



Our Lady of Mount Carmel St. Ann Parish

www.mtcarmel.ws

LORD'S DAY MASSES

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.
Sunday: 8:00, 10:00, and 11:30 a.m.

DAILY MASS

Monday through Friday 7:00 a.m.

HOLYDAY MASSES

Vigil: 7:00 p.m.
Holyday: 7:00 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday at 3:00 - 3:45 p.m. or by private appointment.

PASTORAL STAFF

Msgr. F. Stephen Pedone, Pastor
Rev. Jesus Martinez, Associate Pastor
Most Rev. George E. Rueger, in residence
Deacon Gerry Montiverdi, Part-time Liturgical Assistant.

PARISH OFFICES AND STAFF

Mailing Address: 28 Mulberry St., Worcester, MA 01605
Street Address: 24 Mulberry St., Worcester, MA 01605
Telephone: 508-797-4546
Office Hours are Monday-Friday from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
Lisa Fenuccio, Administrative Assistant
Email: lisaolmc@gmail.com
Phyllis Lynch, Secretary
Mr. Francis Heffron, Head Custodian
Mr. Glenn MacGregor, Part-time Custodian
Mr. Walter Borek, Part-time Church Caretaker

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Parents and Godparents must attend the Baptismal instruction session before the Baptism is celebrated. These sessions take place on the First Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Center. Community baptisms are celebrated on the third Sunday of every month after the 11:30 a.m. Mass. Private baptisms may also be arranged by calling the parish office.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

To prepare for this lifelong commitment, couples must begin marriage preparation twelve months before the proposed wedding date, according to the diocesan policy.

FAITH FORMATION

The Religious Education Program offers instruction to children and young people from Grade One through the high school years. Children are prepared for the reception of First Reconciliation and then First Holy Communion and young people for the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation in high school, including those who attend Catholic schools. Rel. Ed. Office: 508-791-6139.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

This process of sharing faith stories and studying the Bible and the teachings of the Church is open to anyone who is in need of receiving any one or all of the Sacraments of Initiation. -Baptism, Holy Communion and Confirmation or to anyone who wishes to enter into full communion with the Roman Catholic Church.

FAITH FORMATION TEAM

Mrs. Joan D'Argenis D.R.E./Youth Director
Maria Sciannameo RCIA Director & Director of Adult Education

LITURGICAL MUSIC MINISTRY

Mr. Scott Olson, Organist
Mr. Michael Garceau, Organist/Wedding Ministry

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Council meets on the third Tuesday of every month. The Council is committed to assisting the pastor in various liturgical celebrations and parochial and diocesan fundraisers and to pursuing its own charitable endeavors.

ORGANIZATIONS

Guild of Our Lady of Sorrows
Beato Angelo D'Acri Society
The Gene J. DeFeudis Italian Cultural Center
Mt. Carmel Golden Years Club

PRO-LIFE CONTACTS

Pro-Life Office, Mrs. Allison LeDoux: 508-929-4311
Respect Life Parish Representative: Louise Faiola: 508-756-1150
Visitation House: 508-798-0762
Problem Pregnancy: 888-310-7217

ILLNESS

Arrangements can be made to have Holy Communion brought those who are homebound due to illness, age, or impairment of any kind or to celebrate the Sacrament of Anointing and Reconciliation with them. Please notify the parish office with the necessary information.

PARISH REGISTRATION

To become a registered member of the parish, please call the office. One of the secretaries will gladly assist anyone and complete the registration over the phone or through the website.

REPORTING THE ABUSE OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

To report the abuse of a child or a teenager, please contact Mrs. Frances Nugent, Director of the Diocesan Office of Healing and Prevention at 508-791-7171. You may also call Gloria Caprioli, our parish coordinator for prevention and education, at 508-344-7718. Lastly, you may call Msgr. F. Pedone at 774-243-1154.

**WEEKEND COLLECTION
2/28/2015 & 3/1/2015**

4:00 PM Mass	\$1,770.00
8:00 AM Mass	\$1,111.00
10:00 AM Mass	\$1,383.00
11:30 AM Mass	\$1,177.00
Shared Envelopes	\$345.00
Total Mass Collections	<u>\$5,786.00</u>

Special Collections:

Weekend Envelopes –mailed in	\$1,485.00
Fuel	\$327.00
Initial Offering	\$20.00
Catholic Home Missions	\$10.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$5.00
Catholic University	\$10.00
Catholic Schools	\$5.00
Church in Latin America	\$25.00
Good Friday/Holy Land	\$15.00
Easter	\$25.00
Easter Flowers	\$120.00
Catholic Free Press	\$60.00
Capital Campaign	\$779.00
On-Line Giving	\$240.50
Candle Offering	\$290.00
Total	<u>\$3,416.50</u>

Restricted Funds	\$909.00
Unrestricted Funds	<u>\$8,293.50</u>
Total	<u>\$9,202.50</u>

The Finance Committee has determined that we need to collect \$9,400 each week to meet our current expenses. Thank you for your continued support of Our Lady of Mount Carmel-St. Ann parish.

BAKE SALE

Mount Carmel's American Heritage Girls will be having a bake sale on **March 15 after the 10:00 and 11:30 Masses**. The bake sale is so we can raise money to help Families in Transition, which helps families who have no home so have to live in a hotel. With the money we raise we will plan a day for the kids of those families to get out of the hotel room and have fun.

NEW HYMNALS

The new Worship IV and Gather III hymnals have arrived and are on display at the entrances of the church. Please consider donating a set as a gift from or in memory of a loved one. We will have a special nameplate printed for this purpose, which will be affixed to the hymnals. The cost is \$40.00 for both hymnals, which must be purchased together.

**PARISH MISSION – MONDAY THROUGH
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 17, 18^T at 7:00 pm.**

On Monday, March 16th, Father Dennis O'Brien, pastor of Our Lady of the Lake in Leominster, will celebrate Mass and preach. The topic of his homily is "Listen With the Ears of Your Heart." Mass begins at 7:00 pm.

On Tuesday, March 17th, Father Steven LaBaire, pastor of Holy Family Parish in Worcester, will celebrate a penance service and preach. The topic of his homily is "Lord Grant Me a Kind Heart, Cleanse Us of Our Indifference." Several priests will be available to hear confessions. The penance service begins at 7:00 pm.

On Wednesday, March 18th, Father Charles Monroe, pastor of Our Lady of the Angels Parish in Worcester, will celebrate Mass and preach. The topic of his homily is "Freedom: What Is It For?" Mass will begin at 7:00 pm.

Please make every effort to attend and bring a friend!

PAULINE BOOKS & MEDIA BOOK FAIR

The Daughters of St. Paul, Catholic Sisters from Boston will be here at our parish after all the Masses on the weekend of March 21st& 22nd. They will bring a wonderful selection of materials which they publish and produce: Spiritual reading, Lives of the Saints, books for Children, DVD's, music and more! Be sure to stop by and peruse their materials which will assist you with the faith formation of your family. Find a good book for Lenten reading or the perfect gift for a First Communion!

PARTNERS IN CHARITY

This annual appeal for the Diocese of Worcester serves 28 charitable, educational, and pastoral ministries. Through your generous support, we are able to serve thousands of families and individuals in Worcester County through outreach, formation, evangelization and worship. Our goal again this year is \$50,000. The last two years you as a parish successfully exceeded this goal. We are again asking for your generous and faithful support to this vital diocesan campaign. Our in-pew campaign will take place at all Masses the weekend of March 21st and 22nd. Please be generous!

THE FEAST OF SAINT JOSEPH

This year we will be having the Feast of Saint Joseph after the Mission Mass on March 18th. We will be serving zeppole and coffee in honor of Rosemary Zamarro. We will be charging \$5.00 to anyone who was interested and I would need a count by March 12.

**PASTORAL COUNCIL AND FINANCE
COMMITTEE MEETING**

There will be a combined Pastoral Council and Finance Committee Meeting on **Monday, March 9 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Parish Center.



**MASS
INTENTIONS**

Saturday, March 7, 2015—4:00 p.m.
Francis Grimaldi by mother Mary and Susanne

Sunday, March 8, 2015—8:00 a.m.
Susan and Catherine Petrone by Family

Sunday, March 8, 2015—10:00 a.m.
Virginia Pepi by husband Robert

Sunday, March 8, 2015—11:30 a.m.
Henry Covello (First Anniversary) by Wife
Emilia Garofoli (7th Anniversary) by Family

Monday, March 9, 2015—7:00 a.m.
The People of the Parish

Tuesday, March 10, 2015—7:00 a.m.
William and Theresa Scaglione by Michael Scaglione

Wednesday, March 11, 2015—7:00 a.m.
Martha DiLiddo by Michael Scaglione

Thursday, March 12, 2015—7:00 a.m.
The Sick of the Parish

Friday, March 13, 2015—7:00 a.m.
Dolores Pilling by Family

Saturday, March 14, 2015—4:00 p.m.
Isaac Preko by Family
Rose Giaquinto (First Anniversary) by Family
Pauline (Andresano) La Casse (4th Anniversary) by husband Fred
Frances (Andresano) Gardella (13th Anniversary) by her children

Sunday, March 15, 2015—8:00 a.m.
Richard Maruka (15th Anniversary) by Family

Sunday, March 15, 2015—10:00 a.m.
Domenic and Antoinette Giuliani by daughter Donna
Eric Swenson by friends

Sunday, March 15, 2015—11:30 a.m.
Giuseppe Santangelo by wife Marzia

CONFESSIONS ARE HEARD EVERY TUESDAY EVENING FROM 7:00 TO 8:00 PM AND SATURDAYS FROM 11:00 AM TO 12:00 NOON AND AGAIN FROM 3:00 TO 3:45 PM. PLEASE TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO REFRESH AND RENEW YOUR SOULS DURING THIS SACRED LENTEN SEASON.



Please pray for the sick of our parish: Anna Perro, Francis Caffone, Susan Stomski, James Dionne, Donna Grasseschi, Lena Sbrogna, Michael Crossen, Lori Blackwell, Carmella Szklarz, Matteo Fiore, Matthew Hicks, Henry Penny, Patrick Loconto, Eleanor Lupisella, Butch Rano, Mary O'Connor, Christina Rovezzi, Christopher Collazo, Eleanor Gaudenzi, Eileen Biziewski, Patricia Naples, Paula & Arthur Mari, Beverly Sacco, Ava Grace Mackenzie, Mary Grimaldi and Sim Simone. May the Lord give them strength, courage and healing.

THIS WEEK OUR SANCTUARY LAMPS ARE DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF:

Salvatore "Sudsy" Rinaldi
 (Birthday Remembrance)
 By Family

15TH ANNUAL CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE

All men are invited to this important annual Conference, scheduled for Worcester's DCU Center on Saturday, March 21, 2015. Hear dynamic talks from outstanding leaders: *Dynamic Catholic Institute's Allen Hunt*, *Arise Ministries' Dominick Albano*, *Blessed2Play's Ron Meyer*, and 'Catholic Answers' host **Patrick Coffin**. **Father Michael Gaitley** will offer a special presentation on divine mercy, the role of the Blessed Mother and the importance of receiving mercy through confession. Bishops and diocesan and religion priests will hear confessions. Bishop McManus will offer Mass. For a Conference brochure, further information, or registration, call 508-929-4345. Visit our website—www.firstmensconf.org—for information and ticket purchases.

**LECTURE ON MARCH 24—SUFFERING, DEATH AND TRIUMPH: THE EASTER STORY THROUGH RENAISSANCE EYES
 BY DONNA WINANT**

Experience the process of Jesus as He is celebrated throughout the streets towards Jerusalem, then betrayed, denied, whipped and nailed on an execution-stake. This account does not end in ultimate death but rather the resurrection that would change the world for centuries to come. All this will be seen through the art of Renaissance masters.

For more information please contact Joan D'Argenis at 508-797-4546 or joan_dargenis@yahoo.com

**OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL – ST. ANN
GOLDEN YEARS CLUB
Program for the Month March 2015**

March 3, 2015

10:00 A.M. Socializing
12:00 NOON Lunch – Followed by Social.

March 10, 2015

10:00 A.M. Socializing
10:30 A.M. Board Meeting Golden Years Club
11:00 A.M. Business Meeting Golden Years Club
12:00 NOON Lunch – Followed by Social.

March 17, 2015

9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. VNA “Keep Well Clinic” –
Blood Pressure Etc.
10:00 A.M. Socializing
11:00 A.M. St. Patrick and St. Joseph Party
12:00 NOON Lunch – Followed by Social.

March 24, 2015

10:00 A.M. Socializing
11:00 A.M. Guest Speaker – Senator Harriett
Chandler
12:00 NOON Lunch – Followed by Social.

March 31, 2015

No Golden Years

**REMINDER --- PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING
FOOD FOR THE POOR --- FOOD FOR OUR FOOD
BANK---DONATIONS FOR THE FOOD BANK HAVE
BEEN VERY LOW---IF MEMBERS DONATE ONE ITEM
EVERY TUESDAY FOR THE FOOD BANK IT WILL BE
VERY HELPFUL.**

**BEATO ANGELO D’ACRI ITALIAN WOMEN’S
CLUB – 77 YEARS STRONG!**

We are welcoming new members and past members to come join in the fellowship of belonging to the Beato Angelo D’Acri Italian Women’s Club. If you are of Italian decent or are “Italian thru marriage”, please drop in and check us out. We meet the first Monday of the following months: March, April, May, June, September, October, November and December at the American Legion Post #201- 326 Plantation St. Worcester. Meetings begin at 7:00 P.M. If you cannot make our first meeting, you are welcome to join us at any of our remaining meetings. The dues are \$20.00 for our calendar year. Some of the things you’ll experience are field trips, guest speakers, parade participation, community service projects, and delicious “coffee and” prepared by volunteering members. I look forward to seeing all the new faces and welcoming back our past members.

Jane Sabatalo Karantzoulidis- President

During this season of Lent we are asked to take time to reflect and meditate on our lives and our relationship with God. Following is a meditation/reflection to the soul by Saint Gregory of Nazianzus. You may find this helpful during your journey through Lent as we look forward to Easter!

"You have a task, my soul,
A great task if you so desire.
Scrutinize yourself seriously-
Your being, your destiny;
Where you come from and where you must
rest.

Seek to know whether it is life that you are living
Or if it is something more.
You have a task, my soul, So Purify your life!

Please consider God and His mysteries,
Investigate what existed before this universe
and
What it is for you.
Where you come from and
What your destiny will be.
This is your task, my soul,
Therefore, Purify your life!

MEDITATION ON THE EUCHARIST

"The Eucharist is alive. If a stranger who knew nothing about the Eucharist were to watch the way we receive, would he know this? When you and I approach the Eucharist, does it look like we believe we are about to take into our bodies the living person, Jesus Christ, true God and true man? How many times, Lord, have I forgotten that the Eucharist is alive! As I wait in line to receive you each day, am I thinking about how much you want to unite yourself with me? Am I seeing your hands filled with the graces you want to give me? Am I filled with awe and gratitude that you love me so much as to actually want to come to me in this incredibly intimate way? Or am I distracted, busy with other thoughts, preoccupied with myself and my agendas for the day? How many times, Jesus, have I made you sad, mindlessly receiving you into my body, into my heart, with no love and no recognition of your love? How many times have I treated you as a dead object? The Host that we receive is not a thing! It’s not a wafer! It’s not bread! It’s a person – He’s alive!"

— 7 Secrets of the Eucharist.

PRE-SCHOOL OPENINGS FOR 2015-2016

There are currently openings in the pre-school program for the 2015-2016 school year. Pre-school is Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10-12:30 in the Parish Center. Children must be 3 or 4 years old. Please contact Joan D’Argenis for more information 508-797-4546 or joan_dargenis@yahoo.com

LENTEN SCHEDULE MT. CARMEL UNPLUGGED

1. Each week put in the bulletin – Lenten Journey idea for Lent, read a Bible verse: 1st week visit a family member that you have not visited for a while.
2. Eucharist Adoration every Friday during Lent, from 3-6 p.m. **We need volunteers.** If interested please see either Msgr. Pedone or call the office, so we can set up a schedule.
3. Stations of the Cross every Friday, starting on February 20th at 6:30 p.m.
4. Tenebrae Service presenting the Seven Last Words—March 31st at 7:00 p.m.
5. Bus to visit churches on Holy Thursday – April 2
6. Book Discussion: Tuesday, March 3

Walking with Jesus: The Heart of Christian Life Paperback 'by Pope Francis

Book Discussion: Tuesday, March 24 at 2:00 p.m. **Saint Padre Pio: In the Footsteps of Saint Francis by Michael J. Ruszala**

7. **Mt. Carmel Unplugged** What are you doing for Lent? Consider adding something religious to your life. This is an opportunity to get to know Jesus better, perhaps you can take a journey on a Friday evening joining us for the Stations of the Cross, maybe you can go to a Mass during the week, join a Bible Study class or read a new book. I hear every day, how busy our schedules are and we do not have the time to add anything to our lives. How about, taking something away, such as stress. We invite you to join us on **Saturday, March 21** from 2:00—4:00 p.m. to unplug. Unplug all your cell phones, iPads, iPods, computers, televisions, radios, ect. and try to relax. Take this time to focus on family and prayer, The family that prays together, stays together. If you are not able to join us this day, choose a day that works for you and your family, even if it is just for one hour

8. Parish Mission Week – March 16, March 17 and March 18

FRIDAY NIGHT FISH FRY

Friday – March 13

4 – 6:30 p.m.

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel

28 Mulberry St - Worcester

Fish (Haddock) and Chips - \$12.00

Baked Haddock with Baked Potato or Rice Pilaf- \$12.00

Fish Chowder - \$3.00

Macaroni and Cheese - \$3.00

Tickets must be purchased in advance. Tickets will be available in the parish office or by emailing Joan at

joan_dargenis@yahoo.com

SHREWSBURY ST. NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEETING

The March meeting of the Shrewsbury St. Neighborhood Association will take place on Thursday, March 19, 2015, at the Mt. Carmel Recreation Center, 28 Mulberry St. beginning at 7:00 P.M. The Police Dept., Code Dept., DA's Office other city departments, and elected officials will be present to answer any concerns area residents may have.

Donna Warshaw, Executive Director of the Eastside CDC, will be updating us on their activities and programs.

The meeting is open to the public and all area residents are encouraged to attend and raise any issues that need to be addressed by our city and state governments. Refreshments will be served.

NEW YORK SPRING DAY TRIP TO SEE THE RADIO CITY SPRING SPECTACULAR

Saturday, March 14 – Cost - \$110.00 per person includes bus and show. A new show inspired by the magic of New York in the spring. It's a dazzling musical celebration about the energy, places, people, passion and promise that make this city spectacular. This extraordinary show features dynamic dance numbers performed by the Rockettes®, along with one of a kind puppetry and state of the art technology and takes audiences on a whirlwind adventure across New York City while telling an inspiring and hopeful narrative about three New Yorkers who change each other's lives in unexpectedly wonderful ways. We have a certain number of tickets in the Prime seating section; all other tickets will be in the Orchestra section. Tickets will be assigned with first pay, best seats. All seats are good, but some are spectacular.

CCD 9th and 10th Grades will be presenting a Power Point Presentation on a variety of Religious Topics these presentations will be done using Paintings, Sculptors, and Books. The students will choose a particular work of art or book and explain the meaning behind the work of art or book. All parents, sponsors, friends and relatives are invited to join us on the evenings of **Monday, March 9th** (9th grade presentations) and **Tuesday, March 10th** (10th grade presentations) starting at 6:30 p.m. We are looking for donations of cookies and pastries

TAKE FIVE FOR FAITH

Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time.

SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2015

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT; SECOND SCRUTINY OF THE ELECT

Fall on your knees

Gesture and posture are as much a part of ritual as words. We bow our heads before receiving Communion as a show of reverence and humility. We genuflect or kneel to acknowledge the greatness of God—and our great need. Full prostration, as priests perform at their ordinations or on Good Friday, is an act of total homage and self-abnegation. When the Elect are invited to kneel to receive the community's prayers for them today, it's not to embarrass them publicly. Gestures of humility remind us all who we are, and who God is.

TODAY'S READINGS: Year A: 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41 (31). "One thing I do know is that I was blind and now I see."

MONDAY, MARCH 16

LENTEN WEEKDAY

A thoroughly modern savior

Worldwide empires, a vast network of international trade, high taxation, an underpaid working class, ethnic diversity, minorities on the margins ... sound like a description of your world? It is also the world Jesus lived and preached in. Everything Jesus said and did is set against the backdrop of the Roman Empire and the vast political and social currents of the ancient world. We can take comfort from the fact that despite the differences in time and technology, Jesus' age was as complicated as our own. He spoke with a clarity that cut through the complexity. Listen well!

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 65:17-21; John 4:43-54 (244). "A royal official ... went to [Jesus] and asked him to come down and heal his son."

TUESDAY, MARCH 17

FEAST OF PATRICK, BISHOP, MISSIONARY

Christ be with you

The very mention of Saint Patrick stirs enthusiasm and probably more celebration than the saint himself would endorse. Beyond the parades and green beer is a prayer attributed to him. It has many versions, but all focus upon the love and protection of the Trinity. Here are a few lines to pray today: *I arise today through God's strength to pilot me, God's might to uphold me, God's wisdom to guide me . . . Christ with me, Christ before me, / Christ behind me, Christ within me, / Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me, / Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me, / Christ in every eye that sees me, / Christ in every ear that hears me.*

TODAY'S READINGS: Ezekiel 47:1-9, 12; John 5:1-16 (245). "Rise, take up your mat, and walk."

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18

FEAST OF CYRIL OF JERUSALEM, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH; LENTEN WEEKDAY

The network of love

Saint Cyril of Jerusalem developed a series of lectures as part of the initiation process for new Christians. His colorful language surely captured the imagination of his listeners: "You have been caught in the nets of the church," he told the catechumen. "Be taken alive; do not escape for it is Jesus who is fishing for you!" A great lesson to ponder as we move through Lent: It is Jesus who has sought us out, not the other way around. Don't struggle. Simply accept his embrace.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 49:8-15; John 5:17-30 (246). "For he who pities them leads them and guides them beside springs of water."

THURSDAY, MARCH 19

FEAST OF JOSEPH, HUSBAND OF MARY

Fatherly advice

Joseph seems to easily slip into the background of our Christian story (if not literally into the earth when people bury his image to sell their homes). Yet his place in the life of Jesus can't be exaggerated. As children, many of us were cautioned to add "foster" to Joseph's title as Jesus' father, but Jesus knew him as papa, as dad. Luke clearly calls Joseph and Mary Jesus' parents. When Jesus' consciousness awakened him to God as his father, where else would he find what it means to be God's son except by what it meant to be the son of Joseph, the father who loved him and taught him to "so love the world"?

TODAY'S READINGS: 2 Samuel 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Romans 4:13, 16-18, 22; Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Luke 2:41-51a (543). "When Joseph awoke, he . . . took his wife into his home."

FRIDAY, MARCH 20

LENTEN WEEKDAY; DAY OF ABSTINENCE

Make your heart grow fonder

Think of something you worked hard to prepare for—a final exam at school, a 5K race, a better financial future. Maybe you did things like reading and self-quizzes, training on a regular basis, and setting up a savings account. Those activities probably required other choices too. Instead of watching hockey on TV, you studied or went for a run. Instead of buying something extra at the store, you saved the money. Giving things up can be hard, yet it opens a space in our life for new directions and spiritual rejuvenation. How might abstinence open you to renewal today?

TODAY'S READINGS: Wisdom 2:1a, 12-22; John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30 (248). "Let us put him to the test that we may have proof of his gentleness and try his patience."

SATURDAY, MARCH 21

LENTEN WEEKDAY

Contradiction of terms

Prejudice is a common human shortcoming. Nearly everyone has been both victim and perpetrator of it. Many of Jesus' contemporaries were prejudiced against him simply because he was Galilean, regarded as unsophisticated by the cosmopolitan Judeans. Prejudice is an opinion not based on reason, facts, or experience and it severely limits the fullness of everyone touched by it. The word *catholic* means "universal." That which is universal exists and is true at all times and in all places; it is experienced by and available to everyone. Prejudice has no place in a universal church.

TODAY'S READINGS: Jeremiah 11:18-20; John 7:40-53 (249). "Does our law condemn a man before it first hears him and finds out what he is doing?"

End of Bulletin

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