

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Schedule and Intentions

Saturday, February 6<sup>th</sup>  
5:00 p.m. John Shivers III by Shivers Children  
Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup>  
9:00 a.m. Special Intentions for Better Health  
Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup>  
9:00 a.m. John & Margaret Shivers by Shivers Children  
Saturday, February 13<sup>th</sup>  
5:00 p.m. Steve Tucker by Nocera Family  
Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup>  
9:00 a.m. Michael Braidic by Ruth Braidic

Liturgical Ministers' Schedule: February 14, 2021				
Mass	Lector	EM/Bread	EM/Cup	Servers
5:00 PM	Becca Szekely	Becca Szekely		
	Becca Szekely			Mary Matuszak
9:00 AM	Carol Keil	Deacon Ralph		Adam, Jude, Amelia
	Carol Keil			Corallo
Ash Wed. 7:00 pm	Donna Miller	Deacon Ralph		Andrew Latham
	Donna Miller			

Parish Stewardship Week of Jan. 31, 2021

Collection 1/31/21	Envelopes: 38
Sunday Offertory \$ 2139.00	Attendance: 72
E-Offering \$ 321.18	Weekly Budget: \$ 3,050.00
Candles \$ 15.00	
Warm Hearts \$ 256.00	
Exponent \$ 10.00	
CFE \$ 20.00	
Overseas Combined \$ 60.00	
Ash Wednesday \$ 20.00	
Expenditures \$ 20.00	
Total -- \$ 2861.18	

**Church Overseas Collection:** Last weekend the Diocese of Youngstown sponsored the Church Overseas Combined Collection for ministries to needy people. Thank you for your participation in this important collection. If you did not have the opportunity to respond last week, there is still time to contribute to this combined collection.

Readings for this Sunday  
First Reading: Job 7: 1-4, 6-7  
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23  
Gospel: Mark 1: 29-39



- Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> Ash Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Mass
- Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> Stations of the Cross at 6:00 P.M
- Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> Parish Council Mtg. 10:15 am

Thank You to all who supported Warm Hearts for Warm Homes campaign last weekend.

Birthdays  
February 8 Maria Martire, Dave Scarpitti, Dan Scarpitti  
February 9 Marie Zurbrugg  
February 11 Matthew Manley  
February 12 Sandy McGarr, Vicki Capretta  
February 13 Angella Corallo, Judy Kneidel, Mitchell Stull, Easton Stull, Emily Bickle

*I write to thank you all for your support, prayers, food, cards, and concerns during my poor health. I have been blessed with good health all my life, so this extended illness is uncomfortable for me. But thanks be to God I think it is behind me. So again, I thank you for your patience and good wishes. I am blessed to be among you.*

Bulletin Sponsor of the Week  
Thank You for Your Support  
Brown - Gednetxz-Ruzek Funeral Home  
126 W. Vermont Ave., Sebring  
330-938-2526  
www.grfuneralhome.com

**Annual White Mass for all Health Professionals Including Mental Health Workers:** The Annual White Mass – recognizing and celebrating the work and ministry of those in the health professions – will be held on Sunday, Feb. 14, 21 at 10:30 am at the Cathedral of St. Columba. Bishop David J. Bonnar will preside. Because of Covid – 19 restrictions, participants need to RSVP by emailing [dschmidt@youngstowndiocese.org](mailto:dschmidt@youngstowndiocese.org) or call 330-744-8451 ext. 272 to ensure there is sufficient space with social distancing. Also, the White Mass will be livestreamed through the DOY website: [www.doy.org](http://www.doy.org) and look for “Cathedral Livestreaming” on the “Medial” dropdown menu.

**Question:** Is it ever Ok to leave Mass before it ends?  
**Answer:** This is an interesting question because beneath the surface there seems to be an assumption that if it's okay, then why do we have to stay after we receive communion? The short answer is “no,” but we definitely want to go a bit deeper as we consider why.

First, when we think about questions like this, we must consider this in adult terms. If there is something gravely important that we need to do, then we must attend to that. However, if it is a matter of convenience or preference, then we really have to stop and think again. First, while we always want to recognize the importance of sacramental communion in the Mass, we also need to understand how important the time of thanksgiving and prayer after communion is. This is summarized in the Prayer After Communion offered by the celebrant and then we are also commissioned to “Go forth” during the Dismissal of the Mass, reminding us that we have been entrusted with a gift — the Word of God and the Presence of Christ in the sacrament — and that we are to share that gift with others.

**The Flowers on Blessed Mother’s Alter are to the Glory of God and are provided by the women of Faith, in Loving Memory of Betty Jones.**

If we simply leave after we receive communion, we risk two things. First, there is the possibility that we will turn our reception of communion into a purely personal, individual experience that is separated from our common experience of worship — and communion in the fullest sense — and, second, we lose an opportunity for gratitude and serious reflection if we simply leave after communion. This time of thanksgiving, reflection, and, ultimately, missioning, are important and, in the end, an essential part of the celebration of the Mass. ©LPi



Readings for next Sunday  
First Reading: Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46  
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1  
Gospel: Mark 1:40-45

February 7, 2021



**Gospel Meditation:** If I only knew then what I know now, how different life would be. This sentiment, expressed in myriad ways, is found on every human being's lips at one point or another. Life may have brought us to a vulnerable place where we see some of the poor choices we made and the effects they are having. Perhaps we fell into some destructive and dysfunctional relationships or behaviors and are finding how they held us captive. Our zeal and passion for life may have drifted away and we are waking up to the reasons apathy has taken hold. Life can be hard. In fact, some would describe their lives as a drudgery. They walk through each day with an anxious unsettledness, wondering when their restlessness will cease. There is a temptation to believe that what I see is all I will get. Mortality and hopelessness await the dawn. If I could only have known what would come in the future, I could have made better choices and avoided all of this misery!

Really? While we can certainly give into weakness, sin, impulsiveness, and idiosyncrasies that cause us to stumble over ourselves, life is really a journey. If we don't make the mistake of wallowing in the mire of self-pity and realize the new life God is calling us to, then there are thrills, adventures, surprises, and soul-searching graces we can surely miss. We are not tethered to our past nor are we bound to the ills life can bring upon us. We are never hopeless or helpless. The problem is that our myopic vision only allows us to see the misery and misfortune that is before us, not the potential that can come from choosing healthier and more life-giving options. Jesus came that we might have fullness of life. We need to learn how to reach for Jesus' hand and let him help us to our feet.

We need to allow God into our pain and heal our past. We have to wrestle with our histories, agonize and search and cry out for the Divine healing we need to restore our faith, hope, and love. Job could not see how his story would end or trust the guidance of the God who called him. We live in that same blindness and suffer from the same lack of confidence. Once we allow ourselves to be touched by God's healing power, we begin to see that all of the pieces of our lives are necessary parts of a greater whole. Along the way of our lives, God uses our omissions and failures to create new things and possibilities. When doors close, others open and we can be amazed by the joyful and unexpected surprises we receive. Once we know the power of God's creative, healing, life-giving, forgiving, and dynamic presence, it is no wonder we want to put ourselves at the service of others and show them what life can be. ©LPi