

**Saturday, February 19<sup>th</sup>**

4:00PM

**Tracey M. Ruth Kloster**Birthday remembrance *requested by family & friends***Lorraine M. Merrill****Sunday, February 20<sup>th</sup>**

8:30AM

**Edolo Lupi** *months mind requested by wife & family*

11:30PM

**Ricardo Vilorio** *10 aniversario de fallecido pedida por Mercedes Frías.***Wendy Batista** *7 Años de fallecida pedida por sus familiares***Adela Lopez, Rosa Hernandez,****Roberto Rico y Minoca Rico**

5:00PM

**Cheryl Makepeace** 22<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary  
*Requested by her Family***Monday, February 21<sup>st</sup>**

5:30PM

**Maria Lafleur** *requested by family***Tuesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>**

5:30PM

**In Loving memory Chuck Navien***Requested by the Johnston Family***Thursday, February 24<sup>th</sup>**

5:30PM

**Stephen Gauvin** *Birthday remembrance requested by his family***Friday, February 25<sup>th</sup>**

5:30PM

**Intention of the Celebrant****Saturday, February 26<sup>th</sup>**

8:30AM

**Estelle Champagne***Anniversary requested by her family***WEEKLY COLLECTION**Offertory February 13<sup>th</sup>: \$5,267.00**THANK YOU!****SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND**

Parish monthly collection

**SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND** supports the Holy Father in providing emergency assistance to suffering people throughout the world. Contributions to The Peter's Pence Collection are give directly by the Holy Father to individuals who are suffering from immediate emergencies as a result of war, oppression and natural disasters. Please visit [www.usccb.org/ppc](http://www.usccb.org/ppc) for more info.

**Mass Schedule Feb 19-20**

4:00 PM St. John's Fr. Leo

4:00 PM St. James Fr. RWM

7:00 PM St. James Fr. Joseph

8:30 AM St. James Fr. Murray/ Deacon Leo

8:30 AM St. John's Fr. Leo

10:30 St. John's Fr. Murray/Deacon Tom

11:30 St. James Fr. Murray/Deacon Nelson

5:00 PM St. James Fr. Walsh

**Pastor's Notes** There are many things happening around the parish to which I want to call your attention. We are planning to have a talent show on March 19<sup>th</sup> and as you can read in the ad there is a call for many types of help, as well as an offer to show off your talent. The young people will be gathering for an activities night this week and so we are getting ready for that. One of the requests that I have heard since I have been here is a plan for more social activities. I agree that we should have more and think that this is an important way to help the parish strengthen itself. We gather in prayer all the time, it also good to gather to socialize with some good clean fun. It helps us to understand and know one another a bit and to have the opportunity to speak to people we sometimes only would see in Church. A quick check of the Bible reveals that Jesus attended dinners, weddings, was comfortable in crowds and was generally a social person, so we have a good model. What is also interesting to observe is that he always used the situations to speak to everybody, even his enemies the Pharisees and Sadducees. It is a good lesson to think about as we consider this week's reading. What Jesus shows us is that it is possible to do something extraordinary in loving our enemies. I often think that He loved them, but as you listen to him in dialogue, at times he seems frustrated and even annoyed by them and their apparent hard headedness and hard hearts. This give us a release from any foolish hope of false piety and allows us to accept the idea that loving isn't liking. I recall a statement from my mother to us when we were at our worst. She would say that she loved us, but didn't want to be near us just now because we weren't being likable. In those times she would head to her room and let my father sort us out. (Generally we preferred my mother's justice to our Dad's, a lot more simple apologizing was done and less apologetic physical labor was apportioned by Mom). What we did learn was that it's important to love even when it's not convenient and even when you don't necessarily like the person you are dealing with at the moment. If you have to move away for a bit go ahead, but the challenge and call to love is always there. They, as we, are God's beloved even if we don't understand that at the time. Peace, Father Murray

**Building news.** After a quick process of determining that there was a lot of snow on the roofs, we had our roofer remove tons of snow. Although this was an unforeseen expense, the roofer assured me it was well worth it. He showed me a square foot of snow from the roof and weighed it revealing that it was 43 pounds. The two crews worked for two days to remove everything. The challenge this winter so far has been the frequency and amount of snow from each storm. We have not had any "melt time" in between storms, and this caused a buildup. The ongoing monitoring of the buildings I am sure will result in a positive outcome now and in the long term.

**A note of thanks** goes out to the thirteen volunteers who worked on our upcoming **Lenten Cross** project. This scissors wielding group came together on Sunday, February 13th to work cooperatively and collaboratively making special felt crosses that will be part of our parish's Lenten observance. Once again, thank you to all who volunteered. *Father Murray*

## SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



*"You have heard that it was said, An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. But I say to you, offer no resistance to one who is evil. When someone strikes you on your right cheek, turn the other one as well." - Mt 5:38-39*

### Readings for the Week of February 20, 2011

Sunday:	Lv 19:1-2, 17-18/1 Cor 3:16-23/Mt 5:38-48
Monday:	Sir 1:1-10/Mk 9:14-29
Tuesday:	1 Pt 5:1-4/Mt 16:13-19
Wednesday:	Sir 4:11-19/Mk 9:38-40
Thursday:	Sir 5:1-8/Mk 9:41-50
Friday:	Sir 6:5-17/Mk 10:1-12
Saturday:	Sir 17:1-15/Mk 10:13-16

**Background on the Gospel** the last two antitheses offered in the Sermon on the Mount deal with love of enemies. We should not look at "an eye for an eye" as an inordinately strict punishment. It is actually meant to limit acts of revenge by making sure the punishment is not excessive but fits the crime. However, Jesus asks his followers to take a different approach by resisting retaliation altogether. The response to a stronger person who slaps us on the cheek, takes us to court, or demands a service of us is not to resist. Similarly, for a weaker person, such as a beggar or borrower, we are to give him or her what he or she asks for. Those who are called to the Kingdom of Heaven are to go beyond the way the world usually works and serve God's kingdom here on earth.

The other difficult demand of those who are called to the kingdom is to embrace the enemy. There is no command in the Old Testament to hate individuals in a personal or vindictive way. But there is a religious stance that calls one to hate evil and to distance oneself from those who participate in evil. In contrast, Matthew emphasizes that love of God and love of neighbor are the fundamental commands on which all else depend. Because God's love is unconditional, we are to strive to love as God does, though, of course, it is challenging. Is it even possible?

The key is in the final verse. We are to be perfect as our heavenly father is perfect. Matthew uses the Greek word *telos*, which is probably better translated here as "complete." We are not to be perfect as in doing everything correctly, that is, as in being absolutely morally correct. We are to be perfect as in striving to reach the completeness we are called to in the Kingdom of Heaven. Attempting to love our enemies is part of striving for that completeness.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS...** The meeting for parents of First Communion students originally scheduled for February 6<sup>th</sup> has been rescheduled to **SUNDAY, MARCH 20<sup>TH</sup> at 10:00 A.M. at St. James School. At least one parent from each family must attend this meeting. Coffee will be served.**

For those who are interested, Father Murray continues to offer a course on the Gospel of Matthew. We meet in the lower Church at 7:00 PM and study for one hour. All are invited. Bring a Bible if you have one. We will continue on February 1 and 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Family Connection** Family life teaches us many things. It is often at home that we learn practical skills such as cooking, riding a bike, and making repairs. Talk about some of the things that the members of your family have learned to do at home. We also learn about caring at home. Talk about times when you have learned a lesson about sharing, forgiving, or loving through an experience that happened at home.

Talk about how love is the most important thing a family can share with one another. Explain that it is the same in God's family. Read aloud this Sunday's Gospel, Matthew 5:38-48. Talk about how Jesus tried to teach his disciples how to love others beyond those who are closest to them. Jesus tells them to love even their enemies. As members of God's family, we are called to do the same thing. Talk about some concrete ways you can "love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you"

Remind your children that Jesus does not expect us to be perfect. Jesus knows that we are human and will not always do everything correctly. Explain that what Jesus wants us to do is to love others as if they were Jesus himself. If we reach out in love to others, we are doing exactly what Jesus did. That is what perfection looks like. End this time together by praying the [Act of Love](#).

**Act of Love** O my God, I love you above all things with my whole heart and soul, because you are all good and worthy of all my love. I love my neighbor as myself for the love of you. I forgive all who have injured me and I ask pardon of those whom I have injured. Amen.

**America's got talent! Do You?** Do you sing into a hairbrush in front of a mirror? Do you sing in the shower? Do you moon walk across your smooth wooden floors? Did you always want to be a standup comic and never had the chance? WELL HERE IS YOUR CHANCE! We are recruiting talent (or no talent) for our show. We will have song, dance, story-telling, jokes and just good clean fun to celebrate St. Patrick's Day! Our **Talent Show** will take place on Saturday March 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm at St James School starting with a wonderful spaghetti dinner! For \$5.00 each (children only \$1.00), you can enjoy all you can eat spaghetti and talent show in one! Bring the entire family and even invite someone "back to the Church!" Ticket sales will begin the weekend of February 26/27 after all of the Masses. For further information call Anita 978.521.2575.

**Ignatian Home Retreat:** An "At Home Retreat" based upon the [Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius of Loyola](#) is being planned for our parish beginning on Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup> at 7PM and Wednesday March 9<sup>th</sup> at 10AM. Those making the retreat will meet once every two weeks for about an hour with Fr. John Walsh for a total of 12 meetings over a 24 week period. Participants will be given a passage to pray over for 15 minutes each day taken either from [The Spiritual Exercises](#) or [The Gospels](#) and then they will share their reflections at either the Tuesday or Wednesday meetings depending on which time is most convenient for them. Monday night meetings are being planned for our Spanish and Portuguese speaking parishioners. Those interested are asked to call the parish secretary at 978-372-8537 and leave your name and phone number.. For more information you can call Fr. Walsh directly at 978-372-8537 ext. 208.

**Noche de juegos familiares**

Misión Santiago Apostol

Juegos Familiar Pro recaudación de fondos

Para la Misión en la Republica Dominicana

Los Premios: 1 Televisión Plasma 40"; 1 Laptop; 1 IPod;

1 Camara Digital; 4 Grill para sándwich

Y otros premios más

Donación: \$25                      Día: Febrero 26 Hora: 6PM

Lugar: Escuela St. James, 415 Primrose Street

**Los Ejercicios Espirituales:** El Padre John Walsh estará ofreciendo a la comunidad Portuguesa y a la Hispana, El retiro en casa, de los Ejercicios Espirituales de San Ignacio de Loyola. Los Ejercicios comenzaran el día lunes 14 de marzo de 2011. Durante algunas semanas, este grupo se reunirá por la noche los segundos y cuartos lunes del mes. Es decir, dos veces al mes para compartir con el padre el progreso de este Retiro en Casa. Para mayor información llamar al Padre Walsh a la rectoría de la parroquia al número 978-372-8537.

La parroquia continúa creciendo. Me alegra saber que estamos creciendo. Esto quiere decir que también estamos invitados a cambiar algunas de nuestras prácticas durante la Liturgia dominical. Durante el Rito de la Comunión se hace un poco lento porque hay muchas personas que vienen a comulgar. Entonces, quiero proponerles un cambio que vamos a empezar en la primera semana de cuaresma y que facilite el acceso de ustedes a la nave central y en los laterales de la iglesia. El cambio consiste en esto:

Agregaremos dos ministros más de la Eucaristía para distribuir el Cuerpo de Cristo a las personas que están en los corredores de la iglesia. Continuaremos con la práctica de tener 6 ministros del Cáliz esperando que esto mejore la fluidez del rito. Quiero pedirles la colaboración de todos ustedes en esta nueva forma de ir a comulgar. Haremos una sola fila en cada corredor para permitir que las personas regresen a su sitio por el mismo lugar donde salieron. Es decir que tendremos tres filas: Una fila en el centro y las otras dos en los respectivos laterales. En la nave central tendremos una

fila que se abre como una **Y** para indicarnos que habrá 2 ministros al frente y que podemos ir a cualquiera de ellos indistintamente. Así es como se ve este plan nuevo:

<b>Corredor Izquierda</b>	<b>Nave Central</b>	<b>Corredor Derecho</b>
<b>Pan</b> cáliz cáliz	cáliz <b>Pan Pan</b>	cáliz cáliz
cáliz <b>Pan</b>		

Quiero recordarles a los que tienen dificultad en ir a recibir la comunión, que después que se termine de distribuir la comunión en la filas, si la persona se pone de pie, el ministro puede identificarlo y acercarse a su asiento. Espero que esta nueva forma y práctica nos ayude a todos a profundizar la santidad del rito.

**Otro cambio** quiero sugerir es para tener las dos colectas, una inmediatamente después de la otra. En esta forma esperamos permitirle a la comunidad de sentarse, orar y reflexionar durante la canción después de la comunión. Gracias a todos los que me han dado sugerencias sobre este particular. Obviamente, vamos a necesitar más gente para colaborar con la colecta. Pero, yo tengo confianza completa de que vamos a realizar todo.

St James Parish Nursing council is having a workshop about insurance, dental care, eye care, and high blood pressure. Come and have your blood pressure taken and enjoy a little snack. There is a lot of useful information for you to take advantage of. Stop by the lower church on Saturday, March 5th after 4:00PM Mass. Please join us!

**An Evening of Wedding Music** will take place on Monday, February 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm at St. James Church. If you just became engaged, plan to marry soon, or have a wedding already scheduled at St James, we invite you to attend this concert. Even if your wedding is not at St. James you are invited to come listen to some ideas. The concert lasts one hour and we present over 40 excerpts of music appropriate for your special day. Reservations are required only to assure that we have enough handouts available. Come yourself or bring some friends. To reserve a spot please email [stjamesmusic@hotmail.com](mailto:stjamesmusic@hotmail.com)

**Suy Niệm Lời Chúa, CN. VII TN.**

Ở đời này, và cả ở đời sau, không có gì quan trọng cho bằng tình yêu. Hạnh phúc chính là yêu và được yêu lại. Nhưng chắc gì chúng ta đã hiểu đúng về tình yêu. Trong Thánh Lễ này, Lời Chúa sẽ dạy chúng ta điều quan trọng đó. Chúng ta hãy xin Chúa giúp chúng ta hiểu và thực thi yêu thương trong cuộc sống chúng ta.

Chúng ta yêu thương một số người, nhưng đồng thời cũng ghét bỏ nhiều người khác.

Chúng ta muốn người ta yêu thương mình, nhưng mình lại không yêu thương người khác.

Đặc biệt chúng ta nuôi dưỡng lòng ganh ghét, hận thù, là điều hoàn toàn đi ngược lại lời dạy của Chúa.

Thế nào là thánh ?

Trong các bài đọc hôm nay, chúng ta nghe được hai lời kêu gọi nên thánh như Thiên Chúa : "Các người hãy nên thánh, vì Ta là Đấng Thánh" (bài đọc I) ; "Các con hãy nên trọn lành như Cha các con ở trên trời là Đấng trọn lành" (Bài Tin Mừng).

Thánh là thế nào ?

Người ta thường hình dung vị thánh là một người khổ hạnh, xa lánh thế gian, chuyên chăm đọc kinh cầu nguyện... Vì hình dung như thế, người ta ngưỡng mộ các vị thánh nhưng không thích làm thánh.

Bài đọc I và bài Tin Mừng hôm nay hình dung vị thánh một cách rất dễ thương, dễ thích : Thánh là người cố gắng giống Chúa. Mà vì Chúa là tình yêu cho nên thánh là người sống yêu thương, chẳng những yêu thương những người thân cận với mình, mà còn yêu thương cả những kẻ thù ghét mình.

Một vị thánh như thế, ai mà không thích ? Hình ảnh một vị thánh như thế, ai mà không muốn trở thành ? Và những người thánh như thế, xã hội nào mà không cần đến ?

*Lm. Carolô Hồ Bạc Xái*

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**Comments:**

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