



The Transfiguration of Jesus (MT 17:1-9)



LIFE (Learning In Faith Experiences)

The Gospel reading of Tuesday last week was Jesus teaching his disciples about prayer, saying to not go on and on talking to God and being wordy when praying because God knows our needs even before we do. Jesus teaches them (and us) the words we are to pray in giving us “The Lord’s Prayer.” Upon finishing the prayer Jesus continues teaching, pointing out the importance of forgiveness – of another – as God forgives, thereby fully coming to know God’s forgiveness. This reading keeps repeating within my heart these days, perhaps because our **LIFE** theme this weekend is *Sacrament of Reconciliation* or, perhaps, I’m in need of a “true confession”? Here’s a Lenten reflection by Rev. Joseph Sica on Jesus’ line in the Lord’s Prayer “Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.” *Unkind words. Broken vows. Absent parents. Unappreciative children. I meet many people consumed by bitterness and resentment. They harbor unresolved hurts from the past that affect their present. They refuse to forgive and move on. When we’ve been hurt, we often strike back rather than strengthen and heal valuable relationships. Finding it difficult to let bygones be bygones, we refuse to bury the hatchet. Essentially, we live with revenge and hatred, with grudges running deep and lasting a lifetime. All of us experience injuries that defy explanation. But postponing forgiveness deprives us of wholesome living. If we don’t practice forgiveness, we often end up being the ones who suffer the most. Forgiveness is more about how we change than about how the other person reacts. When we refuse to let the offenses take up permanent residence in our lives, we prevent the wounds from festering, and we can move toward healing, peace, and happiness.* Fr. Sica invites his readers (and now, us) to reflect on the following quote: “Forgiveness is freeing up and putting to better use the energy once consumed by holding grudges, harboring resentments, and nursing unhealed wounds.” Then, after some reflection time, Fr. Sica challenges us to say: “*Jesus, it hurts me to be unforgiving. Free me from the prison of myself. Amen.*”
Written by: Colette Savaria, **LIFE** Coordinator

LIFE celebrations continue on the theme of “Sacraments...transforming everyday life” as we focus on the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Sunday, March 12 (11:30-2pm) or Monday, March 13 (5:30-8pm) in the Parish Center. Each celebration begins with a simple meal, prayer, learning time, and a closing prayer ritual. **LIFE (Learning In Faith Experiences)** is our Faith Formation program for everyone in the Parish! If you haven’t yet come to see what this is about, why not come Sunday or Monday?

First Eucharist Classes are on Thursday, March 16 from 3:30-4:45pm in the Parish Center. Students are reminded to bring their text books to class.



Lent continues in our second week!

“Give alms, Pray to your Father, Fast without a gloomy face.” (Mat 6:1-18). Please try to make time for prayer, fasting, almsgiving. To assist you, Lenten prayer books and Operation Rice Bowl containers are still available at the doors of the Church.

**Soup Kitchen Needs
Tuesday, March 21, 2017**

- 4 bags oranges
- 4 bottles Parmesan Cheese
- Assorted finger desserts (cupcakes, cookies, brownies)
- 4 large loaves of bread
- 2 bottles liquid dish soap

If you would like to help with any of the above items, please call Sylvia Bunker at 683-0320. You may drop off your donations at the Rectory anytime before 3pm on Tuesday, March 21. We served 78 meals in February. We were also able to provide additional meals to the McKinney Shelter. **Thank you!**

St. Lucy’s “Lenten Journey With Mary” begins next Tuesday, March 14th and for the next three consecutive Tuesdays with a morning session (after 9am mass) and an evening program that starts at 7:00pm. Both sessions are held in the Parish Center and are a little over one hour in length. During this “Diocesan Year of Mary,” especially in this liturgical season of Lent, St. Lucy’s Parish offers you the “Great Adventure of taking a Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother.” This prayerful study reveals Mary’s unique role in God’s kingdom and in our lives. You will experience the Gospel through the eyes of Mary and get a vivid glimpse into her daily life. Seeing her in this way will lead you to a deeper relationship with the Blessed Mother and her son, Jesus. This “**Lenten Journey With Mary**” consists of a DVD presentation, sharing of Scripture, quiet reflection, and prayer. All are welcome!

CHURCH SUPPORT – March 4/5, 2017
Weekly Collection \$6819.00
The Second Collection this weekend is for the Reduction of the Parish Debt.
Thank you for your continuing generosity.

A very belated **thank you** to the Nunes, Medeiros, and Kalil families for their generous donations of flowers for our Christmas celebration.s

Please **pray** for all the men and women who have served and who currently serve in the armed forces, and the military commanders who lead them. **Pray** for our homebound Parishioners and the sick of the Parish (including those in hospitals and nursing homes). **Pray** for the unborn, the premature, and the fragile among us so that we may deepen our respect for life at all stages.

Gabriel’s Call: Carol Owens, Director/Coordinator of St. Gabriel’s Call in the Diocesan Office of Life and Family, has met with the Community Action Committee to discuss how the **Gabriel’s Call** program works. This program reaches out to Mothers-to-be by providing access to social services, providing needs for babies, and providing support, love, and spiritual help. For more information, please see the pamphlets on the table at the entrance of the Church or call Carol Owens at 278-4508 (email: cowens@dioceseofprovidence.org)

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- 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
- Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b- 28a/ Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
- Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
- Sunday: Ex 17:3-7/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42

The Newport Navy Choristers Present “Music for a Sunday Afternoon” on Sunday, March 12 at 4pm at St. Barnabas Church, Portsmouth. Proceeds will benefit the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society and Newport Navy Choristers. Donation: Adults \$8; Children and Seniors \$5; Families \$20. Tickets are available from chorus members and at the door. For more information, please call 849-1135.

Community Action Committee – Thank You! The CAC collected approximately 8 boxes/bags of unused Christmas and All Occasion cards over the last months. The cards will be delivered to the Diocese Providence for distribution at the ACI. Thank you for your continued support of this project!!

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is being offered at various Catholic Parishes during this holy season of Lent. What a wonderful opportunity our Church gives us to “Come Back” to our loving and merciful God. Please try to attend one of the Reconciliation Services in our area:

- Mt. Carmel, Bristol – March 13th, 6pm -7:30pm
- Jesus Saviour, Newport – March 15th, 7pm
- St. Lucy, Middletown – March 20th, 7pm**
- Holy Ghost, Tiverton – March 24, 7:30am – 7:30pm
- Jesus Saviour, Newport – March 25th, 11am- 2pm
- St. Luke, Barrington – March 25th, 2pm-4pm

Lenten Dispensation: This year, **St. Patrick’s Day** (March 17) falls on a Friday during Lent. On this specific occasion, in light of the festive nature of the day, Bishop Tobin hereby dispenses Catholics in the Diocese of Providence from the disciplines of fast and abstinence that are normally required on the Fridays of Lent. Catholics who take advantage of this dispensation are reminded that, in maintaining the penitential spirit of the Lenten Season, some other form of penance, prayer, or charitable work should be substituted at an appropriate time.

MASS INTENTIONS AND CHURCH SCHEDULE

- Saturday, March 11
 - 5:00pm (O) Joseph and Josephine Santo (Anniversary Remembrance)
- Sunday, March 12, **Second Sunday of Lent**
Daylight Savings Time Begins
 - 8:00am (O’N) Alice Greer
 - 10:30am (O) St. Lucy’s Parishioners
 - 5:00pm (O) Fay Allen (8th Anniversary)
- Monday, March 13
 - 9:00am Afife and Joseph Menassa
- Tuesday, March 14
 - 9:00am Kathleen Groux Sekunda (31st Anniversary)
- Wednesday March 15
 - 9:00am St. Lucy’s Parishioners
- Thursday, March 16
 - 9:00am Communion Service
- Friday, March 17
 - 9:00am (S) Phil Reilly
Ann Quigley (1st Anniversary)
 - 5:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
 - 7:00pm Stations of the Cross
 - 8:00pm Benediction
- Saturday, March 18
 - 2:00pm Mass at Royal Middletown
 - 5:00pm (O) Iolanda O’Loughlin
- Sunday, March 19, **The Third Sunday of Lent**
 - 8:00am (O) Joseph Keeley
 - 10:30am (O) George and Helen Leeber
 - 5:00pm (O’N) St. Lucy’s Parishioners

In the above celebrations:
O = Rev. John O’Brien
O’N = Rev. Tom O’Neill
S = Rev. Joseph Saji

Children’s Liturgy of the Word continues at the 10:30am Mass on Sunday, March 19, 26, and April 9.

Visiting the Sick: Please notify Sr. Sheila at 847-6153 (x205) when a family member is in the hospital.