REFLECTION

The Word Grows in Us

Our Father said this to these Apostles, and says it to us as well: “listen to Jesus, because he is my beloved Son.” This week let us keep this word in our minds and in our hearts: “listen to Jesus!” And 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.

This invitation from the Father is very important. We, the disciples of Jesus, are called to be people who listen to his voice and take his words seriously. To listen to Jesus, we must be close to him, to follow him…

From the event of the Transfiguration I would like to take two significant elements that can be summed up in two words: ascent and descent.

We all need to go apart, to ascend the mountain in a space of silence, to find ourselves and better perceive the voice of the Lord. This we do in prayer. But we cannot stay there! Encounter with God in prayer inspires us anew to “descend the mountain” and return to the plain where we meet many brothers [and sisters] weighed down by fatigue, sickness, injustice, ignorance, poverty both material and spiritual. To these brothers [and sisters] in difficulty, we are called to bear the fruit of that experience with God, by sharing the grace we have received. And this is curious. When we hear the Word of Jesus, when we listen to the Word of Jesus and carry it in our heart, this Word grows. Do you know how it grows? By giving it to the other! The Word of Christ grows in us when we proclaim it, when we give it to others! And this is what Christian life is. It is a mission for the whole Church, for all the baptized, for us all: listen to Jesus and offer him to others.

Pope Francis, Angelus, March 16, 2014
This WEEK IN THE PARISH –3/9/20 – 3/15/20

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mon.</td>
<td>6:30 pm Youth Group</td>
<td>Youth Room</td>
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<td>7:00 pm Charismatic Prayer Group</td>
<td>St. Jos.</td>
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<td>7:00 pm Confessions</td>
<td>Church</td>
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<td>Tues.</td>
<td>9:00 am-7pm Eucharistic Adoration</td>
<td>Church</td>
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<td>Wed.</td>
<td>7:00 pm Albert Haas Series</td>
<td>Cassidy Hall</td>
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<td>7:00 pm Rev Brown Parents</td>
<td>McKenna Hall</td>
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<td>Thurs.</td>
<td>9:00 am Bible Study</td>
<td>St. Joseph</td>
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<td>7:00 pm RCIA</td>
<td>St. Lucy</td>
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<td>Fri.</td>
<td>7:00 pm Stations of the Cross</td>
<td>Church</td>
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<td>8:00 pm Godspell</td>
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<td>Sat.</td>
<td>9:00 am Legion of Mary</td>
<td>St. Benedict</td>
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<td>8:00 pm Godspell</td>
<td>Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun.</td>
<td>3:00 pm Godspell</td>
<td>Church</td>
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**CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING**

The Charismatic prayer group meets on Mondays at 7:00 pm in the Saint Joseph Room. Meetings include prayer, praise, songs, worship and teachings, and an openness to living a *New Life in the Holy Spirit* - all with a focus on developing a more active faith life and in our personal relationship with Jesus Christ. For more info contact Jeff Tucker, 973-726-9011.

**LITURGY**

**SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

**First Reading:** Genesis 12:1-4a

God calls Abraham to leave his family and people and go to a new land. God promises to make the people of this new nation great and to bless Abraham.

**Second Reading:** 2 Timothy 1:8b-10

Paul, from his place of imprisonment in Rome, writes words of encouragement to Timothy, telling him that Christ is for them everlasting life.

**Gospel:** Matthew 17:1-9

Wishing to reveal His glory to Peter, James and John, Jesus takes them to a mountain where he is transfigured before them. When Peter exclaims that he will build three tabernacles here in honor of Jesus, Moses and Elijah, a voice from above proclaims: “This is My beloved Son on whom My favor rests. Listen to him.”

**NEXT WEEK’S READINGS**

**THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**

**First Reading:** Exodus 17:3-7

**Second Reading:** Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

**Gospel:** John 4:5-42

**THE BE ATTITUDES**

Join us on Wednesdays of Lent from 7:00 to 8:30 pm in Cassidy Hall for a series by Albert Haase, OFM called “The BE Attitudes: Ten Paths to Holiness.”

**EUCHARISTIC ADORATION**

We have exposition of the Blessed Sacrament every Tuesday from 9:00 am until 7:00 pm. At 6:45 we end with the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Vespers, and Benediction. Everyone is welcome to come adore our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

Oh, Come let us Adore Him!

The Youth Group meets every Monday evening from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Come, bring a friend - join us for some fun and fellowship.
Memorial Mass for Msgr. Paul Knauer at Saint Lawrence Church in Chester on Saturday, April 4th at 11:00 am. All are welcome. There will be a reception in the church hall after the Mass. R.S.V.P. to St. Lawrence secretary so she knows how much food to order. Her number is 908-879-5371.

GODSPELL TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE

GODSPELL
Our own parishioners will perform the musical based on the Gospel of Matthew and will be held in Church on March 13, 14, 15, and 18.

To purchase tickets go to www.northstar.booktix.com

WE’VE BEEN ASKED TO ANNOUNCE

Give Blood a Saint Kateri Church
March 21st, 7:45 am to 1:45 pm.
Eligible blood donors are between ages 17 to 75, weigh a minimum of 110 lbs. and in good health. To schedule an appointment: Tinyurl.com/GiveBloodNJBS Sponsor Code 15978. Walk-ins are always welcome. Call Mary Stanek at 973-349-9191 for more information.

Pilgrimage: International Eucharistic Congress
September 12-21, 2020, Budapest, Hungary. Contact Piernha 1-800-20-8687 X 1237 or Monsignor Carroll 1-570-828-7267.

Camp Auxilium Open House 2020
A place where every young person feels loved.
Saturday, March 21st, 10:00 am to 12:00 noon, followed by Pizza with the Easter Bunny and Egg Hunt, 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm. Sunday, April 19th and Sunday, May 17th (12:00 to 2:00 pm). For more info. www.campauxilium.org or call (973) 383-2621.

The Way of the Cross–A Franciscan Mystery Play
Sunday, March 8th at 8:00 pm, the Franciscan Mystery Players will present their moving version of “The Way of the Cross” at Our Lady Queen of Peace, 209 US-206, Branchville. Written by Franciscan Father Francis Pompei, the Mystery Play is not a “play” in the common sense, but is in fact a prayerful experience that uses special lighting, a stirring soundtrack, pantomime actions and inspirational narration to portray the Stations of the Cross in a manner that invites each viewer to contemplate the meaning of the Passion, and how it relates to their life today. The group is comprised of 14 teens and 10 adult advisors from several parishes in the Paterson Diocese. Adults and teens are encouraged to attend this special Lenten experience. We suggest you arrive at least 10 minutes early. https://www.facebook.com/FranciscanMysteryPlayers/MorrisCounty/

Columbiettes Fundraiser
The Don Bosco Columbiettes invites you to attend their fundraiser at Bella Italia Pizzeria and Restaurant Route 206, Andover on Thursday, March 19, 2020. Dine in or take out from 11:00am until 10:00pm. The Columbiettes will receive a portion of all sales that day which they will be donating to local charities.

MEN’S CORNERSTONE VI
March 27 & 28, 2020
“BE NOT AFRAID”
A Men’s Cornerstone Retreat will be offered here at the parish during this upcoming Lenten Season. This year’s theme is “Be Not Afraid!” Father David and eight other presenters will be giving the talks over a 26-hour period beginning Friday evening at 6:00 p.m. The Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist will also be made available. Register today by calling the parish office at 973-729-6107 or by picking up a registration form as you leave the church today.
K OF C “THANK YOU”

The Knights would like to thank all parishioners who came and supported the Knights of Columbus 14th Annual Fish Fry. It was our most successful Fish Fry and we raised $1,600. The funds are used for scholarship money for Reverend Brown, Pope John Academy and Pope John HS families who need financial assistance. We look forward to hosting it again and adding more entertainment for our loyal parishioners and supporters of Marquette Council 588 of the Knights of Columbus.

LENT 2020

LENTEN REGULATIONS
Days of Abstinence: (All Fridays in Lent)
All who have reached their 14th year are bound to abstain totally from meat.

Weekdays of Lent:
There is no obligation to fast. However, voluntary acts of self-denial are recommended.

Easter Duty Obligation
After they have received their First Communion, Catholics are bound by the obligation of receiving Holy Communion at least once a year. This precept should be fulfilled during the Easter Season.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS
The Stations of the Cross will be held each Friday at 7:00 pm during Lent.

RECONCILIATION
Confessions are heard every Saturday from 4 – 5:00 pm

AND
All parishes in our Diocese will have the Sacrament of Reconciliation each Monday of Lent from 7:00 to 8:30 pm. The dates are March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30. There will be no confessions on Monday, April 6th.
Our Parish Lenten Communal Penance service will be on Tuesday, April 7th at 6:30 pm.
See our Lenten trifold brochure for more information on Lenten activities.

WELCOME HOME CONFESSIONS
This Lenten season, each Catholic parish in the Diocese of Paterson will have Confession available every Monday in March, 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. If you have been reluctant to come to the Sacrament, have been away for some time or just found it difficult to get to a Saturday afternoon Confession time this is a wonderful opportunity to re-connect with Christ and His Church. Don’t be afraid! Information will be provided. Ask the priest to help you. Experience the gracious mercy of God! www.WelcomeHomeToHealing.org

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Come join us on all Fridays during Lent at 7:00 pm, to pray the Stations of the Cross.

THANK YOU FROM FAMILY PROMISE
On behalf of Family Promise of Sussex County, I would like to thank you for your donation, valued at $240. Your commitment to helping homeless families in our community is so kind and sincerely appreciated.

Each year Family Promise continues to advance its mission of working with families to overcome barriers to self-sufficiency and advocating for local affordable housing solutions. Through our Emergency Shelter, Supported Housing, Rapid Rehousing, and Men’s Day Programs, we have seen many lives changed for the better.

The goal of Family Promise is to continue to make a difference in the lives of homeless families. With the help of donations from supporters such as you we will continue to see improvements in eliminating homelessness.

Thanks again for your generous donation that helps support our efforts to assist homeless families in our community.

Best wishes,
Polly Quiles, Coordinator of Philanthropy

BIRTH HAVEN BABY BOTTLE DRIVE

Please help this non-profit maternity shelter in Newton, NJ stay filled with hope for young mothers. You will find a large baby bottle in the vestibule of the church. Fill it with your spare change and help Birth Haven.