



**Sts. Peter and Paul Chapel**  
A Ministry of the Ecumenical Catholic Church+USA  
**808 N. Mason Road**  
**Creve Coeur, Missouri 63141-6306**  
**(314) 968.7800**

**February 2024 Parish Bulletin**

Parish Web Site: [www.sspp-eccusa.org](http://www.sspp-eccusa.org) or [www.peterandpaulchapel.org](http://www.peterandpaulchapel.org)

Parish Facebook Page: [www.facebook.com/ssppECCUSA](http://www.facebook.com/ssppECCUSA)

National Church Web Site: [www.ecc-usa.org](http://www.ecc-usa.org)

National Church Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/eccusa2001>

**CLERGY MASS SCHEDULE**

**All Worship Services Are Held at 2:00 PM Every Sunday, Unless Otherwise Noted**

February 4, 2024: Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
**\*Blessing of Throats at this Mass**

February 11, 2024: Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 18, 2024: First Sunday of Lent

February 25, 2024: Second Sunday of Lent

**Pastoral Staff:**

**Pastor:** +Fr. Bob Catlett, M.Div., 314.800.3456, [pastor@sspp-eccusa.org](mailto:pastor@sspp-eccusa.org)

**Diocesan Bishop:** +Fr. Carl Swaringim, Ed.D., 314.650.1487, [BishopCarl@protonmail.com](mailto:BishopCarl@protonmail.com)

## Prayer Intentions

If you would like us to remember a special intention for you at Mass, please contact +Fr. Bob.

If you or someone you know is in need of spiritual assistance (prayers, Sacrament of the Sick, etc.), please contact one of our priests.

Inquiries regarding the administration of Sacraments or services (Baptisms, First Communion, Marriages, and Funerals) are welcomed.

## ***Sunday Scripture Reflections***

+Fr. Bob Catlett, M.Div., Pastor

**February 4, 2024 – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time:** The sense of purpose expressed by Jesus and St. Paul in today's New Testament readings contrasts strongly with the attitude of hopelessness manifested in the Book of Job (first reading). With whom can we best identify? If we find ourselves leaning toward Job, what can we do about it? (Job 7:1-4, 6-7, 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23, Mark 1:29-39)

**February 11, 2024 – 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time:** Today's first reading provides background for the healing of a leper in the Gospel. Although told to keep the matter quiet, this leper proclaims his cure, so that the long-suffering Jesus has to take refuge in deserted places. St. Paul may be close to Jesus' sentiments when he writes, "I try to please everyone in every way." Lord, help us to promote harmony by going with the flow in small matters. (Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46, 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1, Mark 1:40-45)

**February 14, 2024 – Ash Wednesday:** Today is the first day of the Lenten season. Today, we set our course for a forty-day journey. Do we see this as an "acceptable time" for more serious prayer, a well-chosen penitential act, and some specific gift of alms to charity? Whatever we choose, we will keep between our heavenly Father and ourselves, offering him our whole heart. (Joel 2:12-18, 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2, Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18)

**February 21, 2024 – First Sunday of Lent:** "The waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all mortal beings." The water that deluges the world now is the saving water of Baptism, prefigured by Noah's ark. Through Christ's resurrection, sins are washed away. During Lent, we renew our covenant with the Lord by repenting our sin and believing his word. (Genesis 9:8-15, 1 Peter 3:18-22, Mark 1:12-15)

**February 25, 2024 – Second Sunday of Lent:** Abraham was prepared to make the ultimate sacrifice of his beloved son in obedience to God. At the sight of Abraham's devotion, God spared the boy's life. However, he "did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all." We thank you, Father, for all you give us in your Son, above all the heavenly life revealed at his transfiguration. (Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18, Romans 8:31b-34, Mark 9:2-10)

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 **Lent**

**LENT IS** the season that prepares us to celebrate Easter. The main reason Lent is important is that Easter is more important. On Easter we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, whose passage beyond death into life offers redemption to believers. The Resurrection is the cornerstone of Christian faith. The mystery of Christ's rising from the dead is so deep that the Church invites us to six weeks of preparation before we fully celebrate it. We call that period Lent.

For the faithful, Lent is a time of penitential practices and spiritual discipline. During this time, we acknowledge our sins and seek God's help to overcome them. Traditionally, we engage in acts of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Together these actions show our dependence on God, our renunciation of the fascinations of this world, and our desire to better the lives of others.

For the elect, those preparing for Baptism, Lent is a time of intense spiritual preparation. They will celebrate Baptism at Easter because in this sacrament they enter the mystery of Christ's dying and rising. They die to their former way of life and open their hearts fully to discipleship in Jesus. For the elect, this is a season of purification and enlightenment. The prayers of this season help scrutinize and purify their intentions, removing whatever might block their commitment, and strengthening their resolve. They will become fully illumined with the light of Christ when they celebrate initiation at the Easter Vigil.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and ends before the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday. Ash Wednesday is a day of fast and abstinence. All the Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence.

***From the Pastor's Desk***  
+Fr. Bob Catlett, M.Div., Pastor

**Parishioner Birthdays:** None this month!

**Parishioner Anniversaries:** None this month!

**Blessing of Throats:** Our Annual St. Blaise Blessing of Throats will be held on Sunday, February 4, 2024. Everyone is welcome to receive this blessing. *"Saint Blaise was the Bishop of Sebaste in Armenia during the fourth century. Very little is known about his life. According to various accounts, he was a physician before becoming a bishop. His cult spread throughout the entire Church in the Middle Ages because he was reputed to have miraculously cured a little boy who nearly died because of a fishbone in his throat. From the eighth century, he has been invoked on behalf of the sick, especially those afflicted with illnesses of the throat." (From The Book of Blessings.)*

**Masses on Facebook Live!** Just a reminder...we are now able to livestream our Sunday masses on our Chapel Facebook page. If you are unable to attend in person, join us virtually...we would love to "see" you! You do **not** have to have a Facebook account to join us. Just go to our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/ssppECCUSA](http://www.facebook.com/ssppECCUSA) at 2:00 PM on Sunday afternoons.

**Bulletin Inserts (page 3):** We continue "getting to know the church, its practices and other pressing issues" with *Bulletin Inserts for the Liturgical Life of the Parish*. The short bulletin inserts provided in this resource cover a variety of liturgy-related topics that aim to assist the parish in the liturgical formation of the assembly. The author, Fr. Paul Turner, provides short catechesis on a wide variety of topics to help the reader gain a better understanding of the "what, how, and why" of the liturgy. Each insert is designed to help the reader engage the liturgy and manifest it in their lives. Fr. Paul Turner is pastor of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Kansas City, Missouri, and director of the Office of Divine Worship for the Diocese of Kansas City–St. Joseph. He holds a doctorate in sacred theology from the Pontifical University of Sant'Anselmo in Rome. ***This month, we learn about the Season of Lent which begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14, 2024.***