

ST. JOHN'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

ePistle at www.creighton.edu/stjohns

Omaha's Jesuit Parish located at Creighton University, 2500 California Plaza, Omaha, NE 68178
Cornerstone laid 1887—Established as a Parish 1897—Designated a City Landmark 1981

February 5, 2017 - Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS/RECONCILIATION TIMES	402-280-3030
PARISH OFFICE	402-280-3031
Pastor:	Fr. Lorn Snow, S.J. 402-280-3262
Associate Pastor:	Fr. Phil Amidon, S.J. 402-280-2206
Eucharist:	
Monday- Friday 7:00 a.m.	Main Church
No Mass during University Breaks	
Monday—Friday 12 noon	Main Church
Monday—Friday 5:00 p.m.	Fr. Halley Chapel, LSJ
Monday 9:00 p.m.	Main Church**
Tuesday 9:00 p.m.	Main Church**
Saturday 7:00 a.m.	Main Church **
12 Noon	Fr. Halley Chapel, LSJ
5:00 p.m.	Main Church
(Anticipatory)	
Sunday 8:00 a.m.	Main Church
10:30 a.m.	Main Church
4:30 p.m.	Main Church**
8:30 p.m.	Main Church**
10:00 p.m.	Main Church**
**Academic Year Only—dates @ www.creighton.edu/stjohns	
Adult Faith Formation (Fall and Lenten Series)	
Sunday 9:15 a.m.	Conf. Room, LSJ
Youth Religious Education	
Sunday 9:15—10:15 a.m.	LSJ
Reconciliation:	
Mon—Fri	12:30—1:00 p.m.
Saturday	4:00—5:00 p.m.



“Your light must shine before others...”

(Matthew 5:16)

As we launch into this day, many of us have a number of things planned. Our to-do list looms before our mind's eye, waiting for us to begin. We do our best to keep up with our daily responsibilities.

But today's gospel gives us another to-do list. We are tasked to be “salt of the earth” and “light of the world.” As God's salt, we are to bring spiritual savor to others, and as God's light, we are to shine with God's brilliance.

Are we to set aside our to-do list for God's list? No. Rather, a kind word to the supermarket cashier, a word of thanks to the maintenance staff, a thoughtful call to a suffering neighbor, such as these are moments of salt and light. In the midst of our daily duties, we are to shine with God's goodness and love, and thus we are salt and light for the world.

St. John's Parish Staff

Chase Becker	
Liturgy Coordinator	402-280-1128
Coco Osborne	
Adult Faith Formation	cocoosborne@creighton.edu
Julie Carlson	
Administrative Assistant	402-280-3031
Kathleen Denne	
Business Manager	402-280-2975
Molly Mattingly	
Music Director	402-280-2203
Sr. Barb Markey	
Pastoral Minister	402-280-1499
Tom Everson	
RCIA Coordinator	kkad25@cox.net
Vivian Amu	
Sacristan	402-280-2786
Jonathan Chiacchere	stjohnsreligious@gmail.com
Youth Religious Ed & Sacramental Prep	
Scott Quinn	
Youth Group	scottquinn@creighton.edu

For more detailed information please refer to Parish Brochure, located at all church entrances.

*Msgr. Stephen J. Rossetti
Living with Christ, February 2017
Used with Permission*

Liturgical Ministry Schedule— February 11-12, 2017

This schedule can also be accessed at St. John's website—<http://stjohns.creighton.edu>

	Saturday 5:00 p.m.	Sunday 8:00 a.m.	Sunday 10:30 a.m.	Sunday 4:30 p.m.
PRESIDER	Fr. Carlson, S.J.	Fr. Amidon, S.J.	Fr. Osborne, S.J.	Fr. Shea, S.J.
LITURGICAL ASSISTANT	Mary Lee Brock	Dick Cleary	Matthew Leman	
ALTAR SERVER			Leah Font-Gabel	
LECTORS	ASN volunteer	Erike Schwanke	Craig Nigrelli	TBD
	ASN volunteer	Molly Carrig	Jerry Stender	
PRAYERS	Eileen Burke-Sullivan	Molly Carrig	Tim Cole	
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	ASN volunteer (4)	E. Schwanke	P. Edney P. Martin	
	G. Selk	D. Cleary	J. & F. Berg	
	M. A. McDonald	B. Austria	T. Cole J. Stender	
	J. O'Brien		J. & S. Scherr	
	M. A. Howick		A. Haddad	
			R. Wright	

Readings for the week

2/05	Sunday <i>The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	Is 1 Cor Mt	58:7-10 2:1-5 5:13-16
2/06	Monday	Gn Mk	1:1-19 6:53-56
2/07	Tuesday	Gn Mk	1:20—2:4a 7:1-13
2/08	Wednesday	Gn Mk	2:4b-9, 15-17 7:14-23
2/09	Thursday	Gn Mk	2:18-25 7:24-30
2/10	Friday	Gn Mk	3:1-8 7:31-37
2/11	Saturday	Gn Mk	3:9-24 8:1-10
2/12	Sunday <i>Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	Sir 1 Cor Mt	15:15-20 2:6-10 5:17-37

Mass Intentions February 6-11, 2017

	7:00 AM (Main Church)
Monday	Mr. & Mrs. Robert Schulzkump, Sr— <i>intentions</i>
Tuesday	Sue Bowman Batenhorst— <i>intention</i>
Wednesday	Mr. & Mrs. Mike Wieler— <i>intention</i>
Thursday	Mr. & Mrs. Cliff Flott— <i>intentions</i>
Friday	
Saturday	
	12:00 Noon (Main Church)
Monday	Jack Marcil & Shirley Doran Marcil— <i>deceased</i>
Tuesday	Fr. Paul Ortmeier— <i>intention</i>
Wednesday	Mildred Grant & Family— <i>intentions</i>
Thursday	Jim & Ellie Seward — <i>intentions</i>
Friday	Colleen Davis & Family— <i>prayers</i>
Saturday (LSJ's)	
	5:00 PM (Fr. Halley Chapel, LSJ's)
Monday	Paulina Harb— <i>prayers</i>
Tuesday	
Wednesday	
Thursday	Deceased Members of Ignatian Associates
Friday	Valerie & Bernard Zimmerman— <i>deceased</i>

Prayer Requests

Mary O'Riley	Chris
Dick Miller	Jim
Deb P.	Connie
M. & J.	Veronica
S. & S.	Barb Durant
J. & S.	Renee Kalkowski
Julie L. & Connor L. & Family	Jack Walsh
Barb M.	Colleen Davis & Family
Lisa M.	Richard Gruit
Peggy J.	

Weekly Offering Report

Weekly Budget Goal	7,067.31	Annual Budget Goal	367,500.12
Weekend 1/28-29/2017	4,393.56	Fiscal Year-to-Date Goal	219,086.61
Above (below) weekly goal	(2,673.75)	Amount Collected YTD	234,713.00
		Above (Below) YTD Goal	15,626.39

The Second Collection this week is for:
Home & Foreign Missions
Please be as generous as you are able.



Commission Meetings

St. Johns Leadership Night

will meet in Kateri Hall (Lower St. Johns) **February 14th at 6:00PM.** Worship, Faith Formation, Administration,

Outreach and Community Commission will meet to discuss upcoming events and projects. Anyone interested in being a part of leadership are welcome to join a commission and attend the meeting. For more information contact the Parish Offices.

From St. John's Social Justice Committee

Join OTOC for discussions of Improving Substandard Rental Housing and Limiting Interest and Fees on Pay Day Lending

OTOC leaders will hold discussion with local experts on two issues affecting many working families. On Thursday, Feb 2, OTOC will discuss with Steve Carmichael of Council Bluffs Housing how they and other cities are requiring regular inspection for rental properties to assure basic safety and habitability. On Tues. Feb. 7, OTOC leaders will discuss with local experts a bill in the Unicameral to limit the interest and fees that Pay Day lenders can charge to those who borrow from them. Both events will take place at Urban Abbey (10th and Jackson) and run from 6:45 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. For more information, go to www.otoc.org.

Save the date! The **Notre Dame Folk Choir** will give a concert at St. John's on May 31 at 7:30pm. We need volunteers to host 2 or more choir members overnight on May 31 and June 1, as well as volunteers to put on a potluck dinner before the concert. Please contact mollymattingly@creighton.edu if you're interested, or if you have questions.



Join the Mission in Honduras

All are invited on the mission trip to the children's orphanage of Nuevo Paraiso from June 29-July 7, 2017. Immerse with the Honduran people while providing basic medical care, performing on-site projects and caring for the children. Grow spiritually with daily Mass and reflections. Cost is \$1,500 with first deposit due March 15, 2017. Contact Fr. Snow at 402 280-3262 or Martha Todd at marthatodd@creighton.edu for more information. Sponsored by St. John's Parish. Space is limited.



Creighton University and St. John's Parish will host an **Interfaith Prayer Service** in solidarity with immigrants and refugees at St. John's Church this **Wednesday, February 8 at 3:30 p.m.** Please join us in this time of prayer and support.



Palms Needed for Ash Wednesday

The ashes used on Ash Wednesday are made by burning the palm branches distributed on Palm Sunday from previous years. Beginning next week, baskets will be available at the church entrances for any old palm branches that you'd like to contribute. The Rite of Burning Palms will take place on Sunday, February 26 at 10:15am outside the church

Blessed Candles Available

This past Thursday, the Church celebrated the Feast of the Presentation of our Lord. This event recalls Jesus' presentation in the Temple in Jerusalem forty days after his birth by his parents in obedience to the Law of Moses. It is customary on this day to bless candles, recalling Simeon's reference to the infant Jesus as the "light for revelation to the Gentiles" (Luke 2:32). Blessed candles for home use are available at the entrance of the church. Donations are graciously accepted.

Blessing for Engaged Couples

In order to celebrate the Catholic Church's "Week of Marriage" we would like to invite you to come to the 10:30 AM Mass at St. John's Church at Creighton on Sunday February 12th for a special blessing for engaged couples. Our pastor, Fr. Lorn Snow SJ, will ask you to stand for a brief communal blessing after communion using the official Church blessing for engaged couples. Your presence and witness to our parish community as couples seeking the sacramental grace of the rite of marriage is greatly appreciated and we would like to take this opportunity to celebrate and pray with you as you journey towards your marriage.



The Lenten Adult Faith Formation Series begins on Sunday, February 26 and will end on Sunday, April 9. Join us for reflection and group discussion those Sundays from 9:15-10:15 AM in Lower St. John's. We will read from Backpacking with the Saints by **Belden C. Lane**.

Copies of the Lenten Adult Faith Formation book will be available for purchase from Coco Osborne near the main entrance to the church the week-ends of February 11-12 & 18-19 after 5 PM, 8 AM, 10:30 AM Masses. Cash or checks only please. Questions?? Contact Coco at: cocoosborne@creighton.edu

Food For Thought

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 58:7-10

1 Cor 2:1-5

Mt 5:13-16

This passage from Matthew's gospel very interestingly begins with a reference to salt, "*You are the salt of the earth. But if salt loses its taste with what can it be seasoned?*" The passage quickly moves on to the notion of light, "*You are the light of the world.*" Rather confusing, unless we appreciate the use of salt. The words "taste" and "seasoned" get us off track, making us think of food. As there was little or no wood available for fire, animal dung was used as fuel and salt the catalyst for igniting the dung. So if the salt was not doing its job, what could be done to refresh it, to "season" it?

The passage ends with the very familiar encouragement: "*Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.*"

A few years ago, I had the privilege of being a guest in the primitive village of Kole on the island of Santo part of the nation of Vanuatu in the South Pacific. Natural light was the only source of light. On cloud covered nights when there was absolutely no sky light, I literally could not see my hand in front of my face. On clear, but moonless nights, the stars were of unspeakable brilliance, countless in number, stretching from horizon to horizon. A spectacle of art and drama with shooting stars crisscrossing the sky. An iridescent sheen softly reflected off objects below, giving light, but rarely color. When there was a full, white, mottled, dominating moon heavenly bodies receded while earthly objects were captured in a colorful brightness strong enough to cast distinct shadows. Bright enough to read by!

Recently, perched on a boulder at the ocean's edge, I waited for the sun to come up. From the darkness slowly white light crept over the horizon's edge gradually becoming rainbow colored. The pace quickened until the blazing orange sun popped out of the dark blue ocean waters highlighting the ripples with streaks of white light. The ocean took on definition, degrees of blue-green water dotted with white-capped waves.

The exciting good-news of this gospel passage is that I am invited and challenged to risk being my best self, in order that you might be your best self. My light, my gifts, my graces and talents are given of Love for me to use and enjoy – and to be a catalyst, 'salt' to ignite, encourage and allow the light, gifts and talents of others to shine. Whether I am one of the multitude of brilliant stars, a powerful moon-like presence, a blazing sun the light I reflect is the light of the love of the Mystery that is God. As I am present to you and you to me, we increase each other's holy and blessed radiance. We "season" each other as we continue to be "seasoned" by God. We participate with God in the glory and celebration of our individual gifts and those of each other.

I think it is true in spirit, what I observed in nature. Different degrees of light allow other objects to come more or less into focus; to have shape, color, to take on their own life and vitality. And so it is with me. The more light and love I reflect on you - my child, my spouse, my partner, my neighbor, my friend or my enemy, the poor, needy, immigrant - the more light and love you generate.

Oh, the pure Mystery, Love, untold Imagination is our God!

Joan Blandin Howard