### Owr Parish GOMMUNITY

February 25, 2018

Second Sunday of Lent (B) Gn 22:1–2, 9a, 10–13, 15–18 Rom 8:31b–34 Mk 9:2–10

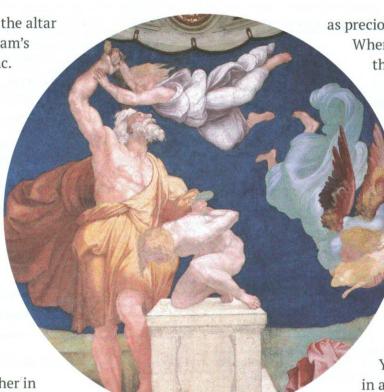
#### Let Go and Let God

neeling humbly on the altar is the son of Abraham's old age, the promised Isaac. He was the answer to prayer, a commitment by God that, through this child, Abraham would have descendants as numerous as the stars. Yet God was asking him to sacrifice that hope and promise. And Abraham, although surely not understanding, was willing to obey the Father. It represents the supreme test of faith. Abraham is called our Father in

Faith for a reason.

Abraham is looking up to God, not focused on the creatures, even as much as he loved his son. We also need to be looking up to God in order to rightly value the things below.

He understands that no godly gift should take God's place in the human heart—even something



Piece: The Sacrifice of Isaac, 1511 Artist: Raphael Sanzio Location: Vatican Museums

as precious as his God-given child.

When dealing with all the good
things God gives us, even

those he has promised and those we love most, we must be willing to

submit to his plans.

God doesn't always

make sense to us, and

we are painfully aware
that his ways are not

Isaac is a young boy, but certainly big enough to put up a fight as his elderly father's plans become evident.
Yet we see him kneeling in acceptance of the sacrifice

always our ways.

God requests. Although he wants to understand, he doesn't make the reason an absolute. Isaac foreshadows the trusting lamb led to slaughter, the ram whose head will be caught in a

crown of thorns, and the Son who will not be spared by the heavenly Father.

-Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

#### For Reflection

Are we willing to lay peacefully within God's plan, even if it means sacrifice?

Do we trust his plans more than our own?

Is there anything more beloved by us than God's loving plan for us?

He who did not spare his own Son... how will he not also give us everything else along with him? Romans 8:32

#### "Through Hospitality, we share our Catholic Faith with All as Disciples of Christ."

#### CHURCH OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION WEBSITE: www.catholictripp.org

842-3520 PO BOX 765 325 S. Van Buren St. Winner, SD 57580 **PASTOR: Fr. Kevin Achbach** kachbach@diorc.org cell 605-848-2112

#### MASS & RECONCILIATION SCHEDULE

MASS - Saturday at 6:00 pm, Sunday at 10:30 am RECONCILIATION - Saturday at 5:00 pm

Office Hours: Mon. thru Fri., 9:00 am - 4:00 pm Office email: parishsec@gwtc.net

#### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Saturday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> Sacristan: Toni Donovan Lector: Sandi Hausmann

EME: Joyce Heath, Michael Hausmann, Kristen Hausmann

Servers: Justin Hausmann, Sadie Tegethoff, Ryan Sell

Ushers: John Kocer, Steve Meyer

Rich O'Bryan, Tom Sharkey

Sunday, March 4th Sacristan: Judy Arthur **Tovi Bartels** Lector:

EME: Val Sherman, Dean & Amy Engel Megan Brozik, Ryder & Piper Mortenson Servers:

**Ushers:** Jason & Finn Bartels Dean Engel, Lance Engel

ICC COLLECTION REPORT

Feb. 14, 2018: Ash Wednesday Collection/Catholic Social Services \$1,496.00 Feb. 17 & 18, 2018: Envelopes \$3,343.12, Loose \$192.06. Total \$3,535.18.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS: Church in Latin America \$50.00

#### THANK YOU!

Winner Catholic Daughters of the Americas for your support toward Vocations! Your generous donation of \$900.00 to Seminarian Education is very much appreciated!

#### **CHURCH OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

It is time to make the new ministry schedule for March 24<sup>th</sup> - July 29<sup>th</sup>. This will include Easter Masses.

Please get your unavailable or available dates to Vicki (viliturgy@gwtc.net) or call the parish office. Thanks!



The ICC Family Choir will sing on Sunday, March 4th, 10:30am. We practice at 9:00am and have a break with treats at 10:00.

Please join us with your children. Questions – please contact the parish office. All are Welcome!

#### THE COFFEE IS ON!

Immaculate Conception & St. Isidore Parish Elders

Fr. Kevin would like to invite you to his home Thursday ~ March 1st ~ 10:30am - 12:00 noon



#### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOLARSHIPS

Due March 15<sup>th</sup> Catholic Daughters of the Americas Due March 15<sup>th</sup> Knights of Columbus Church of Immaculate Conception Due April 1st

If you are interested in applying, call or stop at the high school guidance office for an application or on the school website.



#### DAILY MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday - Feb. 24 - 6:00 pm \*\*Winner\*\* Lucille Dirks+ by Mary Lou Phillips & Family

Sunday - Feb. 25 - 8:30 am \*\*Colome\*\* For the Parish

**Sunday** - Feb. 25 - 10:30 am \*\*Winner\*\*

Deloris Cahoy by Mike Cahoy Monday - Feb. 26 - 5:30 pm \*\*Winner\*\*

John & Doris Arthur by Eugene & Kaylyn Arthur Tuesday - Feb. 27 - 4:30 pm \*\*No Mass\*\*

Wednesday - Feb. 28 - 9:15 am \*\*Elder Inn\*\*

Communion Service

Wednesday - Feb. 28 - 9:30 am \*\*Nursing Home\*\*

Joyce Steffen by John & Deb Fisher

<u>Thursday</u> - Mar. 1 - 9:00 am \*\*Golden Prairie Manor\*\*

Doris Rysavy by the Rysavy Family

Friday - Mar. 2 - 7:15 am \*\*Winner\*\*

Pro-Life For Unborn Children

Saturday - Mar. 3 - 6:00 pm \*\*Winner\*\*

For all Knights of Columbus: past, present & future

by Knights of Columbus

Sunday - Mar. 4 - 8:30 am \*\*Colome\*\*

For the Parish

Sunday - Mar. 4 - 10:30 am \*\*Winner\*\*

For all Catholic Daughters: past, present & future

by Winner Catholic Daughters

#### SPEND TIME WITH JESUS

**Holy Hour** 

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** 

Confession

Wednesdays 5:00 - 6:00pm at ICC

All are welcome to attend!





#### Join us for Divine Mercy Chaplet

Thursdays @10:00am at ICC

#### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION STATIONS OF THE CROSS FRIDAYS AT 6:00PM



#### 'Saint Juliana's Prayer List'

Wendy Smith Brittney Hansen Jeannine VanderPol Marty Hagen Larry Zeigler Marianne Thompson Reid Malnati Dorothy Hejl Alex Turgeon Kelly Hair Vicki Moser Clair Turgeon Stacy Pettit Gary Elder Shirley Turgeon Fr. Bill Zandri Jolene Hagen Christine Wood Jackie McKenzie Bromley Heath Mary Johnson Kate DeMers Kirk Mansheim Abby Pechota Lenna Thieman JoAnn Brown Martin Jorgensen Julie Stafford-son Glenn Layh Ruthie Storms Joachim Dick Donovan Janet DeMers Inez Dockendorf Dorothy Edwards Jim Harder Virgil Novotny

#### Prayers for our Family Members in the Military

Gene Fisher Jacob Debus Dylan Doering Daysha DeMers Jeff Butler Jacque Miller Spencer Hughes Kris Schwartz

St. Juliana's (Patron Saint of sickness) is a list of the people we are currently praying for because of illness or in the military. The military list will remain until we are notified. Please call the office (842-3520) to request continued prayers. To preserve the dignity and privacy of individuals, we ask that only an immediate family member call to request publication of names. We will presume they have permission from the individual to do so. Thank you for your understanding.

#### ST. ISIDORE CHURCH

301 Carr St. Colome, SD 57528 842-3520

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION - Sunday at 8:00 am MASS SCHEDULE - Sunday at 8:30 am

#### ST. ISIDORE—MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Sunday, March 4, 2018

Gifts: Mrs. Rosemary King

Lector: Daryl

EME: Todd/Janette/Volunteer

Music: Tanya/Cindy

Servers: Carleen/Abby/Kaden

Ushers: Bruce/Lynn Sacristan: Kathleen WEEKDAY MASS TIME

Tuesdays @ 4:30pm St. Isidore

#### ST. ISIDORE COLLECTION REPORT

Feb. 14, 2018: Ash Wednesday Collection/Catholic Social Services \$716.00

Feb. 18, 2018: \$3,856.00

COLLECTION: February 25, 2018 ~ Matt & Holly

March 4, 2018 ~ Rosemary & Van March 11, 2018 ~ Ryan & Jody

#### SPEND TIME WITH JESUS

St. Isidore, Colome

**Holy Hour** 

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** 

Confession

Tuesdays 5:00 - 6:00pm - - - All are welcome to attend!



#### St. Isidore ~~ March Church Cleaning

Sherry Rohde (Chr.), Janet DeMers Les Petersek, VOLUNTEER





#### ST. ISIDORE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays - 5:00PM ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND!

#### JOIN US AT ST. ISIDORE



(weather permitting)
Friday, March 9th - 5:30 - 7:30pm
Following Stations of the Cross

Please bring a salad or your favorite "Lenten Dish".

All are welcome to attend!



Cindy is working on a new ministry schedule for March 25 — July 29. Please give her a call with the dates you are unavailable. Thank you for all that you do.

### PANTRY SUNDAY ~~ March 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> The Food Pantry is in need of 100% fruit juice, canned soups and saltines. All donations are

canned soups and saltines. All donations are greatly appreciated! Please be generous in your

support to the needy of our community!



#### St. Isidore Scholarships

Catholic Daughters of the Americas

St. Isidore Church

Due April 15<sup>th</sup>

Due April 15<sup>th</sup>

Knights of Columbus Due April 15<sup>th</sup>

If you are interested in applying, call or stop at the high school guidance office for an application.

FAITH FORMATION ~ dreic@gwtc.net Youth of Immaculate Conception & St. Isidore

#### **Faith Formation Class Schedule**

**St. Isidore** ~ 5:30pm in the Church Basement Grades 1-12 ~~ February 28, March 7, 14, 21 CHAPEL — Grades 6 -12 ~ February 28, March 14

**Immaculate Conception** ~ St. Mary's Hall

Grades 1-5 Class 6:00 to 7:00pm ~ Feb. 28, March 7, 14, 21 Grades 6 -12 Meal at 5:45pm - followed by Class until 7:00pm February 28

#### **ADULT FAITH FORMATION**

#### THAT MAN IS YOU



Thursday, March 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 - 7:30am @ ICC Rectory

# Adult Faith 9 Formation

#### **Adult Catholic Catechism**

All are welcome to attend! St. Isidore Church Basement Class on Sunday, Feb. 25th 6-7:00pm

FIND US AND FRIEND US ON FACEBOOK

MARY IMMACULATE



Friend us to receive updates.

#### **LOCAL PENANCE SERVICES**

FORT PIERRE	Tuesday	February 27 <sup>th</sup>	6:30pm
PRESHO	Thursday	March 1 <sup>st</sup>	6:00pm
BONESTEEL	Thursday	March 8 <sup>th</sup>	7:00pm
COLOME	Tuesday	March 13 <sup>th</sup>	5:00pm
MURDO	Tuesday	March 13 <sup>th</sup>	6:00pm
GREGORY	Thursday	March 15 <sup>th</sup>	7:00pm
WINNER	Thursday	March 22 <sup>nd</sup>	7:00pm

#### February 25, 2018

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

Once again the Lord is calling us to follow him along the journey of Lent. Each year all the faithful are invited to respond anew as



individuals and as a community to our baptismal vocation and to bear fruits of conversion. Lent is a journey of evolving, creative reflection which inspires penance and gives new impetus to every aspect of our commitment to follow the Gospel. It is a journey of love which opens the hearts of believers to our brothers and sisters and draws them to God. Jesus asks his disciples to live and to radiate charity; this new commandment of love represents the authoritative summation of the Decalogue entrusted by God to Moses on Mount Sinai. Each day we encounter people who are hungry, thirsty or sick, people who are outcasts or migrants. During this season of Lent we are invited to pay greater heed to the suffering written on their faces, faces which challenge us to acknowledge the various aspects of poverty that continue in our time.

http://w2.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en/messages/lent/documents/hf jp-ii mes 19950908 lent-1996.html

# Growing in CALL

Discovering **hope and joy** in the Catholic faith.

March 2018

#### Church of Immaculate Conception

Fr. Kevin Achbach, Pastor

#### **One Minute Meditations**

#### St. Margaret Clitherow

St. Margaret Clitherow
was born in York,
England in 1555. She
was raised Protestant
but became a

Catholic soon after she married.

When Queen Elizabeth I outlawed Catholicism, St. Margaret continued to practice her faith, even hiding Catholic priests in her house so they could say Mass in secret. In 1586, Margaret was arrested. Instead of being afraid, she was serenely joyful during her time in prison. She refused to renounce her faith and died a martyr.

#### St. Joseph

March 19th, the Solemnity of St. Joseph, honors the Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. He is the patron of the Universal Church and protector of families.

"You are praising God when you do your day's work. You are praising him when you eat and drink. You are praising him when you rest on your bed. You are praising him when you are asleep. So when are you not praising him?"

St. Augustine

#### "Who, then, is my neighbor?" (Luke 10:29)

Jesus' parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37) challenges our idea of who is a stranger. As followers of

Jesus, we know that it is not acceptable to care only for people who are like ourselves. Our faith calls us to look beyond borders and see all people as neighbors. "If you love those who love you, what credit is

that to you?" (Luke

6:32).

Who is a neighbor? Jesus never directed us to like everyone, but he raised love of neighbor to the level of a Commandment. And he doesn't allow us to be selective.

The snarky coworker or unpleasant older person who lives next door?

Both are neighbors we are asked to love.

Customers who harp on the tiny
mistakes we make, or relatives who
love to point out our flaws?

Neighbors. People from around the world whose values and behavior are foreign to us?
Neighbors, all.

What is neighbor love? It starts by seeing those around us – truly looking past the outer appearance and learning names, personal stories, circumstances.

Praying for others –

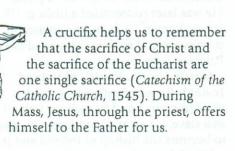
whether we know them personally or not – is a powerful way to love them.

Neighbor love isn't blind to others' sin but it requires focusing on our own first. We love neighbors best by letting them witness in us the fullness of a life in Christ.

# Why Do Catholics Do That

### Why do Catholics have crucifixes in church?

The crucifix – a cross with Jesus' body on it – reminds us of the price of our salvation and God's infinite love for us; "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son to death on a cross" (John 3:16).





### Why does God let bad things happen?

"If God is good, why does he allow bad things to happen?" In our hearts, we may know that God is loving and doesn't want us to suffer, but it can be difficult to see his plan when trouble strikes. The key is to stay close and trust his love.

Draw closer to him. Sometimes God allows bad things to happen because he knows that adversity can draw us closer to him. Take the Old Testament hero, Joseph, for example (Genesis 37-50). He was sold into slavery by his own brothers, falsely

accused by his master's wife, and unjustly imprisoned for years. Eventually he was released and became one of the most powerful men in Egypt.

Stay connected. Throughout his suffering, Joseph kept his friendship with God strong so he could see God's hand in his life. When his brothers begged for forgiveness, Joseph was able to answer, "Even though you meant harm to me, God meant it for good, to achieve his present end,

the survival of many people."



#### Mark 14:1-15, 47, Waste or worship?

In this reading, we follow the march of events toward Jesus' death. It begins in Bethany with a woman pouring a costly ointment over Jesus' head and horrifying the disciples with a frivolous use of an expensive material. However, Jesus silenced them, pointing out that "she has anointed my body beforehand for burying."

The ointment was costly - worth about one year's wages. It was a significant sacrifice for the woman to make. Yet, unlike the disciples, the woman understood that Jesus was

soon to die, and she meant to honor him with the gesture. What the disciples saw as waste, the Lord understood as worship. Jesus saw her

> material offering as "a beautiful thing." She took one of her most honored possessions and gave it to Jesus in an unusual act of devotion. Rather than

consider it a loss, Jesus felt honored by it.



March 1 - St. David of Wales (c. 600). St. David is the patron saint of Wales. He was born into Welsh nobility, but instead chose to become a priest. He was later consecrated a bishop. He is best known for founding an ascetic monastery and ridding the area of the Pelagian heresy.

March 17 - St. Patrick of Ireland (c.461). Born in Scotland, St. Patrick was kidnapped and brought to Ireland as a slave. He escaped but later returned to become the bishop of Ireland and is credited for having established the

Church there.

Sunday marks the

beginning of Holy

Week.

March 19 - St. Joseph, Husband of Mary (1st Century). Jesus' earthly father and husband to the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph is a model of fatherhood and a protector of families.

March 25 - Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion (1st Century). On Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion, we recall Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, when he was greeted by crowds waving palms and cheering. This



#### How do I make a good Confession?

The Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation (Confession) can

sometimes feel like an obligation instead of an encounter with God's mercy, but it doesn't have to be that way. Try these tips for a more joyful Reconciliation.

Examine your conscience. Compare your actions to the principles of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20) and the Beatitudes (Matthew 5). Bring to the confessional the significant ways you have failed to live up to them.

Confess the small ones, too. Participating in the Sacrament frequently means that you may only have venial (minor) sins to confess. Confess them anyway. Piling up venial sins can lessen our resistance and pave the way for mortal sin. Confessing keeps our consciences sharp.

Express contrition and resolve to avoid sin. Ask for the grace to continue growing in holiness and avoiding evil.

The point of the Sacrament is to reconcile us with the God who loves us more than we can imagine, and who is always eager to forgive us. Confession helps us come back and begin again.

#### Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living. Success Publishing & Media, LLC Publishers of Growing in Faith™ and Partners in Faith™ (540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax http://www.growinginfaith.com (Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible)

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# NEWS

Office of Public Affairs 3211 Fourth Street, NE Washington, DC 20017 202-541-3200 Fax 202-541-3173 www.usccb.org

USCCB President, Vice President, and Migration Chair Announce National Call-in Day for Dreamers for February 26

#### February 19, 2018

WASHINGTON—Late last week, the Senate failed to achieve the 60 votes needed to move forward with debate on legislation to provide relief to Dreamers. Cardinal Daniel DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, USCCB President; Archbishop José H. Gomez of Los Angeles, USCCB Vice President; and Bishop Joe S. Vásquez of Austin, Chairman of the USCCB Committee on Migration, together issued the following statement:

"We are deeply disappointed that the Senate was not able to come together in a bipartisan manner to secure legislative protection for the Dreamers. With the March 5<sup>th</sup> deadline looming, we ask once again that Members of Congress show the leadership necessary to find a just and humane solution for these young people, who daily face mounting anxiety and uncertainty.

"We are also announcing a National Catholic Call-In Day to Protect Dreamers. This coming weekend, we will be asking the faithful across the nation to call their Members of Congress next **Monday, February 26**, to protect Dreamers from deportation, to provide them a path to citizenship, and to avoid any damage to existing protections for families and unaccompanied minors in the process.

"Our faith compels us to stand with the vulnerable, including our immigrant brothers and sisters. We have done so continually, but we must show our support and solidarity now in a special way. Now is the time for action."

Keywords: U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, USCCB, Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo, Archbishop José H. Gomez, Bishop Joe S. Vásquez, USCCB Committee on Migration, Dreamers, National Call-In Day, legislative protection, path to citizenship, Congress, Senate, solutions, families, unaccompanied minors, faith, vulnerable, immigrants, action, solidarity

###

Media Contact: Judy Keane 202-541-3200

18-038 Sec,DD,DP,DioNews,CathPress



### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION & ST. ISIDORE MARCH BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

NACE NACE NAME OF THE PARTY OF

If you would like your name on this list, please call the Parish Office 842-3520.

#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Amy Engel	March	1	Sydney Fritz	March	19	
Kylie Sachtjen	March	1	Clarice Poler	March	19	
Travis Kubal	March		Tanner Fritz	March	20	
Nick Wolf	March	2	Phillip Jorgensen	March	20	
Bayley O'Bryan	March	2	Mabel Schmit	March	20	
Gracie Root	March	3	Athena Willuweit	March	20	
Nick Jorgensen	March	2 2 3 5	Dennis DeMers	March	21	
Allan Varilek	March	5	Lynn DeMers	March	21	
Toni Donovan	March	6	Tanya Fletcher	March	21	
Dr. Teresa Marts	March	6	Alexis Richey	March	21	
Coy Assman	March	7	Lyndsey Tegethoff		21	
Ivy Novotny	March	7	John Ishmael	March	22	
Heather Russel	March	7	Amanda Sachtjen	March	22	
Mike Winckler	March	7		March	22	
Sarah Caslin			Samuel Sachtjen		23	
	March	8 8	Lillian Barfuss	March	23	
Ruth Novotny	March	9	Jennifer Butcher	March		
Sylvania Earll	March	9	Jenny Engel	March	23 23	
Bernice Lyons	March		Lauren Mayes	March		
Jim Fritz	March	10	Tim Meiners	March	23	
Moni Stiehl	March	10	Grady Myers	March	24	
Duane Brunkow	March	11 11	Harvey Naasz	March	24	
Owen Duffy	March		Stella Caslin	March	26	
Raelen Heinzman	March	11	Barb Leeds	March	26	
Janette Shippy	March	11	Ryan Sell	March	26	
Jack Williams	March	11	Matt Brozik	March	27	
A. J. Davis	March	12	Carol Moyer	March	28	
Audrey Keierleber	March	12	Steve Tritle	March	28	
Leonard Kourt	March	12	Austin Davis	March	29	
Howard Caslin	March	13	Mason Shippy	March	29	
Tanner Elder	March	13	Jack Arthur	March	30	
Deb Hannett	March	13	Sarah Hoffer	March	31	
Sharon Naasz	March	13	Browdy Kocer	March	31	
Jacob Soesbe	March	13	2-06-9			
Mary Lou Bracy	March	14				
Taylor Chasing Hawk	March	14		PPY (		
Shannon Kortan	March	14		IVERSAR)	<b>y</b> )	
Amber Thede	March	14				
Aiden Barfuss	March	15				
Cooper Craven	March	15	T 1		44 1	
Ethan Ernest	March	16	John & Deb Fisher	•••	March	1
Kristen Hausmann	March	16	,		March	2
Bryan Jorgensen	March	16	Rodney & Colleen Farley		March	5
Ellison LaDeaux	March	17			March	6
Karen Naasz	March	17			March	11
Mark Winter	March	17	Cody & Brandy Osborn March			11
Haley DeMers	March	18	Howie & Wendy Smith March		15	
Hannah Hanson	March	18			19	
Jean Audiss	March	19	,		28	
Mary Elder	March	19	Larry, Jr. & Karen (	D'Connor	March	29

#### Calendar

#### Monday

February 26 Lenten Weekday Dn 9:4b-10 Lk 6:36-38

#### Tuesday

February 27 Lenten Weekday Is 1:10, 16-20 Mt 23:1-12

#### Wednesday

February 28 Lenten Weekday Jer 18:18-20 Mt 20:17-28

#### **Thursday**

March 1 Lenten Weekday Jer 17:5-10 Lk 16:19-31

#### Friday

March 2 Lenten Weekday Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

#### Saturday

March 3 Lenten Weekday Mi 7:14-15, 18-20 Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

#### Sunday

March 4 Third Sunday of Lent Ex 20:1-17 or Ex 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17 1 Cor 1:22-25 In 2:13-25

## Dear Padre,

Our guitar group plays music five minutes before the opening song at Mass. By the time the interminable Gloria is sung, I already have a headache! Why so much music?

t Mass, the faithful "form one body, whether in hearing the Word of AGod, or in taking part in the prayers and in the singing, or above all by the common offering of the Sacrifice and by participating together at the Lord's table" (General Instruction of the Roman Missal, 96). Thus, liturgical music can be a form of prayer, uniting the assembly in praise to God. Ideally, it's "a particularly apt way to express a joyful heart, accentuating the



solemnity of the celebration and fostering the sense of a common faith and a shared love" (On Keeping the Lord's Day Holy [Dies Domini], 50) by Pope John

However, this ideal isn't always reality. To address your question, let us divide humanity into two groups: people who like

to sing and people who don't; those who sing in full voice in the shower and those who prefer monastic silence. Every congregation includes both groups. While not everyone is naturally inclined to make a joyful noise, most people appreciate music's power to give voice to what's deep in the human heart.

Some may even feel there's not *enough* music at Mass instead of too much. Nevertheless, happy the liturgical ministers who know when the sum of the individual Mass parts—sung or otherwise—can become too tedious. And blessed are the music makers who know the power of silence, an instrumental, or an optional recessional song, even for solemn occasions.

> Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR | From Liguorian magazine, October 2017 Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



#### A Word From Pope Francis

Lent...is a special time for recalling the gift of our baptism, when we became children of God. The Church invites us to renew the gift she has given us, not to let this gift lie dormant as if it were something from the past or locked away in a memory chest.

—Homily, February 14, 2016



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