

## From the Pastor's Desk



My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The readings for the Second Sunday of Lent includes themes of revelation of God's will upon mountains, the relationship between the Old and New Testament, and the true meaning of discipleship.

In First Reading from the book of Genesis, God tested Abraham asking him to sacrifice his only son, Isaac, on top of a mountain. This was difficult for him because Abraham had only one son and he loved him very much. When God witnessed Abraham's willingness to make the ultimate sacrifice to please God, His messenger told Abraham would be "blessed abundantly". God saved Isaac. In the Gospel, the disciples, Peter, James and John, are witnesses to the Transfiguration of Jesus which also takes place on a Mountain, Mt. Tabor. The two experiences were different. For Abraham it was scary, but for Jesus and the disciples it was glorious.

The setting of a mountain is symbolic and alerts us that something significant is happening. Moses went up a mountain to get the Ten Commandments; Jesus gave the Sermon on the Mount; and Jesus climbs the mountain of Calvary. In this week's Gospel we hear that on top of the mountain the disciples witness the Transfiguration and revelation of Jesus' true mission. During the Transfiguration we see Jesus with Elijah and Moses. They are Old Testament figures representing the Law and the Prophets. The event of the Transfiguration demonstrates that Jesus and the Gospels are in fulfillment of Old Testament promises. This is important to us as Christians, because Jesus Christ is the "lens" which gives the Old Testament readings their very meaning.

This Sunday's Gospel also give us a chance to think about what it means to follow Jesus. Peter in the moment of revelation wants to build three tents right there on the mountain to memorialize the glory that he has just beheld. He wants to prolong the experience. He believes that what he has seen is the final destination of faith and discipleship. He speaks because he is anxious and afraid to continue knowing the foretold suffering, betrayal, and death ahead. So, Peter makes his own interpretation of the situation. Instead of letting Jesus interpret it for him. That is when God speaks through a cloud clarifying that we should "Listen" to Jesus. In our lives, sometimes God puts us to the test, the temptation is great to hold on to the old way or take the easiest way. As they go down the mountain Jesus tells His disciples that following Him will not be easy. When things are glorious it is tempting to try to preserve the moment, but being a disciple means that we listen to Jesus and have faith even when we are afraid. As a disciple of Jesus, we should not just expect the regular trails of life, but expect to be challenged. He promises, however, the reward for following Him will be great.

As we continue through Lent, pause when you are tempted to speak in moments of anxiousness or fear. Listen to what God is asking of you in that moment.

Your Servant in Christ,  
Fr Khanh D. Nguyen, Pastor

## ❖ DAILY MASS TIMES & READINGS ❖

**Monday, February 26, St. Porphyry of Gaza,** Daniel 9:4b-10; Gosp Luke 6:36-38 - **Mass at 8:45 am**

**Tuesday, February 27, St. Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows,** Isaiah 1:10, 16-20; Gosp Matthew 23:1-12 - **no morning Mass**

**Wednesday, February 28, St. Romanus of Condat,** Jeremiah 18:18-20; Gosp Matthew 20:17-28 - **Masses at 8:45 am & 6:30 pm**

**Thursday, March 1, St. David of Wales,** Jeremiah 17:5-10; Gosp Luke 16:19-31 - **Mass at 8:45 am**

**Friday, March 2, St. Agnes of Bohemia,** Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Gosp Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46 - **Mass at 8:45 am**

**Saturday, March 3, St. Katharine Drexel,** Micah 7:14-15, 18-20; Gosp Luke 15:1-3, 11-32 - **Mass at 8:45 am**

**Sunday, March 4, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent,** Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Gosp Mark 9:2-10

**BE SURE TO SAVE THE MARCH CALENDAR INSERT IN THIS WEEK'S BULLETIN.**



**RICE BOWL** How can you work to improve the lives of others this Lent? How are we called to welcome the stranger in our midst? How can you support those, worldwide, who are forced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities? Visit [crsricebowl.org](http://crsricebowl.org) for more suggestions. Pick up a Family's Rice Bowl in the Church entrance.

**SOUP SUPPER SCHEDULE:** Wednesday, February 28 at 7 pm hosted by the Pastoral and Finance Councils. All donations will go to our Rice Bowl Collection.

**DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY TO ENRICH YOUR MARRIAGE** St. Matthew is hosting this year's North Seattle Marriage Enrichment Evenings on March 17, April 14 and May 5. Each evening will have a separate topic, so come to one, two or all three! More information and online registration @ <http://marriageenrichment.info/> or contact Mike & Maureen Sloane at [mscloane@comcast.net](mailto:mscloane@comcast.net)

**HANDYMAN NEEDED** We have many seniors in our parish who sometimes need help (for pay) with small projects-gutter/window cleaning, small repairs, etc. Please contact the Parish Office at 206-363-6767 if you are interested

**OUR LADY OF THE LAKE LENTEN MISSION** is on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, February 26, 27 & 28 from 7 - 9 pm. Soup Supper at 6 pm on Feb. 26th in Jubilee Hall. Contact their Parish Office at [parishadmin@ollseattle.org](mailto:parishadmin@ollseattle.org)

**Sacred Story - Week 21**

**Chose the time and place for your 15-minute prayer time.**

- ♦ Every day enter into your Sacred Story prayer at set times. Establishing the ritual is vital to your discipline of prayer.
- ♦ If you decided on one period, you are free at any time to switch to two, and vice versa. We are making a life habit our daily prayer.
- ♦ We spend no more/no less than 15 minute in each prayer session.

**Week 21**

- ♦ Creation- Presence-Memory is the meditation for our prayer periods this week.
- ♦ Review the wisdom and practice we learned in Week 16 for this week's practice, particularly the Preludes and Illuminative Graces

**Affirmation**

*"Sacred story leads to my freedom and authenticity but does not always make me feel happy."*

**Information**

- ♦ Sacred Story Gathering July 11 at 7 pm in the Parish lower level.
- ♦ If you wish to receive regular e-mail contact [marycross@aol.com](mailto:marycross@aol.com) and [msloane@comcast.net](mailto:msloane@comcast.net)
- ♦ If you wish to receive regular e-mail contact [marycross@aol.com](mailto:marycross@aol.com) and [msloane@comcast.net](mailto:msloane@comcast.net)

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** The Leptich Family is caring for Jane at home. She is in hospice care. 15-20 family members gather every night after work. Any help with the evening meal, ¾ times a week, would be very much appreciated. A casserole and salad would be more than adequate. To coordinate donations, please call Dan Leptich at 206-769-4253. Thank you so much for any help.

**SHORELINE CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP** for caregivers or family members of those with memory loss. A safe place for unpaid family caregivers, their family and friends meets the second Friday of each month from 10:30 am -12 noon at Trinity Presbyterian Church-Fellowship Hall, 1315 N 160<sup>th</sup>-Shoreline. Call 206-783-4189 for more information.

**NORTH SEATTLE CATHOLIC YOUTH.** ▶ "Lent Service Project" - We invite students to make this Lent special. One way to do that is by joining to make sandwiches for the homeless on Wednesdays at 6 pm at St. Catherine's Kitchens (in Victoria Hall). Also, mark your calendars for the Junior High Rally on March 10 a day designed to celebrate Catholic youth (in grades 6-9) Registration opened February 14. For more information on N Seattle Catholic Youth, please contact Kate Brown, Youth Ministry Director at [kate@nseattlecatholicyouth.org](mailto:kate@nseattlecatholicyouth.org) or 206-488-5970.

**St. Matthew School News**

**Karen Herlihy, Principal**, 206-362-2785 ext. 102, [kherlihy@stmattschool.org](mailto:kherlihy@stmattschool.org)

**Andy Hews, Administrative Assistant**, 206-362-2785, ext. 101, [ahews@stmattschool.org](mailto:ahews@stmattschool.org)

**"Excellence – Diversity – Community"**



**Monopoly Gala Auction - now pay by credit card! If you would like to buy raffle tickets or register and pay by credit card, we can help! Available after Mass and Fridays before and after school.**

Please attend the St. Matthew School Gala Auction on Saturday, March 3. The theme this year is Monopoly. Great vacations, experiences and items await. You can register online at <http://stmattschool.maestroweb.com/> or buy tickets during coffee hour. New this year! We will have a 50/50 raffle in addition to our Best of Live Raffle.

■ **50/50 Raffle** - You can win half the pot, up to \$10,000. Tickets are \$100 each and only 200 will be sold. Winning ticket will be drawn at the auction, but you do not need to be present to win. ■ **Best of Live Raffle** – Tickets are \$50 each and only 100 tickets will be sold. Winning ticket holder will be able to choose any Live Auction item. You do need to be present at the auction to win the Best of Live Raffle. Tickets are on sale after Sunday Masses when auction tickets are sold and at the auction. Or, contact Stacy Pretti at [spretti@stmattschool.org](mailto:spretti@stmattschool.org).

**Stations of the Cross** Please join students and staff to reflect on the Stations of the Cross during Lent each Tuesday at 8:30 am in the church.

**SAVE THE DATE.** The 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Rainbow Heritage Festival will be Saturday, May 19, from 12:30 – 4:30 pm. Join us for the next planning meeting on Tuesday, February 27, at 7 pm in the Community Center Conference Room.

**PROJECT RACHEL** Join us on a journey of emotional and spiritual healing from abortion. Vineyard Retreat March 9 to 11 at Seabeck; and April 20 to 22 at Stanwood. Contact Valerie at 1-800-922-4673. *Completely confidential.*

**FEBRUARY 18 COLLECTION**

	<u>Received</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Difference</u>
<b>BASKET</b>	\$ 5,165	↓	↓
<b>ONLINE</b>	\$ 700	↓	↓
<b>WEEKLY TOTAL</b>	\$ 5,865	10,050	<4,185>
<b>YTD</b>	\$334,084	\$338,150	<4,067>



Abraham was prepared to sacrifice his only son, Isaac. St. Paul reminds us that God Himself "did not spare His own Son." Are my gifts to the Lord---of my time, of myself---also sacrificial?