



Parish of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Palmotićeve 31, Zagreb

PARISH BULLETIN 520

Sunday, February 8, 2026.

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

WORLD MARRIAGE DAY

Gospel: Mt 5:13–16.

Jesus said to his disciples: "You are the salt of the earth. But if salt loses its taste, with what can it be seasoned? It is no longer good for anything but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket; it is set on a lampstand, where it gives light to all in the house. Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father."

Commentary by the Pastor:

Today's Sunday encourages us to reflect on our Christian role in the world, especially on a personal and marital level. To be salt means to be like salt in food: present everywhere, invisible, yet making everything tasty. Likewise, a Christian is called to be the "spice of the Gospel", called to be in the world but not to become worldly, rather to enrich the world with God's "flavor," that is, God's presence! This is also conveyed by the comparison to light.

In the discourse about light, the question arises: What do we see? At first glance, we might want to list what is before our eyes, but the answer is much deeper and simpler: We see everything that is illuminated! Or, on the other hand: We do not see what is not lit! Any source of light helps us see what is illuminated or where the lamp is directed when it comes to what is commonly called a "flashlight"! In this reflection, we find the answer to Jesus' desire for what Christians, His disciples, believers should be: They should illuminate for others so that they see what they otherwise do not see! What is that? It is the experience of God, the closeness of God, from which good deeds arise that then glorify God the Father in heaven. Thus, a Christian should be a spiritual spotlight on the invisible divine reality, on the imperceptible grace of God, on the right path to eternity. It is precisely on this path that many stumble, encounter obstacles, and do not see how to proceed. There, you are called to shine; there, you are called to help your neighbor; there, you are called to bring Jesus, who said: I am the Light! Be that today, especially within the family, and particularly the husband to his wife and the wife to her husband!

Holy Masses

MONDAY – SATURDAY
(9.2. - 14.2.)

7:00 PETRIČEVIĆ
8:00 KOČIŠ
9:00 KNEŽEVIĆ
12:00 ŠESTAK
19:00 NAGY

Confessions (6.2.)

MONDAY – SATURDAY
(9.2. - 14.2.)

6:30 – 9:30
11:00 – 12:30
18:30 – 20:00

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Monday, 9th February	Memorial: St. Scholastica, Virgin
Tuesday, 10th February	Memorial: Bl. Alojzije Stepinac, Bishop and Martyr
Wednesday, 11th February	Feria or: Our Lady of Lourdes – World Day of the Sick
Sunday, 15th February	6th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

WORLD MARRIAGE DAY: We congratulate on World Marriage Day with a prayer that the Lord sustains what He has begun and inspires young people to marital love!

STEPINAC FEAST: On Tuesday, February 10th, at 6 PM, a solemn Mass in honor of Blessed Alojzije Stepinac will be celebrated in our cathedral, presided over by our Archbishop Mons. Dražen Kutleša. As preparation, a solemn Novena will be led by the auxiliary bishops of Zagreb in the liturgical space! You can get the book *Cardinal Stepinac, the Brightest Figure among Croats* by Prof. Karmen Vrljičak, a returnee from Argentina, here with us!

BLESSED IVAN MERZ DAY: The same date is also Blessed Ivan Merz Day, when we especially pray for his canonization and reflect on his life and messages. Here are some fitting quotes:

"Providence has placed a lighthouse on the mountain – the papacy – which for centuries shines over its land and helps distinguish truth from error, good from evil."

"Every Christian politics must aim to have as many Christian families as possible, where spouses live in inseparable fidelity until death."

"If the Lord wills that you suffer and not be healed, then you must surrender into His hands – for not even the smallest germ moves without the presence and action of the Lord."

SPIRITUAL EXERCISES IN LUŽNICA: Organized by the Anamarija Carević Foundation and led by Fr. Niko Bilić, spiritual exercises for all benefactors of the renovation and our faithful will take place from February 27th to March 1st. Registration is required. More info on the poster!

SKAC ACTIVITIES:

VOCATION FAIR: Will be held on 17 February at 6:00 p.m. Various ministries will be presented: the "72 Hours Without Compromise" team, Modrave animators, the team of cooks and logistics, service at the SKAC Home in Kravarsko, service at Youth Masses as hosts, readers, altar servers, the SKAC media team, and leaders of MAGIS experiments. There are many opportunities for growth, formation, and service. All interested young people aged 18 to 30 are welcome to learn more about each ministry and to listen for whether God may be calling them to this kind of service.

LENTEN SPIRITUAL EXERCISES: Registration is open for Lenten online spiritual exercises in everyday life. The program is open to all ages, with meetings held online once a week. The first meeting will be on Sunday, 15 February at 8:15 p.m. Registration is available via the form on the SKAC website or via the QR code on the poster in the hallway.

MAYBE A JESUIT: For young men discerning a vocation to the Society of Jesus, a discernment weekend will be held on Sljeme from 20 to 22 February. Those interested may contact Fr Mislav Skelin.

ROSARY AT KAMENITA VRATA: Mondays at 8:00 p.m.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Monday to Friday, 9:30–10:30 a.m. and 5:00–6:00 p.m.

Being Salt and Light in Today's World

In today's reading from the prophet Isaiah, we heard the Lord say: "Share your bread with the hungry, bring the homeless into your house, clothe the naked you see, and do not hide from your own kin."

This passage made me reflect on how many times in life we have encountered a homeless or poor person on the street asking for food or money, and how we reacted and treated that person. People often tend to judge thoughtlessly. They say someone brought their situation on themselves, ask why they don't get a job, or look for reasons to justify their own indifference. Sometimes, those who ask for help only need a kind word or a brief conversation because they long to be heard.

Our faith does not teach us to judge by appearances or condemn others' lives, but to help, do good deeds, and remain humble. As today's Gospel according to Matthew says: "You are the salt of the earth". Salt is in the small things – helping without expecting anything in return, patience with others, a smile that brightens someone's day.

And when Jesus says, "You are the light of the world", He reminds us that light is when we choose to spread positivity, listen instead of judge, and choose kindness over pride. I have personally experienced that when I help someone in need and have a short conversation with them, I feel joy for doing a good deed and brightening someone's day.