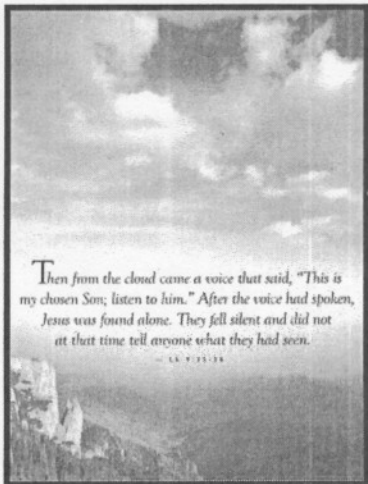


SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

FEBRUARY 28 2010



Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my chosen Son; listen to him." After the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. They fell silent and did not at that time tell anyone what they had seen.

Ten days into Lent, and we can't wait for Easter. Maybe it's that we haven't gotten used to the fasting yet. Or maybe it's that we haven't been as good at the extra prayer we promised ourselves that we would do. Even the church recognizes that we need a little boost to move us along. That's why

we hear the Gospel of the Transfiguration on this Second Sunday of Lent. It is just a little foretaste, an appetizer, of what Easter is to be. For those of us who are already baptized, and for those who are preparing for baptism, the image of the glorified Christ stands as a beacon of what we are to become when we share in the fullness of the Resurrection.

Paul writes to the Philippians that Christ "will change our lowly body to conform to his glorified body." That is the hope that is held out to us as we progress through Lent. In this season we unite ourselves to Christ so that we may become more like him.

But we abandon this world, looking for some far-off promise of glory. Our almsgiving, our care for the poor, is a reflection of Christ's love for everyone. When we reach out a little more this Lent (often made possible because we've decided to give something up, and so have extra available to give away) we act like Jesus, who gave up his life for us. His suffering and death on the cross found fulfillment in his resurrection from the dead.

When we care for others through our own sacrifice, we are helping to transfigure their lives, letting a little bit of God's glory be seen through our transforming love. The Transfiguration reminds us what awaits us after our own suffering if we are faithful to the commands of Christ.

As we begin this next week of Lent, there continues to be many activities and responsibilities that continue to draw us in many directions. Once again in my own life I have the interior struggle of wanting to be "a Mary" when being "a Martha" is so much easier.

God continues to beckon each of us to step aside for a few moments and rest at His feet. The great struggle for all of us continues to be trying to balance all of life to include that "extra" time for prayer. One of my favorite spiritual authors, Sister Joyce Rupp, states:

"Prayer is not a competition, not an experience of winning or of accumulating good feelings and great insights. Prayer is about "showing up" with an open mind and heart, being willing and ready to grow and change."

A huge thank you to Tom Zullo, a member of the Parish Finance Council who spoke to all of us regarding Parish Share at all masses this past weekend. By now you should have received your pledge card. I thank you for all you do to support St. Bart's and all of our activities and I just ask that you be as generous as possible, which you always are.

WEEKLY OFFERTORY COLLECTION

WEEK OF 2-21-10 — \$8,222.11
Budgeted Collection Amount
\$8,100.00

Thank you for your sacrificial offering to your parish.

Have a Blessed Week.
Sister Dorothy



SCHOOL NEWS

PTG Fish Fry

Fish Fry will be held every Friday in Lent, except Good Friday, from 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm. We would love you to join us for dinner. All menu items are available for eat-in or take out. All proceeds benefit our students. Please remember that all workers are volunteers.

Open House

Please join us on Monday, March 1st for an Open House from 9:30 am to 11:30 am. During this time we will showcase our school and its accomplishments. If you are considering our school, please contact the school office to attend our Open House at 412-242-2511.

PTG Meeting

Our PTG will have their monthly meeting in the school library on Tuesday, March 2nd. The meeting will begin at 6:30 pm. All are welcome to attend.

Mass

Please join Mrs. Heid and our 7th graders for mass on Thursday, March 4th at 10 am. Our students have worked very hard to prepare for this mass.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

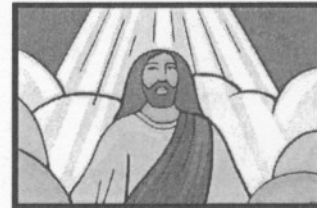
Mt. Hope Community Presbyterian Church will be hosting the 2010 World Day of Prayer for Cameroon. All are invited to the service in the main sanctuary on Friday, March 5th at 11 am. A light fellowship will follow.

HOLY HOUR

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

As a pastoral staff, we have decided to change the day and time for our weekly parish holy hour. Beginning this weekend we will have exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Saturday afternoon from 4-4:45 PM. When Fr. Tom is finished with confessions promptly at 4:45 he will have benediction and reposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

Since this is a time of prayer, we ask everyone coming into church during this time to respect the solemnity of this space. This would include refraining from using cell phones in the main body of the church. If you must make a call, please do so in the vestibule or outside. Also, I encourage you to come early and spend some time before the Lord in prayer and contemplation.



CLUSTER LENTEN SCHEDULE

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

- Friday, 2-26-10 — St. Bart's — 7 PM
- Friday, 3-5-10 — St. Gerard's — 7 PM
- Friday, 3-12-10 — St. Irenaeus — 7 PM
- Friday, 3-19-10 — St. Joe's — 7 PM
- Friday, 3-26-10 — St. Susanna's — 7 PM

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE'S

- Thursday, 3-18-10 — St. Joe's — 7 PM
- Monday, 3-22-10 — St. Gerard's — 7 PM
- Tuesday, 3-23-10 — St. Bart's — 7 PM
- Wednesday, 3-24-10 — St. Susanna's — 7:30 PM
(they will have mass at 7 PM)
- Thursday, 3-25-10 — St. Irenaeus — 7 PM

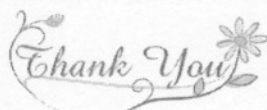
MEN'S RETREAT



This years Men's annual retreat will be held at St. Paul's Retreat Center on the Southside of Pittsburgh, March 19-21. This is a great way to prepare for Easter during this Lenten retreat. Sign up sheets are in the vestibule of the church. Carpooling is available.

GOLDEN AGERS

The Golden Agers will hold their next meeting on Friday March 5, at 1:30 PM in Helzlsour Hall. New members are al-



I would like to thank everyone at St. Bartholomew's for the kindness shown to me during my time here.

The past four and a half years have been a time of joy and spiritual enrichment.

Your acceptance has made the time fly by. Be assured of my prayers for you as I follow where the Lord leads.

God bless you always.

Mary Ellen Lang

2nd SUNDAY OF LENT

ways wel-



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, March 1, Lenten Weekday

10:00 AM Florence Spurrier
(Pete & Sis Schepes)

TUESDAY, March 2, Lenten Weekday

8:00 AM St. Irenaeus
9:00 AM St. Gerard Majella, St. Susanna

WEDNESDAY, March 3, Saint Katherine Drexel

8:00 AM St. Irenaeus
9:00 AM St. Gerard Majella, St. Susanna
1:30 PM Quest Bible Study

THURSDAY, March 4, Saint Casimir

10:00 PM James Gregg (Dorothy Cairns)
6:30 PM Quest Bible Study

FRIDAY, March 5, Lenten Weekday

10:00 Robert Unetich (Gil & Ann Ruffing)
2:00 PM Stations—St. Bart's
7:00 PM Stations—St. Gerard's

SATURDAY, March 6, VIGIL, THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

3:45 PM Holy Hour
4:00 PM Confessions
5:00 PM People of the Parish

SUNDAY, March 7, THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

8:00 AM Ann Colaizzi (Son & Family)
10:30 AM Patricia Gallagher
(Granddaughters Sarah, Gretchen & Gracie)

Please remember in your prayers the sick, shut-ins, and hospitalized members of our Parish, and for Carole DiGioia, Lisa Sipper, and William Sipper who were buried from St. Bartholomew's this past week.