



February 15, 2026

**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Sunday	2/15	8:00 AM <b>10:00 AM</b>	Clarence & Marcella Vande Hei and Living & Deceased Family Members <b>POLKA Mass at St John's Dawn Steffens</b>	<b>RE after Mass</b>
Tuesday	2/17	*****	<b>NO Mass or Services at St John's</b>	<b>PRESIDENTS' DAY</b> Monday, 2/16
Wednesday	2/18	8:15 AM <b>6:30 PM</b>	All Parish Members <b>Mass at St John's Betty Schmit</b>	<b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b>
Thursday	2/19	<b>8:15 AM</b>	<b>Mass at St John's Open</b>	
Friday	2/20	8:15 AM	Living Intention for Joey Grzelak	<b>*6:00 PM Stations of the Cross at St John's</b>
Saturday	2/21	<b>4:00 PM</b>	<b>Mass at St John's Jean Birling</b>	
Sunday	2/22	8:00 AM <b>10:00 AM</b> 12:50 PM 1:00 PM	In Memory of Gene Kropf From Mary Linsmeyer <b>Mass at St John's Ann Theroux</b> Chaplet of Divine Mercy Stations of the Cross	

**(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC**

**The Carpenter and the Law**

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorma

My husband and I couldn't believe our luck: our new house had a deck. It was more than a couple of broke millennials had ever dared to dream. Lounging in our patio furniture drinking coffee and watching the cars drive past, we felt like Kennedys at Hyannis Port. We had arrived. Well, until it started falling apart.

To be fair, my husband knew this was going to happen all along, because he's a person who uses words like "joist" and "weight-bearing" correctly. He took one look at the deck at the open house and knew it wasn't up to code. "We're going to have to reinforce this at some point," he told me. "Whatever!" I replied, daydreaming about twinkle lights and porch parties.

Sure enough, our second summer in the house, he had to rip the rotting surface boards off. The biggest issue was that the joists were too far apart; when we stepped on the boards, they bowed and almost cracked, lacking adequate support beneath. But we weren't going to redo the whole deck — we're not *actually* Kennedys. We (okay, *he*) simply ripped the surface boards off, added the necessary joists, and replaced the decking with newer, better, stronger wood.

Simply put, my husband did not come to abolish the deck, but to fulfill it.

The law of Moses was like a good deck, admirably built. You could say "*Raq'a*," your heart filled with anger, and the law didn't break. But that anger treads heavily on boards not adequately supported. Over time, the anger becomes too much to bear. And that board — that law, that heart — it'll break. Just you wait.

And when it does, you'll see why: there wasn't anything beneath, holding it up.

So God sent a Carpenter to reinforce the law. The Carpenter crafted joists from prudence, fortitude, justice and temperance — strong virtues that can withstand a lifetime of battery, if properly maintained.

And the law still holds.

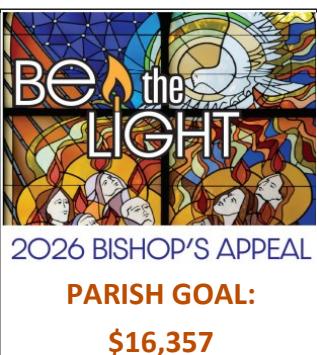
**Reflections— Everyday Stewardship  
Ash Wednesday**

Good stewards realize they really don't own anything. It all belongs to God. It is not so much that God owns them, but they are not ours because we are called to offer them to him.

The reality is that you and I were born naked and with nothing. We will die naked and with nothing. If we really could possess something material, there would be a way to take it with us. But alas, it all slips through our grasp and passes away. And even though all of us came from dust and to dust we will return, through Jesus Christ we will live forever in a perfect state. The only thing we can take with us? Our hearts and whether or not we loved.



**Thank You**  
Thank you to  
Phil & Lori Letter  
for Sponsoring the  
February Bulletin  
In Memory of the  
Living & Deceased  
Members of the  
Letter Family



DAY/TIME	LECTORS	DISTRIBUTORS	SERVERS	USHERS
<b>Sunday 8:00 AM February 22</b>	Clara Vander Heiden	Dcn Rich	Ella Ambrosius Saddie Ambrosius Olivia Ambrosius	Adam Vander Heiden Preston Vander Heiden

**INCOME FOR WEEK:**

Church Support	\$ 1695.00
Loose Collection	\$ 139.00
Votives	\$ 19.00
Cemetery Maintenance	\$ 1000.00

**DISBURSEMENTS FOR WEEK:**

MMC— Multi Media	\$ 20.00
Cathedral Book & Gift - RE Books	\$ 35.90
James Imaging Systems - Qtrly	\$ 370.42
Darrin Stingle Trucking - Snow	\$ 850.00
St John's -Homeless Shelter Meal	\$ 20.00
RE Teachers Christmas	\$ 400.00
WeShare CC Fees	\$ 5.91



Many of our brothers and sisters struggle with stress, depression, loneliness, and financial insecurity.

Through it all, Catholic Charities continues to care for those in need.

With your support of the Bishop's Appeal, you will help us serve even more people across the diocese.



Please give generously at [www.catholicfoundationgb.org/give](http://www.catholicfoundationgb.org/give)

Perpetual Monthly Giving Calendar

Seymour Food Pantry

St Vincent de Paul to collect & deliver.

Featured items for February: **Soup**



## FAT SUNDAY CELEBRATION



Please join us at St. John's in their school gym after the 10am Polka Mass for our luncheon, basket raffle, and more great polka music!

All Are Welcome!

St John the Baptist Catholic Parish,  
Seymour  
Friday 6:00 pm

February 20<sup>th</sup> March 13<sup>th</sup>

February 27<sup>th</sup> March 20<sup>th</sup>

March 6<sup>th</sup> March 27<sup>th</sup>

\*St. Sebastian Parish, Isaar  
Sunday 1:00 pm



February 22<sup>nd</sup>  
March 1<sup>st</sup>  
March 8<sup>th</sup>  
March 15<sup>th</sup>  
March 22<sup>nd</sup>  
March 29<sup>th</sup>

\*Divine Mercy Chaplet at 12:50 pm each Sunday of Lent before Stations of the Cross at St Sebastian Parish

**S  
T  
A  
T  
I  
O  
N  
S**

Lenten Reconciliation (with Father Sengole & fellow Priests)

St Sebastian Parish, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 - 7:00 pm

St John the Baptist Catholic Parish, March 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:15 - 7:15 pm



### Stations of the Cross, Explained

In the earliest years of Christianity, the locations central to the story of Holy Week — the Garden of Gethsemane, Calvary, the Holy Sepulcher, and more — were destinations for pilgrims who wanted to experience Christ's sacrificial love for us in a physical way. In the years after the Crusades, pilgrimage to the Holy Land became impossible for most Christians, and the Stations of the Cross was popularized as a devotional means to pray through the passion and death of Christ.

Throughout history the number of stations has varied, with different traditions focusing on different events. In the 18th century, the number was officially fixed at 14 by Pope Clement XII. These stations are taken from the Gospel accounts of Christ's passion and death, though there are several which are derived from tradition and apocryphal sources, such as the meeting of Mother and Son and St. Veronica wiping the face of Christ.

### Live The Liturgy - Inspiration of the Week

Jesus does not want us to live within the law—he wants the law to live within us. God's law, fulfilled by His Son, is rich soil. We must let it nourish the words and the decisions of our Christian life—only then will it flow forth into the world.

### Virtues, Explained! Gentleness

Gentleness disposes us to receive the inspirations of the Spirit, who "reveals to men who Jesus is" (CCC 152). In cultivating a spirit of gentleness, we more closely resemble Christ, who was unfailingly gentle, even in the face of violence and death.

### Blessing of Mission

Bless us on our way, O Lord. Share with us as we share with others. Heal us as we help others to heal. Provide for us as we open our hands in charity. Every gift comes from You. You are at the heart of all that is good. Share that goodness with us today, abundantly. Amen.

**Ministry of the Sick:** Please notify the parish office if a member of your family is confined to their home or is hospitalized. Also, please inform the hospital of your affiliation with your parish.

**Baptisms:** Please call the parish office two months in advance.

**Marriage:** Please call St. John's parish office eight months in advance.

**Funeral Arrangements:** Please call St. John's parish office.

**Anointing of the Sick and Dying:** Please call St. John's parish office.

**Fr. Sengole Dass**  
**St. John Parish Office - 833-6140**

**DC. Richard Matuszak**  
**833-2294 or 609-5292**

**St Sebastian Parish Office - 833-2558**  
**Current Hours: Mon & Thurs 8:00 – 4:00**  
**Wed: 8:30 - Noon, Closed: Tues & Fri**