

SAINT PETER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

MARCH 12, 2017



“While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud cast a shadow over them, then from the cloud came a voice that said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.”

Mathew 17: -5

104 WEST FIRST STREET • MANSFIELD, OHIO 44902
419-524-2572 | MANSFIELDSTPETERS.ORG

Mass Schedule:

Saturday: 5:00 pm
Sunday: 7:30 am, 9:30 am, 11:30 am
Monday & Friday 5:30 pm
Tuesday - Thursday 7:00 am

Spanish Mass:

Resurrection Parish, Lexington

Sunday: 6:00 pm

Parish Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 7:30 am - 8:30 pm
Friday: 7:30 am - 7:30 pm
Saturday: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Sunday: 8:30 am - 12:30 pm

Pastoral Care Contacts:

Mrs. Vickie Palmer 419-524-2572
*Hospital & Follow-up
Nursing Homes/Assisted Living &
Prayer Pipeline*
Deacon John Reef 419-529-3694
Shut-ins/Homebound

Sacrament of Baptism:

Please contact the Parish Center to begin plans for the baptism of your baby or child.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday: 3:00 - 4:30 pm
Other times by appointment.

Sacrament of Marriage:

Arrangements should be made at the Parish Center at least six months in advance of the ceremony. A wedding date is confirmed after the initial meeting with a priest.

Sunday Nursery:

Sunday Nursery is temporarily unavailable until further notice. Please call the Parish Center for more information.

Bulletin Deadline:

Monday, 12:00 noon. All requests must be submitted in writing or email.

Pastoral Staff:

Fr. Gregory R. Hite, *Pastor*
Fr. Jeremy Miller, *Parochial Vicar*
Mr. Bill Johnson,
Director of Music & Liturgy
Ms. Lynne Lukach, *Pastoral Associate*
Mrs. Elizabeth Wurm, *Director of
Religious Ed. & Youth Minister*

Deacons:

Mr. John Reef
Mr. Dennis Striker

St. Peter's School:

Mr. Michael Wasiniak
High School, Jr. High School
Mrs. Madalyn Bauer
Elementary School
Mrs. Ashley Rastorfer *Montessori*

Parish Business Manager:

Mr. Jon Blazak

Director of Development:

Jason Crundwell

A PARISH OF THE SAINT JUAN DIEGO DEANERY, DIOCESE OF TOLEDO

MASS INTENTIONS**Monday, March 13, Lenten Weekday**

5:00 pm Rosary

5:30 pm North Central Ohio Vocations

Tuesday, March 14, Lenten Weekday

7:00 am Parish

Wednesday, March 15, Lenten Weekday

7:00 am Parish

Thursday, March 16, Lenten Weekday

7:00 am Parish

9:15 am All School Mass

Friday, March 17, Lenten Weekday

9:15 am Teresa Gallizzi

5:00 pm Stations

5:30 pm Cecelia Leppo

Saturday, March 18, Vigil of Third Sunday of Lent

5:00 pm Anthony Pitroff

Sunday, March 19, Third Sunday of Lent

7:30 am Parish

9:30 am Landree Rennpage

11:30 am Mildred, William & Charles Kramer

LECTOR/COMMUNION MINISTER**Saturday, March 18**5:00 pm **L** C Taddeo, D Falquette **D** B Linkenbach, M Joyce,
C Sgambellone, B Nihei, T Hipp, V Zack, need three**Sunday, March 19**7:30 am **L** D Bessemer, T Murphy **D** L Danuloff, K & K Reindl,
P Taylor, B Danuloff, D Givens, M Hawkins9:30 am **L** D Forster, T Studer **D** D Dreskler, M Meinzer,
B Genter, K Wehinger, C Merle, A Seiss, S Herlihy,
T Frasz, R Harraman, S Weitzel, A Harraman,
M Riggleman, F Schuster, R Sliney, J Kastelic11:30 am **L** K Bird, C Staton **D** F Leitenberger, J Liston, B Riley,
K Schreck, K Speck, K Yockey, need five**MASS SERVERS****Saturday, March 18**

5:00 pm A Baldasare, S Steinhauser, R Pruettmiller

Sunday, March 19

7:30 am S & M Tridico, A Gasper

9:30 am M Maxwell, J & S Ambrose

11:30 am B Ball, A Pindel, T Schreck

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD**Sunday, March 19**

9:30 am Marie

11:30 am Sarah

Mass on Wednesday, April 12, 2017 is cancelled.Father Hite & Father Jeremy will be in Toledo for the Chrism
Mass at 11 am.**THE FIRST STATION: JESUS IS CONDEMNED TO DEATH**

I made a visit to church at a quiet time of day, planning to spend my prayer time meditating on the Stations of the Cross. I sat in a pew near the first station and entered the scene: Jesus is Condemned to Death. Although my original intention was to pray all 14 Stations, I couldn't move beyond that first one.

Jesus condemned to death? Jesus condemned? The words didn't make sense. I prayerfully entered the scene more fully. I wanted to have the moral courage to take Jesus' place, to tell the authorities, "Condemn me, not him. Condemn me for all the times I've hurt and disappointed and inconvenienced others; condemn me for my insensitivity, my inattention, my lack of concern, the many times I haven't kept my word. Condemn me, not this man who is All-Innocence, All-Truth, All-Love."

From there, I wondered what it would be like to be condemned to death. I knew I needed to talk with one of our incarcerated brothers. This brother was convicted of a capital offense at age 19 and was sentenced to death. I asked him what he was thinking and feeling when the judge gave him the death sentence. He said he knew right from wrong, was expecting the sentence, had some trepidation - but no fear or strong emotion. In his words: "I was not completely cognizant of the seriousness of my predicament or how to react to it." It was what happened in the ensuing months - and years - that changed his life.

Death row inmates are in their cells 23 hours a day. During the one hour a day that he could have contact with other prisoners, an older inmate approached him and said, "Wake up! They're not playing games. You're going to die." That drove home the reality of the situation. It would be his regular contact with another inmate that finally opened his eyes to a world he had never experienced - a world of learning, of expanding his vision, of self-discovery. He spent the next two years talking with this positive, solid inmate who served as a mentor, who shared books, encouraged him, helped him see he wasn't being the person he was created to be. He realized he needed time for introspection, time to recognize a "bigger world," time to ask himself who he really was. As he shared all this with me, he smiled and said he thinks of the wise mentors as his guardian angels. (This man has a smile as wide as the sky, so I could see the gratitude in his face as he recalled his many special mentors.)

I have much more to tell about our brother, but "the rest of the story" will have to wait for a future bulletin column. For now, I'm taking his words to heart. Just as in today's Gospel, Peter wanted to stay right where they were with the Transfigured Christ, Jesus knew he had to move on, on to Jerusalem, on to the Cross. My incarcerated brother didn't stay where he was; he wisely took good counsel, expanded his vision, and grew, becoming with each step the amazing man God created him to be. I can't sit staring at that first station....I have to "take good counsel" in the daily Lenten Scripture readings, in the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist, and in spiritual direction...pick up my cross and walk with Jesus.

Your sister in Christ,

Lynne Lukach

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH



Don Blank, Aaron Blank, Andy Taracko, Rose Mary Lang-Martin, Gwen Yockey, MaKaya Butler, Helen Green, Mary Ann Gibson, Nancy Stanton, Dina Riley, Sue Romanchuk, Harold & Joan Phalor, James Strauser, Duane Moser, Bill Martin, Paul Conry, John Zeigler

Names will only be listed for 4 weeks. If you wish to have your name appear an additional 4 week period, contact the Parish Center at 419-524-2572.

IN GOD'S ARMS... IRA C. ALBIN

SANDRA STRAUER

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL REPORT

Our accounting of our support to date for this year's Annual Catholic Appeal is encouraging! **Our goal is \$54,300.00. To date, \$6445.00 has been pledged, representing gifts from 52 households. This is after just one week.** The theme this year is "Building His Church, Fulfilling His Mission." Let us reflect on Pope Francis' Angelus address on January 24, 2016: "And we ask ourselves: Today, in our parish communities, associations and movements, are we faithful to God's plan? The evangelization of the poor, bringing them good news: Is this the priority?" This idea of evangelization goes beyond social work. It is "Offering the strength of the Gospel of God, which converts hearts, heals wounds, transforms human and social relationship according to the logic of love. The poor, in fact, are the center of the Gospel." Bishop Thomas is hoping for a successful campaign so we will be able to continue supporting the many and varied ministries throughout our Diocese that "converts hearts, heals wounds, transforms human and social relationships." For more information, visit the Diocesan website at: <http://toledodiocese.org/page/>

2017 EASTER BAKE SALE — SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- March 27, 28, 29 — Cabbage roll baking in cafeteria
- March 30 — Presale of cabbage rolls in cafeteria
- April 4 & 5 — Candy making in Franciscan Center
- April 9 — Food preparations in cafeteria for potato & egg salad
- April 10 — Baking of braided bread, butter rings, preparations in cafeteria
- April 11 & 12 — Easter Bake Sale in Church Basement

Our parish baking crew will be making pierogis for Easter Bake Sale this Tuesday March 14 starting at 8:00am in high school cafeteria. Plenty of sit down jobs. Presale of pierogis in cafeteria from 1-5:30pm.

We need items for the raffle for the Easter Bake Sale on April 11-12. Call Ann Brown for more info 419.756.6983.

Keep saving empty large metal coffee cans for our junior high science class. Clean cans can be dropped off to the Parish Center now through the month of May.

WELCOME TO THE ST. PETER'S FAMILY



New Parishioner - Amanda Sheets



Baptisms

Fallon Reign Flannery—son of Sonny & Krissy

Baptism Audrey Rose Shanel—daughter of James & Laura

Charlotte Marie Durbin—daughter of Dakota & Kayla

Catherine Emilia Thompson –daughter of Craig & Rachel

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School for Saint Peter's is scheduled for July 10-13. Right now we are looking for adult volunteers & for youth (6-12th grades) who are willing to help make this week a success. Vacation Bible School for our volunteers runs daily from 8 - 12: 30pm. All adults who volunteer must be VIRTUS trained, & if you have not already completed the program we are happy to help you complete this requirement. Contact Elizabeth Wurm at the parish office or through e-mail wurm.elizabeth@myspartans.org.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR FEED THE NEEDY

Feed the needy is in need of volunteers. A Captain is needed for every Tuesday. Please contact Dick Renie at 419.756.4483.

NORTH CENTRAL OHIO VOCATIONS CLUB

North Central Ohio Vocations Club will welcome Terry and Mary Rennpage and Donna and Harry Dillinger as our speakers, Monday, March 13 in the Franciscan Center, after the 5:30 pm evening Mass. They will share their experience at the national March for Life in DC in January, and also relate about our local March in Mansfield that was held on January 22nd. Dinner is \$7. Guests are welcome.

DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA

Daughters of Isabella, Joan of Arc Circle #380, will have a regular meeting on Tuesday March 14, 2017 at 6:30 pm in the St. Paul room in the Parish Center.

SUNDAY OFFERING

Week of: 2/25/17—03/03/17



| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Sunday Collection | \$12,378 |
| Total Sunday Collection to Date | \$565,600 |
| Total Budgeted Sunday Collection to Date | \$564,196 |
| Sunday Collection Surplus/(Deficit) | \$1,404 |
| School Collection | \$2,100 |
| Total School Collection to Date | \$110,236 |
| Total Budgeted School Collection to Date | \$137,308 |
| School Collection Surplus/(Deficit) | (\$27,072) |

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FINANCIAL UPDATE



| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Total Pledged: | \$2,569,021 |
| Amount needed to reach challenge goal: | \$430,979 |
| Payments to Date: | \$1,291,913 |

As of February 28, 2017

ST. PETER'S ANNUAL FUND UPDATE



| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Total Pledged: | \$80,335 |
| Amount needed to reach annual goal: | \$19,665 |
| Payments to Date: | \$73,750 |

As of February 28, 2017

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

Mark your calendars! On Tues. May 16th St. Peter's School will celebrate all volunteers with a 9:15am All School Mass & lunch to follow. If you are a volunteer in any capacity, please plan to join us that day so we can show our appreciation & say Thank You! At a later date, we will ask for RSVP's.

LENTEN FAITH OPPORTUNITIES

All are invited to these powerful prayer opportunities during Lent.

- 1) On the six Friday mornings of Lent, Fr. Jeremy will be leading a discussion on the upcoming Sunday readings. It will last from 7-8am in the church. Everyone is invited. By spending time with the weekend readings ahead of time, it can be a wonderful way to make Sunday Mass come alive!
- 2) The opportunity to view "The Jesus of Scripture" DVD series is on Wednesday evenings 6:30-7:30pm in the high school library. All are welcome. There is no cost. Contact Lynne at Parish Center.

PRISON MINISTRY CORNER

Several members of the RiCI prison ministry team attended the diocesan Prison Ministry workshop this weekend. It was an excellent opportunity to share best practices, network with others involved in this beautiful ministry, and grow in our appreciation for all we are able to do at RiCI.

Reminder: All are welcome to donate cookies for our RiCI mini-retreat Saturday March 18. Please drop the cookies off at the parish center by this Friday or contact Lynne- [419-524-2572](tel:419-524-2572) / lukach.lynne@myspartans.org



**Third Street Ob/Gyn
Health Services
419-522-6800**

ST. PETER'S SCHOOL



St. Peter's Elementary School is accepting applications for substitute teachers.
Please submit your application to the principal, Mrs. Madalyn Bauer at bauer.madalyn@myspartans.org

ST. PETER'S PARISH MUSICAL—SEUSSICAL!

Incredibly Fun!

March 31st, April 1, 7, 8th—7:00pm

April 2nd, 9th—3:00pm

Dinner on the Set! Tuesday, April 4th—6:00pm

Tickets available on eventbrite.com or call the Parish Office 419.524.2572

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

VBS is looking for approximately 70 shoe boxes for use for our camp this summer. The shoe boxes can be in any shape and size, but they do need a lid. If you happen to have an empty shoe box at your home that you would not mind parting with, please consider donating it to Vacation Bible School! We would very much appreciate it. Please drop them off at the Parish Center.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Friday Night Dinners 5:30—7:30 pm



- ◆ **March 17, 24, 31 & April 7 — Lenten Fish Fry Dinners Fried & Baked Fish 5:30-7:30pm**
- ◆ April 28 – Party with the Millers
- ◆ May 20 – Flag Retirement Ceremony

All Meals: Adults: \$9.00 and Children under 12: \$5.00
PLEASE JOIN US FOR DINNER!

Knights of Columbus Hall

1114 Park Ave. West — Phone 419.529.5532

Open to all Please contact the club at 419.529.5532 to let us know how many in you party.

GARBAGE BAGS ARE BACK!

The garbage bags are back! We have received 600 rolls of yellow, blue and white garbage bags. They are available for sale in the Parish Center Office and also the High School Office. The cost is \$10.00.

- ◆ White bags 15 gallon 65 per roll tall kitchen
- ◆ Yellow bags 39 gallon 25 per roll lawn and leaf
- ◆ Blue bags 55 gallon 16 per roll super size jumbo

LENT & EASTER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

- ◆ **St. Peter's**—Confession times are on Saturday from 3:00 — 4:30 p.m.
- ◆ **St. Peter's** — **"Leave the Light On"** - Confessions will be heard from 4:00-7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 5. NO confessions after 7:00 p.m.
- ◆ **Tri-Parish Communal Penance Service** at St. Peter's Parish Mansfield, Thursday, March 23, 5:00 p.m.

DEANERY LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES

- ◆ **Bucyrus, Holy Trinity** — Thursday, March 30, 6:30p.m.
- ◆ **Crestline, St. Joseph and Bethlehem, Sacred Heart** — Palm Sunday, April 9, 3:00 p.m., at Sacred Heart
- ◆ **Galion, St. Joseph** — Wednesday, March 22, 6:30 p.m.
- ◆ **Lexington, Resurrection** — Wednesday, March 15, 7:00 p.m.,
- ◆
- ◆ **Mansfield, St. Mary** — Wednesday, March 17, 1:00 p.m., with school; Wednesday, March 29, 7:00 p.m., with PSR children; Wednesday, April 12, 6:30 p.m. until all confessions are heard.

HOLY WEEK LITURGIES — ST. PETER'S

- ◆ **Palm Sunday** — April 9, 2017
Blessing and distribution of palms and Proclamation of the Lord's Passion at all Masses.

SACRED TRIDUUM

- ◆ **Holy Thursday—April 13, 2017**
7:00 p.m. — Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, Presentation of Holy Oils, Washing of Feet, Eucharistic Procession
8:00 p.m. to Midnight — Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
11:30 p.m. — Compline (Night Prayer) for Holy Thursday
- ◆ **Good Friday — April 14, 2017**
12:00 p.m. —Interchurch Council Good Friday Service
3:00 p.m. —Celebration of The Lord's Passion
7:00 p.m. —Stations of the Cross
Compline (Night Prayer)-immediately after Stations of the Cross
- ◆ **Holy Saturday—April 15, 2017**
9:00 a.m. — Morning Prayer, Blessing of Easter foods, RCIA Anointing with the Oil of Catechumens
8:30 p.m. — Easter Vigil (Blessing of Fire & Water and reception of RCIA & Elect into the Catholic Church)
- ◆ **Easter Sunday—April 16, 2017**
Masses at regular times:
7:30 a.m. in Church
9:30 a.m. (Masses in Church and High School Auditorium)
11:30 a.m. in Church

STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT ST. PETER'S

March 17 at 5:00 p.m. April 7 at 5:00 p.m.
March 31 at 5:00 p.m. April 14 at 7:00 p.m.
March 24 at 5:00 P.m. April 14 at 7:00 p.m.

SORROWFUL MYSTERIES ROSARY ON MONDAYS AT 5:00 P.M.

March 13 March 27
March 20 April 3 April 10

WEAVE PALM SUNDAY PALMS

Do you know how to fold and weave the Palm Sunday palms into crosses and other shapes? Would you be willing to teach others after one or more of the Masses on Palm Sunday weekend (April 8 & 9)?

Contact Ann Harraman at 419-524-3275 or email

anna@earthlink.com if you are interested in doing this.

HOLY THURSDAY—WASHING OF THE FEET

Have you had your "foot" washed at the Holy Thursday Mass? If not, please consider it this year (Thursday, April 13 at 7:00 p.m.). Young people ages 8 and up, families, people of every age.

Email Sarah Rizzo rizzo.sarah@myspartans.org if you are interested. We need twelve people total.

FASTING & ABSTINENCE FOR CATHOLICS

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence.

For members of the Latin Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal. Two smaller meals may also be taken, but not to equal a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards.

If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily his Resurrection.

Out of pastoral solicitude, Bishop Daniel Thomas has formally dispensed the faithful of the Diocese of Toledo from the obligation to abstain from meat on the Memorial of Saint Patrick, Bishop, which will be observed this year on Friday, March 17. Those who choose to partake of meat on that day are encouraged to undertake another penance that day in the form of a corporal or spiritual work of mercy. In this way, a faithful Catholic still keeps the penitential spirit of a Friday in Lent and unites oneself more closely with the suffering Christ and His Church.



RECYCLING (Every 2nd Friday of the month)
April 7, 2017 — 10-11 am / 2-4 pm

Franciscan Activity Center parking lot.

BLUE BARRELS: April 8-9

Tiffin Right to Life—All persons, families and extended families of stillborn or miscarried babies are invited to a special concelebrated Mass on Wednesday, March 15, St. Joseph Parish, 36 Melmore St. Tiffin at 5:15pm followed by the recitation of the Rosary for Life. Tiffin Right to Life invites all who have experienced this trauma, even if the loss happened decades ago. Call Cheryl at 419.447.1844 for more information.

The Notre Dame Club of Mansfield will be hosting their annual St. Patrick's Day party this Thursday, March 16th from 5:30—7:30pm at the Franciscan Center. All are welcome to join us for food, fellowship, and music. There is no charge, but please bring something for the Catholic Charities food pantry if you are able.

Join Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center as we celebrate the Grand Re-Opening of Our Lady of the Pines Gift Shop on Saturday, March 18th, from 9:00-3:00pm. Come shop our new selection of Sacramental Gifts, Anne Cards, books and journals, scarves & so much more! The Pines Gift Shop is located just inside the main entrance of the Retreat Center (1250 Tiffin St., Fremont, OH) and is open weekdays from 9:00-4:00pm. Call for weekend hours, 419.332.6522.

St. Joseph Catholic Church, 117 Sandusky St., Plymouth is having their annual spaghetti dinner on Sunday, March 19 from 11-2pm sponsored by the Altar & Rosary Society. Menu: Spaghetti with homemade meat sauce, garlic bread sticks, salad, dessert & beverage. Free will offering.

SENIOR CITIZEN PROM: You are invited to the Senior Citizen Prom "Tea Party" on Sunday, March 26, 2017 at Shelby St. Mary's School Gymnasium. The youth of the St. Juan Diego and St. John Neumann Deaneries, would like to thank you for setting a great foundation for their faith. There is no cost and dress is casual. This event is for anyone over the age of 60 & their guests. (We happily welcome friends of different faiths to attend and if your "chauffeur" is under 60, they are welcome to stay.) The doors open at 3:00 p.m. There will be entertainment before dinner is served at 4:00 p.m. The menu is chicken salad sandwich, soup & dessert. To register contact Kari Owens at [419-571-3803](tel:419-571-3803) or kowens@stmaryshelby.org and simply provide all of the names of those who will be attending by March 20th.

Attention Married Couples. Spring is right around the corner. A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is like Spring, as it is a weekend full of refreshed love, rebirth, and new beginnings. All married couples deserve a richer, fuller life together! Enrich your marriage with a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. It will help you enjoy life with a new closeness to each other and God. You don't need it – you DESERVE a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend! For more information or to apply for a weekend, contact Brian & Chris Schroeder at [419-538-7210](tel:419-538-7210) or bschroeder@bright.net or go to www.wwme.org for more information. The next weekend in the Toledo Diocese is March 31-April 2, 2017 in Lima.

Join the ministry of Richland Pregnancy Services at one of our 3 locations: Fourth Street, OSU/NCSC Mansfield Campus, or Shelby Helpline Ministries. RPS offers positive options to women and men facing unplanned pregnancies and mentoring for moms and dads. Volunteer Training, Saturdays, April 1 & 8, 9-5pm. Richland Pregnancy Services, 1560 West

THE JOURNEY OF TRANSFIGURATION

"We used to be such good friends. How is it that you've moved so far away?" one man asked another. "Perhaps," the other replied, "you have moved away. By standing still." This exchange very well could have happened between Peter and Jesus, had Peter been allowed to erect tents to stay on the mount of the Transfiguration. He nearly succumbed to the temptation to stay in a place of wonder and light. But Jesus knew the hard truth: we are on a continual journey when we are walking the paths of God's will. It is not good for us to stay in one place on our faith journey. Equally unhealthy is staying put in times of joy and wonder to avoid life's difficulties, or to wallow in our trials and temptations and fail to be companions for our sisters and brothers who are also suffering—or celebrating! The pilgrim Church is required to do one thing on its Lenten journey: to walk continually with Christ as his Body born of water and the Spirit, seeking God's will, helping the reign of God to be known on earth, being led to the end of our journey, transfigured for all time into the company of heaven.

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TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

The Blessed Sacrament was not reserved in church buildings in the first centuries of the church. In those early years, of course, people met in borrowed "house churches," gathering on the Lord's Day for community, apostolic teaching, the breaking of the bread, and the prayers, as Acts of the Apostles tells us. Dispersed, people went their way into the workaday world until the next assembly. Weighing down their hearts was the absence of brothers and sisters, not only the sick, but those imprisoned for the faith. No wonder they developed a way of extending the food of the Holy Table to them.

Forty years ago, every altar boy in training heard about Saint Tarcisus. He was a twelve-year-old boy at the time of intense persecution in fourth-century Rome. His community had begun to convey the consecrated bread from their Eucharist to those condemned to death or awaiting trial. Normally deacons did this, but on one occasion, it was necessary to send the boy to bear the holy mysteries to the prison. The legend says that he was an athlete, and was detained on the way by some playmates who wanted him to join in their game. When he refused, they demanded to know what he was carrying. The situation went from bad to worse, and he was badly beaten and died of his injuries. A hundred years later, a pope called him a second St. Stephen. In the nineteenth century, Cardinal Nicholas Wiseman of England wrote a novel in which he expanded the story and popularized it. By then, no one seemed to notice that this twelve-year-old was actually touching and ministering the Eucharist, unthinkable until recently. Scholars say the story rings true: the first reason for setting some Eucharistic bread aside was not adoration, but Communion of the sick.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The LORD said to Abram: All the families of the earth shall find blessing in you

(Genesis 12:1-4a)

Psalm — Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you (Psalm 33).

Second Reading — God has called us to a holy life, not because of our works but according to grace

(2 Timothy 1:8b-10).

Gospel — Atop a high mountain, Jesus was transfigured before Peter, James, and John. (Matthew 17:1-9).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

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 17:3-7; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8;
Jn 4:5-42 [5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42]

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE:



Transfiguration is a common occurrence in families. When we commit to another, such as a spouse in marriage or a child in parenting, we are not committing to them only as they are today, but to the person they are becoming.

~ by Bud Ozar

776400 **1200** bulletins
please

St. Peter Church

104 W First Street

Mansfield, OH 44902-2199

419-524-2572

Attn: Cindy/Joyce