



# THE FONT

JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2018

FOSTERING CONNECTIONS WITHIN THE ORDER OF SAINT LUKE

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## FROM THE ABBOT'S DESK

By the time you are reading this, Advent will be over, Christmas celebrated, and Epiphany upon us. I love the celebration of the Epiphany. I love the arrival of the Magi, reminding us that the Incarnate Love of God came for all people, not just for a few. I love the extravagant gifts, not chosen for practicality, but as pointers to the future – a future of great love and great



Sr. Abbot  
Elizabeth Moore

terror, a future of weeping and of uncontainable love. But most of all, I love the image of light breaking through.

On the third Sunday of Advent, we heard these words from the first chapter of John's gospel:

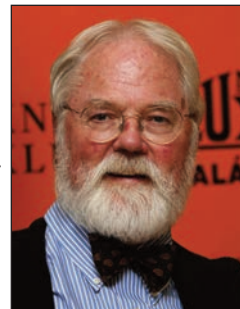
<sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup> He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. (NRSV)

Those verses from John remind me of a story that I heard a number of years ago, attributed to the author Robert Fulghum, as told to him by a friend:

"When I was a small child," his friend said. "I found the broken pieces of a mirror. I kept only the largest piece. And by scratching it on a stone, I made it round. I began to play with it as a toy and became fascinated by the fact that I could reflect light into dark places where the sun would never shine.

into the most inaccessible places I could find... As I became a man, I grew to understand that this was a metaphor for what I might do with my life.

"I came to understand that I am not the light or the source of light. But light - truth, understanding, and knowledge – is there, and it will only shine in many dark places if I reflect it."



Robert Fulghum

John came as a witness to testify to the light. Not to be the light. Not to be the center of attention himself. He came, like that broken piece of mirror, to reflect the light, so that others – even those held in very dark places – might receive the message of love, of compassion, of a demand for justice that Jesus brought to the world.

Every one of us shares John's calling. We are pieces of a mirror that that can reflect the light of Christ to a hurting world. We live in a painful reality. The world today is filled with a whole lot of darkness. But you and I, brothers and sisters, hold to the apostolic hope that the light will overcome the darkness. That hope is what affirms that our future will be illuminated by the unquenchable light of God's love.

In the upcoming publication, *A Lukan Book of Feasts and Holy Days*, we celebrate Epiphany with a prayer drawn from Ambrose of Milan's commentary on Psalm 43:

"It became a game for me to get light

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## IN THE COMMUNION OF THE SAINTS

Br. Robert Schall, OSL  
bhagwon@earthlink.net

Faith communities have frequently kept necrologies of those saints who have gone before us. In this manner The Order of Saint Luke remembers these sisters and brothers:

January 2 Br. John R. Miller (2010) West Virginia

January 3 Br. Bill Kintner (2016) California

January 17 Martha Hickman (2015) Tennessee

January 29 Br. Don Brown (2013) New Jersey (former president)

February 13 Br. Robert N. Terry (2012) New York

February 20 Br. Stanley Winter (2014) Ohio

February 20 Br. Rog Baker (2017) Virginia

February 27 Br. Forest Shue (2007) New Jersey

A request: If you or your chapter are aware of other deceased members of the Order, I'd be grateful if you could send information to me at bhagwon@earthlink.net so that they may be included in the list of siblings for whom we give thanks to God.

## ABBOT'S DESK

Continued from Page 1

*Christ Jesus,  
come anew, dispelling the  
darkness.  
Contemplate in us, as in the magi  
of old,  
the mysteries of God.  
Fill us with the light of faith,  
guiding our actions and  
affections  
with the brightness of your love.  
Amen.*

Fill us. Guide us. Let your light  
shine in our hearts.

Under God's Mystery,  
Sr. Abbot Elizabeth

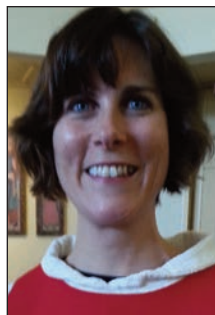


## FROM THE PROVINCIAL GENERAL

Sr. Heather Josselyn-Cranson, hjosselyn@hotmail.com

Where did you first encounter the  
Order of Saint Luke?

For many of us, that encounter came while at seminary. And this makes sense: folks who attend seminary are generally eager to follow God, interested in the workings of spirituality, moved by the flow of worship, and desirous of ways to link their faith to the world.



Sr. Heather  
Josselyn-Cranson

While the Order of Saint Luke is not a United Methodist institution, it does have Methodist roots. And there have historically been chapters of the Order of Saint Luke at many of our UMC seminaries: Boston University, Garrett Evangelical, Candler, Perkins, and others. Not all seminar-ians, just as not all people of faith, find a home in the Order, but those that do are grateful for the chance to join this collection of theologians, pastors, poets, musicians, seekers,

and pray-ers.

During my first semester studying sacred music at Boston University School of Theology, I noticed fliers for a monthly time of worship and potluck (what more enticing words could there be?) hosted by the BU chapter of OSL. I didn't know anything about the Order, but I had been in small groups before and craved some of that accountability. Plus, I liked potluck and worship! This brought me to my first OSL meeting in a tiny chapel of the seminary. We chanted and prayed together. I participated, for the first time, in a eucharist celebrated by someone who clearly loved that ritual. We shared the body and blood of Christ, and then some casseroles, salad, cheese, and dessert. The members of the Order that I met were funny and faithful, passionate about worship and supportive of one another. I felt honored and humbled to be a part of their gatherings and their fellowship. And they helped me voice my growing interest in worship and spirituality.

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## FROM THE PRIOR GENERAL

Br. George Crisp, OSL  
Email: revgrc@yahoo.com



Br. George  
Crisp

Blessings to all my sisters and brothers as we observe Epiphany and move forward into the season that continually reveals the manifestation of the Christ.

paten given to the recipient. (If the recipient is not someone seeking ordination, an alternative gift of a ceramic bowl can be provided.)

### 2018 Spring Council Meeting

The meeting dates for the 2018 Spring Council of the General Chapter are set for May 14-18, 2018 at St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center, 148 Monastery Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15203. These dates include the next meeting of the Daily Office Revision Team (DORT).

In addition to the elected officers of the General Chapter, the Council consists of appointed officers and chapter priors (or representatives). Chapters are encouraged to provide financial assistance so that chapter priors may attend. The Order also provides limited financial assistance in accordance with our reimbursement policy.

### 2018 Retreat

This year's retreat is scheduled for October 15-18, 2018 at St. Paul of the Cross in Pittsburgh. Our guest speaker will be Sr. Heather Josselyn-Cranson, our Provincial General. She will help us explore "The Music of the Church," possibly with a focus on music and healing. Later in the year, Sr. Heather may conduct a survey of retreat attendees pertaining to her topic. Be sure to read her 2016 book *The Reason Why We Sing* (published by OSL Publications).

The retreat may also celebrate the publication of *The Lukan Book of Feasts and Holy Days*.

This is the perfect time to set aside some of your continuing education funds, professional business expenses, or personal savings for this retreat. More details will be forthcoming in future issues of The Font.

### The Hickman Award

In early February, letters will be sent out to the 17 seminaries that present the Hoyt L. Hickman Award on behalf of the Order. The award, in honor of our late brother, is presented to a graduating senior who has shown exceptional ability in liturgical scholarship and/or exceptional ability in leading worship.

The Hickman Award we offer comes with a certificate and the gift of a handmade ceramic chalice and

## PROVINCIAL GENERAL

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There is currently only one chapter of the Order at a United Methodist seminary: at Perkins, on the campus of Southern Methodist University. Seminary chapters are challenging, given the way students tend to graduate and move on. Yet seminary chapters extend an invitation to people who may find the Order both personally fulfilling and vocationally beneficial.

Do you live near a United Methodist seminary – or a seminary of any denomination, for that matter? Might you be willing to introduce yourself to members of the faculty or administration there? Many of us have joked that the Order of Saint

Luke is well-kept secret. It is time for us as an Order to stop keeping this secret.



## PASTORAL CARE

This issue's report is brief because our Pastoral Care Officer, **Br. David Eichelberger**, is himself in need of healing prayers as he recovers from the flu that seems to be going around the country! Also recovering is **Br. Terry Heislen** of Trinity Chapter in North Texas.

**Br. Canon Brent and Sr. Meredith Sturm** became grandparents for the first time, welcoming granddaughter Amelia Grayce Sturm to their family. Look for photos on Facebook!

Also prayers are requested for **Janet Brown**, spouse of **Br. Jay Brown**, following recent surgery.



## IN MEMORIAM

# Teacher, Mentor and Faithful Disciple, Linda J. Vogel, Dies

By Sr. Cynthia B. Astle  
Font Editor

Ever the Christian educator, Sr. Linda J. Vogel taught her family, friends and colleagues how to die as gracefully as she lived, with complete faith in her Lord and without fear of her final earthly journey. She died Nov. 8, 2017, some six weeks after being diagnosed with an aggressive form of cancer.

Every member of the Order of Saint Luke who had known Sr. Linda personally was stunned when her diagnosis was made known. Dismay at her illness was further heightened by Sr. Linda's decision to forego radical treatment and enter immediately into hospice care.

From that moment, a steady stream of friends and family flowed to the Vogel home at Pilgrim Place in Claremont, Calif. Journal entries on CaringBridge.org, a website for patients and families, documented how Sr. Linda's spouse of 58 years, Br. Dwight Vogel, tried to balance the river of love with Sr. Linda's dwindling strength. The days of her dying served as remembrances of a life of achievement as well as a miraculous time. She died as she had lived, with all-embracing love and grace, with generosity of spirit.

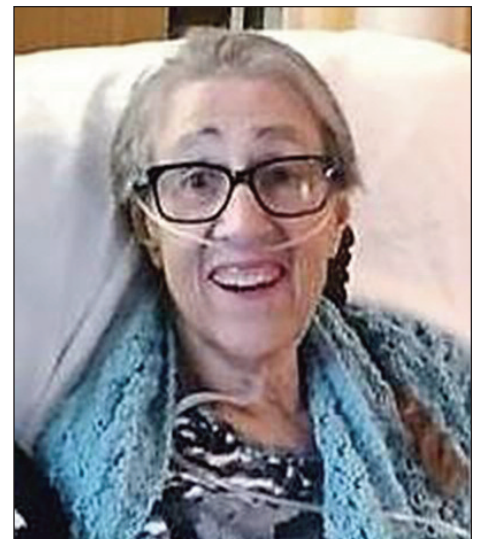
A biography included with her memorial service traced Sr. Linda's life journey that began in 1940. Born into a Santa Fe Railroad family and raised in Topeka, Kansas, Linda Jane Baker was the eldest of three daughters. She graduated from Topeka



Sr. Linda Vogel and her spouse, Br. Dwight Vogel.



Sr. Linda and her beloved Sammie



Even as she traveled her last earthly journey, Sr. Linda's indomitable spirit shined through her illness.



Photo by T. Givens

### Memorial Service Linda J. Vogel

Saturday, Nov 18, 2017, 3:30 p.m.  
Decker Hall, Pilgrim Place  
Claremont, CA

In lieu of flowers Linda and the family request you consider giving to:

LGBTQI youth scholarship

(send checks to Claremont United Methodist Church; memo line: RMN: Linda Vogel Scholarship)

Pilgrim Place fund to assist off-setting costs for residents

(send checks to Pilgrim Place; memo line: Residents Health and Support Fund)

Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary student scholarship

(send checks to Garrett; memo line: Dwight and Linda Vogel Scholarship)

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## IN MEMORIAM

# Teacher, Mentor and Faithful Disciple, Linda J. Vogel, Dies

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High School and, after one year at North Central College in Naperville, Ill., married Dwight Vogel on June 14, 1959. She graduated from Boston University School of Education in 1963. After finishing one year of her master's in Christian education at Andover Newton, they moved to Evanston, Ill., so Dwight could pursue his doctorate at Northwestern University. Linda completed two quarters of study at Garrett Theological Seminary (before it merged with Evangelical) and wrote her thesis with Wesner Fallaw at Andover Newton, graduating from Andover Newton with a Master of Religious Education cum laude in 1964.

### 'Deeply religious'

For her memorial service, her lifelong friend Fr. David Fleming, S.M., wrote from China where he is teaching:

"Linda and I grew up together in Kansas. Both of us have always been deeply religious and educators of many people engaged in religious ministry, she Protestant, myself Roman Catholic. We first started sharing about this life-mission when we were both in our late-twenties, graduate students. Over the years, we have found that the points of convergence are much richer and more numerous than the differences, and we have felt enriched by different insights and angles about God's love for us, his people. We have continued to share in this way over more than 50 years. I am grateful for all I have learned from Linda, and for her constancy in reach-

ing out to today's people."

In September 1965, the Vogels moved to LeMars, Iowa, where they taught at Westmar College. The Vogel family expanded when they adopted their first child (Peter Jonathan) in 1965, became legal guardians for their second but eldest son (Mark Stephen) in 1966, and adopted their daughter (Kristin Deborah) in 1967. During that time Linda taught Christian education, developed a minor in gerontology, and served as director of continuing education, where she was adviser to an increasing number of second-career students. This contributed to her growing interest in religious education for older adults.

During her first sabbatical at the Institute for Ecumenical and Cultural Research at St. John's University in Collegeville, Minnesota, Linda wrote "Helping a Child Understand Death" (Fortress, 1975). Following her sabbatical, Linda commuted to the University of Nebraska-Omaha to complete a graduate specialization in gerontology in 1977. While living in Le Mars, Linda was one of the original organizers of a rural Hospice, one of the first in the country, as well as being one of the original founders and first president of the League of Women Voters there.

The tiny Iowa town of Martelle was the site of Linda's second sabbatical in 1979-80, while she attended the University of Iowa completing a doctorate in adult education/gerontology in 1981. Her second book "The Religious Education of Older Adults"

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## Remembering Sr. Linda

Generous the love,  
fierce the inclusion,  
tender the embrace,  
constant the teaching,  
joyful the marriage,  
prophetic the way,  
unstinting the partnership,  
singular the hope,  
courageous the dying,  
true the heart:

We commend to your care  
merciful God of the universe,  
this Linda,  
this woman,  
wife,  
mother,  
teacher,  
servant-prophet,  
earth-lover.

Even in death's silence,  
she goes on teaching.  
In the Mystery, welcome  
her back to the ground,  
the sky and the waters  
from which she came,  
with which she lived,  
and now, even in death,  
fulfill your purpose for her  
as earth evolves evermore  
into the New Creation  
in Christ. Amen.

Daniel T. Benedict, OSL



## IN MEMORIAM

# Teacher, Mentor and Faithful Disciple, Linda J. Vogel, Dies

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was published by Religious Education Press in 1984. Linda was certified as a diaconal minister in The United Methodist Church and was later ordained deacon. When the Vogels left Westmar College in 1985 after 20 years, they asked for an appointment to a church where they could serve in ministry together.

### 'Rituals for Resurrection'

They were appointed to St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Dubuque, Iowa, where Linda served as minister of education. The tragic death of a young woman in this congregation led to her book "Rituals for Resurrection" in 1996. In 1987, Linda was urged to join the faculty at Garrett-Evangelical Seminary and after a period of discernment, she decided to do so. After a one-year commuter marriage, Dwight left St. Luke's to join Linda in Chicago where he too joined the faculty at Garrett-Evangelical.

During their time at Garrett-Evangelical, the Vogels spent one January traveling with their good friend, Fr. Fleming, in India where he was living. During this trip Linda met Mother Teresa in Calcutta. The power of that experience can still be heard as Linda recounts the 20-minute conversation in which Mother Teresa talked of her ministry and then asked for prayers that she and her sisters "remain faithful and not interfere with God's work."

Dr. Cynthia Holder Rich from Tumaini University in Tanzania remembers that she was the only ordained

pastor in her first class with Linda; other class members were wary of her presence in a space they thought was safe for "educators" who had experienced difficult times with pastors. For Sr. Linda's memorial, she wrote:

"I wondered if I could find a place in that learning community. Linda allayed my fears and helped me, and so many others, to not only find a place but to thrive in attaining our goals of degree completion toward service in a host of contexts. Time and again through my studies I witnessed her standing with those on the margins. Just one example: a course I took was to be held in a room that was not handicapped accessible and there was a student enrolled who got around in a wheelchair. The course was moved, taking a room originally assigned to another class—and that prof was not pleased. He strode in and publicly addressed the student, noting that because of her, his class had to move. When Linda heard of this, she was quietly, visibly angry. She went straight to the Dean and after an apology from the prof was given and received, the first session of that class was on how we are called to model, lead and teach toward authentic inclusion in the body of Christ. We learned from Linda that there are times when the best laid educational plans have to be tossed—that we who are disciples must answer Jesus' call to speak and live the Gospel into the teaching moments that come. I've gone on to teach Christian education to graduate students in Madagascar, Michigan and Tanzania. I share what I learned from Linda—finding ways to draw quiet students out, naming

struggle with the text and the task as important and even sacred, and working to follow her model of sharing grace in each encounter. Linda really had fun in class and that fun was infectious. Anyone watching me teach would recognize Linda's carefully prepared integrative, interactive, effective approaches to education and her striving to make sure all heard and experienced Jesus' all-encompassing love and call to work for peace and justice.

### Shared interests

Deeply held commitments and shared interests led the Vogels to begin a period of joint writing projects. During another sabbatical at the Institute for Ecumenical and Cultural Research, they completed their first book together "Sacramental Living: Falling Stars and Coloring Outside the Lines" (Upper Room, 1999). This was followed by "Syncopated Grace: Times and Seasons with God" (Upper Room, 2002).

Sr. Linda retired in 2003 as professor emerita of Christian education. She and Br. Dwight moved to Pilgrim Place in 2005. She became active in sustainability and ecological stewardship both there and at Claremont United Methodist Church where she was also deeply involved in the work of the Reconciling Ministries committee which advocates for the full inclusion of LGBTQI persons in the church and in society.

Sr. Linda served as Prior of the California-Pacific conference chapter of the Order. Abbot Elizabeth Moore

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## IN MEMORIAM

### Linda J. Vogel Dies

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wrote for her memorial: “How would I describe Sr. Linda Vogel? She has been both a mentor and friend to me. I met her through the Order of Saint Luke, where I had the honor of knowing her as a wise teacher and a source of great encouragement. Watching her with Br. Dwight was an inspiration. They were clearly as in love with each other as they had been fifty years ago. They worked together as a team, each making the other greater than they could have been alone. Linda drew the circle wide, welcoming many people into the warmth of her friendship. As the Order met for its annual retreat last week, Linda’s spirit was strong among us. Tears and memories flowed, as we shared the way she had touched so many of our lives. We were made better by her love.”

At Pilgrim Place, she was a leader in training and placing more than 100 residents as patient advocates who go with another resident to doctor’s appointments and provide support for the health care of persons whose family members may be far away. She has also been a member of the Health Advisory Committee at Pilgrim Place, being a strong supporter of culture change and patient-first approaches to health care.

Sr. Linda selected the following to receive memorial gifts:

- A scholarship program for LGBTQI youth (write checks to Claremont United Methodist Church; memo line: RMN: Linda Vogel Scholarship)

- Pilgrim Place (memo line: Residents Health and Support Fund

- Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary (memo line: Dwight and Linda Vogel Scholarship)

In the program for her memorial service at Pilgrim Place on Nov. 18, 2017, Br. Dwight wrote: “As her devoted life partner, let me thank you. Your care and loving support through cards and messages and personal contact with Linda during the last weeks of her journey not only sustained her but nourished her spirit with your affirmations of how important she had been to you and how your lives are different because of her. I am convinced that the vitality of her last weeks, which lasted until the final three days, was due to the waves of love and appreciation from you that washed over her.

“You told us how important her commitment to transformative teaching and learning were to your journey, how her radical inclusive hospitality included all God’s children, especially those who were being marginalized by church or society, how peace without justice is empty, how hope is a decision, and how the web of grace connects everything in the cosmos and calls us to live out the implications of that interconnectedness.

“Linda embodied the commitments of Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary that faith matters, truth matters, and justice matters. As you incarnate those values in these days when all three are threatened, you will incarnate her spirit and live out in gratitude the gift she has given all of us by her presence in our lives.”



### Perkins Chapter bakes gluten-free bread

The Perkins Chapter of the Order of Saint Luke recently enjoyed a gluten-free bread baking event (see photo below), reports Br. Mark Stamm, past abbot and chapter sponsor at the seminary. “In Perkins Chapel this fall, we’ve been using a recipe developed by Br. Geoffrey Moore as part of his ‘A Ministry of Congregation Singing and Worship,’ Br. Mark wrote on Facebook. “The bread passes the two major tests—it holds together fairly well when dipped for intinction, and yes, it tastes good. Chapter Prior Sr. Heather Gottas has been doing most of the baking, so we decided that we needed to widen the circle of bakers, both to let others in on the fun and more, to encourage the continuation of the practice.”



# THE ORDO

Prepared by Br. Jack Fahey, OSL

## JANUARY

<b>M</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>The Holy Name of Jesus W</b>
T	2	W/G*
W	3	Gilbert Haven W/G*
T	4	John Seybert W/G*
<b>F</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Eve of Epiphany (traditional) W</b>
<b>S</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>The Epiphany (traditiona) W or G/W*</b> <b>Eve of Baptism of the Lord W</b>
<b>S</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Baptism of the Lord W</b>
M	8	Richard Watson G
T	9	G
W	10	James Varick G
T	11	G
F	12	G
S	13	George Fox G
<b>S</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>2nd Sunday after Epiphany G</b>
M	15	Martin Luther King Jr. G
T	16	Hiram Rhoades Revels G
W	17	Antony of Egypt G
<b>T</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>The Confession of Peter W</b>
F	19	Pseudo-Macarius; John Ernest Rattenbury G
S	20	G
<b>S</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>3rd Sunday after Epiphany G</b>
M	22	G
T	23	Sarah Ann Dickey G
W	24	Eli Stanley Jones G
<b>T</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>The Conversion of Paul W</b>
F	26	Timothy and Titus G
S	27	John Chrysostom G
<b>S</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>4th Sunday after Epiphany G</b>
M	29	G
T	30	G
W	31	John Raleigh Mott G

## FEBRUARY

T	1	Brigid of Kildare G
		<b>Eve of the Presentation W</b>
<b>W</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>The Presentation W</b>
S	3	Ansgar G
<b>S</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5th Sunday after Epiphany G</b>
M	5	Philipp Jacob Spener G
T	6	G
W	7	G
T	8	G
F	9	Hugh Price Hughes G
S	10	G
		<b>Eve of the Transfiguration W</b>
<b>S</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>Transfiguration of the Lord W</b>
M	12	G
T	13	Absalom Jones
<b>W</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>Ash Wednesday P</b>
T	15	P
F	16	P
S	17	Frances Elizabeth Caroline Willard
<b>S</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>1st Sunday in Lent P</b>
M	19	P
T	20	Frederick Douglass P
W	21	Ezekiel Cooper P
T	22	Kanichi Miyama P
F	23	Polycarp P
<b>S</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>Matthias R PM-P</b>
<b>S</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>2nd Sunday in Lent P</b>
M	26	Romey Pitt Marshall, OSL P
T	27	George Herbert; Fred McFeeley Rogers P
W	28	P

**Notes on The Ordo:** All Sundays, Solemnities and Feasts are in bold type and followed by the proper liturgical color for the day or part of the day. Commemorations are noted but the seasonal color is kept. Those who wish to solemnize a particular commemoration should use Red for martyrs and Holy Cross Day and White for all others. The color code is: W - White, R - Red, B - Blue, P - Purple, G - Green. Gold may be substituted for White.