



In last week’s Gospel, we followed Jesus into the desert where He fasted and prayed. This week, He leads us up a mountain to witness His Transfiguration. Why both of these experiences?

He is preparing us to go with Him in a few short weeks to a hilltop, Golgatha, where He will lay down His life for our sake — and finally to take us to an empty cave where He triumphed over sin and death once and for all.

Jesus perfectly understands our humanity. He knows we need desert experiences — times of self-denial and testing — in order to arrive at mountain-top moments when we see and feel His glorious presence in our lives. The purpose of these two types of experiences is summed up in the description of the Apostles who were with Jesus at that mountain-top experience in today’s Gospel:

*“Peter and his companions had been overcome by sleep, but becoming fully awake, they saw his glory....”*

The reason for all of our fasting and prayer and almsgiving during lent is to be reawakened to all God has done for humanity and to all that He has done for each of us personally. It is all too easy to get lulled into complacency in our daily routines, to “sleepwalk” through life, getting up and getting ourselves and maybe kids out the door, going to work, returning home for dinner and dishes, meetings or sports activities, and finally flopping on the couch to watch TV until bedtime. While there is nothing inherently sinful in this routine, as Christian stewards we are called to so much more!

We are called to be fully awake and fully alert to the love of the Holy Trinity that dwells within us through our Baptism and surrounds us at every moment. How do we know this is true? We wouldn’t be alive at all but for the love of God that sustains us second by second! And we would not have eternal salvation and the perfect joy of heaven awaiting us if Jesus had not come and died for us.

The disciplines of lent are not meant to make us miserably “hangry” until Easter arrives, and we can eat chocolate in peace once again. The prayer and fasting and offering of ourselves to the poor are intended to shake us free from any apathy that has crept in to our lives so that we can see His glory in everyday moments.

When we intentionally set aside time for prayer, He will give us exactly the wisdom we need to face what comes later in the day. When we bring a little discomfort into our lives by the sacrifices we make, we realize just how weak and dependent we are on Him. When we reach out to those who have less materially, we realize the abundance of blessings we have. These are mountain-top moments. They bring us back to our senses and fill us with gratitude to God — which in turn spurs us on to give Him more of ourselves in the sharing of our time, talents, and treasure.

In this way, we train ourselves, or more precisely, we allow Him to train us to say “Yes” to His will and to offer our lives back to Him. In so doing we, too, become “transfigured.” This is what it means to live fully awake; this is a stewardship way of life and it is glorious indeed.

**YOUR STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE**

**February 14, 2021**

Sunday Collection .....	\$ 1,615.16
Vigil Candles.....	\$ 54.82
Facilities Improvement.....	\$ 2.00

**February 21, 2021**

Sunday Collection .....	\$ 4,419.45
Vigil Candles.....	\$ 88.00
Black & Indian Collection.....	\$ 231.00

***Second Collection - March 6 - 7:  
Facilities Improvement Fund***



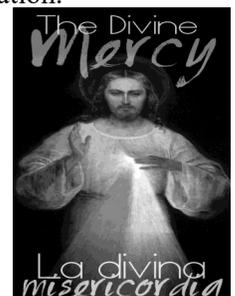
**CIVIL UNION?**

Is your marriage recognized by God and the Church?

***Would you like it to be?***

Every ‘case’ is unique but if you would like your marriage ‘Blessed by the Church,’ we would love to talk with you.

Contact Fr. Mike, either of your Deacons or call the Parish Office for more information.



**Holy Hour**

/

**la Hora Santa**

Don't forget...  
 Our Holy Hour (English) will be  
**THIS THURSDAY** at 6 pm.  
 Come... Spend some quiet 'one-on-one'  
 time with Our Lord...  
 ever present in the  
 Most Blessed Sacrament.



No olvides...  
 Nuestra Hora Santa (español) será  
**ESTE VIERNES** a las 7 pm.  
 Ven... Pasa un rato tranquilo 'uno-a-uno'  
 tiempo con Nuestro Señor...  
 siempre presente en el Santísimo  
*Espero verte allí.*

*Hope to see you there.*



February 17 - March 28  
**40 DAYS FOR LIFE®**

**HELP SAVE LIVES IN SAN ANTONIO!**

You can protect mothers and children by joining this worldwide mobilization to pray and fast for an end to abortion!

Through prayer and fasting, peaceful vigils and community outreach, 40 Days for Life has inspired 1,000,000 volunteers!

With God's help, here are the proven results in 25 coordinated campaigns:

- **16,742 babies** saved from abortion
- **196 abortion** workers converted
- **104 abortion** centers closed

Here's how to take part in 40 Days for Life in our community:

- **Vigil location:** Planned Parenthood, 2140 Babcock Rd.; SA 78299
- **Vigil hours:** 7 am to 7 pm daily - no Sundays
- **Local contact:** Cathy Nix [info@sacfl.org](mailto:info@sacfl.org) 210 668-1993
- **Learn more ... get involved ... and sign up** for prayer times by visiting our campaign at the web address shown below!

***40DaysForLife.com/SanAntonio***

**PARISH AND SCHOOL CHALLENGE:**

***40 Cans for Lent***

The 40 Cans for Lent program is designed to help fight hunger in the community.

The concept is simple: collect cans of food during the Lenten Season.

A small sacrifice to make a **BIG DIFFERENCE** in the lives of those in need.

Donate one can of food for each day of Lent as a reminder of the penance we should be doing as we prepare for the passion of our Lord. Our STM school is accepting your generous donation of canned goods... cereal, pasta and other non-perishable food items.

We have a collection bin in the back of the church as well as in the foyer of the school. Your donations will benefit the Catholic Charities Food Pantry.

Thank you in advance for your generosity!.. And... God Bless-

Those who are generous are blessed, for they share their bread with the poor.

Proverbs 22:9



## Resilient in Faith and Service

*Jesus watched the people make their temple offerings. Many wealthy people gave great sums from their surplus. But Jesus pointed to another as having given more than all the rest—a poor widow who shared two small coins. Grateful for the Lord's love and blessings, and resilient in faith and service, she gave everything she had back to God. She was the richest of all in love. The past year has been especially difficult. As the Archbishop's Appeal for Ministries begins, let us pray for the courage and conviction to follow the poor widow's example. In a spirit of love and with a generous heart, let us give willingly and joyfully to meet others' needs.*

**Help your parish meet 25% participation goal by making a gift today!** You can make a one-time gift, a monthly pledge, or a recurring monthly gift. A recurring gift is a monthly gift with no end date. This gift will continue until you indicate otherwise.

- **Text-To-Give, (210) 750-6712, Keyword: APPEAL**
- **Give online at [www.archsa.org/appeal](http://www.archsa.org/appeal)**
- **Complete the gift form sent to your home**
- **Use the pew envelope, or**
- **Make your gift by phone at (210) 734-1604**

The Annual Appeal qualifies for many company matching gift programs and are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

Please generously support the Appeal's 30+ ministries devoted to caring for people in need across the archdiocese.

***“Jesus looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the treasury, and saw a poor widow putting in two mites. So He said, “...this poor widow has put in more than all” Luke 21:1-4***

Countless lives are transformed and uplifted through the Archbishop's Appeal, thanks to individuals like you! We are called to live as Jesus did, sharing our blessings freely with people in need. This is true life in the Spirit. Your participation in the Appeal is essential in helping form and educate future priests, deacons, and catechists, as well as provide the basic necessities of food, clothing, and other social service ministries that aid the most vulnerable in our community. Who is a Christian Steward? We are Christian stewards when we receive God's gifts gratefully, cherish and tend them in a responsible and accountable manner, share them in love with others, and return them with increase to the Lord. Being a Christian steward is an intentional, planned, proportionate giving of our time, talent and treasure. The Annual Appeal is an opportunity for you to grow as a disciple in gratitude for the gifts you have been given. Pray and discern in your heart a gift of love so that others, too, may encounter Christ as we glorify His kingdom. Thank you for your prayers and generosity.

***May God bless you for your willingness to do good so as to win the life that is true life.***

## **LENT - A TIME OF GRACE**

Of course, grace can be found all year long... but The Lenten Season is a time especially FILLED with graces... Graces... just waiting for us to 'tune into' them!

We can use these graces for ourselves, for our loved ones, even for those who have died. How cool is that!! We all know that our prayers can help get us, or someone else, through a 'rough patch'... and that's GREAT!

But Lent and the Easter Season (*with special emphasis on Diving Mercy*) abound with grace-filled avenues! Here, I'm referring to Indulgences. An Indulgence is a special gift of grace granted by the Church for the remission of temporal punishment from sins that have been forgiven.

*I guess a brief discussion of sin might be in order here...* There are 2 parts to every sin: the 'act/sin' itself and the punishment associated with it. If/when we commit a mortal sin we receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation (*Confession*) to have it forgiven. That takes care of the 'act' of the sin - it will not longer send us to hell... but the temporal punishment associated with it remains... and *THAT* is what is 'purified' in Purgatory.

An analogy may help. Think of your soul as a table top... made of Mahogany, Cherry, or some other fine wood ... all nicely sanded, stained, and sealed. It's beautiful! Think of sin, then, as a 16-penny nail. When you sin a nail is pounded into your tabletop/soul! Ugly... what sin does to your soul. When you go to Confession your sins are forgiven... the nails are pulled out. That's the good thing... The bad thing is that there are still all those ugly holes and splinters where they were pounded in. Those holes can be thought of as the Temporal Punishment due for our sins.

Indulgences are granted for various prayers and / or acts of piety and may be Plenary (complete) or Partial. Indulgences re-surface your table top (soul). Holes are filled in, sanded down, stained and brought back to its original quality. A Plenary (complete) indulgence fills all (almost like a re-baptism)... a Partial fills some. You may obtain an indulgence for yourself or a soul in Purgatory (never for a living person).

To receive a Plenary Indulgence you must: perform a Sacramental Confession, receive Holy Communion, Pray for the Pope's intention and be free from willful attachment to sin (difficult... yes, but not impossible).

*Running out of space... will continue this next week. 'till then... God Bless- DT*

**This Week at Our Parish**

**Sunday, February 28, 2021**  
9:00 am Faith Formation (Eng) - *School*

**Monday, March 1, 2021 xxxxxxxxx**  
7:00 pm Guadalupano Board Mtg. - Rectory Mtg. Room

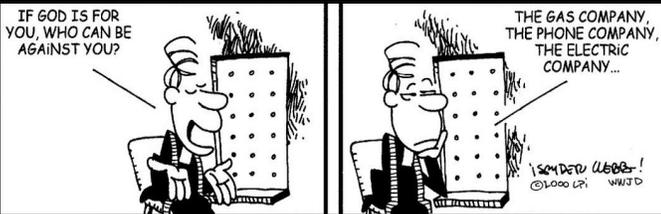
**Tuesday, March 2, 2021**  
5:30 pm Diving Mercy Cenacle - *Church*  
7:00 pm Coro Alegria - *Rectory Mtg Room*  
*Grupo Choir - Church*

**Wednesday, March 3, 2021**  
10:30 am Prayer Group Core Mtg - *Rectory Mtg. Room*

**Thursday, March 4, 2021**  
6:00 pm Holy Hour - *Church*  
7:00 pm Prayer Group - *Church*  
RCIA - *Rectory Meeting Room*

**Friday, March 5, 2021**  
6:00 pm Stations of the Cross (*English*) - *Church*  
7:00 pm la Hora Santa / Camino de la Cruz - *la Iglesia*  
Coro Alegria - *Rectory Mtg Room*

**Saturday, March 6, 2021**  
9:00 am Faith Formation (Span) - *School*



**Lecturas de la Semana del mar 1 - 7**

**Lunes:** Dn 9:4-10; Sal 78:8,9,11,13; Lc 6:36-38  
**Martes:** Is 1:10,16-20; Sal 49:8-9,16-17,21,23; Mt 23:1-12  
**Miércoles:** Jr 18:18-20; Sal 30:5-6,14-16; Mt 20:17-28  
**Jueves:** Jr 17:5-10; Sal 1:1-4,6; Lc 16:19-31  
**Viernes:** Gn 37:3-4,12-13,17-28; Sal 104:16-21; Mt 21:33-43,45-46  
**Sábado:** Miq 7:14-15,18-20; Sal 102:1-4,9-12; Lc 15:1-3,11-32  
**Domingo:** Ex 20:1-17; Sal 18:8-11; 1Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-2



**Sanctuary Light Intention:**  
**†Jeff Manning**

**Liturgical Roles**

**Saturday, March 6, 2021 DONE**  
5 pm **Altar Servers** - (None)  
**Eucharistic Ministers** - Dcn Rolando  
**Lector** - M.Fisher

**Sunday, March 7, 2021**  
8 am **Altar Servers** - (None)  
**Eucharistic Ministers** - Dcn Tim  
**Lector** - C.Brown

10 am **Altar Servers** - (None)  
**Eucharistic Ministers** - Dcn Tim  
**Lector** - W.Torres

12 pm **Altar Servers** - (None)  
**Eucharistic Ministers** - Dcn Rolando  
**Lector** - R.Borrego / E.Marshall

**Mass Intentions**

**Saturday, February 27, 2021**  
8:00 am †Mary Nguyen by Thuy Nguyen  
5:00 pm †David Krause by Family

**Sunday, February 28, 2021**  
8:00 am †Genevieve Oswald by Oswald Family  
†Baldemar Saldiva by DSHS  
10:00 am †Salome Briseno & Carolina B. Briseno by Morales and Briseno Family  
†Ethan Leiber by Briseno Family  
12:00 pm †Luis Miguel Perez by Family  
†Santos Garcia by Esther Garcia & Family  
†Jose Luis Orozco by Family  
†Jose Luna & Daniel Antuna By Deacon Rolando, Martha & Marisol Guerra

**Monday, March 1, 2021**  
8:00 am †Mary Nguyen by Thuy Nguyen

**Tuesday, March 2, 2021**  
8:00 am †Mary Nguyen by Thuy Nguyen

**Wednesday, March 3, 2021**  
8:00 am †Rosie Reyes & †Suzell Waller by Eddie Reyes  
†Mary Nguyen by Thuy Nguyen  
†Donald Rand by Family  
†Deceased of Karpowicz Family by Sue McCarthy

**Thursday, March 4, 2021**  
8:00 am †John TV Duong by Thuy Nguyen  
**All Ordained Clergy and Religious**

**Friday, March 5, 2021**  
8:00 am †John TV Duong by Thuy Nguyen

**Saturday, March 6, 2021**  
8:00 am †Mary Nguyen by Thuy Nguyen  
5:00 pm †Christina Dominguez by Dominguez Family

**Sunday, March 7, 2021**  
8:00 am †Carl & Anny Oswald by Oswald Family  
†Baldemar Saldiva by Fernandez Family  
†Marguerite McCoy by Sue McCarthy  
†Mary Nguyen by Thuy Nguyen  
†Donald Dotson by Volpenhein Family  
10:00 am †Ethan Leiber by Briseno Family  
12:00 pm †Luis Miguel Perez by Family  
†Pedro Pena by Dolores Pena  
†Jose Luis Orozco by Family  
†Kathryn Sweet by Volpenhein Family



**Readings for the week of Mar 1 - 7**

**Monday:** Dn 9:4b-10; Ps 79:8,9,11,13; Lk 6:36-38  
**Tuesday:** Is 1:10,16-20; Ps 50:8-9,16bc-17,21,23; Mt 23:1-12  
**Wednesday:** Jer 18:18-20; Ps 31:5-6,14-16; Mt 20:17-28  
**Thursday:** Jer 17:5-10; Ps 1:1-4,6; Lk 16:19-31  
**Friday:** Gn 37:3-4,12-13a,17b-28a; Ps 105:16-21; Mt 21:33-43,45-46  
**Saturday:** Mi 7:14-15,18-20; Ps 103:1-4,9-12; Lk 15:1-3,11-32  
**Sunday:** Ex 20:1-17; Ps 19:8-11; 1Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25