



Established
July 5, 1840

St. Michael the Archangel Parish

We are disciples who act justly, love tenderly, and walk humbly with God.

Churches: † Immaculate Conception-Holualoa † Holy Rosary-Kalaoa † St. Paul's-Kawanui † St. Peter's-by-the-Sea-Kahalu'u

St. Michael's Church 75-5769 Alii Drive | Kailua-Kona, HI 96740 | Phone: (808) 326-7771

Email Address: stmichaelarchangel@rcchawaii.org / Office Hours: Monday through Friday | 9am—4:30pm

WEEKDAY MORNING MASSES: 7am Monday through Saturday at St. Michael the Archangel

WEEKDAY EVENING MASSES: 5pm Mon Tues Thurs Fri (English) & 6pm Wed (Spanish) at Immaculate Conception

Adoration: Wednesday 7:30am—4:45pm / Confessions: **Saturday 9am at St. Michael's Church**

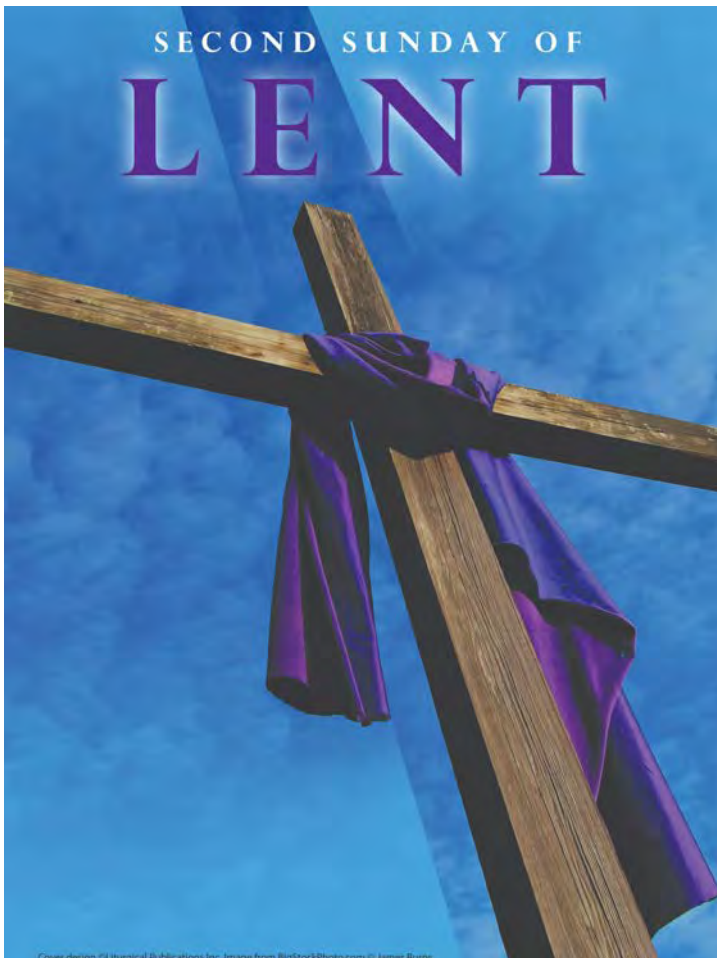
WEEKEND MASSES: Sat 4pm, Sun 7am, 9am, 1:30pm, 4pm / SPANISH MASS: Sun 11:30am

Gift Shop Hours: Mon - Tue - Wed - Fri 9:30am - 1:30pm & Sun 6:30am - 2:30pm

Website: saintmichaelparishkona.org February 25, 2024 | 25 de febrero 2024

Second Sunday of Lent

Reading I - Genesis 22:1-2,9-13,15-18 | Psalm - 116:10,15,16-17,18-19 | Reading II - Romans 8:31-34 | Gospel - Mark 9:2-10
Primera Lectura - Génesis 22:1-2,9-13,15-18 | Salmo - 115:10,15,16-17,18-19 | Segunda Lectura - Romanos 8:31-34 | Evangelio - Marcos 9:2-10



LISTEN AND FOLLOW

“This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.”
And listen they did. From that moment on, Peter, James, and John were ardent followers, forsaking everything to follow in their Master’s footsteps. Like the psalmist crying, “O Lord, I am your servant,” the three disciples committed themselves to lives of incredible hardship and indescribable joy. After that day on the mountain, they never again wavered in their chosen vocation.

Though our tests may not be as severe as Abraham’s and our peak experiences not as dramatic as the Transfiguration, we all face the daily challenges of walking “before the Lord in the land of the living.” As we follow our varied calls to love and serve, let’s be comforted by Paul’s reminder to the Romans: “If God is for us, who can be against us?”

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Prepare for Next Week’s Scripture Readings

1st Reading/Primera Lectura: **Genesis (Génesis) 22:1-2,9-13,15-18**

Psalm/Salmo: **116(115):10,15,16-17,18-19**

2nd Reading/Segunda Lectura: **Romans (Romanos) 8:31-34**

Gospel/Evangelio: **Mark (Marcos) 9:2-10**



Aloha! Welcome to Our Parish - We hope you will find our parish community a place where your faith will be nourished. We encourage you to register with the parish. Registration forms are available in the kiosk, or can be completed online at saintmichaelparishkona.org. To our visitors, we pray that you enjoy your stay in Kona and are blessed with safe travels home.

February 25, 2024

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Second Sunday of Lent

Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18 | Rom 8:31b-34 | Mk 9:2-10

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

Just two weeks ago, when Christians walked around all day with a cross of ashes on our foreheads, we may have received puzzled looks. Who bothers with fasting and almsgiving for 40 whole days? Many of us live with great abundance in this country; the only time we actually *need* to fast might be for lab work. With this in mind, it's helpful to remember the *why*: because Christ sacrificed himself for us, and he calls his followers to participate in his redemptive mission through our own sacrifices. Without sacrifice, we simply cannot be like Christ, nor will we see our own transfiguration in the resurrection to come. So Lent is a blessed season of reorienting our lives to Christian sacrifice: that of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Perhaps this season can also dispel some of the complacency that has a tendency to creep into our lives. The poor and hungry and disenfranchised still exist, and Christ depends on us to be his hands and feet to serve them. But how can we serve them if we do not embrace Christ's example as a living sacrifice? Ask the Lord for the grace to see and hear what he is asking us to do for him.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Today's readings show an incredible arc from Abraham's willingness to sacrifice his son for God to Christ's Transfiguration after his Passion. Without Abraham's willingness to give up that which he wanted most and finally obtained, he would not have earned his greatest blessing from God in having countless descendants; and without Christ's sacrifice on the cross, all of mankind would not have been saved. Maybe we aren't called to great sacrifices such as these in our own lives, but we as Christians are called to offer our lives as a living sacrifice to our family, our neighbor, those in need, and God himself. Lent is a reminder not only to help us reorient our lives to God and his call for our lives, but to live it, too. By our own witness and prayer we have the ability to help bring others to the Lord and his promise of eternal life.

ACCOMPANY What is something you have always appreciated being done for you? What is a specific sacrifice, large or small, that you know has been made on your behalf? Make an effort this week to identify a specific need you know someone has, pray for that person/need, and offer to God a sacrifice of treasure, time or even your suffering for the fulfillment of that need.



Abraham Sacrificing Isaac by Philip Heudorff, c.1800

Life of Stewardship

Today's readings are a powerful testimony to God's profound love for each one of us. It is a reminder for us, as Christian stewards, to surrender all that we have to the Gracious Giver.

The First Reading from Genesis is the infamous story of God putting Abraham to the test. God commands Abraham to offer his son, Isaac, to the Lord as a sacrifice. Abraham obeys the Lord. Yet, a messenger of the Lord cries out at the last moment to stop him. Because of Abraham's faithfulness and surrender to the Lord, he is blessed abundantly.

We can only imagine how Abraham felt, offering the life of his son, not understanding why, but blindly obeying. Yet, Abraham's response of total surrender to God's plan is a testament to trust in God's deep love for us. As Christian stewards, we are called to surrender all to the Lord - our time, our talents, and even our material possessions. We should willingly give God our entire lives with the confidence that He will take care of us.

St. Paul echoes this message so beautifully in our Second Reading. He says, "He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, how will he not also give us everything else along with him?" God loves us so much that He gave us His only Son who suffered, died, and rose for us. He has given us His very best. Can we not entrust our entire lives to Him knowing He will continue to pour out His love on us?

As we continue our journey through Lent, let us reflect on God's profound love for us.

- Stewardship Reflections by Catholic Stewardship

Parish News

AARP Tax Aide Offers Free Tax Preparation

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide provides in-person and virtual tax assistance to anyone, free of charge, with a focus on taxpayers who are over 50 and have low to moderate income.

- Hale Halawai on Thursdays from 8am - 12noon serving clients in-person; first-come/first-served walk-in basis.
- Yano Hall on Wednesdays from 10am - 4pm. Both walk-ins and appointments accepted. APPT. LINE for Yano Hall location only: (808) 765-9141

Visit <https://hi1.taxaide.aarpfoundation.org> for more info.

40 Cans for Lent

The Knights of Columbus have started their annual "40 Cans for Lent" campaign. **Please consider donating one can for each day of our Lenten season.** Donations can be left in the carts near the front entrance.

Please Help Our Media Ministry

Our Media Ministry keeps very busy creating pieces for Parish programs, booklets, posters, flyers, and electronic displays. They also continuously update our website as well as post on our social media platforms and they can always use photos. If you have any photos of our Parish events to share, email to smkonamedia@rcchawaii.org.

St. Michael's 14th Annual Golf Tournament

St. Michael's 14th Annual Charity Golf Tournament will be held on **Saturday March 23rd** at **Kona Country Club**. It will be a 2-person Scramble Format, \$150.00 per player. Call Don

David 808-756-6912 to sign up.

New Parishioner Orientation Luncheon

You are invited to our **New Parishioner Orientation on Sunday, March 17th after the 1:30pm Mass.** *Come learn the history of our Parish, meet our priests, ministry coordinators, and receive a welcome gift!* Please call the Parish Office to **RSVP** with your name, phone number and number attending. We will meet in the Church after Mass with lunch to follow in the Grace Parish Center.

To Our Parish Members

The **presence of children** is a gift to the Church and they are a **reminder** that **our parish is growing**. Please **welcome** our children and give a **warm, supportive** smile of **encouragement** to their parents.

To Families with Small Children:

RELAX: God put the wiggles in your little ones. No need to suppress it! **SIT CLOSE AND EXPLAIN:** Sit towards the front where it's easier to see and hear. Quietly explain the parts of the Mass. **PARTICIPATE:** Your child learns by imitating you. Sing, pray, and respond. Your child will follow your lead! **WANDER:** If you need to leave Mass, feel free to step outside, but please be sure to come back! Your St. Michael's Parish Ohana is happy you are here!

Faith Formation

Grades K-5

We are in need of an assistant who speaks Spanish to help with some of the students in 4th grade. We meet on Sunday mornings after the 9am Mass and end by 11:30. If the Holy Spirit is calling you to help, please contact Margaret Essex at messex@rcchawaii.org.

Faith Formation/Youth Ministry (Grades 6-12)

Thank you, parents for bringing your Youth to our Lock In, we were all truly blessed. Our next class is also the Mandatory Safe Environment Training for all Youth in grades 6-12 on Sunday, March 3rd.

First Confession is on Saturday, March 2nd, please be sure Youth arrive between 8:30 and 8:45 am for instruction from Father. They may leave as soon as they have completed their reconciliation.

Children's Rosary

Parents: Please encourage your children to pray just one decade of the Rosary with other children after the 9am Mass on Sunday, February 25 on the North Lanai.

Lenten Stations of the Cross

Every Friday during Lent, the **Stations of the Cross** will be prayed **at 5pm at St. Michael's in English** and at **6pm at Immaculate Conception in Spanish.**

Life in Spirit Seminar (Feb 13 - Apr 2)

The Charismatic Prayer Group presents **Session #3-New Life** on Tues. Feb 27 from 6:30-8pm at St. Michael's. Deepen your connection to Jesus - release the power of the Holy Spirit in your life!

Consecration to God the Father Ministry

Please join us in prayer to honor God Our Father, **Sunday, March 4 on St. Michael's South Lanai after the**

Stewardship of Treasure

Feb 12th - Feb 18th, 2024

ONLINE GIVING	\$ 2,380.00
SUNDAY OFFERINGS / MAILED-IN OFFERINGS	\$ 21,389.00
GRACE PARISH CENTER CAMPAIGN	\$ 6,251.00

Parish Center Update

We have collected **\$4,866,811.68** for the Parish Center Campaign, which includes pledge payments.

Mahalo for your continued generosity.

Offerings can be mailed directly to the parish office; or click on our website's "Online Giving" to share your blessings.

STEWARDSHIP OF OUR TREASURE FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2024

MONTHLY DIOCESAN ASSESSMENT: **\$10,831.00**

MONTHLY 'OHANA IN CHRIST ASSESSMENT: **\$1,724.18**

The above amounts fund Diocesan ministries, as listed in *'Ohana in Christ* to help support our parishes, pastors, schools, service agencies, and communities within the Diocese of Honolulu.

Online Giving

St. Michael's Church provides **Online Giving** - a convenient and safe way to make a one-time or recurring donation. Getting started is easy - visit saintmichaelparishkona.org and click our **ONLINE GIVING tab**. Your gift will be securely transferred directly to the parish bank account.

1:30pm Mass. We will pray Consecration Prayers to God Our Father and Divine Mercy. The Consecration prayer helps us to acknowledge God as our Eternal Father, to honor Him, and to give Him our commitment to follow His commandments.

Order of Christian Initiation for Adults

OCIA classes continue on **March 4th & 18th** from 5:45 to 7:15pm in the Grace Parish Center.

Deacon Formation Program

The Deacon Formation Program is actively recruiting for its 12th Cohort. Applicants who meet the requirements will be accepted into their formal Aspirancy in 2025. If you are contemplating submitting an application, attendance at one of the Inquiry Weekends is mandatory. They are scheduled on Oahu on April 12-14, May 3-5, and June 14-16. Please see Deacon Craig or Deacon Sándor for more information.

Second Sunday of Lent

As a college student, my prized possession was an after-market car stereo. It was my pride and joy: glorious audio, eye-catching display screen, and multi-disc CD changer. It drained my hard-earned dollars, but it was totally worth it. It drenched me in music everywhere I drove. On Ash Wednesday of my senior year of college, Father Tom, the Jesuit priest at my university said, "Pray for God to tell you what he wants you to sacrifice for Lent." I did. In my heart, the answer came: "Give up listening to your car stereo for forty days." I winced. Not possible, I thought. Can't do it. I made other plans. The next morning, I was stunned to find that my car had been broken into, and my fancy stereo ripped

out and stolen.

God's command to sacrifice what we love is no joke. This week in Genesis 22, God says: "Abraham!" "Here I am," he replied. Then God said, "Take your son, your only son, whom you love - Isaac - and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you." Believe me, I know. We like to be in control. It chafes us that God sets the terms of what we must sacrifice, and how. But this is no impersonal, tyrannical process. Remember that God uses their names, Abraham and Isaac. God knows each one of us and the precious gifts He commands us to offer. Finally, our sacrifices are for our own good. Do we trust this enough to do what Father Tom asked me to do?

Lenten challenge: This week, I dare you to ask God: "What do you want me to give up?" He may ask for that which you love most. It will be something precious to you: time, money, a relationship, a dream, an opportunity. What matters is we trust Him and act sacrificially in line with His command. Whatever we sacrifice will of course come back to us as surely as the Risen Jesus - but that doesn't make it easy.

Treasures From Our Tradition

Within the tradition of the Christian church, there are differing ways of observing a Lenten fast. For Eastern Catholics and Orthodox, the discipline is close to our understanding of "abstinence." Certain foods are eliminated from the diet entirely. The rules are basically monastic rules, and the customs of a monastery table are embraced in the home. This year, "Meatfare Sunday" is March 10, and it is the last time that meat is admitted to the diet until Easter. The following Sunday, known as "Cheesefare Sunday," takes cheese and all dairy products from the table. It is also known as "forgiveness Sunday" because a true fast is about crowning life with love, holding back harsh words, and cutting off anger.

The Eastern churches fast even from celebrating the Eucharist from Monday through Friday. We don't count Sundays as fast days, but Eastern Christians fast through the weekends. People are expected to come as close to the ideal as possible, and the Lenten services keep reminding them not to take pride in their fasting, since the devil himself never eats! What's left on the menu? Grains, vegetables, eggs (maybe), and fish. Imagine the joys of the Easter table after such a fast!

- Rev. James Field, © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

Everyday Stewardship - Put Me In, Coach

I have had the honor of coaching all three of my kids in soccer. When you are a coach of a team of little ones, along with the fundamentals of the game and good sportsmanship, you want to teach the value of teamwork. If they can learn about how a team functions and why working together matters, that lesson can benefit them for many years to come.

The Body of Christ is a type of team. We are all called upon to use our talents and gifts in such a way that they complement those of others. We are stronger and capable of so much more together than when we are apart.

REV. KONELIO FALETOI
Pastor and Vicar Forane of the
West Hawaii Vicariate

REV. ROYD MWEEMBA
Parochial Vicar

REV. HENRY GUILLEN-VEGA
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SHIRLEY DAVID
Pastoral Council Chair

DAVE BATEMAN
Finance Council Chair

SHARMAYNE NAONE
Stewardship Committee Chair
& Safe Environment

ROBERT LEOPOLDINO / DON DAVID
Capital Campaign Committee Chairs

TJ MOSES
Parish Life Coordinator

WALTER BACXA
Music Ministry

RENE LEMUS
Music Ministry & Spanish Baptism Ministry

CAROLINE SMITH / LOUELLA BRANCO
Funeral Ministry

PAULETTE ADAMS
Wedding Coordinator

MAYRA RAMIREZ
Spanish Wedding Coordinator

BILL CULHANE
Food Pantry Ministry

THELMA BACXA
Community Outreach Ministry

CAROLYN LIVINGSTON
Gift Shop Manager

SUSAN KEEN
Business Manager
skeen@rcchawaii.org

JANICE LACRO
Administrative Assistant
stmichaelarchangel@rcchawaii.org

Our stewardship isn't just about our personal call of God to cultivate our gifts and give them back with increase to Him. It is about how our stewardship way of life builds up the Body of Christ. The Body cannot function as God intended it to if parts of it are not fully giving of themselves. In community, we have the power to change the world around us because we bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to those who need to hear it and witness it by our actions.

This Lent, consider how you fit into the Body of Christ. How can your gifts and talents make the Church stronger? You just might be the missing component of a team that really needs help to make the greatest impact for Jesus. - Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS © LPI

Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments - *On The Mountain*

Why climb a mountain? "Because it's there," George Mallory famously said, before perishing in an attempt to scale Mount Everest. God is an event planner; every detail matters, and the location is most crucial of all. On the mountain, God demanded the sacrifice of Isaac. On the mountain, he restored Isaac to his father. On the mountain, Jesus was transfigured, revealed in all his mystifying glory as the beloved Son of God, the sacrifice which would finally balance the scale.

These things happened on a mountain because they could only happen on a mountain. The mountain is where the reckoning happens. It is where God takes, where He gives back, where He hands down.

In Lent, we encounter the mountain. We are removed from the distractions of ordinary life and placed outside the confines of our everyday habits. We find silence and mystery, pain and truth. We struggle and we become tired, and there is always a moment when we wonder if, perhaps, it would have been easier not to climb. There is always a moment when others look at us and think: "Why climb a mountain?"

I confess, I am not much of an outdoors-woman. Hiking, in my family, is any walking you do on a trail that is not paved, so I am far from qualified to comment on whether or not the view from the summit was worth George Mallory's life. But I do know a thing or two about struggling through a difficult experience. I know the strange peace that exists in the moment after it's all over and you catch your breath and realize you are a better, stronger, wiser person for the pain.

The mountain is there. Let's climb it.

- Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman, ©LPI

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH

- 4pm - James "Jimmy" McClean, Rest in Peace

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

- 7am - Cynthia Taylor, deceased, Birthday Remembrance
- 9am - Glen Faringer, Rest in Peace
- 1:30pm - Editha Bernabe, 90th Birthday Blessing for a Long, Healthy Life
- 4:00pm - Richard (Doc) Ludemann, Rest in Peace

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH

- 7am - Seanglara Bunrasi, Surang Bunrasi, Robert Dowling, Roy Peloquin, Gary Lewis, Surin Kailuanam, Rose Lewis, Dr. Arthur Bourgeois, May they Rest in Peace
- 5pm - Repose of the Soul of Marvin Leroy Odefey

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH

- 7am - Frances Acol, 39th Anniversary of Death
- 5pm - Louis Padavan, Rest in Peace

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH

- 7am - MISSA PRO POPULO

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29TH

- 7am - Sean, Lorraine and David Wilkinson, Rest in Peace
- 5pm - Susana Parada Arriaga, Birthday Blessings

FRIDAY, MARCH 1ST

- 7am - Maricar Aragon, Special Intention
- 5pm - Ellen Currens, Rest in Peace

SATURDAY, MARCH 2ND

- 7am - Marcelo Ganir, Loreto Ganir and Jose Ganir, Rest in Peace

Requesting a Mass Intention

A Mass intention can be scheduled by calling the Office at **326-7771**. If you'd like to request a specific day and Mass time, **please call well in advance of the date to secure it.**

Mass cards are available.

"For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat..."

—Matthew 25:35

The Food Pantry Ministry

The Food Pantry is open the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month from **9 - 9:45am** at **Immaculate Conception Church Parking Lot.**

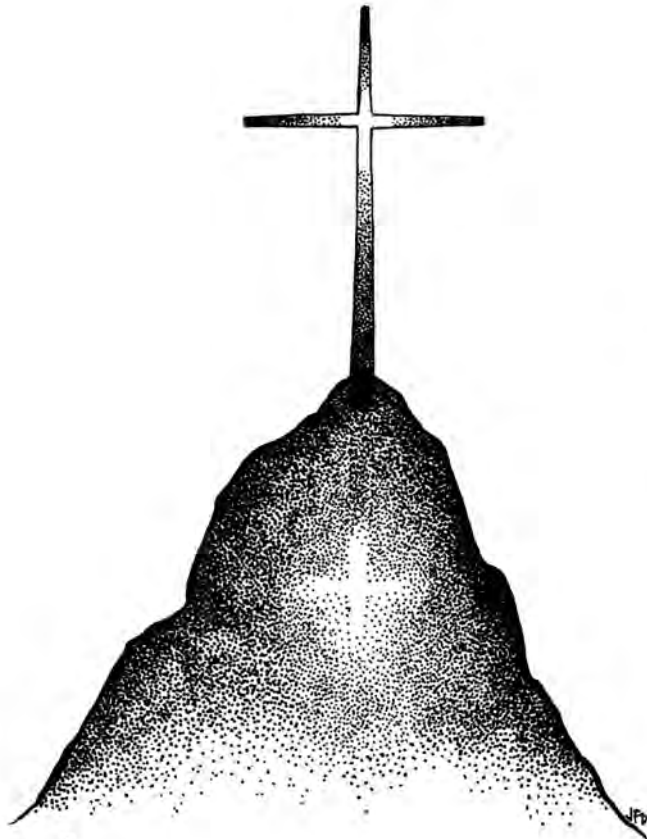
Who Exactly Is He?

This Week's Readings at Mass

- ▶ Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18 - The testing of Abraham
- ▶ Romans 8:31b-34 - God's love for humanity
- ▶ Mark 9:2-10 - Jesus transfigured

It's difficult to imagine this gospel scene when Jesus took Peter, James, and John up a mountain and was transfigured in front of them. There's nothing in our experience of seeing someone glow in dazzling white clothes brighter than any white we can imagine. Nor have we had visions of two people who lived long ago appearing in front of us like Moses and Elijah did with Jesus. Probably we would be terrified as the three apostles were—and maybe even wonder if we were losing our minds.

It gets even stranger when the three apostles hear a voice from a cloud telling them to listen to “my beloved Son.” At that point, they find themselves left alone with the same Jesus they have always known.



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“This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.”

Sheepish Question:
What are my blind spots when it comes to making sacrifices for God?

Obviously, the experience is something the apostles couldn't have understood with their minds, at least not before his resurrection from the dead. Before this scene, the apostles—as well as pretty much everyone else Jesus was meeting—were trying to figure out just who he was. He appeared human to them in every other way except for the incredible miracles he was performing. How could a human do those things? The Transfiguration probably left the impression that although Jesus was more than just an incredible human being, the apostles still didn't fully understand who he was.

Questions of the Week

- 1 When you think of Jesus, do you think of him more as a human or as divine? How so?
- 2 If you were one of the apostles at the Transfiguration, what do you think you would have been thinking or feeling? How would it change how you thought of Jesus?

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SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT



I Surrender

Loving Father,
I come before you,
asking for your mercy.
May my faith be as strong
as that of Abraham.
Grant me steadfastness this Lent,
in my pursuit of a deeper prayer life.
Free me from obstacles
that keep me from you.
May I find peace in your presence.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, February 25, 2024
Continued Change



Today's readings: Genesis 22:1–2, 9a, 10–13, 15–18; Psalm 116:10, 15, 16–17, 18–19; Romans 8:31b–34; Mark 9:2–10. In today's Gospel, Peter, James, and John glimpse Jesus' glory as he is transfigured before them on the mountaintop. Peter, intent on staying at the site of their beatific vision of Jesus, Moses, and Elijah, suggests that three tents be made. "Rabbi, it is good that we are here," he tells Jesus.

Each week we participate in a mystery as we take part in Sunday Mass. There, as the Eucharistic Prayer is prayed, the bread and the wine become the Body and Blood of Christ. But the elements of bread and wine are not all that are transformed during the liturgy. In the Eucharistic Prayer, it is also prayed that we "may become one body, one spirit in Christ." When we are especially attentive to the prayers,

and gestures of the liturgy, we may say to ourselves and one another, "It is good that we are here." Transformed by the liturgy, we leave the church to bring the presence of Christ and the Word of God into the world.

Just as the apostles could not stay with Jesus on the mountaintop, the faithful cannot remain in the church. As the Second Vatican Council's *Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy* states, "The renewal in the eucharist of the covenant between the Lord and his people draws the faithful into the compelling love of Christ and sets them on fire." Our mission, as we leave the liturgy, is to testify to God's love, bringing hope to those facing difficult times. We make Christ known as we accompany others.



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, February 26 Forgiven

“Forgive and you will be forgiven,” Jesus tells his followers in today’s Gospel. As Jesus preaches mercy, he explains that the actions of others will reflect our actions. Only if we are willing to forgive will we be forgiven. During this week, consider whom you need to forgive and from whom you need to request forgiveness. *Today’s readings: Daniel 9:4b–10; Psalm 79:8–9, 11, 13; Luke 6:36–38.*

Tuesday, February 27 A Just, Humble Life

Both the first reading and the Gospel today give instructions on how to live. In the reading from Isaiah, the Lord instructs “to make justice your aim,” aid the orphan and widow, and right wrongs. Jesus tells his followers to live with humility. “Whoever exalts himself will be humbled; but whoever humbles himself will be exalted.” When we do good things, we should not seek recognition. Today, strive to forward the kindnesses you have received. That might be done by buying coffee for a coworker, assisting a friend, or doing another’s chore. Such acts can be testimonies of God’s love. *Today’s readings: Isaiah 1:10, 16–20; Psalm 50:8–9, 16bc–17, 21, 23; Matthew 23:1–12.*

Wednesday, February 28 Distractions

Today we are reminded of what we are preparing for: Jesus’ passion, death, resurrection, and ascension. During this season we make promises of things we will sacrifice, yet sometimes we become distracted. We are being called to transform our hearts and our lives for the service of our Lord. Today sit with your family and discuss how all can remain attentive to the message of God. What are some of the distractions in your life? How can you overcome them? *Today’s readings: Jeremiah 18:18–20; Psalm 31:5–6, 14, 15–16; Matthew 20:17–28.*

Thursday, February 29 Making Good Choices

The Gospel from Luke today presents the story of the rich man who ignored the needs of the poor man lying at his door. After death, the poor Lazarus lived in comfort while the rich man was in torment. Our daily choices can lead us to God or away from God. Consider whose needs you ignore while allowing yourself to eat your fill. *Today’s readings: Jeremiah 17:5–10; Psalm 1:1–2, 3, 4, 6; Luke 16:19–31.*

Friday, March 1 Families

In today’s account of Joseph, the youngest son of Jacob, we see an example of jealousy building among brothers until they sell Joseph to foreigners. The eleven brothers appreciated neither their father’s preferential treatment of Joseph nor their brother’s dreams and wanted to be rid of him. Are there unresolved tensions in your family that are eroding relationships? Examine whether you play a part in the harm or healing in this family dynamic. *Today’s readings: Genesis 37:3–4, 12–13a, 17b–28a; Psalm 105:16–17, 18–19, 20–21; Matthew 21:33–43, 45–46.*

Saturday, March 2 The Love of God

It is no secret the lengths to which God goes to show us his love. We know he wants to be in relationship with us, but sometimes we are reluctant. The moment we say yes to the relationship, God showers us with many blessings. The psalm tells us that God overlooks shortcomings and forgives sins. Today recite the psalm, and with each verse, pause to feel the love and presence of God. *Today’s readings: Micah 7:14–15, 18–20; Psalm 103:1–2, 3–4, 9–10, 11–12; Luke 15:1–3, 11–32.*



PARISH EVENTS

(may change without advance notice)

MONDAY

- Friendly Place Lunches 10:30am-12pm
- OCIA (Feb 19, Mar 4,18) 5:45-7:15pm
- Knights of Columbus 5:45pm
(2nd Monday of the month)
- Church Cleaning 6:00pm

TUESDAY

- Coffee & Sweets with Fr. Lio 7:30-9:00am
- Life in the Spirit Seminar/
Charismatic Prayer Group 6:30-8:00pm

WEDNESDAY

- Adoration 7:30-5:00pm
- Kupuna Ministry 8:30-10:30am
- Benediction/Evening Prayer 5:00pm
- Men of Faith 5:00-6:30pm

THURSDAY

- Bible Study 10:30-12noon
- Spiritual Book Club 4:00-5:30pm
(2nd & 4th Thursday of each month)

FRIDAY - NO EVENTS

SATURDAY

- Church Cleaning 7:30am
- Grounds Maintenance 7:30am
- Confession 9-10am

SUNDAY

- Children's Rosary Group After 9am Mass
(Last Sunday of each month)
- Consecration to God the Father After 1:30 Mass
(1st Sunday of each month)
- Faith Formation (K-5) 10:20-11:20am
- Faith Formation (6-12) 5:15-7:15pm
(See the Faith Formation section of bulletin for class dates)

PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do you, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

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Loving and Eternal Father,
You chose Brother Joseph Dutton as
An ardent apostle of Your Divine Compassion.
I humbly ask you, through the intercession of
Brother Joseph Dutton, that You will
grant me this favor - - -
Brother Joseph Dutton, please pray for me.
I will be forever thankful if you present my
request to God through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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