In today's Gospel, we encounter Jesus and a large crowd of Jews and non-Jews gathered on a plain in Galilee to hear him speak. He goes on to deliver the Beatitudes, which are about trust in God who cares for those who suffer. Jesus also includes a matching series of "woes" that focus on those who have turned away from God by refusing to do their part in alleviating these sufferings.

Every culture develops false notions of righteousness; in this the world of first-century Judaism is not different from that of 21st-century Christianity. In Jesus' culture many assumed that wealth, prosperity, happiness and social inclusion were signs that one’s life was right in the eyes of God. Jesus insists that poverty, hunger, grief and exclusion are not signs of the absence of God's love.

Luke's Jesus insists, you rich might have a nearly inexhaustible supply of false righteousness . Woe to you who lead sheltered lives, for you will not see Christ arrive among the outcasts. But happy you high-school dropouts; someday you will be clean. Happy you migrants who think God is as entertained as you are by eating? You who laugh now, look around you! Do you think God is as entertained as you are by the work you have built? And you who everyone loves, what has happened to others who have shared similar fame? God does not see with human eyes, so call happy only those who live according to divine instruction.

Twenty-first-century society has a nearly inexhaustible supply of false righteousness . Woe to you well-educated, for you will find no work. And woe to you who lead sheltered lives, for you will not see Christ arrive among the outcasts. But happy you high-school dropouts; someday you will achieve your goals. Happy you drug addicts, someday you will be clean. Happy you migrants and refugees and you who have no place to call home. Rejoice and leap, for you will recognize the love.

Jesus also includes a matching series of "woes" that focus on those who have turned away from God by refusing to do their part in alleviating these sufferings.

- **If you are experiencing difficulties, how does today's Gospel comfort you?**

**Prayer Shawls**

If anyone needs Prayer Shawls, please contact Lorraine Beck at 942-7774. Please remember our sick in your prayers.

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**FEBRUARY 17, 2019**

**Scripture Reflection**

If you are experiencing difficulties, how does today's Gospel comfort you?
**SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**February 17, 2019**

Readings: Jer 17:5-6; 1 Cor 15:12,16-20; Lk 6:17, 20-26

**MARTYRS' MEMORIAL**

February 18, Monday: Weekday

**Readings:** Gb 4:1-15; 25; Mk 8:11-13

6:45 AM: Chrissie & Jody Cupples (Patricia & Tom Forr)

8:00 AM: Edward Flanagan Ann (Patty & Bear McCloskey)

12:00 PM: Janet Tomlinson (Joshua Walker)

February 19, Tuesday: Weekday

**Readings:** Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-15, 10; Mk 8:14-21

6:45 AM: Peggy Joyce (Family)

8:00 AM: Anna Mercer (Charles Angemeier Family)

12:00 PM: M. Virginia Jones (Colette & T.J. Evangelisto)

February 20, Wednesday: Weekday

**Readings:** Gn 8:6-13, 20-22; Mk 8:22-26

6:45 AM: Nicholas John Moffa (Estate)

8:00 AM: George Strobert (McNelis All-Stars)

12:00 PM: Msgr. Roy Kline (Joseph & Rebecca Clark Family)

February 21, Thursday: St. Peter Damian, Bsp & Dr.

**Readings:** Gn 9:1-13; Mk 8:27-33

6:45 AM: Michael & Ella Gibbons Family (Irwin Family)

8:00 AM: Dick, Rick Cowan, Karen Dougheerty (Family)

12:00 PM: James Joseph Luther (William Tremell)

February 22, Friday: The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle

**Readings:** 1 Pt 5:1-4; Mt 16:13-19

6:45 AM: Peter Lynam (Cathedral Parish)

8:00 PM: William V. Bettwy (Tim & JoAnn Bettwy)

12:00 PM: Wanda Watkins (Russ & Loretta Wharton)

February 23, Saturday: St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr

**Readings:** Heb 11:1-7; Mk 9:2-13

8:00 AM: Joyce David (Mike and Sherry Byrne)

12:00 PM: Herb Kultruf (Betty Ann Johnson)

Vigil: Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Readings:** 1 Sm 26:27-9; 12:13-22:23; 1 Cor 15:45-49; Lk 6:27-38

5:00 PM: William and John Drass (Bart & Eileen Hmle)

**Mardi Gras Celebration**

The Parish will gather for our annual Mardi Gras Party on March 2 at 6:00 PM in the Cathedral Hall. All parishioners are invited to join in the celebration prior to our forty day Lenten journey. The event promises great food for all and there will be games and prizes for the children. Clear your calendars and plan to join the parish family for a great evening of socializing, eating, and games.

**ARISE**

Sign-up sheets for the Lenten journey with ARISE are on the table at the Cathedral Square door. The Lenten theme is Change. Our Hearts. Parishioner groups begin to gather the week of March 3rd. Those that gathered in the fall are invited back. Those who did not join then are invited back to become part of a group this Lent.

This Lent the theme is CONVERSION - both as a turning from and as turning toward. This is an invitation to encounter and rediscover Christ in new ways. This is an opportunity to reinvigorate our faith, to recognize the Holy Spirit as the empowerment that anchors our daily lives. We are called to be disciples of the Lord, to attempt to live each day more in the image of Jesus Christ.

**Soda, Please!!**

With the upcoming Mardi Gras Party (March 2nd) and the Fish Luncheons throughout Lent, Parishioners are asked to donate soda - cans or bottles. This will deter costs. You can bring the soda and place it in the bin at the Cathedral doors or drop off at the Parish Center. Thank you.

**Blessed Candles**

On February 2, the Presentation of the Lord all candles to be used this liturgical year were blessed at Mass. If you wish to have blessed candles in your home, these sacramentals are located in the Blessed Mother Chapel. A box containing two (2) blessed candles costs $5.00; and a glass votive candle costs $5.00. Make sure to use these blessed candles on those special occasions in your family when there is a birthday, a birth, a baptism, or someone is ill.

**Religious Education Community Service Project**

Cathedral Parish Religious Education Program is offering a service opportunity to make non-sew knotted lap quilts for the Residents at Garvey Manor. Only 7 quilts are now needed. You can bring one home to make, or come in between Religious Education Sunday class and the 10:00 AM Mass. The fleece fabric and instructions will be provided. If you would like to help, please contact Chris Laraia at 944-470-1737, or Jeanne Thompson at 944-2510, or the Church Office at 944-4603. If you would like to help by making a $5.00 donation to defray the cost of the fabric for a quilt that would be greatly appreciated too! We would like the quilts to be returned by February 24. 

**Help Needed**

Help is needed for our Lenten mailing here at the Cathedral Parish Center, on Thursday February 21 at 9:00 AM. Use the 13th Avenue door, ring the bell to be left in. Hope to see you there.

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION**

Sunday, February 10, 2019 - $8,123.00

**Contribution Reports**

For Income Tax purposes may be obtained by calling the Parish Office: 944-4603.

**First Communion Sessions - 2019**

First Communion Sessions are scheduled for Wednesdays, February 27 and March 27, 2019. All sessions are held in the Seton Suite from 6:30 PM until 8:00 PM. All students are required to be accompanied by an adult. If unable to attend a session, please call Chris Laraia at 1-814-312-7317. First Communion at the Cathedral will be on May 5 at the 10:00 AM Mass. First Communion at Our Lady of Fatima Parish will be scheduled later. Practice for Cathedral students will be held on Thursday, May 2 at 4:00 PM in the Church and Confessions will be heard following practice. Group and individual pictures will be taken after the 10:00 AM First Communion Mass.

**Precious Blood of the Lord**

Because of the seriousness of this flu season, Bishop Bartchak has asked that the Precious Blood of the Lord not be offered at Mass temporarily. It is the belief of the Catholic Church that the whole Body of Christ is present under either form of consecrated bread and wine. Also, the exchange of the sign of peace should avoid bodily contact. A reverent nod with eye contact and a smile will be the temporary practice. Reception of Holy Communion on the hand is encouraged; however, reception on the tongue may not be used. This norm is in effect throughout the winter months or until the flu season is over.

**Flower Lovers and Gardeners!**

The Blair Garden Club will be traveling to the Philadelphia Flower Show on Wednesday March 6th. Anyone interested should call Emma Kowalski at 814-942-0202. The cost is $70.00.

**Lenten Fish Lunches**

Cathedral Parish Social Committee will again offer the delicious Fish Lunches on Ash Wednesday and the Fridays of Lent. (There is no Fish Lunch offered on Good Friday.) The menu includes a Fish sandwich, your choice of macaroni and cheese or pierogie or french fries or haluski for $8.00 (includes drink). They will be serving this from 11:00 AM to 1:30 PM or till sold out. Call in take-out orders of ten or more. Plan to participate in this annual Lenten project. Do you know someone who is homebound and would appreciate a delicious fish sandwich this Lent? Plan to reach out to others this Lent. Spread the good news with others about our unbeknownst delicious Fish Lunches!

**Confirmation Preparation**

A session will be held this evening for 11th Grade Confirmation Candidates and their sponsors, from 6:15 PM until 7:15 PM in the Church Hall. Your Saint Paper is due. A photo of candidates will be taken.

**Looking for Service Hours?**

Sign up to help at the Mardi Gras Saturday March 2nd, 6:00 PM - ?

**F.I.R.E. Class**

Sunday February 24th. Class will be feeding the Hungry in the Cathedral Hall from 1:30 PM until 3:30 PM. Students should in the hall by 12:30 PM.

**New F.I.R.E. Class will be on Sunday March 3, 2019 in the Cathedral Hall.**

**Rest in Peace**

This past week Angeline Mangiacarne died and was buried from the Cathedral. Angeline died at the age of 102. She was the oldest parish member. Angeline received the Blessed sacrament every First Friday. She always had a smile to share. We thank God for gracing her with a long life; may God now grace her with eternal peace.

**Eucharistic Adoration**

Plan to take part in next month’s Eucharistic Adoration scheduled for Wednesday, March 6th.

**Liturical Reflection ...**

In the celebration of the Mass the chief ways in which Christ is present in his Church emerge clearly one after the other. First, Christ is present in the very assembly of the faithful who has gathered in his name. Next, he is present in his word, sacred scripture, proclaimed and broken open. Also, he is present in the person of the ordained minister. Finally, and above all, Christ is present in the Eucharistic elements of his very Body and Blood. In a way that is completely unique, the whole and entire Christ, God and man, is substantially and permanently present in the Blessed Sacrament.

**Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharist Outside Mass, 1975, Number 6.**