

## February 28<sup>th</sup> - Second Sunday of Lent



### MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

**Saturday, February 27**

9:00am † *Christopher A. Vialva*  
4:30pm † *Adelina Velasquez*

**Sunday, February 28**

8:00am  
10:00am *Brandy Sanchez (bday)*  
12:00pm † *Servando Jacquez*

**Monday, March 1**

9:00am † *Orlando Cordia Hall*

**Tuesday, March 2**

9:00am † *Brandon Bernard*

**Wednesday, March 3**

9:00am † *Alfred Bourgeois*

**Thursday, March 4**

9:00am *Edwin Ruben Zamora (bday)*

**Friday, March 5**

9:00am † *Albert & Michael Gragnani*

**Saturday, March 6**

9:00am † *Lisa Montgomery*  
4:30pm † *Cory Johnson*

### From the Desk of the Pastor ....

Our readings today recount two awe filled scenes. Abraham encounters God amid smoke and flames. God establishes a covenant with Abraham, promising him descendants as numerous as the stars in the firmament of heavens. The Gospel recounts the event on Mount Tabor, where Peter, James and John witness the stunning power of God, as Jesus is transfigured before their eyes. God's voice thunders forth: "This is my Chosen Son, Listen to Him.

On Mount Tabor, the sky was clear. Jesus was praying. As he prayed, his face shone and his clothes dazzled. On one side of him was Moses – the great lawgiver. On the other side was Elijah – the greatest of all the prophets. And as if that were not enough, there was the voice of the Father. No wonder Peter exclaimed: 'It is wonderful for us to be here!'

Then there would be another day and another Hill. This time the sky was dark. The face of Jesus was covered with sweat and blood. His clothes did not dazzle – they had been taken from him. For companions he had two thieves. There was no voice from heaven, only scoffers were heard. The disciples were shattered and wanted no part of it.

The only thing in common was that once again Jesus was praying. What sustained Him in bright and dark moments alike was his special relationship with the Father.

This special relationship is now open to us. It will sustain us through all our dark moments until the glory of Easter shines fully on us.

### PARISH COMMUNITY NEWS

**Sunday masses are celebrated at 10am in English and 12noon en espanol**

Additionally, the Sunday Mass is video streamed and made available on YouTube. It is posted on the Parish website every weekend. You may access and pray the mass at <https://www.saintjohnevangelist.org/>

**The church** is open for personal prayer and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Sundays from 8:00am to 1:00pm. The Parish thanks the Knights of Columbus, Council 615, who generously offer their time, talent and treasure in faithful stewardship every weekend, keeping watch in the church.

### 2020 CONTRIBUTIONS

"Individual Contribution acknowledgement letters" for the year 2020 will be issued by the Parish Office **upon request only**.

You must be a registered parishioner using Parish envelopes in order to receive this letter. The Parish envelope number identifies your contribution records. The Parish Office is open on Mondays and Wednesdays from 8:30am to 5:00pm

Please **call the Parish office (415-334-4646) a week ahead before dropping by to collect this letter**. Thank you.

### ARCHDIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL 2021

On behalf of the Archbishop and our Parish Finance Council I thank you for your generous and continuous financial support extended to the "Archdiocesan Annual Appeal" over the years.

We received the Archdiocesan Annual Appeal 2021 (AAA 2021) assessment letter from the office of the Archbishop. **Our 2021 AAA assessment is \$33,576**. This represents a decrease of \$5,514 from last year's amount of \$39,090.

The Parish office has embarked upon the mailing of the annual appeal letter asking you to please consider helping us meet that assessment for the new year 2021. Thank you for your continuous generosity.

**"Stations of the Cross and Via Crucis"** will be live video streamed and linked to the parish website: [www.stjohnevangelist.org](http://www.stjohnevangelist.org)

A schedule of events will be posted on this website. More information will follow as we come closer to the events.

**Jesus' Transfiguration...**The Transfiguration occurs after Peter's confession that Jesus is the Messiah and Jesus' prediction about his passion. Jesus took three of his disciples—Peter, James, and John—to a high mountain. While they are there, Elijah and Moses appear with Jesus.

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. 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.