

MARCH 5, 2023
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Reflection from Fr. Bernard Doré

The common theme of today's readings is metamorphosis or transformation. The readings invite us to work with the Holy Spirit to transform our lives by renewing them during Lent and to radiate the glory and grace of the transfigured Lord to all around us by our Spirit-filled lives.

The first reading describes the transformation of a pagan patriarch into a believer in the one God, the transformation of his name from Abram to Abraham and the first covenant of God with Abraham's family as a reward for Abraham's obedience to God.

The second reading, from St. Paul's second letter to Timothy, explains the type of Lenten transformation expected of us. We are transformed when we recognize the hand of a loving, providing and disciplining God behind all our hardships, pain and suffering and try our best to grow in holiness by cooperating with the grace of God given to us through Jesus and his Gospel.

In the transfiguration story in today's Gospel, Jesus is revealed as a glorious figure, superior to Moses and Elijah. The primary purpose of Jesus' transfiguration was to allow Him to consult His heavenly Father and ascertain His plan for His Son's suffering, death and resurrection. The secondary aim was to make his chosen disciples aware of His divine glory, so that they might discard their worldly ambitions and dreams of a conquering political Messiah and might be strengthened in their time of trial. On the mountain, Jesus is identified by the heavenly Voice as the Son of God. Thus, the transfiguration narrative is a Christophany, that is, a manifestation or revelation of Who Jesus really is.

Describing Jesus' transfiguration, the Gospel gives us a glimpse of the heavenly glory awaiting those who do God's will by putting their trusting faith in Him. Just as the transfiguration strengthened the Apostles in their time of trial, each Holy Mass should be our source of Heavenly strength against our own temptations and a source of renewal of our lives during Lent

Each Sacrament that we receive transforms us. Baptism, for example, transforms us into sons and daughters of God and heirs of heaven. Confirmation makes us the temples of the Holy Spirit. By the Sacrament of Reconciliation, God brings back the sinner to the path of holiness. By receiving the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick in faith we are spiritually, and if God wills physically, healed and our sins are forgiven.



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OFFICE HOURS	9:00 AM – 2:00 PM (MON, WED, THU, FRI)
WEEKDAY MASSES	9:00 AM (MON, WED, FRI)
SATURDAY VIGIL MASS	5:00 PM
SUNDAY MASSES	8:00 AM 10:00 AM
HOLY DAY MASSES	9:00 AM 7:00 PM
CONFESSIONS	4:00-4:30 PM, SATURDAY OR BY APPOINTMENT

ST. PAUL'S UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Saturday	March 4
8:30 AM	Men's Coffee & Gospel
5:00 PM	Mass: Theodore Sabourin (RIP)
Sunday	March 5
8:00 AM	Mass: Thomas Chabot (RIP)
9:15 AM	Rosary
10:00 AM	Mass: Joseph & Eva Kurdi (RIP)
Monday	March 6
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Grandchildren of Mary O'Reilly (RIP)
Tuesday	March 7
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Dr. Daniel Thompson (RIP)
Wednesday	March 8
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Living & Deceased Members of the Wodziak & Tarsa Families
Thursday	March 9
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Fr. Roger Houle (RIP)
Friday	March 10
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Souls in Purgatory
9:30 AM	Stations of the Cross

PLEASE CONSIDER COMMEMORATING
A LOVED ONE AT THE EUCHARIST

Lent at St. Paul's

Take advantage of these ways in which we can meet God's mercy this Lent at our parish:

Daily Mass & Rosary

Monday — Friday 8:35 / 9:00 AM

Stations of the Cross

Friday 9:30 AM

Lenten Confessions

Palm Sunday, April 2 ~ 11AM-12PM

Lenten Mission

Mission with Fr. Christopher Murphy. *The theme will be The Family as the Domestic Church.*

Mon. March 6, 7:00 PM

Tues. March 7, 7:00 PM with Confession

Wed. March 8, 7:00 PM

Monday evening, we will ponder the mystery of God revealed as 'Father,' and the importance of fatherhood in the life of the Church.

Tuesday evening, we will turn our attention to the gift of Motherhood, revealed in a particular way through our Mother, Mary.

Wednesday, we will conclude with a reflection on the fruit of the marriage covenant: children, with a special consideration of our identity as adopted sons and daughters in Jesus Christ.

Lenten Reflection on Our Website

Check out a YouTube video Lenten reflection by Fr. Casey Cole. Scan QR code or visit stpaulsfoster.org/lent



Daylight Savings- March 12

Remember to turn your clocks ahead 1 hour.

Saints Patrick & Joseph Pot Luck Brunch

Sunday March 19 after the 8:00 & 10:00 AM Masses

This is pot-luck, so everyone should bring their favorite brunch item to share. A sign-up sheet will be available. We'll also need a few people to help in the kitchen before & after each Mass, and especially clean-up.



Eternal Rest and Perpetual Light!

Fr. Roger Houle, Pastor Emeritus at St. Joseph's Church in Scituate passed away on Monday, February 27. Please pray for his rest in God's mercy and for the comfort of his family

Knights of Columbus Italian Dinner

Saturday, March 25

6:00 PM at S. Foster Fire Station

Enjoy an authentic Homemade Italian Dinner prepared by the Master Italian Chefs of St. Paul's Knights Columbus. Menu includes a Fresh Salad, Homemade Italian Soup, Pasta, Sausage, Meat Balls (handmade from fresh ground beef and pork), Chicken Parm, Anthony's Gravy, Italian Bread, Coffee, Soda and Desserts. (BYOB!) All proceeds from the dinner will be given to the parish to fund the handicap access/ elevator project.

Tickets on Sale now!

Adults \$20 / Under 12 \$10 / Under 5 Free

2023 Catholic Charity Appeal

Thank you to everyone who made a pledge to the Catholic Charity Appeal already. If you were unable to make your pledge yet, please consider doing so today. Your gift to the annual Catholic Charity Appeal makes a real difference in the lives of so many.

Our 2023 Goal at St. Paul's is \$15,813.

May 2023 Calendar Raffle

Thank you to the generous parishioners who donated gift cards to our Calendar Raffle! We are waiting on only **10 more** to be returned.

Second Collection—March 4/5

This weekend's second monthly collection will be used to **help with the cost of utilities and Lenten Mission**

GIFTS RECEIVED

Offertory Collection – Feb 25/26
\$2,768.00

CRS Earthquake Collection – Feb 25/26
\$ 902.00

Thank you for your support!

The Wonders of The Mass *The Wonders of Holy Mas*

Simon De Montfort

The famous general and hero, Simon de Montfort, with only 800 horse soldiers and very few foot soldiers, was unexpectedly trapped in the town of Muret by an army of 40,000 men led by the King of Aragon and Raymond the Count of Toulouse, who espoused the cause of the Albigensian heretics. He was hearing Mass when his officers came to announce that the besieging army was marching to attack the town.

"Let me first finish Mass," he replied, "and then I will be with you."

He then hastened to where his forces were already gathered together, bade them trust in God, and ordering the gates to be flung open, he charged right at the heart of the approaching army, threw it into utter disorder, struck down the King of Aragon himself and won a glorious victory.

Baronius declares that Emperor Lothaire heard three Masses every day, even when he was on the battlefield with his troops.

In the Great War [World War 1] it was well known that Marshal Foch, the Commander-in-chief of the French and British armies, heard Mass every day, even when the position was most critical.

The Emperor Otho of Germany once summoned a council of his chief officers and advisers to take place in the Palace at Worms, at an early hour in the morning.

The Duke of Bohemia, one of the princes who was to take part in the council, was wont to hear Mass daily and was, therefore, late in arriving at the royal palace.

This delay threw the Emperor into a fury, and without waiting for the Duke, he commenced the council, giving orders to all present not to show honor or give any greeting to the Duke on his arrival.

Some short time after, the Duke entered the council chamber and to the surprise of those present, the Emperor, who at first seemed startled, rose in haste and showed every mark of respect to the Duke. When the weighty matters of state had been discussed, the Emperor Otho, noticing the surprise manifested by the assembled lords and princes at his change of demeanor toward the Duke of Bohemia, explained: "Why," he said, "did you not see that he came accompanied by two angels, one on either side? I dared not show my resentment."

Similar wonderful favors are granted to the humblest of the faithful, to anyone who hears Mass devoutly.

~Father Paul O'Sullivan, O.P.