

February 1, 2009

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

# Sunday



## What are you called to do?

Mark's Gospel gives a subtle description of the reaction of Jesus' audience. We do not learn whether his hearers accepted his message. What we see is how they recognize his uniqueness, his authority. They respond to him, the person, Jesus.

Another sort of audience is described in the same place. A tormented man with an unclean spirit is transformed by Jesus. The evil in this poor fellow is called out into the presence of Christ, and the man is given peace.

Jesus uses power. Everyone—his disciples, those possessed, the community arriving that day for Sabbath prayer—all realize Jesus' presence and actions are rooted in something deep and unique.

### Today's Readings

Dt 18:15–20

1 Cor 7:32–35

Mk 1:21–28

How is it the disciples had dropped their nets, left their jobs? They were taken by the presence of Jesus. His message for them was subtle, yet down to earth: Follow me. I want a different sort of fishing from you.

The ministry of Jesus is rooted in his Incarnation. The Divine steps into our world, takes up our human nature, and changes things. Seeing this person in action caused recognition and astonishment, shock and attraction. Did anyone expect a normal workday or Sabbath day to turn out so differently?

Jesus' call is a connection of what is subtle and common to what is dramatic and unique. Jesus' call takes us where we are—as what we are—and says, follow me, let me show the work of God through you.

Saint Paul asks, what should you be preoccupied with? Marriage? The Lord's work? In his audience, people were called to all of these.

What are *you* good at? What work gives you joy? What is deepest in you? What is God giving *you* authority to do?

DAN FINUCANE

[sundaybulletins@liguori.org](mailto:sundaybulletins@liguori.org)



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into our world,  
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# St. Stephen Catholic Church

**Pastoral Assistant—**  
Sister Mildred Gordon, SHSp.  
817-596-9587

**Director of Religious Education—**  
Jeanette Houle-817-613-8008  
doschicas@att.net

**Secretary—** Dorothy Mendolia

**Accountant—** Ron Westendorf

**Parish Interfaith Ecumenical Representative—**  
LaVerne Cardwell 817-594-3805

**Choir Director—** Dave Mees  
817-596-5097

**Parish Pastoral Council President—**  
Chuck Schabow 817-599-6644

**Pastor: Rev. Fr. John Casey, SAC**  
**Deacon: Carlos Frias (817-307-8332)**

Office – 1802 Bethel Road  
Weatherford TX 76086  
817-596-9585  
Fax 817-613-0808

**Office Hours—** Monday through Friday  
9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

**Rectory—** 1904 Bethel Road  
817-596-9586

**Web Page—** www.ss-cc.org

**Gift Shop—** Saturday 5:30 to 6 PM  
Sunday 9:45 to 11:00 AM  
Noon to 12:30 PM

**Club House—** 817-599-8423  
**Pro Shop—** 817-599-8431

## MASS SCHEDULE

*All Masses are held at the Church on Bethel Road unless otherwise noted*

**Saturday 6:00 PM ♦ Confessions Saturday 5:00 PM**  
**Sunday 8:00 AM & 10:45 AM (English) ♦ 12:30 PM (Spanish)**  
**Holy Days 7:00 AM & 7:00 PM**  
**Daily Mass 8:45 AM**

## WELCOME NEW FAMILIES AND VISITORS

*Please complete a registration card at the Welcome Table in the church foyer and return it at your earliest convenience. Thank You!*

## MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	January 31	6:00 PM	Louann & Bill Maley, RIP	<i>Memorial of St. John Bosco, priest</i>
Sunday	February 1	8:00 AM	Our Community	<i>4th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
		10:45 AM	Our Youth	<i>4th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
		12:30 PM	Nicholas Antonio, RIP	<i>4° Domingo Ordinario</i>
Monday	February 2	8:45 AM	Marlene Fronk	<i>Feast of the Presentation of the Lord</i>
Tuesday	February 3	8:45 AM	<b>Communion Service</b>	<i>Memorial of St. Blasé, bishop and martyr</i> <i>Memorial of St. Ansgar, bishop</i>
Wednesday	February 4	8:45 AM	Ray La Posa	<i>Weekday</i>
Thursday	February 5	8:45 AM	Charles Milliken, RIP	<i>Memorial of St. Agatha, virgin and martyr</i>
Friday	February 6	8:45 AM	Delores Milan, RIP	<i>Memorial of St. Paul Miki, martyr</i>
Saturday	February 7	6:00 PM	In Thanksgiving	<i>Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>
Sunday	February 8	8:00 AM	Casey Stephens, RIP	<i>5th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
		10:45 AM	Our Community	<i>5th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
		12:30 PM	La Comunidad	<i>5° Domingo Ordinario</i>

**Marriage** – six months notice required – please see Fr. Casey. **Aviso para el Matrimonio** – seis meses es necesaria

**Baptism Instruction**—English (1st Thursday of each month); Spanish (1st Monday of each month)

**Quinceañera** – three month notice required – girl must be attending CCD and Mass *regularly* – please see Fr. Casey

**Prayer Chain Coordinators**—Ann Allen (817-594-8637) Bette Binzer (817-599-0454) LaVerne Cardwell (817-594-3805)

**Weekly Visitation of the Sick & Shut-Ins.** Contact the church office to be on the schedule.

**Census Information**—Please notify the church office if you are new to our Parish, have a change of address or phone number, or move to another Parish.

**Bulletin Notices** are to be written or typed and in the office at least one week prior to event – notices may be e-mailed – deadline for bulletin is Noon on Tuesday – your cooperation is greatly appreciated – Thank You!

**REGULAR COLLECTIONS**  
**January 24-25**  
**\$9,221.44**

**SECOND COLLECTION**  
**Church in Latin America**  
**\$1,645.00**

### WELCOME TO ALL, INCLUDING VISITORS AND NEW PARISHIONERS.

Please join us this Sunday between Masses for breakfast in the parish hall, provided by the Altar Society.

### SECOND COLLECTION FOR FEBRUARY

*January 31-February 1—Land Purchase*  
*February 25 (Ash Wednesday)—*  
*Church in Central & Eastern Europe*  
*February 28-March 1—Black & Indian Mission*

### PROPERTY PURCHASE INFORMATION

Cost of New Property—\$1,631,842.00  
Monthly Interest Payment—\$9,700.00  
Total Contributions to Date—76,372.59  
Interest Paid to Date—\$72,333.21

### 4th Sunday of the Year

God chooses ordinary people to speak his message. Can you perceive the voice of God in those around you? If you hear God's voice, harden not your heart.  
(Deuteronomy 18:15-20)

### 4° Domingo Ordinario

La gente estaba fascinada por las enseñanzas de Jesús. La Iglesia necesita maestros/as y predicadores audaces. Concédra la vocación al sacerdocio o la vida religiosa.  
(Marcos 1:21-28)

### Flowers for the Altar this Weekend

*Are a Gift from*  
*Lee & Mary Perkins*  
*In Memory of*  
*Richard & Esther Nadler*

**TAX STATEMENTS.** If you need a 2008 Tax Statement, please call the church office at 817-596-9585.

**CARTER BLOOD CARE** credited St. Stephen's account with 40 pints which were donated during the blood drive January 26. Thanks to all who participated. Donors who want a smaller size t-shirt can call 1-800 DONATE4 and Carter Blood Care will send one to those who donated. *Thank you again!*

**CONFIRMATION PARENT MEETING: Sunday, February 1, during RE classes.** We will discuss the Confirmation Retreat, fundraising efforts, and much more. Questions, please contact Jeanette Houle 817-613-8008 or doschicas@att.net.

**REUNION PARA PADRES DE NINOS QUE SERAN CONFIRMADOS: DOMINGO, FEBRERO 1, durante las Clases de Educacion Religiosa.** Trataremos el Retiro de Confirmacion, modos de recaudar fondos, y mucho mas. Si tiene alguna pregunta, por favor comuniquese con Jeanette Houle al 817-613-8008 o doschicas@att.net.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS Valentine Day Dinner and Dance Saturday, February 14, 7:30PM.** Dinner catered by Babes' Chicken; Prices: \$10; 18 and Under-\$5. *Ketch a Knight to get your Tickets.*

**FIRST COMMUNION PARENT MEETING** will be held **Sunday, February 15,** during regular RE class time. Mass time and date, banners, dress and more will be discussed. Any questions, please contact Jeanette Houle, doschicas@att.net or 817-613-8008.

**REUNION PARA PADRES DE NINOS QUE TOMARAN SU PRIMERA COMUNION.** El Domingo, Febrero 15, durante las horas de Educacion Religiosa. Trataremos las fechas y horas de las misas, estandartes, trajes, etc. Cualquier pregunta, por favor contacte a Jeanette Houle, doschicas@att.net or llame al 817-613-8008.

**YOUNG ADULT RETREAT (ages 18 – 35) - Quo Vadis? Where are you going?** Are you stuck at a crossroads in your life? Do you know where you are going? And, more importantly, do you know where God is leading you? Come join the Young Adults of Fort Worth for a weekend of prayer, fellowship, and fun! Find out what helped others to discern their Vocations and get the road map that may help you discern your own Vocation! Let God be your GPS on **Friday, February 27 - March 1, 2009, at the Catholic Renewal Center (4503 Bridge Street, Fort Worth).** Contact Jeanette Houle 87-613-8008 or doschicas@att.net.

**RETIRO DE JOVENES (Edades 18-35) - Quo Vadis? A Donde Vas?** Esta detenido en un cruce de caminos en su vida? Sabe a donde va? Y mas importante que todo, sabe a donde Dios lo esta conduciendo? Unase a los Jovenes de Fort Worth para un fin de semana de oracion, companerismo, y diversion! Descubra que fue lo que ayudo a otros a discernir sus Vocaciones y aprenda cual es el camino que podra guiarlo a discernir su propia Vocacion! Deje que Dios sea su GPS. Viernes, Febrero 27 - Marzo 1, 2009 en el Catholic Renewal Center (4503 Bridge Street, Fort Worth). Para mas informacion comuniquese con Jeanette Houle 817 613-8008 o doschicas@att.net.

#### CATHOLIC RENEWAL CENTER

Beginning Experience, February 6-8, 817-360-8786  
Marriage Encounter, February 13-15, 817-451-6005  
Engage Encounter, February 20-22, 817-346-9320

## Retiro Pre-Cuaresmal y el Lanzamiento de ¿Por Que Ser Catolico?

SABADO 21 DE FEBRERO  
DE 8:30 AM HASTA LAS 3:00 PM  
CATHOLIC CENTER  
DIOCESIS OF FORT WORTH

800 West Loop 820 South  
Fort Worth TX 76108  
Donación \$10.00 para comidas y materials  
Quienes están invitados  
Para más información con  
Andrés Aranda (817) 560-2452 ext. 258

### The Faith of the Church

The *Catechism* points out that the coming of the reign of God which Jesus proclaimed meant the defeat of Satan's kingdom. In his ministry, the exorcisms that Jesus performed freed certain individuals from demonic possession, but they also anticipated the final victory when God's reign will be definitively established through the cross of Jesus.

Catechism of the Catholic Church 550.

### Visit us at [www.FaithFirst.com](http://www.FaithFirst.com)

(click on "Faith First for Families," click on "Gospel Reflections")  
**and share today's Gospel reading as a family.**

### TEEN CORNER

**PURE REALITY YOUTH RALLY:** For those attending, **Sunday, February 8,** please meet in the upper church parking lot at **2 :00 PM.** If you have questions, please call Susan Ourada at 817-596-3872 or Jeanette Houle at 817-613-8008.

### WEEKLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS (All activities held at Bethel Road)

#### Sunday February 1

9:15 AM Religious Education Classes (English)  
9:15 AM Adult Catechism (Room 19)  
9:15 AM Adult Bible Study (Room 3)  
11:15 AM Religious Education Classes (Spanish)

#### Monday, February 2

9:30 AM Parish Pantry  
6:30 PM Young Adult Bible Study  
7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop #72  
7:00 PM RCIA  
7:00 PM Grupo de Oracion  
7:00 PM Instrucción del Bautismo Española

#### *Copia de Nacimiento Certificada Requirió*

#### Tuesday, February 3

9:30 AM Ladies Bible Study (Rm. 1 & 2)

#### Wednesday, February 4

6:00 PM Youth Group  
6:30 PM Choir Practice  
6:45 PM Divine Mercy Chaplet

#### Thursday, February 5

10:00 AM Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
10:00 AM Quilting Group (Pro Shop)  
7:00 PM English Baptism Instruction  
(Birth Certificate. Required)

#### Friday, February 6

7:30 PM Adoration of the Sacred Heart—First Friday Adoration

#### Saturday, February 7

7:00 PM Cursillistas Ultreya—Spanish

## Why don't parishes make changes during flu season?

**Q** Every year during flu season, someone with a terrible cold or cough wants to shake my hand or hug me at the sign of peace, and people who are sick drink from the Communion cup. Why can't parishes ban the cup and the sign of peace during flu season?

Edward

Dear Edward,

Many people share your concern. As a priest, I'm hugged by an entire congregation throughout flu season. If I'm sick, I warn people as they approach. Some are grateful for the warning, but others want a hug anyway. For many, community fellowship trumps prudence.

As far as receiving the precious Blood, obviously it would be best if those who are sick don't drink from the cup. But even if they do, receiving the precious Blood is more important to me than the slight risk of illness.

However, if it bothers you that much, there's nothing wrong with refusing the precious Blood for health reasons. And instead of shaking hands and hugging

at the sign of peace, try nodding and waving. If people just don't get it and push for more, a simple, "Don't want to pass on the flu" should stop them.

In today's society, far too many things keep us physically apart. I refuse to casually surrender anything that brings us together in love and fellowship except in dire circumstances and, for me, a normal flu season doesn't qualify.

Rick Potts, C.Ss.R.



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### Monday



#### February 2

*Presentation of the Lord*  
Mal 3:1-4 • Heb 2:14-18  
Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

### Tuesday



#### February 3

*Weekday*  
Heb 12:1-4 • Mk 5:21-43

### Wednesday



#### February 4

*Weekday*  
Heb 12:4-7, 11-15 • Mk 6:1-6

### Thursday



#### February 5

*Saint Agatha, virgin and martyr*  
Heb 12:18-19, 21-24 • Mk 6:7-13

### Friday



#### February 6

*Saint Paul Miki, martyr, and his companions, martyrs*  
Heb 13:1-8 • Mk 6:14-29

### Saturday



#### February 7

*Weekday*  
Heb 13:15-17, 20-21  
Mk 6:30-34

### Sunday



#### February 8

*Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
Jb 7:1-4, 6-7  
1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23  
Mk 1:29-39