



The Holy Trinity with Crown by Max Fürst

May
30
2021

The Solemnity of the
Most Holy Trinity
Year B

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.



TRANSFIGURATION

Dear Friends,

A very blessed Memorial Day to you all! May this summer bring many joys and graces to you and your family – with or without masks!

This past year was undeniably one of the most challenging of our parochial school's brief history. COVID-19 protocols were cumbersome, frustrating, and at times, exhausting. The year began with a tremendous amount of uncertainty as to how the rest of the year would go, and every week seemed to bring new questions about the right thing to do to best keep our kids safe while also ensuring that in-person learning could continue throughout the year. I am proud of how our administration and teachers handled these momentous difficulties, and all Transfiguration parishioners can rightly boast of what we were able to do in the best interests of our nearly 200 students – staying open the entire year with kids in classrooms, learning in the best possible setting – with their friends and teachers. And we did it all while carrying out and advancing our mission of forming Christian disciples, providing academic excellence, and creating a culture of great love. This will be a year remembered for a very long time, even if we do not want to remember! And it should be remembered. Because the grace of God was alive and active within our halls, transfiguring our students by the power of His Life and Love.

I want to acknowledge in a very special way our beloved teachers, who faced remarkable challenges with tenacity and perseverance. I also want to honor Mr. Andy Jacobson and Mrs. Kristen Thomas for their remarkable work as administrators this past year.



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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

STAFF INFORMATION

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AFTER HOURS PASTORAL

EMERGENCY NUMBER: 651-501-2250

VICTIM/SURVIVOR SITE & HOTLINE

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.

Congratulations!

Praise God for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ given to ***Kaitlyn Anne Mulligan***, daughter of Matthew and Melissa.

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.

Deaths & Funerals

Long time parishioner ***Bette Jayne (BJ) Haak*** died and was buried from Transfiguration on May 27. Please keep BJ and her family in your prayers.

*May the souls of the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Weekend Collection Totals:	Amount Collected	Budget
July through April 2021	\$ 1,102,825	\$ 1,114,000
May 2021	84,710	86,500
Fiscal Year Total as of 05/23/2021	1,187,535	1,200,500
Surplus/(Deficit)		(12,965)
Percent above(below) budget		-1.08%

Big-Ticket Capital Improvement Fund

Big Ticket Balance as of April 30, 2021	\$ 37,004
Amount Collected May 2021	6,588
Balance in Big-Ticket Savings Account	\$ 43,592

Long-Term Debt for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2021

Principal payments July 2020 through April 2021	\$ 205,308
Interest Paid on Long-Term Debt since July 1, 2020	157,430
Balance on Long-Term Debt as of April 30, 2020	4,060,622
Principal payments through May 2021	56,622
Balance on Long-Term Debt as of May 16, 2021	4,004,000



They have served our community incredibly well as leaders during this time of tumult and challenge. But I also want to honor you, dear parents of Transfiguration students, for trusting us with your precious children during this uncertain time. Transfiguration was gifted with a significant increase in its number of students this past year, children of parents who knew that in-person learning was the best option for their kids and were eager to expose their children to the unique and life-giving power of a Catholic education. To both long-time parents and to our newest additions, I say thank you. Transfiguration Catholic School exists to assist you in your role as the primary educators of your children, and we are humbled and blessed by this partnership. May this past year serve to continue to strengthen that partnership, all in pursuit of Christian Discipleship, Academic Excellence and Great Love.

While this past Friday was the last day of school, our 8th graders will celebrate their graduation on Tuesday of this coming week. Please keep them in your prayers as they prepare for the transition to high school. Like so many, these young students were asked to carry quite a burden during their final year of grade school. Many of the typical 8th grade experiences were not possible this year due to COVID protocols. And that's just the start of challenges – don't forget masks all year, remaining in one classroom for most of the year, and the ordinary stresses of applying and preparing for the next chapter of academic life. You, our beloved graduates, have lived through history, and I hope you will hold on to the lessons of this past year: the power of determination to accomplish any great good; the necessity of courage in overcoming the inevitable challenges in life; the indispensable role of faith to stay the course and to know where one is going, and; the special consolation of friendship and companionship on the walk of life, especially in times of hardship. May God bless you all, dear graduates. Godspeed, and keep the Faith. I want to see you in church!

Transfiguration School is not just one of many apostolates within our parish. It is one of the most important, and has been part of our history and culture since our parish's founding. We are a parish with a school, and that is foundational to who we are. I once again ask all Transfiguration parishioners with grade-school-aged children not currently enrolled in our school to seriously consider if our school is right for your own little ones. While I believe strongly that parents must make the decision that is best for their own family and children and will always support such decisions made by parents after prayer and serious deliberation, I am convinced that our school needs to be at least considered for every parishioner's grade school-aged child. I dare to say that our public school system continues to deteriorate, particularly in the areas of human formation and in the communication of a vision of human sexuality that is frankly destructive. What is more, the narrative of our nation's history, certainly not one without blemish, is increasingly portrayed as foundationally bad, often forming our children upon a bedrock of skepticism and even animosity towards those institutions dedicated to the authentic common good. Good math and science are not enough. Schools form souls, and at Transfiguration you can be certain that the formation received by our kids is one that is unapologetically Catholic, that is, one that is rooted in a true vision of the meaning of the human person and his destiny – to know, love and serve God in this life and to be with Him forever in the next.

Join me in praying in gratitude for our school, both for the many blessings of this past year (YES - the blessings), and in anticipation of the many, many blessings yet to come.

Let summer begin.

In Christ, the Transfigured and Transfiguring One,

Fr. Erickson

Monday, May 31 – CAMPUS CLOSED

~ No confessions today ~

8:00 a.m. – Mass

Tuesday, June 1

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, June 2

8:00 a.m. – Mass

8:00-10:00 p.m. – Men's Basketball

Thursday, June 3

- No Confessions or Adoration -

8:00 a.m. – Mass

7:00-8:00 p.m. – AA Meeting

Friday, June 4

8:00 a.m. – Mass

Saturday, June 5

8:00 a.m. – Mass

4:00 p.m. – Vigil Mass (high altar)

Sunday, June 6 – The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

7:30-7:55 a.m. – Confessions*

8:30 a.m. – Holy Mass

9:30 a.m. – Blessing of Expectant Mothers

10:30 a.m. – Holy Mass (incense)

11:30 a.m. – Blessing of Expectant Mothers

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.**



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.

Graduating 8th Graders

What did you like about Transfiguration and where are you going next year?



"What I liked best about Transfiguration is the teachers."

Next year I am going to Woodbury High School."

~ Abby C.



"What I like best about Transfiguration are the teachers, they are so open, and they are really fun."

For high school I am going to Chesterton Academy in Hopkins."

~ Miranda M.

If you are looking for an alternative to public education and want your child to have a faith-filled education, consider Transfiguration Catholic School. We currently have open enrollment for 6th-8th grades.

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. For more information call 651-501-2220 or email us at tiger@transfigurationmn.org to set up a virtual tour and to learn about our affordable tuition.

Smoker Poker

Join us for this fun annual event on **Friday, June 18**, Father's Day Weekend. Tasty foods, great drinks, attractive raffles and phenomenal community.

\$50 includes dinner, drinks, cigars, and entry into a Texas Hold'em tournament. Bring extra cash for worthwhile raffles. We are limiting this event to 50 people, so sign up early. Sign up in person by scanning the QR Code below or through the link on our website.



Blessing for Expectant Mothers and Those Praying for a Child



Blessings for expectant mothers and those praying for a child will be held **Sunday, June 6**, after the 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Masses.

Those wishing to receive the blessing may stay in their pews following Mass and remain there for the blessing, which Father will give from the sanctuary.

We praise God for His gracious gift of life and ask for the intercession of His Mother in answering the prayers of those who await the gift of a child!

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.

Transfiguring Conversations

Are you looking for a way to meet other parishioners? We invite each of you to join in “Transfiguring Conversations.” No long-term commitment, no reading or assignments, just pure person-to-person conversations! These conversations will begin in June and have meetings both during the day and evening. For more information or if you are interested, please contact Melissa Phinney at mphinney@transfigurationmn.org.



Donut Sunday

Sunday, June 6, is our monthly donut Sunday following the 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Masses. Individually -wrapped donuts will be available in the gathering space. As much as we do enjoy the time of community conversation while eating our donuts, our current COVID-19 protocols still do not allow congregating in the gathering space to eat together.



Evangelizing with Donuts

Back by popular demand! We again offer our Transfiguration tote bags – each containing four donuts, a book, and a flyer about upcoming events – available for you to grab on your way home. This is a perfect opportunity to treat your neighbor and start a conversation about your faith or just ask them if you can pray for them this week.

Ever Wonder What God has Planned for Your Life?

Discover God’s Plan of Sheer Goodness in the Class of St. Joseph! This fall, the Archbishop Flynn Catechetical Institute will offer the two-year Pillars Program in-person at Transfiguration



Catholic Church in Oakdale on Monday evenings from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Taught by the best instructors in the Twin Cities, including Bishop Andrew Cozzens, Jeff Cavins, Deacon Joe Michalak, Fr. John Klockeman, Dr. Bill Stevenson, Deacon Dan Gannon, Dr. Todd Flanders, Christina Smith, Alyssa Bormes, Linda Corrigan, and Fr. Steven Hoffman, the program follows the four pillars of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, and will make sense of all things Catholic, deepen your faith, and layout the roadmap to heaven.

The classes are divided into four eleven-week modules with two Saturday morning formative sessions per module. Applications for the Class of St. Joseph beginning in September are now being accepted through August 1, 2021. If need be, the lectures will be live-streamed. For more information and an application, visit www.CIstudent.com or call (651) 962-5072.

Mass Intentions

Masses will be offered for each of these intentions.

Sunday, May 30

Dustin Kadlec †
Donald Zimmerman †
The People of Transfiguration

Monday, May 31

Robyn Ann Pohl †

Tuesday, June 1

Marie Warner †
BJ & Louis Haak †

Wednesday, June 2

Virginia & Walter Ricker †

Thursday, June 3

Sally Palecek †

Friday, June 4

Albert & Caroline Eberhard †

Saturday, June 5

Richard Holt †
Paul Novotny †

Sunday, June 6

Art Sousa †
Bev & Dave Spencer †
The People of Transfiguration

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.

Totus Tuus

The Totus Tuus program is a wonderful mix of faith and fun, and offers a “week-at-camp” right here on our campus in Oakdale. It is led by a team of college students and seminarians (2 men & 2 women) who aim to make the faith real to our youth as a way of life and love, not simply a set of rules and obligations; the team effectively enthuses our youth, drawing them into a deeper relationship with Christ.



This year Transfiguration will be offering Totus Tuus June 28-July 2 from 9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. for preK-6th grade; and June 27-July 2 middle school and high school. We are also in need of a few adult volunteers to help during the day; if you are interested, please contact Melissa Phinney at mphinney@transfigurationmn.org.

Preschool Graduation



Preschool Graduation was held on Friday, May 28, in the church gathering space. Both classes invited their special people to attend, and through song, certificates and refreshments, their enormous growth was celebrated!

We are so thankful for our preschool families and are overjoyed that 16 of our 18 preschoolers in the 4/5 class will be moving on to Kindergarten!!!

Very Important People Day



On Friday, May 14, our students celebrated Very Important People (VIP) day. Normally a day of on-site celebration of students’ grandparents and other special people, families were encouraged to honor the loving, committed people in their student’s lives in simple but impactful ways. Some went to Mass with their grandparents before school; others asked to pray for their special people during classroom prayer. Others delivered pictures, made phone calls or sang songs. We are so very thankful for all the very important people in our students’ lives and are proud of the students for expressing their gratitude, too.

Thank You Parishioners!

Thank you so much for your overwhelming support of our Spring Booya Fundraiser.



We raised \$7,950, which not only funded Fr. Erickson's trip to Uganda for Deacon Zeph's ordination, but also made possible an additional gift to the Ugandan parishes at which Deacon Zeph (soon to be Father Zeph) will serve. Thank you again! Knights of Columbus Council #4374

FROM ERIN ETHIER, PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

Planning Study to eliminate Transfiguration debt

Thank you to all parishioners that assisted with the planning study to eliminate Transfiguration's \$4,000,000 debt by completing a survey or meeting with Emily from the Steier Group. We received an executive report, and overall the feedback was favorable. In the coming weeks and months, both Father Erickson and I will be addressing questions and sharing results from the report.

Here are some key statistical findings of the report:

- 79% of the respondents are personally in favor of a campaign.
- 84% of the respondents will make a personal gift to the campaign.
- 70 respondents offered to assist with the campaign on leadership positions.
- 235 of the respondents indicated an amount when asked if they would contribute to a debt campaign. The gift amounts identified in this preliminary survey total \$1.3 million.

The next step in the process will be to discuss the planning study executive report with the Transfiguration Stewardship Committee and the Finance Council. The Finance Council will make a recommendation to Father Erickson on whether to proceed with a campaign, and if they recommend that we proceed, they will advise Father on the campaign amount based on a range provided by Steier Group. Please let me know if you have any questions regarding the planning study process. In the next bulletin, I will cover the history of our debt.

"Good" Debt News!

When I came to work at Transfiguration in 2013, our parish debt was \$5,385,000. We had just refinanced two loans into one, made significant operating budget cuts to align our expenses with our revenue and stopped using a line of credit to fund operations. **With our June mortgage payment, our debt balance will be below \$4,000,000!** It is exciting news to me and I am grateful for the many parishioners that have made sacrifices to make additional contributions over the past several years to accelerate paying down the principal.



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