

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH

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The Transfiguration of Christ: mid-12th Century, St. Catherine's Monastery Sinai, Egypt. Artist unknown. (click to learn more)

FEBRUARY 28, 2021

Second Sunday of Lent

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MASS SCHEDULE

Weekends:

Sat - 4 p.m. Sun - 8 a.m., 10 a.m.

Weekdays:

Monday - Friday 8 a.m.

Holy Days: 8 a.m., 7 p.m.

STAFF

Secretary: Robin Targosky

Bookkeeper: Susan Board

Bulletin Editor: Kathy Swift

DRE: Mary Helen Marling

GOSPEL MEDITATION: CLEARING THE WAY

Transformation and change usually happen from the inside out. It is very rare that simply imposing structure from the outside does any good. Yes, it is true that routines and habits can change when things are done differently. But, for this change to last there has to be an interior renewal and metamorphosis as well. Simply regulating behavior and bringing someone into conformity with accepted protocols doesn't mean their heart and soul come with them.

Peter was a homeless man who lived in a very remote and rudimentary tent community. He was happy to make his daily trip to McDonald's and always welcomed a gift card or two so that he could buy some coffee and something to eat. A generous advocate worked to secure him an apartment

in hopes of moving Peter out of his makeshift housing and into something safer. Peter finally got the grand tour of his new "digs," received his own key, remarked how wonderful the place was, closed the door behind him when they left and never returned. He preferred his tent. No matter how much things changed on the outside, Peter was happy where he was. A poignant lesson was learned that day.

How is your Lent going? By now you ought to have a sense of whether you're really "into it" this year and something transformational is happening. For many, it's only the stuff on the outside that changes for a few weeks and then they return to business as usual. For others, there are some real inner changes happening that are deepening their

relationships with God, others, self, and creation. If we are serious about moving to a new place and radiating with the presence of new life and joy, then we have to clear the way to listen for God's call. Then, there is God's request to change things up a bit and order our lives differently. After realizing we have been called and given a mission, we have to trust that this is where we need to be. And then, after all of this hard work we are asked to act. The fruit that is revealed will indicate whether our journey is authentic. The brilliance of conversion will begin to shine on our faces as we contemplate the One to whom we are asked to listen.

©LPi

PARISH MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, FEB. 27

4:00 p.m. Rick Koski†
SFX Class of '64

SUNDAY, FEB. 28

8:00 a.m. Thomas Andrews†
Don & Agnes Gray

10:00 a.m. Veronica DiCola†
Tex & Theresa Reynolds

MONDAY, MARCH 1

8:00 a.m. Sylvia Valdez†
Norman & Barbara
Vilkoski

TUESDAY, MARCH 2

8:00 a.m. Mary McKee†
Knights of Columbus
Council 1907

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3

8:00 a.m. Stephanie Eddy†
Norman & Barbara
Vilkoski

THURSDAY, MARCH 4

8:00 a.m. Rosemary Gardill†
Tex & Theresa Reynolds

FRIDAY, MARCH 5

8:00 a.m. Gary Dobbs†
Jan Dobbs

SATURDAY, MARCH 6

4:00 p.m. James Campbell†
Julie DeVito

SUNDAY, MARCH 7

8:00 a.m. Carl Baum†
Paula & Jerry Conners

10:00 a.m. Peter Bui Van Ngu†
Phan Thi My

“Love is a leap of the heart. It brings us out of ourselves and creates bonds of sharing and communion.”



Pope Francis

FEBRUARY BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Celebrating Unsung Black Catholic Women in U.S. History

Beginning in the 19th century, women became the first representatives of the African American community to enter religious life. Barred from joining white sisterhoods because of exclusionary admissions policies that lasted until well into the 20th century, black women first succeeded in becoming sisters by either passing for white in white congregations or establishing their own orders. Between 1824 and 1922, African American women organized at least eight historically black and Afro-Creole orders, of which three are still in existence: The Oblate Sisters of Providence (1828) in Baltimore; the Sisters of the Holy Family (1842) in New Orleans; and the Franciscan Handmaids of the Most Pure Heart of Mary (1916) in Savannah, Ga. and later Harlem, N.Y.



Sisters of Holy Family, New Orleans, 1899.

The first known African American woman to enter religious life was Nellie Morgan, who was the sixth member of the Kentucky-based Sisters of Loretto, the first Catholic sisterhood with an American foundation. The daughter of a white man and an ex-slave mother, Morgan passed for white in her order. Black women also co-founded the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in Michigan in 1845 and the Benedictines of Mary, Queen of Apostles in Pennsylvania in 1995. Both communities are predominantly white. In addition to educating 10 of

the nation's first 23 black priests, black sisters desegregated several Catholic colleges and universities, including Saint Louis University, Villanova University, and the Catholic University of America, in the era before the Brown v. Board of Education decision. Like their religious counterparts, black laywomen also were prominent

propagators of Catholic faith and formed the backbone of their parishes and communities. Anna Bates of Detroit founded black Catholic missions because white ecclesiastical authorities refused

to do so. Many of these missions, like Detroit's Our Lady of Victory, became thriving black Catholic parishes. Black laywomen also encouraged and nurtured the vocations of black girls and boys in their families and parishes, reminding them constantly that a racially segregated church was a profoundly un-Catholic church.

The examples of these women stand as a testament to the enduring faith of the African American Catholic community in the face of bigotry and exclusion. The lives and labors of these women prove that black history is not simply American history, but also Catholic history.

-- excerpted from research by SHANNEN DEE WILLIAMS, 2013-2014 postdoctoral fellow, African American studies and history, Case Western Reserve University.

Prayer REQUESTS

Recently Sick: Joseph Grampa, Eleanor Smith, Bobby Kleinedler, Sandye Yoho, Anna Mae Veronis Holliday, Jim Holliday, Sara Walters, Bill Fowkes, Joanna Bierce, Isabella Wood, Dale Whitlatch, Mike Morris, Sami Wilson, Bob Kleinedler, Kathryn Ferrera, Cindy Gunto, Chuck Taskalines, Celeste Evans, Phil Remke, Suzy Lunau, Ashton Gardill.

Homebound: Rachel Kerekes, Doris Murphy, Deanne Ferraro, Semon & Phyllis Prado.

Nursing Homes: Hazel Markey, Katie Renshaw, Joan Weekly, Alma VanSyoc, Ron Flading, Betty Kerns, Bill Tennant, Barb Meyer, Raymond Pennybacker, Helen Remke, Marie Lohri.

Names of those recently sick will appear for two months. Please resubmit requests for those who still need our healing prayers.

Upcoming Events:

**Fridays During Lent
K of C Fish Fry**
11 a.m. until fish runs out
304-845-7080
to order

**Knights of Columbus
FREE, FIRST-YEAR
ONLINE MEMBERSHIP
KOFC.ORG/JOINUS**

**Stations of the Cross
Fridays During Lent
6:30p.m.**

Jesus: The Way, The Truth, The Life
10-Week Video Study Program
Church Hall
Wednesdays 9 a.m. or
Thursdays 6:30 p.m.
Starting March 10 & 11
**REGISTER
HERE**

**Friday, April 30
Last Day to File
DWC Tuition Assistance
FACTSMGT.COM**

LECTORS

March 6 4:00 p.m. **A. Wise**

March 7 8:00 a.m. **A. Blake**
10:00 a.m. **C. King**

OFFERING FEB. 14, 2021

Envelopes	\$2,881.00
Loose Offering	\$254.00
Church Repair	\$815.00
Xavier Hall	\$105.00
Latin America	\$25.00
Central Europe	\$10.00
OTHER COLLECTIONS:	
Memorial	\$25.00
Candles	\$55.00
Online Giving	\$65.15
Attendance	130

PLEASE CLICK HERE TO DONATE

Report suspected child sexual abuse to law enforcement or Child Protective Services at 800-352-6513. Report suspected cases by Diocese personnel at 888-434-6237.

THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOSEPH IN WHEELING IS CELEBRATING

sung Solemn Vespers at 6 p.m. each Sunday evening during Lent. Vespers, also known as Evening Prayer, is part of the Liturgy of the Hours, the official prayer of the church.

Everyone is invited to attend this beautiful opportunity for prayer during Lent and to enjoy some splendid music provided by the Cathedral Schola.



CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF WEST VIRGINIA is hosting

its Shining a Light on Hope Virtual Gala Tuesday, March 16, at 7 p.m. All are welcome to this virtual event, which will feature music from Wheeling Symphony Orchestra's WSO on the Go. Donors may also bid during a virtual auction March 14-21 at bidpal.net/CCWVa.

WTRF-7 will broadcast and stream at CatholicCharitiesWV.org/Gala2021. Charity in Action Award recipients David Rose, Bernard Twigg, and St. Vincent de Paul Parish School also will be honored.

While the Gala format is different, the goal remains to raise the vital funding needed to provide caring and compassionate services to those in need.

Proceeds support programs and services in 17 counties in northern West Virginia.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSIONS):

Sat. 3:30 p.m. or upon request.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

By appointment. Contact the parish office at least six months before the date of the marriage. Pre-Cana is required.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (PSR):

Sundays during the school term at 9:00 a.m. - 9:50 a.m. Grades 1-12.



NEXT WEEKEND'S SECOND COLLECTION

supports the Priests' Health and Retirement Association, a fund that provides health insurance and benefits to retired diocesan priests. The collection is an opportunity for the faithful to support these hard-working priests, many of whom still assist the diocese in parishes and missions throughout the state. Please consider supporting the PHRA with your donation.

THE SAVE LIVES - FEED FAMILIES COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

is set for Tuesday, March 2, at Ash Avenue Church of God in Moundsville. The drive benefits the Greater Soup Kitchen of Wheeling. When you donate, a contribution goes to the soup kitchen on your behalf to help feed up to 25 families in need.

The church and Vitalant, formerly Central Blood Bank, are working together to help both the food insecure and patients in area hospitals, for which Vitalant is the sole provider of blood and blood products. Call 412-209-7000 to register, or schedule online at vitalant.org using donor group code G0150015.

The Save Lives - Feed Families blood drive will be held in the sanctuary of the church, 127 Ash Ave., from 12:30 - 5:30 p.m. Remember each blood donation will also feed up to 25 families.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

By appointment. The diocese requires instructions beforehand for parents or guardians. Contact the parish office.

REGISTRATION, CHURCH SUPPORT:

Parishioners should be properly registered at the parish office. Please be sure to update your information when you move or change phone numbers.