

## WEEKLY READINGS AND OBSERVANCES

**Sunday:** 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time Zep 2:3; 3:12-13/Ps 146:6c-7, 8-9a, 9b-10/1 Cor 1:26-31/Mt 5:1-12a

**Monday:** The Presentation of the Lord, World Day for Consecrated Life Mal 3:1-4/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/Heb 2:14-18/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

**Tuesday:** St. Blaise, Bishop and Martyr; St. Ansgar, Bishop 2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30-19:3/Ps 86:1 2, 3-4, 5-6/Mk 5:21-43

**Wednesday:** 2 Sm 24:2, 9-17/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7/Mk 6:1-6

**Thursday:** St. Agatha, Virgin and Martyr 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12/1 Chr 29:10, 11ab, 11d- 12a, 12bcd/Mk 6:7-13

**Friday:** St. Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs Sir 47:2-11/Ps 18:31, 47 and 50, 51/Mk 6:14-29

**Saturday:** 1 Kgs 3:4-13/Ps 119:9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14/ Mk 6:30-34

**Next Sunday:** 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time; World Marriage Day Is 58:7-10/Ps 112:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/1 Cor 2:1-5/ Mt 5:13-16

Catholic Women's League of Peoria, IL presents:

**Women at the Well.** *"If you want living water, where is your bucket?"*

Lenten Reflection

Thursday, February 19th from 10 am - 12 pm  
at St. Philomena Parish Center in Peoria, IL  
1000 W. Albany, Peoria, IL 61604  
Coffee & Donuts provided

## MASS INTENTIONS

**Sun, Feb 1st**

**Confessions** 7:00am — 7:25am

**Mass 7:30am** Shahn Storm offered by Tom & Sarina Cofield Family  
Rescheduled from Jan 25th

**Sun, Feb 8th**

**Confessions** 7:00am — 7:25am

**Mass 7:30am** People of the Parish



## SAINT JAMES, WILLIAMSFIELD

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**February 1st, 2026**

**4th Sunday of Ordinary Time**

*"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."*

**MATTHEW 5:3**

The phrase "poor in spirit" can be confusing. Think of it in this sense – poor in spirit means depending on God's providence and not depending on our own self-reliance. Being detached from earthy things (power, money, and comfort) and being attached to heavenly things (charity, sacrifice, and mercy). Denying ourselves from satisfying our desires and helping others obtain their basic needs.

HE WENT UP THE  
MOUNTAIN AND BEGAN  
**TO TEACH.**

— MATTHEW 5:1 —



A simple, almost playful gesture has given birth to a new prayer movement in the Church.

Soon after the election of Pope Leo XIV, Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle shared a quiet moment from the conclave that caught the attention of many. As voting progressed and it became increasingly clear that then-Cardinal Robert Prevost would be elected pope, Cardinal Tagle noticed the visible emotion on Prevost's face. Sensing the weight of the moment, Tagle reached into his pocket and offered him a piece of candy—an unassuming act of human kindness amid one of the most solemn events in the Church.

That brief encounter became the inspiration behind Adopt a Bishop, a new initiative launched by Lauren Winter, founder of the Catholic company Brick House in the City, in collaboration with The Dorothea Project. Speaking to Catholic News Agency, Winter said the story deeply moved her. “It really reminded me that these are all human beings who made the choice one day to accept a very serious ‘yes,’” she shared.

The initiative invites Catholics to spiritually “adopt” a bishop for one year, committing to pray regularly for him as he carries the heavy responsibilities of shepherding the Church. Participants receive the name of a bishop and are encouraged to offer prayers, sacrifices, and support throughout the year.

At a time when Church leaders face immense spiritual, pastoral, and cultural challenges, Adopt a Bishop highlights a simple but often overlooked truth: bishops are not distant figures, but men in need of prayer, encouragement, and grace.

What began with a piece of candy offered in compassion has become a reminder that small acts—especially prayer—can have lasting impact in the life of the Church.

### **Man of the Shroud Touring Exhibit**

We are excited to announce the Man of the Shroud Exhibit will be coming to Incarnation Parish. The exhibit will be on display in Soseman Hall (Princeville) from February 4th-8th. The Shroud of Turin has long been venerated by the faithful and is believed by many to be the burial cloth of Jesus of Nazareth. The Shroud is one of the most scientifically studied religious icons in history. As science has progressed, so has the speculation on how the image of the crucified man of the Shroud was made. After decades of exhaustive and medical, historical and scientific research, the Center for the Study of the Passion of the Christ and the Holy Shroud has developed a moving and informative mobile exhibit on the Shroud of Turin. The centerpiece is a full-length canvas replica of the Shroud made by the Shroud of Turin Education and Research Association, Inc. In addition, the mobile exhibit contains a large crucified corpus showing the wounds of Christ corresponding to the passion narrative in the Gospel accounts and the wounds shown on the Shroud. The exhibit contains over 31 popup display banners detailing the history and science of the Shroud. For more information, please visit [kol-beshrine.org/shroud](http://kol-beshrine.org/shroud).



### **Red Cross Blood Drive**

St. Mary's Tuesday, Feb 3rd 1-6pm Soseman Hall

The need for blood is constant and only volunteer donors can fulfill that need for patients in our community. Nationwide, someone needs a unit of blood every 2 to 3 seconds and most of us will need blood in our lifetime - to pour out our blood so that others can live is an especially Christ-like sacrifice. To schedule an appointment please call Diane Ingle 309-385-2342 or 1-800-Red Cross (1-800 733-2767) or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org). Bring a photo ID, blood donor card or two other forms of ID. You can receive a \$20 gift card of your choice from an available merchant.

**Weekly Collections**  
No Mass last weekend