



**HOLY TRINITY  
CATHEDRAL  
PARISH  
POLISH NATIONAL  
CATHOLIC CHURCH  
166 Pearl Street  
Manchester,  
New Hampshire 03104**

<http://www.holytrinitypncc.org/>

Office Phone 603-668-5087

Rectory Phone 603-622-4524

Hall/Kitchen Phone 603-622-6899

**Pastor - Bishop Paul Sobiechowski**

revpauls@yahoo.com

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

(unless otherwise announced)

**Sunday :** Holy Mass ..... 9:00 AM ..... In the English language

**Daily :** Morning Prayer ... 8:45 AM

Holy Mass ..... 9:00 AM

**Confessions:** Second Sunday of the Month .... 8:15 AM

**Marriage:** 6 months prior arrangement

**Baptisms :** by appointment

vol. 15, # 11

**G L O S**

March 16, 2025

**SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT  
DRUGA NIEDZIELA WIELKIEGO POSTU**

adapted from: *At Home with the Word*,

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The transfiguration of Jesus often leaves people baffled. It is not clear why the evangelists included it in their Gospel accounts, or why it is at the juncture in Jesus' ministry when He turns His steps to Jerusalem and His ultimate fate. Likewise unclear is the transfiguration's unity with the wider Gospel message. The same Jesus who has preached a message of humility and sought out the companionship of the poor is now covered in glory and converses with heavenly beings. Finally, the moral lesson of this passage and its role in our Lenten observance are not obvious from a simple reading

*Continued on Page 11*

**WELCOME TO HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL PARISH**

If this is your first visit with us, please sign our guest register in the vestibule and join us for a cake and coffee fellowship that follows every Sunday Mass and on various feast days of the Church year.

Holy Trinity Cathedral Parish of the Polish National Catholic Church has been an integral part of the Manchester and Southern New Hampshire community for 110 years meeting the religious needs first for the Polish immigrant community, and later for all residents of the Granite State. We hope to continue our growth in service to God and community. This commitment manifests itself in a regular devotional and prayer life and a greater participation in both ecumenical and community activities.

At Holy Trinity Cathedral PARISH, our primary emphasis is on the PARISH family. All who belong sense this family spirit - expressed in a real love and concern for one another. Our pastor makes a point to know each family on a one-to-one basis with frequent visits to family homes and to the hospitalized. Thus the spiritual health and vitality of all parishioners and all our friends is supported by both pastor and laity.

***We invite You to join our PARISH family!*** If you are looking for a PARISH and are considering Holy Trinity, feel free to talk with any parishioner about it. We will introduce you to our family in all its wonderful aspects - a family whose real strength lies in our personal and real relationship to Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. We express this faith in our Church through our liturgy which is Catholic and traditional, shared between priest and laity. We demonstrate this faith in the prayerful material and emotional support we give one another. We share this faith in a Church rooted in Democratic principles, having a church constitution that gives laity full rights and due process in matters financial, administrative and material. OUR PARISH...firm in faith, Catholic, democratic, and OPEN to the growth that comes as more join our family.

**MAKE YOURSELF RIGHT AT HOME!**

**SCHEDULE OF REGULAR ACTIVITIES**

**Parish Committee Meeting** every third Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM

**The Cemetery Committee** meets as needed

**Lectors, Greeters, Ushers, Collectors ministries** as announced in the bulletin

**Moms in Prayer** meets weekly on Tuesdays at 7:30 AM in the rectory

**Membership and Outreach Team** meets as announced in the bulletin

**Ladies Society of the Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament** meets the 3rd Sunday of the month after the 9:00 AM Mass (September - June)

**The Frederick Chopin Choir** rehearses each Wednesday evening at 6:30 PM and holds meetings as announced

**Adult Bible Study** - Bi-weekly Wednesdays 7:00 PM Zoom & In Person

**Parishioners Prayer Group** - Thursdays at 11:30 AM in the Craft Room

## EVANGELISM TEAM MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to increase attendance and membership to Holy Trinity Cathedral by fostering a welcoming and respectful environment, where individuals and families can explore and achieve spiritual fulfillment.

We are looking for ideas, any ideas, that can stimulate and increase participation in both the worship and parochial life of Holy Trinity Parish. Is there something you have seen, or experienced in another Church that you think might work well here? Have you had an idea for some time, but were afraid to share it? If you have an idea, no matter what it may be, please pray over it and then share it with either:

Mr. Ray Pieczarka 603-472-5874 or Bishop Paul 603-622-4524.

### WELCOME - TO ALL VISITORS

You are most welcome and your presence is appreciated. All are invited to share in worship and, after Mass, our fellowship. If the people around you fail to say "hello" first, go up to them and say "Hi!" And don't feel awkward. We've all been in those shoes at one time or another. We want you to join us. **So Welcome Home!**



### HTC Membership and Outreach Team Is Inviting YOU Join in an outreach

Our Parish Evangelism Team has reorganized. Known as the "Membership and Outreach" Team, our hope is that a number of our parishioners would like to be a part of an exciting opportunity to help develop programs and liturgies that will spread the Word to others outside our community, and also engage in Internal Evangelism within our parish family.

If **YOU** are interested in reaching out to others for the Lord you are invited to contact either Ray Pieczarka at (603) 472-5874 or Bishop Paul at 622-4524.

IN BISHOP'S ABSENCE AND FOR SACRAMENTAL EMERGENCIES ONLY,  
PLEASE CALL FATHER ANDRZEJ TENUS OF ST. CASIMIR'S PARISH IN  
LOWELL, MA. PH. # (978) 453-0742

### SAINT COMMEMORATIONS THIS WEEK

We invite our readers to continue reading the history of the lives of the saints that are remembered by the Church this week. Follow the hyperlink below to learn to learn about those saints remembered by the Church this week.

[https://www.sugarsync.com/pf/D0314163\\_09763482\\_1021266](https://www.sugarsync.com/pf/D0314163_09763482_1021266)

Sunday, March 9th -

We thank the following who provided for our Cake & Coffee reception: Jennie Grenier (Bagels & Cream Cheese, Apricot Squares);

Wendy Thomas (Red Velvet Whoopie Pies, Fruit Bowl); Betty Pasieka (Strawberry Coffee Cake, Brownies with a Peanut Butter Swirl); Kathy Card (Deviled Eggs); Cindy Hebert (Poppy Seed Roll); Karen Sobiechowski (Cuties); HTC Bakers (Tea Bread, Blueberry Muffins).

As always, thanks also to all who donated towards cake & coffee offerings..



Check out our diocesan website:

[www.easterndiocesepncc.com](http://www.easterndiocesepncc.com)

You can reach it on your computer or with your smart phone.



**Polish National  
Catholic Church**

"through the years..."

WE'RE ON FACEBOOK - LIKE US AT:

<https://www.facebook.com/holytrinitycathedralpncc>

We have our own website up and running with Larry Gagnon as webmaster:

<http://www.holytrinitypncc.org/>

### SOUP FOR SENIORS

**Sunday, March 9th** - Last week the Seniors who stayed for the Cake and Coffee reception were treated to twelve pint containers of *Golqbk Soup* through the Soup for Seniors Program sponsored by our HTC Frederick Chopin Choir. **Kathy Card** prepared the delightful meal for our seniors to take home.

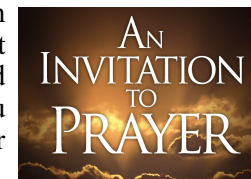


What delicious treat will our seniors enjoy this Sunday?

### MARCH BIRTHDAYS

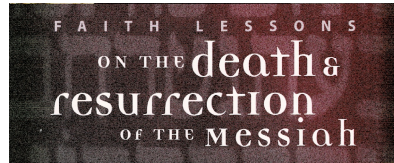
11 - Erin Reilly 12 - Wanda Piotrowski 12 - Wendy Thomas  
14 - Joan Blajda 18 - Laurie Greene 26 - Valerie Loomis

Parishioners are praying jointly for our parish family. You are invited to join them. Prayer gatherings are held Thursdays at 11:30 AM, but can be adjusted if you are interested! Time commitment is about 45 minutes a week. The prayer time is structured and Scripture-based. No advance preparation required. You only need to show up. Contact Karen Sobiechowski for questions or if you would like to participate.



**OUR PARISH ADULT BIBLE STUDY** is a Zoom & face to face study in the Craft Room. The next scheduled study will be this **TUESDAY, March 18th at 7:00 PM.**

Studies generally last one hour to one and one half hours. If you want to join in the study in person, simply show up. If you join in on Zoom you'll need to ask Bishop Paul for the Zoom link. Study sheets will be sent to all our HTC internet family prior to the study.



**TODAY** we ask our parish family to pray for:

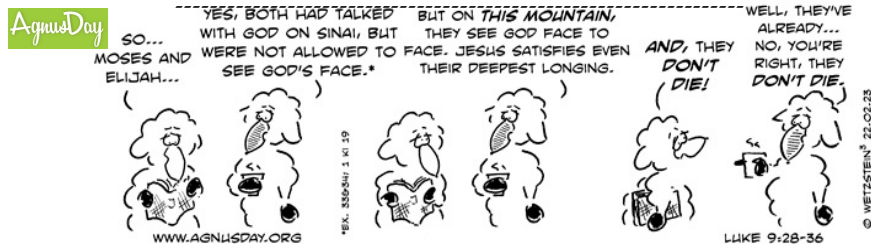
*Father Senior Jaroslaw Nowak,*  
his family and the faithful of  
*Resurrection Parish,*  
*Temperance, Michigan,*  
and for  
*Father Pawel Lukaszewicz,*  
his family and the faithful of  
*Holy Cross Parish,*  
*Ware, Massachusetts.*



We ask God to bless them in their parochial life and the work they do in their local community. We ask you to pray each day that God would bless and increase their work of evangelism and Christian sharing.

#### LECTIONARY READINGS - FIRST WEEK OF LENT

<b>Mon.</b> - Daniel 9: 4 - 10 Luke 6: 36 - 38	<b>Thu.</b> - Jeremiah 17: 5 - 10 Luke 16: 19 - 31
<b>Tue.</b> - Isaiah 1: 10, 16 - 20 Matthew 23: 1 - 12	<b>Fri.</b> - Genesis 37: 3 - 4, 12 - 13, 17 - 28 Matthew 21: 33 - 43, 45 - 46
<b>Wed.</b> - Jeremiah 18: 18 - 20 Matthew 20: 17 - 28	<b>Sat.</b> - Micah 7: 14 - 15, 18 - 20 Matthew 15: 1 - 3, 11 - 32
<b>Next Sun.</b> - Exodus 3: 1 - 8, 13 - 15 / Psalm 103: 1 - 2, 3 - 4, 6 - 7, 8, 11 1 Corinthians 10: 1 - 6, 10 - 12 / Luke 13: 1 - 9	



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#### Bible Word Search:

#### PROVERBS 10

All the words listed below are in the puzzle - left, right, up, down or diagonally. Find each word and click its first letter then its last letter to highlight it. After you have found all the words, click the leftover letters in the correct order to spell the *Mystery Word*. To work the puzzle on paper instead: Print this page and circle each letter of the words you find.

Acceptable	Away
Blessings	Destruction
Diligent	Everlasting
Foolish	Foundation
Heaviness	Iniquity
Instruction	Knowledge
Multitude	Poor
Poverty	Profit
Rich	Righteousness
Shall fall	Solomon
Substance	The Lord
Treasures	Understanding
Vinegar	Violence
Walk	Whirlwind
Wickedness	



#### PRAY FOR THE SICK & HOMEBOUND:

##### In the Hospital:

##### Clergy Who Are ill:

*Father Paul Zomerfeld* serving in Johnstown, PA  
*Father Senior Augustin Sicard* in San Antonio, TX



##### In nursing homes & rehab centers:

*Stanley Pasioka* at Solaris Imperial Health Care, Naples, Florida  
*Daniela Sienko* at Maple Leaf Healthcare Center, Manchester, NH  
*David Testerman* at Golden View Health Care Center, Meredith, NH  
*Charlotte Raczka* at Merrimack County Nursing Home in Boscawen, NH  
*Frances Dobosz* at Bowman Place in Bedford, NH  
*Vudge Ambrose* at Mt. Carmel Nursing Home, Manchester, NH  
*Fran Gorcyca* at St. Teresa's Rehabilitation Center, Manchester, NH

##### at home:

*Emilia DeVore* at Saint Teresa's Independent Living in Manchester, NH  
*Nancy Montplaisir* at home in Manchester, NH  
*Joseph Komisarek* at home in Bedford, NH  
*Meg Sheha* in Hollywood, FL



## Clergy serving in the United States Army

COL. Father Andrew Bilinski  
LT. COL. Father Stanley Jasiurkowski  
CPT. Father Joseph Kolek  
CPT. Father Andrzej Tenus  
CPT. Father Nadeem Yaqoob  
Cpt. Father Mariusz Mularczyk



## Polish National Catholics & Family Members serving

Lt.Col. Scott M. Krasko	ARMY	REMEMBER
SSGT. Nick Hudak	AIR FORCE RESERVE	THOSE
Alyssa Oxley	AIR FORCE	WHO SERVE
Vincent Manzella	AIR FORCE	
Gregory Walsh	MARINE CORPS	
James Pidgeon	MARINE CORPS	
Andrew Drada	MICHIGAN AIR NATIONAL GUARD	
Tyler Gardner	NAVY	
Ian and Cody Gonyea	NAVY	
Matthew Paluszek	COAST GUARD	
Zack Richard	ARMY	
Specialist David I. Testerman	NH National Guard	
Lt. JG Dean Testerman	NAVY	

## LENT IS THE TIME FOR PRAYER, FASTING AND ALMSGIVING

Today ALMS BOXES are once again in the back of the Cathedral for you to take home. The alms box is to remind us to set aside a portion of our money to help the needy and less fortunate. We are asking all of our parishioners to set these special offerings during the seasons of Septuagesima and Lent. The offerings will accumulate until Good Friday. Then the boxes can be returned to the cathedral, or a generous check made out to "HTC Good Samaritan Fund." These funds will be given to the International Institute of New England, a local organization that oversees and provides for the resettlement of refugees into our local community. We have assisted IINE in the past and know they care for these refugees in need. Please give generously!

In additions to giving alms, IINE has a "wish list" of items, they could use. If you would like to help in this manner as well...the items needed are: backpacks for elementary school students ages 5 - 8 filled with pencils, crayons, paper, coloring books, etc.; Backpacks for middle school students aged 10-13, filled with notebooks, binders, folders, loose leaf paper, pencils, pens, simple calculators, rulers, scissors, etc.; Backpacks/messenger bags for high school students aged 14-18, filled with binders,

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## Almsgiving continued

folders, loose leaf paper, multiple-subject notebooks, pens, pencils, calculators, scissors, etc.; Gift cards (Amazon, Walmart, Market Basket, and Target are all excellent choices); Kitchen supplies (microwaves, pots/pans sets, tea kettles, silverware sets, knife sets); Towels/hand towel/wash cloth sets; Pillows; Cleaning supplies; Laundry detergent; Twin XL sheets; Tool kits; First aid kits; Hygiene supplies (shampoo, soap, toothbrushes, deodorant); Umbrellas; Diapers sizes 2,3, & 4.

This Month's bulletins are being sponsored by:

### LAURIE GREENE

#### in loving memory of my husband David and our Parents and Siblings.

If you would like to help your parish and be acknowledged for your gift consider sponsoring the weekly bulletin. For a one hundred (\$ 100.00) dollar donation we will acknowledge your sponsorship and the \$1,200 we can raise annually we hope to generate will just about cover the cost of our bulletin. Please consider sponsoring one month today.

*APRIL 2025 bulletins will be sponsored by DIANE BIELIZNA*

*in loving memory of my mother Caroline, Father Stanley W, and brother + friend Stanley Bielizna and in loving memory of my Aunt Charlotte and Uncle Matthew Albin*

*MAY 2025 & 2026 bulletins will be sponsored by CAROL JUTRAS & FAMILY  
in loving memory of my husband Raymond and mother Mary Zukosky*

*JUNE 2025 bulletins will be sponsored by LISA FARMER  
in loving memory of my great grandparents: Anna & Jozef Pierog, Krystyna & Pawel Borowski, Anna & Michal Hunko. Pelagia & Wincenty Legenc*

*JULY 2025 bulletins will be sponsored by BRIAN DUPLESSIS AND SONS  
in loving memory of wife and mother Leslie*

*AUGUST 2025 bulletins will be sponsored by MARY ANN KISKA  
in loving memory of husband Stanley*

*SEPTEMBER 2025 bulletins will be sponsored by JOSEPH KOMISAREK  
in loving memory of wife Louise and son Daniel Komisarek  
and parents Jennie & Frank Komisarek*

*OCTOBER 2025 bulletins will be sponsored by Jacqueline B. Szopa  
in loving memory of my grandparents Anna and Albin Grzybowski  
and uncle Stanley Grzybowski*

*NOVEMBER 2025 bulletins will be sponsored by Jacqueline B. Szopa  
in loving memory of my husband Dr. Ronald F. Szopa*

*DECEMBER 2025 bulletins will be sponsored by CAROLYN HEBERT  
in loving memory of Tillie and Chester Kaminski*

*And future bulletins will be sponsored by WHOM ?*

**On Wednesday, March 19th (Saint Joseph's Day) Deacon Justin Daviault will be ordained to the Holy Priesthood at Holy Trinity Parish, Plantsville, CT at 10:00 AM**

## MASS INTENTIONS AND ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK

\* Indicates All Souls Day Offering

### THIS SUNDAY, March 16th, 2025 (Niedziela Dzisiejsza)

#### SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT DRUGA NIEDZIELA WIELKIEGO POSTU

Memorial of Julian of Antioch - *Martyr*

**Parish Alms Collection for local community organization continues**

9:00 AM Holy Mass

Prayer Intention:

open intention

10:15 AM Cake and Coffee reception in the auditorium

10:45 AM HTC A.N.S. monthly meeting - craft room

### MONDAY, March 17th, (Poniedziałek)

Memorial of Patrick of Ireland - *Bishop*

8:45 AM Morning Prayer

9:00 AM Holy Mass

Prayer Intention:

sp, David Jonas requested by Bishop Paul and Karen

for God's blessings upon all the parishes of the Eastern Diocese

7:00 PM National Mission and Evangelism Commission Zoom meeting

### TUESDAY, March 18th, (Wtorek)

Memorial of Cyril of Jerusalem - *Bishop*

7:30 AM Moms in Prayer meets in the rectory

8:45 AM Morning Prayer

9:00 AM Holy Mass

Prayer Intention:

sp, Leonard Dickson requested by Bishop Paul and Karen

for God's blessings upon all the clergy of the Eastern Diocese and their families

### WEDNESDAY, March 19th, (Środa)

**Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Guardian of our Lord**

Today we pray for God's blessings upon all the faithful of the Eastern Diocese and the entire PNCC who are ill

10:00 AM Holy Trinity Parish - Plantsville, CT Holy Mass of Ordination of Justin

Daviault to the priesthood of the Polish National Catholic Church -

conferred by Bishop Paul

6:00 PM Holy Trinity Cathedral, Manchester, NH - Bitter Lamentations - Part III

6:30 PM Parish Choir Rehearsal

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DURING LENT WE ABSTAIN FROM MEAT  
ON WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS

## MASS INTENTIONS AND ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK

(Continued)

### THURSDAY, March 20th, (Czwartek)

Memorial of Photina the Samaritan Woman - *NT & Companions - Martyrs*

**Bishop Anthony Rysz (d. 2015)**

8:45 AM Morning Prayer

9:00 AM Holy Mass

Prayer intention: for God's blessing upon the Cathedral Parish of the Eastern Diocese

6:30 PM Parishioners Praying for the HTC Parish Family

7:00 PM Holy Trinity Cathedral Parish Committee Meeting

### FRIDAY, March 21st, (Piątek)

Memorial of Benedict - *Abbot*

8:45 AM Morning Prayer

9:00 AM Holy Mass

Prayer Intention:

for God's blessings upon all the sub-central organizations and societies of the Eastern Diocese

6:00 PM Stations of the Cross

### SATURDAY, March 22nd, (Sobota)

Memorial of Paul of Narbonne - *Confessor*

8:45 AM Morning Prayer

9:00 AM Holy Mass

Prayer Intention:

for God's blessings upon all the Youth of our Eastern Diocese that the gifts of the Holy Spirit would be lavished upon them, producing the many fruits of the same Holy Spirit

### NEXT SUNDAY, March 23rd, (Niedziela Przyszła)

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

TRZECIA NIEDZIELA WIELKIEGO POSTU

Memorial of Victorian and Companions - *Martyrs*

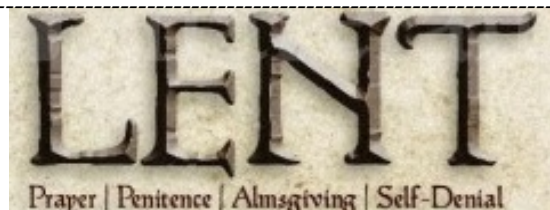
**Parish Alms Collection for local community organization continues**

9:00 AM Holy Mass

Prayer Intention:

open intention

10:15 AM Cake and Coffee reception in the auditorium





## THE CHOIR ANNOUNCES THEIR PALM SUNDAY KIELBASA SALE

The Frederick Chopin Choir is once again selling kielbasa for your Easter celebrations. Pre-orders for one pound packages of links are being accepted NOW, so speak with a choir member today to place your order. Deadline for pre-orders is Wednesday April 2, and kielbasa will be here for purchase and pick-up on Palm Sunday, April 13, 2025.

### Page 1 Article (continued)

This narrative has deep biblical roots. As this Sunday's first reading shows, certain mysterious phenomena, especially supernatural light, accompany God's nearby presence. This is the "flaming torch" in the first reading, and Jesus Himself in the Gospel. Jesus glows with the same supernatural light associated with a direct manifestation of God.

This moment of glorification does not occur to intimidate the disciples or exalt Jesus. Instead, the divine voice proclaims: "This is my chosen Son; listen to Him." Jesus' glorification reinforces the humility and mercy that He has preached all along. He bears divine glory, but His disciples can only see it because living the Gospel has opened their awareness to Jesus' relationship with God.

This context helps explain why this passage appears during Lent. As we set down the things that distract us and live the Gospel with greater fervor, we will see the divine light more clearly. Opportunities for mercy and forgiveness will catch our attention, and perhaps we will find the courage to respond. In these moments, St. Paul's dream becomes reality: Christ "change(s) our lowly body to conform with His glorified body." We become Jesus' hands, heart, and voice, and bear His light into a world that longs to see.

- What reminds you that Jesus speaks with a divine voice?
- How has your discipleship helped you to see Jesus' glory?
- How can you hear Christ's voice with greater clarity this Lent?

### **Practice of Hope**

The transfiguration of Jesus reveals how a human being looks when completely transformed in the love of God. During the act of prayer, Jesus became luminous with God's presence.

- Prioritize time for daily prayer during Lent. Plan your calendar around prayer, set reminders with your phone. Building a new

*Continued on Page 12*

### Page 1 Article (continued)

prayer habit is a surefire way to grow in your relationship with God.

- Practice intercessory prayer. Carry with you a list of names of people and concerns for prayer, reviewing it daily as part of your Lenten prayer practice. Simply lifting the names and worries to God is enough; God knows what to do from there.
- The Church celebrates the Solemnity of St. Joseph on March 19. Four times Joseph listens to the messenger sent by God to guide his choices and each time he courageously responds with quiet, trusting obedience. Follow the example of Joseph by quieting your heart and listening to the voice of the Lord for direction in your own life.

### **Questions**

- What does it mean to you to enter into a covenant with another person? In what ways do you feel you are surrendering and giving yourself to God's will as Abraham did? How does worship lead us to depend upon God alone?
- How do we Christians look upon things of this world in light of our destiny as citizens of heaven? What could it mean when the Scripture says Christ will make our bodies according to the pattern of His glorified body?
- Why do you think the disciples fell asleep on this holy mountain and also in the garden at Gethsemane before Jesus was handed over? What are some things we can do to stay awake so that we will glimpse the glory of God?

### **Family Activities**

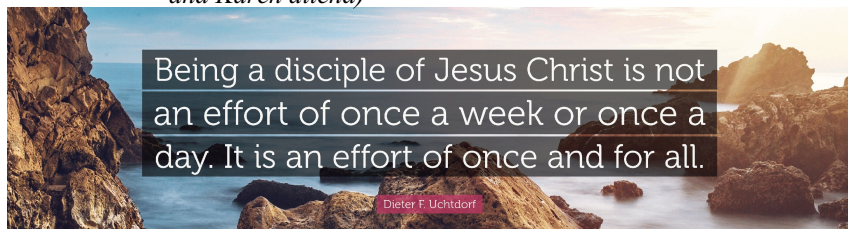
- Both Abraham and the apostles were frightened by their encounter with God. Imagine meeting the Lord. What might be unsettling about it? Now reflect on today's responsorial psalm (Psalm 27:1, 7-8, 8-9, 13-14).
- The transfiguration story gives us a glimpse into eternal life. Take time this week to reflect on the words of the Creed: "I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come."
- In the second reading, Paul warns against those whose "minds are occupied with earthly things." Especially during Lent, we try to occupy our minds with spiritual things. It's a good time to do some spiritual reading. Pick out a book that will lift your faith and make that book your Lenten reading.



## COMING EVENTS

### MARCH 2025

- Mon. Mar. 24** - *HTC Lenten Penitential Liturgy & Absolution* - 6:00 PM  
2026 PNCC General Synod preparation committee Zoom meeting - 7:00 PM
- Tue. Mar. 25** - Moms in Prayer meets in the rectory - 7:30 AM  
PNCC Bishops' Bi-weekly Zoom meeting - 1:00 PM  
Eastern Diocese Mission & Evangelism Commission Zoom meeting - 7:00 PM
- Wed. Mar. 26** - Eastern Diocese Faithful Join in Prayer: for our parish, diocese and general church - 12:00 PM  
*Gorzkie Zale / Bitter Lamentations 1* - 6:00 PM  
Parish Choir Rehearsal - 6:30 PM
- Thu. Mar. 27** - Parishioners Pray for the Parish Family craft room - 11:30 AM
- Fri. Mar. 28** - *Stations of the Cross* - 6:00 PM
- Sat. Mar. 29** - Southwest Seniorate Lenten Retreat - Holy Trinity Parish, Plantsville, CT - 10:00 AM - 1:30 PM - *(Bishop Paul attends)*
- Sun. Mar. 30** - **FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**  
*Holy Mass with the Anointing of the Sick* - 9:00 AM  
Cake & Coffee Reception (auditorium) - 10:15 AM
- Mon. Mar. 31 - Wed. April 2** - National Mission & Evangelism Commission Meeting - National Church Center - Scranton, PA - *(Bishop Paul and Karen attend)*



### The Art and Heart of Forgiveness

Forgiveness is not a feeling. It is a decision, an act of the will, a resolution, a firm choice to free ourselves from the continued influence and control of the adversary. As we deliberately and intentionally walk the footpath beyond the ego's injury, we find ourselves being blessed with spiritual maturity: Wounds are often the womb of wisdom. Because forgiveness is a process and our hearts are finicky, we might be tempted to revisit the scene of the crime and throw another log on the fires of fury. When that occurs, we remind ourselves that we have made the rational decision to pardon and get on with life. We recommit to the decision. With every recommitment to forgiveness, we take another step forward in the footsteps of the Lord and Divine Master and becoming his instrument. We pray to be instruments of peace in the Peace Prayer. That transformation occurs as we serve the Lord and Divine Master and train our souls in forgiveness. When we commit and recommit to the process of sowing pardon amid an injury, we witness to the gratuity of grace that moves us from selfishness to selflessness.

— from the book *Soul Training with the Peace Prayer of Saint Francis*  
by Albert Haase, OFM

March 2025 - Join us in prayer each Wednesday at noon:



Let us pray for those who do not believe in God. May they receive the gift of faith that they may come to believe in One God, the Father, the Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

Almighty and Eternal God, You created humanity in Your own image and likeness. Grant grace to those who do not believe in You, so that all might come to acknowledge You as the one true God and Father of us all. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

(From *A Book of Devotions and Prayers*, Polish National Catholic Church)

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name;  
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. Amen.



Eastern Diocese PNCC Mission and Evangelism Commission



**The Transfiguration** is one of the most quintessential mountaintop experiences in scripture: a glimpse of divine glory, a word from God, and an experience that changes all who are present.

Recounted in all three Synoptic Gospels as well as in 2 Peter (1:16–18), the Transfiguration is one of the most well-attested events in Jesus' life. Greek Orthodox tradition calls it the Metamorphosis due to the Greek word for "transfigured" in Matthew and Mark (metamorphōthē). In the Gospels, the story always appears after Jesus' first passion prediction, as the focus of ministry shifts toward Jerusalem.

Prayer is the context in which the event happens. They ascend the mountain to pray, and it is as "he was praying" that the Transfiguration took place (Luke 9:28–29). This is one of many instances in Luke-Acts where prayer sets the stage for major events, decisions, and ministry moments (Luke 3:21–22; 6:12; 11:1; 22:39–46; Acts 1:14; 4:31; 13:2–3).

Further, Luke describes the content of conversation among Jesus, Moses, and Elijah: they "were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem" (Luke 9:31). The word for "departure" (exodos) is directly associated in biblical tradition with the great liberation from Egypt, the greatest salvation story in the Hebrew Bible. This characterizes Jesus' death, resurrection, and ascension—events soon to happen in Jerusalem—as a New Exodus within the larger story of God's saving purpose.

Finally, Luke describes further the disciples' experience. As the event happens, they are "weighed down with sleep" (9:32). Just as Luke attributes their sleep in the Garden of Gethsemane to "grief" (22:45–46), here the disciples' dull senses are made more understandable. Luke adds that they "saw his glory" and were "terrified as they entered the cloud" (9:32, 34). These descriptors draw attention to the disciples' experience of a divine encounter. Within Luke-Acts, such eyewitness experiences enhance the disciples' credentials to serve later as Jesus' witnesses (Luke 24:48; Acts 1:21–22; 3:15; 4:20; 10:39).

Moses and Elijah are two of the most famous leaders from Israel's history. They both saw God's glory, had revelatory mountaintop experiences, came to the end of their lives at God's bidding, and came to be associated with traditions that they never died (Deuteronomy 34:1–5; 1 Kings 2:11). Even more, in biblical tradition they may represent the Law (Moses) and the Prophets (Elijah), which at this time formed the two cornerstones of Israel's scripture (Luke 16:16, 29; Acts 13:15; 24:14; 28:23–24; see also Luke 24:44). The presence of Moses and Elijah at the Transfiguration clearly affirms Jesus' ministry as consonant with their legacies and fulfilling the purpose they shared....

The Transfiguration story raises more questions than it answers. It is more mysterious than explained. The event is profound yet cryptic, spontaneous yet connected to other events, and transformative yet changing little about pressing challenges. Like many spiritual mountaintop experiences, it offers a glimpse of the divine that alters perspective more than circumstances. Along with Jesus' disciples, we are called not to understand everything, but to "listen to him!"—and eventually to bear witness to what we have seen and heard.



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