



January 31, 2021

# FOURTH Sunday in ORDINARY TIME

Uniquely in the Gospel of Mark, Jesus' public ministry begins with a direct confrontation with an unclean spirit. Today's Gospel passage reflects a recurring theme in Mark, that Jesus' coming is part of a cosmic battle between God and evil forces. It was commonly believed that many spirits were present in the world, and some sought to control human beings. Mark asserts that in Jesus, God has come to rescue humanity, to free us from every form of bondage.

In today's passage, the unclean spirit does not surrender power quietly. After complaints, convulsions, and screams, the spirit finally departs. As we may witness in our own experience, that which binds us—fear, injustice, resentment—often departs only after a mighty struggle. Confronting anything "unclean" in our hearts, our institutions, or our society often involves a long journey toward freedom. May we sustain our efforts and our trust in God, during these long struggles.

## PROPHETS IN DAILY LIFE

Moses assures Israel of God's continued presence by promising a new prophet. Like Moses, the prophet will be

raised up directly by God. But how to distinguish a true prophet from a false one? Many claim to speak for God. The task is complicated by the fact that often, true prophets make waves, cause trouble, and disturb how things are normally done. Many simply don't want to hear what God is saying, because it threatens their privilege, comfort, or sense of identity.

Like the Israelites in today's reading, it can be hard for us to bear the voice of God. For God calls us out of all the ways we avoid opening our hearts to God and to others. And so, God raises up surprise prophets in daily life. These are all the people and events who summon us to fuller maturity in love and in faith. We are called upon to always be ready for the prophetic word that may emerge from God's surprises.

Today's Readings: Dt 18:15–20; Ps 95:1–2, 6–7b, 7c–9; 1 Cor 7:32–35; Mk 1:21–28

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**PASTOR:** Rev. Michael T. "Mike" Snider

**MASS TIMES:**

Sat., 5:00PM & Sun., 9:00AM

Tues. - Fri. 9:00AM

**CONFESSIONS:**

Tues. & Wed., 9:00 - 10:00AM

Tues, Thurs 3:00 - 5:00 PM  
Wednesday: 5:00 PM

**Reconciliation:**

Saturday & Sunday: 45 minutes before Mass

**Marriage or Baptism:**

Contact the parish office six (6) months prior to the anticipated date 903-769-3235

## Holy Spirit

## Catholic Church

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**Welcome Visitors!**

We hope that you have enjoyed celebrating Mass with us and felt welcomed in our church as your "home away from home." Whether you are new to the area or have lived here for years, you are invited to join our parish family. Please come again!

## Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### We remember in our prayers all the sick, especially the following:

Yvonne Scott. Ulysses Cormier. Bollinger Family. Kate Guthrie. Bob Mailliard. Charlie Parker. Mike Cromley. Molly Dunn. Richard Schuetz. Regina Davies. Tammy Johnson. Carolyn Simmons. Dianne & Gary Laudt. Gayle McCloskey. Shay Mikalonis. Dwight Nunley. Wanda & George Duke. Fleming Family. Doris & Jo Hoffman. Jo Ann Crowell. Ann Richardson. Jacob Stephens. Frankie Durst. Mary Margaret Ellison. John Kominis. Ester Coronel. Ed & Diane Stanley. Elise Sugg. Joann Rayl. Judy Fazio. Marsha & Marty Blahitka. Carolyn Edwards. Joshua & Chase Larsson. Avery Boultinghouse. Wanda & Mike Stephens. Jim & Geri O'Neil. We list the names of our sick Parishioners. Friends and Relatives for one month. We remember in our prayers all those who have recently died, especially: Earl Corrigan, brother of Jess Corrigan. Ron Szczepanski, spouse of Carol Szczepanski.

Please pray for the men and women active military service from our parish community: New active recruit, Reid Patrick Hope, US Marine (Nephew of Mike & Wanda Stephens). 2LT Joseph Chandler, U.S. Army (Nephew of Mike & Margaret Jernigan) Seaman Logan Adkinson (great grandson of Fr. Mike). Jay Guajardo, Navy Rescue School (Great Nephew of Lex & Liza Forster). Senior Airman, Natalie York (Daughter of Steve & Julie York). Pvt First Class Randall Scheaffer US Army (Grandson of Carlos & Pat Gallardo). Lt. Col. William P Shea. (Nephew of Deacon Sam and Nancy Mullen). Colonel John Anthony Fontana. U.S. Army (Son of John & Mary Fontana). Ensign Gary Buchanan; 2ndLt. Blake Gaughan (Nephews of Jess & Eva Corrigan). Paul Moreno E4 AMT 3rd Class (Grandson of Kathy & Dale Boman). Staff Sergeant Daniel Hodan. U.S. Army (Grandson of Ron & Barbara Eamma). Warrant Officer Michael Hauck (Son of Jerry & Vicki Hauck & brother of Cathy Ellis) & Seaman Rainer Hauck (Grandson of Jerry & Vicki Hauck & nephew of Jeff & Cathy Ellis).

### Mass—Intentions

**Sat. 1/30** Ann Hansen+ (M/M Hansen)  
**Sun 1/31** Hope Smithson+ (M/M Clymer)  
**Tue 2/02** No Mass. Communion Service only. Fr. Mike in Tyler  
**Wed 2/03** Rev. Thomas Edelen (Daughters of Divine Hope)  
**Thurs 2/04** Deacon Abelino Cordero &  
Deacon Jim Boland (Daughters of Divine Hope)  
**Fri. 2/05** Deacon Jim Petkovsek (Daughters of Divine Hope)  
**Sat. 2/06** Don Corrigan+ (M/M Corrigan)

### PARISH SUPPORT

Average weekly amounts from July through Dec. 31, 2020:  
Expenditures \$ 3,882  
Regular and debt & maintenance collections \$ 3,370

Attendance 1/23 Sat 35 & 1/24 Sun 38  
One can Give without Loving...But one cannot Love without Giving.

### Approximate Payoff for:

Rectory \$ 41,114.00  
Parish Hall \$ 129,125.00  
As of 12/31/2020

### February Pope's Intention:

Violence against women. We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.

### 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).

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Monday:** Heb 11:32-40; Ps 31:20-24; Mk 5:1-20

**Tuesday:** Mal 3:1-4; Ps 24:7-10; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40 [22-32]

**Wednesday:** Heb 12:4-7, 11-15; Ps 103:1-2, 13-14, 17-18a; Mk 6:1-6

**Thursday:** Heb 12:18-19, 21-24; Ps 48:2-4, 9-11; Mk 6:7-13

**Friday:** Heb 13:1-8; Ps 27:1, 3, 5, 8b-9; Mk 6:14-29

**Saturday:** Heb 13:15-17, 20-21; Ps 23:1-6; Mk 6:30-34

**Sunday:** Jb 7:1-4, 6-7; Ps 147:1-6; 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23; Mk 1:29-39

### 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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**Dispensation:** The entire diocese of Tyler remains dispensed from the Sunday and holy day Mass obligation until further notice.

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**An Act of Spiritual Communion**

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

**Holy Spirit Garage Sale: April 9th & 10th  
ON CHURCH PARKING LOT**

**Weather Permitting**

We will start pricing and you can *begin dropping off items on Wed., Feb. 3rd between the hours of 9:30—*

*11:30am. NO CLOTHING or ELECTRONICS*

Call Jean Kelly 903-857-9868 if you have questions or unable to drop off items on Wednesday mornings.

**Cenacle of Life:** Cenacle of Life devotion each **Wed. from 3:30—4:30pm**. Please join us in church as we pray two rosaries for an end to abortion, euthanasia and all sins against the sanctity of human life. **Questions call Vicki 817-637-9382**

**ASH WEDNESDAY  
FAST & ABSTINENCE  
February 17, 2021**

**Mass at 9:00am & 5:00pm with ashes**

**Vespers (evening prayers) begins on Friday, Feb. 19th at 4:00pm, followed by the Stations of the Cross.**

While the hospitals have enough capacity at this moment, they do not have enough critical care staff to manage the overwhelming number of COVID-19 cases that are coming in.

Bishop Strickland is requesting that you offer your prayers for physicians, nurses, and health care workers during this time—for their protection and for the needs of our hospitals.

**Reminder: Bishop Strickland has instructed all persons to wear facial masks during liturgies in the Diocese of Tyler.**

**Temporary Weekend Mass held in parish hall: Sat., Jan. 30th at 5:00pm and Sun., Jan. 31st at 9:00am.**

**Protocols for weekend Masses:**

1. **Limitations on Attendance:** Limited seating maximum 81 seats are available. In order for the households to maintain at least 6-foot separation.
2. **Wear a mask that covers mouth & nose.**
3. **No socializing** in the parish hall. Avoid touching door handles, restrooms closed. Enter & exist double glass doors into the parish hall to the left of the overhang.
4. **Chairs** set-up 6-foot separation. Please **DO NOT MOVE CHAIRS.**

**February Second Collections**

**Feb. 6th & 7th:** Building & Maintenance Fund  
**Feb. 13th & 14th:** Diocese of Tyler Catholic Schools

**2021 Bishop's Annual Appeal  
Fostering the Mission**

Throughout the Diocese of Tyler, parishes conduct this appeal to fund many of our ministries. Also, you will receive a letter asking for specific support and will have access to an in pew appeal coming in the month of February. May St. Joseph intercede for us to have the resources for generosity and may God guide us in **"Fostering the Mission."**



Please join us as we pray the **patriotic rosary for peace in America.**

The **First Saturday of each month after the 9:00am Mass.**

**Beginning Saturday Feb. 6th**



**In loving memory of Ron Szczepanski**, we are saddened to announce his passing on Jan. 27, 2021. Please keep his wife, Carol; son, Steve and daughter Lisa in your prayers. Cremation is planned... funeral pending. In lieu of flowers, cards welcome 467 Bent Horseshoe Lane, HLR, TX 75765.

**Food Donations: Blessings to all our givers!** We could use **canned meats (chicken, tuna & spam), soups (especially hearty soups), Peanut butter, pudding and 1lb spaghetti pasta.** Plastic container is located in the **parish hall** for now. Please call or email Bob Mailliard at 903-769-3963 or [theduckdude@att.net](mailto:theduckdude@att.net) if you know someone that needs help or if you have questions for Bob.

**NO CONFESSION ON TUES. FEB. 2nd ONLY.**

**Wed. Feb. 3rd 9:30—10:30AM. DUE TO THE COLD WEATHER FR. MIKE WILL HOLD CONFESSIONS IN HIS OFFICE BY THE WATER FOUNTAINS. PLEASE CALL HIM 903-490-3883 TO SET UP AN APPOINTMENT. WHEN YOU ARRIVE AND HIS OFFICE DOOR IS CLOSED PLEASE HAVE A SEAT IN CHURCH UNTIL HE IS READY FOR YOU.**  
***If you have an emergency and need Fr. Mike call him on his cell # 903-490-3883.***

**Weekday Mass Times held in church: Tues. — Fri. at 9:00am.**  
**Protocols for weekday Masses:**

1. **Wearing a mask that covers mouth & nose.**
2. **No socializing** in the Narthex. Avoid touching door handles, restrooms closed. Enter & exit same set of double glass doors into the church through the overhang.
3. **In church alternating every other pew.** Households must maintain at least 6-foot separation.
4. **Limited seating maximum 31.** In order for the households to maintain at least 6 feet separation.