



SAINT MARGARET OF SCOTLAND

CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL

FEBRUARY 28, 2021
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT



VISUAL AID

It's not every Sunday that the gospel is dramatically on display in church. Today's account of Jesus' Transfiguration is depicted in the mural above St. Margaret's sanctuary.

CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Saturday 4:30 p.m. & Sunday 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

Monday thru Friday at 6:30 a.m.

Holy Days and holidays as published in Sunday Bulletin

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 3:45 to 4:15 p.m.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, March 1

6:30 a.m. The Casey Family +

Tuesday, March 2

6:30 a.m. Celia Schoeberle +

(8:15 a.m. Jacqueline Wille & Wm. Phillips +)*

Wednesday, March 3

6:30 a.m. Patrick Brake

Thursday, March 4

6:30 a.m. John Bedene Sr. +

Friday, March 5

6:30 a.m. Ruth & Ed Cochran +

(8:15 a.m. Msgr. Edward J. Sudekum +)*

Saturday, March 6

4:30 p.m. Eugene P. O'Toole +

Sunday, March 7

8:00 a.m. People of the Parish

10:00 a.m. Joseph Severtsen +

* For the safe health of our students attending these Masses, they are not open for public attendance.

To mark a special occasion or to remember a beloved family member or friend, living or deceased, with a Mass intention please call the Parish Office at 314-776-0363. The bishops of Missouri ask the faithful to make a \$10 offering for each Mass if they are able.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

"Here I am!" he answered."- Genesis 22:11

It is easy to say, "Here I am, Lord," when we are kneeling in church. But how easy is it to say "Here I am, Lord," when a neighbor needs our help, when we are invited to join a parish ministry, or when we are asked to provide financial support? Often times we are called when it's not convenient for us. Discipleship is not always easy, most of the time it will make us uncomfortable and vulnerable.



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TOGETHER IN BAPTISM

We welcome to the church the newly baptized **Finley Rose Merideth** daughter of Amy and Peter Merideth. Please join us in congratulating these parents upon the baptism of their child. We pledge them our continued, prayerful support throughout the journey of Christian parenting.

LIVING JUSTICE NEWS

Harvest of Empire Viewing and Discussion on Wednesday, March 3 and Wednesday, March 10 at 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

The three-part documentary "Harvest of Empire: A History of Latinos in America" (2000, revised 2011), authored by Juan Gonzalez, is a comprehensive account of the intersection of Latin-American history with United States history. Join the Living Justice Immigration Team for a viewing and discussion. Contact Andy Bredemeyer to get the Zoom link at andybredemeyer@gmail.com.

BOY SCOUT NEWS

It's time to recycle your electronic devices! Troop 110 is holding their annual e-recycling event on Saturday, March 6 from 9 am - 12:30 pm on the St. Margaret of Scotland School grounds. Certain fees may be charged by the company to recycle certain items. For details please visit their website <https://mrcrecycling.net/electronics-recycling-events/stlouis-mo-2021-03-06>.



LADIES AUXILIARY NEWS

Congratulations to *February 2021* raffle winners:

Pat Dougherty - \$25

Ann Knoblach - \$50

Mary Long - \$100

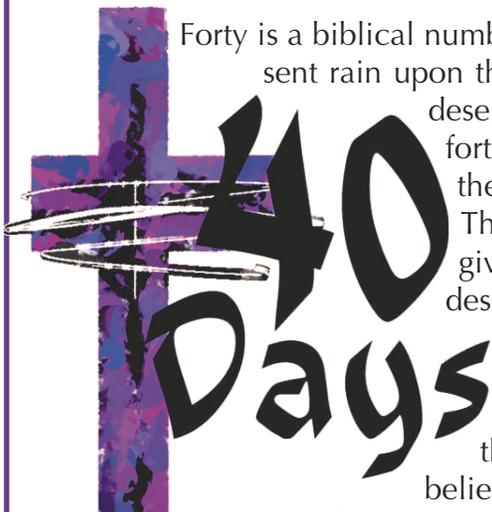
Thank you for supporting our monthly Raffle fundraiser!



BY FR. MATT O'TOOLE

We've heard about the necessity of quarantine a lot over the last year with the coronavirus pandemic. Maybe some of us had to take up this measure because of a contact with someone infected. Health officials have changed the recommended time for quarantine. At first, it was fourteen days. Then they figured seven days were sufficient. Getting a COVID test, there is the instruction to quarantine until results come in. Interestingly, none of these lengths of time live up to the strict definition of the word, at least in its origins.

The Online Etymology Dictionary identifies the 1660s as the first recorded use of the word quarantine as a "period a ship suspected of carrying disease is kept in isolation." It came from Italian *quaranta giorni*, literally the "space of forty days." The policy was first enforced in 1377 in the Republic of Venice to keep ships from plague-stricken countries waiting off its port for forty days, thus assuring that no latent cases were aboard.



Forty is a biblical number, appearing many times in sacred scripture. In the time of Noah God sent rain upon the earth for forty days and forty nights. The Hebrews wandered in the desert for forty years, and their leader, Moses, fasted on the mountain for forty days. The prophet Jonah preached to the city of Nineveh and gave the citizens forty days to change their act before their impending doom. There are many other examples from the Bible, but of course the one that gives us the template for Lent's duration is the story of Jesus' fasting in the desert for forty days.

Arising from this tradition of forty days is the practice of quarantine in the Church for those preparing to be baptized. It was during Lent that the catechumens of the Church were separated from the community of believers for an intense period of preparation. They were literally quarantined. The action was done not because they were a danger to others. (Think of a soldier being punished by being "confined to his quarters.") Rather, they were quarantined out of an effort to preserve them from the disease of sin and more fittingly dispose them to receiving baptism.

Over the coming three Sundays we will call forward at a different liturgy each weekend the catechumens and candidates (those baptized but not fully initiated into the Catholic Church) of our RCIA and conduct the rites of scrutiny. They will step forward with their godparents and sponsors, and the church prays that God gives them a "sense of sin" – to know what sin is like and to discern the difference between good and evil. In keeping with the notion of quarantine, they traditionally would be dismissed from the assembly to reflect more thoroughly on the Word of God and the sacraments of initiation. That darn pandemic keeps us from this practice; nevertheless, they will continue in their RCIA sessions, albeit by Zoom.

We, the larger body of the faithful, already fully-initiated sacramentally, benefit from the example of our catechumens and candidates. They remind us of the life-long exercise of preparing ourselves for reception ... into heaven. So in these forty days of Lent we walk alongside them. Praying for them. Being inspired by them. We too require separation, if not for our physical health, certainly for our spiritual well-being. There are vices and temptations – the symptoms of a disease called 'sin.' Remember: the discipline of quarantine is intended to make us better.

Source material: www.etymonline.com

Rev. Matthew O'Toole

Gathering Hymn

In This Place

Trevor Thomson

We are all hungry people, we need shelter and strength.
We are one in our hurting, we are one in our pain.
In our suff'ring and sadness, we are saved by the grace
of the power and the Spirit that is here in this place.

REFRAIN We are gathered at table as one in the Lord.
We are gathered as people who are living the Word.
Our hearts and our spirits are nurtured by grace.
It is Jesus who fills us. He is here in this place.

Though the world may tell us to look at ourselves,
We reach out to another where suffering dwells.
As our hands become Christ's hands, we are healed by the grace
of the power and the Spirit that is here in this place.

Penitential Act

I confess to almighty God and to you my brothers and sisters that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,
through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault.
Therefore I ask Blessed Mary—ever virgin—all the angels and saints, and you,
my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Lord, have mercy. / Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy. / Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. / Lord, have mercy.

First Reading

Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18

God put Abraham to the test. He called to him, "Abraham!"

"Here I am!" he replied.

Then God said: "Take your son Isaac, your only one, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him up as a holocaust on a height that I will point out to you."

When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. Then he reached out and took the knife to slaughter his son.

But the LORD's messenger called to him from heaven, "Abraham, Abraham!"

"Here I am!" he answered.

"Do not lay your hand on the boy," said the messenger. "Do not do the least thing to him. I know now how devoted you are to God, since you did not withhold from me your own beloved son."

As Abraham looked about, he spied a ram caught by its horns in the thicket.

So he went and took the ram and offered it up as a holocaust in place of his son.

Again the LORD's messenger called to Abraham from heaven and said:

“I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you acted as you did in not withholding from me your beloved son, I will bless you abundantly and make your descendants as countless as the stars of the sky and the sands of the seashore; your descendants shall take possession of the gates of their enemies, and in your descendants all the nations of the earth shall find blessing—all this because you obeyed my command.”

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 116

Scott Soper

SUNG I will walk with the Lord in the land, the land of the living.

RECITED I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.

Second Reading

Romans 8:31b-34

Brothers and sisters: If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, how will he not also give us everything else along with him? Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones? It is God who acquits us, who will condemn? Christ Jesus it is who died—or, rather, was raised—who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.

Gospel Acclamation

PFH

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ. (Lord Jesus Christ).

One does not live on bread alone,
but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

Gospel

Mark 9:2-10

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. Then Elijah appeared to them along with Moses, and they were conversing with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, “Rabbi, it is good that we are here! Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” He hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified. Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, “This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.” Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them.

As they were coming down from the mountain, he charged them not to relate what they had seen to anyone, except when the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what rising from the dead meant.

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting.
Amen.

Preparation of the Gifts

Transfigure Us, O Lord

Bob Hurd

REFRAIN

Transfigure us, O Lord; Transfigure us, O Lord.
Break the chains that bind us; Speak your healing word, and
Where you lead we'll follow. Transfigure Us, O Lord

Mass Setting

Mass for Christian Unity, Jan Vermulst

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,
we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; ... grant us peace.

Communion Hymn

Bread of the World

Paul Tate

REFRAIN

Bread of the world, in mercy broken, Wine of the soul in mercy shed,
By whom the words of life were spoken, And in whose death our sins are dead.
Look on the heart by sorrow broken, Look on the tears by sinners shed; And be your feast to us the token
That by your grace our souls are fed

Closing Hymn

Lead Me, Guide Me

Doris M. Akers

REFRAIN Lead me, guide me along the way, For if you lead me, I cannot stray.
Lord, let me walk each day with Thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

I am weak and I need Thy strength and pow'r to help me over my weakest hour.
Help me through the darkness Thy face to see, Lead me, O Lord, lead me. *REFRAIN*

I am lost if you take your hand from me, I am blind without thy Light to see
Lord, just always let me Thy servant be, Lead me, O Lord, lead me. *REFRAIN*

SPIRITUAL REFLECTION



BY PETER FISHER HESED

There are many different ways to approach scripture, from the scholarly to the simple, from the analytical to the pious. Perhaps we seek comfort when we are afflicted. Or we need a challenge to a dull, complacent spirit. Some people use the words of scripture as a tool to affirm their own opinions, or a weapon to attack someone else's.

But our tradition tells us that the Word of God is living and active; therefore, we should engage it, and it should make a difference for us. As Catholics we may not have a strong habit of reading and consulting the Bible. Maybe we can work on improving that deficit. We are served a feast of well-selected readings from every part of the Holy Bible at the Sunday Eucharist. This is a great vantage point from which we can consider the meaning of the Word of God, and its power and relevance in our living.

When considering the Liturgy of the Word, I often like to start with three questions:

What does this reveal, or demonstrate about God?

What does this reveal, or demonstrate about Jesus?

What does this reveal, or demonstrate about me, or how I should live?

The account of the Transfiguration would make a great passage to consider these three questions.

God is usually hidden from our view, or understood obliquely, by metaphor. But here, God speaks directly, and is dramatically revealed. What is revealed? The great transcendence of God, how profoundly *other* is God's divinity from *our* being. But there is also a powerful and direct statement that we must attend, "This is my chosen Son; listen to him" Jesus is here revealed to be uniquely and intimately in union with the Father. He is shown to be glorious, and a transcendent embodiment of the Law and the Prophets.

What does the Transfiguration say about each of us, and how we are to live? This might be the hardest question to answer, but perhaps the most important. What is our true nature? Where is our true home? What eludes us, hidden in plain view? What in us needs to be remade, restored, uplifted, transfigured? How can we allow, even invite, such a transformation to occur?

ASSISTED HEARING DEVICES ARE BACK!

Two new replacement hearing devices are now available for use during Mass. The receivers will be stored in a clear plastic container in the rear of church. Ear buds may be obtained by contacting the Parish Office 314-776-0363 for instructions and can be kept by the parishioner. Due to COVID precautions, it is advised to wipe the device before and after use. Wipes are available in the storage container for this purpose.



If you prefer to purchase your own receiver, please contact Carmela at the Parish Office for information. The hearing devices truly make the Mass a more meaningful experience for hearing impaired individuals. In the past, parishioners have not only purchased devices for themselves but for their loved ones. It's a great gift!

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