

*The Parish Family of*  
***Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church***

One Passaic Street, Ridgewood, New Jersey 07450  
www.olmcridgewood.com

**COME WORSHIP WITH US**

**WEEKENDS**

Saturday: 5:30pm

Sunday: 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am  
12:30pm, 3:00pm (Spanish) and 6:30pm

**WEEKDAYS**

6:30am, 8:30am and 12:00 noon

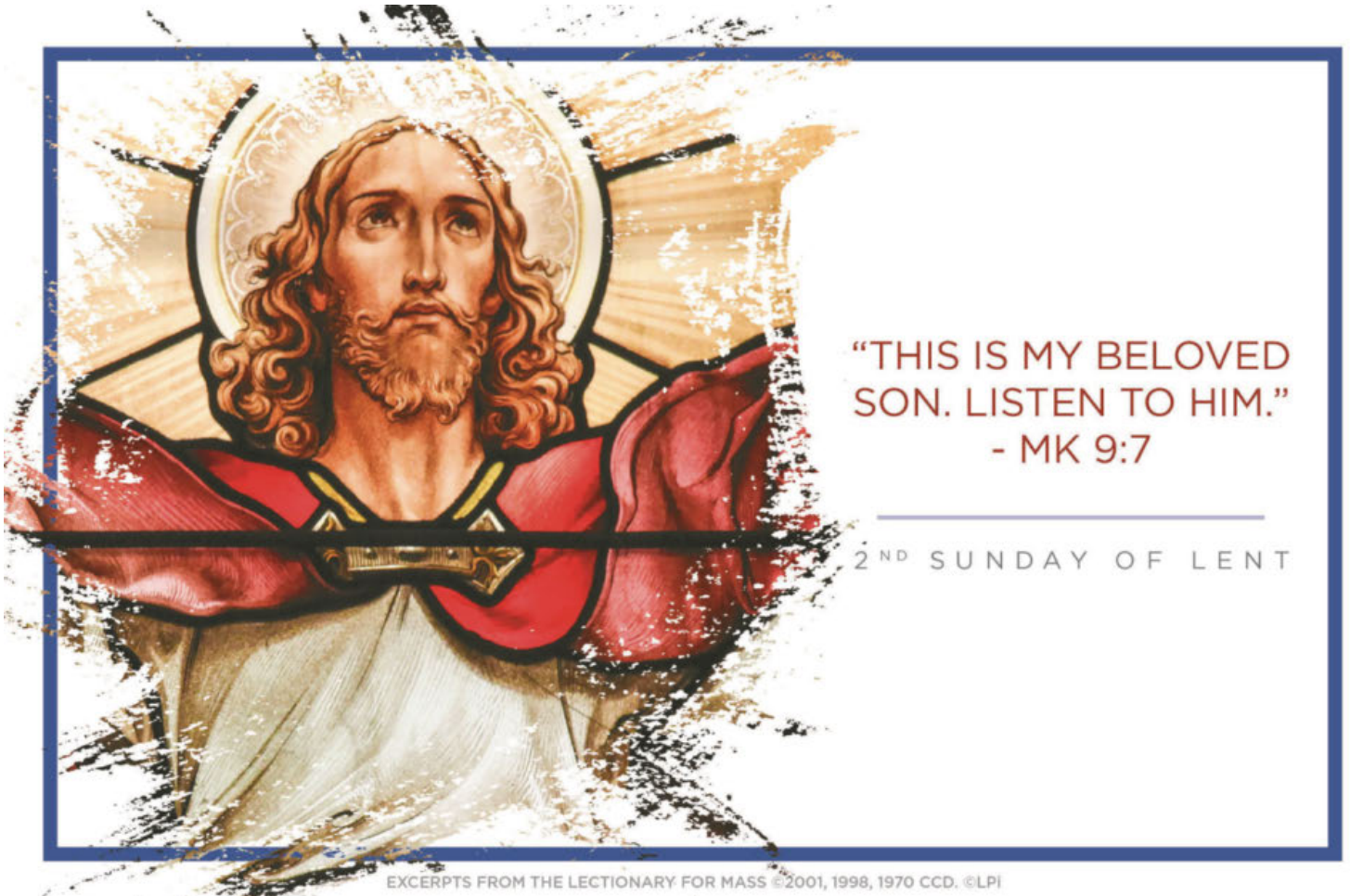
Saturdays: 8:30am

**HOLY DAYS**

Eve: 7:30pm (anticipated)

6:30am, 8:30am, and 12:00 noon

*Second Sunday of Lent ~ February 25, 2024*





**PARISH DIRECTORY**  
**www.olmcridgewood.com**

**Parish Office: 1 Passaic Street, Ridgewood, NJ 07450-4309**

**Phone: 201.444.2000 Fax: 201.444.2002**

**Parish Office Hours**

**Monday-Friday—9AM-8PM | Saturday-Sunday—9AM-2PM**

**SERVED BY**

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Rev. Stephen Toth, Valley Hospital Chaplain

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Ext. 403, nmckenna@olmcridgewood.com

Dear Friends,

We continue on our: Lenten journey. Today, our 1<sup>st</sup> Reading presents us with another covenant. Last week, it was the covenant with Noah, and the entire human race, not to destroy the world by flood (I wonder if those in California are questioning that promise). Today's covenant relationship is the one God established with Abraham and in a very special way it marks the beginning of God's self-revelation that will continue and find its completion in the revelation of Jesus Christ—Son of God. Back to Abraham—God has put Abraham to the test and Abraham has come through with flying colors. Today's excerpted passage marks the final test of Abraham's faith—the call to sacrifice his precious son. His willingness to sacrifice that son shows Abraham no longer attaches any condition to faith. God knows how devoted Abraham is to Him. For this, God has designated Abraham and his descendants as those people through whom He will bless the entire world. We know those people to be the Jewish people. Abraham is their “father in faith,” but he is ours as well, for from him has come Jesus, through whom God's blessings and grace will flow in abundance. And those people who believe in Him are now the new Chosen people—the new People of God.

Every 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent, the Gospel reading always relates the Temptation in the Desert. Whether from Matthew, Mark or Luke, the Gospels on that 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday call us to enter into the Lenten season facing Satan (*the adversary*), and all the temptations he throws at us, so that we may use this time as our own desert fast (like Jesus) to reject him and all his works (the baptismal promise we will renew on Easter Sunday) and live more faithfully the Christian calling that is ours.

In a similar fashion, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent always presents to us the account of the Transfiguration, Jesus' appearing in glory, accompanied by Moses and Elijah, before the three chosen disciples, Peter, James and John. (After today, the readings for the third, fourth and fifth Sundays of Lent will diverge from one common theme). While some will maintain that the account of the Transfiguration (which appears in all three Synoptic Gospels) is actually a post-resurrection experience, the author of 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter clearly presents it as happening during Jesus' lifetime. It comes at a moment when He had first told them that He would suffer and be put to death and after Jesus' rebuke of Peter for wanting it to be otherwise. It comes as an invitation to believe in Him even though the expectations which the disciples have of Him would not be fulfilled as they had hoped. It comes as an invitation directly from the Father—or maybe a warning—LISTEN TO HIM. At His baptism, Jesus alone hears the words that the Father is well pleased in Him; at the Transfiguration, the disciples hear the words spoken directly to them, not only is the Father well pleased in Jesus, they need to listen to what He is telling them.

Several elements in the account give us some clues as to why it always appears as the focus of reflection for this 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent. As stated, it follows the first prediction of the Passion, after which Peter “rebuked” Him, for which Peter received his own rebuke. The transfiguration of Jesus, itself, is both the “breaking through” of Who Jesus really is, the Son of God, (not the messiah as understood by Peter), and the foreshadowing of Who Jesus will be at His Resurrection. In

light of this transfiguration, Jesus is overshadowed by a cloud, the classic Old Testament sign of the Presence of God, and out of the cloud comes the Voice, “listen to Him,” something Peter was unwilling to do only a few days prior.

There is considerable significance in the placement of this Gospel on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent. We could ask ourselves, after only one week, how are things going? Have we faced the “adversary,” as Jesus did last week? Did we win or lose? Have we faced our sins, head-on and said no, or have we fallen already? (And this is not about our Lenten resolutions—they are only tools for the real contest—facing our sins). Whatever the state of our Lenten resolve, or of our Lenten struggle, this Gospel is offered to us as an encouragement, and a warning. It is an encouragement because it reminds us of the ultimate goal of our journey through Lent, and our journey through life—it is to reach the Kingdom, to be found in the company of Jesus as this earthly journey ends so that He may lead us into Paradise. We can never forget that as much as we are challenged to build the Kingdom here on earth, it is that Eternal Kingdom on which we must keep our focus, and keeping our focus on it should be the spur that harnesses our spiritual energy to be more faithful on our journey.

And the warning. The Voice makes it clear. The Father is pleased in the Son, in His readiness to walk the way of the Passion and in His willingness to offer Himself for us, and the Father’s willingness to accept that offering. And so the Father says, “Listen to Him.” To listen to Him is to take up the struggle against Evil, both in our personal lives and the life of the world. No true believer can fall before this challenge. The stakes are too high. Lent is the time to “listen to Him.” Better start now.

On the more mundane. Have you made a pledge/gift to the **Annual Appeal** yet? 198 families/households have already pledged, the most this early in the campaign. Thank you to all who are participating in the 2024 Appeal. As I mentioned in my words on **Appeal Sunday**, we do benefit from the campaign, besides the rebate which we receive when we go over goal. Funds from the Appeal help defray the costs of hospital chaplains, including those at Valley, Hackensack, Englewood and Holy Name. Funds support the Catholic chaplains at Montclair State, Ramapo, Fairleigh Dickenson and the other colleges in the Archdiocese. Even closer to home, the Office of Property Management assists us in every improvement project we do around the parish. Right now they are assisting us in the upgrading of the two boilers which heat the church and rectory, replacing the old (one is inoperative) cast iron boilers with two new high efficiency boilers which qualify for an energy grant from P.S.E.&G. So you see, the **Annual Appeal** funds programs and offices which directly touch our lives here at OLMC. Help the Archdiocese continue to provide what all the parishes need to carry on the work of the Gospel. Pledge today, either by using the materials which we mailed to every registered parishioner or go online, using the link on our homepage. Be sure to note our parish, Our Lady of Mount Carmel-Ridgewood, to be sure we get the credit for the donation. Thank you.

God bless,  
Fr. Ron

## ANNUAL<sup>2024</sup> APPEAL

Donate online: [www.rcan.org/sharing](http://www.rcan.org/sharing)

Make sure to select **Our Lady of Mt. Carmel—Ridgewood**  
From the drop-down menu

Checks (payable: 2024 Annual Appeal) may also be placed in the collection basket, in the boxes at the doors of the church, or mailed/dropped off at the rectory.

### STEWARDSHIP

“From the cloud a voice came, ‘This is my beloved Son. Listen to Him.’” Listening to Jesus is not just about the words He speaks, but about the way He lives His life. The Christian listens in words and in actions, building the Kingdom of God through both. The Christian Steward understands this and uses his/her gifts of **Time, Talent and Treasure** to “listen” to Jesus. Do you listen? Do you practice?

The parish Stewardship of Treasure last week was \$12,686. God bless your generosity in supporting the work of the Gospel. Why not make your Lenten “conversion” the use of on-line giving, **WeShare**, to support that work? You might like it.

**GET YOUR TICKETS NOW! DRAWINGS BEGIN MARCH 8<sup>TH</sup>!**

### ACADEMY OF OUR LADY CALENDAR RAFFLE

A winner every day through June 7<sup>th</sup>!  
92 Chances to Win!!! ~ \$9,800 in Prizes!!!

Contact Erin O’Halloran for Tickets  
[erinohalloran@rocketmail.com](mailto:erinohalloran@rocketmail.com), 917.621.7241

or stop by the OLMC Rectory Office  
Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm

Cash or Check—\$20/ticket



*You’re Invited to a*  
**CELEBRATION OF Hope**

**Thursday, March 14<sup>th</sup> 6PM-9PM**

**Liberty House ~ Liberty State Park, Jersey City**

York Street Project’s annual spring event will honor Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish and our OLMC MOMs Ministry this year for providing 35 years of partnership and care to the children and families of the York Street Project. Sponsorships for tables, individual tickets and E-Ads are available.

Contact Christine Kane Perez at:  
[ccperez@yorkstreetproject.org](mailto:ccperez@yorkstreetproject.org), 201.451.8225 x138



A recurring online gift to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel is the best way to sustain the mission of this parish all year long.



Look for the **WeShare** link on our homepage, scan this QR Code, or call 877.316.0260

## SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT



### 2024 Academy of Our Lady Lenten Dinner (Takeout)

**Friday, March 1, 2024**

**5:30pm PICK UP ONLY**

**Holmes Building  
Academy of Our Lady  
@ St. Catharine's, Glen Rock**

1. Lemon Sole Sandwich
2. Tuna Wrap, Lettuce/Tomato
3. Grilled Eggplant Wrap
4. All Veggie Wrap
5. Mozzarella Burrata Salad

All Options \$13/each  
Catered by La Strada, Midland Park

Proceeds benefit Academy of Our Lady. Preorder no later than Monday, February 26<sup>th</sup> at:

<https://payit.nelnet.net/form/phbLvBZnaddpaylink>

Questions? Contact Jady, [jady.a.miller@outlook.com](mailto:jady.a.miller@outlook.com)



### RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS

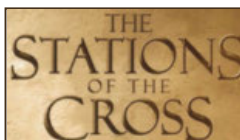
On Saturday, February 17, 2024, Cardinal Joseph Tobin celebrated the RCIA Rite of the Call to Continuing Conversion at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in the Archdiocese of Newark. It is a rite to encourage the baptized candidates in their catechesis of the Catholic Church and conversions to receive the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist during Easter.

The 2024 OLMC baptized candidates are: Ava Brett, Thomas Connors, Micaela Loa, Stephanie McConville, Wendoly Mora, Frank Ortiz, and Jackeline Ponce. Four of them are to receive Confirmation only and three are to receive both Confirmation and Eucharist. The Mass celebration will be at OLMC on the Second Sunday of Easter on April 7, 2024.

On Sunday, February 25, 2024, 11:00 AM Mass, Fr. Ron will celebrate the RCIA Rite of Acceptance. It is the rite that officially welcomes a non-baptized inquirer into the journey of the catechumenate. The catechumen is to receive the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist on the Easter Vigil. The parish has two catechumens, Dariann (Dee) Zorilla and Peter Choe. By God's graces, they will be fully initiated into the Catholic Church on Saturday, April 19, 2025, at the Easter Vigil.

The OLMC RCIA team has been accompanying these candidates and catechumens throughout the year to provide spiritual guidance and to enlighten them about the Catholic faith.

All parishioners are invited to please pray for and encourage these candidates and catechumens.



Stations of the Cross will be prayed  
every Friday during Lent, immediately  
following the 12NN daily Mass.  
All are welcome!

### SYNOD LISTENING SESSIONS

The Secretariat for the Synod of Bishops has asked local dioceses to hold further listening sessions in preparation for this October's Assembly in Rome. To fulfill this request, the Archdiocese will host several sessions for priests, the Spanish-speaking community, and the general public at various locations throughout February and March. The purpose of these sessions is to DEEPEN the conversation around ways to engage all the baptized in full participation in the mission of the Church. We will be using the synodal process of Conversation in the Spirit



**March 8, 2024—6:45PM-9:00PM**

St. John Paul II Youth Retreat Center  
Sacred Heart Center (under the church)  
499 Belgrove Drive, Kearny  
*Light Supper available at 6:15PM*

**March 14, 2024—6:45PM-9:00PM**

St. Helen, Westfield Parish Center  
1600 Rahway Avenue, Westfield  
*Light Supper available at 6:15PM*

**RSVP: <https://forms.gle/gjZgeZv1pjAzprAa7>**

**Please RSVP no later than Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>!**

Your registration will be confirmed and materials and reading assignments will be sent ahead of time. Reading and prayerful preparation is essential for this process of Conversation in the Spirit and discernment. We look forward to seeing you!

### WEDDING ANNIVERSARY LITURGIES TO BE CELEBRATED

**AT THE CATHEDRAL BASILICA OF THE SACRED HEART  
CELEBRANT: CARDINAL JOSEPH TOBIN, C.Ss.R**

We are excited to announce that we are preparing the annual tradition of honoring those couples in our Archdiocese who will be celebrating five, twenty-five and fifty years of valid marriage for the Catholic faithful in the year 2024.

**May 5, 2024 12:00 Noon 5 & 25 Years**

*Deadline to Register*

*Thursday, April 25, 2024*

**June 2, 2024 12:00 Noon 50 Years**

*Deadline to Register*

*Tuesday, May 21, 2024*



**To register contact Patti Roche  
[proche@olmcridgewood.com](mailto:proche@olmcridgewood.com), 201.444.2000 x200**

*Note: If your Silver or Gold Anniversary celebration was delayed due to COVID (or for any other reason) you may still join us this year. Certificates will still say "Silver" or "Gold" - not the actual current number of married years.*

**Knights of Columbus  
St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance  
Saturday, March 9, 2024**

Dinner! Dancing! Entertainment!  
See the bulletin flier for details!





**PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION  
(PEA)**

**CHAPEL IS OPEN 24/7  
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

**SCHEDULED ADORERS URGENTLY NEEDED**

Tuesdays: 2-3AM; Fridays: 2-3AM, 4-5AM

Contact Cynthia—551.574.1063, [cynthiabtorres@yahoo.com](mailto:cynthiabtorres@yahoo.com)

*Italian Apostolate of the Archdiocese of Newark presents...*  
**CABRINI**

**Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup> | 7PM | Hawthorne Theater  
300 Lafayette Avenue, Hawthorne**

The Italian Apostolate of Newark is sponsoring a premier showing of CABRINI. Tickets are \$20/each and includes admission, a Q&A session featuring a special guest, and a donation to the Apostolate. Tickets available at: [cabrini.ticketleap.com](http://cabrini.ticketleap.com). Come celebrate the life of this local saint, Mother Cabrini, and all she did for the Italian-American community and our area!

**Jesus & Me Story Time  
Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 10:30AM  
Parish Center Meeting Room**

Bring your child, grandchild or godchild to a fun, faith-filled story time for young children ages 2-1/2 to 5.

For more information contact Adriana DeCandia  
[thedomesticchurch61@gmail.com](mailto:thedomesticchurch61@gmail.com)

**Family Movie Night  
"Lion of Judah"**

**Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup> | 7PM | Parish Center  
(Enter on Passaic Street)**

Follow the adventures of a bold lamb and his stable friends in this heart-warming account of the Easter story as seen through the eyes of a lovable pig, a faint-hearted horse, a pedantic rat, a rambling rooster, a motherly cow and a downtrodden donkey.

Bring a blanket, sleeping bag or beach chair and make yourself comfy. PJ's welcome! Bring a water bottle. We'll supply the popcorn!

***First Saturday Devotion***

**THIS COMING SATURDAY—MARCH 2<sup>ND</sup>  
DAILY MASS CHAPEL  
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE 8:30AM MASS**

Everyone's invited to First Saturday Devotion for the intention of consoling and making reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Please come to pray the rosary with us and meditate on the mysteries as Our Lady requested at Fatima.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS SERVING IN THE MILITARY:**

Timothy Bombace, Aedan Cannon, Edgar Delgado,  
Durkin McCarthy, John Morano,  
James Nardelli, Robert Smith

**THE WEEK AHEAD**

|               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sun. Feb. 25  | 12:00NN PEA Communion Breakfast (PC)<br>1:00PM Bell Choir Rehearsal (PCB)<br>1:30PM RCIA (MR)<br>2:15PM CYO Basketball (Gym)<br>4:00PM Spanish Apostolate (PCA)<br>4:30PM Spanish>English Class (Library)<br>5:00PM Jr. High 8C (MR)<br>7:30PM Jr. High 8D (MR)                          |
| Mon. Feb. 26  | 5:00PM Summer Heatt Basketball (Gym)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Tue. Feb. 27  | 9:00AM MOMs Grace Within (SMR)<br>9:30AM Rel. Ed Parent Makeup Mtg (REC1)<br>4:00PM Religious Education (Gym)<br>5:00PM CYO Basketball (Gym)<br>5:00PM Choir Rehearsal (Church)<br>7:00PM ChristLife (PC)<br>7:00PM Rel. Ed Parent Makeup Mtg (REC1)<br>7:30PM Neocatechumenal Way (NCW) |
| Wed. Feb. 28  | 3:45PM Jr. High Grade 8 Makeup (PC)<br>4:00PM First Eucharist Preparation (Church)<br>5:00PM CYO Basketball (Gym)<br>7:00PM First Eucharist Preparation (Church)<br>7:00PM Spanish Choir Rehearsal (Church)<br>7:30PM Neocatechumenal Way (NCW)                                          |
| Thur. Feb. 29 | 10:30AM Sunday Scripture Reflection (SMR)<br>5:00PM CYO Basketball (Gym)<br>6:00PM NCW-3 (NCW-A)<br>8:00PM Pre-Cana (NCW-A)                                                                                                                                                              |
| Fri. Mar. 1   | 9:30AM MOMs SALT (SMR)<br>5:00PM CYO Basketball (Gym)<br>7:00PM Inspire: Young Adult Ministry (NCW)                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Sat. Mar. 2   | 8:30AM Men's Basketball (Gym)<br>9:00AM AoOL Girls Basketball (Gym)<br>10:15AM First Communion Retreat (Church)<br>12:00PM CYO Basketball (Gym)<br>6:00PM Neocatechumenal Way (NCW)                                                                                                      |

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE ILL MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH**

Joan Donegan Alsa, Gilbert Badillo, Frederick Bruno, Mike Bucci, Art Carpenter, Kimberly Parsons Daub, Maura Gillen Eidschun, Marie Evans, Kay & Bill Forster, Joan D'Gerolamo, Kenneth Gershbert, Frank Gillen, Susan Hart-White, Patricia Haug, Joseph Hyon, Marc Johnson, Tom Keleher, Claudia LaFrance, Joseph Letiza, Anna Lobascio, Joel Lustberg, Cambell McArthur, Margaret Peak, Cathy Ricciuto, Francis Tedaro Ristor, Michael Runz, Don Strittmatter, Larry Switaj, Nickolas John Tedaro, Dennis Tomala, Walter John Zelop, Jr.

Parishioners may call the Rectory with the name of a family member who is sick to have them included in our prayers.

***All are Welcome!***

**Join us for Morning Prayer Monday-Friday—6:00AM  
Lower Level of the School Building**

*Enter through the rear door.*

## SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT



### TODAY'S READINGS

#### 1. Genesis 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18

In desperate situations, when it appears that nothing else would appease their gods, Israel's neighbors resorted to human sacrifice, especially of the firstborn, who was deemed a precious gift. While leaving the reader unsettled, this narrative is offered against that backdrop, as a sign of Abraham's faith. Abraham has shed any of the distrust that marked his earlier relationship with God. His words and actions, even to the edge of this sacrifice of his son, Isaac, shows he no longer attaches any conditions to his faith. God now knows how devoted to Him he is.

#### 2. Romans 8:31-34

From the moment Paul met and believed in the Risen Jesus, all that he did and said was inspired by that relationship. In this short excerpt, Paul's words reveal the strength he drew from that relationship. That strength of relationship brings to mind the willingness of Abraham to sacrifice his own son. While Isaac was spared, Jesus' sacrifice transforms sinners and no opposition or suffering should lead to feelings of abandonment. Jesus continues to intercede for all who believe so that one day they may share His joy.

#### 3. Mark 9:2-10

The primary purpose of the transfiguration is to reveal the true divine identity of Jesus. Beyond that, the details are open to interpretation. The location on the mountain may refer to the traditional place of a theophany. The presence of Moses and Elijah may refer to the fullness of revelation (the Law and the Prophets) giving witness to Jesus. The voice of God fully endorses the revelation. The three tents may refer to a human desire to extend this extraordinary event, or to the Old Testament Feast of Tabernacles, which commemorated the receiving of The Law. But the lesson remains central—Jesus' intimate contact with God is allowed to shine through and forth.

### REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK

1. Have I ever had to sacrifice something dear to me for a greater good? For a person I love? My family? What was it?
2. Do I respond to God's call as readily and as freely as Abraham?
3. In following that call, did I ever come to realize that it would involve some sharing in the cross? Did I still respond? Did I experience God's strength in this unfolding of His will?

### NEXT WEEKEND'S PRESIDERS

(always subject to change)

|          |         |           |
|----------|---------|-----------|
| Sat. 3/2 | 5:30PM  | Fr. Frank |
| Sun. 3/3 | 8:00AM  | Fr. Ron   |
|          | 9:30AM  | Fr. Ron   |
|          | 11:00AM | Fr. Jakov |
|          | 12:30PM | Fr. Jakov |
|          | 3:00PM  | Fr. Lynx  |
|          | 6:30PM  | Fr. Frank |

Late changes appear on the website after 12:00NN on the Saturday of that weekend.

#### Monday, Feb. 26

- + 6:30AM John Mojjis  
req Kevin & Linda Brophy
- + 8:30AM Ken Berlinghieri  
req John & Blanche Carabuena
- +12:00NN Patricia Engel  
req Richard Engel & Family

#### Tuesday, Feb. 27 *Saint Gregory of Narek, Abbot and Doctor of the Church*

- + 6:30AM Marie Idone  
req Myles Campbell & Family
- + 8:30AM Christopher Sullivan  
req Ellen & Phil Dowling
- +12:00NN Christine Huf  
req Louise Critelli

#### Wednesday, Feb. 28

- + 6:30AM Helen & Russell Forenza  
req Russ & Carole Forenza
- + 8:30AM Ellin Carroll  
req Rose Sullivan
- +12:00NN Ed Mullane  
req Ann & Bill Leahy

#### Thursday, Feb. 29

- + 6:30AM Ivan Tarabokija  
req Mary & Al Tarabocchia
- + 8:30AM Lucy Caceres  
req The McClure Family
- +12:00NN Moya McCabe  
req Her Grandparents

#### Friday, Mar. 1 *World Day of Prayer*

- + 6:30AM Anne Bolduc  
req The Bolduc Family
- + 8:30AM Maureen Lawless  
req Tara Miller-Jones
- +12:00NN Vincent Chester  
req Rosemarie Chester

#### Saturday, Mar. 2

- + 8:30AM Andrea Schroen Bernstein  
req The Schroen Family
- + 5:30PM Kathy Gresco  
req The Hunt & Murphy Families

#### Sunday, Mar. 3 *Third Sunday of Lent*

- + 8:00AM Jean & Giuseppe Tasca  
req The Tasca Family
- + 9:30AM Raymond John DeLeon  
req The Gallo Family
- +11:00AM Alfred & Theresa McKee  
req Margaret & Rory Phalen
- 12:30PM For the People of the Parish
- + 3:00PM Miguel Angel Burgos  
req Candida Burgos
- + 6:30PM Anne Warner  
req Ann & Jerry Schott

**THURSDAY EVENING ROSARY  
OUR LADY'S CHAPEL—7:30PM  
ALL ARE WELCOME!**



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an Affordable Price*  
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SUN 8AM-6PM



**Charles J. Perruzzi, DMD**  
**Joshua B. Austein, DMD**  
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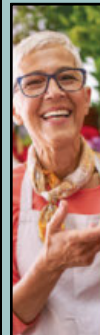
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