



## SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT ✕ FEBRUARY 25, 2024



- Sat. Feb. 24 4:00pm **VIGIL-SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT**  
Desiree Checki Polakowski-Liehowitz by Joe & Lori Pierageli
- Sun. Feb 25 9:00am **SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT**  
Vincent Chiodo by Mary Ann Chiodo  
10:30am John Voyko by St Catherine's Choir
- Tues. Feb. 27 9:00am **SECOND WEEK IN LENT**  
Andrew Kelemen by Ed & Veronica Yanulavich
- Thur. Feb 29 9:00am **SECOND WEEK IN LENT**  
Thomas Liuzzo by Mary Ann Klenifn
- Sat. Mar. 2 4:00pm **VIGIL-THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT**  
Andrew Kelemen by Amanda & Steve Proch
- Sun. Mar 3 9:00am **THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT**  
Patricia Moran by Tom & Ellie McCauley  
10:30am Ruth & Elsworth Scott by Keith & Linda Scott



Parishioners who are sick and in need of prayers can be added to our prayer list by calling the parish office at 570-842-4995. Please pray for: Margaret Adamiac, Josephine Amato, Joanne Arredondo, Chelsey Bartro, Michael Bota, Rose Bremer, Reilly Canas, Tony Cannella, P.J. Cappola, Dennis Corbisiero, Jim Dantis, William Delahanty, Barbara Derrenbacher, Carole Dougherty, Linda & Bob Earthy, Dan Edwards, Lisa Fay, Mary Ann Flaherty, Kealy Ford, Kyle Gemberling, Brian Harriett, Pat Henes, Sarah Hewitt, Marge Imperatrice, Jaime Jantz, Mary Knowles, Betsy Kressler, Susie LaFave, Viviana Lewis, Donna Jean Marabella, Stephanie Martino, Roland Matthews, Ellie McCauley, Tim McGovern, Carol McKnight, Donald Migliorato, Richie Morrison, Paul Natoli, Tom Natoli, Gioia Palmerio, Victor Panzella, Ben Pickarski, James Pilosi, Ruth Pilosi, Frank Quattroch, Jennifer Quinn, Howard Rife, Steve Rish, Anthony Romaro, Lisa Sarnicola, Michael Sawko, Mary Schaub, Beth Schuil, Larry Shock, Duane Sprovach, Millie Stoia, Luke Stricker, Jason Scott Taylor, Dana Thorne, Skyler Thorne, Jack Tizio, Gregory Tobin, Pat Topar, Marivita Williams, Helen Zerbe, and all the sick of the Parish. **Please call the Parish Office if someone should be taken off the list.**

### OPERATION SNOWFLAKE



Daily Masses will be cancelled any time North Pocono School District is delayed or cancelled. Weather delays and cancellations are broadcast on TV channels:  
WNEP 16 – WYOU 22 – WBRE 28.

It is good  
to be here



### SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

#### First Reading: Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18

God ordered Abraham to take his beloved only son to Moriah and offer him as a sacrifice. Abraham built an altar and took out a knife to sacrifice his son Isaac. But God called out to him and told him of blessings that would be bestowed on him and his descendants because he had been willing to do what God had asked.

#### Second Reading: Romans 8:31b-34

Paul reminds the people that God did not spare his only Son, but gave him up for the sake of all people. This proves God views us all as his children, and that no person can harm or condemn us because God will protect us.

#### Gospel: Mark 9:2-10

Jesus led Peter, James, and John up a high mountain, where he conversed with Elijah and Moses. A voice proclaimed 'This is my Son, my beloved. Listen to him.' Then Jesus was alone and warned them not to tell anyone what they had seen until he had risen from the dead.

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#### Sunday

Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Rom 8:31b-34; Mk 9:2-10

#### Monday

Dn 9:4b-10; Lk 6:36-38

#### Tuesday

Is 1:10, 16-20; Mt 23:1-12

#### Wednesday

Jer 18:18-20; Mt 20:17-28

#### Thursday

Jer 17:5-10; Lk 16:19-31

#### First Friday

Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

#### First Saturday

Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32



***Sacrificial Giving***

**WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH**

**God's Plan for Giving 02/18/24.**

**Sunday Offering**      **\$1898.00**  
**Loose**                      **\$ 197.00**

**School Debt**              **\$ 105.00**  
**Utilities**                    **\$ 15.00**  
**Fuel**                            **\$ 5.00**  
**Ash Wednesday**        **\$ 274.00**  
**\$2489.00**

**Diocesan:**  
**Church in E. Europe**    **\$ 32.00**  
**\$ 32.00**

**TOTAL:**                      **\$2521.00**

**Mass Attendance**

**Sat: 4:00PM--24**  
**Sun: 9:00AM--45**  
**10:30AM--67**

**Announcement**

**Help Needed**

An older couple in our Parish needs help with house cleaning and errands. If you are interested call 570-676-8815 or 570-390-0882.



**Prayer Service for Peace and to Commemorate the Second Year of War in Ukraine**

Sunday, February 25, 2024 2:30 p.m.  
 Cathedral of Saint Peter, 315 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton



**Father Rawel's Corner**

The running theme of today's readings is the transformation of faith. Each passage presents us with a unique perspective on how faith is tested, strengthened, and ultimately transformed. In these readings, we witness the profound journey of faith, from Abraham's willingness to sacrifice his son to the glorious transformation of Jesus. This theme invites us today to explore the transformative power of faith and how it can illuminate our own spiritual journey.

In the first reading, we see Abraham's willingness to offer his beloved son, Issac, as a sacrifice in an extraordinary test of faith. Abraham's obedience, although seemingly extreme, demonstrates the transformative nature of faith.

In Roman's, we are reminded that nothing can separate us from love of God. Even in moments of doubt, hardship, or suffering, our faith can be transfigured through God's unwavering love.

The Gospel reveals the glorious transfiguration of Jesus on the mountain. His radiant appearance in the presence of Moses and Elijah emphasizes the importance of faith in his divinity. The disciples' initial fear and confusion transformed into a profound affirmation of Jesus as the beloved son of God.

Reflect on your own journey. Are there areas where your faith is being tested?

Pray and Practice: Heaven Father, help us to navigate through the complexities of our faith journey. Grant us the courage to trust your plan, even when it seems beyond our understanding. May your unwavering love transfigure our faith, and may we always recognize your divine presence in our lives. Amen.

Have a prayerful Lent!

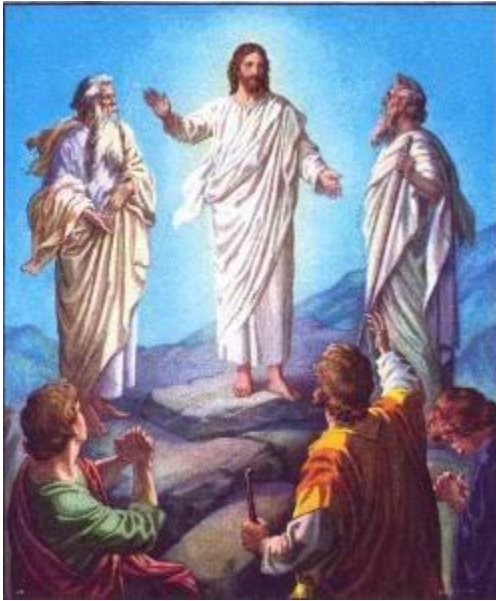


**OUR CALL TO SERVE**

**DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL**

**OUR GOAL: \$14,000.00**  
**TOTAL RAISED: \$10,417.00**  
**OVER/UNDER: \$ 3,583.00**

**74.41% of our Goal**



## Second Sunday of Lent, Cycle B

### First Reading

*Genesis 22:1-2,9a,10-13,15-18*

Abraham obeyed God and prepared to offer his son, Isaac, as a sacrifice.

### Responsorial Psalm

*Psalm 116:10,15,16-17,18-19*

A prayer of faithfulness to God

### Second Reading

*Romans 8:31b-34*

God's faithfulness is shown in his offering of his own Son for our salvation.

### Gospel Reading

*Mark 9:2-10*

Jesus is transfigured in the presence of Peter, James, and John.

## Background on the Gospel Reading

On the second Sunday of Lent in each Lectionary cycle, the Gospel reading proclaims the story of Jesus' Transfiguration. This event is reported in each of the Synoptic Gospels—Matthew, Mark, and Luke. This year, in Lectionary Cycle B, we hear Mark's report of this event.

The context for Mark's Transfiguration story is similar to that found in both Matthew's and Luke's Gospel. The Transfiguration occurs after Peter's confession that Jesus is the Messiah and Jesus' prediction about his passion. After this, in each of these Gospels, there is also a discussion of the cost of discipleship.

In each case, Jesus takes three of his disciples—Peter, James, and John—to a high mountain. While they are there, Elijah and Moses appear with Jesus. In Matthew's and Mark's Gospel, there is reference to a conversation among Jesus, Elijah, and Moses, but only Luke's Gospel includes the detail that this conversation is about what Jesus will accomplish in Jerusalem.

Elijah and Moses are significant figures in the history of Israel. Moses led the Israelites from slavery in Egypt and received from Yahweh the Ten Commandments. In appearing with Jesus at his Transfiguration, Moses represents the Law that guides the lives of the Jewish people. Elijah is remembered as one of the most important prophets of Israel who helped the Israelites stay faithful to Yahweh. Some Jews believed that Elijah's return would signal the coming of the Messiah for the Jewish people. This belief is evidenced in the question posed by Jesus' disciples after they have witnessed the Transfiguration. The appearance of these two important figures from Israel's history with Jesus signifies Jesus' continuity with the Law and with the prophets and that Jesus is the fulfillment of all that was promised to the people of Israel.

On seeing Jesus with Elijah and Moses and having witnessed his Transfiguration, Peter offers to construct three tents for them. Mark reports that the disciples are terrified by what they have witnessed, and that Peter's offer is made out of confusion. We also notice that Peter has reverted from his earlier confession that Jesus is the Messiah, calling Jesus rabbi instead. As if in reply to Peter's confusion, a voice from heaven speaks, affirming Jesus as God's Son and commanding the disciples to obey him. This voice from heaven recalls the voice that was heard at Jesus' baptism.

In his Transfiguration, we see an anticipation of the glory of Jesus' Resurrection. In each of the reports of the Transfiguration, Jesus instructs the disciples to keep secret what they have seen until after the Son of Man has risen from the dead. The disciples' confusion continues as they wonder what Jesus means by rising from the dead. The disciples cannot possibly understand Jesus' Transfiguration until they also witness his passion and death. We hear the story of Jesus' Transfiguration early in Lent, but we have the benefit of hindsight. In our hearing of it, we anticipate Jesus' Resurrection, even as we prepare to remember Jesus' passion and death.—Loyola Press

## SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

**“If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, how will he not also give us everything else along with him? It is God who acquits us. Who will condemn? Christ Jesus it is who died – or rather, was raised – who is also at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.”**

Saint Paul was trying to convince the first Christians in Rome of God’s concern for them and the saving work of Jesus as redeemer. We become blasé recalling the saving work of Christ in our behalf but fail to respond today for what He did for us on Calvary. That is why we need Lent.

With the chosen apostles on Tabor we are told to listen to God’s beloved Son, and as we begin the second week of Lent, to see that I am alone with Jesus. What do I say and do?

The  
Season  
of  
Lent



### HIS WORD TODAY

BY REV. WILLIAM J. REILLY

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON  
THE SUNDAY READINGS