

# FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

21 February 2021

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## **CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

*“Still Transforming By God’s Grace.”*

My dear Sisters and Brothers in the Lord,

Grace and peace be with you on this First Sunday of Lent cycle (b). It is also the Third Weekend of our Black History Month celebration. Of course it is right and just that we celebrate Black History Month not to hate but to appreciate, how far God has brought us. Our Black History Month theme, "Still Transforming by God's Grace," is a testimony of the great shoulders we stand on as we are still making history. Simultaneously we are called to make personal history in this early season of Lent. Our Lenten theme is: "Working to be Transformed." This is also our charge for the next thirty-six days to have a metamorphosis.

We look as a community on the rich history of Africans in America and those who journey with us has made. The last few weeks we prayed in thanksgiving and celebrated people like the Tuskegee Airmen. Our national, community, and ancestral heroes, who overcame Racism, fear, and all other obstacles to make world history. They transformed how the world would look at the African-American (then colored or Negro) because of their intelligence and heroism. God's grace and assistance of others of color and not, brought them to study, train, and diligently, work to become pilots to fight the Nazis overseas. Their story is legendary and an inspiration to all. The Airmen were over 300 men who made up this brave and erudite fighting force. These individuals made a collective that while being phenomenal pilots simultaneously were tearing down racist barriers in perception and actuality!

On this First Sunday of Lent, here at the Church of the Transfiguration, we must spiritually accomplish the same thing that most Americans do physically regularly. Interspersed in our celebrations: 1. The communal victory of the African-American despite still having a mighty long way to go 'till total equality; 2. The personal call in this season to real conversion which makes us spiritually "Working to be Transformed!" Our Faith-family will join the rest of the Church and accomplish this by using our Lenten tools of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Communally, we will have a daily Mass offered every Thursday morning at 8am for an extra prayer experience. Privately, we should create extra moments of intense prayer (i.e. Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Stations of the Cross, etc.) to assist us in quest to have a metanoia. (profound change)

Having a successful Lent and meaningful celebration of Black History Month is a daunting task. We must take full advantage of this challenge that will lead to great opportunity for us to live up to our name Christian (i.e. like-Christ). As we are "Working to be Transformed," may God through His Sacraments especially the Eucharist and Reconciliation, bless the work of our hands. By doing so we will make Black, Catholic, American, and most importantly Salvation history!

Shalom,

*Father Anthony M. Bozeman, SSJ*

## **BLACK HISTORY MONTH MASS**

*“A Cry for Racial Justice”*

**February 27, 2021 at 4:00PM**

*Hosted by:*

The (AACCFE) African American Catholic  
Center for Evangelization

Mass will be held on Zoom at:

<https://zoom.us/j/91761761053?pwd=RnVwemxDU0tldFZ2eUF6THk3RmhKZz09>

The Celebrant will be Father Oscar Pratt, II of the Archdiocese of Boston. We will recognize members of local parishes for the Keeper of the Flame Award in honor of Daniel Rudd, the founder of the National Black Catholic Congress. Please join us!

## **Transfiguration School Registration for 2021-2022**

We are currently accepting applications for new students for preschool through seventh grade for the 2021-2022 school year. If you, or someone you know, are interested in enrolling or receiving more information about our school, please contact the main office: 323.292.3011 or email: [info@transfigurationla.org](mailto:info@transfigurationla.org)

## **Safe School Project: Covid-19 Community Testing at Transfiguration**

**Monday, February 22, 2021 from 9AM to 11AM**

**Drive through and Walk-up.**

Enter at 4001 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, L.A. 90008

Registration is available on the website:  
[transfigchurchla.com](http://transfigchurchla.com)

## **Update your registration!**

Please contact Jo Ann Levi in the rectory at 323.291.1136 to register or update your mailing address, phone number and email address.

## **Lent Theme:**

***“Working to be Transformed!”***

## **Thursday Morning Mass**

During the Season of Lent, you are invited to attend **Mass every Thursday** at 8AM. This mass will be live streamed.

## **Stewardship Thought**

*“After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God....”* - MARK 1:14

Do you ever think about how difficult it must have been for Jesus to come into Galilee, knowing that John had just been arrested for teaching the same message that Jesus was proclaiming. It must have taken great love and trust for Jesus to do what the Father had sent Him here on earth to do. In the same way, following a life of Stewardship takes great love and trust from us. We must be willing to surrender completely to God, trusting that God will always give us all that we need to fulfill His plan for us.

## **Weekly Offering for February 14, 2021**

\$3,559.00 Tithe and Offering

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

### **Identifying risky behaviors online**

As virtual learning continues, children are spending most of their days online. With their own jobs and responsibilities, parents likely cannot stand behind them and supervise their every move. So, it is more important than ever to assess your child’s online activities periodically. Make sure you know which sites they are visiting, and who they are talking to on social media sites. Discuss risky behaviors with your children, like posting personal information (full name, age, location, school information, and more) using inappropriate language, or accessing sites with questionable content. For more information, get a copy of the VIRTUS article “Risky Online Behaviors and Young People”

from <https://lacatholics.org/did-you-know/>.

Access the article: **“Risky Online Behaviors and Young People”**