



## Our Lady of Sorrows

Traditional Catholic Mission Central Texas

### **Upcoming Mass Details:**

Sunday, February 22, 2026

Confession 4:30pm – Mass 5:30pm

Courtyard by Marriott Austin Dripping Springs – Meeting Room #2

1002 Rob Shelton Blvd, Dripping Springs, TX 78620

### **Contact information:**

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### **Announcements**

- Ash Wednesday is a day of Fast and full Abstinence from meat. All over the age of seven are bound to abstain from meat on this day. Those aged 21-59 are bound to the Church's laws of Fasting for Ash Wednesday and all the days of Lent, excluding Sundays.
- Fasting is defined as having only one meal per day, with two small collations, which added together do not add up to the size of the main meal. Meat may be only taken at the main meal of the day, for those bound to the fasting.
- Ashes will be imposed after Mass next Sunday.

### **Note From Father**

Dear Faithful,

It seems like just the other day, we knelt and gazed upon the cherubic face of Infant Jesus in the crib on Christmas day. However, Christmas season has been over since the beginning of the month and now we prepare for the start of Lent, beginning this Wednesday.

The prior day to Ash Wednesday is known as Shrove Tuesday, as it was traditionally a day many would go to confession to have their sins “shriven”, i.e. forgiven. Additionally, it is the feast of the Holy Face and we use this day to shift our gaze back to the face of Our Lord. No longer, though, do we see the sweet angelic face of child, as we did at the Nativity. Now we gaze upon the visage which has been wounded for our sins, as is miraculously preserved upon St. Veronica's veil.

Christ's innocent face was bruised, buffeted, and spit upon as if He were a common criminal...while we, the sinners responsible look in the mirror and see ourselves unblemished. Well, this only lasts one day further until we willingly mark ourselves with the ashes of a sinner and let all gaze upon our humiliated state. This is right and just. And the ashes are meant to represent our interior spirit for the duration of Lent...that we know our sins and we make reparation for them by our sacrifices and fasts. So, as we begin our Lent, gaze upon the Holy Face of Christ and see what we have done. Gaze in the mirror after putting on ashes and see what we are. And when your sacrifice becomes weighty as lent progresses along, reflect to what you have observed, so you may be reminded and encouraged to continue faithfully on with the sacrifices you are making.

Do this, and you will be sure to have a grace filled Lent which bears many spiritual fruits for you and advances you along the way of perfection.

In Christ, *Fr. Stephen McKenna*

**Prayer to the Holy Face**  
*(Composed by St. Therese)*

O Jesus, Who in Thy cruel Passion didst become "reproach of men and the Man of Sorrows", I worship Thy divine Face. Once It shone with the beauty and sweetness of the Divinity; now for my sake It is become as the face of a "leper!" Yet in that disfigured Countenance I recognize Thy Infinite Love, and I am consumed with the desire of loving Thee and of making Thee loved by all mankind.

The Tears that streamed in such abundance from Thy Eyes, are to me as precious pearls which I delight to gather, that with their infinite worth I may ransom the souls of poor sinners.

O Jesus, Whose Face is the sole beauty that ravishes my heart, I may not behold here upon earth the sweetness of Thy Glance, nor feel the ineffable tenderness of Thy Kiss.

I bow to Thy Will--but I pray Thee to imprint in me Thy divine Likeness, and I implore Thee to so inflame me with Thy Love, that it may quickly consume me, and that I may soon reach the Vision of Thy glorious Face in Heaven! Amen.

*(Indulgence 300 days each time-- Plus X, 1906)*

**Act of Reparation to the Holy Face**

I adore and praise Thee, O my divine Jesus, Son of the living God, and I desire to make satisfaction for all the outrages which I, the most miserable of Thy creatures, have offered Thee in all the members of Thy Blessed Body, and particularly in Thy adorable Face.

Hail, worshipful Face, disfigured by spittle and hardly to be recognized through the cruel treatment which Thou didst receive from the impious Jews.

I salute Thee, O Blessed Eyes, all bathed in tears, which Thou didst shed for our salvation.

I salute Thee, O Blessed Ears, assailed by blasphemies, insults, and cruel mockeries.

I salute Thee, O Blessed Mouth, filled with graces and tenderness for poor sinners, but embittered with vinegar and gall by the monstrous ingratitude of that people whom Thou didst choose from among all nations.

In reparation for all these ignominies, I offer Thee all the homage which is given Thee in that holy place where Thou art pleased to be honored with a special worship, uniting myself therewith.

At the sight of Thy Most Holy Face dear Jesus, so disfigured by bruises, I cry out with St. Augustine: "Lord Jesus impress upon my heart Thy sacred wounds, that I may read therein at once Thy sorrow and Thy love; Thy sorrow, in order to suffer every affliction for Thee".

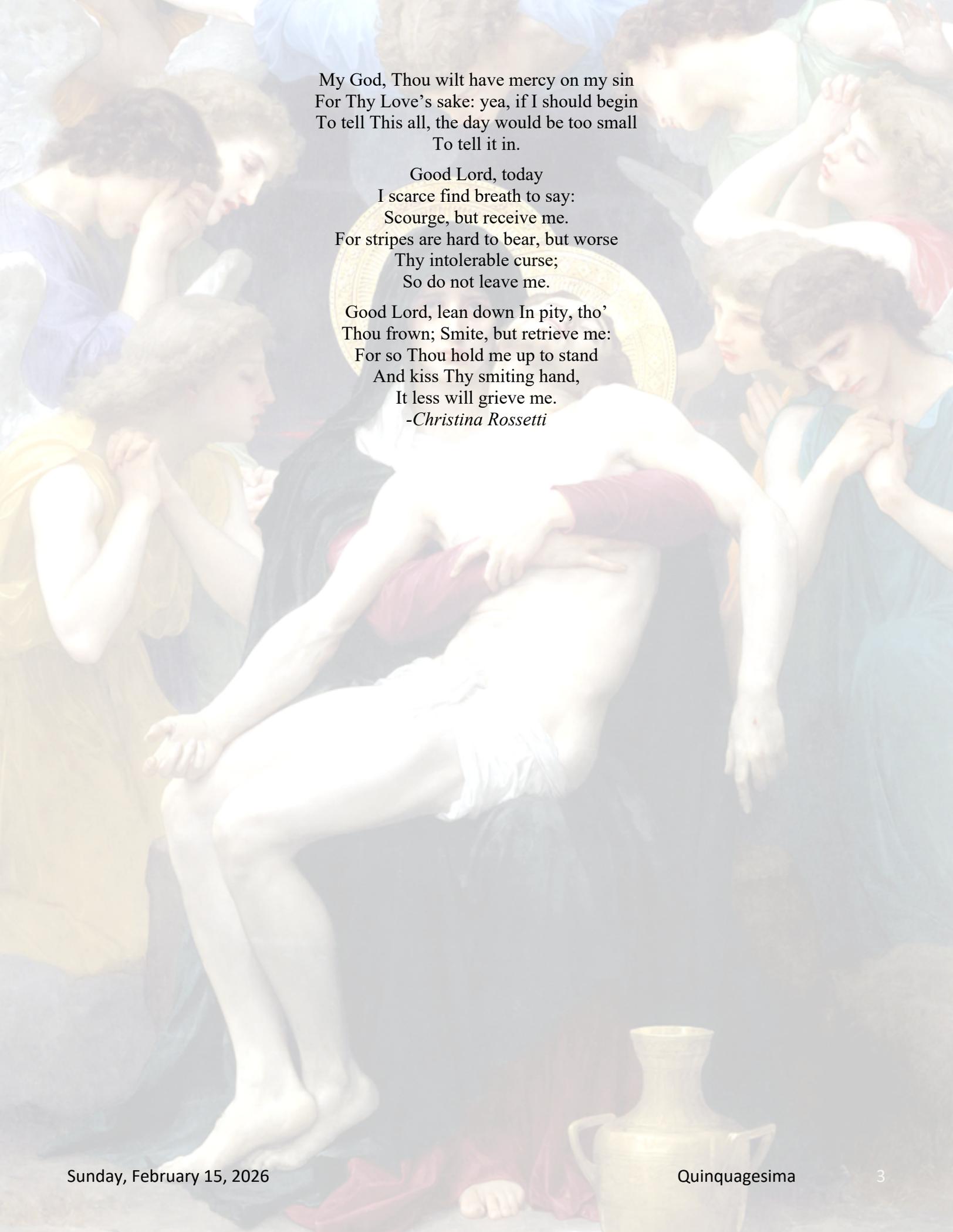
O sorrowful Jesus, when casting ourselves before Thy Adorable Face to ask Thee for the graces of which we have need, we ask Thee above all to order the interior features of our souls that we may never refuse Thee aught that Thou Thyself desirest of us through Thy holy commandments.

Praise be to Thee, O Jesus Christ, for the most Sacred Grief of Thy Adorable Face. By this Sacred Grief and by Thy most Sacred Passion pardon all the sins I have committed against Thee, in thought, word, and deed, and all negligence in Thy service, and all sensuality for which I have been to blame whether asleep or awake.

Grant that I may be able to recall with devotion Thy most pitiful pains suffered in Thy Sacred Face. Grant me the grace to mortify my body, and so to offer a pledge of my gratitude to Thee, Who livest and reignest forever and ever. Amen.

**Ash Wednesday**

My God, my God, have mercy on my sin,  
For it is great; and if I should begin  
To tell it all, the day would be too small  
To tell it in.



My God, Thou wilt have mercy on my sin  
For Thy Love's sake: yea, if I should begin  
To tell This all, the day would be too small  
To tell it in.

Good Lord, today  
I scarce find breath to say:  
Scourge, but receive me.  
For stripes are hard to bear, but worse  
Thy intolerable curse;  
So do not leave me.

Good Lord, lean down In pity, tho'  
Thou frown; Smite, but retrieve me:  
For so Thou hold me up to stand  
And kiss Thy smiting hand,  
It less will grieve me.

*-Christina Rossetti*