

Catholic Churches of Barber County, Kansas

Fr. Mark Brantley, Pastor

February 14, 2021

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Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Thoughts on Today's Liturgy

Reading 1: Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46 The leper will dwell apart, making an abode outside the camp.

Reading 2: Corinthians 10:31-11:1 Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

Gospel: Mark 1:40-45 The leprosy left him, and he was made clean.

Mass Schedule and Intentions

Saturday	13	5:00 p.m.	SH	Parishioners	6 th Sunday of Ordinary Time
Sunday	14	8:30 a.m.	KW	Joe and Gertrude Jaso	✠ 6 th Sunday of Ordinary Time
Sunday	14	10:30 a.m.	ML	Evan Withrow	✠ 6 th Sunday of Ordinary Time
Tuesday	16	9:00 a.m.	ML	Butch Criser	✠ 6 th Tuesday of Ordinary Time
Wednesday	17	5:30 p.m.	ML	Rick Junger	✠ Ash Wednesday
Thursday	18	8:30 a.m.	KW	Laurie Anspack	✠ Thursday after Ash Wednesday
Friday	19	8:30 a.m.	SH	Roman Blick	✠ Friday after Ash Wednesday
Saturday	20	5:00 p.m.	SH	Steve Eck	✠ First Sunday of Lent
Sunday	21	8:30 a.m.	KW	Deborah Bone	✠ First Sunday of Lent
Sunday	21	10:30 a.m.	ML	Parishioners	First Sunday of Lent

Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment

Reflection: Resonance Enough Raise your hand if somehow the Book of Leviticus seems less foreign to your ears than it did a year ago. Timeless the plight of the leper, isn't it?

He shall dwell apart.

If this were not resonance enough, notice what's missing between the beginning and end of today's Leviticus text. In these omitted verses, we discover that even in the ancient world there was a chance for false positives. What appeared to be a contagious skin infection ("leprosy" is a misleading translation) might be a harmless rash that would clear up on its own. So the afflicted person would undergo a seven-day *quarantine* or two. Only when the priest was certain there was no chance of healing would the unclean person have to dwell apart. Imagine the agony all around. Community meant *everything* to the People of God.

Imagine what they would have done were the contagion invisible and deadly. They, too, might have learned what it means for the whole community—the entire world as they knew it—to dwell apart. Raise your hand if you can relate to that.

And keep your hand up if over the course of the past year you begged and pleaded with God for healing—for yourself, a loved one, a stranger, a million strangers. If you got on your knees like the leper before Jesus: Please, please, *please*. But you did not get the answer, "I do will it. Be made clean." Maybe you began to wonder whether Jesus ever *dismissed someone at once* without answering their prayer. If so, you would be among a global community of like-hearted questioners. Why is God so utterly absent? Why doesn't God just fix this broken and sick world?

Maybe it is precisely in this despair and doubt that Christ reaches out and touches us, offers healing for an illness we fail to recognize or are reticent to admit: being community only in name.

We liked to say over the past year that though apart, we remained together. But I wonder. I wonder if these painful months have lanced some festering wounds, revealing the ways we were apart when together: Polite smiles. Feigned friendliness. Thinly veiled acrimony. Avoiding conflict at all costs—or taking to social media to vent our grievances—because it hurts too much to be honest with and humble before one another.

Let there be no doubt: Christ wills that we live peaceably as one. And there is no wound of disunity too great for him to heal. Timeless—and timely—his touch. Whether we desire to be a part of that healing is the resonant question. *Mary Stommes*

***PLEASE EMAIL BULLETIN ITEMS TO JULIE BY NOON WEDNESDAY TO secretary@barbercountycatholic.org**

PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Sick and Shut-Ins:

Roger Ringer, Earl Kuhn, Cortlyn Hill, Ella Rundle, Eileen Schmidt, Jerome Ricke, Charlotte A. Ringer, John Eck, Herb Landwehr, Jaunita Ricke, John Harding, Mike Lynch, Ronald Ringer, Pete Eck, Hugh Rankin, Corona Hoch, Charlie Jo Warner, Mary Eck, Helen Eck, Sandy Ricke, Ruth Blick, Miles Sheldon

For the Faithful Departed:

Vernon Rinke, Joe Hrencher, Gerard Ricke, Evan Withrow, Gladys Christensen, Victor Blick, Roman Blick Jr, Eulanda(Butch) Criser, Steve Eck, Ernest Young, Deven Leis, Art Junger, Ted Hauser, Jim Ricke, Laura Seiler, Anita Patterson, Sue Smith, Mary Traffas, Betty Ricke, Walter Sedlak and all the souls in Purgatory. May they rest in perfect peace.

For the Military:

Austin Stull, Jackson Petit, Captain Rebecca Wright Lopez, Christopher Coggins, Dylan Allison, Sheldon Hart, Bianca Lewis, Luke Fisher

Church News

Ash Wednesday Service at Medicine Lodge Only

While Ash Wednesday is not a holy day of obligation and while there is no requirement for the clergy and faithful to receive the imposition of ashes, it is rightly observed as a celebration of high importance, and many will surely wish to participate even amid the current difficulties. During this time of pandemic, the Holy See has modified the method of distributing the ashes. The Priest will say the prayer for blessing the ashes and sprinkles the ashes with holy water. The priest will take the ashes and sprinkle them on the head of each one without saying anything. These changes minimize the necessity of physical contact between the minister and recipient. The distribution of ashes via sprinkling is a common practice in some countries but is not well known here.

KOC Sharon Council 254 Annual Fish Fry

The annual fish fry held by KOC Sharon council begin this week, February 13th, & last for the next 6 weeks! Located in the Sharon Knights of Columbus hall from 5:30-7:30 pm, Carry Out welcome. No fish fry Good Friday.

Save the Dates

Final preparations are being made for a Lenten retreat. Reserve the evenings of March 7th, 8th, and 9th. We will gather at St Boniface in Sharon at 7 pm. The theme will be: "Close Encounters if the Best Kind".

Ministry Schedule February 20th – February 21st

Week 3	St. Boniface	St. John the Apostle	Holy Rosary
Lector 1	Marilyn Traffas	Pam Malone	John Hagood
Cantor	Choir	Choir	Cheri Dohrmann
Lector 2	Sandy Ricke	Danny Archuleta	Brandon Warner
General Intercessions	Sandy Ricke	Danny Archuleta	Kyla Alojacin
Eucharistic Ministers	Scott Dohm Heather Rankin Sandy Ricke Doug Schmidt Karin Traffas	Marlene Kruckenberg Rick Hitchcock Cindy Summers	Brandon Warner Barbara Hagood Susan Ricke Jerome Ricke Kathleen Pennock
Servers	Rachel Fischer Cole Fischer Branden Fischer	Volunteers	Jhayla Alojacin
Musician	Ruth Schmidt or Kathy Dohm	Nikki Brattin	Ruth Schmidt or Kathy Dohm
Greeters			Roger and Twila Angell
Sacristan	John & Kathy Dohm	Bev Miller	Brandon Warner
Rosary	Shirley Ditgen		Jerome Ricke

