

WELCOME to ST. JOHN EVANGELIST PARISH



FEBRUARY 18, 2024 FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

MASS SCHEDULE

2nd & 4th Saturday.....	4:00 pm
Sunday.....	9:00 am
Wednesday & Friday.....	7:00 am
1st Friday-Pine Haven.....	10:00 am
2nd Friday-Prairie Crossing.....	10:00 am

PARISH OFFICE

Hours: Monday-Friday 7:30 - 3:30 PM

601 Valley Road, Kohler WI 53044

Telephone..... (920) 452-9623

Email..... stjohnnev@btsje.org

Website..... stjohnkohler.org

Please contact the Parish Office to:

1. Join the Parish
2. Schedule a Baptism
3. Schedule a Mass Intention
4. Any other questions or concerns

PARISH STAFF:

Administrator: Rev. Jonathon Schmeckel

Phone: 920-452-9623 ext. 206

Anointing or Emergency: 920-550-1145

Parish Administrative Assistant:

Gretchen Free 920-452-9623 ext. 201

Director of Liturgy & Music:

Zach Holzer E-Mail: zach@btsje.org

Directors of Religious Education:

Jeanne Bitkers (Gr. 4K-6)

Phone: 920-452-9623 ext. 220

E-Mail: jeanne@btsje.org

Teresa Bettag (Gr. 7-12)

Phone: 920-452-9623 ext. 218

E-Mail: teresab@btsje.org

Co-Directors of Catholic Life Center:

John O'Dell E-Mail: john@btsje.org

Mary Waitkus E-Mail: maryw@btsje.org

FINANCE COUNCIL:

Finance Council Chair..... Rob Wenberg

Bob Goldsmith

Ryan Kuhn

PASTORAL COUNCIL:

Chairperson..... Bridgitt Zielke

Vice Chairperson..... Steve O'Neil

Rich Tauferner Norma Horne

Nick Cinquepalmi Paul Gami

Rita Gast Carol Marksteiner

Rick Michaletz

Trustees: Toni Sarafin, Trustee Treasurer

Michael Pellegrino, Trustee Secretary

PRAY THE ROSARY DURING THE WEEK:

Wednesday & Friday at 6:40 am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

1st Fridays-6:00 - 6:45 am St. John Evangelist

Sundays 8:00 - 8:45 am St. John Evangelist

1st, 3rd, & 5th Saturdays-3 :00 pm-Blessed Trinity

2nd & 4th Saturdays-3:00 pm-St. John Evangelist

Readings for the First Sunday of Len

1st Reading: Genesis 9:8-15

2nd Reading: 1 Peter 3:18-22

Gospel: Mark 1:12-15



"This is the time of fulfillment.

"The kingdom of God is at hand.

Repent, and believe in the gospel!"

Mark 1:15

Bulletin Submission Deadline: All requests for bulletin articles must be received by Wednesday noon to be included in that weekend's bulletin. Any articles received after that will be included as space permits. For holiday weeks, the deadline may change. Thank you for your understanding.

From Father Schmeckel:



This Sunday is the First Sunday of Lent. On this first Sunday, we always hear one of three accounts of Jesus' forty days in the desert. This year we read from Saint Mark's account as we do on most Sundays throughout this Cycle B year. Saint Mark's Gospel is the shortest of the four Gospels. Because of its brevity, it might be a good for us to read the entire Gospel of Mark in two or three sittings. This could help us to see and understand the "bigger picture" of who Jesus is.

During the Season of Lent, there are many things that change or are omitted in our celebration of the Mass. Here are a few changes that have already happened, or that will happen soon:

One of the most obvious changes is the color of this season. **The color assigned is violet or purple**, with the exception of Laetare Sunday, the Fourth Sunday of Lent, when "rose" or a pinkish colored vestment and altar cloths are allowed. According to the Catholic Encyclopedia, violet can symbolize "the gloomy cast of the mortified and denotes affliction and melancholy." Other sources point out that purple can also denote wealth and royalty. Jesus mentions this in the Gospel in the 'Parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus'. In another section of the Gospel Jesus is clothed in a purple cloak to mock his claim of kingship before He is crucified. When we see the altar decorated in purple, or the priest's purple vestments, it not only reminds us of our need to recognize our sins and failures, but also that Christ is King and has already won the victory for us.

Another change in the Mass during the Season of Lent is one that can sometimes be overlooked. **The Gloria is not sung during Lent** (with a few exceptions – the Feast of the Chair of Saint Peter on February 22, the Solemnities of Saint Joseph on March 19 and of the Annunciation of the Lord on March 25, and on Holy Thursday). The Gloria originates from the angels' greeting and announcement of the Birth of Jesus. It is a very joyous and glorious occasion. During Lent, however, there is a different somberness and seriousness, and so, we don't sing the Gloria. This helps us to continue to be serious and somber.

Another more obvious change is **the omission of "Alleluia"** before the Gospel and in other songs. Before the Gospel there are a number of different acclamations that we can sing to prepare us to hear about the life of Jesus. Some of these may include: "Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory" or "Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!" The reason is the same as it is for the Gloria. Alleluia is a word of joy and good times; a more sober response helps us to stay focused and enables us to continue to meditate on the life of Jesus.

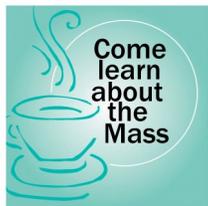
As the season of Lent goes on, there are other changes that intensify. Paying attention to several of these might help us to stay focused during Mass, and to pay attention to the ways that Jesus is calling us to deeper love during these days of Lenten preparation.

Recently there has been another round of spam e-mails and messages that are being sent from others who pretend to be me. Please always use caution when responding to e-mails or messages – especially those that request money or personal information. As you may be aware, I am a slow and infrequent user of e-mail. If you receive an e-mail or request asking for money, help, or something, it is unlikely to be from me.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	February 17	Blessed Trinity	4:00 pm	†Bradley Woveras by Family, †Sylvester & Eleanora Regan by Regan Family Trust
Sunday	February 18	St. John's	9:00 am	†Dorothy Free by Mel & Lorrie Free
Sunday	February 18	Blessed Trinity	10:30 am	Mass for Parishioners
Tuesday	February 20	Blessed Trinity	9:00 am	†Sr. Juliette by Donna Plageman
Tuesday	February 20	Blessed Trinity	6:00 pm	†Alphonse Reiter by Ann Wieseckel
Wednesday	February 21	St. John's	7:00 am	†Sr. Josephine by K & S Schmeling
Thursday	February 22	Blessed Trinity	9:00 am	†Alycee Freye by Jeffrey Freye
Friday	February 23	St. John's	7:00 am	Poor Souls in Purgatory
Saturday	February 24	St. John's	4:00 pm	†Aileen Melis by Sarafin Family
Sunday	February 25	St. John's	9:00 am	Mass for Parishioners
Sunday	February 25	Blessed Trinity	10:30 am	†Guy Harkness by John & Lisa Reiter, †Delores Sabel by Catholic Women's Charity Club

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Will be offered at St. John Evangelist Parish on Saturday, February 24 at 2:30 pm and Sunday, February 25 from 7:30 to 8:45 am.



CATHOLIC LIFE CENTER PRESENTS: CONVERSATIONS OVER COFFEE:

On **Tuesday, March 5** from 10:00 - 11:00 am, join Fr.

Schmeckel in the Gathering Space at St. John Evangelist Parish for an explanation on the Mass. Coffees and treats are provided.

BISHOP BARRON'S THE MASS: Hosted by the Catholic Life Center in the St. John Evangelist Parish Gathering Space following the 9:00 am Mass. Upcoming dates:

February 25: Lesson 3: God Speaks our Story

FINANCIAL: FEBRUARY 10/11, 2024:

Collection: (contribution envelopes, electronic giving and loose offering): \$8,918.00

LAY MINISTERS FOR FEBRUARY 24/25

MASSES	Saturday, 4:00 pm	Sunday, 9:00 am
Lectors	Susan Vavra Carter Udovich	Erin M. Justin Spaeth
Servers	Volunteer Volunteer	Volunteer Volunteer
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Patti Cosgrove	Ken Udovich
Ushers	Bill Moffatt Randy Miller	John Multer Volunteer
Sacristan	Connie Katchkey	Julia Rodemeier Steve O'Neil
Greeters	Judy Grey	John Egan

HUMAN CONCERNS/SOCIAL JUSTICE EMMAUS MEAL:

St. John Evangelist Parish Human Concerns Social Justice Committee members will once again be serving an 'Emmaus Meal' on **Saturday, March 2 from 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.** They are seeking volunteers to help serve that meal (held at St. Luke's Methodist Church, 623 Ontario Ave., Sheboygan) and/or to provide desserts. If you are available to bake or offer a few volunteer hours, please contact Sharon Reilly (920-980-9622) or sign up on the board at the church in the Gathering Space area. Thank you!

EVENTS CALENDAR

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18

8:00 - 8:45 am Reconciliation
9:00 am Mass

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

8:30 - 11:00 am Mission Society
5:30 pm Emmaus 90
6:30 - 8:00 pm Choir Practice

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21

6:45 am Mass
4:00 - 5:15 pm Religious Education
4K- Grade 6
6:45 - 8:00 pm Religious Education
Grades 7 - 12

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22

6:00 am - 9:00 pm Adoration
2:00 pm Bible Study

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23

7:00 am Mass
5:15 pm Stations of the Cross

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24

3:00 pm Reconciliation
4:00 pm Mass

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25

7:30 am Reconciliation
9:00 am Mass

BIBLE STUDY: Interested in the Bible but never really go around to reading it? Discussing it? Understanding it? If so, then this may be the thing for you. Due to the success of our first Bible Study group we're starting a second one. The day, time and format of the program is open, depending upon the wishes of the group. Sound interesting? Want to know more? Then contact Tom Reilly at treilly53044@gmail.com. If your Thursday afternoons are open and you're interested in joining an existing Bible Study, why not consider the 2:00 pm group. ~Tom Reilly

STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

Stations of the Cross will be prayed each Friday during Lent. Stations will be offered:

1:00 pm at Blessed Trinity Parish
5:15 pm at St. John Evangelist Parish



ST JOHN'S & BLESSED TRINITY SENIOR SINGLES 55+ BRUNCH:

On **Thursday, February 29** at 10:30 am at River Park Family Restaurant in Sheboygan Falls. Please RSVP to Sharon Temme by Monday, February 26 at femmesharon197@gmail.com or text/call 920-467-2298.

2024 Lenten Almsgiving: The Human Concerns Committees of St. John Evangelist and Blessed Trinity Parishes have selected Anchor of Hope as our 2024 Lenten Almsgiving focus. Anchor of Hope is a valuable faith-based resource in Sheboygan County for women facing pregnancy. Women come to Anchor of Hope to receive no-cost professional medical services because they need accurate information regarding their pregnancy decision. This medical information and support, along with a lot of prayer, are the tools God uses to turn mom's hearts to their babies and empowers them to choose life. Anchor of Hope pairs a volunteer with the mother-to-be to support the woman as she walks through her medical appointment offering empowerment through education and truth alongside the nurse. Anchor of Hope pairs a volunteer with the mother-to-be to support the woman as she walks through her medical appointment offering empowerment through education and truth alongside the nurse. Anchor of Hope believes when a woman hears the truth about her pregnancy, along with safety and support, she will be better equipped to make a life choice.

Our almsgiving donation will expand Anchor of Hope's services to offer financial assistance to the mother so she may pursue post-secondary education. The aim is to equip her with the necessary qualifications that allow her to secure a good job, with benefits, so she may support herself and child. Some areas could be: office work, childcare, health care, manufacturing or a specific trade or skill. Your donation will help her prepare for the future. ~Sharon Reilly

LENTEN MATERIALS

LITTLE BLACK BOOKS will be available in the pews this weekend. Large print copies are available on the table in the Gathering Space.

DAILY REFLECTIONS FOR LENT will be available on the table in the Gathering Space.

LENTEN CALENDARS are available for you to take home. They are on the table in the Gathering Space.

COUNTY-WIDE LENTEN MASSES, SERVICES, & PROGRAMS: Copies are with the bulletin this weekend and extra copies are available in the Gathering Space.



SIX SOUPER SUNDAYS ⁵

LENT: Looking for willing volunteers to provide a crock pot of soup which will be available for a free will donation

on Sundays February 25 and March 3, 10, 17 & 24. Please contact Sharon Reilly 920-980-9622 or email reillys53044@gmail.com if you are willing to provide soup for one or more Sundays. All donations will go towards this years Lenten Almsgiving.



WELCOME TO THE PARISH: Please welcome Rodney & Sophi Ellison and their children Coral and Davis to the parish.

Help for the Homeless (H4H) hygiene drive: Sponsored by the Family Radio network, begins the weekend of February 11th and runs thru March 3th. All sizes of new hygiene, paper and cleaning products will be accepted and can be placed in the labeled box which is located in the Gathering Space at St. John Evangelist Parish and the blue room at Blessed Trinity Parish. The most urgent needs include: *Soaps: laundry, dish, soft, shower gel, 2-in-1 shampoo, Wet Wipes, Trash bags, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Diapers (sizes 3-6 and Pull-Ups), Disposable Razors, Deodorant (unscented, Tampons & Maxi Pads.*

Once the drive concludes the items will be sorted and then distributed to many Sheboygan County Organizations. Thank you for your generosity.

~Sharon Reilly, Human Concerns Committee



Please continue to bring **non-perishable** goods for the Sheboygan Falls Food Pantry. Special reminder from Heidi O'Neill: "The Sheboygan Falls Food Pantry appreciates the many donations that are made to us throughout the year. However, we are unable to accept any outdated items, as this poses a possible risk to our clients. Thank you for your understanding and thank you for the many donations that you make to the pantry." **Next Delivery: Monday, March 4, 2024: Mel & Lorrie Free**



Sheboygan
South
Catholic
Parishes

Come to me.

Matthew 19:14



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH
SENSORY FRIENDLY MASS

SUNDAY, FEB. 25, 2024 • AT NOON

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UPDATE GRADES 7 - 12:



Welcome to the first Sunday of Lent! Every year, the Gospel for today is Jesus going into the desert where He prays and fasts for 40 days prior to being tempted by Satan. In Jewish culture, 40 signifies a period of testing or trial.

This year's Gospel from Mark is very succinct, however we know that though the devil is wily and cunning and was looking to pounce on Jesus when He was hungry, vulnerable and tired, the devil was still no match for God! In my experience with teens in RE classes over many years, the topic of spiritual warfare is always common. We know that yes, the devil and Hell are real, and that 1Peter5:8-10 reminds us that "discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around looking for someone to devour." But "resist him and he will flee" (James 4:7), for as in an African jungle, a real lion will not battle an equally strong counterpart, but will instead go after weak, lame, injured, timid, old prey where it is assured of victory and dominance. We need to be that firm, fierce and confident opponent. Just like Jesus rebuffed Satan's attacks, so can we and the three pillars of Lent are superb ways that God gives us to strengthen our "spiritual muscles!" By prayer, fasting and almsgiving (the Gospel from Ash Wednesday, Mt. 6:1-6; 16-18) the Church gives us an opportunity to grow in holiness, by detaching ourselves from distractions; cleansing us of our sins and growing in charity and just as "Jesus' victory over the tempter in the desert anticipates victory at the Passion" (CCC 539), that is our goal as well, for Lent is always followed by Easter and resurrection!! Truly, Lent is such a gift to each one of us, as it is an exercise in freedom and ultimately love, for there cannot be true love without true freedom.

So, more than ever, strive this year to make this a JOY-full Lent, where all that you do is because of a deep desire to grow closer to God and His Church. Even if we may falter a bit, resolve to start anew, for like Thomas Merton, a Trappist monk from the Abbey of Gethsemani in Kentucky, once said "the desire to please you does in fact please you and I know that you will never allow me to face my perils alone!" Finally, a word that is used often in today's readings is "covenant." This is love language, for it means "an exchange of persons." Contrast that with "contract" which means an "exchange of goods or services" and you can see how our faith is really all about relationships!! God is a good father and a good teacher, so allow this Lent to be a period of penance and sacrifice, so it will lead to transformation and fullness of life and love! This closeness to Jesus is the promise of Easter, so let's all try to make this the best Lent ever! See you at Mass!

~Teresa Bettag, Director of Religious Education Grade 7 - 12



SAFEGUARDING ALL GOD'S CHILDREN: All staff and volunteers, beyond High School age, who will work with or have contact with children under the age of 18 years old, must have Archdiocesan-mandated Safe Environment Training. There will be in-person **Safe Environment Training Session held at:**

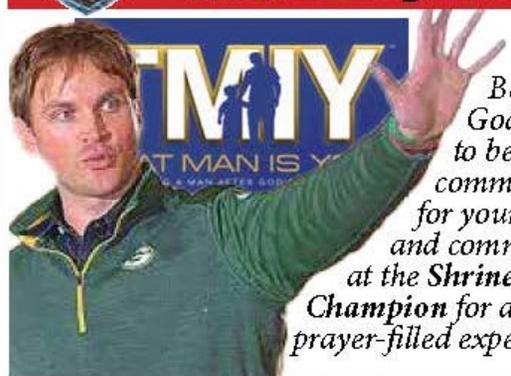
St. Dominic Parish in Sheboygan on Thursday, February 22 from 6:00 - 9:00 pm

St. John the Baptist Parish in Plymouth on Tuesday, February 27 from 12:30 - 3:30 pm

The session is approximately 3 hours long. Pre-registration is required. For more information and to register go to: <https://www.archmil.org/offices/safeguarding/Safeguarding-Events.htm>. If you have questions or need help with registration, please contact our St. John Evangelist Parish office at stjohnev@btsje.org or call 920-452-9623.



MEN'S CONFERENCE Sat. March 2nd In Green Bay! 7am-3pm



*Become the man
God is calling you
to be. Deepen your
commitment to Christ
for your family, church,
and community. Join us
at the Shrine of Our Lady of
Champion for a high-powered,
prayer-filled experience.*

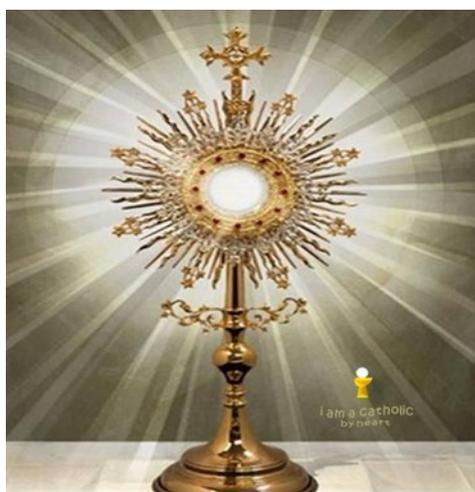
**All Catholic Men from all Sheboygan
County Area Parishes are invited!**
Sponsored by men of TMIY and K of C
Register at: estovir.com
Contact Mark Weber 920-980-2112
regarding more info & transportation

**GREAT MARRIAGES: FINDING
BALANCE IN WORK & LIFE:** On
Tuesday, February 20 from **6:00-7:00 pm** in
the St. John Evangelist Parish Church Hall.
Registration Required through Great
Marriages at **[www.great-marriages.org/
events](http://www.great-marriages.org/events)**. This event is about helping people
identify what's really important in their lives,
identify their different roles, and then create
a strategy to find balance. Participants will
receive a copy of a time management
calendar to use as a template! The speaker
will be Pastor Andy Shanholtz and the cost is
\$5/person (includes materials & snacks).

40 DAYS FOR LIFE

After 18 months with no abortions being done in Sheboygan, Planned Parenthood resumed distribution of abortion pills in late December. We can't rely on courts or legislators to protect human life, but we know that God hears our prayers, transforms hearts, and can accomplish what is humanly impossible.

For 12 hours a day between Ash Wednesday and Palm Sunday, we pray and fast and keep vigil outside Planned Parenthood asking God to end abortion. Unborn babies cannot speak for themselves, but we can be their voice for the right to be born. Walk and pray with members of Blessed Trinity and St. John Evangelist on Thursday, Mar. 21 by using the sign-up genius <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904094DA4A72BA3F94-40days2#/> or call/email Mary Jo (467-2747 mwidder@att.net) for help or questions with sign up. To participate on any other of the 40 day campaign visit www.40days.forlife.com/Sheboygan~Mary Jo Widder, Blessed Trinity Human Concerns



It is good for us to spend time
before the Tabernacle, to feel the
gaze of Jesus upon us.
- Pope Francis

Saint John's Evangelist - Kohler ADORATION

THURSDAYS: 6:00 AM – 9:00 PM

Thank you to ALL who have been adoring our Savior over the past 5 months. We need additional Adorers. If you would like to join us, please contact:

Susan Vavra, OSF at iamsgtv@gmail.com

- Monthly Faithful:** those who are **willing to commit to an hour or more every Thursday**. Sign-up for a 1-hour time slot.
- OR
- Supporters:** A list of Faithful who would be **willing to be a substitute as needed**. Do not sign up for a specific time. Give contact info and availability only. We will contact you.

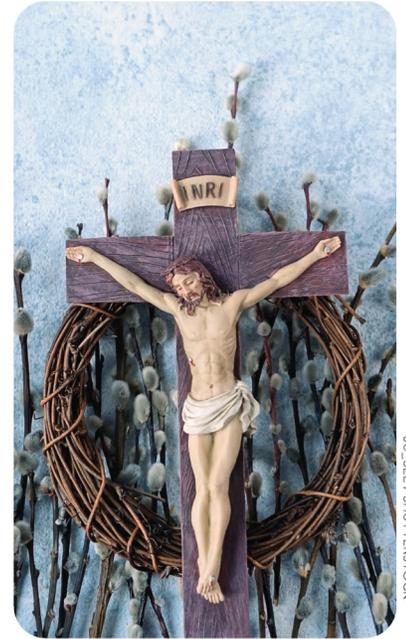
Dear Padre,

We're in the middle of home renovations, and the season of Lent is beginning. Everything is in total disarray. Any ideas to help me "keep my religion" at this time?

"There is...a time to tear down, and a time to build" (Ecclesiastes 3:1, 3). During the season of Lent—a word meaning "spring"—we are called to put away the "dead" deeds of winter. It's a time of spiritual "spring cleaning" for the individual and for the faith community. As nature renews herself every spring, so do we. The change of season may even prompt a renovation project—the kind you are now undertaking. The structural changes to a home afford many spiritual parallels—the redoing of your physical home can be a challenge to realign your spiritual home during Lent.

In the Genesis story, God is pleased with the handiwork of his creation. Likewise, our stamina, perseverance, and patience to see a work through to its completion are cause for great satisfaction and celebration. This would remind us that we are made in the same image of God, who took delight in his own work. Lent also can become a time of delighting in ourselves as God's special and ongoing creation.

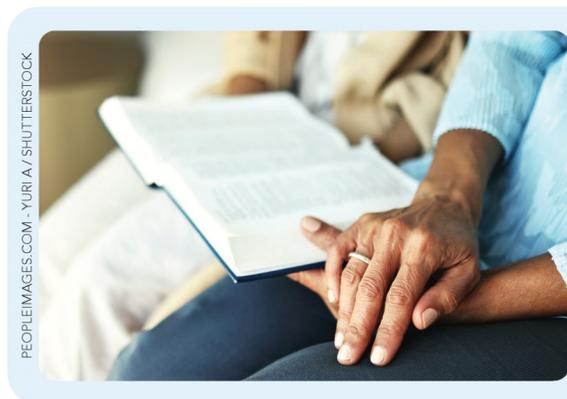
When your home improvement project is completed, arrange for a blessing of your home. Enthroned a special cross or icon to venerate, light a devotional candle, and use holy water in the area of the home that was improved. At that time, remind yourself again that you and your home belong to the Lord—renewed during the spring cleaning of Lent! ●



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Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR / DearPadre.org

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
February 19	February 20	February 21	February 22	February 23	February 24	February 25
<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Chair of St. Peter the Apostle</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Second Sunday of Lent</i>
Lv 19:1-2, 11-18 Mt 25:31-46	Is 55:10-11 Mt 6:7-15	Jon 3:1-10 Lk 11:29-32	1 Pt 5:1-4 Mt 16:13-19	Ez 18:21-28 Mt 5:20-26	Dt 26:16-19 Mt 5:43-48	Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18 Rom 8:31b-34 Mk 9:2-10



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A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

How do we hear the voice of God? We hear it in his Word. For this reason, it is important to know Scripture, because otherwise we do not know how to react to the snares of the Evil One. And here I would like to return to my advice of reading the Gospel every day....

ANGELUS, ROME, FEBRUARY 22, 2015