

Pastor's Note

February 28, Second Sunday of Lent

"Let's Eliminate Negative Thinking"

This weekend we celebrate the Second Sunday of Lent. The readings focus on making changes in life. In the first reading from Genesis, we read how God tests Abraham. He manifests by his willingness to sacrifice his son Isaac. In the second reading to the Romans, we read how Paul helps us comprehend the unsurpassable love of God. In the Gospel of Mark, we read the Transfiguration. (Every year on the Second Sunday of Lent we read about the Transfiguration). Peter, James, and John travel up to Mount Tabor and Jesus is physically changed. They get to see a glimpse of the past: Moses and Elijah, and the future: that Jesus is truly the Messiah, the Son of God. The Transfiguration takes place six days after Jesus announces to his disciples that the Son of Man must suffer greatly. The experience on the mountain points to the future by displaying the glory that Jesus already possesses as God's son. Just as Abraham encountered the love and mercy of God-Peter, James, and John encounter the love of God in the fullness of his humanity and divinity on a mountaintop. We are all called to a steadfast faith in God. Like Abraham, we are called to faithfully trust in God.

As we approach the second week of Lent, what are some "changes" we need to make in our life: letting go of complaining, gossiping, or holding on to a grudge.

Join us Saturday mornings at St. Bede Church for 9 am daily Mass, followed by Eucharistic Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation available from 9:30-10:30 am.

Parish Share 2020/2021

The Annual Parish Share 2020 Campaign has concluded, and we have reached our goal of **\$153,393!** No funds collected via the program go towards lawsuits or legal affairs, rather they support the day-to-day operations at the Pastoral Center and Seminary in Green Tree, the Hospital Chaplaincy programs in our area hospitals and nursing homes, tuition scholarships and grants for our Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools, and the Campus Ministry programs at our local colleges and universities. Parish Share also helps the individual parishes with assistance from the Diocesan Insurance and Benefits Office for our parish and school employees, Property and Planning Office to assist with buildings and grounds issues and the Parish Services Office assists Pastors and Business Managers with the day-to-day operations of the parish. We all benefit from Parish Share!

Our **2021 Campaign Goal is \$178,677.** Anything we collect over our goal stays in the parish. Please be as generous as possible.

2020 Tax Letters

If you would like to request a donation letter for your 2020 taxes, please contact Frank Grande at 412.661.7222 ext. 204 or email at businessmanager@stmarymaqqgh.org. To help the parish save on postage (and ensure that you receive it in a timely manner) you may pick up your tax letters at the parish office during normal business hours after you call for your request.

RCIA Class of 2021

I am pleased to announce the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation) Class of 2021 preparing to enter, into full Communion with the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil, April 3.

Nadia Mari Mercado

Catechumen-All three sacraments

Jennifer Lynn Whitley

Catechumen-All three sacraments

Ninoshka Mary Aponte

Candidate for Confirmation

Anna Elizabeth McDevitt

Candidate for Eucharist & Confirmation

Erica Lynn Moulinier

Candidate for Eucharist & Confirmation

Mary Nyamekye

Candidate for Eucharist & Confirmation

Devin Thomas Slaughaupt

Candidate for Eucharist & Confirmation

Parish Improvements

K&L Builders of Export recently made upgrades to the Third Floor Bathroom of the St. Bede Rectory where Fr. James and Fr. Augustine live. A new vanity, mirror and lighting were installed.

The St. James Rectory first floor received new window blinds for the three offices and conference room.

Thank you for your continued financial generosity to St. Mary Magdalene Parish so that we can continue making improvements.

We hope you enjoy the new bulletin. If you have a business and would like to place an advertisement in our bulletin, please contact **Rick Cortez at 412.292.0132**. Shop local and help support our parish by supporting our bulletin advertisers!

Something to Think About...

*Life is like a mirror, if you frown at it,
it frowns back; if you smile,
it returns the greeting.*

With God All Things Are Possible!

Fr. Tom Burke, Pastor
tburke@diopitt.org