

Christi simus, non nostri

We belong to Christ, not ourselves

ST COLUMBAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

A Parish of the
Archdiocese of Seattle

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

St. Columban Church

506 First St. S | Yelm, WA 98597

Sunday Mass: 10:30 AM

Saturday 5:00 PM

Daily Mass 9:00 AM (Tuesday-Friday, Except First Fridays)

Eucharistic Adoration First Fridays 6:30 PM, resuming in May

Confessions Saturday 3:30-4:30 PM,

Fridays in Lent 6:00 PM *until all are heard*

Anointing of the Sick By request

Baptism & Wedding Preparation

Contact the Parish Office

St. Peter Mission

149 Keithahn St S | Tenino, WA 98589

Sunday Mass 8:00 AM

First Friday Mass 9:00 AM (*resumes May 5*)

Confessions Sunday 7:30-7:45 AM

Anointing of the Sick By request

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Providing emergency assistance for those in need.

Help Line: 360-458-1904

Parish Office Hours at St. Columban Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM Friday by appointment

March 5, 2023

2nd Sunday of Lent Cycle A

Entrance Antiphon: *Of you my heart has spoken, seek his face. It is your face O Lord that I seek, hide not your face from me.*

1st Reading: Genesis 12:1-4a

Responsorial Psalm: *Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.*

2nd Reading: 2 Timothy 1:8b-10

Gospel Acclamation: *From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard. This is my beloved Son, hear him.*

Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

Offertory Antiphon: I will ponder your statutes which I have greatly loved, and I will lift my hands to your commandments, which I have loved.

Communion Antiphon: *Tell no one the vision you have seen, until the Son of Man shall rise from the dead.*



Parish Staff

360-458-3031

Fr. Brian Thompson Priest Administrator
frthompson@saintcolumbanyelm.org Ext 6

Jennifer Langham PA for Admin, Liturgy, and Music
jennifer@saintcolumbanyelm.org Ext. 1

Holly Dodd PA for Admin, Bookkeeping, & Records
holly@saintcolumbanyelm.org Ext. 4

Gabriela Makinster Elementary & Adult Faith Formation
gaby@saintcolumbanyelm.org *habla Español* Ext. 2

Chad Lucero Youth Ministry
chad@saintcolumbanyelm.org Ext. 3

Steve Slater St. Columban Maintenance
steven@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Gilberto Espino St. Peter Maintenance

St. Columban Parish Pastoral Council

Judith Cusick (Chairperson), Sheila Johnson, Jerome Didier, Joseph Judge, Dennis Stumpf

St. Peter Advisory Commission

Sherry Bachmann (Chairperson), Marilyn Ritter, Bernie Schwarz, Bob Bacon, Diane Weston
stpeteradvisory@saintcolumbanyelm.org

St. Columban Parish Finance Council

Joseph Judge (St Columban)
 Mari Evans (St Peter)

Week of February 19, 2023

Ordinary Income	St Columban	St Peter
Weekly Goal	\$5,800.00	\$1,000.00
Collection (Cash & Envelopes)	\$2,704.94	\$583.00
Online Giving	\$1,283.04	\$170.15
Net	(\$1,812.02)	(\$246.85)
Special Funds		
St Vincent DePaul	\$10.00	\$0.00
Sacramentals (Candles, Beeswax tapers, Salt)	\$26.00	\$0.00
Flowers	\$20.00	\$0.00
Building Fund	\$192.36	\$0.00
Mass Intentions	\$20.00	\$0.00
2 nd Collection (name)	\$0.00	\$0.00

Weekly Calendar & Mass Intentions

All events are at St. Columban unless otherwise noted.

MONDAY March 6

Rosary Prayer Group 7:00PM Church

TUESDAY March 7

Sts. Perpetua & Felicity

Mass 9:00 AM *Int: Homebound Ministry* Church

Choir Practice 6:00PM Church

RCIA 6:30PM RE Building

Spanish Prayer Group 6:30PM Parish Hall

WEDNESDAY March 8

St. John of God

Mass 9:00 AM *Int: Maintenance Ministry* Church

THURSDAY March 9

St. Frances of Rome

Mass 9:00 AM *+In Mem: Emma Grace Osman RIP* Church

Sunday Scripture Study 6:30 PM RE Bldg

FRIDAY March 10

Mass 9:00 AM *+ In Mem: Alfredo Lucero RIP* Church

Homeschool Enrichment 10:00AM RE Building

Stations of the Cross 6:00 PM Church & St. Peter

Confessions 6:00 PM - until all are heard Church

Soup Supper 6:30 PM Parish Hall & St. Peter

SATURDAY March 11

Confessions 3:30 PM Church

Anticipatory Sunday Mass 5:00 PM *Int.: Pro Populo* Church

St. Patrick's Dinner 6:00 PM Parish Hall

Hosted by the Knights of Columbus

SUNDAY March 12

3rd Sunday of Lent Year A

Confession 7:30-7:45 AM St. Peter

Sunday Mass 8:00 AM *Int.: Pro Populo* St. Peter

Sunday Mass 10:30 AM *Int.: Pro Populo* Church

No Religious Ed or Confirmation Classes

Daughters of Mary Fellowship in the Hall 11:45AM Church

DAYLIGHT SAVING—set clocks 1 hour ahead

Fridays of Lent

ST. COLUMBAN

Stations of the Cross & Confessions
 6:00PM

Soup Supper (Parish Hall) - 6:30PM

March 10 *hosted by Faith Formation & Youth*

March 17 *hosted by the Knights of Columbus*

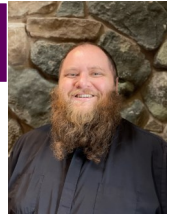
March 24 *hosted by the Daughters of Mary*

March 31 *hosted by St. Vincent de Paul*

ST. PETER MISSION

Stations of the Cross 6:00PM

A Word from Father Thompson



On Ash Wednesday, I mentioned that Lent took its origins from the customary preparation of Catechumens for Baptism and Penitents for Reconciliation. I thought some might be interested to hear a bit more about the history of the Sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation/Confession. I am glossing over many details, but this is a rough sketch:

In the earliest days of the Church, though we understood that Christ gave the Apostles the authority to forgive sins (who passed it down to bishops, who delegate it down to their priests), there was disagreement as to when and how to use this power for someone who has already been baptized. Initially, the thought was that Baptism was one's primary chance at repentance, and that if one was caught sinning gravely afterwards, he would be expelled from the community and given a heavy list of penances to help reform his life. If he was faithful to this penance, the bishop would pray over the sinner on his deathbed, asking that as the sinner encounters the mystery of death, God might forgive the sin of the repentant. At first, this deathbed prayer was without the Sacraments, but later the penitent would be given Viaticum; The bishop himself offering Holy Communion effected the end of the sinner's excommunication, and the contact with the all-pure Christ in Holy Communion effected the purification and forgiveness of the penitent's sin.

Later, penitents were reconciled not on their deathbeds, but after they had demonstrated sufficient conversion, in the process I mentioned on Ash Wednesday. A public grave sinner would be expelled from the community. If he wanted to repent, a priest would meet with him to assign penances (which could take years; also, if the sin was renouncing the Faith under persecution, the sinner had to first seek the endorsement of someone condemned to die for the Faith, or at least someone who had suffered and not apostatized). The sinner could then return to the church grounds but would be allowed only to kneel or lie prostrate outside the door, begging for the prayers of the faithful. As his repentance continued, his priest would allow him to listen to the Readings at Mass, but only in the vestibule and through the closed door of the church. Next, he would be allowed into the church, but would have to leave after the Homily. Finally, ashes would be imposed on him 40 days prior to Easter, and on Holy Thursday, the Bishop would welcome him back to Communion. At first, this was simply by administering Holy Communion to the repentant person (with the same logic as deathbed Communion), but later an explicit absolution was added to the Holy Thursday ceremony which begged God to rejoin the sinner to the Body of Christ not because the sinner deserves forgiveness but because the Body of Christ would be maimed without all its members. Note this was all done in public for publicly known heinous sins. I will talk about private penance next week.

In Christ,

Remember in Your Prayers

Loving God, we join with others of your people here asking you to hold in Your hands all of our homebound brothers and sisters and those who have asked for our prayers:



The Sick and Homebound

Jessica Nash, Mary Taylor, Jeanine Kavanaugh, Vivienne Hayden, Robert Fisher, James Whitney

The Deceased

Karen Bellrose, Nick Loch

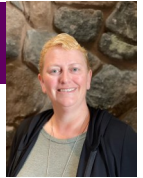
Extraordinary Intentions

- + All those in harm's way, especially those experiencing natural disasters and terrorism.
- + All the souls in purgatory, especially those who have no one to pray for them.


To add a name to this list or request a Mass Intention please contact the parish office. All submissions must have permission from the named individual or an authorized family member for privacy purposes.

St. Columban Prayer Chain: Confidential and private prayer chain. To join contact the parish office.


Parish Ministries & Events





Please contact Jennifer at the Parish Office for more information about events and to connect with our various parish groups: 360-458-3031 x1 jennifer@saintcolumbanyelm.org

 **Altar Society**
Meets every Thursday after Daily Mass to clean the church.

 **Daughters of Mary**
St. Columban Catholic Church Yelm, WA
Monthly Meeting
March 14, 10:00 AM
RE Bldg.
daughtersofmary@saintcolumbanyelm.org

 **Knights of Columbus**
Council 17152
Next Council Meeting
March 15th
5:30 PM Church
6 PM Hall

Society of St. Vincent de Paul
Monthly Meeting
March 16th, 7:00 PM
Parish Hall


 **St. Peter's Circle**
St. Peter Mission Tenino
Meets Bi-monthly
Next Meeting
March 14th 9:30 AM

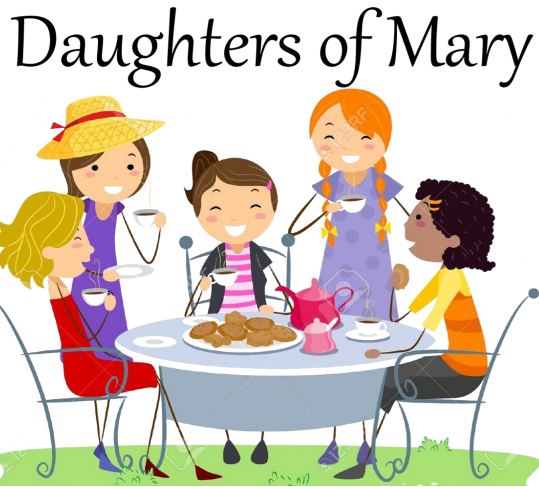
Prayer Groups
Rosary Prayer Group
Mondays - Church
7:00 PM
Spanish Prayer Group
Tuesdays - Hall
6:30PM

Experience this Journey with other Catholic Men by Joining the Knights of Columbus Today!
FREE MEMBERSHIP*
For new online membership applications Submitted the entire month of March
**for 1-year of online membership, regular online dues are \$30/year thereafter.*
Visit: kofc.org/joinus Enter code **BLESSEDMCGIVNEY** or Agent Promo Code



Ladies Social
Wednesday March 15, 2023
6:00PM in the Parish Hall

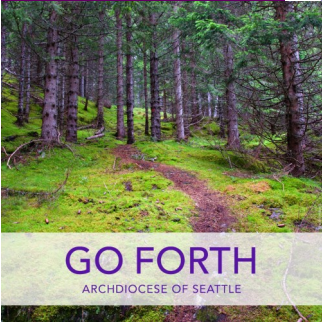
Join us for a great time of fellowship with the Daughters of Mary! Meet our members, learn more about all that we do, and how you can get involved!
Bring your favorite dish to share!
All Ladies Welcome!



 Celebrate Irish heritage with **St. Patrick's Dinner**
Saturday, March 11
after the 5:00 PM Mass
St. Columban Parish Hall
Tickets will be on sale after all Masses

 **Knights of Columbus**
Hosted by St. Columban Council 17152

Lent: Reflect and Renew



Spend time this Lent to reflect and renew your relationship with the Lord.

For suggestions, inspiration and resources, go to archseattle.org/lent or scan



GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

As a kid I remember looking at my sister and thinking, "No man is ever going to marry her. She is way too...my *sister!*" I couldn't see her as anything except my goofy, emotional, cooties-laden sister. Years later, on her wedding day, I remember seeing how her husband looked at her, he was totally in love with her, his watery eyes full of overwhelmed joy, drinking in her beauty and grace. He was the one who actually saw her. Blinded by familiarity, I had not been able to see her until now. She was glorious. I finally saw how beautiful my sister really was.

Jesus is transfigured before Peter, James, and John. His face shone like the sun and his clothes dazzle with heavenly light. If it's a miracle, it is so related to the apostles' perception of the glory of Jesus. The physical spectacle reveals how the Father perceives the Son, so to speak: **"This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased; listen to him."** The Son is *always* bathed in the Father's love. It's only just now that they finally perceive it.

Who could possibly give his or her heart totally to Jesus? If we perceive him to be just another teacher, symbol, or moral example, we can't. But if the Holy Spirit gives us eyes to see that he is the Beloved Son of God, who makes our humanity not just pleasing to God but filled with glory ... then who can resist him? Perhaps only the lovers are the ones who properly see.

— *Father John Muir*

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What the Catholic Church Teaches | Catechism of the Catholic Church, para. 556

On the threshold of the public life: the baptism; on the threshold of the Passover: the Transfiguration. Jesus' baptism proclaimed "the mystery of the first regeneration", namely, our Baptism; the Transfiguration "is the sacrament of the second regeneration": our own Resurrection. From now on we share in the Lord's Resurrection through the Spirit who acts in the sacraments of the Body of Christ. The Transfiguration gives us a foretaste of Christ's glorious coming, when he "will change our lowly body to be like his glorious body." But it also recalls that "it is through many persecutions that we must enter the kingdom of God":

Peter did not yet understand this when he wanted to remain with Christ on the mountain. It has been reserved for you, Peter, but for after death. For now, Jesus says: "Go down to toil on earth, to serve on earth, to be scorned and crucified on earth. Life goes down to be killed; Bread goes down to suffer hunger; the Way goes down to be exhausted on his journey; the Spring goes down to suffer thirst; and

March 5-11

Conversation starters this week:

- Have you ever really wanted something and thought, "If I can just have this, I won't want anything else," but then you got it and you still felt like you wanted something more? Why do you think that happened?
- Blessings come in all shapes and sizes, from the food we eat, to the clothes we wear, to the friends and family who love us. Can you name some of the blessings that God has given you in your own life?
- For each of the blessings you named, can you think of a specific way you can show your gratitude? For example, if you named your family as a blessing, how can you show that you are thankful to have them in your life?

Resolution for the week:

Consider saying a decade of the rosary with the family every evening as part of prayer time and say the whole rosary together once a week.



For more tips, go to:

MakeSpaceforGod.org

Liturgical Note

During Lent, instead of the *Alleluia*, the Verse before the Gospel given in the Lectionary is sung. It is also possible to sing another Psalm or Tract, as found in the *Graduale*. (GIRM 62)

Tracts are a series of psalm verses; rarely a complete psalm, but all the verses are from the same psalm.

The name derives from either the drawn-out style of singing or the continuous structure without a refrain.



BLESSED Joseph, husband of Mary, be with us this day. Thou protected and cherished the Virgin; loving the Child Jesus as thy son, thou rescued Him from danger of death. Defend the Church, the Household of God, purchased by the Blood of Christ. Guardian of the Holy Family, be with us in our trials.

May thy prayers obtain for us the strength to flee from error and wrestle with the powers of corruption so that in life we may grow in holiness and in death rejoice in the crown of victory. Amen.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for March 2023



For victims of abuse We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.

Elementary Faith Formation

Gaby Makinster 360-458-3031 x2 *habla Español* gaby@saintcolumbanyelm.org



PRAYER, FASTING, AND ALMSGIVING

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Fasting and abstinence are the practice of giving up something in order to turn away from sin and draw closer to God. The thing we give up might be good in itself, but we relinquish it in order to obtain a greater good... God. Fasting is not only a form of penance, but a spiritual discipline. Here are some of the spiritual benefits of fasting:

Praying Virtually all of the saints spent lots of time in prayer. The reason? These wise men and women realized that prayer—that ongoing conversation or relationship with God—is essential to living the Christian life. Prayer powers the spiritual life. When we pray, we are better able to let God work through us instead of trying to “do it ourselves.”

Giving Like fasting, giving (traditionally called “almsgiving”) is as much a spiritual discipline as an act of charity, especially when our giving comes at a personal sacrifice. In our small acts of giving, we strive to imitate Christ, who gave his life for us on the cross so that we might have eternal life. When you talk to kids about their ideas for giving, share with them the story of the widow’s mite (Luke 21:1-4), in which Jesus teaches us that it is the size of our generosity, not the size of our act, that matters. Here are a few giving ideas for kids and teens.

Tuition is now Due

Tuition is used for the purchase of the curriculum books used in class along with other catechetical items. **Please call me if you are in need of a scholarship.**

Faith Formation: Grades K-12

All K-5 classes meet before Mass from 9AM-10:15AM on Sundays.

March 12	No Class
	(Daylight Saving time)
March 19	Class
March 26	Class
April 2	No Class
	Palm Sunday

Visit <https://tinyurl.com/bdfdheu8> for a PDF with more tips. Also linked on our online bulletin and Facebook.

RCIA & Adult Faith Formation



The next class is Tuesday March 7 at 6:30pm in the Religious Education Building.

The topic is Eschatology

Understanding the Last Four Things in the life of a Catholic. Death, Judgement, Heaven and Hell.

Death, which consists in the separation of soul and body, is presented under many aspects in Catholic teaching, but chiefly (a) as being actually and historically, in the present order of supernatural Providence, the consequence and penalty of Adam’s sin.

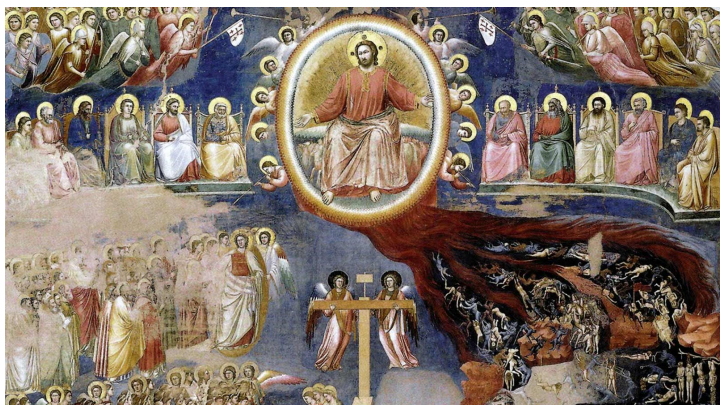
Judgement: That a particular judgment of each soul takes place at death is implied in many passages of the N. T. (Luke, xvi, 22 sqq.; xxiii, 43; Acts, i, 25; etc.), and in the teaching of the Council of Florence (Denzinger, Enchiridion, no. 588) regarding the speedy entry of each soul into heaven, purgatory, or hell.

Heaven is the abode of the blessed, where (after the resurrection with glorified bodies) they enjoy, in the company of Christ and the angels, the immediate vision of God face to face, being supernaturally elevated by the light of glory so as to be capable of such a vision. There are infinite degrees of glory corresponding to degrees of merit, but all are unspeakably happy in the eternal possession of God.

Hell, in Catholic teaching, designates the place or state of men (and angels) who, because of sin, are excluded for ever from the Beatific Vision. In this wide sense it applies to the state of those who die with only original sin on their souls (Council of Florence, Denzinger, no. 588), although this is not a state of misery or of subjective punishment of any kind, but merely implies the objective privation of su-

pernatural bliss, which is compatible with a condition of perfect natural happiness. But in the narrower sense in which the name is ordinarily used, hell is the state of those who are punished eternally for unrepented personal mortal sin. Beyond affirming the existence of such a state, with varying degrees of punishment corresponding to degrees of guilt and its eternal or unending duration, Catholic doctrine does not go. It is a terrible and mysterious truth, but it is clearly and emphatically taught by Christ and the Apostles.

Please see the complete article from *Catholic Answers*, linked on our online bulletin and Facebook.



Catholic Media Recommendations for Everyone



Our parish pays for a subscription to [FORMED.org](https://formed.org), a streaming service from the Augustine Institute and Ignatius press. Go to formed.org/signup and enter our parish name to redeem your FREE membership.



The Story of Saint Perpetua

Watch this inspiring animated movie about the life of Saint Perpetua. Born from a noble Roman family, she converts to Christianity despite a new decree prohibiting new conversions in the Roman Empire. Ultimately, she gives her life for Christ.



Podcasts

What is a Deacon?

Did you know *Sacred Heart Radio* has a local podcast that highlights voices, local faith initiatives of Catholics from around Western Washington? Tune in to *Faith Retriever*, hosted by Deacon Eric Page. In the most recent episode, Bishop Frank Schuster joins Deacon Eric to discuss the roles of deacons in parish life. Bishop Schuster leads the Archdiocese of Seattle's formation of permanent deacons.



Youth Ministry & Confirmation



CONFIRMATION

POC: Chad Lucero chad@saintcolumbanyelm.org

Next Youth Ministry Saturday will be March 25, 9am-2pm

Why pick a Saint Name for Confirmation?

We need all the help we can get when it comes to spiritual mentorship and inspiration. So recalling the life of a saint of whose holiness you wish to emulate is a no-brainer. Ask your sponsor if you need help deciding on a saint name.

Second Year Confirmation Candidates:

Rehearsal for Confirmation Mass is scheduled for April 23, after the 10:30am Mass. Sponsors or a stand-in are required to attend.



Last chance! Register now for the Middle School Encounter (See link on our email bulletin). This is a day-long youth conference for Grade 6-8 on Saturday March 11 at Bellarmine Prep in Tacoma. Contact Mr. Chad to coordinate with the parish once you register.



Youth Sunday Scripture Study meets 9:15-10AM in the Youth Space when Sunday classes are in session. Grades 6-12.

Lectionary Tidbit: This year we will listen to the following five Gospels on the Sundays of Lent: (1) Jesus is Tempted in the Desert, (2) The Transfiguration, (3) The Samaritan Woman, (4) The Healing of the Man born blind, (5) The Raising of Lazarus

Events

Holy Family School Auction

Fundraiser

"BLACK & BLING"



APRIL 15TH, 2023
DOORS OPEN 5:30 PM

Hallen Hall @ Sacred Heart Church
812 Bowler St SE, Lacey, WA 98503

Your support helps us provide excellent education and formation for tomorrow's leaders!

From the Archdiocese



THE ANNUAL REPORT IS HERE

Read about the Archdiocese of Seattle's efforts and impact over the last year.

Links to the Archdiocese of Seattle Annual report and Partners in the Gospel Update can be found on the Email edition of the bulletin and on the parish Facebook Page



The Silent Auction is held online April 9th—April 15th, right up until the Live Auction Register, buy tickets and see a list of donors on our website: holymfamilyauction.com

On a Pilgrimage
March 5, 2023
2nd Sunday in Lent



ARCHDIOCESE OF SEATTLE

At Home with Faith

We might not be able to leave our neighborhoods to go on a pilgrimage, but the Lenten practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving move our hearts and minds on a journey to be closer to God.

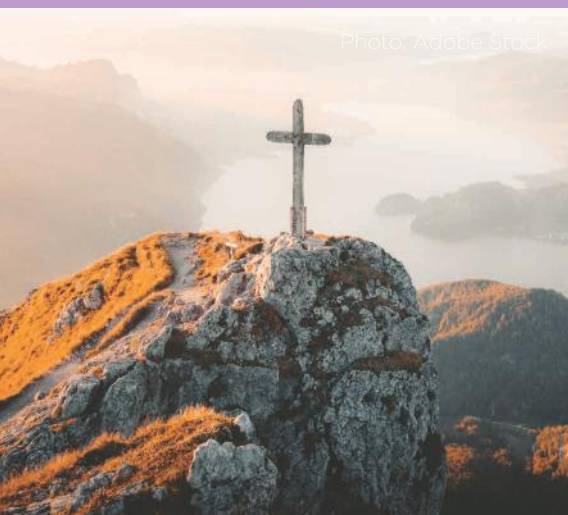


Photo: Adobe Stock

God called Abraham to leave the familiar and comfortable and follow on a path that would lead him to a holy life, a life dedicated to God. He calls each of us in the same way.

Our faith teaches that each person's life is like a pilgrimage, a journey specifically designed to strengthen our relationship with God. These 40 days of Lent remind us how our life should be a journey that leads towards heaven.

We may not leave our neighborhood, but prayer lifts our minds to God. Fasting creates space for God in our senses. And giving to others in need commits our wills to God. With these Lenten practices, we can move closer to God each day of Lent.

Read

Take time to read and reflect on the Scriptures for this day.

Don't have access to a Bible?

Visit www.usccb.org/bible/readings or download an app such as *Laudate* or *iBreviary* to access the Mass readings.

Genesis 12:1-4

God calls Abraham and promises to make a great nation from him.

Psalms 33

Lord, we place our trust in your mercy.

2 Timothy 1:8-10

God saves us and calls us to a holy life.

Matthew 17:1-9

The transfigured Jesus promises the resurrection.

At Home with Faith

Talk

Here are some reflection questions to help you have **Great Conversations** with the whole family.

Pilgrimages are very demanding things. That's why the Church developed the Stations of the Cross as a way for faithful Christians who could not make it to Jerusalem to go on a sort of stationary pilgrimage to meditate on the way of the Cross and Jesus' sacrifice for us. Either before or after Mass on Sunday, show the Stations of the Cross at your parish to your family. Invite them to take a moment to reflect on the meaning of each station. If your parish offers a time for the Stations of the Cross prayer, take advantage of the opportunity. You may also log on to www.athomewithfaith.org to find more resources or experience a video reflection on the Stations of the Cross.

Visit us online for more prayer resources and weekly Lenten reflections:

<https://archseattle.org/lent/>

Photo: Adobe Stock



Use this scriptural Stations of the Cross reading to reflect on each station:

Scriptural Stations of the Cross

<https://www.usccb.org/prayers/scriptural-stations-cross>

Watch this moving 3-minute video sharing Stations of the Cross to from around the Archdiocese of Seattle to reflect upon this powerful devotion:

Stations of the Cross 2021

<https://vimeo.com/530953873>

Go deeper with this 26-minute video by Word on Fire:

Entering the Desert of Lent

<https://youtu.be/C-GOuOnM5Xg>

For more resources, visit us online at:

<https://www.athomewithfaith.org>



SUNDAY, MARCH 5, 2023

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT



“This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased;
listen to him.” - Mt 17:5b

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

I will make of you a great nation,
and I will bless you;
I will make your name great,
so that you will be a blessing. (Gn 12:2)

Psalm:

Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our
trust in you. (Ps 33)

Second Reading:

Bear your share of hardship for the gospel
with the strength that comes from God.
He saved us and called us to a holy life.
(2 Tm 1:8-9)

Gospel:

Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother,
and led them up a high mountain by themselves.
And he was transfigured before them;
his face shone like the sun. (Mt 17:1-2)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

We have been tasked with the awesome responsibility of bearing witness to Jesus transfigured. We have seen what is real. We have heard what is true. Do we have the courage to rise, and not be afraid?

Observances for the week of March 5, 2023

- Sunday:** 2nd Sunday of Lent
Tuesday: Sts. Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs
Wednesday: St. John of God, Religious
Thursday: St. Frances of Rome, Religious
Next Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Lent, Daylight Saving
Time begins



Saint of the week

Sister Thea Bowman tirelessly blazed a way for Black Catholics to fully live their faith out loud and with joy! You can listen to her music on all streaming services and experience her legacy through the many institutions that now boast her name.

Prayer

Prayer for Servant of God Sister Thea Bowman's intercession

Ever loving God, who by your infinite goodness inflamed the heart of your servant and religious, Sister Thea Bowman with an ardent love for you and the People of God; a love expressed through her indomitable spirit, deep and abiding faith, dedicated teaching, exuberant singing, and unwavering witnessing of the joy of the Gospel.

Her prophetic witness continues to inspire us to share the Good News with those whom we encounter; most especially the poor, oppressed, and marginalized. May Sister Thea's life and legacy compel us to walk together, to pray together, and to remain together as missionary disciples ushering in the new evangelization for the Church we love.

Gracious God imbue us with the grace and perseverance that you gave your servant, Sister Thea. For in turbulent times of racial injustice, she sought equity, peace, and reconciliation. In times of intolerance and ignorance, she brought wisdom, awareness, unity, and charity. In times of pain, sickness, and suffering, she taught us how to live fully until called home to the land of promise. If it be your Will, O God, glorify our beloved Sister Thea, by granting the favor I now request through her intercession (mention your request), so that all may know of her goodness and holiness and may imitate her love for You and Your Church. We ask this through Your Son and our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Readings for the week of March 5, 2023

Sunday: Gn 12:1-4a/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19,
20, 22 (22)/2 Tm 1:8b-10/Mt
17:1-9

Monday: Dn 9:4b-10/Ps 79:8, 9, 11
and 13/Lk 6:36-38

Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20/Ps 50:8-9,
16bc-17, 21 and 23/Mt 23:1-12

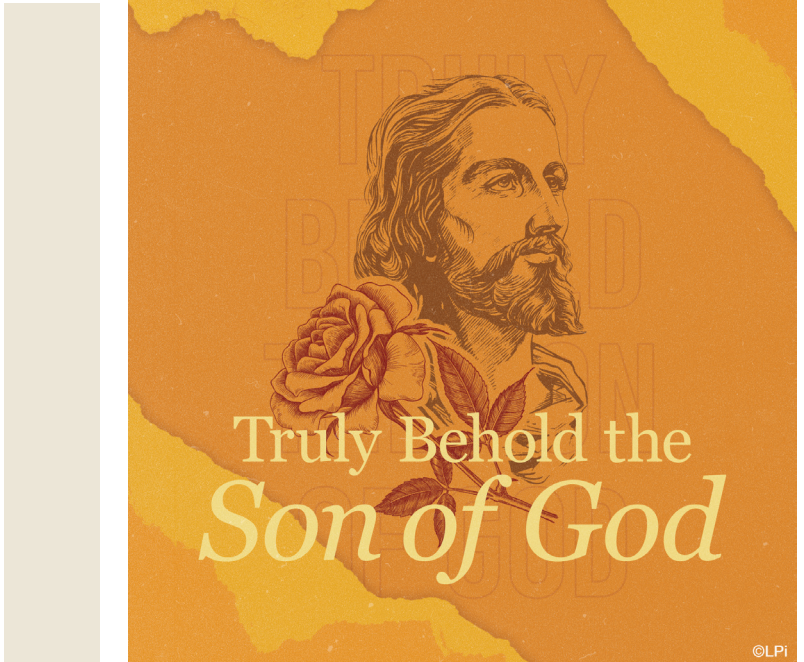
Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20/Ps 31:5-6, 14,
15-16/Mt 20:17-28

Thursday: Jer 17:5-10/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and
6/Lk 16:19-31

Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a
Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21/Mt
21:33-43, 45-46

Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 103:1-2,
3-4, 9-10, 11-12/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Next Sunday: 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



Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

As a kid I remember looking at my sister and thinking, “No man is ever going to marry her. She is way too...my *sister!*” I couldn’t see her as anything except my goofy, emotional, cooties-laden sister. Years later, on her wedding day, I remember seeing how her husband looked at her, he was totally in love with her, his watery eyes full of overwhelmed joy, drinking in her beauty and grace. He was the one who actually saw her. Blinded by familiarity, I had not been able to see her until now. She was glorious. I finally saw how beautiful my sister really was.

Jesus is transfigured before Peter, James, and John. His face shone like the sun and his clothes dazzle with heavenly light. If it’s a miracle, it is so related to the apostles’ perception of the glory of Jesus. The physical spectacle reveals how the Father perceives the Son, so to speak: **“This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased; listen to him.”** The Son is *a/ways* bathed in the Father’s love. It’s only just now that they finally perceive it.

Who could possibly give his or her heart totally to Jesus? If we perceive him to be just another teacher, symbol, or moral example, we can’t. But if the Holy Spirit gives us eyes to see that he is the Beloved Son of God, who makes our humanity not just pleasing to God but filled with glory ... then who can resist him? Perhaps only the lovers are the ones who properly see.

— *Father John Muir*



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(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

The Long Walk

The walk down from Mount Tabor after the Transfiguration must have been a long one for Peter, James, and John. How differently they must have viewed the world with the eyes that had seen what they had just seen. How uncertain they must have been.

I think it's important to remember that, on the mountain, they were amazed, yes — but first, they were afraid. We are given the image of these three grown men — these saints, these giants of salvation history — cowering in fear at the voice of God. It was not until Jesus touched them that they could even bear to look up.

Christ was transfigured on Tabor, but in a way, the disciples were transfigured as well. We are all changed by what we see and what we hear. That change can be hard because knowledge is hard. Truth is hard. Sometimes cowering is easier.

Go forth, God told Abram. I will make of you a great nation.

Rise, Christ told his disciples. And do not be afraid.

I spend too much time cowering in fear at the voice of God. I cower even when the voice whispers into my heart instead of booming from the clouds. When it's the start of a hard day or a tough conversation. When it's the middle of a half-finished battle, big or small. When I know where Christ is and what he is asking, but I'm afraid because the walk down the mountain is so long, and the world that awaits me is so uncertain.

"Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you." — Psalm 33

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that?

Catholic Life Explained

Question:

Lent always seems to help me renew my relationship with God and strengthen my religious practice. Do you have any suggestions as to what I could do to achieve that the rest of the year?

Answer:

The obvious answer may seem to be to do whatever you do during Lent all year round. But part of the power of Lent is that we focus as a community on renewing our faith and preparing for Easter. Our Lenten practices have a purpose and a goal. Therein lies the secret. When we focus our efforts on one virtue, or try to change one bad habit, or seek to deepen our understanding of one aspect of faith, we focus our efforts and give our full attention to what we are trying to accomplish. We tend to be more successful achieving our goals. More importantly, it has a ripple effect in our lives: one thing changes or is added to the spiritual mix of our lives and many aspects are changed.

All too often we leave our spiritual growth to chance and the practice of faith to habit, and then wonder why we have no sense of growth or progress. Think of it in terms of exercise. We walk, lift weights, bend and stretch to attain the maximum benefit from what we do. In addition, to keep those benefits, we eat healthful food and get enough vitamins and rest. Spirituality requires the same kind of attention: we pray, fast, read the Bible, receive sacraments, and do charitable work to maximize the benefits of practicing faith. Keeping Lent year round keeps us in spiritual shape!

Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, conversing with him.

- Mt 17:1-3

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Questions of the Week

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading

Abram left behind his land and home, trusting in the Lord's promise to make him a great nation with many blessings. In what ways have you needed to trust in the Lord during this season of Lent?

Second Reading

Paul tells Timothy to "bear your share of hardship for the gospel with the strength that comes from God." When have you needed to draw upon God's strength in your life?

Gospel Reading

In the transfiguration, Peter, James, and John witnessed the divinity of Jesus: "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." Why do you suppose Jesus instructed the disciples not to tell anyone until after his death and resurrection?



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Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, “Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud cast a shadow over them, then from the cloud came a voice that said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.” - Mt 17:4-5

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Prayer

Dear God, thank you for showing Jesus' friends what heaven would be like.

Mission for the Week

Mission for the Week

If you could see Jesus in heaven today, what would you talk about? What would you ask him?

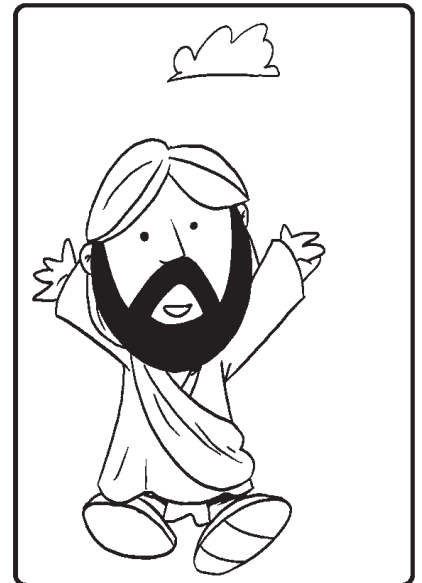
Sharing the Gospel

In today's Gospel reading, Jesus showed his closest friends - Peter, James, and John - what heaven would be like. Jesus' friends were amazed to see Moses and Elijah talking to Jesus. Moses and Elijah had gone to heaven hundreds of years before this day. Then Peter, James and John heard God's voice from the cloud. Jesus, their friend and teacher, was God's Son. They fell down in fear. You might, too, if you were there.

Now color
the picture!



Find seven differences in this scene of Jesus in Heaven.





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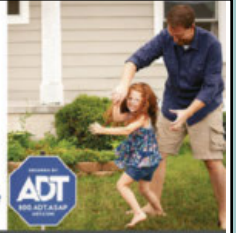
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