

ST. CALLISTUS CHURCH

Mass Schedule:

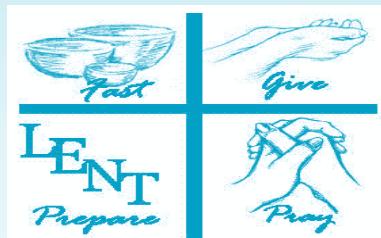
Saturday Vigil Mass 5:15PM

Sunday Masses:

8:00 AM 10:00 AM 12:00 Noon

Confession: Saturdays 4:00 to 4:45PM

Daily Mass: Monday—Saturday 8:30AM



CHANGE

Lent is all about change and change is usually not easy. In order to change we have to leave something behind. Today we hear about a very old man who decides to answer God's call. Abram experiences a tremendous amount of change when he leaves everything behind, risking it all for God's promise.

Jesus changes, is transfigured, right before the eyes of His disciples. The Lenten scriptures issue the call for us to change, to be transfigured, so that we, too, will soon share in the glory of God. What is it that the Lord is asking us to leave behind?

Are we willing to take the risk for the promise made by God? These questions are at the heart of the Lenten journey of conversion.

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SAINT FRANCES OF ROME (1384-1440)

March 9

Nature and human nature—plagues and wars—turned late medieval Rome into a living hell, particularly for the sick and poor. Frances, by birth and marriage well provided for, was a devoted wife and mother; but like Benedictine Oblates, who to this day “pray and work” while living with their families and working in the world, she joined like-minded laywomen friends in ministering to society’s most vulnerable. Frances’ charity was not only “hands on” but “in home.” Her palace became a hospital after the plague claimed two of her three children. When her husband’s death ended their loving marriage of forty years, Frances joined other widowed Oblates in community. In an interesting link to the United States, our nation’s premier religious congregation for women of color, the Oblate Sisters of Providence, in 1833 established bonds of spiritual communion with these Oblates of Saint Frances in Rome.

Though Black History Month is past, take a moment to learn about the good work that Mother Lange’s spiritual daughters are doing still and consider supporting them as a Lenten project: www.oblatesisters.com.

—Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

March 8, 2020



LENTEN ABSTINENCE

Catholics ages 14 and over are to abstain from meat and meat products **all Fridays of Lent**.



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Stations of the Cross on all Fridays of Lent at 7:30PM.

Parish Ministries scheduled to lead the Stations of the Cross:

March 13—Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers & Mass Coordinators

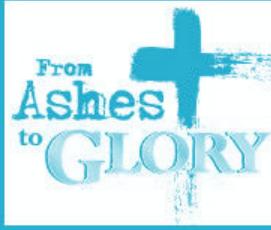
March 20—Young Adults & FF Catechists and Teachers

March 27—RCIA & Youth Confirmation Members

April 3—SVdP and Choir Members



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BIBLE PASSAGE:

Genesis 12: 1-4a (2nd Week of Lent – 1st Reading)

The Lord said to Abram: "Go forth from the land of your kinsfolk and from your father's house to a land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you and curse those who curse you. All the communities of the earth shall find blessing in you." Abram went as the Lord directed him.

REFLECTION:

God calls Abram, who will be later known as Abraham, to leave the familiar and comfortable place where his family lives to a place unknown that God will reveal to him. God promised to bless Abram, make of him a great nation and that Abram will be a blessing to all. Imagine yourself being uprooted and asked to leave the comfort of your home, family, friends, work, school, church, community and everything familiar to you, to a far and unknown place. It is a scary and unsettling thought. Change is difficult especially when we do not have control over what will happen. Abram did not hesitate, ask questions, nor think twice about what God said and promised to him. With God's guidance, Abram was not afraid to make a leap of faith. His complete trust and total obedience to God's call is a model of faith. Like Abram, how can we let go and let God take over our lives? What is holding us back from believing and trusting God completely? What attachments are keeping us away from God and hindering us from making a leap of faith?

ACTION:

Consider how we can live our faith and make a difference in our community....

- Whether in school, at work, at Church or in the neighborhood, be aware of an unfamiliar or new face. Offer a friendly smile, introduce yourself, make them feel welcome and extend hospitality to them.

- Spend time with a family member and learn about their story and changes that transformed their lives. What inspired them to make a leap of faith?

We hope that you find this informational topics beneficial and that you make the time to practice them in your daily life. We also pray that this helps make a transformation for you and your family, during this Lenten season and beyond.

The Liturgy Committee

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The Lord said to Abram: All the families of the earth shall find blessing in you (Genesis 12:1-4a)

Psalm — Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you (Psalm 33).

Second Reading — God has called us to a holy life, not because of our works but according to grace (2 Timothy 1:8b-10).

Gospel — Atop a high mountain, Jesus was transfigured before Peter, James, and John (Matthew 17:1-9).



Sisters of the Convent of St. Elisabeth

Sisters of Elizabeth Convent: Sister Larysa will visit St. Callistus on

Wednesday March 11th, 8:30AM

Mass. Sister will speak about their

mission, and will also have on display religious articles that they make in the convent, for your purchase. All these goods are made with love and prayer and bring blessing to your home. Please come for Mass, meet Sister Larysa and support their mission.

Weekly Offering

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Sunday Collection	3/1	\$3,847.93
Parish Maintenance	3/1	\$1,474.91

Second Collection for Sunday, March 15 will be for The Catholic Voice.

Thank you for your offering. May God bless you all.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

The second Sunday of Lent every year recalls the Transfiguration of the Lord. Since the fourth century, Mount Tabor has been the focus of devotion to this event. As mountains go, it is not particularly lofty, rising about fifteen hundred feet, within view of the Sea of Galilee and very close to Nazareth. Scripture doesn't identify the mountain, but in the year 348 Saint Cyril of Jerusalem said he preferred Mount Tabor to Mount Hermon as the site of the Transfiguration, and his opinion won. Over the centuries, churches and fortified monasteries rose on the mountaintop, only to be destroyed by various invaders. Six hundred years ago, local Christians started to decorate the ruins with flags and banners on the Feast of the Transfiguration. In 1631, the Sultan granted permission to the Franciscans to live on Mount Tabor, and they have been there ever since.

Source: Rev James Field, copyright J.S.Paluch Co. (2018)



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