

## RITE OF ELECTION OF CATECHUMENS

Will be on Sunday, February 22, 2026 at the Cathedral of the most Holy Trinity beginning at 3:30pm. Please support our Catechumens if you can.

## ASH WEDNESDAY

On Ash Wednesday, February 18th there will be one Mass at 8:00am. Immediately following the Mass there will be Moments of Reflection. Please try and attend Mass and the Moments of Reflection after as we begin our Lenten journey.



## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will be prayed every Friday during Lent, immediately following the 6:00pm Mass. Do make an effort to attend Mass and Stations of the Cross. The following Ministries have been asked to lead the Stations of the Cross:

Ministry	Date
CWL	Friday, February 20th
Men's Fellowship & Ushers	Friday, February 27th
Choir, Steelband & Rosary Group	Friday, March 6th
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion & Readers	Friday, March 13th
Altar Servers, Youth & Children's Faith Formation	Friday, March 20th
SVDP, Outreach, Prison (Male & Female) & Street Feeding	Friday, March 27th

## ASH WEDNESDAY DISCOVERY BAY

Fr. Richard will celebrate Mass at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Discovery Bay on Ash Wednesday, February 18th. Parishioners who would like to join him may do so. Those who intend to go and can offer transportation by car pooling, please let the office know so we can arrange for those who need transportation.

## LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR

There will be a Life in the Spirit Seminar here at Stella Maris every Sunday starting on February 22nd—Sunday, March 29th at 4:00pm-6:00pm in the church. Registration will be online at the following link: <https://submit.jotform.com/250728305334049>. Make this a part of your Lenten journey.

# *Stella Maris Church Community*

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**Pastor: Rev. Fr. Richard Brown  
Associate Pastor: Fr. Jude Akagha  
Deacon: Mark Hitchener**

**Church Council Chair : David DeMorasse  
Finance Chairperson : Neville LynFatt**

**MASS TIMES: Sunday 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m.  
Tuesday – Saturday 6:00 p.m.**

**RECONCILIATION: Appointment/Announced**

## *Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*



**Year A - February 15, 2026**

## *Today's Readings*

**1st Reading:** Sir. 15:15-20  
**2nd Reading:** 1 Cor. 2: 6-10  
**Gospel Reading:** Mt. 5:17-37



**Response:** They are happy who follow God's law and seek Him with all their hearts.

## Reflection

In today's Gospel, Jesus speaks words that are both reassuring and challenging. He tells us clearly that he has not come to abolish the Law given through Moses, but to bring it to its fullness. In other words, God's Law is not discarded; it is deepened, purified, and perfected in the person of Jesus.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Matthew presents a series of teachings in which Jesus boldly says, "You have heard it said...but I say to you." With these words, Jesus reveals his divine authority and invites us to move beyond a merely legal or external obedience. Faith, for Jesus, is not about doing the bare minimum to avoid sin; it is about allowing God to transform the human heart.

Jesus addresses everyday realities: anger, desire, broken relationships, and honesty in speech. He teaches that it is not enough to avoid violence—we must seek reconciliation and uproot resentment from our hearts. It is not enough to avoid immoral actions—we are called to purity of heart and intention. It is not enough to follow social or legal customs—we must honour the sacredness of commitment and the dignity of persons. And it is not enough to speak truth only when bound by an oath—we are called to be people whose words are always trustworthy.

These teachings are demanding, but they are also life-giving. Jesus is not placing heavy burdens on us; he is showing us the path to authentic freedom and deeper love. As a Stella Maris community, we are invited this week to reflect honestly: where is God calling me to go beyond the letter of the law and live its spirit? In Christ, the Law becomes not a burden, but a way of love.

**Fr. Richard Brown**



# Happy Birthday

### 15th February

Locksley Robinson♦ Ashley O'Sullivan♦

Patricia Elliott♦

### 16th February

Carole Jean Sinclair♦ Christopher Burgess♦

Christopher Henry♦ Wendy McMaster♦

Dennis Oliver♦ Jade Rattray♦ Ann Astwood♦

### 17th February

Gillian Bernard♦

### 18th February

Alexander Benjamin♦ Zanema Brennan♦

Charmian Lawson♦ Julia Smith♦ Matthew Wan♦

Gerard Whyte♦

### 19th February

Denise Eastwood♦ Mario Frank♦ Leah Goldson♦

### 20th February

Leah Azan♦ Donna deMoya♦

Jordan Peart♦ Nadia Sharp♦

### 21st February

Danielle Brown♦ Patricia Davidson♦ Sean Mills♦

Michael Williams♦

### 16th February

❖ Ricardo & LeAnn Dacosta

### 18th February

❖ Edmund & Anne Marie Thomas

### 20th February

❖ Andrew & Susan Davis

❖ Peter & Claudine Shoucair

### 21st February

❖ Vaughn & Jannine Murphy



**Fund Raiser Tickets may be purchased from the church office or any member of the Steel Band.**

### BIBLE DIARIES 2026

Are available from the Ushers at a cost of \$1,200.00 per copy.