

From the Desk of Father Ed:

Dear Parishioners,

As we journey into our second week of Lent, our Gospel this weekend gives us a glimpse of the goal that awaits us at the end of our 40 days. Jesus took with Him three of His closest Apostles and brought them up to the top of the mountain to pray with Him. While they were in prayer with Jesus He was transfigured, "His face changed in appearance, and His clothing became dazzling white." Jesus gave them a glimpse of His glory. They heard the Father's voice and were enveloped by the Holy Spirit who appeared to them in the form of a cloud. The celebration that awaits us at the end of our 40-day journey through Lent is the Paschal Mystery, Jesus' Passion, Death, and Resurrection.

Peter was overwhelmed by the vision and asked to set up three tents so that they could stay there and gaze upon the beauty of God. The vision of the Transfiguration was only to last for a short moment and its purpose was to strengthen the Apostles in faith and to prepare them for Jesus' Passion. Shortly after the vision they had to return down the mountain where they followed Jesus on His way to Jerusalem.

Our journey through Lent is a time of prayer and penitence. At times we can feel as if we are far from the vision of the mountain where Peter, James and John witnessed the Glory of God. The Church gives us this Gospel to help us in our weakness so that our faith can be strengthened and we can persevere in the spiritual life through our prayer, almsgiving, and fasting.

As we continue on our way through Lent and experience the trials and tribulations of being in the valley, that is, being far from the mountain top, we are reminded of the great gift given to us in the Eucharist. Jesus comes to us in His Glorified Body with the Father and the Holy Spirit and unites Himself to us each time we receive Him. God the Father reminds us to "Listen to Him" so that one day we also may gaze upon the Glory of our God.

Parish Life:

Please mark your calendar for our Parish Lenten Mission on March 31 to April 3.

Once again our parish is having a 5-day pilgrimage to Canada in June. We will be visiting the beautiful shrines in Three Rivers, Montreal, and Quebec City. Deadline for the online signup is April 10, 2019. The pilgrimage is very reasonably priced and will most likely sell out...don't wait too long to sign up.

Please consider joining us in prayer every Monday morning this Season of Lent in our 40 days for Life Campaign. This past Monday we had about 20 people praying the Rosary in front of Planned Parenthood in Newton.

Our Lady Queen of Peace, pray for us,
Father Ed,
Pastor