The Incredulity of St. Thomas

by Peter Paul Rubens

April 11 2021

2nd Sunday of Easter
Divine Mercy Sunday
Year B

TRANSFIGURATION

The following words are excerpts taken the Divine Mercy Sunday homily given by Pope Saint John Paul II on April 22, 2001. May it inspire our first communicants, and all of us, to run with joy to proclaim to all the world that God's "mercy endures forever!"

A blessed Easter octave to all!

The first three numbered sections of this homily can be found on the Vatican website via this link: www.transfigurationmn.org/vatican_2001-04.

4. The Gospel, which has just been proclaimed, helps us to grasp the full sense and value of this gift. The Evangelist John makes us share in the emotion felt by the Apostles in their meeting with Christ after His Resurrection. Our attention focuses on the gesture of the Master, who transmits to the fearful, astounded disciples the mission of being ministers of divine Mercy. He shows them His hands and his side, which bear the marks of the Passion, and tells them: *"As the Father has sent me, even so I send you"* (Jn 20: 21). Immediately afterwards "*He breathed on them, and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained'"* (Jn 20: 22-23). Jesus entrusted to them the gift of "forgiving sins," a gift that flows from the wounds in His hands, His feet, and especially from His pierced side. From there a wave of mercy is poured out over all humanity.

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Why do we exist?

Transfiguration exists to lead all those in the East Metro to Christ, the Source and Summit of our daily and eternal lives.

Lord's Day Masses

Saturday: 4:00 p.m.
Sunday: 8:30 a.m.
10:30 a.m.
6:00 p.m.

Daily Masses

Monday-Saturday: 8:00 a.m.

Be sure to check the weekly calendar for holiday changes.

Church Office Info

6133 15th Street North
Oakdale, MN 55128

Monday-Thursday:
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Friday: 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Phone: 651-738-2646
After-hours Emergency:
651-501-2250
mpraska@transfigurationmn.org
bulletin@transfigurationmn.org

School Office Info

Office: 651-501-2220
Attendance Line: 651-501-2255
tiger@transfigurationmn.org

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safe-environment.archspm.org 651-291-4475

SACRAMENT INFORMATION

Baptisms

If you have a child needing to be baptized or if you are expecting a child soon, please call the parish office at 651-738-2646 to make arrangements for an individual Baptism class.

Weddings

If you would like to celebrate your wedding at Transfiguration, please contact the Parish Office at least nine months in advance.

RCIA – Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Interested in becoming Catholic? We invite anyone who has questions about the Faith, or who may be interested in becoming Catholic, to contact our parish office at 651-738-2646.

NEW PARISHIONERS

We are pleased to welcome the following new members to our Parish:

- ***Roland & Berinyuy Nsaidzemmi*** and their children, ***Limunga*** and ***Fonyuy***
- ***Emily Marie Halfman*** and her fiancé ***Andrew Wenman***

Lord, how good it is for us to be here!
Matthew 17:4

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Weekend Collection Totals:	Amount Collected	Budget
July through March 2021	$ 962,665	$ 978,800
April 2021	59,208	58,000
Fiscal Year Total as of 04/04/2021	1,021,873	1,036,800
Surplus/(Deficit)		(14,927)
Percent above(below) budget		-1.44%

Big-Ticket Capital Improvement Fund	
Big Ticket Balance as of March 31, 2020	$ 30,740
Amount Collected April 2021	2,905
Balance in Big-Ticket Savings Account	$ 33,645

Long-Term Debt for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2021	
Principal payments July 2020 through April 2021	$ 189,094
Interest Paid on Long-Term Debt since July 1, 2020	129,260
Balance on Long-Term Debt as of March 31, 2020	4,084,690
Principal payments through April 2021	-
Balance on Long-Term Debt as of March 21, 2021	4,084,690

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday, April 12
8:00 a.m. – Mass
5:30-6:00 p.m. – Confessions*
7:00-8:00 p.m. – AA Meeting

Tuesday, April 13
8:00 a.m. – Mass
Noon-12:30 p.m. – Confessions*
Noon-1:00 p.m. – Private Prayer/Adoration
5:00 p.m. – Mass

Wednesday, April 14
8:00 a.m. – Mass
7:00-8:00 p.m. – Man Night
8:00-10:00 p.m. – Men's Basketball

Thursday, April 15
8:00 a.m. – Mass
Noon-12:30 p.m. – Confessions*
Noon-1:00 p.m. – Private Prayer/Adoration
7:00-8:00 p.m. – AA Meeting

Friday, April 16
8:00 a.m. – Mass

Saturday, April 17
8:00 a.m. – Mass
4:00 p.m. – Vigil Mass

Sunday, April 18
7:30-7:55 a.m. – Confessions*
8:30 a.m. – Holy Mass (high altar)
10:30 a.m. – Holy Mass (incense)
6:00 p.m. – Holy Mass

* Except when noted, confessions will be offered:
- Sundays 7:30-7:55 a.m.
- Mondays 5:30-6:00 p.m.
- Tuesdays & Thursdays noon-12:30 p.m.

All times subject to change. Please check our parish website daily for time changes.

PASTOR'S COLUMN

(continued from page

Let us relive this moment with great spiritual intensity. Today the Lord also shows us His glorious wounds and His heart, an inexhaustible source of light and truth, of love and forgiveness.

5. The Heart of Christ! His "Sacred Heart" has given men everything: redemption, salvation, sanctification. St. Faustina Kowalska saw coming from this Heart that was overflowing with generous love, two rays of light which illuminated the world. "The two rays," according to what Jesus himself told her, "represent the blood and the water" (*Diary,* p. 132). The blood recalls the sacrifice of Golgotha and the mystery of the Eucharist; the water, according to the rich symbolism of the Evangelist John, makes us think of Baptism and the Gift of the Holy Spirit (cf. Jn 3: 5; 4: 14).

   Through the mystery of this wounded heart, the restorative tide of God's merciful love continues to spread over the men and women of our time. Here alone can those who long for true and lasting happiness find its secret.

6. "Jesus, I trust in You." This prayer, dear to so many of the devout, clearly expresses the attitude with which we too would like to abandon ourselves trustfully in Your hands, O Lord, our only Savior.

   You are burning with the desire to be loved, and those in tune with the sentiments of Your heart learn how to build the new civilization of love. A simple act of abandonment is enough to overcome the barriers of darkness and sorrow, of doubt and desperation. The rays of Your divine mercy restore hope, in a special way, to those who feel overwhelmed by the burden of sin.

Mary, Mother of Mercy, help us always to have this trust in your Son, our Redeemer. Help us too, St. Faustina, whom we remember today with special affection. Fixing our weak gaze on the divine Savior's face, we would like to repeat with you: "Jesus, I trust in You." Now and forever. Amen.

Saint Faustina

ACCESSIBLE, AVAILABLE, MULTIPLE POINTS OF ENTRY

We are committed to providing many opportunities for as many people as possible to encounter the Lord through programs and offerings that are accessible, friendly, and convenient.

Man Night

What is the best way to receive Holy Communion? On your knees or standing? In your hand or on the tongue?

On **Wednesday, April 14 at 7:00 p.m.**, Father Erickson will reflect on the importance of receiving Holy Communion worthily and well, as men and as Catholic disciples. These *Man Nights* occur once-a-month, so plan ahead and bring a friend.

Women's Night

Need a ladies' night out?

Join the Transfiguration Council of Catholic Women (TCCW) for their monthly *Women's Night* on **Wednesday, April 21 at 7:00 p.m.**

The night will begin with Adoration and Confession, followed by a talk by Fr. Erickson: "Saint Dismas, the Good Thief."

Extreme Faith Camp

Parents and grandparents, are you looking for a fun-filled summer camp where your child or grandchild can enjoy indoor and outdoor activities? One where they can meet new friends and grow in their faith? If so, we hope you would consider Extreme Faith Camp (EFC). This camp features zip lines, laser tag, water fun, archery, arts & crafts, and much more! In addition, EFC incorporates faith-based activities: daily Mass, adoration time, confession opportunities, and personal testimonies. Kids who've attended EFC can't say enough about it. This year's camp will be hosted by Trout Lake Camps in Pine River, MN, and is open to all current middle school students (6th-8th grade).

In addition, if your child or grandchild is not comfortable going to camp alone, they are welcome to invite friends! Participants do not need to be parishioners of Transfiguration to attend.

EFC also invites high school students to participate on the Extreme Team or Prayer Team, where they help lead middle school activities. Although space on these teams is limited.

For more information visit www.transfigurationmn.org/EFC.

Why you should send your child to Extreme Faith Camp?

Luke H.

"At Extreme Faith Camp it was great to meet kids from other schools who shared the same faith. I loved kayaking, the zipline and fun camp activities. In my free time, adoration was always there whenever I needed to enter deeper into my faith."

TRANSFIGURING SUNDAY EXPERIENCE

We recognize that the Sunday Mass is the true source and summit of our liturgical life in the Church, and we are committed to providing transcendent and transfiguring worship that also builds up our community as one.

Please join us for the celebration of

Divine Mercy Sunday

April 11, 2021 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

The image of the Divine Mercy will be displayed in the church, and there will be time for personal prayer, readings from St. Faustina's Diary about Divine Mercy, as well as the Rosary and sung psalms.

At 3:00 p.m., the Chaplet of Divine Mercy will be sung. Please note: there will be no times offered for confession, and there is no obligation to confess on Divine Mercy Sunday in order to gain the plenary indulgence. Please join us for a time of prayer and gratitude for the boundless mercy of God!

Thank You!

THANK YOU! To the many volunteers who helped welcome parishioners and guests to our Lenten confessions, Solemnity of St. Joseph Mass, Triduum and Easter liturgies, and also thank you to those who helped us get ready in numerous ways. Additionally, to the vocalists and instrumentalists who made the liturgies so prayerful through their music, and to everyone who made our church beautiful through their cleaning and decorating. May God bless you for the donations of your time and talent!

Congratulations!

Congratulations to those who were received into the Church at Easter Vigil!

- Phira Mary LudeneRose Morlan
- Joshua Kieran Taylor Keenan
- Zoe Helena Hruby
- Daniel Jude Henze

Mass Intentions

Masses will be offered for each of these intentions.

Sunday, April 11
Brooklyn Herdina
Flordeliza Cabrera †
The People of Transfiguration

Monday, April 12
Joyce Allen †

Tuesday, April 13
Eugene Schmidt Family †
Corrine & Warren St. John †

Wednesday, April 14
Poor Souls in Purgatory

Thursday, April 15
Colleen McLaughlin †

Friday, April 16
Vincent McFadden †

Saturday, April 17
Janice Green †
The People of Transfiguration

Sunday, April 18
Marie Warner †
Gary Youso †
Fr. Cornelius Normoyle †

PRO-FAMILY CULTURE

We are committed to being a truly "pro-family" culture, a culture that recognizes parents' primary role in the education of their children, encourages and promotes a radical openness to life, and strives to support families in their efforts to be holy and to form their beloved children into saints.

USCCB and the Equality Act

Below is in excerpt from the USCCB to the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate, dated February 23, 2021. The letter in its entirety may be found at www.usccb.org/equality-act.

> The Equality Act purports to protect people experiencing same-sex attraction or gender discordance from discrimination. But instead, the bill represents the imposition by Congress of novel and divisive viewpoints regarding "gender" on individuals and organizations. This includes dismissing sexual difference and falsely presenting "gender" as only a social construct. As Pope Francis has reflected, however, "'biological sex and the socio-cultural role of sex (gender) can be distinguished but not separated.' … It is one thing to be understanding of human weakness and the complexities of life, and another to accept ideologies that attempt to sunder what are inseparable aspects of reality." Tragically, this Act can also be construed to include an abortion mandate, a violation of precious rights to life and conscience.

The letter from the USCCB includes a more in-depth look at the trouble and the implications that would happen if this were passed. This has currently been passed by the U.S. House of Representatives and now goes to the U.S. Senate. As Catholics we must stand up and defend our Constitutional rights of freedom of religion. Please continue to watch our bulletins and websites for ways to take action to stand up for the faith.

BLACK & GOLD

SILENT AUCTION

bidding FOR GOOD™

Our annual Black & Gold fundraiser is back! Unfortunately, due to current COVID-19 restrictions, it will not be the same in-person event you have come to know and love.

Since we still need the support of wonderful parishioners like you, this year's event will be an online silent auction via *Bidding for Good*. The silent auction provides financial support to the school and enables us to offer state-of-the-art instructional tools, integrated technology, provide professional development for teachers, and enhancing our curriculum at every grade level. As a part of the silent auction, we will have our annual Ted Z. Fundraiser, which provides financial assistance to students.

The silent auction will open on Monday, April 26, and close on Saturday, May 1. More information will be provided in our bulletin, on our website, and on social media. If you have any questions, feel free to email tiger@transfigurationmn.org.

OUR SCHOOL

Middle School Enrollment Open

We currently have open enrollment for 6th-8th grade. At Transfiguration our middle school students are taught to exhibit the Three Pillars of our School: *Christian Discipleship, Academic Excellence, and Great Love.* In addition to traditional classroom learning, students attend Mass weekly, have the opportunity for confession and adoration, cultivate a deeper understanding of the Catholic faith, and much more. Please contact tiger@transfigurationmn.org to set up a virtual tour and to learn about our affordable tuition.

Students honored monthly for practicing virtuous acts.

Students assembled & distributed Gift's of Hope to those in need

Why do you love Transfiguration School?

Molly M.

"The answer is easy: the people are the reason why I am at Transfiguration. The teachers and staff are always ready to help and they are always friendly. Every day I walk into that school I feel welcomed and loved."

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