

## 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!

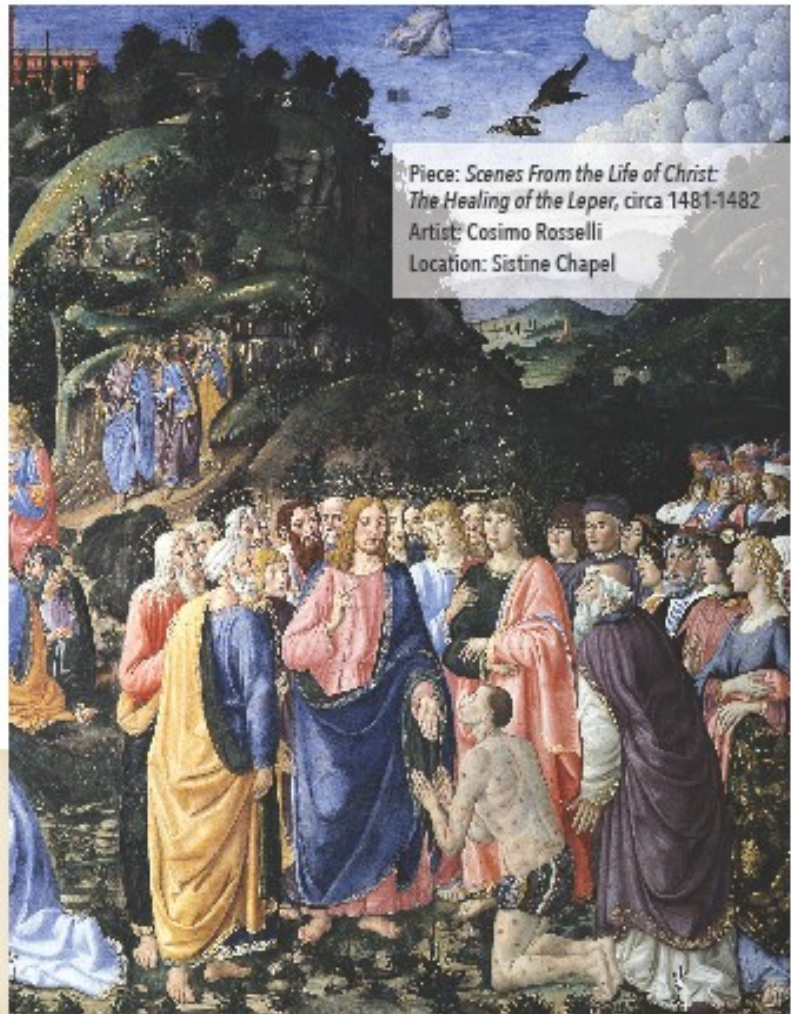
We need not be ashamed of our deadly sin that eats away at our heart and cripples our ability to love. Go to Jesus, expose it to him, and let his loving touch transform you.

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."*

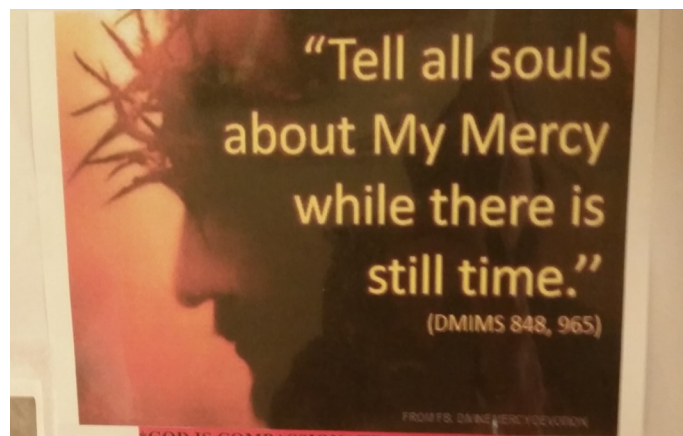
*(Mark 1:40-41)*

## *Mass Intentions for the Week*

		<b>Intention</b>	<b>Requested by</b>
Saturday, Feb. 10	5 p.m.	For All Living and All Who Have Died	St John Parishioner
Sunday, Feb. 11	8 a.m.	Renaldo Marin †	Marin Family
	9:30 a.m.	For Deceased Members of the Woo and Dong Families	John and Nancy Woo
	11 a.m.	Thanksgiving of Ana Prindle and Children for Blessings of Good Health	Ana Prindle and Children
	12:30 p.m.	Jesus Marcelino †	Reynaldo and Erlinda Gauna
	6 p.m.	St. John Parishioners	St. John Parish
Monday, Feb. 12	8 a.m.	Marsha Conwill	Friends at St. John
Tuesday, Feb. 13	8 a.m.	Rose Boitano	Kathy Klatt
Wednesday, Feb. 14	8 a.m.	Luis Torres †	Torres Family
Thursday, Feb. 15	8 a.m.	Fr. Joe - Anniversary	St. John Parish
Friday, Feb. 16	8 a.m.	Richard Calapini and Deceased Family Members	Lilia Calapini
Saturday, Feb. 17	8 a.m.	Elizabeth Salacup-Healing	Jocelyn Limos

### Let Us Pray for the Sick

Rodolfo Abesamis, Virginia Alday, Gera Assefa  
 Evelyn Baker, Niani Barber, Pearl & Patrick Batiste  
 Paul Batist, Irene Blair, Robert Britto, Evelyn Canepa,  
 Jeff Chavez, Bernadine Clark,  
 Brenna Clark, Jennette Cleadenger,  
 Betty Cooper, Linda Crittendon,  
 Cora Dongon, Joann Douglas, Pablo de la Vega, Mary Dong, Tami  
 Duncan, Juanita Estrellas, Filomena Giese, Mike Giovannini, Joseph  
 Golinveau, Domingos deGregorio, Andy Gutierrez,  
 James Gutierrez, Ruben Gutierrez, Maydelle Halligan,  
 Joanne, Marvin & Maurice Haynes, Sherry  
 Highlander, Tamaya Hunt, Pat Jeffrey, Ann Jones, Tom  
 Kennedy, Robin Laws, Maria Impang Lozada, Bernice  
 Luckett, Marian & Michael Luoma, Nancy McVey  
 Francis Mondragon, Ester Oppus, Judith Padilla, Theresa  
 Parella, Angelina Patacsil, Victoria Payless, Fely Sabares  
 Jovita Santos, Linda Schneider, Dimitri Smith, Salvador  
 Tejero, Rose Texara, Pat Tilley, Joseph Vidal, Sarah  
 Vidal, Evodio Walle, Jan Williamson



### Ash Wednesday

February 14 is a day of fasting and abstinence.  
 Mass is at 8am, 7:30pm, and School Mass at 9:30am.

### Stewardship

Envelopes & EFT, February 4, 2018	\$ 6,558
Loose Donations	\$ 1,412
Second Collection: School Development and Tuition Assistance Program	\$ 1,345
Charismatic Service	\$ 360.18

*Thank you for your generosity.*

### The Holy Father's Prayer Intention for the Month of February

Universal: Say "No" to Corruption.  
 That those who have material, political or spiritual power may resist any lure of corruption.

## Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

In today's second reading, St. Paul urges the Corinthians to "do all for the glory of God." If we follow that advice in everything we do, we cannot help but be good stewards! -1Corinthians 10:31

### This Week's Service Schedule

**Sunday Readings:** Lev 13:1-2, 44-46, 1Cor 10:31-11:1, Mk 1:40-45.

**Monday Readings:** James 1:1-11, Mk 8: 11-13.

**Tuesday Readings:** James 1:12-18, Mk 8: 14-21

**Wednesday Readings:** Joel 2:12-18, 2Cor 5:20-6:2. Mt 6:1-6,16-18.

**Thursday Readings:** Deut 30:15-20, Lk 9:22-25.

**Friday Readings:** Is 58:1-9a, Mt 9:14-15.

**Saturday Readings:** Is 58:9b-14, Lk 5:27-32. Or Rom 8:26-30, Mt 19:27-29.

**Ash Wednesday,** Mass at 8am, 7:30pm. School Mass at 9:30am.

**Liturgy of the Hours,** Mon.- Fri. at 7:40am.

**Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet,** Mon.-Thu., Sat., 8:30am, Fri., 9am at Church. Daily, 3pm, 9pm, and 10pm (Spanish) and Wed., 7:30pm (Spanish), Chapel.

**Holy Infant of Prague Novena,** Thu. at 8:30am at Church.

**Devotion to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus,** Fri., 6pm at the Chapel.

**Confession,** Sat., at 4pm or at an appointed time.

**Stations of the Cross,** Fri., 8:30am at Church.

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena,** Wed., 8:30am at the Church and 6pm at the Chapel.

### Lenten Observance, Feb. 14-Mar. 25

Aside from the daily Mass and the Days of Abstinence on Fridays, Stations of the Cross will be weekly from 8:30am to 9am on a Friday, from Feb. 16 to Mar. 23.

### Protecting God's Children

All volunteers and church employees must be certified thru [virtusonline.org](http://virtusonline.org).

Volunteers and church employees, who mentor minors, or administer the Eucharist at homes or visit vulnerable adults are required to be livescanned/ fingerprinted.

Send copy(s) of completion to St. John Church.

For questions, please call the Rectory or the Safe Environment, Diocese c/o Diana Bitz 267-8315.



### Centennial Rosary Crusade

Celebrate the Fatima Centennial by hosting Our Lady's Pilgrim Statue of Fatima in your own home with the Rosary, the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy, and Our Lady's Message at Fatima. (Spanish/English).

Please call: Enrique Sanchez, (510) 237-8873.

Diocese of Oakland  
Office of Worship  
2018 Guidelines for Lent

1. A Glance at the Liturgical Season

“The annual observance of Lent is the special season for the ascent to the holy mountain of Easter. Through its twofold theme of repentance and preparation for Baptism, the season of Lent disposes both the catechumens and the faithful to celebrate the Pascal Mystery” (Ceremonial of Bishops, 245)

This year in his message for Lent, Pope Francis is inviting us to embrace with enthusiasm the Lenten practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving to be prepared to the Fire of Easter. (Message for Lent, 2018)

Our Liturgy, catechesis and devotions express this in many different ways. We hope these notes will be of help for all of you.

General Considerations

- A. The two Eucharistic Prayers for Reconciliation are appropriate for use during Lent. Each one has its own Preface, but they can also be used with the Preface of Lent.
- B. During the Season of Lent, we do not sing the Alleluia. The Gloria is omitted during the Sundays of this Season, but it is sung in Solemnities (for example, March 12-Solemnity of St. Joseph).
- C. During Lent the altar should not be decorated with flowers, and musical instruments may be played only to give necessary support to the singing. It would be advisable, however, to consider the purpose rather than the strict letter of this law, as certain musical pieces may indeed foster the spirit of the Lenten Season. On the Fourth Sunday of Lent (Laetare) and on Solemnities and Feasts, musical instruments may be played and the altar decorated with flowers. (cf. Ordo, 2018, p. 53)
- D. In recent years some parishes have introduced the practice of passing big crosses through or above the Congregation. Due to the high risk of injury, regardless of the size of the Cross this practice is not to be done.
- E. As many children and adults in RCIA are participating in the Sacrament of Penance for the first time, it is important to remember that a person’s reception on the Sacrament of Penance is not a matter of parish record. In order to safeguard the seal of the Sacrament any sort of public acknowledgement should be avoided, including: announcing their names, printing names in the parish bulletins, including them in the worship aid, etc. Certificates should never be issued for anyone receiving this Sacrament.
- F. Pope Francis has encouraged us to embrace, once, the initiative of the “24 Hours for the Lord” that invites us to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the context of Eucharistic adoration. This initiative was part of his initiatives for the Jubilee of Mercy, and His Holiness is hoping it will take place once again, from Friday, March 9 to Saturday, March 10.
- G. Pope Francis message for Lent is available at: <https://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/lent.index.htm#messages>

Ash Wednesday-February 14, 2018

“On the Wednesday before the First Sunday of Lent the faithful, by receiving the ashes, enter upon the season appointed for spiritual purification. This sign of penance, biblical in origin (See 2Samuel 13:19; Esther 4:1; Job 42:6; 1Mac 3:47, 4:39; Lam 2:10) and preserved among the customs of the Church until our own day, expresses the human condition as affected by sin. In this sign we outwardly profess our guilt before God and thereby, prompted by the hope that the Lord is kind and compassionate, patient and abounding in mercy, express our desire for inward conversion. This sign is also the beginning of the journey of conversion that will reach its goal in the celebration of the reconciliation during the days leading to Easter.” (Ceremonial of Bishops, 253)

The Penitential Act **is omitted**, and the distribution of Ashes takes its place.  
The Ashes should be blessed and distributed .

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*Cont. Glance at Liturgical Season*

Proper prayers for the Mass-Preface III or IV of Lent to be used.

In case of pastoral need, the blessing and distribution of the Ashes can also take place during a Celebration of the Word of God (Liturgy of the Word).

“Ashes to go”-Express Ashes-”Drive-through Ashes and other practices that might increase a sense of superstition or abuse **are to be avoided.**

First Sunday of Lent-February 18, 2018

The Rite of Election is usually celebrated on this day.

Bishop Barber will celebrate the Rite of Election at the Cathedral of Christ the Light as following;

Saturday, February 17 at 2pm

Sunday, February 18 at 4pm and 7pm.

All the Rites of Election will be Bilingual

The coordination of the Rite of Election is done by the Department of Faith Formation and Evangelization. Please contact Mr. Steven Lewis at [slewis@oakdiocese.org](mailto:slewis@oakdiocese.org) if you have any questions.

**Encounter Lent**

Join our faith community and nearly 14,000 Catholic communities across the United States in a life-changing Lenten journey of encounter with CRS Rice Bowl. Pick up your family’s CRS Rice Bowl.

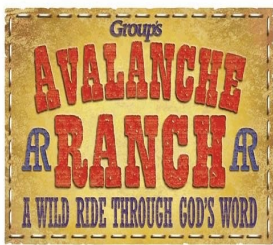
During the 40 days of Lent, as companions on the journey, we will encounter our neighbor.

**Given Gifts Shared**

Mer Engalla has served tirelessly in many capacities at our church. She has had two daughters graduate at St. John School.

She had recently been a part of our pastoral council. We will miss her uncompromising energy and contribution at our council. With the guidance of the Holy Spirit, may she continue to receive gifts to enliven her and to prosper. Thank you, Mer. - Fr. Thuong

**Vacation Bible Day Camp**



St. John The Baptist Church 17th Annual Vacation Bible Day Camp, "A Wild Ride at Avalanche Ranch" will be held June 25-29th, 2018. Our School Gym will be transformed into a Country Western Ranch

Experience. On-line registration will be available in March: [www.sjtbc.us/vbdc.html](http://www.sjtbc.us/vbdc.html).

**2018 Bishop’s Appeal**

Fr. Thuong added in his homily last Sunday the start of the 2018 Bishop’s Appeal. Contributions to the Appeal will provide funding for crucial services, i.e educating seminarians vital to increase vocations, healthcare for elderly religious and clergy, and provide for social services, i.e. homelessness, health, and hunger.

**Senior Center Event**

Feb. 13, Topic: Care Options at 11:30am/Lunch at 12:30pm. Call: 237-3808 (Tuesdays).

*Welcome, New Parishioner*  
Gerald and Arlene Esguerra



*Welcome to the Faith*  
Spencer Eithan de Vera Sunga  
*Our Newly Baptized*