SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
MARCH 8, 2020

THE TRANFIGURATION OF CHRIST
St. Mary Catholic Church
www.stmary-wc.org  925-891-8900
Dear Friends,

Thanks to all of you for understanding and accepting so positively the temporary changes regarding the reception of Communion at Mass, namely the suspension of distributing the Blood of Christ and having everyone receive in the hand. Remember also that those who are not well are not obliged to attend Mass but are encouraged to stay home to recover.

The season of Lent calls us to acts of prayer, fasting and alms giving. We can take this time to pray and reflect on our weakness, even our sinfulness, and seek ways to turn to the Lord. Our sacrificing and our fasting can help us appreciate the gifts we have been given, and allow us opportunities to help those who are less fortunate.

As we reflect on the Transfiguration of Jesus in the Gospel today, may we pray for our own transformation from our old way of life to the life which Jesus calls us to live. May the grace of the Holy Spirit give us the strength to follow Christ, and to share His love with all.

Have a wonderful and grace-filled week!

Father Fred

CHANGE

Lent is all about change and change is usually not easy. In order to change we have to leave something behind. Today we hear about a very old man who decides to answer God’s call. Abram experiences a tremendous amount of change when he leaves everything behind, risking it all for God’s promise.

Jesus changes, is transfigured, right before the eyes of his disciples. The Lenten scriptures issue the call for us to change, to be transfigured, so that we, too, will soon share in the glory of God. What is it that the Lord is asking us to leave behind? Are we willing to take the risk for the promise made by God? These questions are at the heart of the Lenten journey of conversion.
PRAY FOR THE SICK

Allison Flamez
Monica Jara
Ana Alvarez
Isabel Castillo
Susana Jaime
Maria Vargas
Anthony De Cristoforo
Rosalinda Reyes
Annabelle Semira
Joseph Suta
Jeanine Gordon
Christine Pollnow
Jake Johnston
Bill Clark
Diane Hewson
Clarissa Gutierrez
Julia Rodriguez
Fred & Emilia Sohn
Raul Gonzalez
Raquel Zittel
Dominador Hontucan
Quinn Gurnett

Oralee Floria
Henry Escano
Mary McLoughlin
Angela Regan
Beverly Regan
Josefina Zabat
Audry Robinson
Loretta Holmes
Nancie Campi
Betty Baker
Victor Miguel Barrios
Carol Erikson
Nydia Pajarillo
Danyel Sheets
Beth Wainwright
Ron Giglio
Robin Wood
Carlos Luis Melo
Billy Silva
Mary Kennedy
Marcella Hatch

During this cold and flu season, we would like to remind you that those who are ill are not obliged to attend Mass and should stay home to recover.

At this time, we are taking some proactive measures to minimize the risk of illness, and so we are temporarily suspending:

• Reception of the Blood of Christ from the communal chalice
• Reception of Communion on the tongue
• Shaking hands during the Sign of Peace

Thank you all for your cooperation. We pray for the health and recovery of all who are ill and cannot be with us today.
THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR  
March 9-15

MONDAY, MARCH 9
7:00 AM Eucharistic Adoration/Chapel
7:00 PM Walking with Purpose/FF

TUESDAY, MARCH 10
7:00 AM Eucharistic Adoration/Chapel
7:00 AM Men of St. Joseph/SA
8:30 AM Walking with Purpose/FF
7:00 PM Hispanic Prayer Group/SA
7:00 PM Faith Form. 6th-7th-8th Gr./FF
7:30 PM Choir Practice/Church

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11
7:00 AM Eucharistic Adoration/Chapel
6:45 PM Encounter Youth Group/SJ
7:00 PM Charismatic Prayer/FF-SM

THURSDAY, MARCH 12
7:00 AM Eucharistic Adoration/Chapel
4:00 PM Faith Formation 4th-5th Gr./SE
7:00 PM Hispanic Prayer Group/Church
7:00 PM Young Adults/FF-SP
7:00 PM Lay Apostolate/FF-SM

FRIDAY, MARCH 13
7:00 AM Eucharistic Adoration/Chapel
7:00 PM Hisp. Choir Practice/SA

SATURDAY, MARCH 14
8:00 AM Men's Prayer Group/FF-SM
9:00 AM Eucharistic Adoration/Chapel

SUNDAY, MARCH 15
10:30 AM RCIA/FF-SJ
11:00 AM Hispanic Faith Form./FF
4:00 PM Band Practice/Church

FF = Faith Formation Center
SA = St. Anthony Rm. (near parish hall)
SE = St. Elizabeth Hall (Conf. Rm.)
SJ = St. Joseph Room
SM= St. Michael Room
SP = St. Peter Room
ST = St. Therese Room

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Join us for Stations of the Cross in the church all the Fridays of Lent.
English: 6:00 pm
Spanish: 7:30 pm

ATTENTION ADORERS!
We would like to thank everyone who has signed up for Eucharistic Adoration. It is due to your commitment that we are able to have the chapel open from Monday through Saturday. This is a reminder that your commitment is for a full hour and it helps fellow adorers to keep up their commitment as well. You can always come in at any other time to visit the Blessed Sacrament for any length of time.

Also, all committed Adorers please sign in online as a scheduled Adorer right before or during your Holy Hour instead of signing the sheet. This way we can keep better track of who is attending their Holy Hour.

St. Mary’s Knights of Columbus will be hosting Lenten Suppers on the Fridays of Lent in the parish gym at 6:30 pm, after the Stations of the Cross. Tickets available after Mass on Sundays and in the parish office. It helps a lot with planning if you can buy your tickets ahead of time instead of at the door.
Adults: $10
Children under 12: $5
Family (2 adults & up to 4 children under 12): $30
Season ticket (6 meals): $50

St. Vincent de Paul Bundle Sunday
If you didn’t pick up a bag last weekend, there are still bags available in the church vestibule. Please take one home and bring back your donations next weekend (March 14-15) to the SVDP truck, which will be in the church parking lot.

Items we can accept (must be clean, gently used, and free of stains, pet hair, mold, and smoke odor): Small working appliances; dishes, glassware, cookware, utensils; color and cable-ready TVs (no console TVs); working camcorders; clothing (no underwear or panty hose), shoes, accessories; puzzles and games (with all pieces); bicycles in very good condition; books (no magazines); travel toiletries (new & unopened); jewelry; tablecloths, blankets, bed sheets, curtains, decorative pillows, towels, rugs, pictures and frames; videos, DVDs, CDs, records; floor and table lamps; mobile phones.

We cannot accept: baby bottles (unless new & unopened), car seats, mesh playpens, cosmetics, exercise equipment, BBQ grills, lawn furnishings, gas-powered lawn or garden equipment, golf clubs, major appliances, carpet, tires or wheels.

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St. Mary’s FIL-AM MINISTRY MEETING
Date: Sunday, March 8
Where: St. Elizabeth Room
Time: 12:15 to 2:30 p.m.
Potluck - Finger Foods Only

Upcoming Events:
• Lenten Meal of 3/20 will be prepared by the FIL-AM Ministry (We need help preparing food)
• Special Mass for Saint Pedro Calungsod at the 4:30 Mass on 3/28 (We need volunteers to participate in the Mass)

Contact: Elena Gaoiran at 995-525-7089 or elena.gaoiran@gmail.com

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We welcome more adorers. To sign up for a weekly hour (or more), please go to adorationpro.org maryca. For more information, please email Cecil D’Souza at cecildsouza@hotmail.com or Mary Johnstone at mleejohn@comcast.net.
LENTEN DAY
OF RENEWAL AT
SAN DAMIANO RETREAT

Join us for our Lenten Day of Renewal from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm. It includes presentations, prayers, and lunch at 12:00 pm, ending with Mass at 2:00 pm.
Presented by Fr. Rusty Shaughnessy, OFM
Cost: $40 - Please send check to San Damiano Retreat 710 Highland Drive, Danville, CA 94526
Registration online at www.sandamiano.org or by calling 925-837-9141.

A vigil volunteer was praying her rosary when a woman came out of Planned Parenthood and smiled saying she didn’t go through with it. The volunteer called her over and gave her a big hug. The woman said she had had a stillborn last year so when she was in Planned Parenthood and set up for the abortion, she thought about that stillborn and wanted to have this baby because it was a blessing that she was pregnant again. The counselor gave her a baby gift and told her we would love to give her a baby shower. She was just so surprised and smiling from ear to ear! We are looking forward to giving her that shower and asked her to stay in contact and let us know if she needs anything.

Later that hour, another young woman came out after having an abortion. She was crying. A volunteer was able to speak to her as the car was leaving. The volunteer gave her a brochure explaining that there is help after abortion and also told her she can call anytime if she needs to talk. The volunteer reassured her many times that there is help for her.

Two different stories in less than an hour. The sidewalk team then said the rosary for both these women and their babies, one no longer of this world and another little blessed one still warm in its mother’s womb.

If you haven’t been able to join our prayer vigil yet, you can sign up at 40daysforlife.com/walnutcreek

UNPLANNED is the powerful story of one woman’s journey to truth, conversion and redemption. Abby Johnson was Director of a Planned Parenthood clinic, who abruptly quit her job and became an ardent advocate for life. This film will touch your heart with compassion for women and hope for the dignity of human life.

This is an R-rated movie recommended for those 17 and older.

Maeghan Webb, Community Outreach Director of Options4Health, will speak briefly after the film and answer questions. Free informational materials will also be available.

Sponsored by Respect Life Ministry, Knights of Columbus and Women’s Christian Fellowship

Please join us for a free screening
Saturday, March 28th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Large Hall St. Bonaventure Catholic Community 5562 Clayton Road, Concord

There will be a second showing in Spanish on Friday, April 24 at 7pm in Classrooms B1 & B2.
THE VINEYARD
St. Mary Church
YOUTH MINISTRY (K-12)

Join us for the Lenten Hike
March 21 at 9:00am at the Lafayette Reservoir
All are welcome!
Bring lots of water, dress in layers and bring a bagged lunch!
We will pray the Stations of the Cross as we hike!

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS!
Regardless of what your faith-life or life-struggles look like, you have a place in the Church and a seat at the Lifeteen Steubenville Conference.

This weekend is going to be one of the best of the summer and it will get even better if you join us!

July 31 - August 2, 2020
Concord, Ca

For more info., contact:
Faith Formation Office
(925) 891-8939 OR
Lifeteen.stmary-wc.org

Don’t let your 9th - 12th grader miss out on this one-of-a-kind retreat coming to St. Mary Parish this Summer July 5 - July 10!

For Registration Info. visit: www.YoungNeighbors.org or email Nancy@cmdnet.org.
**VIÑEDO DE RAQUEL**

Si usted o un ser amado está sufriendo a causa de un aborto intencional, le invitamos a un retiro del Viñedo de Raquel, un lugar seguro para renovar, reconstruir y redimir los corazones rotos por el aborto. Los próximos retiros son del 15 al 17 de mayo o del 2 al 4 de octubre. Para más información o para inscribirse, favor escribir a afterthechoice@oakdioadmin.org o llamar al 510-485-2574. www.elvinedoderaquel.org.

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**BAUTIZOS EN ESPAÑOL**

Los bautizos en español se llevan a cabo el tercer domingo de cada mes durante la misa de la 1:00 p.m. Para hacer la solicitud de bautismo, favor llamar a Janet Cain al 925-876-0807 para concertar una cita. Janet atiende los miércoles y los viernes en la oficina parroquial.

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**FECHAS IMPORTANTES**

Marzo 8, Clase 11:15am  
Daylight saving time  
Marzo 13, III Viernes de Vía Crucis  
Marzo 15, Clase 11:15am  
(925)357-3048 jcain@stmary-wc.org

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**STA. FRANCISCA ROMANA (1384-1440)** - 9 de marzo

Francisca nació en una familia cristiana donde aprendió a amar a Dios y a los pobres. Concontrajo nupcias muy joven, pero jamás abandonó su deseo de servir a los pobres, labor pastoral que fue apoyada por Lorenzo, su esposo. Además de ser ejemplar esposa y madre, oraba constantemente y salía del palacio vestida con ropas humildes para ir a visitar a los enfermos y llevar alimento a los pobres. Su amor por los marginados era tan grande que cuando azotaron inundaciones y pestes, no dudó en abrir su palacio para que se convirtiera en hospital y refugio de damnificados, cuidando personalmente de ellos y ofreciéndoles alimento. Este amor por los pobres lo compartió con una de sus cuñadas, con quien no sólo practicó la caridad sino compartió el sueño de ser religiosa. Siendo esposa y madre, fundó la comunidad de las Oblatas de María, cuyo carisma era vivir en el hogar sirviendo a los pobres. Se unió a esta comunidad religiosa una vez que enviudó y sus hijos crecieron. Para los ciudadanos de Roma fue un vivo ejemplo de Cristo. —Miguel Arias, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

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**ATENCION**

Durante esta temporada de influenza, les recordamos que en caso de enfermedad, no hay obligación de asistir a misa. En este momento estamos tomando algunas medidas para reducir el riesgo de enfermedad y por lo tanto estamos suspendiendo temporalmente:
- Comulgar bebiendo la Sangre de Cristo
- Recibir la hostia en la lengua
- El saludo de la paz
Gracias por su cooperación.