

# ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Consecrated to the  
Pierced Hearts of Jesus and Mary



FEBRUARY 28, 2021 • SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

**Graceful season of Lent...** helpful clarification regarding the three great pillars of religious life.

**FAST:** Eating less food than normal. (does not necessarily mean no food.)

**What you can eat:** One normal, full sized meal, and two smaller meals which if combined would not exceed full meal.

**Why:** “denying material food, which nourishes our body, nurtures our body, nurtures an interior disposition to listen to Christ and be fed by His saving Word. Through fasting and praying, we allow Him to come and satisfy the deepest hunger that we experience in the deepest hunger that we experience in the depths of our being: the hunger and thirst for God.” Pope Benedict XVI

**ABSTINENCE:** Do not eat meat.

**What you can eat:** fish and seafood.

**Why:** “Catholic peoples from time immemorial have set a part Friday for special penitential observance by which they gladly suffer with Christ that they may one day be glorified with Him. This is the heart of the tradition of abstinence from meat on Friday where that tradition has been observed in the holy Catholic Church.” – USCCB

**ALMSGIVING:** Material generosity to the less fortunate.

**What you can give:** money, goods, acts of charity

**Why:** almsgiving “represents a specific why to assist those in need and, at the same time, an exercise in self-denial to free us from attachment to worldly goods... Almsgiving helps us to overcome this constant temptation, teaching us to respond to our neighbor’s needs and to share with others whatever we possess through divine goodness.” – Pope Benedict XVI

*Article provided by the Catholic Company. This article has been updated and was originally published in February 2014. The Catholic Company. All rights reserved.*

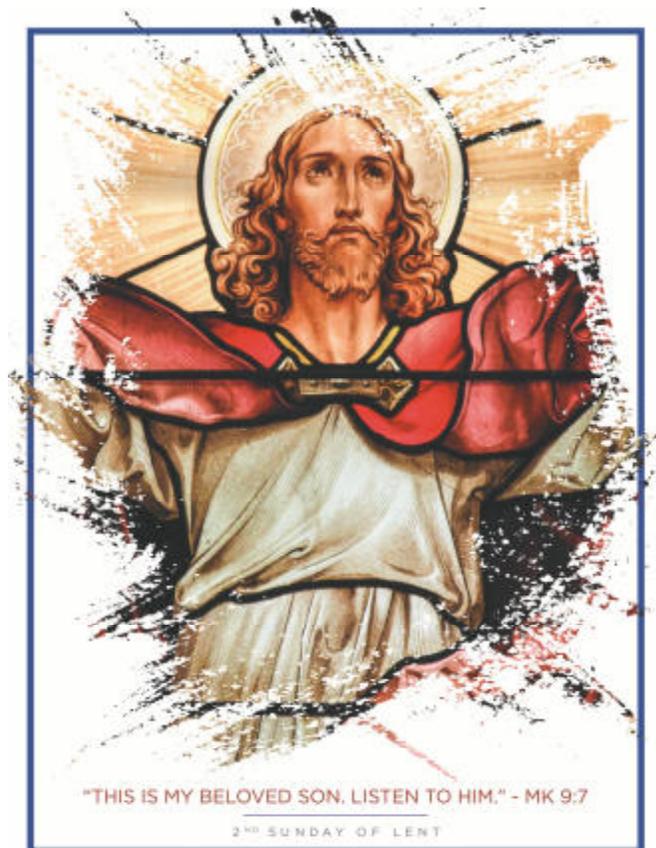
## MCES OPEN HOUSE

Next Thursday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, is our Open House for the school. It will be from 6:00 – 8:30 pm for infant to 1<sup>st</sup> grade, by appointment only. It is an opportunity to come and see what is happening in our school, go on tour of our campus, meet our wonderful teachers, and see the school’s curriculum. It is a great opportunity to see the new changes that are taking place with new renovation.

Have a wonderful time!

Stay safe!

Fr. Kishore Babu Battu SAC



ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

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## WHY DO WE DO THAT?

## Why do we use incense at Mass? ?

The use of incense in religious ceremonies and worship is a practice that predates Christianity, and which is also found in many other religious traditions today.

Incense, which is made from resin infused with aromatic spices and oils, is one of those fundamentally human symbols that incorporates more than one of our senses, helping us to reflect on realities that transcend the everyday details of our lives.

The use of incense in the Church's liturgy — in the Mass, as well as in devotions to the Eucharist and the Liturgy of the Hours — is inspired by the use of incense in the Jewish tradition. In the writings of the Old Testament, we hear about incense being used in the worship of the temple, and Psalm 141 asks, "Let my prayer be incense before you; my uplifted hands an evening offering" (vs. 2). The image here is that, as the incense gently rises to heaven, our prayers also rise to God as something sweet and pleasant.

Another ancient use of incense that has also become part of our Catholic tradition is the idea that when we incense something, it's because it is something special or sacred. This is why the Book of the Gospel is incensed during the Liturgy of the Word and the bread, wine, priest celebrant, and congregation are incensed at the presentation of the gifts. To this, we can also add the incensing of the Blessed Sacrament during eucharistic adoration and benediction, and the body of the deceased at the end of the Mass of the Resurrection (the Funeral Mass).

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## When Sacrifice Becomes Mundane

It seems to happen every year, like clockwork: we drag a bit, as we enter into the second week of Lent. On Ash Wednesday, we feel a bit like soldiers banging our shields, rushing into battle. "We're ready, God!" our hearts cry out. "Transform us through sacrifice! Your will be done!"

But by now, these Lenten resolutions are no longer novelties — they've joined the ranks of everyday inconveniences, which somehow are the hardest to bear. Because transformation, in real life, happens in inches, just as a battle is won slowly in the crash of one sword against another. It's not always a dramatic thing, to the naked eye. It's the perseverance in prayer despite weariness, or the continual denial of some pleasure even though there's that nagging voice in our minds saying: go ahead, God doesn't really mind.

It's a week when we all need a shock to the system — and wouldn't you know it, this Sunday God gives us a double-whammy of dramatic sacrificial scenes. We picture Abraham, who also cried "Ready!" when God called, never imagining what He would ask: the surrender of his long-awaited son. We see Christ himself transfigured, as God shows us what He is ready to give up for love of us.

We must remain committed, persevering daily in acknowledging that everything belongs to God. What we sacrifice, we simply give back to Him.

If God is for us, who can be against us? Can we still reply, "Ready!" when we hear the call of God?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



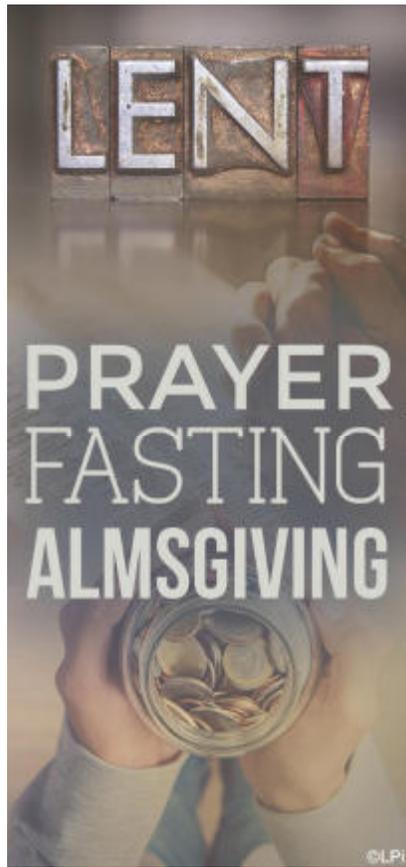
**Every  
FRIDAY  
During Lent**

**Adoration of the  
Blessed Sacrament**  
will following morning  
Mass for one hour.

**Confession**  
available from  
**6 - 6:45 pm.**

**Stations of the  
Cross**  
begin at 7 pm.

Please spend time  
with our Lord and  
join us in prayer.



**GOSPEL MEDITATION**

A pregnant woman was walking in the store and met an old friend. Her friend exclaimed, "You are absolutely beaming!" The new life God placed in her womb radiated throughout her body. It was brightly visible on her face and in her eyes. Transformation and change usually happen from the inside out. It is very rare that simply imposing structure from the outside does any good. Yes, it is true that routines and habits can change when things are done differently. But, for this change to last there has to be an interior renewal and metamorphosis as well. Simply regulating behavior and bringing someone into conformity with accepted protocols doesn't mean their heart and soul come with them.

Peter was a homeless man who lived in a very remote and rudimentary tent community. He was happy to make his daily trip to McDonald's and always welcomed a gift card or two so that he could buy some coffee and something to eat. A generous advocate worked to secure him an apartment in hopes of moving Peter out of his makeshift housing and into something safer. Peter finally got the grand tour of his new "digs," received his own key, remarked how wonderful the place was, closed the door behind him when they left and never returned. He preferred his tent. No matter how much things changed on the outside, Peter was happy where he was. A poignant lesson was learned that day.

How is your Lent going? By now you ought to have a sense of whether you're really "into it" this year and something transformational is happening. For many, it's only the stuff on the outside that changes for a few weeks and then they return to business as usual. For others, there are some real inner changes happening that are deepening their relationships with God, others, self, and creation. If we are serious about moving to a new place and radiating with the presence of new life and joy, then we have to clear the way to listen for God's call. Then, there is God's request to change things up a bit and order our lives differently. After realizing we have been called and given a mission, we have to trust that this is where we need to be. And then, after all of this hard work we are asked to act. The fruit that is revealed will indicate whether our journey is authentic. The brilliance of conversion will begin to shine on our faces as we contemplate the One to whom we are asked to listen.

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Checking account       Savings account

in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to be withdrawn each month beginning \_\_\_\_\_.

Financial Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Routing/Transit #: \_\_\_\_\_

I acknowledge that the origination of ACH transactions to my account must comply with the provisions of US law. This authority will remain in effect until I have canceled in writing.

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**St. Joseph Cemetery**

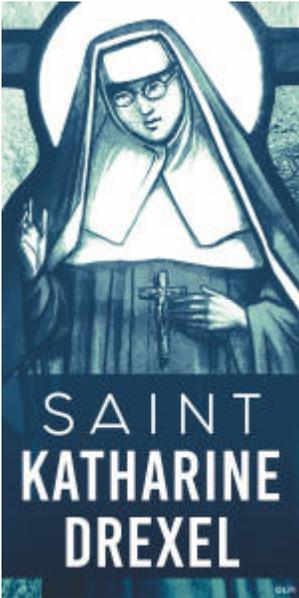
**Winter Clean Up**

**Starting on March 1<sup>st</sup>, all decor will be removed during clean up. Please remove all items that you wish to save before March 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**Spring florals may be placed starting April 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**Updated decoration policy is available in the cemetery office or can be mailed/emailed by request.**

**Call 734-241-1411 for more information.**



## St. Katharine Drexel

St. Katharine Drexel is the second American-born saint to be canonized by the Catholic Church.

Katherine, born in Philadelphia, was the second child of a prominent and wealthy banker and his wife. Her mother passed away just five weeks after Katharine was born. Her father remarried and together they had another daughter.

The girls received a wonderful education from private tutors and traveled throughout the United States and Europe. The Drexels were financially and spiritually well endowed, devout in the practice of their faith, setting an excellent example of

true Christian living for their three daughters. They not only prayed but practiced what the Church calls the spiritual and corporal works of mercy.

Katharine grew up seeing her father pray 30 minutes each evening. And weekly, her stepmother opened their doors to house and care for the poor. The couple distributed food, clothing, and provided rent assistance to those in need. The Drexels would seek out and visit women who were too afraid or too proud to approach the home in order to care for their needs in Christian charity.

Though Katharine made her social debut in 1879, she never let her family's money adversely affect the way she lived her life and faith. She was an example of a Christian with a proper understanding that the goods of this earth are given for the common good.

After watching her stepmother suffer with terminal cancer for three straight years, Katharine also learned that no amount of money could shelter them from pain or suffering. From this moment, Katharine's life took a turn. She became imbued with a passionate love for God and neighbor, and she took an avid interest in the material and spiritual well-being of black and native Americans.

In 1884, while visiting the Western states, Katharine saw the troubling and poor situation of the Native Americans. She desperately wanted to help them.

Katharine spent much of her time with Father James O' Connor, a Philadelphia priest. He provided her with wonderful spiritual direction.

When her own father passed away a year later, he donated part of his \$15.5 million estate to a few charities and then left the remainder to be equally split among his three daughters.

He set up his will to protect his daughters from men who were only seeking their money. If his daughters should die, the money was then to go to his would-be grandchildren. If there were no grandchildren, the Drexel estate would be distributed to several different religious orders and charities.

As one of their first acts following their father's death, Katharine and her sisters contributed money to assist the St. Francis Mission of South Dakota's Rosebud Reservation. Katherine soon concluded that more was needed to help the Native Americans and the lacking ingredient was people.

In 1887, the Drexel sisters were given a private audience with Pope Leo XIII. They were seeking missionaries to help with the Indian missions they were financing. The Pope looked to Katharine and suggested she, herself, become a missionary.

After speaking with Father O' Connor, Katharine decided she would give herself and her inheritance to God through service to both Native Americans and African Americans. She wrote, "The feast of St. Joseph brought me the grace to give the remainder of my life to the Indians and the Colored."

Katharine began her six-month postulancy at the Sisters of Mercy Convent in Pittsburgh in 1889. In February 1891, Katharine made her first vows as a religious and dedicated herself to working for the American Indians and African-Americans in the Western United States.

Taking the name Mother Katharine, she established a religious congregation called the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament for Indians and Colored, whose members would work for the betterment of those they were called to serve.

From the age of 33 until her death in 1955, she dedicated her life and her fortune to this work. In 1894, Mother Katharine took part in opening the first mission boarding school in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Other schools quickly followed - for Native Americans west of the Mississippi River, and for blacks in the southern part of the United States.

In 1897, Katharine asked the friars of St. John the Baptist Province of the Order of Friars Minor to help staff a mission for the Navajos in Arizona and New Mexico, and she would help finance their work with the Pueblo Native Americans. In 1910, Katharine also financed the printing of 500 copies of A Navaho-English Catechism of Christian Doctrine for the Use of Navaho Children.

In 1915, Katherine founded Xavier University in New Orleans, the first Catholic University in the United States for African-Americans. By the time of her death, she had more than 500 Sisters teaching in 63 schools throughout the country and she established 50 missions for Native Americans in 16 different states.

Katharine suffered a heart attack and was forced to retire. She spent the remainder of her life in quiet, intense prayer. Mother Katharine died on March 3, 1955, and is buried at her order's motherhouse. Neither of Katharine's sisters had any children, so after her death, the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament lost the Drexel fortune that supported their ministries. However, the order continues to pursue Katharine's mission with the African-Americans and Native Americans in 21 states and in Haiti.

Katharine was remembered for her love of the Eucharist and a desire for unity of all peoples. She was courageous and took the initiative to address social inequality within minorities. She believed all should have access to a quality education and her selfless service, including the donation of her inheritance, helped many reach that goal.

St. Katharine was beatified on November 20, 1988 and canonized on October 1, 2000 by Pope John Paul II.

Katharine is the patron saint of racial justice and philanthropists. Her feast day is celebrated on March 3.

*Excerpted from [https://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint\\_id=193](https://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=193)*

Monroe Catholic Elementary Schools



# OPEN HOUSE

for new & prospective families!

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the 2021 Open House is for new families only.

**Thursday, March 4, 2021**

Visit [www.mcesmonroe.com](http://www.mcesmonroe.com) to sign up for a time or call 734-241-3923 and speak with our enrollment manager, Julie White!

Hear from our teachers & administration about what **MCES has to offer**, preview **curriculum** & view the **three campuses!**

**6:00 -  
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- Face masks & social distancing required.
- A brief COVID screening will be conducted for each person entering the campuses.

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**Pray for:**

Rebecca Alexander	Craig Dominiak	Pat Orr
Theresa Balk	Jeffrey Eagle	Kenny Pardo
Javier Barrios	Rita Getchey	Leigh Ann Parrack
James Barron	Veronica	Donna Perez
Monica Beeson	Greenawalt	Zayden Perry
Carolyn Bellino	Marion Hass	Mary Ray
Florence Bialy	Kate Herr-Maletich	Parker Reau
Lynda Billock	Tricia Hummel	Mary Ann Soleau
Philip Bloom	Rose Kavanagh	Betty Steffes
Addie Bressler	Edna Kinsey	Wilbur Stotz
AJ Bressler	Lois Knegendorf	Janelle Thursrud
Marlene Campbell	Alice LaPrad	Donna Torres
Thomas Carpenter	Donna Leask	Bob Vajcner
Fr Daniel Complo	Madeline Lemerand	Alex Vanisacker
Kathy DeFigueiredo	Dorothy Louwsma	Alice Villarreal
Bill Dempsey	Stella Mannausa	Linda Wallace
	Diane Mennell	Arlene Walsh
	Albina Motyka	Cody Wood
	June Neph	Mary Zubkoff

**PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY:**

Major Matthew Aubry	Staff Sgt. Angelo Marino
Brett Bennett	Staff Sgt. Emily Marino
Tracy (Scobel) Bennett	Airman 2 Drew McLaughlin
Pvt. Adrien Boudreault	Sgt. William McGowan
Major Zachery Briscoe	S. Sgt. Jill (Hoffman) Miles
CWO3 Ricky Brown	Tannar Osborne
Cpt. Kyle Burkardt, DDS	Major Tim Payment
Cpt. Patrick Burkardt, DDS	Alan Scobel
1st Sgt. Robert C. Cebina	Major Marcus Sitterly
LCPL Chase E. Collingsworth	Gregory Smith
Spc. Skylar Cooper	M/Sgt. Marian Olmsted Smith
SMS. Wayne Fetty	Spc. Travis Weber
Cpl. Jacob Luthy	Cpt. Brian Worley, USMC
Sgt. Michael Makela	LCPL Justin Zukowski

**Readings for the Week of 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

**WEEK AT A GLANCE MARCH 1 - 7**

**MONDAY, MARCH 1**

Mass 8:15 am - church  
Holy Hour 9 am - church

**TUESDAY, MARCH 2**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3**

*St. Katharine Drexel, Virgin*

**THURSDAY, MARCH 4**

*St. Casimir*

**FRIDAY, MARCH 5**

Mass 8:15 am - church  
Eucharistic Adoration 9 - 10 am - church  
Confessions 6 - 6:45 pm - church  
Stations of the Cross 7 pm - church

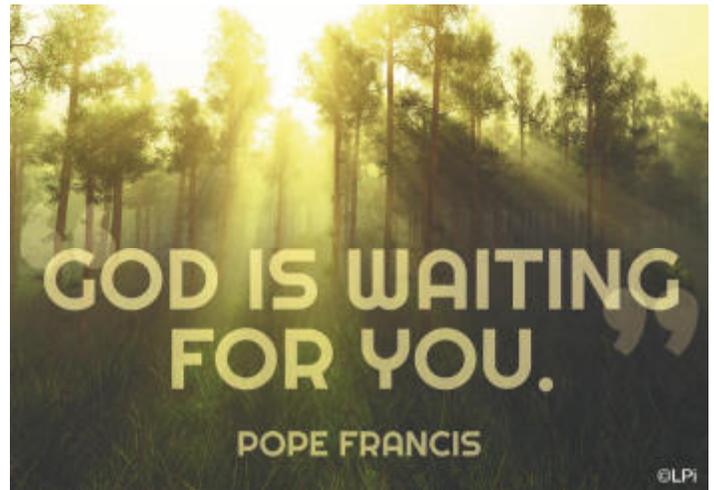
**SATURDAY, MARCH 6**

Confessions 3:30 pm - church  
Mass 5 pm - church

**SUNDAY, MARCH 7**

*Third Sunday of Lent*

Mass 8:30 am - church  
Mass 10:30 am - church



**LITURGY SCHEDULE MARCH 1 - 7**

DAY & TIME		INTENTIONS
<b>Monday</b>	<b>8:15 am</b>	Intentions of Fr Phil Ching ✠ Dorothy Bezeau
<b>Friday</b>	<b>8:15 am</b>	✠ Vern Theisen ✠ Maria Deluca
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>3:30 pm</b> <b>5:00 pm</b>	<b>Confessions</b> ✠ Susan Lyke ✠ Richard D Hurley Sr
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>8:30 am</b> <b>10:30 am</b>	✠ The People of St Michael ✠ Angela Furnari Vitale ✠ Joseph Giarmo

## Pastoral Care Regarding the Vatican's Baptism Note

In August of 2020, the Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith issued a response to questions regarding the use of the words, "We baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" instead of the proper form of "I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." The Vatican ruled that the form "We baptize" does not convey the Sacrament of baptism.

In the Archdiocese of Detroit, we are aware that between 1986 –1999, potentially invalid baptisms occurred at St. Anastasia Parish in Troy, conducted by Deacon Mark Springer using the improper form. We are in the process of contacting those individuals who may be affected and we are asking for your help.

If you or someone you know was baptized at St. Anastasia Parish during this time period or you have any questions or concerns about the validity of your sacrament(s), we invite you to visit the website [aod.org/sacramentsupdate](http://aod.org/sacramentsupdate) for more information and to submit questions or concerns using the online form.



## SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Lent is a call not just to "give up something" but more important to "give something for the poor." Wherever you live in the parish, there are poor families within walking distance of your home. When in need, they ring the rectory bell. They are, in effect, ringing your doorbell.

Your almsgiving to the St. Vincent de Paul will help the poor to celebrate the grace of God's love this Easter.



## LIVE THE LITURGY

How is your Lent going so far? In changing the circumstances and order of our lives a bit, perhaps we can hear God's voice more clearly and drink more deeply of graced moments we experience. Having God as a friend always involves several things. First, there is God's call. We become attuned to the echo of God's voice in the depth of our souls calling and beckoning us to listen. Second, there is a request. We begin to see that God asks us to do certain things, to order our lives a particular way, and become more intentional in the choices we make. Third, there is trust. Do we trust this call and request? Trust commits us to the relationship and makes a claim on who we are. Finally, we are asked to act. We find ourselves acting, not in the way we used to, but in a transformed, more enlightened way. Things seem clearer and all that is around us shines with the brilliance of God's presence. God's call came through a cloud, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him," This is the call and the request. Can we give God our trust and do as God asks?

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*Jesus Christ, The Eternal High Priest*

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DeeDee Perkins, Office Manager x14

Dr. Ray McLellan, Music Director x39

Leslee Smith, Faith Formation Director 734-241-6097

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