

REFLECTIONS FROM FATHER CLARK

THE SCRIPTURE READINGS OF LENT

As we begin the season of Lent, I want to bring to your attention that the Sunday and daily readings of Mass during Lent provide a reading program for the Bible. As you know, the readings at Mass are laid out in a book we call the Lectionary. The Lectionary has three Sunday cycles. Each Sunday cycle focuses on one of the Gospels. Year A's focus is Matthew, Year B is Mark, and Year C is Luke. John is read through all three cycles.

In the season of Lent, the first reading on Sunday guides us through the history of our salvation, tracing how God was at work in the history of Israel in the Old Testament, preparing for the coming of the Savior. This is the plan:

	CYCLE A	CYCLE B	CYCLE C
1st Sunday	Sin of Adam and Eve Gen 2: 7-9, 3: 1-7	Noah Gen 9: 8-15	Israel's faith Dt. 26: 1-11
2nd Sunday	Call of Abraham Gn 12: 1-4	Sacrifice of Isaac Gn 22: 1-18	Covenant Gn 15: 5-18
3rd Sunday	Water from Rock Ex 17: 3-7	Ten Commandments Ex 20: 1-17	Moses and Bush Ex 3: 1-15
4th Sunday	Samuel anoints David 1 Sam 16: 1-13	Babylonian Exile Chron. 36: 14-23	Passover in Gial Joshua 5: 9-12
5th Sunday	You will rise Ez 37: 12-14	New Covenant Jer 31: 31-34	Something New Isaiah 43: 16-21

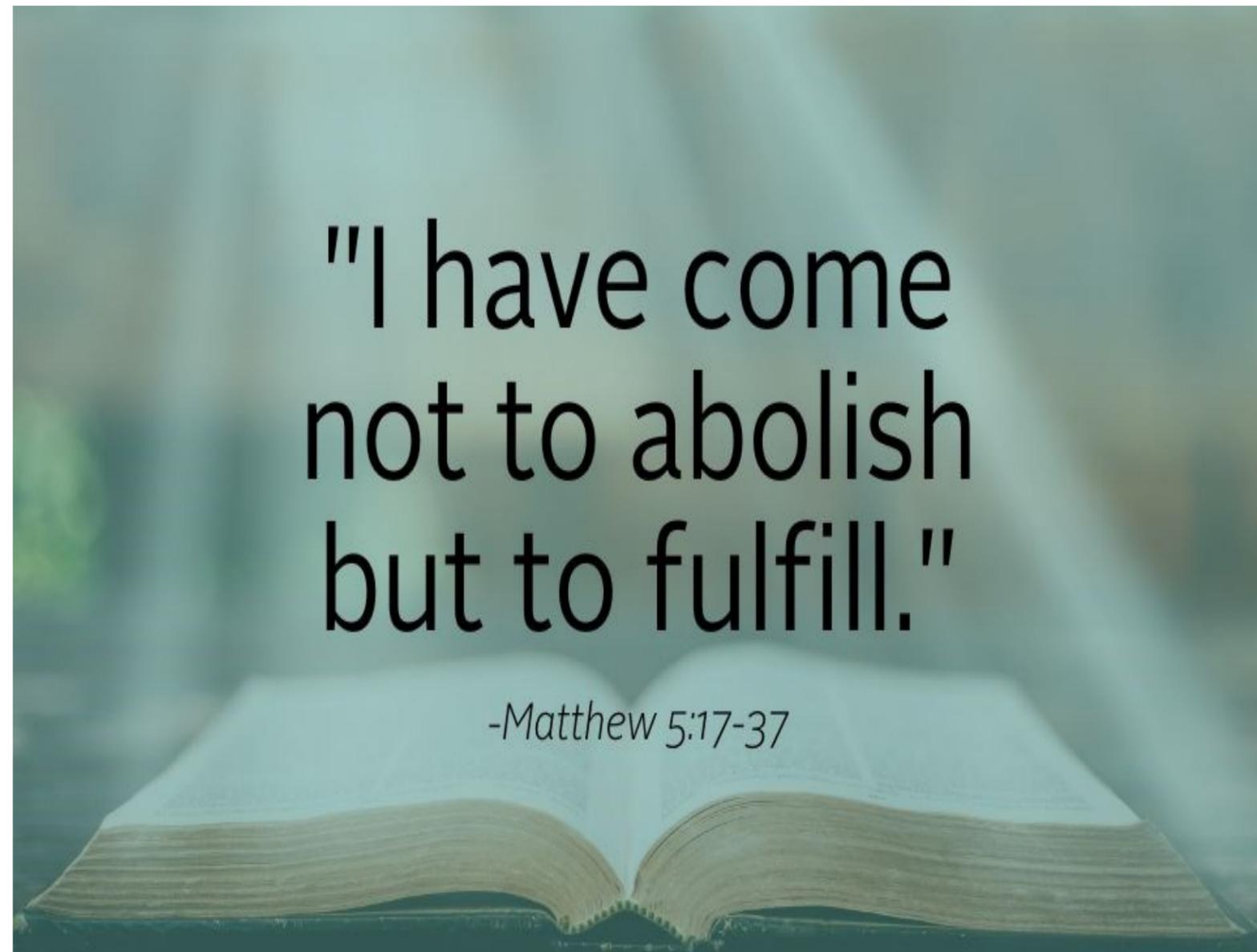
By reading the three cycles in order A>B>C each week, you will have read through the major events and themes of the Old Testament.

The daily readings of Lent present the biblical instructions for those who were preparing for Baptism at Easter. If you read the readings each day, they will guide you through the path that the candidates for Baptism walked in the early church. It will give you a review of the major teachings of Jesus and what it means to be a disciple.

The Lectionary presumes that we are reading the Bible regularly. When we hear a reading at Mass, we are able to place it in its context and know how it fits into the biblical mosaic.

The thought of reading the Bible can be daunting. This gives you an easy way to read the major stories of our salvation. But, don't just read, reflect on them. Ask yourself, how are they speaking to me today? What does the Lord want us to hear from this reading today? Make your Lent rich in the Word of God!

-Father Thomas Clark SJ



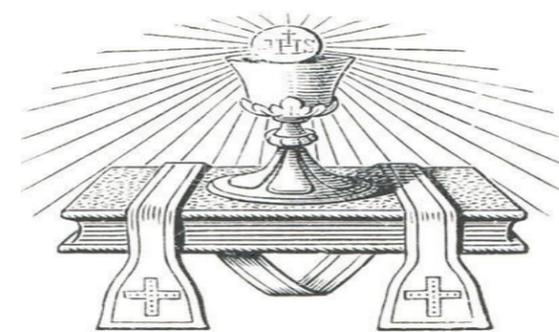
Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ February 15, 2026

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church
 1565 Curtis Street - Baton Rouge, LA 70807
 Office Phone: (225) 775-7067 - Information: (225) 775-7062
 Fax: (225) 775-0775 - Email: clarktf2002@yahoo.com
 Web Site Address: www.immaculateconceptionbr.org
Immaculate Conception Church is a Black Catholic Church serving the family of God and feeding the soul of the Community.

PASTOR: Father Thomas F. Clark, S.J.(225) 775-7067/(225) 773-2036
IN RESIDENCE: Father Fred Kammer, S.J.(225) 774-3241
SECRETARY: Renae Welsh/John Edwards.....(225) 775-7067

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION:
 • COORDINATOR: Gloria DeRouen(225) 936-8162
 • ASSISTANT TO COORDINATOR: Stephanie Yearby(214) 881-5663

RCIA COORDINATOR: Cathy Glover(225) 772-6099
MLK/SU CATHOLIC STUDENT CENTER:
 • Joyce Johnson - Wilfred Johnson(225) 775-8691



Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:00 PM
Sunday Mass: 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM

Weekday Masses: MLK Chapel
12:10 PM

Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri.



MEET AND GREET AFTER THE MASSES

Come and celebrate Mardi Gras and Black History Month as we welcome our new parishioners at a Meet and Greet following the Masses this weekend in the Parish Activity Center. Take some time to enjoy our church family fellowship.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION NEXT SUNDAY, FEB 22

Next Sunday we will celebrate Black History Month at 10:30 AM Mass. Our youth will minister to us, provide reflective readings and songs, and our State Senator Regina Ashford Barrow will offer some words of inspiration at the end of Mass. Please join us for this celebration and please feel free to wear African attire.

ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

On Wednesday, February 18, Ash Wednesday, we begin the season of Lent. Mass will be celebrated at Immaculate Conception Church at 7:30 AM and 7:00 PM, and at the MLK Catholic Student Center at 12:10 PM and a Prayer Service at 5:00 PM. Ashes will be blessed and distributed at all the Masses and the Prayer Service.

LENTEN DEVOTIONS

Daily Mass: Monday through Friday at 12:10 PM at MLK Catholic Student Center

Fridays: Mass at 5:00 PM and Stations of the Cross at 6:00 PM with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction.

Bible Study: Wednesdays at 7:00 PM via Zoom; Thursdays at 10:30 AM in person in the Parish Activity Center.

Food Pantry Support: Bring nonperishable food or make monetary donations throughout Lent to support our Food Pantry and Saint Vincent de Paul.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession): Saturdays at 3:00-3:30 PM and Thursday, March 26 from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick: Sunday, March 15 at 4:00 PM

Tri-Parish Lenten Revival: March 2, 3, 4 at 6:00 PM. Rev. Kareem Smith, revivalist.



SHARON	FLORIDA	2/16
SHANNAN	SMITH	2/16
EMMANUEL	UNAEZE	2/16
HAROLD	MARSELLUS	2/17
JOYCE	METEVIA	2/17
FRANCES	CROGRAM	2/18
JOSEPH	DOUCETTE	2/18
KENNETH	HARRIS	2/18
RONALD	BELLIAZERE	2/19
SOPHIE	DUBRIEL	2/19
MAKAYLIA	ASKEW	2/20
ROCKEELA	CHARLES	2/20
JUANITA	RICHARD	2/20
ZION	STEWART	2/20
ZANETTA	AUGUSTINE	2/21
STEPHEN	BRISCO JR.	2/22
ERIC	TOLES	2/22



HISTORY TRAIL UNVEILING ON FRIDAY, FEB 20

The Walls Project and the Downtown Development District are unveiling a Civil Rights History Trail on Friday, February 20, at 9:00 AM (Civil Rights Trail Welcome and Invocation), following 10:00 AM (Trail Exploration), 12PM Legacy Trail Dedication and Reception. All are welcome to come out and celebrate Baton Rouge's participation in the Civil Rights Movement.

TRI PARISH LENTEN REVIVAL

Our Tri-Parish Lenten Revival will take place on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, March 2, 3, and 4 at 6:00 PM (Praise and Worship) 6:30 PM (Revival Service). Rev. Kareem Smith of the Archdiocese of New York will be our revivalist. More details to follow. Save the date and plan to attend.

Weekly Mass Readings February 15-February 22

Sunday Sixth Sunday in Ordinary

Time

Sirach 15:15-20
1 Corinthians 2: 6-10
Matthew 5: 17-37

Monday

James 1: 1-11
Mark 8: 11-13

Tuesday

James 1: 12-18
Mark 8: 14-21

Wednesday Ash Wednesday

Joel 2: 12-18
2 Corinthians 5: 20-6:2
Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-18

Thursday

Deuteronomy 30: 15-20
Luke 9: 22-25

Friday

Isaiah 58: 1-9a
Matthew 9: 14-15

Saturday

Isaiah 58: 9b-14
Luke 5: 27-32

Sunday First Sunday after Lent

Genesis 2: 7-9; 3: 1-7
Romans 5: 12-19
Matthew 4: 1-11