

**READINGS**

*February 5, 2017*

*Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

First Reading: Isaiah 58: 7-10

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2: 1-5

Gospel: Matthew 5: 13-16

**STEWARDSHIP**

January 29th.....\$1,881

Bobcat Catholics like you provide more than half the resources necessary to bring students of Texas State closer to Christ. Contact our Development Director, Daniel Glaze, to join this mission at 512-392-5925.

**Matthew 5:13-16** Salt has various uses: a seasoning, a preservative, and an ingredient for fuel. As salt seasoned and preserved food, and as it keeps a fire burning in an even, extended manner, the disciples were to improve the tone of society ("season" it), preserve faith, and extend the fire of the Spirit through their evangelization efforts.

What good works were the disciples to perform? Since Matthew wrote for a Jewish-Christian audience that kept the Law, his stress had to go beyond the everyday expectations of Palestinian culture. Simply keeping the Law, even in the strict manner of the Pharisees, would not cause others to notice.

Also the salt referred to the leveling agent for paddies made from animal manure, the fuel for outdoor ovens used in the time of Jesus. People would form paddies with animal dung, mix in salt, and let the paddies dry in the sun. When the fuel paddies were lit in an oven, the mixed-in salt would help the paddies burn longer, with a more even heat.

When the salt block was spent, they would throw it out onto the road to harden a muddy surface. Jesus saw his followers as leveling agents in an impure world. Their example would keep the fire of faith alive even under stress. Their example would spread faith to those mired in the cultural "dung." But if their example rang empty, they were worthless; they would be dug into the mud under the heels of critics. Jesus also saw his followers as the light of a fire to the world. Placing a fire under a basket would put the fire out. No, like a city high on a hill, the fire should be placed for all to see. One must show faith in action for all to see, so those seeing the witness can be brought to faith and praise God.

In essence, Jesus told his followers they cannot have it both ways. One cannot believe as a Christian, yet act as if faith did not matter. Faith leads to action and the action points to the Kingdom.

*from www.word-Sunday.com*

**GOSPEL REFLECTION**

In today's Gospel, Jesus calls each one of us to be a light for the world and salt for the earth. How are you living up to Jesus' request? How can you strive to fulfill his request?

**BISHOP VASQUEZ' PRAYER REQUEST:**

May our lives reflect the Light of Christ in all that we do and say in this world ...

*Interested in leading a 9:30am Sunday morning Rosary? Even if you are inexperienced! Contact Sawndra in the office M-F 512-392-5925*

**WEEKLY ACTIVITIES**

**ROSARY** every Sunday 9:30am in the Chapel  
**ADORATION** of the Blessed Sacrament Mon.–Fri. 8:30am-9:30am and Tuesdays 5:45pm- 9pm in the Chapel

**FREE LUNCH** Tuesdays 11am- 1pm in the Lobby  
**BIBLE STUDIES** everyday!

*www.txstatecatholic.org*

**MEN'S DISCERNMENT DAY RETREAT**

"Project Andrew" Sat. Feb. 11 10am-2pm at St. Mary Cathedral in Austin. Single, Catholic men between the ages of 16 and 45. Includes prayer, testimonials by priests and seminarians, Mass and lunch. Contact the diocesan Vocation Office at (512) 949-2430.

**CELEBRATE NATIONAL MARRIAGE WEEK**

is celebrated each year Feb. 7-14, and World Marriage Day is celebrated on the second Sunday of February, this year February 12. More information at the USCCB

**REMINDER:** Special Diocesan Collection on next Sun., Feb. 12th for Campus Ministries including Texas State.

**FR. CHARLIE BANKS** will be here for Spiritual Direction this Tues., Feb. 7th. Sign up in the Lobby for 30 minute appointments.

**ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA** Two First Class Relics of St. Anthony of Padua will visit St. John the Evangelist on Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>. Veneration begins at 3p.m., Mass begins at 7p.m. Friar Mario Conte, OFM travels to all corners of the English-speaking world with the relics to bring a message of hope. The visit coincides with the 'World Day of the Sick' on Feb. 11 which Pope Saint John Paul II initiated in 1992 to encourage people to pray for those who are ill and for their caregivers. Being in the presence of two holy relics of a beloved saint is an exceptional way for anyone to pray for ill loved ones.

**THE ST. VINCENT DE PAUL TRUCK** will be at St. John's: **Sat., Feb. 11th from 10 am to 1 pm.**

Accepting furniture, clothing, household items, etc. No appliances or computer equipment please. These items are sold in the St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store (Austin) and the proceeds used to assist the poor and needy to include those of San Marcos. Thanks for your support

**BIBLE STUDY**

For permanent community Fridays after the 12:30 Mass in the library. Will probably begin studying Romans March 3rd. If anyone is interested in joining, please call Carol Rainbolt at 512-557-6516.

**BOBCAT AWAKENING #49** A 3DAY retreat hosted by college students for college students is now accepting retreat applications! Available at the reception counter or online. Go to [txstate-catholic.org/retreatant-app](http://txstate-catholic.org/retreatant-app). Retreat dates are Friday– Sunday Feb. 24th– 26th.

**JANUARY MASS AVERAGES**  
**10AM; 213**  
**5PM; 88**  
**7:30PM; 103**

**Join us on Saturday February 11, 2017**



**San Marcos, TX Embassy Suites**

Tickets are available for purchase here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/our-lady-of-wisdom-mardi-gras-gala-tickets-28169399432>

The night will begin with cocktail hour followed by dinner and live auction. Blue Water Highway Band will end the evening with live music! If you would like to sponsor or purchase a full table, please contact Fr. Hayden Vaverek at [frhayden@yahoo.com](mailto:frhayden@yahoo.com)