

## The Church's Calendar This Week

Sunday, February 21

### **First Sunday of Lent**

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Collection for Repairs and Maintenance**

Masses at 6:00/8:00/10:00a/12:00/4:00/6:00p

Live-Streamed Mass at 10:00 a.m.

**Cathedral closed after each Mass**

Monday, February 22

#### **Feast of the Chair of St. Peter, Apostle**

Masses at 6:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

**Cathedral closed after Mass**

Tuesday, February 23

#### **Tuesday of the First Week of Lent**

Masses at 6:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

**Cathedral closed after each Mass**

Wednesday, February 24

#### **Wednesday of the First Week of Lent**

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Masses at 6:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

**Cathedral closed after each Mass**

Thursday, February 25

#### **Thursday of the First Week of Lent**

Masses at 6:30am & 12:00pm

**Cathedral closed after each Mass**

Friday, February 26

#### **Friday of the First Week of Lent**

*Day of Abstinence*

**Stations of the Cross at 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.**

Masses at 6:30am & 12:00pm

**Cathedral closed after each Mass**

Saturday, February 27

#### **Saturday of the First Week of Lent**

Mass at 7:00 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Mass at 12:00 p.m.

Vigil Mass at 5:00 p.m.

**Cathedral closed after each Mass**

Sunday, February 28

### **Second Sunday of Lent**

Masses at 6:00/8:00/10:00a/12:00/4:00/6:00p

Live-Streamed Mass at 10:00 a.m.

**Cathedral closed after each Mass**

## Stewardship of Treasure

### **Offertory Collection**

**2/8 – 2/14**

Sunday Offering	\$ 4,011.23
Weekday + Ash Wednesday	\$ 831.06
Online Giving	\$ 1,050.12
Feasts & Solemnities	\$ 5.00
<b>Total Offertory</b>	<b>\$ 5,897.41</b>

### **Other Collection**

Repair & Maintenance	\$ 60.86
Augustine Educational Foundation	\$ 680.00
Operation Rice Bowl	\$ 5.00
Outreach	\$ 10.00
Others (Gallery, Candles, Intention etc.)	\$ 1,295.22
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 7,948.49</b>

## Living the Liturgy

- As you enter Lent, think about the power of temptation in your life. When does “Satan” tempt you? When are you most vulnerable? Create a “Desert Survival Kit” listing the prayers, scriptures, people, and activities that help you most when you feel tempted.
- Make a time-line of your life-journey. What are the most significant events that have brought you to the place where you are today?
- Outline a large rainbow on poster board. Invite each family member to color in a small area of the rainbow with markers or crayons for each large or small sacrifice made during Lent. Don't tell anyone what the sacrifices are, but fill the rainbow as a sign of the covenant.

## Sharing the Faith

- Mark gives the briefest account of the temptations in the desert but adds the detail that beasts and angels ministered to him. Can you imagine Jesus truly being tempted to sin? Why is being tempted not incompatible with his divinity?
- Moses and the Israelites crossing the Red Sea is another story from the Old Testament that prefigures the waters of baptism and the saving work of Christ. How does that story resemble and differ from the Noah story?
- How do you think life was different for those in the ark after the flood? How has Baptism made your life different?

## Quote of the Week

*“This prefigured baptism, which saves you now” (1 Peter 3:21).*

# February 21, 2021 – First Sunday of Lent

## Exegesis on this Sunday's readings

*Genesis 9:8-15 | Psalm 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 | 1 Peter 3:18-22 | Mark 1:12-15*

Everything is brought together in Christ: the wild animals of the First Reading join the angels of 1 Peter to minister to Jesus in the desert. All the created order recognizes the Lordship of Christ, but only we humans can choose whether or not to embrace the message Jesus came to proclaim: Now is the time! The kingdom is here! Repent, and believe! That simple message unites all that went before him with what will follow in the ministry of Jesus. God created a good world, but creation rebelled and chose to go its own way. God chastised us and promised redemption, prefiguring it in the waters of the flood. Those floodwaters foreshadow the waters of Baptism through which darkness turns to light and creation is restored to its original goodness.

God placed a rainbow in the sky to remind him of the “covenant I have made between me and you.” God willingly bound himself to us and gave a visible sign of accountability regarding the promise to never again destroy the earth with floodwaters. For millennia that promise was sustained in the hearts of a small and feeble people called the Israelites. And in the fullness of time God sent the promise in the form of his Son, so that beasts and angels could recognize him and humans could become like him by enduring the waters of Baptism.

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**Next Sunday's Readings: “Second Sunday of Lent”**

*Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18 | Psalm 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 | Romans 8:31b-34 | Mark 9:2-10*

## From the Desk of Fr. Pascual

Dear Cathedral Basilica Ohana,

Greetings of peace, love, and joy!

***“This is the time of fulfillment. The Kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and Believe in the Gospel” (Mark 1:15)***

The Season of Lent is upon us. Just this past Wednesday, ashes were imprinted on our foreheads with the sign of the cross or sprinkled on our heads. It is the mark of our entry into the season and a symbol of Christ's victory over sin and death. As a symbol of victory, it ushers us into the spirit of conversion to respond to Jesus' words, “repent and believe in the Gospel.

During these forty days of Lent, we journey with the Lord and reflect on His words and ways to bring about true conversion. To repent is to realize first and foremost that we have failed in many ways as children of God. We start asking ourselves how faithful we have been to His commands? How faithful are we in observing God's Commandments and adhering to the precepts or teachings of our Catholic Faith? Having an honest realization of our very self, we may have fallen short in being faithful to Him, to our family, and even in living out our Christian ways. If so, we need to repent. Repentance takes a lot of humility and admittance of wrongdoing. If we can do that, it will lead us to a renewal of life to become more like Christ, a faithful Son of the Heavenly Father.

This season is a season of Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving or doing Acts of Charity. Through these disciplines of Lent, we focus our hearts and minds to restore our broken relationship with God because of sin. We intend to make sacrifices for the sake of our brothers and sisters who are poor and needy. Whenever the Lenten Season comes, one of my professors' words, when I was in Theology Formation, continue to resound even to this day, “***we fast so that others may feast.***” Instead of buying luxurious things and food, we sacrifice our longings and desire and give them to the poor who don't have anything on their plate or clothes to wear nor having the simple amenities in life.

Let it be that now is the time of fulfillment that we heed Jesus' invitation to follow Him and live like His disciples today. May we use these Lenten days to renew our lives with God, with one another, and with ourselves. Let us repent from our sinful ways and start believing and living the Gospel of Christ.

May I also invite you to take time to be informed of our Cathedral Basilica Schedule for our liturgical celebrations? You can access all the information through our parish website and other social media platforms like Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. You can also download the free app called the myParish app on your mobile phones. We will do our part in updating the information as they come along. Please know that we are still observing our protocols whenever you come inside the church, like wearing face masks all the time, social distancing, hand sanitizing, and taking some information for contact tracing. Let us be patient, and we pray that the pandemic will be lifted to resume our daily course.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding! May the Lord continue to bless you, always!

Your friend in Jesus,

Fr. Pascual