

FEBRUARY 25, 2024

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH



PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Very Rev. Rob Adams, STL

Deacon: Dcn. Joe Jacobs

Administrative Assistant: Becky Griffith

Custodian: Lisa Scalf

**137 Bryan Street
Pikeville, Kentucky 41501
Phone: 606-437-6117**

**Website: www.stfrancispikeville.org
Email: stfranchischurch@cdlex.org
App: St Francis Pikeville**

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, Vigil Mass: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, Mass: 10:30 a.m.

Adoration: Tuesday, 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 4:00 p.m. or by appointment.

BAPTISM - 2 WEEKS NOTICE

Please call the office for an appointment.

MARRIAGE PREP - 6 MONTHS NOTICE

Please call the office for an appointment.



2nd SUNDAY OF LENT

Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. - Mk 9:2-3



From the Pastor's Desk....

Sunday Offertory

02-18-2023.....\$3,401
 Weekly Budget.....\$2,700
Surplus/Deficit.....\$701

YTD
 Offertory.....\$105,166
 Budget.....\$91,800
Surplus/Deficit.....\$13,366

Food Pantry\$100



Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18
Romans 8:31b-34
Mark 9:2-10

Abraham offers the ultimate sacrifice of thanksgiving, the gift of his very son. This sacrifice prefigures the sacrifice of Jesus who died for us all. In his transfiguration, Jesus discloses a suffering messiahship.

**Readings may be found
 in the Saint Augustine
 Hymnal Number 937**

Hello everyone,

This weekend we celebrate the Second Sunday in Lent. Traditionally, the Church celebrates the Transfiguration of Jesus on this Sunday.

The biggest thing that sticks out to me about this story is actually what comes before it. The gospels tell us that Jesus had just told his followers about his coming death. They didn't want to believe him and they were scared. The Transfiguration was almost Jesus's way of reassuring them that everything would be alright.

Lent forces us to look at some scary things, Ash Wednesday reminds us that we will all die. Facing our sins makes us recognize that we all need to change. Fasting makes us voluntarily embrace the cross.

Whatever difficult thing you are facing, whatever cross you are carrying, it is important to remember that Jesus is there. The Transfiguration showed the disciples who Jesus was. It showed that the cross always leads to the resurrection, that our sadness leads to victory.

Fr. Rob

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Saturday, February 24	5:00 pm Vigil Mass	+Maria Ortale
Sunday, February 25	10:30 am Mass	For the People
Monday, February 26	No Mass	
Tuesday, February 27	Noon Mass	Poor Souls
Wednesday, February 28	Noon Mass	Poor Souls
Thursday, February 29	Noon Mass	Poor Souls
Friday, March 1	Noon Mass	+Angie Morrison
Saturday, March 2	5:00 pm Vigil Mass	For Vocations
Sunday, March 3	10:30 am Mass 1:00 pm	For the People For the People

Parish Calendar & Announcements

LECTOR ROTATION - Below are the name and dates of the lector rotation.

- 02/25 Steve Mischenski
- 03/03 Sidney Cline
- 03/10 Joseph Mata
- 03/17 Lindsay May
- 03/24 Lauren Vanderpool
- 03/31 David Hicks
- 04/07 Russ Cassidy
- 04/14 Doyle May

"If you cannot make your assigned date, feel free to contact a fill in for yourself or contact Sidney Cline at 606-424-8118".

IHM YOUTH GROUP - Mark Jacob, IHM Youth Group, Mission Trip Coordinator, emailed us looking for projects for this summer. They are looking for 8 of St. Francis parishioners houses to work on (ex. build ramps or painting). Please let Lisa Scalf know if you are in need. The coordinator will be here in April to evaluate the projects. The group will be using the parish hall, June 10-June 14, 2024.

**GOSPEL MEDITATION -
ENCOURAGE DEEPER
UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE**

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. — Father John Muir *CLPi*

ROSARY - We will be meeting at noon the first Saturday of each month to say the Rosary.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Will be each Friday at 6:00 pm.

**LENTEN DISCIPLINES OF
FASTING & ABSTINENCE**

Catholics in good health ages 18 to 59 are required to fast and to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
Fasting consists of eating only one meal, with the possibility of two smaller snacks that do not add up to a single full meal.
Catholics age 14 and older are to abstain from meat on all Fridays in Lent.



Kayla Frix, Elon Justice Frix's sister in law (waiting for a liver transplant)

Wilson Vanzant, Lisa Scalf's stepdad

Sister Kathy Avery

Ransom McCoy, Lindsay May's dad

Terry A. Williams, Becky Griffith's brother in law (lung cancer)

Jimmie Goss

Tim Deskins

Christine Mischenski, Steve Mischenski's mother

Melba Schmidt, Kenny Schmidt's mother

Ryan Altman, Helen Altman's grandson

Steve Mischenski, Sr. (cancer)

Erica Hunt, Lisa Scalf's friend (kidney failure)

Deacon Dirck Curry

Frank Shortridge, Becky Griffith's brother (ALS)

John Flichman, stroke

Chona Curry

Wanda Baker

Jeffrey Scalf, Lisa's son

Sandy Lowe, cancer

Ron Saros

Kenny Blackburn

Helen Altman

Margarita Gomez

Fran Sykes

VOTIVE CANDLES:

Suggested donation: Large votives \$3.00 and small votives \$0.50



Transfigurations in a Mutilated World

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

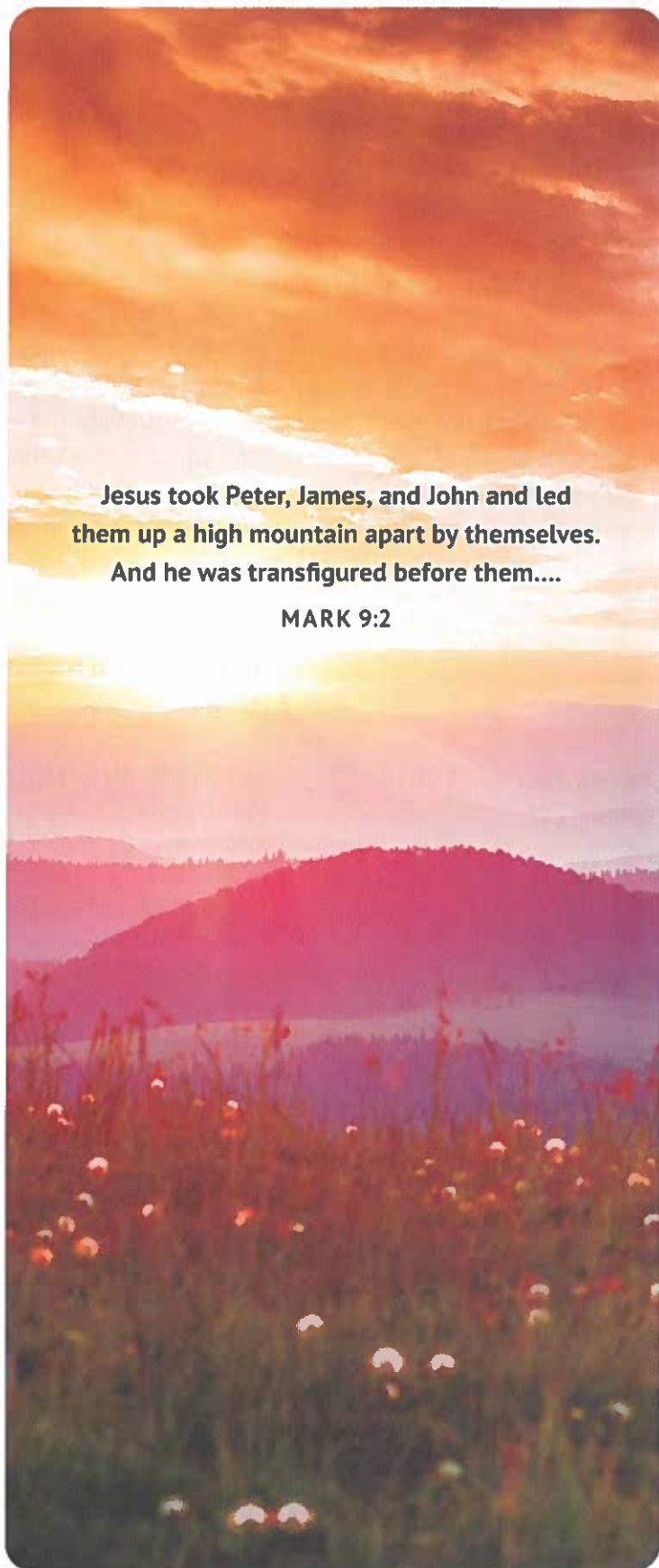
I've never met anyone who thought today's story in Genesis of Abraham and Isaac to be a good story. Abhorred, they ask, "Why would God test someone by asking him to sacrifice his son?" But what if we change the question and ask, "Why would the Hebrew people include that story in their most holy writings? Why would they tell it over and over?" Because of the ending—that's why. Like a movie we watch over and over even though we know how it ends, we watch it, in part, because the ending is satisfying.

The ending of the Abraham/Isaac story shows God is not interested in death and human sacrifice, contrary to the gods of that time. The God of the Hebrews is a God of Life—that's the surprise ending they love, and they keep telling it over and over lest they forget. For them, the part about the testing is simply a means to that unbelievable ending when God insists upon life, contrary to false gods.

In his poem "Try to Praise the Mutilated World," Adam Zagajewski writes of life's Godly moments in a world we have mutilated by violence, greed, division, and more. He muses on tender moments when we fall in love, on laughter until our sides hurt, on nature's dazzle, on the sweet taste of wine—all simple moments of a life-giving God transfigured in a mutilated world, for our God insists upon life. ●

Reflect

**Remember and give thanks for the moments
of this past week that made you smile.**



**Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led
them up a high mountain apart by themselves.
And he was transfigured before them....**

MARK 9:2

Dear Padre,

What are the guidelines for producing a passion play? My pastor said there are special guidelines to follow. What are they?

Please read “Criteria for the Evaluation of Dramatizations of the Passion,” issued in 1988 by the Bishops’ Committee for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs of what was then called the National Conference of Catholic Bishops. (The document is located at usccb.org.)

Passion plays should emphasize the saving action of Christ’s death and resurrection without becoming stumbling blocks to understanding the role of the Jewish people in salvation history. The document warns that “‘stock ideas,’ unfortunately, can become vividly alive in passion dramatizations. It is all too easy...to resort to artificial oppositions...to heighten interest or provide sharp contrasts between the characters.” We must avoid portraying the Jewish tradition as “a religion of only justice, fear, and legalism with no appeal to the love of God and neighbor.”

It is simplistic and incorrect to blame Christ’s death on certain historical groups and neglect the complexities of the Gospel portrait and of Christ’s life. Christ freely undertook his passion and death because of the sins of all, so that all might attain salvation. This is the truth that passion plays should strive to communicate most clearly. ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org



GORA KAUWARRA, POLAND / STANISLAW TOKARSKI / SHUTTERSTOCK

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
February 26	February 27	February 28	February 29	March 1	March 2	March 3
<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Third Sunday of Lent</i>
Dn 9:4b-10	Is 1:10, 16-20	Jer 18:18-20	Jer 17:5-10	Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a	Mi 7:14-15, 18-20	Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17
Lk 6:36-38	Mt 23:1-12	Mt 20:17-28	Lk 16:19-31	Mt 21:33-43, 45-46	Lk 15:1-3, 11-32	1 Cor 1:22-25 In 2:13-25



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Our Father said this to these Apostles, and says it to us as well: “Listen to Jesus!” The Pope is not saying this, God the Father says it to everyone: to me, to you, to everyone, all people! It is like an aid for going forward on the path of Lent. “Listen to Jesus!” Don’t forget.

ANGELUS, MARCH 16, 2014