



MAKING JESUS KNOWN

Saint Joseph on the Rio Grande

Catholic Community

February 28, 2021

Second Sunday of Lent

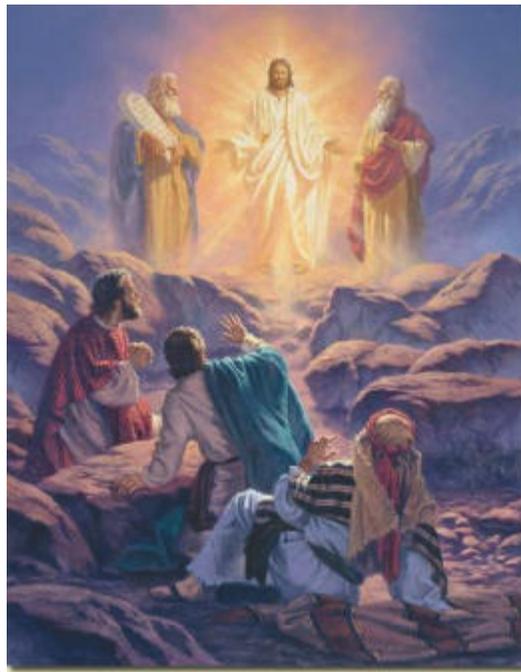
This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.

After six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. Then Elijah appeared to them along with Moses, and they were conversing with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Rabbi, it is good that we are here! Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified. Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; then 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. As they were coming down from the mountain, he charged them not to relate what they had seen to anyone, except when the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what rising from the dead meant.

Mark 9: 2-10



Jesus has been busy in the northern region of Israel as he gathers disciples to his ministry. He has worked great signs, discussed ways to help persons change their habits to live a more faithful Jewish life. His healings give peace to those he cures, and the people are pleased to spend time with him. Jesus has taken time to talk with his disciples

about the stresses he experiences with the Jewish leaders. He makes clear his stand with their criticism and plotting. Things are getting tense, and Jesus wants to reassure them of what the reality is. He helps them see who he is, and again, they hear the Father's voice giving them faith, and courage.

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

The Catholic Community of St. Joseph on the Rio Grande is a member of the Archdiocese of Santa Fe and is in union with the Roman Catholic Church. We believe in and celebrate the presence of Christ in our world through Word and Sacrament. We strive to make Jesus known in the local community through ministries of faith, hospitality, liturgy, compassion and justice.

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FYI: RESTRICTIONS & PROTOCOLS

Please remember that we are still in a pandemic and that precautions need to be taken in order to protect human life and to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

The obligation to attend Mass on Sunday and on the holy days of obligation continues to be dispensed for all. The faithful are reminded that HOME IS THE HOLY PLACE and that they can gather with the members of their household to keep holy the Lord's Day and the Holy Days by their prayer at home. Participation in the Holy Mass can occur either by television or online streaming services. Reflect on the scriptures for the daily Mass readings, pray the rosary and/or the chaplet of Divine Mercy. Prayerfully reflect on the many blessings which God has bestowed upon you and your family and give thanks to God for His love and mercy.

Masses are being celebrated on a daily basis with limited seating. Holy Communion is also being distributed on a daily basis at the end of Mass.

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE IN CHURCH

Saturday: 4:00 pm (live streamed)

Sunday: 10:00 am (Live/You Tube)

[Sunday Mass may be viewed on your mobile device/computer on Sunday beginning about 10:00 am.]

Sunday: 12:00 pm

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE IN CHURCH

Weekdays: 9:00 am (live streamed)

[Mass uploaded and can be viewed later on mobile device/computer.]

COMMUNION: Distributed after Mass

Weekdays: from 9:30 – 9:40 am

Saturday: from 4:45 – 5:15 pm

Sunday: from 10:45 – 11:15 am

Sunday: from 12:45 -- 1:15 pm

Location: Gathering Space

If you come for Communion only, line up on the sidewalk between the church and the Nazareth Center. Keep social distance as indicated by the blue hash marks on the sidewalk. Enter through the far, right door and exit by the opposite door. There are two communion stations inside.

CONFESSION: Saturday 2:00–3:00 pm

Mask required. Wait outside. Only one penitent enters church at a time. Confession heard at the glass door with the sign: CONFESS HERE.

Dress for the weather & stay warm.

Thoughts from the Homily Pope Francis gave
on Ash Wednesday

The Israelites had many temptations during the 40 years they wandered in the desert and “so it is with us,” Francis added. “Our journey back to God is blocked by our unhealthy attachments, held back by the seductive snares of our sins, by the false security of money and appearances, by the paralysis of our discontents.”

“To embark on this journey, we have to unmask these illusions.” In his homily, Pope Francis reflected on St. Paul’s exhortation in 2 Corinthians to “be reconciled to God.”

“Be reconciled: the journey is not based on our own strength,” he said. “Heartfelt conversion, with the deeds and practices that express it, is possible only if it begins with the primacy of God’s work. What enables us to return to him is not our own ability or merit, but his offer of grace.”

“The beginning of the return to God is the recognition of our need for him and his mercy, the need for his grace. This is the right path, the path of humility,” Francis said. He also noted God’s message through the Prophet Joel: “Return to me with all your heart.”

“God now appeals to our hearts,” the pope said. “In this life, we will always have things to do and excuses to offer, but now, brothers and sisters, is the time to return to God.”

According to Pope Francis, Lent is about more than the little sacrifices we make, but about realizing where our hearts are oriented, and turning them back toward relationship with God.

“Lent is a journey that involves our whole life, our entire being,” he said, advising people to reflect on stories of conversion in Sacred Scripture to know how to start the journey of the Lenten season.

Psalm 62: “In you alone is my soul at rest.
My help comes from you.”

As we begin Lent, many of us could do better than “I will give up my daily beer/cheesecake/watching ‘Bridgerton’ etc.” How about enlivening my life in Christ with some daily and personal—that is, unique to me—prayer? Public prayers, like those in the Mass, become mechanical and remain formal unless they’re accompanied daily by personal, private prayer. More often than not it is you or me who is standoffish in our relation with Jesus. He demonstrated real neighborliness by taking our flesh and life and even more than “his” share of suffering. The Lord Jesus is easily available in the Eucharist, in Scripture, in our fellow human beings and in all of nature. Everything else we might think of for Lent is, I think, fairly petty compared to developing a genuinely personal prayer life. (If yours is blazing ahead and well advanced, you need to find something else to read!)

If Lent is about restoring and renewing my relationship with God, that can only be done using some of my language, with some daily discussion of my needs, my hopes, my worries my failures. This is the kind of communication—and even silence—that exists between friends. No one else is going to renew my baptismal promises at Easter. The prayers of the Mass are for a gathering of Individuals, purposely applicable to everyone present, while being unique to no one. They are somewhat like our “how do you do,” or “how’s it going?” or “good morning.” Only a prayer like that of writer Anne Lamott. “Lord, help me not to be such a jerk” can come from my unique self-knowledge and experience. With such frankness and familiarity, we’re on the way to genuine and liberating trust in the Lord.

February 28, 2021
Second Sunday of Lent

Saturday February 27, 2021

4:00 pm

- ✠ Ofelia Romero
- ✠ Violet M Archangel
- ✠ Jose-Mari Mendoza-Sanchez

Sunday February 28, 2021

8:00 am

- ✠ Albino Gallegos
- ✠ Sr. Dianna Ortiz, Ursaline

10:00 am

For the People

12:00 pm

- ✠ Julie Montoya
- ✠ Lupita Tafoya
- Daniel Ohiri Special Intention

Monday March 1, 2021

9:00 am

- ✠ Ofelia Romero

Tuesday March 2, 2021

9:00 am

- ✠ Ofelia Romero

Wednesday March 3, 2021

9:00 am

- ✠ Ofelia Romero
- ✠ Sr. Dianna Ortiz, Ursaline

Thursday March 4, 2021

9:00 am

- ✠ Ofelia Romero

Friday March 5, 2021

9:00 am

- ✠ Ofelia Romero
- ✠ Albert Montaña

Saturday March 6, 2021

4:00 pm

- ✠ Paul Fidel, and Frances Romero -Vigil
- ✠ Antonio, Dolores, and Anthony Lopez
- Catholic Daughters of the Americas

Sunday March 7, 2021

8:00 am

- ✠ Ofelia Romero
- ✠ Elsa Valdez

10:00 am

- ✠ Dora Maestas
- ✠ Ramona Montoya
- Clara Villareal (birthday)

12:00 pm

For the Intention of the People

**MASS SCHEDULE DURING
COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS**

Saturday 4:00 pm Mass with Intentions

Sunday 10:00 am Mass for the People

Sunday 12:30 pm Mass with Intentions

Please note that during this time of pandemic three Masses are being celebrated at SJRG each weekend: Saturday at 4:00 pm and Sunday at 10:00 am. Sunday at 12:00 pm. However Mass intentions are still being accepted for three of the four regularly scheduled Weekend Masses and are shown in the Mass Intentions on this page. Those intentions are fulfilled on Saturday at 4:00 pm. The intentions are read at the Prayers of the Faithful. The pastor is obliged to always celebrate one Mass for the Intention of the People. This is fulfilled at the Sunday 10:00 Mass.

So even though the Regular Schedule shows four Masses every weekend, only three are currently being celebrated with an assembly because of the pandemic. Apologies for any confusion or inconvenience this may have caused you, our parishioners. Once it is safe to do so we will return to our regular schedule of Masses.

Please pray for:

Brittany Miller, Richard Estrada, Linda Weakland, Tommy Trujillo, Andrew Ortiz, Lorenzo Gutierrez, Nate Oiler, Manuel G. Ortiz, Tina Archuleta, Ursula Torres, Isaiah Rodriguez, Mae Gonzales, Faith Sanchez, Sasha Arnn, Roger Carter, Judith Martinez, Tom Perez, Ricky Archuleta, Emily Casaus, Kiat Bong Jazwiec, Ariel Jimenez, Melani Williams, Eileen Carson, Jose Martinez, Benjamin Garcia, Eric Lovato, Mario Romero, Tina Romero, Lucy Brazfield, Patrick Acosta, Dolores Deuel, Arthur Archuleta, Randi Flood, Melissa Huerta, Angelina Romero, Madison Villar, Felipe Apodaca, Tommy Orosco, Alicia Asher, Steven Gonzales, Dominique Esquibel, Stephanie Beirne

Jesus takes Peter, James, and John into a very secluded place and He begins to pray. He asked the disciples to pray and they fall asleep. Then, as they wake up, they see Jesus standing before them with an ineffable (indescribable) manifestation of light and glory which will be His when he reigns as King in days to come. He had laid aside that external glory and for just a few minutes as they watched they see him transfigured (metamorphosed is the Greek word). The point is that the caterpillar had become a butterfly, the one who had so carefully veiled his physical glory took it to himself for a brief moment. The whole purpose of that experience was to reinforce the staggering faith of those apostles. That's exactly what Peter gets out of it when he remembers it and says we did not bring you cunningly devised fables, we made known to you the power of Jesus because we were with Him in the holy mountain. We know He is Messiah and will reign as Messiah because we saw His physical glory.

The point of the Transfiguration was to reinforce the staggering faith of the apostles. As Jesus, Peter, James, and John return from the mountain, they find the other apostles trying to drive a demon out of a man and unable to do so. When they ask why the exorcism won't work, Jesus says it is because of their staggering faith. In the context, what is it that has staggered their faith? It was Jesus' message that He is going to die and that is exactly what the Transfiguration is all about. In such an interesting and compelling way, the Transfiguration illustrates what a careful, sensitive, creative and resourceful teacher Jesus was.

He had been trying to get His impending death across to the disciples and sees how desperately crippled they are by the announcement. So He is sensitive enough, some days later, to provide that sort of a condescending object lesson, where God condescends to give him that physical glory just to reinforce their faith.

Commentary by Brannon Diebert, Christianity.dot com

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 28

2021 Feb28 SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Genesis 22: 1-2. 9a. 10-13. 15-18/ Ps 116 / Romans 8: 31b-34/Mark 9/2-10

2021 Mar 1 Mon: Lenten Weekday
Daniel 9: 4b-10/ Ps 79: 8. 9. 11 and 13/ Luke 6: 36-38

2021 Mar 2 Tue: Lenten Weekday
Isaiah 1: 10. 16-20/ Ps 50: 8-9. 16bc-17. 21 and 23/ Matthew 23: 1-12

2021 Mar 3 Wed: Lenten Weekday/ Katharine Drexel
Jeremiah 18: 18-20/ Ps 31 / Matthew 20: 17-28

2021 Mar 4 Thu: Lenten Weekday/ Casimir
Jeremiah 17: 5-10/ Ps 1: 1-2. 3. 4 and 6/ Luke 16: 19-31

2021 Mar 5 Fri: Lenten Weekday. Day of abstinence from meat (age 14 and up).
Genesis 37: 3-4. 12-13a. 17b-28a/ Ps 105/ Matthew 21: 33-43. 45-46

2021 Mar 6 Sat: Lenten Weekday
Micah 7: 14-15. 18-20/ Ps 103 / Luke 15: 1-3. 132

2021 Mar 7 SUN: THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT Exodus 20: 1-17 or Exodus 20: 1-3. 7-8. 12-17/ Ps 19/John 2:13

GOSPEL FOR MARCH 7

When it was almost time for the Jewish Passover, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple courts he found people selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others sitting at tables exchanging money. So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple courts, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. To those who sold doves he said, "Get these out of here! Stop turning my Father's house into a market!" His disciples remembered that it is written: "Zeal for your house will consume me."¹ The Jews then responded to him, "What sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days." They replied, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?" But the temple he had spoken of was his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken. Now while he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Festival, many people saw the signs he was performing and believed in his name.¹ But Jesus would not entrust himself to them, for he knew all people. He did not need any testimony about mankind, for he knew what was in each person. John 2: 13-25

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