

While he was in Jerusalem for the feast of Passover, many began to believe in his name when they saw the signs he was doing.

JOHN 2:23



The Long Arm of the Law

Eventually you're going to get caught. That's what this expression means. And that is pretty much how most people understand law—as something that hems them in and, if disregarded, will get them in the end. But that is not how Israel understood its law. The psalm verses for today insist that the law refreshes the soul, rejoices the heart, enlightens the eye, is more precious than gold, and is sweeter than syrup or honey from the comb. The people cherished the law because it outlined for them how they were to live as God's Chosen People.

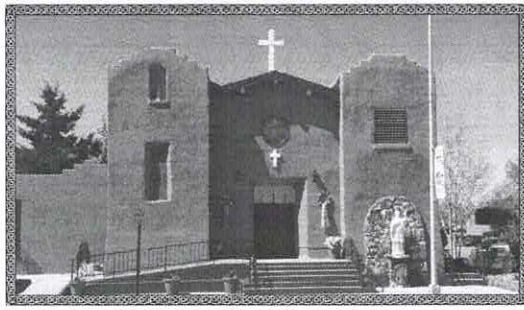
People who want to run a marathon, learn to fly a plane, or join a club are eager to take on the directives that will enable them to accomplish their goal. That is how Israel viewed the law outlined in today's first reading. It's as if God said: "If you want to be my people, this is the way you should live."

Whenever the law of Israel seems to be criticized (as is often the case in St. Paul's writings), it is not really the law itself but the inappropriate attitude toward it that is censured. As important and precious as the law might be, it is only a means to an end. It is not the end itself, any more than the directives for flying a plane are what are uppermost. From the Bible's point of view, the long arm of the law is meant to direct and support us, not intimidate us.

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

For Reflection

- ✦ *The laws in today's first reading deal with basic living. Which ones seem to be the hardest to live by? Why?*
- ✦ *Which laws give you the most support as you try to live with integrity?*



St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church

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Missions: Des Moines, Folsom, Moses, NENM Detention Facility

www.sfxclayton.org

Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. Jason Pettigrew
Business Manager/Finance: Theresa Gard
Secretary: Laekyn Wagner
Religious Education: Rose Ramirez
Adult Religious Education: Rev. Jason Pettigrew

Parish Office Hours (CCD Building)
Mon, Tues, Thurs, 9:00AM -1:00PM
Closed on Wed, Fri and Church & Civil Holidays

Sacrament of Baptism
(Classes and Parents Interview)
Contact Pastor

Sacrament of Marriage
(Classes and Couple Interview)
Contact Fr. Jason -6 Months Prior

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick
By appointment with the Pastor

MARCH 7TH

St. Francis Xavier, Clayton

Weekend Mass: Saturday 5:00pm Sunday 10:30am

Daily Mass: Thursday: 5:30pm Friday:12:10pm

Adoration: Thursday 6:00pm-7:00pm

Confession: Friday 4:45pm-5:45pm Saturday 4:00-5:00pm OR By Appointment

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Des Moines

Weekend Mass: Sunday 8:00am (Oct 1 - May 31)

Confession: Sunday before 8:00am OR by appt

St. Joseph, Folsom

Weekend Mass: Sunday 8:00 am (Jun 1 - Sept 30)

Confession: Sunday before 8:00am OR by appt

NENM Detention Facility, Clayton (For Residents/Staff)

1st, 2nd & 3rd Sunday's Mass 2:00PM

Confession: Sunday 1:30pm—2:00


Nursing Home, Clayton

Every 4th Sunday 1:30 PM

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*This is my body, which will be given up for you.  
This is my blood, the blood of the new and everlasting covenant.  
It will be shed for you & for all... so that sins may be forgiven.  
Do this in memory of me.*

Masses will be offered **March 2021**

+ All the Departed Parishioner's & Family Members

SI All the Sponsors, Benefactors & Supporters of SFX Clayton

SI Good Health & Well Being of all Parishioners & Families

|             |                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                             |
|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| at, Mar. 6  | SI Britt & Agnes Fisk<br>SI Sylvester Mayfield<br>+Joan Lee<br>+Sam Britt<br>+Joseph Trujillo                                                                               | by Ross & Shelley Carter<br>by Ross & Shelley Carter<br>by Margret Heringa<br>by Cindy Trujillo                                                             |
| un, Mar. 7  | SI Luke Khang<br>SI Phei van Hoang<br>SI Sylvester Mayfield<br>+Inez Romero<br>+Gladys Jesko<br>+Sam Britt<br>(OLOG) +Ellen Theresa Long<br>(OLOG) +Roselie Commiato Kelsey | by Dieu Thi Hoang<br>by Dieu Thi Hoang<br>by Dolores Montoya<br>by Donna Kimble<br>by RosaLee Britt<br>by Marjorie & Grant Long<br>by Marjorie & Grant Long |
| ri, Mar. 12 | +Carolina Gonzales<br>+Margaret Heringa                                                                                                                                     | by Ross & Shelley Carter<br>by Ross & Shelley Carter                                                                                                        |
| at, Mar. 13 | SI Britt & Agnes Fisk<br>+Sam Britt<br>+Joan Lee<br>+Carolina Gonzales                                                                                                      | by Ross & Shelley Carter<br>by Margaret Heringa<br>by Ross & Shelley Carter<br>by Ross & Shelley Carter                                                     |

**Weekly Collections Summary: Jan. & Feb. 2021**

|                | <u>SFX</u> | <u>OLOG</u> |
|----------------|------------|-------------|
| February 27-28 | \$2,033.00 | \$ 725.00   |
| February 20-21 | \$2,964.00 | \$ 295.00   |
| February 6-7   | \$2,646.00 | \$ 531.00   |
| January 30-31  | \$4,155.65 | \$ 336.00   |

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- [www.archdiocesasantafe.org](http://www.archdiocesasantafe.org)
- [www.ewtn.com](http://www.ewtn.com)
- [2.vatican.va/content/vatican/en.html](http://2.vatican.va/content/vatican/en.html)
- [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org)
- [www.catholic culture.org](http://www.catholic culture.org)

**Announcement**

Daily Mass Thursday at 5:30 & Adoration 6-7pm

Friday Daily Mass at 12:10pm

During Lent Friday Confession 4:45-5:45pm

During Lent Stations of the Cross are Fridays at 6pm

Confession is Saturdays at 4:00-5:00pm or by Appointment

**Announcements**

All Parishioners are encouraged to form prayer groups or Bible studies on their own, and welcome to use the church or CCD Building for such activities.

“In the light of my recent Encyclical Letter on Christian love, I would like to underline the importance of the service of love for the support and promotion of human life. In this regard, even before active initiatives, it is fundamental to foster a correct attitude towards the other: the culture of life is in fact based on attention to others without any forms of exclusion or discrimination. Every human life, as such, deserves and demands always to be defended and promoted.”

– Address on February 5, 2006

**Lectors for Masses**

- Saturday, Mar 13– Pat Crisp
- Sunday, Mar 14– Craig Reeves
- Saturday, Mar 20– Effie Walker
- Sunday, Mar 21– Andrea Naranjo

All Ministry schedules are updated monthly and posted on the church website. If you need to know when you serve, check [www.sfxclayton.org](http://www.sfxclayton.org)!!

# Dear Padre,

**Our deacon was preaching about Lent and mentioned that the Church calls us to *metanoia*. What did he mean?**

**M**ost of us think of Lent as a time of penance. We receive our ashes and take up some traditional practice of giving up something or doing something for Lent. But there's more to Lent than just practices of piety or acts of penance and mortification. Your deacon is correct. In Lent, the Church calls us to *metanoia*, a Greek word meaning "a change of mind and heart."

We begin a new way of thinking and acting. We take a long, hard look at our lifestyle and compare it to the values Jesus offers. Then we change our lives to match the values of the Lord. This, of course, is difficult to do alone. The Church asks us to pray during Lent that the Lord's power will enter our lives and give us the wisdom to see a new direction and the courage to move in that direction. The Church suggests we strengthen our resolve through acts of personal mortification and sacrifice for others. This will tighten the belt of our discipline and

train us for the more sweeping changes that we must make.

The Scripture readings for the first three weeks of Lent center on *metanoia*. The readings direct us to understand what is involved with "changing our hearts" and seeking a new life direction. Listen to them well and they will lead you to *metanoia*.

*From Dear Padre: Questions Catholics Ask, © 2003 Liguori Publications  
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BOBYN MACKENZIE/SHUTTERSTOCK

## A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*



*I urge the members of the Church to take up the Lenten journey with enthusiasm, sustained by almsgiving, fasting, and prayer. If, at times, the flame of charity seems to die in our own hearts, know that this is never the case in the heart of God! He constantly gives us a chance to begin loving anew.*

LENTEN MESSAGE FOR 2018, NOVEMBER 1, 2017

## Calendar

### Monday

MARCH 8

*Lenten Weekday*

2 Kgs 5:1–15ab

Lk 4:24–30

### Tuesday

MARCH 9

*Lenten Weekday*

Dn 3:25, 34–43

Mt 18:21–35

### Wednesday

MARCH 10

*Lenten Weekday*

Dt 4:1, 5–9

Mt 5:17–19

### Thursday

MARCH 11

*Lenten Weekday*

Jer 7:23–28

Lk 11:14–23

### Friday

MARCH 12

*Lenten Weekday*

Hos 14:2–10

Mk 12:28–34

### Saturday

MARCH 13

*Lenten Weekday*

Hos 6:1–6

Lk 18:9–14

### Sunday

MARCH 14

*Fourth Sunday of Lent*

2 Chr 36:14–16,

19–23

Eph 2:4–10

Jn 3:14–21

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