

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 28, 2024

Wait for the LORD with courage; be stouthearted, and wait for the LORD.

— Psalm 27:14

FALSE PROPHETS, TRUE PROPHETS

In Deuteronomy today we hear that God's very words will fill the mouth of a true prophet, but a false prophet will, in a manner of speaking, put mere mortal words into God's mouth. In Mark's Gospel, we see Jesus teaching and healing as a true prophet, one filled with the authority of God's own voice, the Holy One of God.

The whole history of our church is filled with both true and false prophets. But in today's Gospel we learn that Jesus' fame spread because he taught with authority; he wasn't an authority because he was popular or famous. We also learn from him, in his desert temptation confrontations with Satan, that anyone can quote scripture, even against God's purposes. And today we hear that his authority was not like that of the scribes, who held the official positions of religious authority in his day. Our work is to do our best to discern the true prophets in our midst, and to be true prophets as well. The psalmist tells us how to do this: by not hardening our hearts when God speaks. If we truly listen to God, it will be God's very words filling our mouths.

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Moses spoke to all the people, saying: "A prophet like me will the LORD, your God, raise up for you" (Deuteronomy 18:15-20).

Psalm — If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts (Psalm 95).

Second Reading — Brothers and sisters: I should like you to be free of anxieties (1 Corinthians 7:32-35).

Gospel — The people were astonished at Jesus' teaching; he taught them as one having authority (Mark 1:21-28).

~~~~~PRAYER CORNER~~~~~

A FAMILY PRAYER

Give us new eyes, Lord, to see our lives in the light of Your love. Too often our fear, anger, or hurt fogs our vision.

Help us to see Your providence in the glory of trees, lakes, and cloudless skies. Help us to see Your generosity in the many gifts we enjoy each day. Help us to see Your wisdom in the rhythm of the days, the weeks, the seasons, and the years. Help us to see Your image in the faces of everyone we meet and to know Your goodness in the joy and love we feel for one another. We ask You this because we know

You love us. Amen.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Catholic Schools Week
Wednesday: St. John Bosco
Friday: The Presentation of the Lord; First Friday
Saturday: St. Blaise; St. Ansgar; First Saturday

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday: Duggan Birthday †
Tuesday: Jimmy Turner Riley †
Wednesday: Cannon Birthday †
Thursday: In honor Infant Jesus of Prague and St. Joseph for all the sick and for all the holy souls in purgatory.
High
Jimmy Gorman
Bryan Jude Carroll
For a Special Intention
Friday: Beasley Anniversary †

CATHOLIC APPEAL OF SOUTH CAROLINA

The Catholic Appeal of South Carolina (CASC) is the primary source of funding for many critical ministries. We are impacting the lives of our brothers and sisters both spiritually and physically – but there is still much to do. We must continue to fund programs focused on charitable works, outreach, education, and evangelization. Every gift to the CASC allows us to continue to fulfill the mission that has been entrusted to us. Your participation is highly appreciated and let us reach our goal by fulfilling the pledge and generous contribution. Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

JOKE OF THE WEEK Two fathers were discussing their families and children and some of the incidents that arise in daily living.

"My three boys stick together," said one. "When one of them gets in trouble, neither of the other two will squeal on him."

His friend asked: "How do you find out the guilty one so that you can punish him?"

"That's easy," he replied, "All I do is send all three of them to bed without supper, and the next morning I thrash the one with the black eye."

OUR GIFTS RECORD

	Offertory	Development
Last Week's Collection	\$2,751.00	\$1,990.00
Number of Families contributing	76	42
Total Pledge for 2024	\$157,619.00	\$159,756.00
Pledged to Date (3 Weeks)	\$10,325.00	\$10,355.00
Received to Date	7,447.00	\$5,921.00
Envelopes Outstanding	\$2,878.00	\$4,434.00

LADIES OFFERTORY RECORD

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2024
\$421.00	\$883.00

30 ladies contributed last week.

PARISH LIFE CENTER HALL FUND WEEKLY REPORT

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2024
\$50.00	\$230.00

One person made a P.L.C. contribution last week.

CATHOLIC APPEAL OF SOUTH CAROLINA (BAA)

Amount given to date	2024 GOAL
\$370.00	

POOR BOX totaled \$50.00.

3 CHILDREN contributed \$12.00.

FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH ARE OFFERED BY:

1. Tommy Newman, Josie, Saylor, and Eric Draven in loving memory of Popeye on his Birthday;
2. and a Parish Family Member in thanks to St. Expedite.

FEAST OF ST. BLAISE St. Blaise is the patron saint of those with throat maladies. We shall celebrate the Feast of St. Blaise with Solemn Mass and Blessing of Throats during the masses next weekend.

OUR LADY OF PEACE SCHOOL CHOICE GRANT

- up to 6,000 of state funds through Educational Savings Accounts (ESA) will be available to eligible students for the 2024-2025 school year
- Application window is January 15 – March 15
- Notification of award no later than April 30
- 1st Steps 4K students automatically qualify with a completed application
- Medicare qualified students automatically qualify with a completed application

Please contact Our Lady of Peace School for more information.

2023 TAX STATEMENTS 2023 Tax statements for donations made during the year were mailed to those who contributed. If you did not receive your statement, please contact the Church Office at 803-279-1837.

STATEMENT

The most humbling statement we can say is that,
"I am nothing God."
The most powerful statement is,
"With God, I can do anything."

2024 CHURCH ENVELOPES are in the Atrium of the Church. If you don't find your envelopes, please contact the Church office immediately.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS The second collection this weekend will be for the *Church in Latin America* and the second collection next weekend will be for the *Catholic Appeal of South Carolina*. Please be generous in these collections.

THANK YOU to two parish members for their donations \$100 each in thanks to St. Expedite; and also to a parish member for a donation in thanks to St. Expedite.

READERS

Sat. Jan. 27th, 4:00 P.M. Dayna & Leah
Sun. Jan. 28th, 10:00 A.M. Lauren Ashley & Jimmy

Sat. Feb. 3rd, 4:00 P.M. Paris & Mary Martha
Sun. Feb. 4th, 10:00 A.M. Lauren Ashley & Jimmy

READERS – WEEKDAYS

Monday - Dayna
Tuesday - Paris
Wednesday - Gracelynn
Thursday - Josie
Friday - Lauren Ashley

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS - WEEKDAYS

Monday - Theresa Hun
Tuesday - Jack's Mary Rita
Wednesday - Julie Ann
Thursday - Cathy Carroll
Friday - Rosie Cat

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS – WEEKEND

Saturday 4:00 P.M. **January 27th**
Right Theresa Hun
Left Cathy Carroll

Sunday 10:00 A.M

January 28th Ned's Rose Marie
February 4th Ned's Rose Marie