

**SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

# St. Stephen's Catholic Parish

FEBRUARY 27-28, 2021

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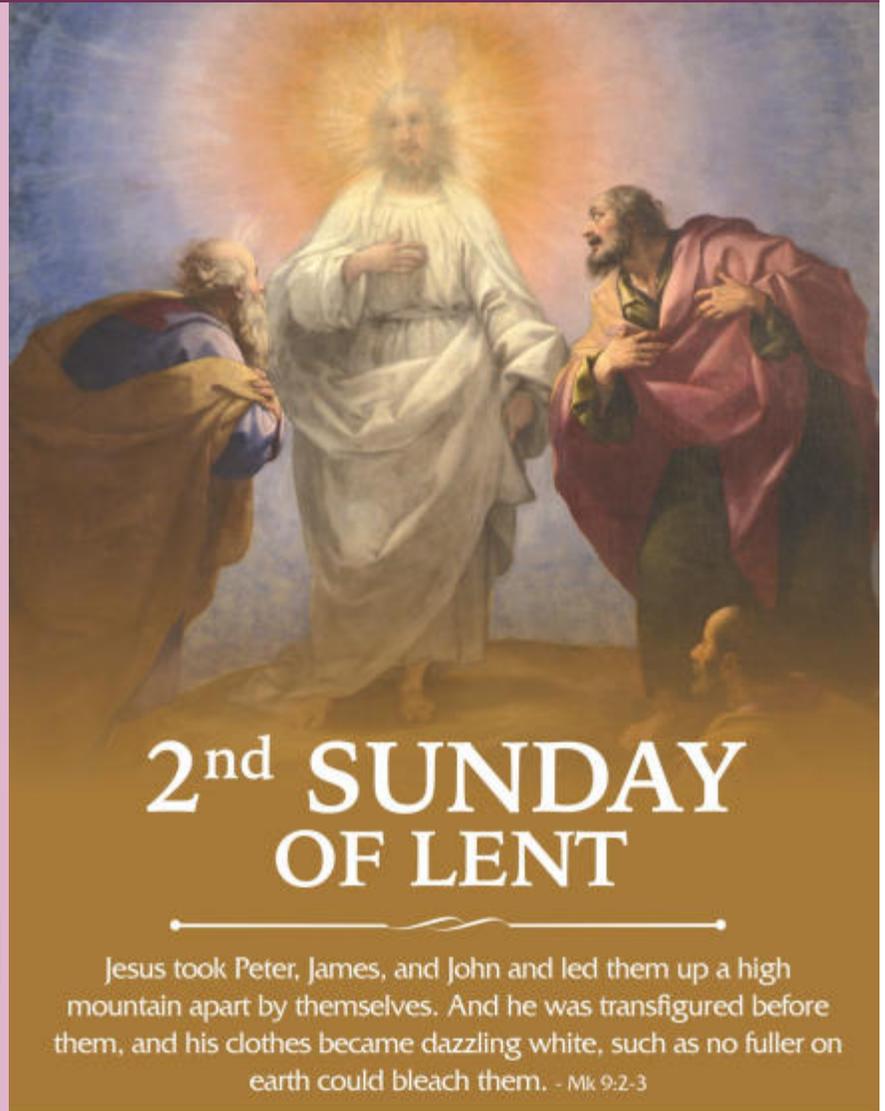
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## 2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. - Mk 9:2-3

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.



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# MASS INTENTIONS

## 2nd Week of Lent

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27th**

8:00am-8:45am - Confessions

9:00am - Holy Mass

4:00pm-4:45pm - Confessions

5:00pm - (+) Vickie Cartwright

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28th**

8:00am-8:45am - Confessions

9:00am - For the People of the Parish

*\*Confessions 30 minutes before each daily mass*

**MONDAY, MARCH 1st**

- No Mass at St. Stephen's

**TUESDAY, MARCH 2nd**

-5:30pm - Holy Mass

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3rd**

+St. Katharine Drexel+

-8:00am - Ruth Esselman Nielsen

**THURSDAY, MARCH 4th**

+St. Casimir+

-7:00am - Holy Mass

**FRIDAY, MARCH 5th**

-8:00am - Audrey & Alan Ciochon

-5:30pm - Stations of the Cross

## 3rd Week of Lent

**SATURDAY, MARCH 6th**

8:00am-8:45am - Confessions

+Sacred Heart Devotion+

9:00am - Frank & Margaret Wellnitz

4:00pm-4:45pm - Confessions

5:00pm - (+) For the People of the Parish

**SUNDAY, MARCH 7th**

8:00am-8:45am - Confessions

9:00am - Fred Hildebrandt

## WEDNESDAYS

**Eucharistic Adoration**

6:00—8:00 p.m.

Benediction ~7:50 p.m.



Dear Friends of St. Stephen's,

"This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." (Mark 9:7) Sunday's Gospel presents the great scene of the Transfiguration and a glimpse of the glory that God has prepared for us in His salvific plan. As we persevere in our Lenten penances, he continues to prepare us for a fuller experience of the joys of Easter and, in a more eternal outlook, the glories of heaven. He highlights two necessary elements for this - our dignity as children of God and our need to listen.

We live in a world that is full of noise. In our homes, cars, headphones, and from many other sources. Some of these sounds are quite pleasant and remind us of the beauty of creation or the gifts man has been endowed with by his Creator. I believe there are many that are looking forward to the return of more singing and the beauty of many voices united as one in praise of God (hopefully soon!). But as we continue to journey through this time of Lent, let us focus on those periods of silence in our lives and how they provide us the opportunity to "listen to him," and how God is trying to communicate with us.

Silence is not simply the absence of noise—the more we create that opportunity of space in our day, the more we invite God to fill that space and be in relation with us. Cardinal Sarah in a recent book stated, "silence is the language of God." "At the heart of man there is an innate silence, for God abides in the innermost part of every person. God is silence, and this divine silence dwells in man. [...] If we do not cultivate this silence how can we find God?" Now, this doesn't mean we are all called to be hermits, but it does help us to reflect on the importance of silence in our daily lives.

One place that the Church also recommends we enter more into this silence is with regard to the sacred liturgy. The General Instruction of the Roman Missal (helpful instruction for how all Catholics are to celebrate) mentions 6 occasions regarding Mass where silence can help us to listen, prepare, and enter more into the celebration of the rite. "Sacred silence also, as part of the celebration, is to be observed at the designated times. Its nature, however, depends on the moment when it occurs in the different parts of the celebration. [...] Even before the celebration itself, it is a praiseworthy practice for silence to be observed in the church, in the sacristy, in the vesting room, and in adjacent areas, so that all may dispose themselves to carry out the sacred celebration in a devout and fitting manner."

The practice of arriving at Mass early and allowing ourselves time to pray and recollect will help our mindfulness and intentionality when celebrating the liturgy. Our active participation starts with an interior disposition, fostered by silence and recollection, that then manifests itself through exterior expression at the appropriate times. These periods of silence help us to focus on God throughout the celebration, and to offer our hearts more fully as the fruit of recollection. May we continue to grow in our dispositions for interior silence, especially before Mass and during periods of silence. May we know of our dignity as children of God, and desire more lovingly to "listen to him" and permit Him to enter the silent moments of our day. Know of my daily prayers for you and your families, and have a blessed week!

In Christo per Mariam, Fr. Andrew

## DURING LENT

- Stations of the Cross every Friday at 5:30pm
- Confessions 30 min before all daily masses
- With additional masses being said during Lent, you are encouraged to stop by the Parish Office if you would like Masses said for intentions or deceased loved ones

## FAITH FORMATION

**CLASS – March 3rd @ 6:30pm**  
**In Church for Stations of the Cross**  
**(K-2 at Hall)**

**PRAYER CHALLENGE –**

*Keep memorizing those Prayers!!*

If you have any questions, please contact the Faith Formation Coordinator Heather Schneider 608-676-7329.

## LOVE BEGINS HERE

Love Begins Here provides middle and high school youth with an opportunity to encounter Jesus Christ in a life changing way through week-long, local mission trips.

- Middle School weeks are open to teens who have completed 6th-8th grade the previous school year.
- High School weeks are open to teens who have completed 9th-12th grade the previous school year.
- Sign Up: <https://madisondiocese.org/lbhregistration>



## COMING SOON

**Friday, March 5th - Sacred Heart Devotion**

**Friday, March 19th - Solemnity of St. Joseph**

## OLA FISH FRY



Drive-Thru Fish Fry this

Friday, Feb. 26th, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

\$10/person

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## Stations of the Cross

The Stations of the Cross are a 14-step devotion that commemorates Jesus Christ's last day on Earth as a man. They focus on specific events of His last day, beginning with His condemnation. They are commonly used as a mini pilgrimage as individuals move from station to station. At each station, the individual recalls and meditates on a specific event from Christ's last day. Specific prayers are recited, then the individual moves to the next station until all 14 are complete.



Jesus is outside of time, meaning that He is present to us right now, not only in his life and resurrection but in His death. The Stations of the Cross are an opportunity to reflect on one basic fact. We are the crowd who shouts "crucify Him" and calls for his unjust death, yet, Jesus saves our souls because He loves each one of us. Take a moment to think about how great that love is, a man that died for a world that did not love Him back.

**Thank You**  
**for your continued**  
**GENEROSITY!**

### Ministry of Giving

January 24: \$1,603

January 31: \$3,022

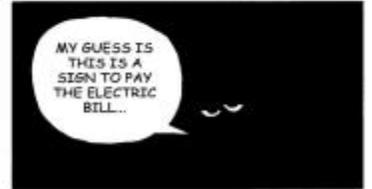
February 7: \$1,104

February 14: \$5,455

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