

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Feb 15, 2026

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets”

Today, Jesus tells us, “Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets” (Mt 5:17). What is the Law? What are the Prophets? By the Law and the Prophets, we understand two different groups of books of the Old Testament. The Law refers to the writings attributed to Moses; the Prophets, as the name itself indicates, are the writings of the prophets and the wisdom books.

In today’s Gospel, Jesus refers to what we consider the summary of the moral code of the Old Testament: the commandments of the Law of God. According to the mind of Jesus, the Law does not consist of merely external principles. No. The Law is not an imposition coming from outside. Quite the opposite. In truth, the Law of God corresponds to the ideal of perfection that is rooted in the heart of every human being. This is why the one who keeps the commandments not only feels fulfilled in his human aspirations, but also attains the perfection of Christianity, or, in the words of Jesus, attains the perfection of the Kingdom of God: “Whoever obeys and teaches these commandments will be called greatest in the kingdom of heaven” (Mt 5:19).

“But I say to you” (Mt 5:22). The fulfillment of the Law is not summed up in the letter, since “for the letter brings death, but the Spirit gives life” (2 Cor 3:6). It is in this sense that Jesus commits His authority to interpret the Law according to its most authentic Spirit. In Jesus’ interpretation, the Law is extended to its ultimate consequences: respect for life is joined to the eradication of hatred, vengeance, and insult; chastity of the body is expressed through fidelity and indissolubility; the truthfulness of the given word is shown in respect for commitments. In fulfilling the Law, Jesus “fully reveals man to man himself and makes his supreme calling clear” (Second Vatican Council).

The example of Jesus invites us to that perfection of Christian life which carries out in actions what is proclaimed in words.

Rice Bowl: CRS Rice Bowl begins on Ash Wednesday, Feb 14, 2024, 75 percent of Rice Bowl donations support CRS’s humanitarian relief programs in more than 100 different countries. Additionally, Catholic Relief Services allows each diocese that participates to keep 25% of the collection in the local community to be used for hunger and poverty alleviation efforts. In the Archdiocese of St. Louis, these funds support food pantries and other programs.

Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!

Today’s Gospel: [Mt 5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37](#)

Jesus said to his disciples: "I tell you, unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven. "You have heard that it was said to your ancestors, *You shall not kill; and whoever kills will be liable to judgment.* But I say to you, whoever is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment. "You have heard that it was said, *You shall not commit adultery.* But I say to you, everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. "Again you have heard that it was said to your ancestors, *Do not take a false oath, but make good to the Lord all that you vow.* But I say to you, do not swear at all. Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes,' and your 'No' mean 'No.' Anything more is from the evil one."



Archdiocesan Lenten Regulations: the Pope and the American Bishops have outlined obligatory fast and abstinence as follows:

* **Ash Wednesday (Feb 18, 2026)** and **Good Friday (April 3, 2026)** are days of abstinence (refraining from meat) for all Catholics from age *14 onwards*. On these two days, fast, as well as abstinence, is also obligatory for those from the *ages of 18-59*. Abstinence means refraining from meat. Fast means one full meal a day, with two smaller meals and nothing between meals (liquids are permitted). No Catholic will lightly excuse himself or herself from this obligation.

* **All Fridays in Lent** are days of *abstinence* from meat. Here again Catholics will not hold themselves lightly excused, but if there is a serious health problem, this obligation would not apply.

* We should strive to make all days of Lent a time of prayer and penance.

As the Holy Father noted in his address, “I invite everyone to make next Feb 18, Ash Wednesday, a day of fasting for peace. I encourage believers in a special way to devote themselves intensely to prayer and fasting on that day. May the Queen of Peace preserve the world from the madness of war.”

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Holy Father's Intention for February:

For vocations to the priesthood and religious life

Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.

Going the Extra Mile:

In today's Gospel we hear some of Jesus' bold proclamations to the people of Israel which are still applicable to us 2000 years later. Jesus says "You have heard what was said to those of ancient times ... but I say to you..." He challenges his followers to go above and beyond their limits of charity and to not settle for their old previous notions of what it meant to love.

This is an important lesson for us as stewards who strive to follow Christ and serve Him and the Church. We should not just offer our gifts to our parish community in a mediocre way, but strive to do so as generously as possible. Cardinal Collins in his Pastoral Letter on Stewardship* says that "as good stewards, we are meant to use God's gift fruitfully and creatively, so that with true gratitude for what we have received we may return God's gifts to Him with increase." The key word in the Cardinal's exhortation is "increase."

How often do we go the extra mile in our sharing of our time and talent? How often do we surpass our comfortable notions of how much we want to love? Jesus is asking all of His stewards to give of themselves generously. Perhaps we can try to take a little more time this week for prayer and commit more wholeheartedly to the ministries we are involved in. Let us always strive to be better and remember the words of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI who said, "You were not made for comfort. You were made for greatness."

Summary: In today's Gospel Jesus boldly says "You have heard what was said to those of ancient times ... but I say to you..." He challenges his followers to go above and beyond their limits of charity and to not settle for their old previous notions of what it meant to love. As stewards we should not just offer our gifts of our time and talents to our parish community in a mediocre way, but strive to do so as generously as possible.

Second Collection:

* We will have a Second Collection on Wednesday (Feb 18, 2026) for Church in Central and Eastern Europe. **Please be prepared!**

* We have a Second Collection for Black and Indian Missions on next Sunday (Feb 22, 2026). **Please be prepared.**



Parish Council:

Mr. Lawrence Dao
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Finance Council:

Mrs. Thuong Hoai Nguyen
314.691.6508

Children Religious Education:

Sr. Mary Hanh Nguyen, LHC
314.736.9337

Liturgy Committee:

Mr. Hung Bui: 314.783.7266

Offering for Feb 08, 2026

Total Sum. Collection \$4,775.00

Capital Improvement	\$ 335.00
World Market	\$ 400.00

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time:

You have heard God's commandments. Keep them and pass them on. Nurturing the faith is part of the Christian vocation.

Vocation Office at
(603) 663-0196 or email:
csmartel@rcbm.org

Resurrection Our Lord Church

3900 Meramec St. St. Louis, MO 63116
Tel: 314-832-7023; Fax: 832-7024
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**Emergency Only: Fr. Francis 202-368-6828;
Fr. Peter 773-888-3088
Fr. Francis X. Binh Thanh Nguyen SVD, Pastor
Fr. Peter Son Le, SVD, Parochial Vicar**

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Baptism: Arrangements must be made one week in advance.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sunday from 8:30 am to 9:00 am or by appointment.

Marriage: Arrangements must be made at least 6 months prior to plan date of wedding.

Mass Schedule & Mass Intentions

Sun 2/15: * Dominic and Maria by Hong Thanh family
* Maria Than Nguyen by family

Mon 2/16: * Thanksgiving, all souls & intention by 1 person

Tues 2/17: * Thanksgiving by Lap Sam family

Wed 2/18: * Lh Lieu Vo & Thuc Huynh by Chi Nguyen

Thurs 2/19: * Thanksgiving by Luan Bui family

Fri 2/20: * Maria, Mattha & ancestors both sides by Khiet Loan

*Peter, thanksgiving & peace for family by Cao Phuong

Sat 2/21: * Thanksgiving by Lensi & Thuy Bui

* Theresa by 1 person