

SAINT MARY of the Assumption



Roman Catholic Church
Manchester, Michigan



REVEREND FR. BOSCO PADAMATTUMMAL
Administrator

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WEEKEND MASSES:

Sunday 8:30 am and 10:30 am

Vigil Mass Saturday at 5:00 pm

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT ♦ FEBRUARY 28, 2021

WINDOWS

– Fr. Bosco Padamattummal –

IT IS SAID that all love relationships flourish only when there is freedom to let go of what is precious. Parents know that there comes a time when they have to let go of their sons or daughters, even though they are more precious to them than anything else. They may have to let them go to another country or to the person whom they have chosen as their future spouse.

In today's Gospel reading (Mark 9:2-10) Peter, James, and John were taken up a high mountain by Jesus, and there they had an experience of Jesus which took their breath away. It was an experience that was so precious that Peter could not let it go. He wanted to prolong it indefinitely, and so he said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is wonderful for us to be here! So let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah."

He and the other two disciples had a fleeting glimpse of the heavenly beauty of Christ, and did not want to let go of it.

However, at some point we must begin to discover the God who is beyond the circumstances. This is the God who is. This is the second part of the spiritual journey. Jesus is leading Peter, James and John up the mountain to discover the God who is beyond circumstances. Here their pictures of life's circumstances will become windows by which they move into the depths of God's life, God's light, and God's love.

There on the mountain they saw Jesus "transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them." The cloud overshadowed them and the Father's voice spoke of his beloved Son. Peter wants to build dwelling places. **He wants to frame Jesus, Elijah, and Moses.** "It is good for us to be here," he says. He wants to preserve those precious moments. He wants to keep a picture.

Pictures, however, are static. On the Mount of Transfiguration, our pictures of life's circumstances become windows through which we step into a new world, a new way of seeing, a new way of hearing,

and new way of being. That's what happened for Peter, James, and John. Jesus did not suddenly light up and become something he was not. No, their eyes were healed and opened so they could see Jesus as he had always been. The voice in the cloud was not new...

continued on p. 2



St. Mary's Parish Weekly Calendar ♦ Feb. 27-Mar. 7, 2021
 Mass Intention [requested by], & parish activities

**FR. BOSCO'S ARTICLE FROM PAGE 1, continued:
 WINDOWS**

SAT. FEB. 27 *Lenten Weekday*

Dt 26:16-19 • Mt 5:43-48
 3:30-4:30pm Confessions
 † Stations of the Cross prayed 20 min. before Mass
 ▶ 5:00pm VIGIL MASS for the Second Sunday of Lent: For the people

SUN. FEB. 28 *Second Sunday of Lent*

Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18
 Rom 8:31b-34
 Mk 9:2-10
 8-8:15 and 10-10:15am Confession
 † Stations of the Cross prayed 20 min. before Masses
 ▶ 8:30am MASS: † Eddie Walz [Norman & Laura Childs]
 ▶ 10:30am MASS: † Jeannie Lynn Davis [Alice Kidd]

MON. MAR. 1 *Lenten Weekday*

Dn 9:4b-10
 Lk 6:36-38
 ▶ 12:10pm MASS: † Jerry Damian [Claudia Damian]
 12:45pm Lenten Bible Study / FFH
 3:30-4:45pm Rel Ed classes / PC

TUES. FEB. 2 *Lenten Weekday*

Is 1:10, 16-20
 Mt 23:1-12
 ▶ 8:30am MASS: † Eddie Walz [Eileen & Leon Ball]
 7:00pm Lenten Bible Study / FFH

WED. MAR. 3 *Lenten Weekday (opt. mem. St. Katharine Drexel, Virgin)*

Jer 18:18-20
 Mt 20:17-28
 ▶ 8:30am MASS: † Colleen Curley [Jeff & Connie Schaffer]
 4:00pm Staff Meeting / FFH
 7:00pm Parish Pastoral Council Mtg / FFH

THUR. MAR. 4 *Lenten Weekday (opt. mem. St. Casimir)*

Jer 17:5-10
 Lk 16:19-31
 ▶ 8:30am Mass: † Rosealee Hoelzer [Alice Kidd]

FRI. MAR. 5 **MEATLESS FRIDAY** *Lenten Weekday*

Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a
 Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
 ▶ 8:30am FIRST FRIDAY MASS: † Anthony P. Landini [Jim & Ella Landini]
 Exposition & Adoration, beginning after morning Mass, then continuing all day & evening, closing with Benediction at 10:00pm
 3:30-7:00pm FISH FRY DINNER (DRIVE THRU-TAKE OUT / PC)
 † 7:30 pm Stations of the Cross
 8:00-9:00pm Confessions

SAT. MAR. 6 *Lenten Weekday*

Mi 7:14-15, 18-20
 Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
 ▶ 8:30am FIRST SATURDAY Mass: † Cliff Tracy (birthday) [His Family]
 3:30-4:30pm Confessions
 † Stations of the Cross prayed 20 min. before Mass
 ▶ 5:00pm VIGIL MASS for the Third Sunday of Lent: † Tom Kladzyk [Betty Cummings]

SUN. MAR. 7 *Third Sunday of Lent*

Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17
 1 Cor 1:22-25
 Jn 2:13-25
 8-8:15 and 10-10:15am Confession
 † Stations of the Cross prayed 20 min. before Masses
 ▶ 8:30am MASS: † Rev. Fr. Louis Madey [St. Mary Parish]
 ▶ 10:30am MASS: For the people

...their ears were opened, and they heard the voice that has never ceased speaking from the beginning. **The transfiguration is as much about them as it is Jesus.**

Whenever our picture of life's circumstances becomes a **window into new life**, we stand in a transfigured moment. Circumstances haven't changed. We have changed, and that seems to change everything. Those transfigured moments are all around. Every one of us could tell a story about stepping back from the picture of our life, seeing with new eyes, listening with different ears, and **discovering a window that opened into another world and another way of being.**

MAYBE it was the day you revealed to another person the secret you had carried for years. In telling the secret, the picture of your life as one of guilt and shame **became an open window** through which you stepped. The darkness gave way to light, the chains fell off, and forgiveness overcame sin.

I was reading in an article: "I will never forget the day we buried our older son. We came home from the cemetery, and I was lying on the bed. I could not see him, but he was present – a little boy being given a piggyback ride. I could not touch him, but I felt the warmth of his life, his weight on my back, and his right knee gouging my ribs as he bounced up and down. **The picture of death and loss had become a window through which I stepped into the mystery of life, hope, and resurrection.**"

Think about the day you held your child for the very first time. Yes, it was a picture of a newborn, but **it was also a window** through which you stepped and were forever changed. You experienced a new vocation as a parent. You became a part of the mystery of creation.

Dear brothers and sisters, we often want to go back to those transfigured moments. **We are tempted to build dwellings places for those moments, but those dwelling places will only keep us in the past.** To the extent we cling to the past we close ourselves off to the future God offers.

Transfigured moments change us, sustain us, prepare us, encourage us, and guide us into the future regardless of the circumstances we face. They show us who we are.

So Jesus, Peter, James, and John came back down the mountain. **They could not stay there – but neither did they leave** the mountain. They took it with them. It is what would carry them through the passion and crucifixion to the resurrection.

Transfigured moments change us, sustain us, prepare us, encourage us, and guide us into the future regardless of the circumstances we face. They show us who we are. **We are the transfigured people of God.** *Open your eyes*, and see a transfigured world. *Open your ears* and hear the transfiguring voice. *Open your heart* and become a transfigured life. †



First Friday Exposition & Adoration of the MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT

**Friday, March 5 ♦ Following morning Mass until Benediction at 10:00pm
 FIRST SATURDAY MASS on Sat. March 6 at 8:30am**



Pray the Stations of the Cross



Fridays at 7:30 pm and 20 minutes before each weekend Mass

Fish Fry



Fridays during Lent. Come by this Friday March 5 3:30-7:00pm AT ST. MARY'S PARISH CENTER 108 E. MADISON ST. FAST DRIVE-THRU TAKE-OUT! \$12



"The word of God is at work in you who believe"

This scripture text from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians affirms a fundamental truth and teaching of the Catholic Church – the word of God is alive here and now, it is active in you and in the work of all who believe. *Thanks be to God for His Holy Word!*

DSA is an opportunity to put God's word into action, to participate personally in the many good works of our Church in communion with fellow Catholics. Our contributions are put to work, right away, in a multitude of ministries to offer direct assistance to individuals and families and to parishes, Catholic schools, and Catholic Charities agencies.

Next weekend our parish will conduct "Commitment Weekend" for our Diocesan Services Appeal. This is when we will be asking each member of St. Mary's Parish to consider a generous gift to DSA. Our parish goal of \$28,871⁰⁰ can be reached if each one of us shares a portion of the many blessings God has bestowed upon us. Please prayerfully consider how you or your family will respond to this call to carry on Christ's work in our community.

Our Parish Lenten Study Series: Join anytime!

On the day of your choice (Mondays at 12:45pm or Tuesdays at 7:00pm), from now through March 23, you can gather with friends in Fr. Fisher Hall for 90 minutes of video and conversation, delving into the Church's teaching on "Heaven, Hell, Angels, and Demons." But if you cannot make it – or came, but want to learn more! – Bill Kwolek has put together a comprehensive list of resources, easily available online, that cover the meeting materials plus much, much more. (If you did not receive a parish office email with this info attached, make sure the office has your email address.) It is also available at Bill's cloud account: 1drv.ms/u/s!Aku2ORF4gf9wgYBOuuJ7NMEml1L__Q?e=dYuTXr or on the parish website: stmarymanchester.org

Discover God's revelation of reality!

Dementia Care: First steps in taking this journey

A 3- part webinar series will be presented by St. Andrew's Church in Saline on Tuesdays, March 9, 16, and 23. Participating will be representatives of the Alzheimer's Association Michigan Chapter, the Area Agency on Aging 1-B, and others. The webinars will address some of the challenges, decisions, and steps to consider for persons with dementia and their family. For more info or to register, visit standrewsaline.org/dementia-awareness



The SANCTUARY LAMPS are burning this week for the following intentions:

PLEASE PRAY THIS WEEK...

- 1) For the repose of the soul of +Mitch Zink (K of C #4354)
- 2) For the repose of the soul of +Tom Kladzyk (Ed & Bonnie Barnard)

Birthday Blessings!

- Feb. 28 Susan Kensler
- March 1 ... JoEllen Radze
- March 2 ... Willem Rohwer ... Jeff Wallace
- March 3 ... Patricia Gibbons ... Pat Kohmescher
- March 4 ... James Miller
- March 5 ... John Johnson ... Katie Gouwens
- March 6 ... Rita Messman

Please Pray for...

- Ed Z. (father of Therese Bossory)
- Sara Tervo
- Wayne Tervo
- Bibian Sangster
- Roxanne Rickert Bush
- Eunice Scully
- Melody Binkerd & family
- Joe Novak
- Luise Kienzle
- James Strong
- Christy Woody
- Annie (sister of Lynn Waldecker)
- Jerry Kripas
- Paula Saft
- Leon Ball
- Bruce Sommers

...and for the repose of the soul of † Tom Burch



St. Mary Roman Catholic Church Stewardship

WEEKLY COLLECTION:

Sunday, Feb. 14, 2021

Sunday Env (44)	\$ 3,552.00
Welcome & Loose	38.00
Solemnity of Mary (1)	2.00
E-giving (8)	520.36
Combined toward budget:	\$ 4,112.36
Budget goal:	5,300.00
Amt BELOW goal:	-\$ 1,187.64
OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS:	
Bldg & Maint (4)	\$ 55.00
E-giving World Evang (1)	20.59
Fish Fry donation (1)	100.00
Fiji disaster relief (6)	846.32
Evangelization Fund	150.00
Poor Box	65.41
Votive candles	28.00



KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Heavenly Father, we give You thanks and praise for Your Son, Jesus Christ. Send Your Holy Spirit to inspire holy, faithful men to minister as priests. Lord, we pray for Your grace to encourage and support our seminarians as they endeavor to become priests. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Diocese of Lansing Seminarian Randy Koenigschnecht, Most Holy Trinity, Fowler



Heavenly Father, we give You thanks and praise for Your Son, Jesus Christ. Send your Holy Spirit to inspire holy, faithful women to become Brides of Christ and serve Your people. Lord, we pray that Your grace and love be enough for this woman in discernment of consecrated life. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist; Sr. Chiara Luce Spankie

NEED HELP? ALTERNATIVES TO ABORTION: Call (800) 57WOMAN (800-579-6626) – OR – Text for Help: "HELPLINE" to 313131

Need Help? PROJECT RACHEL (post-abortion reconciliation and healing) Call the confidential phone line: 517-993-0291, or email nlc@resurrectionlansing.org

NEED HELP? "COURAGE" is a Catholic spiritual support group for those struggling with same sex attraction. "ENCOURAGE" is a separate support group for families & friends. For info in the Diocese of Lansing, call 517-342-2596 or email caverart@comcast.net

NEED HELP? An "AA" group meets Fridays at 7:00pm at Emanuel Church, 324 W Main St. (next door to St Mary's)



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