cream in your coffee, no snacks before dinner.	28 Give up worry. Write down what worries you and leave it before an image of Jesus, surrendering it to His care.	29 Stop by the parish office and ask what upcoming events you can volunteer with (e.g. setting up St. Joseph's table).	1 March Attend Daily Mass and/or spend some time before the Blessed Sacrament in honor of Jesus' Sacred Heart.	2 Our Lady urged praying the Rosary to bring peace. Pray a Rosary in honor of Mary's Immaculate Heart.
3 Meditate on today's Gospel (John 2:13-25). Where can you "clean the temple" of your heart to make more room for God?	4 Learn something new about your Faith: skim the glossary of the Catechism for an unfamiliar term and learn more about it.	5 Check out Catholic Relief Services at www.crs.org to see how you can help support any of their projects.	6 Meditate on Scripture on-the-go. Copy down a favorite Bible verse and carry it with you all day. Pray with it whenever you have to wait.	7 Catch up with a friend you haven't heard from in a while.	8 Attend a Stations of the Cross service or pray them on your own. Find them here: www.usccb.org .	9 Give others the gift of your presence: ask about their work, interests, or family, and listen attentively while they speak.
10 <i>Laetare Sunday</i> Rejoice! Have some holy fun after Mass today.	11 This whole week, give up recreational screen time after 9PM and give that time to God.	12 Renew your commitment to your Lenten promises.	13 Do a thorough Examination of Conscience, then go to Confession to be freed of your sins and experience God's mercy.	14 Today, choose kindness. Resolve to smile at everyone you meet.	15 Make an additional small sacrifice of your choosing and pray for the unborn children and their mothers.	16 Volunteer at a retirement community. Call ahead and ask how you can serve (e.g., reading to the residents, donating needed items).
17 Consider offering your Communion at Mass for missionaries, teachers, and catechists – anyone who passes on the Faith.	18 Until the end of Lent, only buy essentials like food, medicine, etc.	19 <i>St. Joseph's Day</i> Happy Solemnity! Enjoy pastries today to celebrate. Prayerfully entrust husbands and fathers to St. Joseph's protection.	20 Drop off the box of clothes at its destination.	21 Find time today to visit the Blessed Sacrament, even if briefly. Pray that everyone has a safe and spiritually fruitful Holy Week.	22 The King is coming! Clean the house in preparation for Palm Sunday.	23 Praying for the dead is a work of mercy. Visit a cemetery and pray for the souls there.
24 <i>Palm Sunday</i> During the Gospel readings at Mass, imagine you're in the scene. How would you respond?	25 Offer extra prayers today for those coming into the Church at Easter.	26 Evaluate your Lent. Where did you see spiritual growth? What would you do differently next year?	27 Today recalls Judas' betrayal of Christ. Ask forgiveness from those you have hurt. Forgive those who have hurt you.	28 <i>Holy Thursday</i> Today, Christ instituted the Holy Eucharist and the Priesthood. Send a priest a thank-you card for all the ways He's served you.	29 <i>Good Friday</i> Read Mark 15 and reflect on Jesus' love for you. Name one way you'll return His love.	30 <i>Holy Saturday</i> Light a candle and renew your baptismal vows to remain faithful to God this coming year.

 = a day of fasting and abstinence from meat

 = a day of abstinence from meat

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

February 2024

St. Joseph Parish
Fr. Jose Herrera, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

St. Josephine Bakhita

Born in Darfur, Sudan around 1869, she was kidnapped and sold into slavery. Her captors gave her the name Bakhita, meaning "fortunate." After several years of serving under cruel masters, she was bought by Augusto Michieli. The Michielis sent Bakhita with their daughter to Italy, where Bakhita encountered Catholicism. Overjoyed, she was baptized and took the name Josephine. In 1893, instead of returning to Africa with the Michielis, she entered the Institute of St. Magdalene of Canossa.



The moment of truth

Conversion begins when we accept responsibility for our failures. Lent is an opportunity to stop and take a good look at our lives. Identify all the ways that sin keeps you from living the way Jesus taught us to live. Know that it may take courage to face your shortfalls.

"Apart from the cross, there is no other ladder by which we may get to heaven." St. Rose of Lima



Deepen the connection to Christ during Lent

The key to a fruitful Lent is not to perform miserable penances. A good Lent hinges on encountering Christ in a personal way and letting Him change our hearts and minds. In fact, an effective way to deepen our encounter with Him is through the Eucharist. Consider these suggestions:

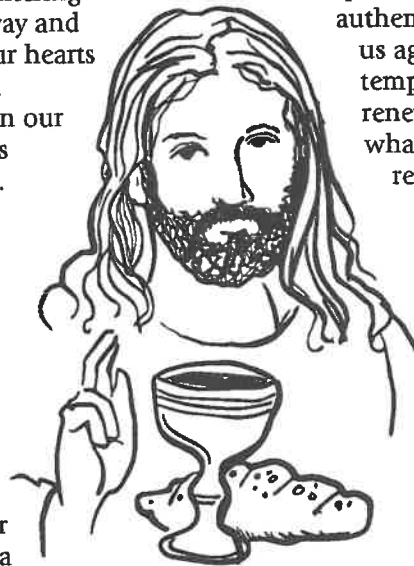
"Here I am, Lord. Love me!" Mother Teresa told her sisters to start their chapel time with this bold prayer, "Here I am, Lord. Love me!" No matter whether you are in His Presence for Mass, a holy hour, or a quick visit in front of the Blessed Sacrament, begin with, "Here I am, Lord. Love me!" It's a prayer of faith God delights to answer.

Live for the next Communion.

Every Communion deepens our union with God, strengthens our faith, helps us love more authentically, and immunizes us against future temptations. Each week, renew your resolve to do whatever is needed to receive Jesus well. For example, avoid activity or entertainment that tempts you away from God, and if you sin seriously, immediately go to Confession and start anew.

Invite others to the feast. Invite a friend, neighbor or colleague to Mass or Adoration

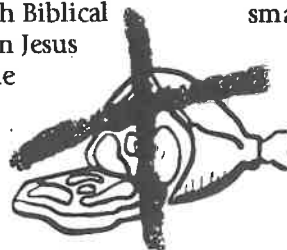
with you. Pray for priests to stay close to the Eucharist. Most importantly, pray that more people come to faithfully encounter Jesus in the tabernacle.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics have to fast on Ash Wednesday?

Fasting is a practice with Biblical roots, most notably, when Jesus fasted for forty days in the desert. Those in good health, aged 18-59, are required to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. We're permitted one full meal and two



smaller meals that together don't equal the full meal. This includes abstaining from meat. Fasting expresses our recognition that we've sinned and desire to make amends. It purifies our hearts and frees them to love God and others well.

Pope Francis's three-point approach to Confession

Instead of dreading seeking the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation (Confession), Pope Francis suggested we look at it as "the Sacrament of the tenderness of God, His way of embracing us." Follow the pope's three-point approach to the Sacrament:

What's my intention? Rather than an obligation, consider the Sacrament a fresh start. Firmly resolve, from this moment forward, to give up the activities or behaviors that separate you from God. The firm resolution to change is key to receiving absolution effectively.

Are there loose ends? Unconfessed sin creates



distance between us and God. Make sure you have not withheld mortal sins in prior Confessions, either intentionally or accidentally. If you become aware that you have, confess them and leave the confessional a new man or woman.

Have I completed the assigned penance?

The Sacrament is meant to change us.

Purposefully make amends and continue your resolutions to realign your life to the Gospel.

Seeking Reconciliation often and staying in a state of grace helps us become holier people of God.

from Scripture

Mark 9:2-10, Heavenly glory, not worldly power

In Jesus' time, Israel was occupied by the Romans. The Israelites already had a long history of being attacked and conquered by other nations. The Jews dreamed of the day when the Messiah would set them free and make them the victors.

God had set up Moses as liberator and lawgiver, and sent them Elijah, the first of the great prophets who foretold Christ's coming. So when Jesus was transfigured in glory with Moses and Elijah, the Apostles assumed that God was revealing Jesus as the Messiah.

Moses and Elijah spoke with Jesus about His death and Resurrection.

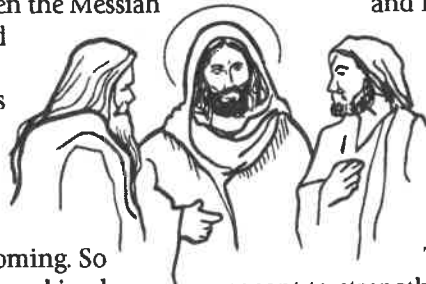
Jesus warned His disciples that He would suffer and die (Mark 8:31).

While many Jews were expecting the Messiah to overthrow the Romans and make Himself king,

God revealed that the Messiah would save His people by His own death and Resurrection.

The

Transfiguration was meant to strengthen the faith of the Apostles and prepare them for the Passion. The Transfiguration reminds us that however difficult this life may be there is unimaginable glory that awaits us in Heaven.



Q & A Why should we "offer it up"?

When tempted to complain about suffering, we may be encouraged to "offer it up" instead. This act of surrender carries incredible spiritual power.

A share in Christ's Cross. Because Jesus is God, His suffering and sacrifice have infinite value. When we unite even our



small sufferings to Jesus' suffering, it takes on an infinite value in helping Him to save souls.

Spiritual "strength training." When we offer

our sufferings to God, He is able to work on our hearts. Suffering for others helps us to become less selfish and more compassionate, less hard-hearted and more patient, less self-indulgent and more generous. Our hearts emerge more Christ-like, and better able to love.

Prudence is needed. Under most circumstances, encouragement to "offer it up" works as a spiritual discipline for inconveniences or mild suffering. Sometimes, however, remediation or professional help may be needed. God sees the sincerity of our love so we can still offer our suffering to Him and yet take constructive action to remediate whatever is causing the suffering. Be prudent.

Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.

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Feasts & Celebrations

February 3 – St. Blaise (316). A bishop in fourth-century Turkey, St. Blaise was arrested for being a Christian. On his way to jail, he healed a young boy choking on a fish bone. Refusing to deny his faith, the bishop was martyred.

February 11 – Our Lady of Lourdes (1858). A heavenly lady appeared to St. Bernadette Soubirous, a poor girl from a French village, and a spring with miraculous, healing waters emerged from a nearby cave. The lady revealed herself as the "Immaculate

Conception," the Blessed Virgin Mary.

February 14 – Ash Wednesday. The first day of Lent. Ashes of old palms are placed on the forehead as a sign of penance. It's also a day of abstinence from meat and fasting – one regular meal and two small meals that together don't equal a full meal.

February 22 – The Chair of St. Peter. Marking St. Peter's establishment of the Holy See, on this festival we thank God for His Church and pray for its holy preservation.

