

The Church's Calendar This Week

Sunday, March 7

Third 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

Monday, March 8

Monday of the Third Week of Lent

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

Cathedral closed after Mass

Tuesday, March 9

Tuesday of the Third Week of Lent

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

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Wednesday, March 10

Wednesday of the Third 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, March 11

Thursday of the Third Week of Lent

Masses at 6:30am & 12:00pm

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Friday, March 12

Friday of the Third 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, March 13

Saturday of the Third 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, March 14

Fourth 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

2/22 – 2/28

Sunday Offering	\$ 3,866.36
Weekday	\$ 697.01
Online Giving	\$ 1,148.52
Feasts & Solemnities	\$ 40.00
Total Offertory	\$ 5,751.89

Other Collection

Repair & Maintenance	\$ 217.00
Cathedral Catholic Academy	\$ 45.00
Operation Rice Bowl	\$ 66.11
Air Condition Fund	\$ 100.00
Others (Gallery, Candles, Intention etc.)	\$ 1,014.75
Total	\$ 7,194.25

Living the Liturgy

- Meet with your family or a group of friends and decide what two things you can do to change the way you observe the Sabbath. Give each person a role in helping the group to observe the resolutions.
- After each of the first four commandments, we find further explication and even the consequences of observing and/or ignoring the commandment. Write similar appendices for three of the other seven commandments.
- In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus teaches us respect for our Father's house. Review with your family the signs of respect you show in church: entering reverently and prayerfully, blessing yourself with holy water and remembering your baptismal commitment, bowing before the altar, genuflecting before the tabernacle, participating in Mass, quietly putting hymnals in their racks and moving kneelers up and down, and so forth.

Sharing the Faith

- If you were one of the temple merchants, how do you think you would have reacted to Jesus' actions? What kind of man would you have assumed he was?
- Paul says that the murder of the Messiah scandalizes the Gentiles but reveals the wisdom and power of God. If you were a first century Jew, how might you have viewed the crucifixion of Jesus?
- Can you name the Ten Commandments? Do you know the laws of the Church? How many of the beatitudes can you recall?

Quote of the Week

"Jesus . . . did not need anyone to testify about human nature. He himself understood it well" (John 2:24 – 25).

March 7, 2021 – Third Sunday of Lent

Exegesis on this Sunday's readings

Exodus 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17 | Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 11 | 1 Corinthians 1:22-25 | John 2:13-25

The haunting words that end today's Gospel show Jesus facing a hard fact of human nature. The adoring crowds come to Jesus more for his miracles than for his words, and Jesus knows it. He won't let himself be lulled into thinking they would stand by him if the miracles stopped. And of course, they will soon start shouting, "Crucify him!" Jesus' cleansing of the Temple is paired with the listing of the commandments. It's not hard to connect the two: only a right understanding of God's law paired with a healthy "fear of the Lord" can protect us from the excesses and false religion of the money lenders and other Temple merchants.

But, you say, we don't sell goods or change money in church today, so what do we take from these texts? The commandments enjoin us to keep the Sabbath holy and to honor father and mother. But do we burn with the zeal of Jesus in regards to the sanctity of the Sabbath and do we honor his father and ours with the awe, respect, and even "fear" that is appropriate for a human standing before the eternal God? Exodus says God is a "jealous God, inflicting punishment" (20:5) as well as overabundant mercy. Mercy doesn't cancel justice, there's just more of it. The Gospel never says, "Relax, I'm okay and you're okay." Instead, it says, "You're not okay, so repent and receive the abundant mercy of God."

CELEBRATING THE LECTIONARY © 2021 Resource Publications, Inc.

Next Sunday's Readings: "Fourth Sunday of Lent"

2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23 | Psalm 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 | Ephesians 2:4-10 | John 3:14-21

From the Rector's Desk

Dear Cathedral Basilica Ohana,

Greetings of peace, love, and joy!

"Zeal for your house will consume me." John 2: 17

The account in John's Gospel about the cleansing of the temple stirs our thoughts and imaginations of the chaos that Jesus created. Furious merchants, traders, and worshipers in the temple reacted to what Jesus did. But we cannot blame Him for why He reacted this way. Instead of making the temple a house of prayer, a place where they could encounter God, or a place to offer sacrifices to Him, merchants made the temple a place of business. Trade and commerce became the central activity in the temple. Chief priests and elders never bothered about it. Jesus got enraged by the scene He saw. He made a whip out of cords, drove them all out of the temple area, spilled the coins of money changers, and overturned their tables. The reaction of Jesus was so evident for His care for the house of God. He wanted to purify the temple so that the people of Israel can carry out what true worship to God meant. True worship is not expressed with sacrifices or performing rituals but a true spirit ready to offer his or her life to God in words and deeds.

The temple's cleansing calls us to ponder on the things, values, attitudes, or even our ideals that we need to change in our lives. Jesus set for us an example of what it means to be dedicated sons and daughters of God. His way of life should be our way of life, making our bodies and our lives as St. Paul says, "temples of the Holy Spirit." He offered Himself to His Father in humble surrender. He listened to the will of His Father. He carried out His mission truthfully and faithfully.

As we continue our journey in this season of grace, conversion, and spiritual rejuvenation, we ask ourselves what the things that need to be driven out from within us are? What is there to be cleansed for us to carry out our call as Disciples of Christ and Stewards of the Gospel? We take this opportunity to deepen our commitment to the Lord. Let us take away those that hinder us from our relationship with God. We offer our sacrifices to God.

Amidst the difficulties we all are experiencing by the pandemic, let us commit to offering our prayers and sacrifices to the Lord. Let us humbly embrace His will and discern where He is leading us.

Your friend in Jesus,

Fr. Pascual