

# The Sower (Le semeur)

by James Tissot



# June 13 2021

11th Sunday in  
Ordinary Time – Year B



## TRANSFIGURATION

Dear Friends,

Sometime in the next few weeks, every Transfiguration parishioner will be receiving a short summary of the results of the capital campaign feasibility study conducted by the Steier Group which concluded in mid-May. The study involved several hundred responses delivered by mail, online or through in-pew surveys, as well as personal interviews of 85 parishioners. According to the Steier Group, this level of participation, though seemingly minimal given our parish's current size of 1100 families, is quite extraordinary, and provided them with ample data from which to draw their recommendations. It bodes well for the success of our campaign. I am deeply thankful to all who participated in our study.



**After reviewing the results of the data, and comparing our parish to other similar communities throughout the country, the Steier group has recommended to us a realistic goal of 2.5 million for our capital campaign.** While not our full debt amount of 4 million, the number is nevertheless an exciting goal, and I have accepted their recommendation. What is more, if we indeed are able to raise this amount of funds, it allows us to create a reasonable plan to reduce our debt completely within several years. We hope to begin the actual campaign in the later part of the summer or early fall. We will stand in need of many volunteers to assist, and I am again so grateful to the many who have already offered their willingness to serve in some substantial way in this historic effort. You will hear from me soon!

*continued on page 3*

## 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](mailto:mpraska@transfigurationmn.org)  
[bulletin@transfigurationmn.org](mailto:bulletin@transfigurationmn.org)

## School Office Info

Office: 651-501-2220  
Attendance Line: 651-501-2255

[tiger@transfigurationmn.org](mailto:tiger@transfigurationmn.org)

## STAFF INFORMATION

### PASTOR

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### AFTER HOURS PASTORAL

EMERGENCY NUMBER: 651-501-2250

### VICTIM/SURVIVOR SITE & HOTLINE

[safe-environment.archspm.org](http://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.



## FINANCIAL UPDATE

Weekend Collection Totals:	Amount Collected	Budget
July through May 2021	\$ 1,204,658	\$ 1,220,000
June 2021	26,990	27,000
Fiscal Year Total as of 6/6/2021	1,231,648	1,247,000
Surplus/(Deficit)		(15,352)
Percent above(below) budget		-1.23%

### Big-Ticket Capital Improvement Fund

Big Ticket Balance as of May 31, 2021	\$ 45,009
Amount Collected June 2021	2,578
Balance in Big-Ticket Savings Account	\$ 47,587

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

Principal payments July 2020 through May 2021	\$ 282,802
Interest Paid on Long-Term Debt since July 1, 2020	157,430
Balance on Long-Term Debt as of May 31, 2020	3,983,128
Principal payments through June 2021	1,682
Balance on Long-Term Debt as of June 6, 2021	3,981,446

**Sunday, June 13** – 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

**Monday, June 14**

~ No confession today ~  
 8:00 a.m. – Mass  
 7:00-8:00 p.m. – AA Meeting

**Tuesday, June 15**

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 16**

8:00 a.m. – Mass  
 8:00-10:00 p.m. – Men's Basketball

**Thursday, June 17**

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, June 18**

8:00 a.m. – Mass  
 6:00-11:00 p.m. – Smoker Poker

**Saturday, June 19**

7:00-8:00 a.m. – Young Adult Men's Group (virtual)  
 7:30-8:30 a.m. – Adult Men's Group  
 8:00 a.m. – Mass  
 4:00 p.m. – Vigil Mass

**Sunday, June 20** – 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30-7:55 a.m. – Confessions\*  
 8:30 a.m. – Holy Mass  
 10:30 a.m. – Holy Mass (incense & high altar)  
 6:00 p.m. – Holy Mass

\* Except when noted, confessions will be offered:

- Sundays 7:30-7:55 a.m.
- Tuesdays & Thursdays noon-12:30 p.m.

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

All comments made to Steier throughout the study were given to me, my trustees, and Erin Ethier, our parish administrator. The comments were gratifying in that they showed widespread support for a debt-reduction campaign and for my own leadership and the direction I feel that the Lord is calling our parish. The feedback also made it clear that we need to continue to communicate to all parishioners where our debt came from, and the many concrete and measurable steps we have taken in recent years to address our financial situation. To this end, we will once again be providing within the bulletin brief reports on the financial history of the parish, and the ways in which we have actively stewarded the sacrificial support of Transfiguration members and friends. I am immensely proud of how the parish has already responsibly eliminated debt and balanced budgets in recent years, and we need to celebrate how far we have come in this area.

Another clear desire on the part of many is a more tangible vision as to what our parish will look like once it is debt-free. How exactly will our current monthly interest and principal payment of roughly \$25,000 be spent once our debt is eliminated? In what ways will this money be used to further our mission of bringing Christ to the East Metro? How will our financial security contribute to our evangelical mandate? These are very important questions, and I am eager to paint this exciting picture for you in the months ahead.

Please pray for our capital campaign's success, specifically through the intercession of Saint Joseph. As strange as it may sound to those familiar with the challenges of a major fundraising effort, I am actually excited to start, not only because it will eventually free up significant resources for our parish's mission, but also because capital campaigns, when done well, give parishes a chance to solidify and clarify their identity. I believe that Transfiguration is an excellent parish. But it can be better, and my expectation is that our campaign efforts will help us grow not only financially, but more importantly, spiritually.

Saint Joseph – pray for us!

In Christ, the Transfigured and Transfiguring One,

Fr. Erickson



## 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.

### 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. **Deadline to sign up is Wednesday, June 16.** Do not miss out on this fun event! Sign up in person, by scanning the QR Code below, or through the link on our website.



## Save the Date



**Transfiguration Catholic School  
Booster Club Golf Event  
Sunday, August 22!**

## BELIEVE AND READ

We are very excited to share some of the academic excellence achieved by our 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> grade students in reading this year. Transfiguration is one of fifty Catholic Schools across the Archdiocese participating in the *Believe and Read* program. The program is powered by the Catholic Schools Center of Excellence (CSCOE) and partners with Groves Academy, a national expert in reading instruction, to transform literacy instruction.

Over the course of last year, our kindergarten, first and second-grade teachers worked with a literacy coach from Groves Academy to incorporate daily 30-minute phonics-based lessons to ensure that our youngest students were grasping the reading rules needed to achieve fluency. Based on assessments in the fall, we had 17 students in the risk categories. After spring data was collected, this number dropped to 6 students (wonderful growth), and 85% of our 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students are now either at or ABOVE grade-level in reading instruction. Our students made HUGE gains over the course of this school year, and we want to commend our teachers for their commitment to high quality instruction and our students' academic excellence!

### Equality Act

The Equality Act is a troubling piece of legislation being debated within the US Senate which would inflict serious penalties of all kinds upon religious communities that choose to continue to practice and enforce their respective faith's understanding of human sexuality in the areas of employment, social services and in some cases, education. Therefore, we urge you to contact Amy Klobuchar and Tina Smith to make certain they are aware of your strong opposition to this legislation in its current form, and that MUCH greater protection must be provided for religious organizations and congregations of faith. For more information about the Equality Act and the impact, please visit our website.

# 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.

## Kiosk Highlight

### Booklet – 20 Answers: Catholic Social Teaching

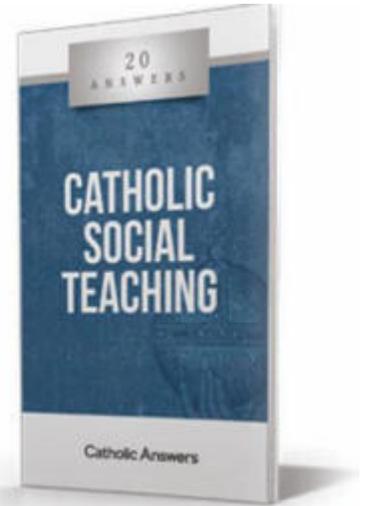
Where is “Catholic social teaching” found, anyway?

Are all aspects of Catholic social teaching equal important, or can we rank them?

Does the Church tell me how I should vote, or how to determine the best economic or political system?

How does the Church encourage laity to promote and implement Catholic social teaching in the world?

When Jesus inaugurated His kingdom on earth, He taught us to bring heavenly principles to it. And so, the Catholic Church has contemplated for millennia how Christ’s teachings should be applied to society. **20 Answers: Catholic Social Teaching** offers a useful introduction to this often-misunderstood topic. It explains how Catholic doctrine affects government, economics, the family, war and peace, basic human rights, and interpersonal justice. Just as important, it lays out where this Catholic approach binds us to necessary principles and conclusions – and where there is considerable freedom for disagreement.



## PRAYER LIST

Please pray for the health of these people

Ashtyn	Leroy Eischens	Greg King	Lars Romo
Helen Alberg	Sage Erie	Mary King	Charles Roth
Steve Alberg	Roberto Estrada	Charlene Klotz	Janet Roth
Doug Adams	Lindsey Falzone	Cody Klotz	Mr. Rudolph
Carla Amaya	Lily Faufau	Hank Klotz	Karen Ruprecht
Sally Anderson	Kathy Fleck	Brian Koepemick	Kay Sauer
Bernice Bailey	Charlie Fleming	Joyce Kortuem	Jim Schrammel
Jovita Barbosa	Margaret Frank	Jane & Judy Koza	Joan Schuebel
Annie Barnum	Joyce Garcia	Don Krieger	Becky Scott
Arthur Bellair	Loretta Goers	Nancy Krieger	Dave Seidel
Larry Bernauer	Judy Graybill	Mike & Pearl Kush	Luna Sines
Lou Brager	Jim Greengard	Ann Lasky	Sue Smith
Claire Celski	Jackie Heintz	Kitty Hartman Lehner	Frances Snavely
Evelyn Cieslak	Jose Henriquez	Cesario Lopez, Sr.	Dean Sonnek
Dick Chlebeck	Lillian Henriquez	Cesario Lopez, III	Bill Steinmeyer
Lois Chlebeck	Tom Hoffman	Delores Lopez	Eric Stotts
Pam Chlebeck	Chad & Kathy Houston	Lily Rose Lopez	Bill Sylvester
Tammye Cleveland	Cheryle Huberty	Linda Diane Lopez	Jeanette Teeters
Emily Coad	David Jacobson	Mario Lopez	Steven Teeters
Connie Collins	Chuck Jasper	Gary MacCarthy	Jackie Van Duzee
John Colwell	Rachel Jensen	Al Mangine	Dorothy Vayder
Pat Connolly	Tim Jensen	Kitty Massara	Ruth Veilleux
Shannon Brown Cruz	Tim Jesinek	Casey Mencke	Karla Walters
Roxanne Domini	Richard Johnson	Neil Pechmann	Linda Weiss
Danny Dressel	Pam Kammeyer	Jeff Peltier	Barbara Winkle
Elijah Dressel			

If you would like to add a loved one to our prayer list, please contact Martha at 651-738-2646 or [mpraska@transfigurationmn.org](mailto:mpraska@transfigurationmn.org).

## Mass Intentions

Masses will be offered for each of these intentions.

### Sunday, June 13

Fr. George Welzbacher  
Ben Weichman †  
The People of Transfiguration

### Monday, June 14

Jeanann Sluss †

### Tuesday, June 15

Poor Souls in Purgatory  
Deceased Members of the  
C. R. Johnston Family

### Wednesday, June 16

Colleen McLaughlin †

### Thursday, June 17

JoAnn Preiner †

### Friday, June 18

John & Ann Frascone †

### Saturday, June 19

Bernadette Losinski †  
Marvin Krinke †

### Sunday, June 20

Frank W. Heintz, Sr. †  
Louis & B. J. Haak †  
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.



In just a few short weeks, a treasured Transfiguration tradition will make a triumphant return – with a twist. Our Feast Day Festival WILL be held on **Saturday, August 7**. This year's festival will feature live music, kids' games, great food, and of course, a raffle!

But the main attraction this year will be a bit different. The 2021 Festival theme is “Family Reunion,” and the main attraction will be our fellow parishioners, especially those who have been away during the pandemic. Our Parish is a family, and we are having a reunion! It is time to come home.

These past 15 months have challenged us all. Some of us have been sick. Some have had to endure financial hardships. We had to celebrate Easter in a parking lot and went months without receiving our Lord in the Eucharist. Some of us still have not been back to in-person Mass.



We have had a very safe and successful school year - Praise God - and our weekend Mass celebrations are almost back to normal. We continue to follow the safety guidelines set by the state and federal government and those regulations now allow for a parish-wide social gathering. As Father Erickson would say: It's time to PAR-TAY!

It is time to come home, to gather as we used to every fall, and to listen to music and let our kids run around in a safe and loving community, winning “priceless treasures” and sugary two liters of soda. It is time to anxiously check our raffle tickets as the winning numbers are called out.

We cannot wait to get this party started. Rather than fill your calendars in the first week of school or compete with other fall events, we are going to properly celebrate our Parish Feast Day with a Feast Day Festival on Saturday, August 7. Mark your calendars and keep an eye out for Raffle tickets and volunteer sign-ups. We can't wait to greet you with a heart-felt "Welcome Home!"

## Totus Tuus

Totus Tuus is a Catholic-based summer program focused on the virtues of the Saints and the beauty of our Catholic faith. Four college students volunteer their summer to travel around the Archdiocese to put on these week long programs in parishes to share their faith, enthusiasm and joy for the Catholic Church. This year Transfiguration will be hosting Totus Tuus June 28-July 2 for elementary and PreK students and June 27-July 1 for middle and high school students. We still have spots available, please visit our parish website to register.



# FROM ERIN ETHIER, PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

Last week I explained where Transfiguration's long-term debt originated and why we refinanced it in 2012. This week I am providing background on short-term debt.

## Line of Credit

Prior to 2010, Transfiguration administration approved the use of a \$300,000 line of credit that was intended to assist with cash flow. Unfortunately, at some point by the end of 2011, it was being used to maintain a level of spending that exceeded operating revenues. By January of 2012, the line of credit balance was \$288,231 and the parish could not pay it off. Father Baer requested a review by the parish finance council, and they voted to stop drawing funds from the line of credit immediately, along with approving a monthly second collection to pay it off. Significant steps were also implemented to reduce operating expenses and balance the parish budget. Staffing was cut significantly and all ministries and programs within Transfiguration were put on a strict budget to get expenses under control.

The line of credit was paid off in December 2014 through the second collection and regular contributions by parishioners.

## Accrued Archdiocesan Assessment

Every parish in the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis pays an annual assessment to fund the services, programs and ministries of the Archbishop. Transfiguration's assessment is approximately \$120,000 per year. In December of 2012, we owed "back" assessments of \$139,565 and could not make our current assessment payments of \$9,831/month. In January of 2013, the finance council committed to staying current with the current assessment and put additional funds toward the "back" assessment amount whenever possible. Transfiguration made the final payment on the "back" assessment in March 2018 and has stayed current on assessment billings since that time.

Next week I will provide information on the origins of the Big Ticket Capital Improvement Fund.

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