

**FOR THE WEEKEND OF FEBRUARY 6 - 7, 2021**

UPDATED | Super Bowl Weekend

**Gospel reading**

Mark 1:29-39

On leaving the synagogue

Jesus entered the house of Simon and Andrew with James and John.

Simon’s mother-in-law lay sick with a fever.

They immediately told him about her.

He approached, grasped her hand, and helped her up.

Then the fever left her and she waited on them.

When it was evening, after sunset,

they brought to him all who were ill or possessed by demons.

The whole town was gathered at the door.

He cured many who were sick with various diseases,

and he drove out many demons,

not permitting them to speak because they knew him.

Rising very early before dawn, he left

and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed.

Simon and those who were with him pursued him

and on finding him said, “Everyone is looking for you.”

He told them, “Let us go on to the nearby villages

that I may preach there also.

For this purpose have I come.”

So he went into their synagogues,

preaching and driving out demons throughout the whole of Galilee.

**Responsorial Psalm**

Psalm 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6

R. (cf. 3a) Praise the Lord, who heals the brokenhearted.

or:

R. Alleluia.

Praise the LORD, for he is good;

 sing praise to our God, for he is gracious;

 it is fitting to praise him.

The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem;

 the dispersed of Israel he gathers.

R. Praise the Lord, who heals the brokenhearted.

or:

R. Alleluia.

He heals the brokenhearted

 and binds up their wounds.

He tells the number of the stars;

 he calls each by name.

R. Praise the Lord, who heals the brokenhearted.

or:

R. Alleluia.

Great is our Lord and mighty in power;

 to his wisdom there is no limit.

The LORD sustains the lowly;

 the wicked he casts to the ground.

R. Praise the Lord, who heals the brokenhearted.

or:

R. Alleluia.

**Homily helper / connection to cultural events this weekend (Super Bowl)**

* Super Bowl Sunday – the quarterback usually gets all the credit. But it takes everyone working on that team to achieve success. Right now, we’re all working together to advance the mission of the church and minister to those around us. We’re a team and we’re unified in our goals of spreading Christ’s love to our neighborhood.
* One way that we advance the mission of the church is through all the ministries, programs and services we do around the diocese. We take care of the poor and hungry, we defend the unborn and we support programs for youth, young adults, married couples and the elderly.
* The Annual Diocesan Appeal is how we fund all those programs. And because of your support, I often get to look like the hero quarterback when our parish gives generously. So thank you for that… 😊

**Intercession**

For the lonely and the sick, that they are comforted by the ministries who serve them through the Annual Diocesan Appeal.

For all of those working in healthcare, we are grateful for their wisdom, patience and endurance. We pray that they remain safe.

**Copy for bulletin announcement**

It’s Super Bowl Sunday! The NFL is inviting approximately 7,500 vaccinated healthcare workers to tonight’s Super Bowl game to thank and honor them for their service during the pandemic.

A day like today should help to remind us to be thankful for our health. It is until we are unwell that we remember that having a health body and food to nourish it is so important. Let’s remember that without God and all He gives us and all the blessings we have, we need to thank him. A lot. So remember, when the game is on the line and you need this touchdown or last-second field-goal, and you’re praying to God that they make it, pray for the health of the teams and thank him for ALL your blessings too.

And thank you for your participation in the Annual Diocesan Appeal. It’s the Super Bowl of the Bishop’s mission to serve his flock.

**Copy for pulpit announcement**

Today is the NFL Super Bowl. Enjoy the game and the time with family and friends. Be sure to complete your pledge card for the Bishop’s Super Bowl, the Annual Diocesan Appeal. Be sure to do your part in helping those in our diocese who need it most.

**Social media post/content**

Photo: Superbowl Sunday

Copy: “It’s been a difficult year. Enjoy you day of rest, and know that we appreciate you.”