



# St. Mary's Catholic Church



## February 28, 2021– Second Sunday of Lent - Cycle B

**St. Mary's - Shenandoah**  
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**Tues - 9-2**

**Fri - Closed**

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*Diane Strunk*

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712-246-1718

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246-9812

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**Director of Religious Education**

402-813-2113



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

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.  
- Mk 9:7-8

Excerpt from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCC

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**Welcome to St. Mary's Church on this Second Sunday of Lent. "Listen to him." In today's Gospel, we hear God's voice from the heavens directing Peter, James, and John, Jesus' closest disciples, to listen to Jesus. We can use this reminder as well. Are we listening to him? How is Jesus speaking to us today as we pray, as we hear God's word, as we celebrate this liturgy in memory of what he has done for us? Let us listen to him.**

## Readings for week February 28, 2021

**Sunday:** Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 [9]/Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10

**Monday:** Dn 9:4b-10/Ps 79:8, 9 11 and 13 [cf. 103:10a]/Lk 6:36-38

**Tuesday:** Is 1:10, 16-20/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23 [23b]/Mt 23:1-12

**Wednesday:** Jer 18:18-20/Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16 [17b]/Mt 20:17-28

**Thursday:** Jer 17:5-10/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [40:5a]/Lk 16:19-31

**Friday:** Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21 [5a]/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

**Saturday:** Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 [8a]/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

**Next Sunday:** Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [Jn 6:68c]/1 Cor 1:22-25/Jn 2:13-25 or Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 [8]/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

## Cycle B—Reflection on Readings

### Second Sunday of Lent

Genesis 22:1-2,9,10-13,15-18; Psalm 116

Romans 8:31-34; Mark 9:2-10



### Theme: Peak Moments

Peak moments, to use the description of psychologist Abraham Maslov, have an important role in our lives. When time seems to stop, we see the mystery of the known with fresh eyes and eternity seems to break into time. Such moments can be in Church, when we fall in love, or even in simple scenes of beauty in nature, or anywhere. How easy we bandy about the word "love". We love pizza, we love our community, we love our friends.

Today's readings see love not as a momentary emotion but as a lifelong commitment. Nothing is too demanding than to show one's profound dedication.

#### Mother's joy

A mother is busily getting breakfast for her young family. The kitchen is filled with sunlight, the children are laughing and talking while the husband is playing with the baby. Suddenly, she stops, looks at the scene and is overwhelmed with joy and love for her family and even tears of gratitude begin to fill her eyes.

My beloved, we all need such moments in our lives when we can experience the unmistakable love and mercy and protection of God pursuing us. Perhaps that is why the church places the Transfiguration of the Lord among the somber Lenten readings as we prepare for the awful events of Good Friday. Transfiguration was Christ's peak moment. Jesus was about to begin his terrifying journey to Calvary. But he had a marvelous experience on Mount Tabor.

#### Getting your peak moments

We must often pray for such experience of God's love which will give us special strength in our sometimes-hard spiritual journey. For example, we will be called like Abraham to obey God's exceedingly difficult demands at times. In his case, he was asked to sacrifice his only son (Gen 22:2), and he obeyed in the faith that God still loved him. *Faith is trusting obedience in a loving Father.* It is a negation of any reliance on one's own powers and resources.

#### How strong is your faith?

Human beings cannot always see the logic behind God's judgments and way of running his world. The triumph of evil and unfair suffering can often seem to lack sense of fairness, but faith is the conviction that it is all somehow an expression and a means of God's love for every individual. Behind the trials of suffering, the loving hand of God leads his children along the path to perfect happiness.

#### Sacrifice your only best

The Genesis account of the sacrifice of Isaac is dramatic. God has been promising Abraham a host of descendants and possession of a great land. The promise now seems jeopardized when God asks Abraham to sacrifice Isaac. Yet Abraham will go to this extent. Abraham's love of God means letting go, even of Isaac.

To dramatize the extent of God's willingness to assist us, Paul appeals to a specific kind of love. "He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else?" (Romans 8:32). Thus, God and Abraham both refuse to set limits on their capacity to love.

The Transfiguration relates both to Jesus' transfiguration and to the Christian's transformation through self-giving -- letting go.

#### Let's Act now

Letting go takes many forms. Life may call us to let go of a career that is damaging to self and family, of a habit that is destroying health or relationships, of purely selfish interests. These are but a few examples of that central reality in life -- that loving means letting go. May our sacrifice for the Lord yield an eternal harvest. Remain Blessed!

# Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



<b>Saturday</b> 3:30pm 4:30pm	<b>Feb 27</b> Confessions Mass for Matt McIntyre+
<b>Sunday</b> 6:30am 10:30am - Also Livestream Zoom	<b>Feb 28 2nd Sunday of Lent</b> Mass for Hughie Laughlin+ Mass for Jose Refegio Aguero Trejo+
<b>Monday</b> No Mass	<b>March 1</b> Fr Raphael Day off
<b>Tuesday</b> 12:10pm	<b>March 2</b> Mass for Donna Currie+
<b>Wednesday</b> 12:10pm	<b>March 3 St. Katharine Drexel, Virgin</b> Mass for Berky Martin Family
<b>Thursday</b> 12:10pm	<b>March 4 St. Casimir</b> Mass for Bishop William Joensen of Des Moines
<b>Friday</b> 12:10pm	<b>March 5</b> Mass for Paul Aust+
<b>Saturday</b> 3:30pm 4:30pm	<b>March 6</b> Confessions Mass for Maureen Hansen+
<b>Sunday</b> 6:30am 10:30am - Also Livestream Zoom	<b>March 7 3rd Sunday of Lent</b> Mass for David Maher+ Mass for Mike Teachout+



## Stations of the Cross

**Friday, March 5th @  
5:30pm  
via Zoom - Shenandoah**

### Lectors - March 6th & 7th

**4:30pm — Blaine Maher  
6:30am — Pete Wenstrand  
10:30am — Quentin Slater**

## Motivation of the week

**MAY THE LESSON MAKE US A STRONGER FAMILY  
AND CARRY US THROUGH 2021**

A car ahead was moving like a turtle and didn't have a chance to pass the driver despite my continuous honking! I was on brink of losing my cool when I noticed the small sticker on the car's rear!

**"Physically challenged; Please be patient."**

And that changed everything!! I immediately went calm & slowed down!! In fact, I got a little protective of the car & the driver!!! I reached work a few minutes late, but it was ok!

And then it struck me. Would I have been patient if there was no sticker!? Why do we need stickers to be patient with people!?

Will we be more patient & kind with others if people had labels pasted on their foreheads?

Labels like —

"Lost my job",

"Fighting cancer",

"Going through a bad divorce",

"Suffering Emotional abuse " „

"Lost a loved one",

"Feeling worthless" ,

"Financially messed up"

..... and more like these!!!!

Everyone is fighting a battle we know nothing about. The least we can do is be PATIENT & KIND!!!

**Let us respect the invisible labels!!!**

## This & That

- We begin reading the Apostolic letter "Patris Corde" of Pope Francis for the month of March as part of the year of St. Joseph. This was sent via email as an attachment a few weeks ago. If can't print, please see the secretary for a copy.
- There will be Stations of the Cross in Shenandoah on March 5th @5:30pm. Watch out for a zoom link if you can't be present.

## St. Mary's Church Support

**Tithes - \$3,334.00**

**Plate - \$178.00**



### Birthday's

**3-7 Luke Mather**  
**3-7 Richard Haigwood**  
**3-8 Maggie Troxel**

**St. Mary's Shenandoah Parishioners who would like to have their Birthday's & Anniversaries in the Church Bulletin, please email them to: saintmaryoffice.shen@gmail.com. Thank You**



**Mary Laughlin**  
**Mary Lightfoot**  
**Patricia Steffes**  
**Evelyn Pontious**  
**Carla Offenburger**  
**Helen Lewis**  
**Mary Berning**  
**Homebound Parishioners**



**Knights of Columbus Council 1479.** Meet the **second Tuesday of each month.** Meal at 7pm followed by meeting at St. Mary's Parish Hall in Shenandoah.

**Legion of Mary** group meets every Thursday at **5:30pm via Zoom.**

**BAPTISM:** Please call the Church office to schedule the Baptism. A class is required for first-time parents.

**1<sup>ST</sup> COMMUNION AND RECONCILIATION SACRAMENTS:** Eligibility to receive these Sacraments includes being Baptized, in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade or above, enrolled in the Religious Education Program, and meet Sunday class attendance requirements including extra Sacrament Lessons. Please contact Lynda Marshall for more information.

**CONFIRMATION:** This Sacrament is offered every other year to 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> graders who have received their 1<sup>st</sup> Communion and Reconciliation Sacraments, meet the criteria of two years attendance in the Religious Education Program-Youth Ministry's Sunday classes and attend extra Sacrament Lessons. Please contact Lynda Marshall for more information.

**MARRIAGE:** Couples planning a wedding at St. Mary's should contact Fr. Raphael at least 6 months prior to the wedding to begin the preparation process.

**RCIA:** Each Fall the parish forms a group of adults who are interested in becoming Catholic, or in learning about the faith. Contact the Parish Office or Fr. Raphael.

**CARE OF THE SICK:** Please contact the Parish Office or Fr. Raphael to receive the Sacrament of the Sick, or if you would like a visit while in the hospital or Communion brought to your home. Eucharist is taken to the homebound on Sundays by Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.

**PARISH REGISTRATION:** If you would like to register in the parish, please introduce yourself to Fr Raphael or stop by the Church Office. Forms are also available at the back of Church. Completed forms can be dropped in the collection basket.

**UPDATE OF PARISH ROSTER:** A constant effort of the parish office is updating our current registered parishioners email addresses, home addresses and home and cell phone numbers. Please address these changes to the church office. If you are new to the parish, please call the office to register or pick up form in back of Church. If you are moving to a new location, or if parishioners know of someone who has moved, please call the parish office.

If you are in need of sacramental records or would like **Masses** offered for anyone, please contact the Church Office. Envelopes are in back of Church. Masses are \$5.00 per Mass.

**PARISH HALL RENTING:** Please contact the Church Office. All communication with usage must be communicated with the Church Office. Parishioners using the Parish Hall for meetings or any other purposes should contact the Church Office.



# Take Up Your Cross

What good is it for a man to gain the whole world,  
yet forfeit his soul? Mark 8:36

Based on Mark 8:34-37



V	M	H	E	O	S	O	D	F	W	C	N	E	X	A
K	Z	H	W	S	L	H	V	E	O	H	R	J	W	Y
U	Z	T	C	O	W	I	B	Q	N	R	O	O	T	H
A	C	L	I	O	R	V	F	D	G	Y	F	L	W	N
V	S	D	L	L	P	L	E	E	S	X	Y	E	E	D
B	K	L	E	N	R	A	D	I	E	G	M	G	I	D
D	O	L	Z	V	Y	R	S	O	U	L	Y	A	C	T
F	L	W	Z	W	D	Q	I	X	Z	I	R	I	R	G
H	Y	Z	J	R	U	D	C	M	V	X	G	N	O	O
V	I	R	D	I	S	C	I	P	L	E	S	B	S	S
Z	I	M	F	L	Y	D	E	X	J	R	E	S	S	P
E	W	H	S	V	K	V	P	G	F	S	C	T	P	E
O	I	L	P	E	A	J	M	K	O	O	G	U	X	L
E	I	X	P	S	L	A	J	L	S	O	W	N	C	X
F	R	Z	I	E	Q	F	Z	A	E	O	D	T	C	W

FORFEIT  
WORLD  
SAVE  
CROSS

WHOLE  
LOSE  
GOOD  
DISCIPLES

GAIN  
FOLLOW  
HIMSELF  
LIFE

DENY  
GOSPEL  
SOUL  
CROWD



## POPE FRANCIS WORDS for LENT

Do you want to fast this Lent?

Fast from hurting words and say kind words.  
Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.  
Fast from anger and be filled with patience.  
Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.  
Fast from worries and trust in God.  
Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.  
Fast from pressures and be prayerful.  
Fast from bitterness and fill your heart with joy.  
Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.  
Fast from grudges and be reconciled.  
Fast from words and be silent so you can **listen**.



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