



12608 MADISON AVENUE • LAKEWOOD, OH 44107

PASTOR

Rev. Theodore J. Haag, O.F.M.

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:00 a.m.

Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 8:30 a.m.

CONFESSIONS

First Saturday of the Month: 3:15 to 3:45 p.m.

Or call the Parish Office for an appointment.

PARISH OFFICE

Hours: Monday thru Friday - 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Phone: (216) 521-7288, (216) 521-9091

Fax: (216) 521-7005

E-mail: transfiguration@ohiocoxmail.com

COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY

Distributions are held from 10:00 a.m. to noon on the fourth Wednesday of the month from January to October and on the third Wednesday of the month in November and December. The Food Pantry is located in the lower level of the Rectory.

BAPTISMS

Call the Parish Office to schedule.

WEDDINGS

Ordinarily, arrangements must be made six months in advance, according to diocesan policy. Consult clergy. Pre-marriage classes must be attended.

COMMUNION CALLS

Please call the Parish Office if you or anyone you know would like the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, Confession, or Communion.

NEW PARISHIONERS

Please stop in the Parish Office during office hours to register.

LAKEWOOD CATHOLIC ACADEMY (LCA)

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MISSION STATEMENT

In a spirit of oneness, we, the members of Transfiguration Parish, a Roman Catholic community, are called to serve God through his Son, Jesus Christ, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

We dedicate ourselves to the transformation of our lives and society through worship, evangelization, love of neighbor, and ministry to those in need.

Mass Intentions 

- Saturday, October 9**
4:00 p.m. †Michael & †Claire Keating
- Sunday, October 10** **28th Sun. in Ordinary Time**
9:00 a.m. †Peter Kascak
- Monday, October 11**
8:30 a.m. †Walter Marcel
- Wednesday, October 13**
8:30 a.m. †Mary Puzak
- Friday, October 15**
8:30 a.m. Special Intention of Mary Alice Schaefer
- Saturday, October 16**
4:00 p.m. †Josephine Kukla
- Sunday, October 17** **29th Sun. in Ordinary Time**
9:00 a.m. †Ann Hlach



“Go, sell what you have, and give to the poor and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” At that statement his face fell, and he went away sad, for he had many possessions. Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!”—Mk 10:21c-23



GOSPEL MEDITATION
28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

If we are truly in love with God, then the basics are not going to be enough. That love is going to want to be expressed in going above and beyond, in leaving the comfortable and familiar, in stretching and growing, and in following a voice other than our own. St. Teresa of Calcutta rightly instructs us that for “love to be real, it must cost, it must hurt, it must empty us of self.” Being in love with God requires more than just checking the boxes of the commandments. It requires a sincere and unconditional self-investment. Desiring God with our whole heart, mind, and soul means that I must also desire a relationship with my neighbor with that same degree of fervor.

Biases and prejudices usually occur when people are kept at a distance and treated as objects. We cannot truly know our neighbors, especially if they are different than us, if we keep them in boxes and do not listen to their stories. When we open ourselves to listen to another person’s story, we begin to realize more how similar we are than dissimilar. Being overly attached to our possessions, ideologies, agendas, lifestyles, and personal needs are absolute barriers to achieving the type of personal investment love demands. This is why following Christ can be difficult. It is less a matter of intellect and more a matter of heart and soul. It requires that we transfer our treasure from an investment in tangible secular things and move it into the Kingdom of God. It is only the gift of wisdom and discernment that can help us decide what to do and how to do it.

Contemporaries of Jesus would know that a camel could not enter through the portal of a city weighed down with the baggage it was carrying. In order to enter, the baggage must be removed so that the animal could fit through the entry way. The same is true for us. We carry a lot of excessive baggage around with us that keeps us tethered to our past histories, wounds, myopic world views, prejudices, fears, and suspicions. To invest ourselves in the Kingdom of God, do God’s work, and live out our love relationship with God, we need to shed the extra weight. While it may seem that a lot of that stuff is necessary, it really is not. We are much more than the things that we think define us and more secure than we think. The more there is to hold on to and the more that we carry with us, the harder it will be to leave it all behind. Many choose not to and walk away sad because they are not ready to trust.



Sponsors of the Sanctuary Lamp Candles for the Week of October 10th: 1 candle for husband, †Stephen Szendrey, and for parents, †Dezider and †Anna Szauberer, from Joanne Szendrey; 1 candle for †Edward and †Richarda Jambrozcy (Wedd. Anniv.) from Family; and 1 candle for †Teofil and Stefania Kiernozek (Wedd. Anniv.) from Family.

Candles: The large red and blue globe candle inserts are \$4 each. The small votive candles are 25 cents each.

Collection for last weekend was \$2,568. God bless all for your support. All donations are appreciated.

35th Annual Blanket Sunday appeal kicks off this weekend. Last year funds from the appeal were used to purchase 4,500+ new winter blankets that were provided to the homeless and 179 beds/mattresses for low-income individuals and families throughout Northeast Ohio. The need is great and donations can be made securely online at <https://donate.svdpcle.org/blanket-sunday-donations/>. Checks may also be mailed to St. Vincent de Paul Society Blanket Sunday, 1404 East 9th St., 3rd Floor, Cleveland, OH 44114. Special envelopes for this appeal can be found at the entrances of the church. Thank you for helping us “blanket” neighbors in warmth and compassion!

Community Food Pantry: The next distribution will be held on Wed., Oct. 27th, from 10 a.m. to noon. The volunteers scheduled are Anne and Ed Nolan and Marilyn Rudnick.

Open House: Lakewood Catholic Academy will host an Open House featuring their Early Childhood and Kindergarten Programs on Sun., Oct. 24th, from 12:00-2:00 p.m. Families with children ages six weeks through five years old are invited to tour the school and learn more. Registration is required. Go to admissions.lakewoodcatholicacademy.com/FallOpenHouse.

Fr. Ted's Corner . . . A mailing has been sent to all parishioners regarding our *Harvest Festival* this year. Although the mail seems a little slower these days, you should be receiving it soon.

You may be aware of the Diocesan campaign: *Heart of the Shepherd*. More information about this campaign and our parish participation will be in this column in the coming weeks.

Go to Joseph . . . Once again this week, for our reflection in this year dedicated to Saint Joseph, an excerpt from the Apostolic Letter of Pope Francis, *With a Father's Heart* - calling us to contemplate the fatherhood of Saint Joseph as a model for our own lives of faithfulness to the call of God . . .

An Obedient Father

As he had done with Mary, God revealed his saving plan to Joseph. He did so by using dreams, which in the Bible and among all ancient peoples, were considered a way for God to make his will known. Joseph was deeply troubled by Mary's mysterious pregnancy. He did not want to "expose her to public disgrace," so he decided to "dismiss her quietly."

In the first dream, an angel helps him resolve his grave dilemma: "Do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." Joseph's response was immediate: "When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him." Obedience made it possible for him to surmount his difficulties and spare Mary.

In the second dream, the angel tells Joseph: "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." Joseph did not hesitate to obey, regardless of the hardship involved: "He got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod."

In Egypt, Joseph awaited with patient trust the angel's notice that he could safely return home. In a third dream, the angel told him that those who sought to kill the child were dead and ordered him to rise, take the child and his mother, and return to the land of Israel." Once again, Joseph promptly obeyed. "He got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel."

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."

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 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.

In every situation, Joseph declared his own "fiat" - like those of Mary at the Annunciation and of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane.

In his role as the head of a family, Joseph taught Jesus to be obedient to his parents, in accordance with God's command.

During the hidden years in Nazareth, Jesus learned at the school of Joseph to do the will of the Father. That will was to be his daily food. Even at the most difficult moment of his life, in Gethsemane, Jesus chose to do the Father's will rather than his own, becoming "obedient unto death, even death on a cross." The author of the Letter to the Hebrews thus concludes that Jesus "learned obedience through what he suffered."

All this makes it clear that "Saint Joseph was called by God to serve the person and mission of Jesus directly through the exercise of his fatherhood" and that in this way, "he cooperated in the fullness of time in the great mystery of salvation and is truly a minister of salvation."

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.*

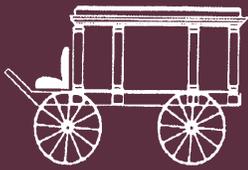
*Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage,
and defend us from every evil. Amen.*

With the example of Saint Joseph to guide and inspire us and the prayers of Saint Joseph - the obedient father - to strengthen us, may we too, each day, continue to seek the will of God for our lives and put ourselves always at the service of God's plan.

Blessings on the week ahead – blessings of peace and everything good.



Annual Birthright Baby Shower: The Catholic Order of Foresters (COF), a fraternal charitable organization, will hold its annual baby shower to benefit mothers seeking help through the Lakewood office of Birthright on Sun., Oct. 24th, from 2-4 p.m. at St. Clement Parish at 2022 Lincoln Ave. in Lakewood. COF volunteers will offer crafts, activities, raffles, and door prizes to make your Sunday afternoon enjoyable family fun - and all for a great cause! Party foods and a shower cake will be served to complete the afternoon. There is no cost to attend. Donations of diapers, baby wipes, and newborn clothing can be deposited in bins provided in Lakewood Catholic churches the weekends of October 9th/10th and 16th/17th. Donations can also be brought in person to the event. Go to COF's website, <https://www.catholicforester.org/courts/1630/events> for all of this information and more. Please call Dr. Jeff Koloze at 216-262-3511 or Randy Nix at 216-905-3712 with any questions. We look forward to seeing you there!



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