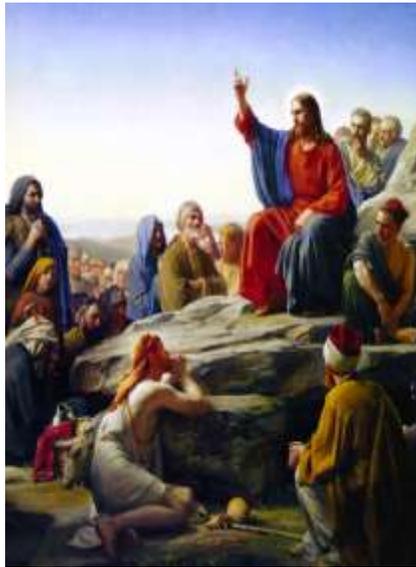


The Blessed Path: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday Bible Reflections by Dr. Scott Hahn
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Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13; Psalm 146:6-10; 1 Corinthians 1:26-31;
Matthew 5:1-12



In the readings since Christmas, Jesus has been revealed as the new royal son of David and Son of God. He is sent to lead a new exodus that brings Israel out of captivity to the nations and brings all the nations to God.

As Moses led Israel from Egypt through the sea to give them God's law on Mount Sinai, Jesus too has passed through the waters in baptism. Now, in today's Gospel, He goes to the mountain to proclaim a new law—the law of His Kingdom.

The Beatitudes mark the fulfillment of God's covenant promise to Abraham—that through his descendants all the nations of the world would receive God's blessings (see **Genesis 12:3; 22:18**).

Jesus is the son of Abraham (see **Matthew 1:1**). And through the wisdom He speaks today, He bestows the Father's blessings upon "the poor in spirit."

God has chosen to bless the weak and lowly, those foolish and despised in the eyes of the world, Paul says in today's Epistle. The poor in spirit are those who know that nothing they do can merit God's mercy and grace. These are the humble remnant in today's First Reading—taught to seek refuge in the name of the Lord.

The Beatitudes reveal the divine path and purpose for our lives. All our striving should be for these virtues—to be poor in spirit; meek and clean of heart; merciful and makers of peace; seekers of the righteousness that comes from living by the law of Kingdom.

The path the Lord sets before us today is one of trials and persecution. But He promises comfort in our mourning and a great reward.

The Kingdom we have inherited is no earthly territory, but the promised land of heaven. It is Zion where the Lord reigns forever. And, as we sing in today's Psalm, its blessings are for those whose hope is in the Lord.

ANNOUNCED MASSES
January 28th – February 5th, 2017

Saturday 4:30 p.m.	Jan. 28th	Sunday Mass of Anticipation Gerald O'Donnell – RIP – by Charles Brocklehurst
Sunday 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Jan. 29th	Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Colleen Carriere Savage – RIP – by Lorraine Carriere & Patricia Armstrong In Thanksgiving to the Holy Trinity – by Mercedes and family
Monday	Jan. 30th	NO MASS
Tuesday 7:00 p.m.	Jan. 31st	Saint John Bosco Maria Jose Tomaz – RIP – by Maria
Wednesday 9:00 a.m.	Feb. 1st	Weekday Paciencia Manzo Manzanal – RIP – by Jerry & Ofelia Roy
Thursday 9:00 a.m.	Feb. 2nd	PRESENTATION OF THE LORD In Thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Immaculate Heart of Mary
Friday 9:00 a.m.	Feb. 3rd	Saint Blaise Maria Melo Ponte and Jose Jacinto Ponte – RIP – by Maria
Saturday 10:00 a.m.	Feb. 4th	Weekday Special Intentions of Ramya and Merle Aloysius
Saturday 4:30 p.m.	Feb. 4th	Sunday Mass of Anticipation Constantino Lopez – RIP by the family
Sunday 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Feb. 5th	Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Thanksgiving by Ruth Gaudreau Eliard Finn – RIP – by the Finn and McGregor families

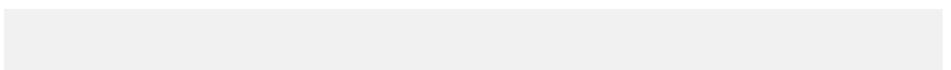
Called Home To The Father

*Our deepest sympathy to the family of **Dorothy Bennett**. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.*

Collection:

January 22, 2017 - **\$2,963.25**

...Thank you for your generosity.



THE FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD



Known originally as the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin, the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord is a relatively ancient celebration. The Church at Jerusalem observed the feast as early as the first half of the fourth century, and likely earlier. The feast celebrates the presentation of Christ in the temple at Jerusalem on the 40th day after His birth.

According to Jewish law, the firstborn male child belonged to God, and the parents had to "buy him back" on the 40th day after his birth, by offering a sacrifice of "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons" (Luke 2:24) in the temple (thus the "presentation" of the child).

On that same day, the mother would be ritually purified (thus the "purification").

Saint Mary and Saint Joseph kept this law, even though, since Saint Mary remained a virgin after the birth of Christ, she would not have had to go through ritual purification. In his gospel, Luke recounts the story (Luke 2:22-39).

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HOLY HOUR



Every Friday, following the 9am mass, the Blessed Sacrament is exposed for one hour of Holy Adoration, Rosary, silent prayer, and Chaplet of Divine Mercy, concluding with Divine Praises and Benediction. Come and spend some time with the Lord.

THE FOOD BANK "OASIS"



Please remember to bring non-perishable food and leave them in the bins at the doors of the church...Thank you.

FUNERAL OF DOROTHY BENNETT

Dorothy Bennett, a long-time parishioner of our Parish, passed away at 101 years old, on December 28th. Dorothy was a vital member in our Church. She volunteered as Church Secretary for 28 years. She was also the Treasurer of the Women's Auxiliary and could be found helping at every event the Church hosted.

Visitation will be at Armstrong Funeral Home on January 30th. The funeral will be at our Church on January 31st at 11 a.m. May she rest in peace.