

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

AUGUST 6TH, 2017

God is eager to share His glory with us. We get a glimpse of this today when three of the disciples are invited to come and pray alone and apart with Jesus. Unexpectedly, they find themselves witnesses in a direct encounter with divinity. Jesus led His friends to a mountaintop. He often went to lonely places to pray, to seek solitude and sanctuary from the crowds. But on this occasion, he brought three friends and permitted them to experience this moment of disclosure of the Blessed Trinity, this moment of revelation of the way He was the fulfillment of the law of Moses and the wisdom of Elijah and the other prophets.

During Mass, after the most sacred moment, the priest intones the words: "The mystery of faith." Jesus Christ, in all of His humanity, in all of His divinity, is present on the altar. Every Sunday, every day, it is possible for us to be on the mountaintop. While we never understand fully the "whole of I," like Peter, James, and John, we are present at a mysterious event. They saw the face and clothes of Jesus turn dazzling with light. They breathed in the surrounding cloud of divinity, the Holy Spirit. They heard the voice of the Father proclaim: "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to Him!"

The Transfiguration brought the apostles "face to face" with God at a turning point in the ministry of Jesus. Up until a short time before this disclosure of His divine glory, Jesus had been enjoying an upward trajectory of popularity. The disciples were satisfied. Through preaching and miracle working, Jesus had become a celebrity. Suddenly, there was a change in acceptance. The Pharisees and Scribes were openly hostile. At the same time, Jesus began to insist that he had to go to Jerusalem to suffer.

Jesus is like us in all things except sin. He knew fear and anger, abandonment and betrayal. He had been insulted and misunderstood. Because Jesus could sense His impending suffering and death, He needed to come to the Father and listen without reservation.

Those who seek God in prayer are never disappointed. God gives courage, strength, and hope. Coming in contact with the divine promotes personal transfiguration. If we take time to ascend with Jesus in prayer, he will be with us, when we descend back into our lives.

Mountaintop experiences are powerful and revealing. Mass is our "mountaintop" experience. Sometimes, it is like Tabor. We don't want to leave. Some weeks, it is like Gethsemane, we don't want to stay. Whichever it is, like Peter, we can be sure, "Lord, it is good for us to be here." The Mass ends, we descend to the valley below, pick up our cross and face the trials of the week.

FATHER RICARDO



From Father Ricardo's Desk:

I AM GRATEFUL !!

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE MAINTENANCE COLLECTION WHICH INSURES OUR ABILITY TO ATTEND TO SIGNIFICANT REPAIRS OF OUR BUILDINGS. MY FRIENDS, YOU ARE CALLED UPON SO OFTEN TO SUPPORT OUR PARISH AND OTHER WORTHY CAUSES, AND YOU NEVER FAIL TO PROVIDE YOUR INVALUABLE SUPPORT.

PLEASE KNOW OF MY PRAYERS FOR YOU AND THOSE WHOM YOU LOVE, ESPECIALLY AT MASS. GOD GIVE YOU EVERY GOOD GIFT OF PEACE AND JOY.

C.C.D.

The Religious Education Office is closed for the summer. Mrs. Mary Jo Bancroft, Co-coordinator, will resume office hours on Tuesday, August 15th in preparation for the new school year. Parents are reminded that registration forms may be obtained in the vestibule of the church and at the parish office.

R.C.I.A

Our Adult Program for the preparation of the Sacraments (RCIA) is open. Please contact our parish office, or Father Ricardo directly.

A REMINDER

The Bishop's Annual Appeal gives us the opportunity to respond to the imperative to love our neighbors, with emphasis on those in greatest need. Catholic Charities, seminaries, Nazareth Village for Retired Priests, and inner-city schools are the principle beneficiaries of this campaign. We are asked to complete our pledges to enable these works of service to continue.

MARIAN PILGRIMAGE

The final sign-up for the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Washington is scheduled for September. The full-day trip on Saturday, October 21st, includes Mass, devotional prayers, Catechetical Presentations, and the opportunity for Reconciliation. Please mark your calendar for this important spiritual day. For further information please contact Jean or Roger Grey at 973-764-8843.

ROSARY SOCIETY

Next Sunday, August 13th, the Rosary Society is sponsoring a trip to the Shrine of the Blue Army. Anyone interested in attending, please contact Loretta Lagala. Participants will be leaving at 8:00am. The cost is \$20.

POSITION AVAILABLE

St. Catherine of Bologna Parish in Ringwood, NJ is seeking candidates for the position of Director of Music Ministry. Please call (973) 962- 7032, Ext. 7.

MISSION APPEAL

On the weekend of August 12-13th, Fr. Anthony Bernas, a priest of the Archdiocese of Capiz in Panay in Visayas (Philippines) will be preaching at all the Masses and conducting a Mission Appeal here in our parish. Father Anthony is seeking help to provide a residence and care for old and sickly priests.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS
SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH. GOD BLESS YOU**

JULY 30TH

1ST Collection: \$ 3,998.00
2nd Collection: Maintenance \$ 1,272.00

The next Maintenance Collection will be August 26th and 27th. Your support is greatly appreciated.

This Week's Events:

Sun. 2:30pm - Baptism
Tue. 6:30pm - Community Rosary
7:00pm - Holy Hour
7:00pm - Rosary Society Church then Hall
Thur. 10:00am - Legion of Mary - hall
6:30pm - Legion of Mary - chapel

A SPECIAL NOTE:

**Please out of respect for the Holy Eucharist
and the Sacrifice of the Mass turn all
cellphones off. Thank you.**

**The Gifts of Bread and Wine for this week are
offered for the Special Intentions of
Bridie Talt**

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY AUGUST 6

8:00am +Margaret and Richard Murphy, Cathy Dignan
req. by Family
9:30am +Rick Ridings req. by Pat and Paul Corbutt
11:00am +Austin and Rita Morton req. by Family
1:00pm Polish Mass

MONDAY AUGUST 7

8:45am +Louis Claudio req. by John and Elaine Miranda

TUESDAY AUGUST 8

8:45am +Richard Carmody. by Gail and Brian Morton

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 9

8:45am +Frank Nisch req. by Family

THURSDAY AUGUST 10

8:45am +Joan Bono req. by Family

FRIDAY AUGUST 11

8:45am +James Miranda req. by Elaine and John Miranda

SATURDAY AUGUST 12

8:45am +Nicholas Chciuk req. by Family
5:00pm +Colette Brooks req. by Laura and Stephen
Lapitka

SUNDAY AUGUST 13

8:00am Intentions of Gail Brehne req. by Doris Messler
9:30am +Maureen O'Conner req. by Cathy and Jerry
Calcagno
11:00am +David and Theresa Conroy req. by Family
1:00pm Spanish Mass

PLEASE REMEMBER AND PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

*Aidan Alvarez, Scott Anderson, Baby Grace Andrews
John Apgar, Artie, Ray Bonomini, Maddy Brancato, Tina
Brightly, Janet Brunke, Rose Bruno, Roberta Busch, Jerry
Calcagno, Jerzey Chciuk, Carolina Chmarney, Louis
Cimaglia, Teresa Contento, Aibhlinn Coyle, Elizabeth
Copeland, Patricia and Paul Corbutt, Doug Crum, Joan
Dahl, Nathanael Davenport, Jean Marie Day, Alice
DeLorenzo, Courtney Dignan, Eileen Donahue, Katie
Drago, Bonnie Dubovich, Roseann Dundon, Jim Ecker,
Barbara Etzel, Eva Ferlauto, Debbie Fuentes, Kay Gallo,
John Gonzalez, Florence Guilfoyle, Barbara Hellwig,
Christopher Hoehl, Jean Jones, Julianna Klinger, Carly
Kosen, Emily Lewis, Brian Linke, Henry Mancuso, Rose
Martis, Fran and Larry Marsh, James McAlary, Pat
McDermott, Kathy Nestico, Jennifer Oldham, Janis
O'Neill, Theresa and John Orso, Joan Quest, Maura
Reagan, Mary Reynolds, Linda Ross, Ron Shelly, Lou Pra
Sisto, Kateri and Sam Sullivan, Father Patrick Sullivan,
Alexander Truong, Mary VanDyke, Pat and Jim Van
Gorder, Vincent and Debbie Ventriglia, Russy Wright,
Nick Zayatz*