

*The Parish Family of
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church*

One Passaic Street, Ridgewood, New Jersey 07450
www.olmcridgewood.com

COME WORSHIP WITH US

WEEKENDS

Saturday: 5:30pm

Sunday: 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am
12:30pm, 3:00pm (Spanish) and 6:30pm

WEEKDAYS

6:30am, 8:30am and 12:00 noon

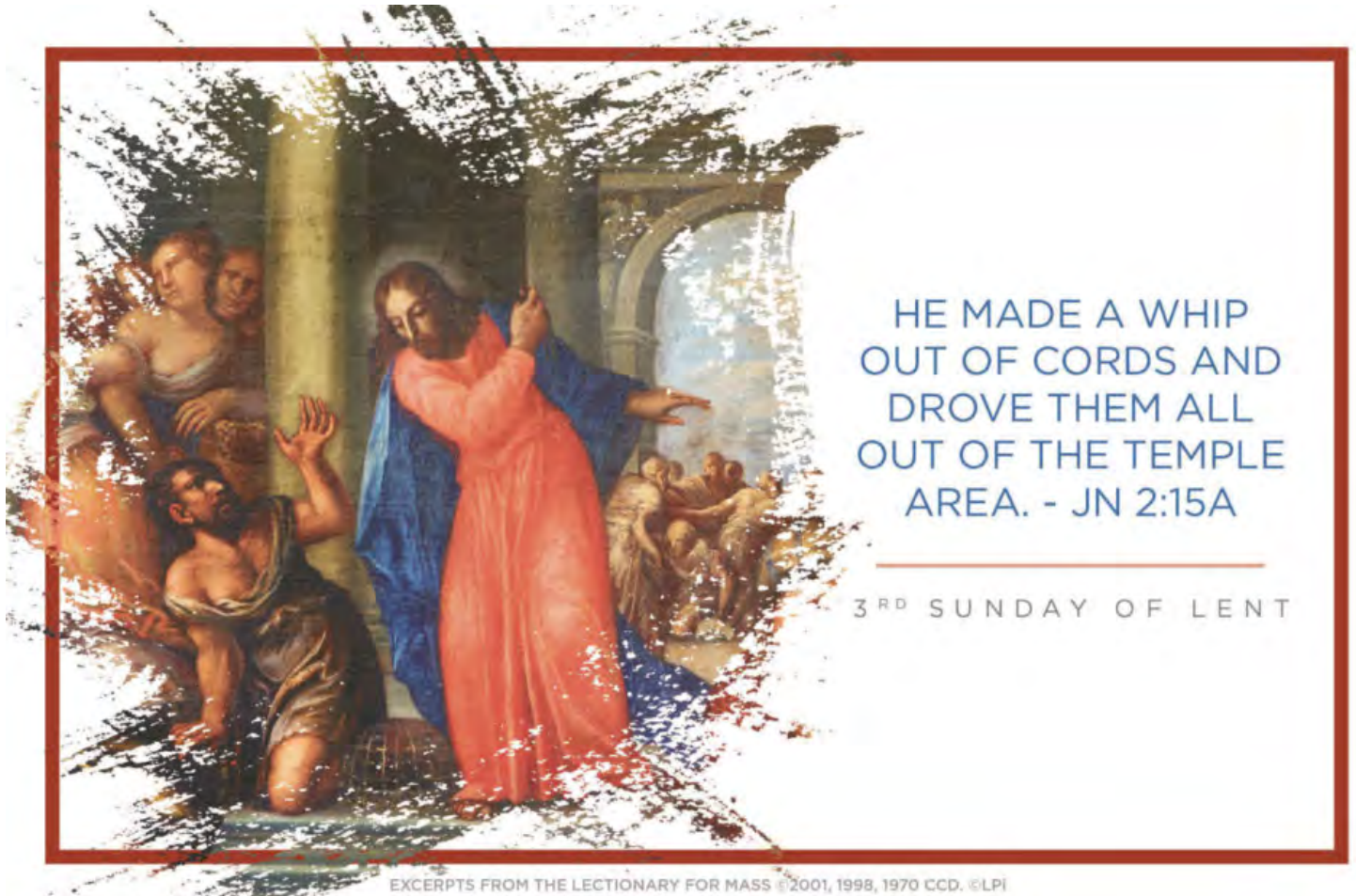
Saturdays: 8:30am

HOLY DAYS

Eve: 7:30pm (anticipated)

6:30am, 8:30am, and 12:00 noon

Third Sunday of Lent ~ March 3, 2024



HE MADE A WHIP
OUT OF CORDS AND
DROVE THEM ALL
OUT OF THE TEMPLE
AREA. - JN 2:15A

3RD SUNDAY OF LENT



PARISH DIRECTORY
www.olmcridgewood.com

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Parish Office Hours

Monday-Friday—9AM-8PM | Saturday-Sunday—9AM-2PM

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Dear Friends,

I am continuing these extended reflections on the Sunday's readings.

For the past two Sundays, the Scripture readings have focused on sin, repentance and change of heart. On the 1st Sunday of Lent we were challenged to come to grips with our personal sins, to understand life as a battle between the power of God in our lives and the power of the Evil One, the *Adversary*, marked by sin, doubts about God's love and care for us and His presence in our lives. Following Jesus' example in the desert, we were called to take on this war against that power in our lives, knowing that God is there to walk with us.

Last week, Scripture assured us that the victory could be ours and strengthened us with the image of the Transfigured Lord, beloved of the Father to Whom we should listen so as to find our way through the distractions and temptations of life. For those who are transformed by faith, a final and complete transformation awaits them in the Kingdom.

So, thus far, the clear focus of the Lenten season has been on transformation and the change of heart that is necessary to achieve salvation. But with today's readings, a shift begins to occur, one that will be even clearer in next week's readings.

The 1st Reading today makes even more specific the change of heart we need by presenting us with the standard by which we are to measure our lives. To confront who we really are is to carefully look at our lives in the light of the commandments, the very specific actions that God has told us we are either to do (honor your father and your mother) or not to do (thou shalt have no strange gods before me). The commandments stand as the terms of the covenant between God and ourselves, the agreements by which we come to be as either faithful or unfaithful. When we judge ourselves by looking at these commandments we discover whether we are really putting the *Adversary* to flight, or falling in behind him. How well are you doing?

But as we move on to the 2nd Reading, and especially the Gospel, we can see the shift. The focus in the Gospel is on Jesus as the replacement of the Temple, as the new covenant in which we will find that salvation we were looking for through the commandments. It is now about faith in the person of Jesus, about the strength of that faith in the face of a world that tells us faith is outdated and unimportant. It is about the way He lived and what He taught and how He offered Himself for us and our need to live in that image, offering ourselves for others. It is about knowing that because we are His brothers and sisters (through baptism); we are never abandoned, never alone, never without the Divine consolation which accompanies us as we walk our journey through life, even, and perhaps especially, in the darkest of those days, whatever the reason. All of these are the implications of that simple sentence, "destroy this temple and I will build it up in three days," referring, of course, to His death and resurrection.

Beginning today, it should be Jesus Who becomes the focus of our Lenten attention. Because He is the wisdom and the power of God, we need to ask ourselves whether He truly is that for us. Where do we look for wisdom, the wisdom that guides our

daily lives? How is He power for us in a world that uses manipulation, distortion, carefully crafted “public opinion” to set a course for the world that leaves us wondering what kind of future will it be for our children and grandchildren?

As we begin to reflect in the next few weeks on who Jesus really is, the implications of our answer are no academic exercise. They really do touch on our daily living. Think about it.

God Bless,
Fr. Ron

PS. Another plug for participation in the Annual Appeal. The campaign link is on the homepage of the website.



A recurring online gift to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel is the best way to sustain the mission of this parish all year long.



Look for the **WeShare** link on our homepage, scan this QR Code, or call 877.316.0260



You're Invited to a
CELEBRATION OF Hope

Thursday, March 14th 6PM-9PM
Liberty House ~ Liberty State Park, Jersey City

York Street Project's annual spring event will honor Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish and our OLMC MOMs Ministry this year for providing 35 years of partnership and care to the children and families of the York Street Project. Sponsorships for tables, individual tickets and E-Ads are available.

Contact Christine Kane Perez at:
ccperez@yorkstreetproject.org, 201.451.8225 x138

Family Movie Night
"Lion of Judah"

Friday, March 15th | 7:00PM | Parish Center

Follow the adventures of a bold lamb and his stable friends in this heart-warming account of the Easter story as seen through the eyes of a lovable pig, a faint-hearted horse, a pedantic rat, a rambling rooster, a motherly cow and a downtrodden donkey.

Bring a blanket, sleeping bag or beach chair and make yourself comfy. PJ's welcome! Bring a water bottle. We'll supply the popcorn!

K of C Saint Patrick's Day Dinner Dance

THIS SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 2024—7:00PM

Dinner! Dancing! Entertainment!
Grand Prize Raffle Drawing—\$2,000 Bank Card!

Tickets \$70/person

Reservations: Jeff Voigt

meddevconsultant@aol.com or 201.790.1521

ANNUAL²⁰²⁴ APPEAL

Donate online: www.rcan.org/sharing

Make sure to select Our Lady of Mt. Carmel—Ridgewood
From the drop-down menu

Checks (payable: 2024 Annual Appeal) may also be placed in the collection basket, in the boxes at the doors of the church, or mailed/dropped off at the rectory.

STEWARDSHIP

“Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.” St. Paul’s words in the 2nd Reading challenge the Christian to accept Christ as just that, power and wisdom, rejecting both the power and wisdom of this world. And then dedicating oneself to living accordingly, building the Kingdom with its foundation in that power and wisdom. Do you? Or have you found power and wisdom elsewhere?

The parish Stewardship of Treasure last week was \$14,251. The Stewardship of Treasure for the month of February will appear in next Sunday’s bulletin. God bless all who witness to the Gospel through your material generosity to the parish.

DRAWINGS BEGIN MARCH 8TH!

A winner every day through June 7th!
92 Chances to Win!!! ~ \$9,800 in Prizes!!!

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Contact Erin O'Halloran for Tickets
erinohalloran@rocketmail.com, 917.621.7241

or stop by the OLMC Rectory Office
Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm

Cash or Check—\$20/ticket



Career Resources Ministry
Spring Format

We are a ministry that is free and open to all, regardless of affiliation, who are anticipating unemployment or are already unemployed.

This spring, due to the present lower unemployment rate, we are going to offer personal, unemployment counseling, in person or by phone, depending upon our counselors' availability.

Please feel free to contact anyone below for more information:

Carol Shea: carolcareers@gmail.com

Ed McCabe: efxmccabe@hotmail.com or 551.265.0175

Rich Kritzer, rich.kritzer@gmail.com

As always, we look forward to working with you.

All are Welcome!

Join us for Morning Prayer Monday-Friday—6:00AM
Lower Level of the School Building

Enter through the rear door.

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT



YOUTH MINISTRY MONTHLY FOOD DRIVE **THIS COMING SATURDAY MARCH 9TH—9AM-12NN**

Drive thru drop off in the school building driveway.

These Food Drives, planned and staffed by Mt. Carmel's Youth Ministry, support: Fr. English Food Pantry, Social Services Association, Ridgecrest Senior Living and Healing Meals (fresh produce/food items). Your generosity is greatly appreciated by those served.

Updated Needs for Healing Meals: fresh carrots/celery/onions, canned chick peas, canned cannellini beans, whole wheat elbow macaroni, olive oil, canned diced tomatoes, lasagna noodles—only Barilla regular (not oven ready).

Consider helping our efforts by volunteering to be a driver, bringing collected food to one of the pantries.

Frozen casseroles will also be collected at this food drive.

Questions may be directed to Glen McCall
gmccall@olmcridgewood.com

Jesus & Me Story Time
Saturday, March 9th, 10:30AM
Parish Center Meeting Room

Bring your child, grandchild or godchild to a fun, faith-filled story time for young children ages 2-1/2 to 5.

For more information contact Adriana DeCandia
thedomesticchurch61@gmail.com

Ministry of Motherhood (MOMs) TWO MEETINGS THIS MONTH!



Wednesday, March 6th | 9:15AM-11:15AM | Parish Center

Guest Speaker: Glen McCall
Topic: Our Children's Faith Journey

OLMC's very own Director of Youth Ministry will lead us in a discussion on our children's faith journey. We will have the opportunity to reflect on our role as mothers through all stages of parenthood. Once a mother—always a mother. Let's come together to understand the best way for us to support our children—at every age.

Wednesday, March 20th | 7:00PM-9:30PM | Parish Center

"A WAY OF THE CROSS FOR MOTHERS"

A Way of the Cross for Mothers is a very special experience. We gather and share in a personal reflection journey through the Stations of the Cross, focusing on our role as mothers and how the ups and downs of motherhood can draw us closer to the Lord.

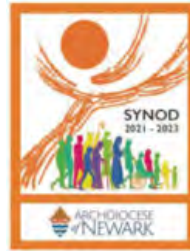
For more information, go to www.olmcmoms.com or email Jackie Carter at OLMcmomsridgewoodnj@gmail.com



Stations of the Cross will be prayed every Friday during Lent, immediately following the 12NN daily Mass.
All are welcome!

SYNOD LISTENING SESSIONS

The Secretariat for the Synod of Bishops has asked local dioceses to hold further listening sessions in preparation for this October's Assembly in Rome. To fulfill this request, the Archdiocese will host several sessions for priests, the Spanish-speaking community, and the general public at various locations throughout February and March. The purpose of these sessions is to DEEPEN the conversation around ways to engage all the baptized in full participation in the mission of the Church. We will be using the synodal process of Conversation in the Spirit



March 8, 2024—6:45PM-9:00PM

St. John Paul II Youth Retreat Center
Sacred Heart Center (under the church)
499 Belgrove Drive, Kearny
Light Supper available at 6:15PM

March 14, 2024—6:45PM-9:00PM

St. Helen, Westfield Parish Center
1600 Rahway Avenue, Westfield
Light Supper available at 6:15PM

RSVP: <https://forms.gle/gjZgeZv1pjAzprAa7>

Your registration will be confirmed and materials and reading assignments will be sent ahead of time. Reading and prayerful preparation is essential for this process of Conversation in the Spirit and discernment. We look forward to seeing you!

Academy of Our Lady presents... LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS THURSDAY, MARCH 21ST—12:30PM

Everyone is invited to join the 8th Grade class from Academy of Our Lady as they present the Living Stations of the Cross on Thursday, March 21st immediately following our 12:00 noon daily Mass.

Italian Apostolate of the Archdiocese of Newark presents... CABRINI

Friday, March 8th | 7PM | Hawthorne Theater
300 Lafayette Avenue, Hawthorne

The Italian Apostolate of Newark is sponsoring a premier showing of CABRINI. Tickets are \$20/each and includes admission, a Q&A session featuring a special guest, and a donation to the Apostolate. Go to: cabrini.ticketleap.com for tickets. Come celebrate the life of this local saint, Mother Cabrini, and all she did for the Italian-American community and our area!

GOOD FRIDAY—THE WAY OF THE CROSS FRIDAY, MARCH 29TH | 7:30PM | IN THE CHURCH

You're invited to join us for a soul-stirring journey through "The Way of the Cross" on Good Friday. Experience the profound journey of Jesus' road of sacrifice and our path to redemption. Our Contemporary Band will provide heartfelt music and Bishop Michael Saporito (our Regional Bishop) will preach an inspiring message. Come, walk the Way of the Cross.



PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION (PEA)

**CHAPEL IS OPEN 24/7
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

Over 100 Adorers attended the PEA Communion Breakfast held in the Parish Center last Sunday. Everyone had a wonderful time and was happy to be connected with fellow Adorers and share the blessings of PEA. And, Market Basket did a great job with the food!

Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration is primarily for the 24/7 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. However, we have opportunities throughout the year for us to create happy memories together like one big spiritual family—the Communion Breakfast during winter, the BBQ in summer, and our annual anniversary celebration on Corpus Christi in the spring.

Mark your calendar—this year the Feast of Corpus Christi will be celebrated on June 2, 2024. We look forward to the Procession of the Holy Eucharist on this Feast – celebrating the 22nd anniversary of PEA at Our Lady of Mount Carmel. There will be a big reception at the Parish Center and everyone is welcome!

Everyone is invited to participate in PEA. Stop by the chapel at any time or better yet sign up for an hour that is good for you to help keep the door open to anyone seeking peace, seeking God.

SCHEDULED ADORERS URGENTLY NEEDED

Mondays: 4-5PM; Fridays: 2-3AM, 4-5AM; Saturdays: 3-4PM

Contact Cynthia—551.574.1063, cynthiabtorres@yahoo.com

YOUNG CATHOLIC PROFESSIONALS EXECUTIVE SPEAKER SERIES THIS THURSDAY, MARCH 7TH—7:00PM—OLMC PARISH CENTER

Guest Speaker—Christian Clark, J.D.

Topic—Evidence of the Resurrection, *A Lawyer's Analysis*

Would the evidence of Jesus' resurrection from the dead hold up in a court of law? Christian Clark, Harvard Law School graduate, will investigate the biblical account of the resurrection with a lawyer's critical eye. There will be time for Q&A after the talk. Attendees enjoy complimentary drinks and appetizers and have a chance to network before and after the evening's discussion.

Event is FREE but please RSVP at bit.ly/march7ess

Men's Weekend Retreat at Loyola

May 3-5, 2024

Loyola Jesuit Center in Moristown, NJ

Please join men from our parish family for a quiet listening Retreat. It is truly a wonderful experience, and the cost is a free will offering. All are welcome at Loyola regardless of financial status. For more information visit www.loyola.org or contact Dcn. Bob Liwanag, 201.663.3644, bob.liwanag@olmcridgewood.com or Bob Reilly, 201.447.2430 rpreilly1@hotmail.com

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS SERVING IN THE MILITARY:

Timothy Bombace, Aedan Cannon, Edgar Delgado,
Durkin McCarthy, John Morano,
James Nardelli, Robert Smith

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sun. Mar. 3	10:15AM First Communion Retreat (Church) 1:00PM Bell Choir Rehearsal (PCB) 1:30PM RCIA (MR) 2:15PM CYO Basketball (Gym) 4:00PM Spanish Apostolate (PCA) 4:30PM Spanish>English Class (Library) 5:00PM Jr. High 7C (MR) 7:30PM Jr. High 7D (MR)
Mon. Mar. 4	7:30PM Curtis/Fitzgerald Conf. Group (YCA) 4:00PM Religious Ed Confessions (Church) 5:00PM Summer Heatt Basketball (Gym) 7:00PM Religious Ed Confessions (Church) 7:30PM Men's Cornerstone (MR)
Tue. Mar. 5	3:45PM Jr. High 7A (PC) 4:00PM Religious Education (Gym) 5:00PM CYO Basketball (Gym) 5:00PM Choir Rehearsal (Church) 7:00PM ChristLife (PC) 7:30PM Neocatechumenal Way (NCW)
Wed. Mar. 6	9:15AM MOMs Monthly Meeting (PC) 3:45PM Jr. High 7B 4:00PM Religious Ed Confessions (Church) 5:00PM CYO Basketball (Gym) 7:00PM Religious Ed Confessions (Church) 7:15PM WCST Team 23 (MR) 7:30PM Neocatechumenal Way (NCW) 7:30PM Quiroz Confirmation Group (REC1)
Thur. Mar. 7	10:30AM Sunday Scripture Reflection (SMR) 5:00PM CYO Basketball (Gym) 6:00PM NCW-3 (NCW-A) 7:00PM Young Catholic Professionals (PC) 8:00PM Pre-Cana (NCW-A)
Fri. Mar. 8	9:30AM MOMs SALT (SMR) 5:00PM CYO Basketball (Gym) 7:00PM Jr. High Lock In (PC) 7:00PM Spanish Choir Rehearsal (Church)
Sat. Mar. 9	9:00AM Monthly Food Drive (Driveway) 9:30AM Spanish Scripture Study Team (Lib) 10:00AM First Eucharist Preparation (Church) 10:30AM Jesus & Me Story Time (MR) 6:00PM Neocatechumenal Way (NCW) 7:00PM KofC St. Patrick's Dinner Dance (Gym)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE ILL MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH

Joan Donegan Alsas, Gilbert Badillo, Frederick Bruno, Mike Bucci, Art Carpenter, Kimberly Parsons Daub, Maura Gillen Eidschun, Marie Evans, Kay & Bill Forster, Joan D'Gerolamo, Kenneth Gershburt, Frank Gillen, Susan Hart-White, Patricia Haug, Joseph Hyon, Marc Johnson, Tom Keleher, Claudia LaFrance, Joseph Letiza, Anna Lobascio, Joel Lustberg, Cambell McArthur, Margaret Peak, Mary Kathleen Ramge, Cathy Ricciuto, Francis Tedaro Ristor, Michael Runz, Vincent Salvati, Don Strittmatter, Larry Switaj, Nickolas John Tedaro, Dennis Tomala, Walter John Zelop, Jr.

Parishioners may call the Rectory with the name of a family member who is sick to have them included in our prayers.

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT



TODAY'S READINGS

Monday, Mar 4 *Saint Casimir*

6:30AM The Gozdz & Rieger Families

req Lucy Rieger

+ 8:30AM Deceased Members

of the John E. McEnroe Family

req Jean & John Boyle

+12:00NN Ed Ryan

req Peggy Woods

Tuesday, Mar 5

+ 6:30AM Kelly Baker

req The Mulvey Family

+ 8:30AM Betty Rigler

req Rose Sullivan

+12:00NN MaryAnn Hegquist

req The Bolduc Family

Wednesday, Mar 6

+ 6:30AM Miguel D. Lacuna

req The Lacuna Family

+ 8:30AM Mary Jordan

req Rebecca & John Jordan

+12:00NN Deceased Members

of the Frank Family

req Carole & Bill Frank

Thursday, Mar 7 *Saints Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs*

+ 6:30AM Anne Craven

req A Friend

+ 8:30AM Rocco Orlando, Sr.

req Ann Carol Orlando

+12:00NN Arthur Kort

req Helen Pfaff

Friday, Mar. 8 *Saint John of God, Religious*

+ 6:30AM Stefano Bussanich, Sr.

req Stefano & Domenica Bussanich

+ 8:30AM James A. Ferrara

req Jeanette & Dennis DePrimo

+12:00NN Chaz & Charlie Lanski

req Gloria Lanski

Saturday, Mar. 9 *Saint Francis of Rome, Religious*

+ 8:30AM Oscar Steen

req Nancy Steen

+ 5:30PM Elizabeth Lodewick

req The Lodewick Family

Sunday, Mar. 10 *Fourth Sunday of Lent*

+ 8:00AM Frank Quinn & Family

req Steve & Yvonne Uber

+ 9:30AM Kate & Ben DelPercio

req Their Family

+11:00AM Justin Cigolini

req The Pfeiffer Family

12:30PM Special Intention

of Jason Scott Santlofer

req Mitch & Judy Santlofer

3:00PM Spec Intention Mercedes Martinez

req Mercedes Martinez

6:30PM For the People of the Parish

1. Exodus 20:1-17

On Mt. Sinai Moses receives ten commandments which serve as a basis for the Israelites' relationship with God and with each other. While they are similar to other ancient legal codes, they differ in one central aspect—only among the Israelites was the law regarded as God-given. It becomes the terms of the covenant God has chosen to make with them and their response as an expression of their faith in and love for their God. In its expression, this covenant calls them to recognize that God must come first (as expressed in the first three “laws”) in their lives. The remaining commandments set the terms of the right relationships that must exist in this community, but all of them, taken together, are an expression of God's will for His people.

2. 1 Corinthians 1:22-25

Paul does not make arguments against the objections of the Jews and the Greeks. Rather, the heart of his message in this excerpted passage is that God's ways cannot be measured by human standards. In the suffering and crucified Christ, Paul sees an expression of divine power and wisdom that can only be penetrated and accepted in faith. Only by the grace of God can anyone consent to a description of a suffering Messiah/savior/God.

3. John 2:13-25

John places the cleansing of the temple at the beginning of Jesus' ministry, rather than at the passion narrative, as the Synoptics do. It follows the episode at Cana where Jesus' turning water into wine symbolizes the abundance of new life He has come to offer and this new life (His own) will replace the old. Jesus' anger is not even with the buyers and sellers; it is His challenge to the whole temple establishment which has become bankrupt and incapable of giving life. From now on, the place of worship, prayer and sacrifice, from which life will truly come, will be Jesus' own Body.

REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK

1. When loss and pain find you, how does Jesus' pain and suffering help you? Or more basically—does it?
2. What does it mean for you to “proclaim Christ crucified”?
3. In the “temple” of Christ's Body (the Eucharist), we experience new life. How does your attendance at and participation in the Mass give you that new life?

NEXT WEEKEND'S PRESIDERS

(always subject to change)

Sat. 3/9	5:30PM	Fr. Ron
Sun. 3/10	8:00AM	Fr. Frank
	9:30AM	Bishop Saporito
	11:00AM	Fr. Frank
	12:30PM	Fr. Jakov
	3:00PM	Fr. Jakov
	6:30PM	Fr. Ron

Late changes appear on the website after 12:00NN on the Saturday of that weekend.



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Mary Denio
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Director
mdenlo@bvsl.net

Jon Bock
Community Sales
Director
jbock@bvsl.net

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