

**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
February 4, 2018**

[The LORD] tells the number of the stars  
and calls each by name.  
— Psalm 147:4



**TIRELESS DISCIPLESHIP**

The stories we've been hearing these weeks come from the very first chapter of Mark, and they show us the public ministry of Jesus in its infancy. Today's account shows some of the strain or adjustment of his new life of preaching the reign of God, healing the sick, and casting out demons. Notice that after sunset, when darkness ended the workday, people brought the sick and possessed to Jesus. The following day he rose before dawn to get away by himself to pray, but to no avail. Simon Peter and the others don't just look for him, they pursue him, filled with the fervor that his ministry has incited. With the self-sacrificing example he gave until the end of his earthly life, he tells his followers that this is his whole purpose. Through Mark, he is also telling the early church, and he is telling us, that this is our purpose, our vocation: to be tireless in our pursuit of proclaiming the Good News, and in bringing the healing, reconciling touch of Christ to the world.

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**TODAY'S READINGS**

**First Reading** — Job experienced months of misery and troubled nights (Job 7:1-4, 6-7).

**Psalm** — Praise the Lord, who heals the brokenhearted (Psalm 147).

**Second Reading** — I have become all things to all, to save at least some (1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23).

**Gospel** — Jesus cured many who were sick with various diseases (Mark 1:29-39).

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**MASS INTENTIONS**

<b>Monday</b> 8:00 am	<b>February 5</b> †Jane Scerri
<b>Tuesday</b> 8:00 am	<b>February 6</b> † Paul and †Theresa Vella
<b>Wednesday</b> 8:00 am 7:00 pm	<b>February 7</b> Communal Service † Umberto and †Guisepina Paoli †Vincent Gagliardo Sr. †Maria and † Giuseppe Mazzaferro
<b>Thursday</b> 8:00 am	<b>February 8</b> † Valentina Agius
<b>Friday</b> 8:00 am	<b>February 9</b> † Leonardo Lazo
<b>Saturday</b> 8:00 am 4:30 pm	<b>February 10</b> † Josephine Winant † Alina Beltrami
<b>Sunday</b> 7:30 am  9:30 am 11:30 am	<b>February 11</b> People of the Parish † Carmen Spiteri † Giuseppe Moretto † Josephine and †John O'Connell

†Denotes deceased – (L) Living

**Sunday Collection January 28 ,2018**

<b>Weekly Need:</b>	<b>\$ 5,000.00</b>
<b>Sunday Collection</b>	<b>\$ 3,522.00</b>
<b>Over/Under</b>	<b>\$ 1,478.00</b>
<b>Second Collection</b>	<b>\$ 314.00</b>

If you make your offertory donation by check, without using parishioner envelopes, it would be most helpful if you placed your parishioner/envelope # in the "memo" section of the check. This helps us input your donation to the offertory data system. **We will not be responsible for donations not credited due to missing envelope numbers (or not having a Sunday collection envelope.)**



Ash Wednesday is February 14th. Masses will be at 8:00 am, 4:00 pm and 7:00 pm. Ashes will be distributed during Mass. Please note that parking **WILL NOT** be available in Alta Vista Schoolyard.

As in the past, the following regulations are in place for abstaining and fasting during Lent:

**Abstinence** : Everyone fourteen years of age and older is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, the Fridays of Lent and Good Friday.

**Fast:** Everyone eighteen years of age and older but under the age of sixty is bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. On these two days, the law of fast allows one full meal a day, but does not prohibit taking some food during the day, so long as this does not constitute another full meal. Drinking liquids during the day is permitted. When health or the ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige. In doubt concerning fast or abstinence, a priest assigned to pastoral ministry or confessor should be consulted. In the spirit of penance, the faithful should not lightly excuse themselves from this obligation.

**Supporting our Archdiocesan Family Appeal Sunday for the 2018**  
Archdiocesan Annual Appeal will be held shortly. At that time each of us will be asked to support the work of the Church by contributing to the Archdiocesan Annual Appeal. Please be generous. Our parish goal for 2018 is \$50,615.00. Through the generous donations from our parishioners we not only met but exceeded our 2017 goal. \$ 1,197.00 was returned to the parish.

**End of Year Statements**

We have closed the books on 2017. Please contact the parish office **IN WRITING**, **if** you are in need of a year-end statement of your donations. We are able to provide statements to parishioners who have donated using **SUNDAY ENVELOPES**.

Please note that any donations received after December 31<sup>st</sup> will be credited to 2018.

**We will not be responsible for donations not credited due to missing envelope numbers (or not having a Sunday collection envelope.)**

**LITURGY AND ILLNESS**

**Please be aware that the obligation to attend Sunday Mass does not apply to those who are ill, especially those who suffer from contagious disease. It is a sign of consideration for others that those with flu like symptoms remain at home. For the convenience of those who are homebound, or unable to attend Mass because of illness or infirmity, Mass is broadcast each Sunday morning at 6:00 am on Channels 8,20 (Comcast), KTSF 26.**