



# Second Sunday of Lent ~ March 8, 2020



## Weekly Mass Intentions

### Saturday – March 7

8:00am-† Rose Barbato

5:00pm-† Louis Bunch

7:30pm- † Parish Community Intentions

### Sunday – March 8

8:30am-† Lillian Trowbridge

10:00am-† Verna Campbell

11:30am-† Parish Community Intentions

1:30pm- † Parish Community Intentions

6:00pm- † Parish Community Intentions

### Monday – March 9

8:00am-† Fr. Thomas L. Sheridan, SJ

12:05pm-† Fr. Jeffrey P. Baerwald, SJ

### Tuesday – March 10

8:00am-† Fr. Thomas V. O’Conner, SJ

12:05pm-† Fr. Daniel J. Lusch, SJ

### Wednesday – March 11

8:00am-† Joseph DeSimone

12:05pm-† Fr. Daniel J. Sullivan, SJ

### Thursday – March 12

8:00am- † Fr. G. Simon Harak, SJ

12:05pm-† Fr. William L. Mulligan, SJ

### Friday – March 13

9:00am- † Libby Guardiani

12:05pm- † Fr. Francis A. Sullivan, SJ

### Saturday – March 14

8:00am- † Fr. Anthony Picariello, SJ

5:00pm- † Frank Fele

### Sunday – March 15

8:30am- † Fr. Robert M. Hanlon, SJ

10:00am-† Br. Sebastian Boccabella, SJ



*Offered by:* Mt. Carmel Parish

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*Offered by:* Beverly Marryshow

*Offered by:* Jesuits of Staten Island

*Offered by:* Annette Esposito

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*Offered by:* Frances & Susan Fele

*Offered by:* Jesuits of Staten Island

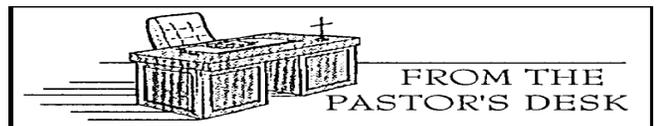
*Offered by:* Jesuits of Staten Island

## Weekly Memorials

- Bread & Wine
- Tabernacle Candle
- Memorial Candle
- Memorial Candle



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## “TRANSFIGURATION”

*(Matthew 17:1-9)*

We are somehow more aware that we have to avoid sin and be faithful to the Gospel since Ash Wednesday, the starting point of this Lenten journey. In other words, we are called to walk the path of holiness in obedience to God our Father. Last Sunday we contemplated Jesus' path to the desert where he was tempted but resisted temptations. Today we see Jesus climbing a high mountain where He is transfigured in front of his closest friends. The figure of Jesus is paradigmatic since He remains faithful to the will of God and thus becomes the perfect model of the believer of all times.

If the first week of Lent emphasized temptation, this second week the primacy is given to blessings for their elect. Thus, in the four verses of the first reading the word "blessed" or "blessing" is invoked five times. Paul reminds his young disciple Timothy of all the blessings we have received in Christ Jesus. To complete the panorama, in the Transfiguration scene we can highlight in a visual way the blessing of God to his very beloved Son, Jesus Christ.

Personally, when I meditate on the Transfiguration scene I try to "use the imaginative view" suggested by Saint Ignatius. So when the Gospel tells us that “His face shone like the sun, his clothes were whitened like light and he was in the midst of Moses and Elijah,” I imagine Jesus, the beloved Son, as the instrument of his heavenly Father to transport us to the world of grace. In other words and using the words of Jesuit Father Leo O'Donovan, "we live in a world of grace."

The liturgy uses the scene of the transfiguration at the beginning of Lent to counteract the images of suffering, degradation and even the feeling of abandonment of God that Jesus will endure and that we will contemplate at the end of this Lenten journey. The readings' purpose is didactic since as the millenary tradition of the Church affirms "we are people of the Resurrection." The Passion stories cannot diminish our hope. Our faith does not lead us to fatalism. Our faith motivates every believer to receive the blessings that will sustain us in moments of pain, suffering or when everything seems to come to an end. Therefore, let us hope and listen to Jesus, the Beloved Son of God who leads us to the path of light and peace that passes through the suffering and the cross.

**Fr. Hernán, S.J.**



## SCRIPTURE READINGS

These readings are found complete on our parish web page ([www.olmcsi.org](http://www.olmcsi.org)). *Click on "USCCB Daily Readings."*

### **March 8: Second Sunday of Lent**

Genesis 12:1-4A  
Psalm 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22  
2 Timothy 1:8B-10

### **March 15: Third Sunday of Lent**

Exodus 17:3-7  
Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9  
Romans 5:1-2, 5-8



**LENTEN SERIES** - To help us have a more prayerful Lenten experience, Fr. Roselli is offering a weekly Lenten series **every Thursday during Lent** at 10:30am in the Fr. Miguel Meeting Room. It an opportunity for you to grow closer to God by deepening your experience of prayer and faith during this Holy Lenten Season. Weekly participation is recommended but do not worry if you cannot make every session, you may come to as many sessions as your time allows.

**NOTICE OF MASS SCHEDULE CHANGE** - When our school has its monthly Mass (which is normally the first Friday of the month), the Mass time will be changed from 8:00am to 9:00am. You are all invited to attend Mass at 9am for that day. (There will be no Mass at 8:00am.) Thank you for your patience and helping us meet our pastoral needs. The next upcoming change is scheduled for **Friday, March 13, 2020**.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** - We will pray the Stations of the Cross **every Friday during Lent** after the 12:05pm mass. Join us for this very special Lenten devotion.

**EASTER YOUTH CHOIR** - We are looking for singers to join our Youth Choir (2<sup>nd</sup> grade and above) to sing for the **most important** Feast Day of the year ... **EASTER SUNDAY, April 12<sup>th</sup>**. The Children's Youth Choir will sing for the 10:00am Mass. Rehearsals will be every Saturday afternoon from 2:45pm - 4:00pm beginning **Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup>**. We know this a very big commitment and hope your child will be able to sing in the choir for this important time in our Church. Please visit the rectory as soon as possible to register your child and complete a permission slip. *They who sing, pray twice!*

**BIBLE STUDY** - Join us for our Parish Bible Study, meeting Sundays: **March 22**, April 26, May 10 & 31, June 14 & 28. All dates we will start at 1:00pm and run until 3:00pm. If you do not have a bible, one can be provided for you. The Holy Bible is a book that can help us live happier, more peaceful lives. But sometimes we need a little help to know where to start. Come and explore how God's words can help you in your life.

**PENNIES FOR CHARITY & LENT** - Every penny adds up to aid those in need. When a community comes together, even a little spare change can make a great things happen. **This Lent** we are helping the underprivileged children in Ecuador. The vision is to help provide a meal and/or necessary living essentials and help make him/her feel as special and as important as they truly are. We also hope to achieve a lasting impression of YOUR love for each individual life of the children YOU help. This fundraising drive is set up where anyone can participate, where a handful of coins is just as appreciated as a big check, and where any and every donation makes a difference. You can donate the change from your purse/pocket, write a check, invite your family and neighbors to participate and/or even collect at a social gathering. The possibilities are endless! We have placed a large container in the church entrance to place your donations. Lent: 40 days of Renewal.

**CARDINAL'S ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL** - *TEACH + SERVE + SANCTIFY*. The Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal serves our spiritual communities across our 10 counties. If you have not yet made your pledge to the *Cardinal's Appeal*, please make your commitment today. Remember, you can pledge your gift now and make payments in the coming months. Thank you to all who have already made your commitment - your generosity is appreciated!

**TREE OF LIFE** - In the back of the church (by the choir area) we have placed **The Tree of Life** memorial for anyone who would like to remember one of their loved ones with a memorial plaque. The suggested donation for a leaf on the tree if \$250. Please call the rectory and request your form, if you would like to place a name on the tree.

**GOOD HEALTH PRACTICES** - We share your concern regarding the spread of the flu and the coronavirus. It is important for all of us to take care of our health and be concerned for the health of others. The exchange of the sign of peace should, at this time, be done with the verbal greeting "The peace of the Lord be with you" with a smile, a wave of the hand or a nod of the head. Be mindful of the health of your fellow parishioners and cover your mouth if you are sneezing and coughing. Please be sure to sanitize your hand when entering and leaving the Church. Thank you.

**COLLECTIONS:** March 1: \$5,073; Second Collection: \$1,285; Ash Wednesday: \$2,061. Thank you for your continued generosity and support of OUR Parish!

**WHAT SHOULD I GIVE UP FOR LENT?** Lent is the perfect time to form new life-giving habits and abandon old self-destructive habits. But most of us just give up chocolate. Then, when Easter arrives, we realize we really haven't grown spiritually since the beginning of Lent. Giving things up can help us to have a meaningful Lent, but that's not what Lent is really all about. Lent is about doing something—something bold to become a better husband or wife, father or mother, son or daughter, friend, neighbor, etc. What if this year you did more than just give up something during Lent? Do something life-changing. **WHAT ARE PRAYER, FASTING, AND ALMSGIVING?** Prayer, fasting, and almsgiving are three traditional practices of Lent. They are meant to help us turn away from self-destructive habits and open ourselves to God so he can help us become the best version of ourselves.