



**6<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME**

He said to him, "See that you tell no one anything, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer for your cleansing what Moses prescribed; that will be proof for them." The man went away and began to publicize the whole matter. He spread the report abroad so that it was impossible for Jesus to enter a town openly.  
- Mk 1:44-45b

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CICA

**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

The Church, as a voice of the Gospel, proclaims the sacredness of all human life. Everyone created by God is fashioned in God's image and has Divine DNA at the center of their soul. God never leaves what God creates but always remains intimately bound to what he has given form. Everyone has a place and because they have received the gift of Divine Blessing, nobody deserves to feel inferior, unworthy, unwanted, unclean or marginalized. Even the most broken of souls has a place. We, the Body of Christ, have the privilege and responsibility to give voice to the voiceless. The cries of the little one in his or her mother's womb are just as sacred as the cries of one who is homeless and hungry. The migrant deserves our attention as much as the forgotten elderly and even the prisoner, with a heart hardened by anger and resentment, deserves respect and dignity.

The Gospel of Life is often hard to swallow, and we would rather keep those we consider unclean, different or unfixable in a place by themselves. It is hard to see them with us, but they deserve to be. There is far too much violence in this world and the result of that violence is the assault on human life. Many are forced to leave the place they call home in search of safer ground, finding few if any along the way who will help them. How different today's Gospel story would be if Jesus gave in to what was politically correct at that time. The leper would have been turned away and a soul, already beaten down by disease and fear, would have experienced an even deeper wound. Jesus wouldn't have captured much attention from anyone, nor would he have mirrored the Father's compassion and love.

Where do we stand with all of this? Do we at least understand that God's vision is often in conflict with the vision put forth in our world and even the one we advance ourselves? There is no doubt that it is incredibly challenging to find a place for everyone at the table. This challenge is compounded when the systems of operation and structure that are so ingrained in us affirm power and privilege rather than inclusivity and justice. Everything really goes askew when the powerful begin to control who is entitled to wholeness and inclusion, and greed becomes a driving force. Prejudice and entitlement raise their ugly heads and we find ourselves with quite a mess. It's time to admit that things have been a mess for a very long time. The mess needs to be healed, not by erasing it but by allowing God to touch it and make it whole. We need to bring God back to the center of life where God belongs. There are no easy solutions to the world's dilemmas. But, knowing that wholeness, healing, and dignity are worthy pursuits, we can more confidently labor to achieve God's vision.

**Countdown to Lent....Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 17th.** Prayer, penance, fasting and almsgiving are the main Lenten works. "Even now, says the Lord, return to me with your whole heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning. Joel 2:12. During this season of Lent, let us reveal our hearts, whole and entire, to God's loving eye.

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Sat. Feb 13	3:30pm	Missa Pro Populo
	4:15-:4:45pm	<b>Confessions</b>
	5:00pm	✠ Anthony Fernandes (Marguerite Fonseca)
Sun. Feb 14	9:30am	Blessings for Baby Vermeer & Family (Karen Kennedy)
	11:00am	✠ Mary Wood (Joan & Tim Crowther)
	12:30pm	✠ Ron, Anthony & Muriel Guest & Anthony, Sybil & Wayne Rebeiro (Rebeiro Family)
Mon. Feb 15		<b>MASS CANCELLED</b>
Tues. Feb 16	9:30am	Blessings & Health for Bruno Larocque (Larocque Family)
	7-8pm	<b>HOLY HOUR &amp; CONFESSIONS &amp; Communion Service</b>
Wed. Feb 17		<b>Ash Wednesday</b>
	9:30am	✠ Angelina Addario (Vince Addario)
	11:00am	Missa Pro Populo
	6:00pm	Intentions of Jack & Dorothy Walters (Teresa & Colin Walters)
	7:00pm	✠ Souls of the Rebeiro & Jayan Families (Rebeiro Family)
Thurs. Feb 18	9:30am	✠ Isaiah (Magazzeni Family) In Thanksgiving for Jash & Jacky (Family)
Fri. Feb 19	9:30am	Repose of the Rebeiro & Guest Families (Rebeiro Family)
Sat. Feb 20	3:30pm	Missa Pro Populo
	4:15-:4:45pm	<b>Confessions</b>
	5:00pm	✠ Nicola Colangelo (Rosa Colangelo)
Sun. Feb 21	9:30am	Intentions of Joseph Mullin (Teresa & Colin Walters)
	11:00am	✠ Silvia Malvestuto (Vince & Lena Addario)
	12:30pm	Thanksgiving Mass for Jaclyn Jayan (Jayan Family)

**Confessions from 9-9:25am before all weekday Masses.**

**Offertory February 6th & 7th, 2021**

Envelopes \$1, 115.00