

TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD PARISH

February 21, 2021



23 South Fifth Avenue, Highland Park, NJ 08904 Phone: 732-572-0977 • Fax: 732-572-7497 Website: transfiguration-parish.com Parish Email: transfiguration.parish@verizon.net

Religious Education Email: edisonparish@verizon.net

St. Paul the Apostle Church Corner of 6th & Raritan Avenue Highland Park, NJ 08904 Guardian Angels Church

37 Plainfield Avenue Edison, NJ 08817

Vision Statement

The vision of Transfiguration of the Lord Parish is to have an enlightening and transforming experience of God through a greater faith and knowledge of Jesus.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

St. Paul the Apostle

Sunday – 10:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Spanish Mass Daily Mass: Mon. Wed. and Fri. – 8:00 a.m. Sacrament of Penance By Appointment **Guardian Angels** Saturday Vigil–4:00 p.m. Sunday – 8:30 & 11:15 a.m. Daily Mass: Tues. Thurs. and Sat. 9:00 a.m. Sacrament of Penance Saturday 3:00 – 3:30 p.m.

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION AS ANNOUNCED IN BULLETIN

Devotions to Our Lady of Perpetual Help: after the 8:00 a.m. Mass, Wednesday, St. Paul's Novenas for Miraculous Medal and St. Jude: Tuesday at 9 a.m. Mass, Guardian Angels

Eucharistic Adoration

Saturday 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon at Guardian Angels

Rev. Abraham Lotha, PhD, Pastor Deacon Edward Krupa Carol Terzino, Administrative Assistant

Parish Office Hours-Monday through Thursday-9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Friday-9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Parish Membership: We welcome new members to our Parish family and request you register in the Parish as soon as possible. Active membership is determined by registration, faithful participation and giving of one's time, talent and resources to this community of faith. The parish cannot issue certificates of eligibility for sacramental sponsorship, give recommendations or character references if a person is not an active parishioner.

The Sacrament of Baptism: Baptism is the celebration through which a child is brought into the faith of the Catholic Church. Parents must be registered and practicing members of the parish. Parents and sponsors are required to attend a pre-baptismal class. Sponsors must be practicing Catholics in good standing and able to obtain a certificate of eligibility from their parish.

Sacrament of Matrimony: The Sacrament of Matrimony requires a time of spiritual, intellectual and emotional preparation. Couples should arrange with the Parish Office one (1) year prior to the wedding date. Please call the parish office for an appointment with the pastor prior to making any other wedding plans.

<u>Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults:</u> Anyone who feels called by God to become a member of the Catholic Church participates in the RCIA Program. A series of instructions and liturgical ceremonies designed to give total formation in the Catholic Faith.

Pastoral Care of the Sick: Any parishioner who is sick, aged or incapacitated may receive the Eucharist at home. Please contact the Parish Office to have a priest visit you at home or in the hospital.



After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming th gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God at bond. Becart, and bolices in the control of MK 114 15

1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD PARISH

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, February 22 St. Paul's Church 8:00 a.m. **People of the Parish** Tuesday, February 23 **Guardian Angels Church Florence McLoughlin and Family** 9:00 a.m. Wednesday, February 24 St. Paul's Church 8:00 a.m. **Geraldine Bertoline†** Thursday, February 25 **Guardian Angels Church** 9:00 a.m. James Johnston⁺ Requested by: Anne Johnston Friday, February 26 St. Paul's Church 8:00 a.m. Dorothy Borrat Requested by: Family Saturday, February 27 **Guardian Angels Church** 9:00 a.m. Leo Prakash† Requested by: Swamy Family 4:00 p.m. The O'Connell Family⁺ Requested by: Noreen Fitzgerald Sunday, February 28 2nd Sundy in Lent St. Paul's Church Lucy Rizcot 10:00 a.m. Requested by: Family Ramon DeJesust 12:30 p.m. Requested By: Family **Guardian Angels Church** 8:30 a.m. Louis Cirignano⁺ Requested by: daughter, Debbie 11:15 a.m. **Kevin Hoey†** Requested by: Teri & Jerry Rizzo

Mass for a Loved One

It is a good Catholic tradition to have a Mass said for the repose of the soul of a loved one, for a person who is ill, for a special intention, for a celebration such as birthdays or anniversaries, and in thanksgiving. The normative offering for an announced Mass in the Diocese of Metuchen is \$10.00. Please call the parish office, 732-572-0977 to offer a Mass intention.

Parish Raffle

50/50 raffle books have been sent to all parishioners. The drawing will be held on Saturday, March 13th at approximately 5:00 p.m. All the proceeds received from this raffle will be used to pay down our parish expenses. All are welcome to attend the drawing, but the winners do not need to be present to win. Your support of our parish has been wonderful and is greatly appreciated.

Donations for Memorial & Intentions 2021

Thank you to all the donors for the following items for our parish for 2021:

Breaking Bread Hymnals - \$1,980 - Garlatti Family Celebremos (Spanish Hymnal) - \$312-Herrera Family Wine—\$500 - Minerva Brizuela & Lourdes Lindaya Hosts—\$1,000—\$500 In Memory of William & Arlene Eichler and \$500 anonymous Hosts (Low Gluten)-\$75.00-anonymous Palm Leaves—\$250—anonymous Candles & Candle Oil—anonymous

<u>LITURGICAL MINISTER SCHEDULE</u> Guardian Angels Worship Site

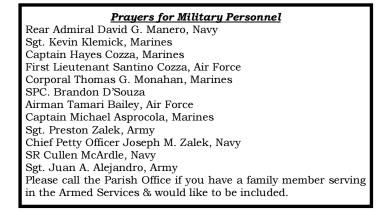
<u>Saturday, February 2'</u>	7 4:00 p.m.	
Lector:	Anissa Varkoly	
Eucharistic Minister:	Lily Ramirez, Norma Padernal	
Ushers: R. 1	R. Marlow, T. Cherepon, M. Cherepon	
Sunday, February 28	8:30 a.m.	
Lector:	Grace Ciotta	
Eucharistic Minister:	Gloria Ramirez, Angelo Damone	
Ushers: A. I	Damone, J. Markano, C. Suzberic	
Sunday, February 28	11:15 a.m.	
Lector:	Gina D'Urso	
Eucharistic Minister:	Gloria Rada, Hermie Tenchavez	
Ushers	P. Weir, J. Virrey, T. Sinker	
St. Paul the Apostle Worship Site		
<u>Sunday, February 21</u>	10:00 a.m.	
Lector:	Marybeth Iannacone	
Eucharistic Minister:	Isabel Swamy	
Ushers: O	. Emmett, J. Adadevoh, J. Swamy	

Please pray for the sick

and homebound. Peggy Abecker Ruth Bach Dorothy Baum Rita Beckhorn Alfred Broderick Carol Byrne Charles Byrne Steven Dempsey Migdalia Diaz Dee Donnelly Felipe Elimanco Ed Firgau Martha Gutierrez Mark Iannacone Sr. Donna Kane Brittany Knapp John Kriegl Kathy Lamela Nicholas Lawrence Anthony Lepore David Lightener Adam Lubonski Donovan Mak

Joan McArdle Paul Millar Dolores Neumann Stephanie P. Paul Pachucki Ellen Pelosi Kathy Young Phillips Antonia Sacristan Dolores Sadowski Olga Santiago Robert F. Santoro Jack Santos Mickey Schiavone Marge Shirley Camille Silverman Joseph Skalla Cathy Roesinger Sloane Steve & Alice Marie Sloss Christina Stevenson Helen Szaranowski Jean Toth Frank Valendo Joe Valendo William B. Zalek

Please pray for all victims of the coronavirus, doctors, nurses, medical staff, first responders, grocery store workers and families with loved ones suffering from this illness.



February 21, 2021

First Sunday of Lent

Dear brothers and sisters,

Happy Lent!

During Lent, the church provides us with another season for spiritual growth. In order to help you journey through Lent, our parish is providing a free copy of *Not by Bread Alone (No sólo de pan)*. In just minutes per day, the brief meditations can help deepen your experience of God during this season of prayer, penance, fasting and almsgiving.

What Lent means for your stewardship? Last year, during Lent, many in our parish chose to give up offertory envelopes and changed to eGiving through Faith Direct. The steady support of recurring givers has helped sustain our parish and our ministries during the COVID-19 pandemic.

As you can imagine, giving dropped significantly during the past year, at a time when we had to work even harder to stay engaged with church families and the broader community. Our parish has sought out every possible way to reduce operational expenses without scaling back ministries, and encouraging eGiving is one of the most effective ways to lower our day-to-day costs. Checks and offertory envelopes mean added costs for paper and extra staff time to tabulate and process those gifts. When people switch to eGiving, the savings is significant, and it makes a difference for ministries you care about most.

We invite each of you again to prayerfully consider making the switch to eGiving through Faith Direct if you have not already done so. Your recurring gifts through Faith Direct will allow our parish to operate efficiently and be there for those who need us. Please answer the call and sign up here: faith.direct/NJ1058

During Lent, we want to renew our faith and show our thanks to God for His blessings even in the most challenging times. Almsgiving is one way we can honor Christ's sacrifice while providing for our parish's to share the Gospel.

Once again, this year, our Lenten Project will be to help four mission churches within the USA suggested by Catholic Extension. Our target is to collect \$8,000 between First Sunday of Lent and Easter Sunday. The amount we collect will be sent to Catholic Extension to be disbursed equally among the following four missions:

1.) Queen of All Saints parish in Lee County, KY.

2.) Good Shepherd Mission Church in the Diocese of Savannah, GA.

3.) Fr. Fabian and the parish community of El Buen Pastor in the Diocese of El Paso, TX.

4.) Sister Mary and Angela's Piazza, a "drop-in center" for Native American women living in poverty in Billings, MT.

Please consider donating to our parish Lenten Project. More information about these four missions will be available in our weekly bulletin and on our parish website transfigurationparish.com.

Thank you for your generosity. May God bless you and your loved ones this Lenten season and throughout the year.

Fr. Abraham

February 21, 2021

Upcoming Events

- 1. Saturday, March 13th Winter Raffle Drawing
- 2. Saturday, March 20th, Talk on St. Joseph
- 3. Thursday, April 22th First Reconciliation
- 4. Friday, April 23th Burgers N Bingo
- 5. Sunday, May 16th First Communion
- 6. Sunday, June 6th Confirmation

OFFERINGS

Sunday Offertory 2/14/21: \$5,203 ShopRite: 2/14/21 \$1,280-\$64 Bring a Dollar: 2/14/21 - \$131 Catholic Press: \$494

Total Guardian Angels Stove Project To Date- \$9,927

Due to the ongoing pandemic, we will not be able to use the kitchen stove for the next few months. We are temporarily suspending collections for the stove project. Instead our next project will be for snow removal. Thank you for your generosity.

Snow Removal		
<u>As of 2/21/21</u>		
Shop Rite:	\$ 1,254	
Bring a Dollar to Church	3,202	
Movie Night	250	
Donation	25	
Total	\$ 4,731	

Second Collection

This Weekend, there will be a second collection for our Lenten Project.



Stations of the Cross during Lent After 8 AM Mass every Friday at St. Paul's 7 PM at Guardian Angels Church led by:

- 2/19: Rosary Altar Society 2/26: Legion of Mary 3/05: Parish Council 3/12: Religious Education
- 3/19: Knights of Columbus
- 3/26: Youth Group

4/02: Combined (Good Friday)

Lenten Project: Virtual Immersion

Join Catholic Extension's Virtual Immersion trip – Native Peoples of America & The Catholic Church on Thursday, February 25th at 1:00 pm CT. We will visit with Catholic faith leaders and women leaders in the Native American community throughout the country, including the Navajo and Apache reservations. We will also be joined by Sister Mary from Billings, MT. Register in advance for this meeting:

https://us02 web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMoc

Nuestra Visión Parroquial

La visión de la Parróquia de la Transfiguración del Señor es vivir una experiencia de Dios que nos ilumine y nos transforme a causa de un mejor conocimiento de Jesús y una fé mayor en Él.

<u>Coordinatores</u> Lectores: Tony Martin Ministros eucarísticos: Maria Pinelo Servidores de altar: Elizabeth Martinez

El sacramento del bautismo

El bautismo es la celebración a través de la cual un niño es llevado a la fe de la Iglesia Católica. Los padres deben estar registrados y practicando miembros de la parroquia. Los padres están obligados a asistir a una clase pre-bautismal. Los padrinos deben ser católicos practicantes y poder obtener un certificado de elegibilidad de su parroquia.

<u>Membresia Parroquial</u>

Nuevos residents de la comunidad son bienvenidos a registrarse como feligreses. Tambien les pedimos que cualquier combio de direccion, correo electronico o numbero de telefono sea sometido a la oficina de la parroquia con prontitud.

<u>RCIA</u>

Cualquiera que se sienta llamado por Dios para convertirse en miembro de la Iglesia Católica participa en el programa RICA. Una serie de instrucciones y ceremonias litúrgicas diseñadas para dar buena información en la fe católica.

Cuidado pastoral de los enfermos

Cualquier feligrés que esté enfermo, envejecido o incapacitado puede recibir la eucaristía en casa. Por favor llame a la oficina de la parroquia.

Misa Intención Especial

Favor de tener presente que usted puede ofrecer una misa para sus seres queridos o una intención especial. Vea el boletín para las fechas disponibles en abril.

Educación Religiosa

La clases se reunen de 11:00 am a 12:10 pm en el centro de la parroquia aquí en Highland Park. Se requiere asistencia consistente.

From the Pastor:

¡Durante este tiempo de incertidumbre, la Transfiguration of the Lord necesita su apoyo ahora más que nunca! Quiero presentarles una forma nueva y segura de apoyar nuestro ofertorio parroquial y nuestras segundas colecciones: Faith Direct. Faith Direct permite a los feligreses hacer sus contribuciones a la Iglesia, incluso cuando no puede asistir a la iglesia. Ahora, a través de débito directo de su cuenta corriente / de ahorro o de su tarjeta de crédito / débito. Puede aplicar la conveniencia del débito directo a las ofertas de su parroquia de la misma manera que ahora puede usarlo para hacer sus pagos de hipoteca, automóvil o matrícula.

Faith Direct también le ofrece tarjetas de ofertorio personalizadas para reemplazar sus sobres para la canasta de recolección para cuando finalmente podamos reunirnos nuevamente para la misa. Para esta forma de dar seguirá siendo una forma estable y efectiva para que la parroquia reciba sus regalos

Únase a mí para inscribirse respondiendo al correo electrónico que recibirá o visite faith.direct/NJ1058 para inscribirse de forma segura en línea. ¡Dios te bendiga! Rev. Abraham Lotha

7 DOMINGOS CON SAN JOSÉ (7 Sundays with Saint Joseph)

Dedicaremos los 7 domingos anteriores a la fiesta de San José para meditar sobre sus 7 alegrías y dolores

Domingos del 31 de Enero al 14 de Marzo de 2021.

Registrate para recibir por correo electrónico: una oración, cita bíblica, meditación dirigida por Allan Caballero - Director de la Oficina de Evangelización Hispana, y la intercesión del día.



Seminario en línea: El Uso de Herramientas de Aprendizaje en Linea por la Iglesia para la Formacion de Catolicos Hispanos

Martes 23 de Febrero de 2021 a las 2:30 PM.

Acompaña a Allan Caballero, Director de Evangelización Hispana, en el seminario en línea: The Church's Use of Online Learning Tools for the Formation of Hispanic Catholics. El seminario incluye una mesa redonda en la que participarán Alejandro Aguilera de USCCB y el Dr. Hosffman Ospino del Boston Collegue.

CURSO VIRTUAL-SOBRE MORALIDAD CATÓLICA

Inicia el 10 de Febrero de 2021 a las 7:30 PM (VIRTUAL COURSE ON CATHOLIC MORALITY, LAUNCHING ON FEBRUARY 10, 2021 AT 7:30 PM) La moralidad se refiere al entendimiento del modo cristiano de vida. Este entendimiento lo buscamos por la mediación de Jesús, que se describe como "el camino, la verdad y la vida." (Juan 14:6).



Question for Children: What will you do this Lent to become more like Jesus?

Question for Youth: Lent gives us a chance to do things differently – to "go to the desert." How can you make Lent a time for growing in faith?

Question for Adults: What is the one area of your life which you most want to "reform" as you get ready to embrace the Gospel, what is it?

Youth Ministry

Transfiguration youth group meets on Wednesday for any high school age students! Meetings will be held virtually via Zoom and begin at 7:00 pm. A link to the meeting will be sent out weekly. If you would like to participate please email Sean O'Brien, Youth Minister, at smv.obrien@gmail.com, with your name, grade and school. We will continue to monitor the situation and update everyone when meetings are able to be held inperson.

Amoris Laetitia: The preparation of the celebration

216. The couple can also meditate on the biblical readings and the meaningfulness of the rings they will exchange and the other signs that are part of the rite. Nor would it be good for them to arrive at the wedding without ever having prayed together, one for the other, to seek God's help in remaining faithful and generous, to ask the Lord together what he wants of them, and to consecrate their love before an image of the Virgin Mary. Those who help prepare them for marriage should help them experience these moments of prayer that can prove so beneficial. "The marriage liturgy is a unique event, which is both a family and a community celebration. The first signs of Jesus were performed at the wedding feast of Cana. The good wine, resulting from the Lord's miracle that brought joy to the beginning of a new family, is the new wine of Christ's covenant with the men and women of every age... Frequently, the celebrant speaks to a congregation that includes people who seldom participate in the life of the Church, or who are members of other Christian denominations or religious communities. The occasion thus provides a valuable opportunity to proclaim the Gospel of Christ".

Discerning the Priesthood

Here are 10 tried-and-true ways to discern God's calling for you:

1. Pray and Listen asking the Lord daily to show you His will.

2. Pray the Rosary asking for the intercession of Mary, Mother of priests.

3. Pray a Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament regularly.

4. Attend Mass frequently (daily if possible) and receive Communion.

- 5. Go to Confession on a consistent basis.
- 6. Read Scripture and meditate on God's Word.

7. Talk to a priest you find approachable and ask for spiritual advice.

8. Contact the Vocation Director.

9. Talk to seminarians when they come home for the holidays.

10. Become involved in your parish.

Church Humor: Offerings for Lent

On the way to Sunday school with his offering money, little Johnny stopped at the convenience store for candy. "Shouldn't you give that money to church?" asked the shopkeeper. "No, I'll spend the money on chocolate, and then you can give it to church."

Year of St. Joseph

On December 8th, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, Pope Francis promulgated a Year of Saint Joseph to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of Pope Pius IX's placing the Universal Church under the patronage of Saint Joseph. In his apostolic letter, Patris Corde, Pope Francis identifies the many reasons why it is of great value for the Church now to reflect on the life of St. Joseph – especially during the year.

<u>A beloved father</u>

3. An obedient father

During the return journey, "when Joseph heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. After being warned in a dream" - now for the fourth time - "he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth" (Mt 2:22-23). The evangelist Luke, for his part, tells us that Joseph undertook the long and difficult journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem to be registered in his family's town of origin in the census of the Emperor Caesar Augustus. There Jesus was born (cf. Lk 2:7) and his birth, like that of every other child, was recorded in the registry of the Empire. Saint Luke is especially concerned to tell us that Jesus' parents observed all the prescriptions of the Law: the rites of the circumcision of Jesus, the purification of Mary after childbirth, the offering of the firstborn to God (cf. 2:21-24).[15] In every situation, Joseph declared his own "fiat", like those of Mary at the Annunciation and Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane. In his role as the head of a family, Joseph taught Jesus to be obedient to his parents (cf. Lk 2:51), in accordance with God's command (cf. Ex 20:12).

Lenten Obligations

So that the Church of Metuchen may be spiritually one in a common observance of Lent, the following days of fast and abstinence are to be observed by all Catholics of the Diocese who enjoy the blessings of good health:

 $1. \ \mbox{The days of fast and abstinence are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. }$

2. All other Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence.

3. From the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday until the celebration of the Easter Vigil on the evening of Holy Saturday, the Easter fast should be observed so that, with uplifted and welcoming hearts, we may be ready to celebrate the joys of the Resurrection. This ancient tradition, intimately connected with the Rites of Holy Week and the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults, is encouraged, especially in those places baptizing catechumens at the Easter Vigil.

The obligation to fast applies only to Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59. To fast in the Catholic tradition means to limit oneself to one full meal during the day so as to experience hunger. The obligation of abstinence affects all Catholics who have reached the age of 14. Abstinence in the Catholic tradition means to abstain from meat.

The obligation of fast and abstinence, as a whole, is a serious obligation. While failure to observe any penitential day in itself may not be considered serious, the failure to observe any penitential days at all, or a substantial number of them without good cause, would be considered a grave matter. Those unable to abstain for a valid reason on any given Friday of Lent are asked to perform some other penitential act, or to abstain on another day.



Ad info. 1-800-477-4574 • Publication Support 1-800-888-4574 • www.4lpi.com

Transfiguration of the Lord, Highland Park, NJ 04-1001