

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

24 January 2021

Dear Sisters and Brothers in the Lord,

Grace and peace be with you! We come together on this Third Sunday of Ordinary Time cycle (b). Our God continues to do extraordinary things in ordinary time. Praise the Lord! A new era has begun!

Many of us would automatically think of what happened last week on January 20th and say; “praise the Lord!” After seemingly endless scandals and/or controversies iminating from “the leader of the free world”, you may be exhausted. Or because of the insurrection that befell the nation’s capitol on January 6th, you might want to exclaim the highest praise. Our democracy was not destroyed by misguided zealots and the will of 8.2 million voters accomplished. No matter what your political affiliation our democracy must always be supported, so that we can be transformed into the country that God has blessed us with the ability to become. This new administration comes in with big challenges and also great opportunities for our nation. May God continue to bless our country.

Here at the Church of the Transfiguration our faith-family has the opportunity to boldly proclaim; “praise the Lord” for real, because of the new era that began on the 92nd birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. (January 15, 2021). For seven years Deacon Mark filled the gap as a deacon administrator for the Church. God blessed us with his leadership and dedication with the sacramental assistance of Fr.s Harvey, Joel, Claude, Deacon Greg, etc. while the search was on for a full time pastor. We are grateful for the selfless service provided. This new era has a lot of challenges (COVID, Economic, etc.), but even greater opportunities for us to continue to build on the storied history of our “faith-family!” We must be creative and patient to slowly continue our transformation to become Church (the Body of Christ with Jesus as our Head) This is an exciting time even in the midst of all the despair dealing with the twin pandemics of systemic Racism & COVID-19! Why because our faith should tell us that our God did not bring us this far to abandon us! This new era brings Hope. The Christmas miracle reminds us that this new era can begin almost inconspicuously, but if Christ is in the midst great things are going to happen! Let us answer our call that came from Baptism that we will be a witness to the fact that, as the praises go up, the blessings come down!”

Shalom,

Fr. Anthony M. Bozeman, SSJ Pastor

Did You Know?

Talk to your children about social media challenges

Children have spent many months at home now, separated from friends and classmates. Social media is a great tool to stay in touch, but there are definitely dangerous aspects to much “screen time” that parents need to be aware about. Social media challenges range from funny and harmless to risky and dangerous — and sometimes even illegal. If your child has social media accounts, talk to them about making smart choices and about knowing the difference between harmless pranks and seriously dangerous stunts. Make a pact to discuss anything they see their friends or acquaintances doing before they try it out at home.

For more information, visit <https://lacatholics.org/did-you-know/>.

Stewardship Thought

“Follow me and I will make you fishers of men.” - Mark 1:17

Jesus’ call to “*Follow me*” is a call to all Christians! The call is in the here and now, in our present circumstances, not when we think we are “ready” or have everything in order. Good stewardship of our God-given gifts means that things aren’t always going to go according to our schedule and that God has a much better plan in store for each of us.

Planned Giving

A gift of appreciated stock avoids capital gains tax. You will be able to deduct the full value of the stock, avoid capital gains tax, and make a substantial gift to the parish or school.

2020 Tax Statement!

Tax letters will be mailed out by the end of January. If you have not received a statement, please contact Jo Ann Levi in the rectory at 323.291.1136.

Weekly Offering for January 17, 2021

\$5,461.00 Tithe and Offering

Pray for the Sick

LaVerne Agnew, Brian Argusta, Vivian Burgess, Brownie Cain, Alberto Casanova, Christopher Chestnut, Sister Ann Paul Clare, Edward Cousin, Juanita Davis, Carolyn Didney, Beverly Colvin-Dorsey, Cynthia Fortier, Michael Frierson, Sherie Frierson-Chenier, Avis Gibbs, Barbara Harris, Darren Harris, Aaron Katz, Briana Katz, Barbara Lagarde, Irwin Lagarde, Mercedes LeBlanc, Vylfred Manor, Dorothy Okoye, Sally Price, Wiley Pugh, Andrea Raggette, Dana Semien, Dudley Semien, Mike Simon, Joan Spencer, Annie Starks, Leila Thomas, Iris Turner, Mabel Walton, William Warrior, and Alice Williams.