

The Courage to Heal

Leprosy was a highly contagious skin disease that led to certain death for anyone who caught it in Jesus' time. For good reason the Jewish law demanded that a leper live set apart and scream out as he walked along to keep everyone at a safe distance. Imagine the pitiful scene of everyone discreetly but purposefully moving away at the sound of someone screaming, "Unclean, unclean!"

Yet the leper doesn't scream to keep Jesus away. He walks right up to our Lord and confesses his faith in Jesus' power to heal him of this incurable bacteria. He humbly admits his contagious illness and places himself before Jesus. And unlike anyone else might do, Jesus doesn't run away, he walks toward him. He does the unthinkable. He touches him!

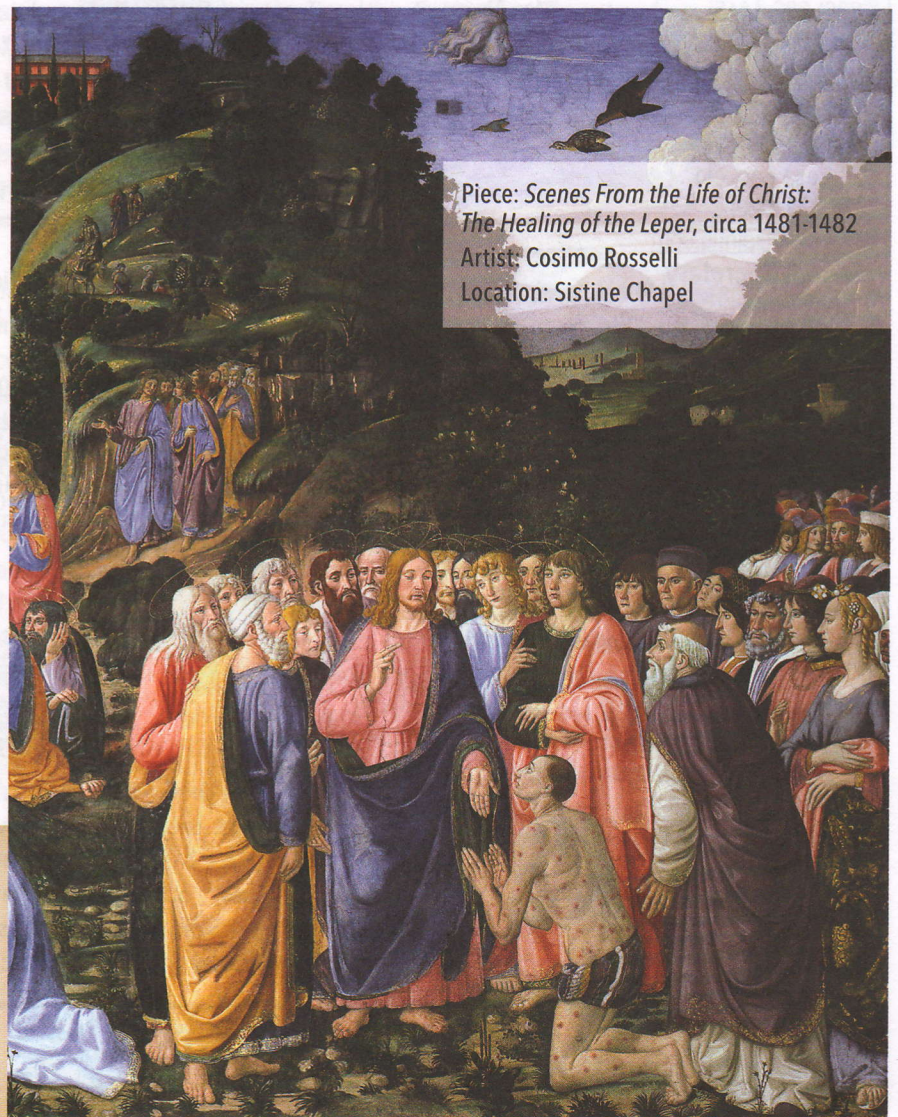
We need not be ashamed of our deadly sin that eats away at our heart and cripples our ability to love. Go to Jesus, expose it to him, and let his loving touch transform you.

The terrible disease of leprosy was still a major problem well into the nineteenth century when St. Damian, a Belgian missionary, went to the Hawaiian Island of Molokai to serve as parish priest to all

the lepers quarantined on that island. Not fearing to touch them, he cared for them for many years until, as expected, he contracted the disease and died of it.

This is what it means to be a Christian! Be like Jesus. Be not afraid of your wounds or those of others, no matter how repellent, and give of yourself to care for them.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC



Piece: *Scenes From the Life of Christ: The Healing of the Leper*, circa 1481-1482
Artist: Cosimo Rosselli
Location: Sistine Chapel

For Reflection

How at peace am I with my own wounds, sins, and imperfections?

Am I mature and free enough to ask for help and also reach out and help others in their moral or physical suffering?

*"If you wish, you can make me clean."
...[Jesus] said to him, "I do will it. Be made clean."*

(Mark 1:40-41)

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, February 10

5:00 p.m. † Wilbert Unnerstall

Eucharistic Ministers: Paul Hecktor

Jackie Heggemann|Diane Lierman

Patty Mebruer|Lori Huenefeld

Lector: Stacy Kloeppel

Ushers: Lisa Marquart & Shawn Polston

Servers: Jacob Lierman & Austin Cooper

Sunday, February 11

8:00 a.m. † Molly Schuler

Eucharistic Ministers: Debbie Hawkins

Norbert & Joan Engemann|Elaine Glosemeyer

Rick Hawkins

Lector: Norbert Engemann or Dawn Hellebusch

Ushers: Steve Glosemeyer & Joe Heggemann

Servers: Ryan Kloeppel & Luke Kloeppel

10:00 a.m. † For the People of the Church

Eucharistic Ministers: Angie Carr

Becky Schoppenhorst|Katie Engemann

Shari Kopmann| Audrey Hellebusch

Lector: Alice Kluesner

Ushers: Neal Kluba & Teresa Volkerding

Servers: Jacob Gildehaus & Kate Kopmann

Monday, February 12

8:00 a.m. † Patricia Hellebusch

Tuesday, February 13

7:30 p.m. † Communion Service

Wednesday, February 14

8:00 a.m. † Elmer & Regina Hellebusch

Thursday, February 15

8:00 a.m. † Sylvester Engemann

Friday, February 16

8:00 a.m. † Linus Westhoff

Saturday, February 17

5:00 p.m. † For our Deceased Priests

Eucharistic Ministers: Francis Hellebusch

Betty & Rich Bruckerhoff | Geralyn Smith

Patty Mebruer

Lector: Geralyn Smith

Ushers: Jayne & Maurice Glosemeyer

Servers: Maddie Hellebusch & Cole Atkins

Sunday, February 18

8:00 a.m. † For the Pope's Intentions

Eucharistic Ministers: Paul Hecktor

Larry Sander|Elaine Glosemeyer|Sue Hecktor

Bill Schuler

Lector: Larry Sander

Ushers: Randy Heggeman & Kevin Nenninger

Servers: Alex Huddleston & Allie Huddleston

10:00 a.m. † For the People of the Parish

Eucharistic Ministers: Debbie Brew

Syd & Ellen Fees|Carl Brew|Shari Kopmann

Lector: Ellen Fees

Ushers: Dave & Shiela Shortt

Servers: Sam Chambers & Carley Kopmann

Poco a Poco From the Desk of Fr. Terry...

Laissez les bon temps roulez! (Let the good times rolls) Good News at last weekend's cornhole tournament there were 56 teams that participated with proceeds of \$4,372! The first year we had over 40 teams participate. Kudos on a job well done, Home & School!

Congratulations to our Confirmandi who were confirmed last Sunday at 10am Mass: Samuel Chamber, Austin Cooper, Claire Hellebusch, Madisen Hellebusch, Alexander Huddleston, Adam Kopmann, Logan Oakley, Erica Schwoeppe, and Alex Weber. Special thanks to Fr. Mike Boehm, Hanna Glastetter, Lesa Leopold, Deacon Paul Hecktor and to the sponsors & parents of those who were confirmed. It was a joyful celebration. Thanks also to all those who made the reception after mass so delicious and enjoyable. Don't forget to come to the School Social in the Gym Sunday after 10am Mass. School Social starts at 11am and Bingo starts at noon! Besides Valentine's Day Wednesday, February 14th is Ash Wednesday. Mass on Ash Wednesday will be at 8AM and 7PM. Ashes will be distributed at each Mass. On Tuesday, February 13th, palms from last year will be the burned at 8am in front of Church. Place any palm to be burned in the metal tub in the Parish vestibule.

FYI: A communion service will be February 13th at 7:30pm followed by PH Devotions.

Enjoy your week.....Fr. Terry

Archdiocesan Lenten Regulations

The Church has always helped us fulfill these words of Jesus by prescribing very definite penance for all Catholics, so that we too might have Eternal Life. Accordingly, the Pope and the American Bishops have outlined obligatory fast and abstinence as follows: Ash Wednesday (2-14-18) and Good Friday (3-30-19) are days of abstinences for all Catholics over the age of 14. On these two days, fast, as well as abstinence, is also obligatory for those the ages of 18-59. Abstinence means refraining from meat. Fast means one full meal a day, with two smaller meals and nothing between meals (liquids are permitted. No Catholic will lightly excuse himself or herself for this obligation.

All Fridays in Lent are days of abstinence from meat. Here again Catholics will not hold themselves lightly excused, but if there is a serious health problem, this obligation would not apply. We should strive to make all days of Lent a time of prayer and penance.

Please Pray for the Sick/Ailing/Recovering

Doug Grafrath	Betty Hellebusch	Judi Liermann
Irene Buenemann	Virginia Bean	Ethel Thomas
Duck Brinker	Evelyn Tucker	Fr. Finbarr Dowling
Karen Brinkmann	Shelbee Mauldin	Dawn Borgmann
Harper Pillman	Jim Grafrath	Natalie Ulett
Kim Smith	Andrew Hellebusch	Audrey Wagener
Joseph V. Borgerding	Carol Jacquin	Kay Wagner
Tabitha Kersey	Brad Segar	Betty Schulte
Judy Brouk	Ralph Glosemeyer	Marc Wagener
Stephanie Lindemann	Fred Borges	Laura Tellmann
Tom Meyer		

02/04/96 Rosaly Meyer

02/04/01 Fr. Morse

02/05/85 Louis Frick

02/06/78 Mathilda Borges

02/08/80 John Kottwitz

02/14/01 Alphonse Weise

*Anniversaries
of Our Dearly
Departed*

02/14/06 Paul Mebruer

02/15/06 Sylvester Engemann

02/18/87 Rose Glosemeyer

02/22/94 Andrew Hallemann

02/25/77 Stacy Lierman

02/27/09 Jim Paul Thomas

Calendar

Monday

February 12

Weekday

Jas 1:1-11

Mk 8:11-13

Tuesday

February 13

Weekday

Jas 1:12-18

Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday

February 14

Ash Wednesday

Jl 2:12-18

2 Cor 5:20-6:2

Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday

February 15

Thursday after

Ash Wednesday

Dt 30:15-20

Lk 9:22-25

Friday

February 16

Friday after

Ash Wednesday

Is 58:1-9a

Mt 9:14-15

Saturday

February 17

Saturday after

Ash Wednesday

Is 58:9b-14

Lk 5:27-32

Sunday

February 18

First Sunday
of Lent

Gn 9:8-15

1 Pt 3:18-22

Mk 1:12-15

Dear Padre,

Why is church often packed on Ash Wednesday, even though it is not a holy day of obligation?

Indeed, pastoral experience corroborates your observation. Holy days of obligation draw well—but it's standing-room only on Ash Wednesday. There's something undeniably elemental about the ugly smudge of ashes on the forehead. People wear it without embarrassment or shame. It is as if to say, "I'm Catholic and proud of it."

Ash Wednesday is unique because it signals the beginning of Lent, the Church's special time of confession and renewal in preparation for Easter. It is what Christians are all about—people who have died with Christ in the waters of baptism in order to rise with him to a new life. We renew our

baptismal commitment to be his people in the world. As we recall and celebrate Christ's passage through death to life, we renew our own death to old sinful ways to rise and live with recaptured vigor.

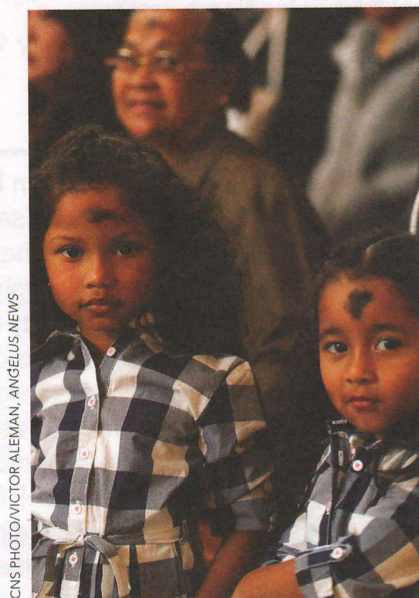
The symbols of Ash Wednesday touch us powerfully. When we hear, "Remember, you are dust and to dust you shall return," we are reminded of our vulnerability and dependence on God. Despite our mechanisms of power, ultimately, like dust in the wind, we can be whisked away in an instant and brought to our knees.

At the same time, we are called to scale the spiritual heights to turn away from sin and be faithful to the gospel, affirming that

we are a people with an enduring destiny and a sacred mission in the world. Together we get our ashes and turn back to the Lord.

Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

From *Dear Padre: Questions Catholics Ask*, © 2003 Liguori Publications



CNS PHOTO/VICTOR ALEMAN, ANGELUS NEWS



A Word From Pope Francis

[Jesus says] he is the real instrument of the Father's mercy, who goes to encounter everyone, bringing consolation and salvation, and, in doing so, he manifests God's justice. The blind, the lame, the lepers, the deaf regain their dignity and are no longer excluded because of their disease.

—General Audience, September 7, 2016