

# Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church Newsletter

## January 17, 2021

My Dear Parishioners,

We are in “Year B” of the Sunday Mass Cycle which highlights the Gospel of St. Mark. The Fathers of the Church agree that this Gospel was written by a man named Mark who was also known as “John Mark.” St. Mark was a cousin of St. Barnabas and an early companion of St. Paul. St. Mark would then go on to be a scribe and translator for St. Peter while St. Peter was in Rome. The Fathers of the Church then believed that the Gospel of Mark was really the preaching of St. Peter put into writing.

The fact that the Gospel of Mark is the shortest and the most “to the point” of the Gospels then gives us an idea of how St. Peter preached: short and to the point. This is supported by the homilies of St. Peter that are recorded in the Acts of the Apostles which are also short and to the point.

It is important to remember that all of the Gospels are really recordings of the preaching and teaching of the Blessed Apostles. It is also important to remember that the Gospels were intended for certain audiences. So, when they were composed, each of the Gospels stressed what would be most relevant and most helpful to their specific audiences.

For instance, the Gospel of Mark was intended for gentile converts in Rome. These gentile converts were certainly interested in who Jesus Christ was and what His Passion, Death, and Resurrection meant for them. As gentiles, however, they were less interested in Our Blessed Savior’s interaction with the Pharisees and the intricacies of the Law of Moses. That is why there are few references to the Pharisees in the Gospel. This also explains why there are no great discourses similar to the Sermon on the Mount, because the Sermon on the Mount was about the proper interpretation of the Law of Moses, and while this would be very meaningful to Jewish converts, it would not be so for gentile converts.

Since the Gospel of Mark is the shortest of the Gospels, it provides a great opportunity to read it the way the Scriptures were read by the Early Church. No, I am not talking about reading the Gospel in its original Greek; I am talking about reading it straight through without worrying the chapter and verse notations. Chapter and verse notations were added much later by scripture scholars as a matter of convenience. Yet, while convenient, chapter and verse notations can cause problems, especially the problem of interpreting a book of the Bible in bits and pieces instead of a complete work. So, give it a try, read it straight through, and hear St. Peter teaching you about Jesus Christ just as he would have taught the crowds in Rome almost 2000 years ago.

Let us continue to pray our Rosaries, our Chaplets for first responders, for the sick, for the deceased, and for an end of the pandemic.

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, pray for us!  
St. Joseph, pray for us!

Fr. Michael J Pawelko





# Sunday Mass Readings

## Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Reading 1: [1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19](#)

Samuel was sleeping in the temple of the LORD where the ark of God was. The LORD called to Samuel, who answered, “Here I am.” Samuel ran to Eli and said, “Here I am. You called me.” “I did not call you,” Eli said. “Go back to sleep.” So he went back to sleep. Again the LORD called Samuel, who rose and went to Eli. “Here I am,” he said. “You called me.” But Eli answered, “I did not call you, my son. Go back to sleep.” At that time Samuel was not familiar with the LORD, because the LORD had not revealed anything to him as yet. The LORD called Samuel again, for the third time. Getting up and going to Eli, he said, “Here I am. You called me.” Then Eli understood that the LORD was calling the youth. So he said to Samuel, “Go to sleep, and if you are called, reply, Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.” When Samuel went to sleep in his place, the LORD came and revealed his presence, calling out as before, “Samuel, Samuel!” Samuel answered, “Speak, for your servant is listening.” Samuel grew up, and the LORD was with him, not permitting any word of his to be without effect.

### Responsorial Psalm: [Psalm 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10](#)

R. (8a and 9a) Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

► I have waited, waited for the LORD, and he stooped toward me and heard my cry. And he put a new song into my mouth, a hymn to our God. **R.**

► Sacrifice or offering you wished not, but ears open to obedience you gave me. Holocausts or sin-offerings you sought not; then said I, “Behold I come.” **R.**

► “In the written scroll it is prescribed for me, to do your will, O my God, is my delight, and your law is within my heart!” **R.**

► I announced your justice in the vast assembly; I did not restrain my lips, as you, O LORD, know. **R.**

### Reading 2: [1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20](#)

Brothers and sisters: The body is not for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord is for the body; God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? But whoever is joined to the Lord becomes one Spirit with him. Avoid immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the immoral person sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been purchased at a price. Therefore glorify God in your body.

### Alleluia

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

We have found the Messiah: Jesus Christ, who brings us truth and grace.

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

### Gospel: [John 1:35-42](#)

John was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he said, “Behold, the Lamb of God.” The two disciples heard what he said and followed Jesus. Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, “What are you looking for?” They said to him, “Rabbi” — which translated means Teacher —, “where are you staying?” He said to them, “Come, and you will see.” So they went and saw where Jesus was staying, and they stayed with him that day. It was about four in the afternoon. Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, was one of the two who heard John and followed Jesus. He first found his own brother Simon and told him, “We have found the Messiah” — which is translated Christ —. Then he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, “You are Simon the son of John; you will be called Cephas” — which is translated Peter.



*Holy Hour*

**FOR**

*Life*



*January 28, 2021*

**6:30 ~ 7:30 PM**

*Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church*

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament • Prayer • Benediction**

**For the End of Abortion**

**The preservation of all life ~ Conception to Natural Death**

