

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 23,
2020



MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS: FEBRUARY 22 TO MARCH 1

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| Saturday | Feb 22 | |
| 4:30 pm | Anthony & Lira D'Souza | Atwell & family |
| Sunday | Feb 23 | Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time |
| 9:00 am | Our Parishioners | |
| 11:00am | Lucio Picarazzi | The Family |
| Monday | Feb 24 | |
| 8:30 am | Elena Gentiluomo Raschella | The Family |
| Tuesday | Feb 25 | |
| 8:30 | Deceased Veterans | Anna Donald |
| Wednesday | Feb 26 | Ash Wednesday |
| 8:30 am | Nina Gallo | The Family |
| 7:30 pm | Carolina Di Marzo Quinette | Pat & Yolanda Di Marco & family |
| Thursday | Feb 27 | |
| 8:30 am | Luigi Di Carpo | The Family |
| Friday | Feb 28 | |
| 8:30 am | Giuseppe Dorotea & Vito Marcario | Rina Della Rocca |
| Saturday | Feb 29 | |
| 4:30 pm | Ida D'Souza | Atwell & family |
| Sunday | Mar 1 | First Sunday of Lent |
| 9:00 am | Salvatore Battaglia & Provvidenza Infantino Battaglia | Josie & Nancy Battaglia |
| 11:00 am | Our Parishioners | |

SANCTUARY LAMP (Week)

February 23: Tom and Dean Stock, requested by the family.

March 1: Alf & Chris Kolodnicki, requested by the Robertson family.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS FOR FEBRUARY 15/16

Offerings: \$ 5, 516.75

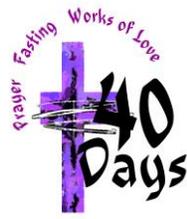
Next special collection: February 26 – Ash Wednesday

LORD, GRANT MERCY AND LASTING PEACE to those who died recently, and strength and comfort to those who mourn them: *Pavel Bondyra*, uncle of John Bondyra; *Gertruda Vokaty*, mother of Paul & George; *Sam Rowsome*, father of Faye Rowsome.

Blessed are those who have died in the Lord; let them rest from their labours for their good deeds go with them. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

FAITH FIRST: Confirmation Gathering #4 – February 25. Join us for pancake supper afterwards! See invitation on next page.

ALL ABOUT LENT: Yes, it begins this week!



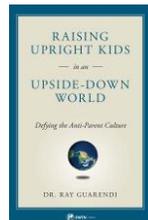
Lent is the 40-day period before Easter, excluding Sundays (the day Jesus arose), from Ash Wednesday to Holy Thursday before the Lord's Supper. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, the day the faithful have their foreheads signed with ashes in the form of a Cross, and is also a day of fast and abstinence, as is Good Friday. A day of fast is one on which Catholics who are 18 to 59 years old may eat one full meal and have two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. (Those with medical conditions requiring a greater or more regular food intake are exempt from this limited fast.) A day of abstinence: one on which Catholics 14 years or older must abstain from meat: Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent. Jesus died for our sins on Friday. (In fact, all Fridays of the year are still days of abstinence from meat, although we now have the option on those days of substituting the abstinence by making another act of penance, charity or religious devotion.)

Acts of repentance for ordinary days during Lent, as we reflect that Our Lord died for our sins: it is appropriate to give up something we enjoy for Lent, doing physical or spiritual acts of mercy for others, prayer, going to confession, and other similar acts of repentance. Giving up something for Lent is a salutary custom, because by denying ourselves something we enjoy, we discipline our wills so that we are not slaves to our pleasures. By training ourselves to resist temptations when they are not sinful, we train ourselves to reject temptations when they are sinful. We also express our sorrow over having failed to resist sinful temptations in the past.



SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER Join us on Tuesday, February 25, for our annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. 5:30 - 7 pm. \$5.00 per person. Children 5 and under free. Families \$20.00. Rina 514-915-7586.

WORTHWHILE READING



Raising Upright Kids in an Upside-Down World

by [Dr Ray Guarendi](#)

From raunchy television shows to immoral peers, the barriers to raising moral and mature children are higher and more treacherous than ever. In *Raising Upright Kids in an Upside-Down World*, acclaimed Catholic psychologist Dr. Ray Guarendi offers parents a roadmap through this difficult and sometimes frightening terrain.

Dr. Ray brings to bear his decades of clinical experience -- and his experience as a father of ten -- with some of the hardest questions of modern parenting:

--How do you manage kids' access to pop culture -- and to the corporations who all want a piece of their allowance?

--How do you respond to others, including your own family, who don't approve of your countercultural parenting?

--How do you handle the overabundance of stuff -- toys, clothes, technology -- that clogs up your family's everyday life?

--When do you give (or take away) a smartphone?

--How much freedom do you give your kids to choose their own friends -- and when do you step in when they make wrong choices?

--What are the habits of mind you need to form in them so they can stand strong against a morally and spiritually corrosive culture?

Raising Upright Kids in an Upside-Down World is a clarion call for strong, confident parenting in confusing times. More importantly, Dr. Ray gives you the resources to grow in that confidence: the knowledge of an expert, the insight of an experienced clinician, and the wisdom of decades of fatherhood. This is a book for parents who aim to form children who value the things of God, no matter the work and the effort. Dr. Ray is here to tell you: it's worth it.

I BELIEVE IN THE POWER OF GOD'S LOVE



“The first and most fundamental definition that the Creed teaches us about God is that He is the Almighty Father. It isn't always easy today to speak about fatherhood, and not having adequate role models, it even becomes problematic to imagine God as a father. For those who have had the experience of an overly authoritarian and inflexible father, or an indifferent, uncaring, or even absent one, it is not easy to calmly think of

God as Father or to confidently surrender themselves to Him. But Biblical revelation helps us to overcome these difficulties by telling us about a God who shows us what it truly means to be a 'father'. Above all it is the Gospel that reveals to us this face of God as Father, who loves us even to the point of giving us the gift of His Son for the salvation of humanity.

In the light of the Scriptures and the writings of the evangelists, we recognize that God is our Father because He has blessed us and chosen us before the foundation of the world. He has truly made us His children in Jesus. And, as Father, God accompanies our existence with love, giving us His Word, His teaching, His grace, His Spirit. ...If He is so good as to 'make His sun rise on the bad and the good and ... rain to fall on the just and the unjust', then we can always, without fear and in complete faith, entrust ourselves to His forgiveness as Father when we choose the wrong path."

The love of God the Father never fails, never tires of us. ... Faith gives us this certainty that becomes the sure rock upon which to build our lives. We can face every difficulty and every danger, the experience of the darkness of times of crisis and pain, sustained by the confidence that God does not abandon us and is always near to save us and bring us to everlasting life."

The kind face of the Father who is in heaven is fully shown in the Lord Jesus. Knowing Him we know the Father and seeing Him we can see the Father. ...

We can ask ourselves, how is it possible to imagine an all-powerful God by looking at the Cross of Christ? ... Faced with evil and suffering, ... it is difficult for many of us to believe in God the Father and to believe that He is all-powerful. God's power, however, isn't expressed with mechanical or arbitrary force... Actually, God, in creating free creatures, in giving us freedom, gave up a part of His power, allowing us the power of our freedom. Thus He loves and respects love's free response to His call. His omnipotence isn't expressed in violence or destruction but rather through love, mercy, and forgiveness; through His tireless call to a change of heart, through an attitude that is only weak in appearance, and which is made of patience, clemency, and love."

The omnipotence of love isn't a worldly power, but is that of total gift and Jesus, the Son of God, reveals to the world the Father's true omnipotence by giving His life for us sinners. This is the true divine power: responding to evil not with evil but with good, Evil is thus truly vanquished, because it is washed by God's love. So, when we say 'I believe in God, the Father Almighty', we express our faith in the power of God's love who in His Son who died and rose again conquers hate, evil, and sin and gives us eternal life, a life as children who desire to remain forever in the 'Father's House'." *~ Pope Benedict XVI*

ALL ARE WELCOME JOIN US every weekday morning at 8:00 am at St. Thomas à Becket, to pray the Rosary with our parish Rosary Group. A key element of our devotion is the prayer requests that we receive from parishioners and others in our community. It is very comforting to know that others are praying for your intentions. On Tuesday, we recite the Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help after 8:30 am Mass (approx 10 minutes). To make a prayer request or for more information, call Christina Charron 514-620-236.