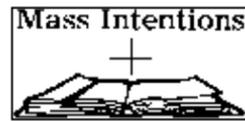


Recognizable Offering..... \$5,598.33  
Loose Cash ..... \$547.04  
Total Weekly Offering.....\$6,145.37  
Mass Attendance Feb 13/14 377



Feb 22 - Feb 28

Monday .....John T. Kutcher(+)  
Tuesday .....Clay Eilerman(liv)  
Wednesday.....Allen Scarleski(+)  
Thursday .....Harry Burgess(+)  
Friday .....Johnny C. DeJooode(+)  
Saturday .....Sherwood Fowler(+)  
**Sunday.....Mary Valentine(+)(8:00 a.m.)**  
**.....St. Peter Parishioners(10:30 a.m.)**

### HUNGERING TO GIVE BACK

This week, CRS Rice Bowl takes us to Laos, where Hongkham is using her love of cooking to provide for her family—and feed an entire school. How do we use our passions and gifts for the betterment of those we meet? Visit [crsricebowl.org](http://crsricebowl.org) for more.

### Around Town

Our community outreach ministry is in need of a couple of people who would be available on some Thursdays in April and May to help distribute backpacks at Florosa Elementary School. It only takes about 30 minutes (10 – 10:30 AM) with 4 volunteers. Contact Joni, 830-2875, to volunteer or for more information.



**Retreat for Women:**  
*The Spirituality of Christian Women in the Writings of St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein)*

sponsored by the Women Study Groups is February 27-28, 2016, at the Visitation Monastery, Mobile, AL. Leader is Reverend Mitchell Guidry. For more information and/or to register, you can pick up a brochure at the Hospitality Cart.

### Weekly Calendar of Events

- 2/21 K-5 Faith Formation - 9:15 a.m.  
Easter Choir Rehearsal - 12:15 p.m.  
SYMBOLON - 6:00 p.m.  
HS/MS Meetings - 6:00 p.m.
- 2/22 Rosary - after 8:00 a.m. Mass  
SYMBOLON - 9:30 a.m.
- 2/23 Rosary - after 8:00 a.m. Mass
- 2/24 Legion of Mary - 8:30 a.m.  
The Bible and The Virgin Mary - 6:30 p.m.
- 2/25 Adoration - 8:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
**Women's Study Group** - 9:30 a.m.
- 2/26 Fish Fry - 6:00 p.m.  
Stations of the Cross - 7:00 p.m.
- 2/28 K-5 Faith Formation - 9:15 a.m.  
Confirmation - 10:30 a.m. Mass  
Easter Choir Rehearsal - 12:15 p.m.  
SYMBOLON - 6:00 p.m.  
HS/MS Meetings - 6:00 p.m.

### Download Our New Parish App!

 Our new St. Peter Parish app is now available to download for iPhone and Android smart phones. Features include prayers, daily readings and much more. Download our app today at [myparishapp.com](http://myparishapp.com) or search your phone's app store for *myparish*.

**Parish App Feature-of-the-Week**



- List of Traditional Prayers
- Set Prayer Reminders
- Submit Prayer Requests to the parish

Learn more or download our parish app at [myparishapp.com](http://myparishapp.com)

\*Available on Apple and Android Phones



### Lenten Fish Fry/ Pot Luck & Stations of the Cross February 26th

Join in fellowship at 6:00 p.m. for our second parish fish fry of the season. Fish, hush puppies, and drinks will be provided by the parish. Please bring a meatless side dish to share or a dessert. RSVP before Feb 22nd through parish app, Flocknote, call the office, or at the Hospitality cart so we know how many are coming.

**Stations of the Cross will begin at 7:00 p.m.**



# February 21, 2016

# Dear Padre

## Can anyone practice contemplative prayer?



 Is contemplative prayer just for monks and other religious people, or can anyone practice it?

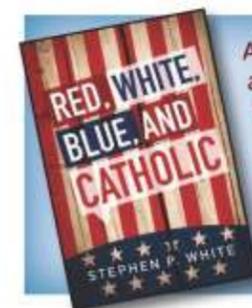
**Saint Teresa of Ávila**, a great mystical saint and doctor of the Church, said, "Mental prayer is nothing else, in my opinion, but being on terms of friendship with God, frequently conversing in secret with Him who, we know, loves us" (*The Life of St. Teresa of Ávila*, chapter VIII). By no means is contemplative prayer reserved only for professional religious men and women. Rather, it's open to all people from all walks of life. While we each may have our own individual and/or family prayer habits and preferences, I can think of no better practice for this Lenten season.

Contemplative prayer differs from other forms of meditative prayer because of its intensity, but like all forms of

prayer and meditation, in it we seek the person and presence of Jesus. As the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches, "Contemplative prayer is the simple expression of the mystery of prayer. It is a gaze of faith fixed on Jesus, an attentiveness to the Word of God, a silent love. It achieves real union with the prayer of Christ to the extent that it makes us share in his mystery" (CCC 2724).

If you need help getting started, approach your pastor, spiritual director, or another Catholic minister who is familiar with meditative prayer. He or she can guide you and/or direct you to the best resources available.

FR, TOM SANTA, CSSR  
[sundaybulletin@liguori.org](mailto:sundaybulletin@liguori.org)



**At the heart of good citizenship is love. Love for the people to which we are bound by birth and by choice. This is not a blind love, which ignores failings, but a love that wills and strives for the best for ourselves and our country. In this light, it becomes easier to see why the best thing we can do as Americans is to become the best and most faithful Catholics.**

—From *Red, White, Blue, and Catholic* by Stephen P. White

To see sample pages from this book, call us at 800-325-9521, or visit [Liguori.org](http://Liguori.org) and type the title or 826450 in the search bar.

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**Monday**  
FEBRUARY 22  
*Chair of St. Peter the Apostle*  
1 Pt 5:1–4  
Mt 16:13–19

**Tuesday**  
FEBRUARY 23  
*Lenten Weekday*  
Is 1:10, 16–20  
Mt 23:1–12

**Wednesday**  
FEBRUARY 24  
*Lenten Weekday*  
Jer 18:18–20  
Mt 20:17–28

**Thursday**  
FEBRUARY 25  
*Lenten Weekday*  
Jer 17:5–10  
Lk 16:19–31

**Friday**  
FEBRUARY 26  
*Lenten Weekday*  
Gn 37:3–4, 12–13a, 17b–28a  
Mt 21:33–43, 45–46

**Saturday**  
FEBRUARY 27  
*Lenten Weekday*  
Mi 7:14–15, 18–20  
Lk 15:1–3, 11–32

**Sunday**  
FEBRUARY 28  
*Third Sunday of Lent*  
Ex 3:1–8a, 13–15  
1 Cor 10:1–6, 10–12  
Lk 13:1–9



Second Sunday of Lent C 1  
Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18

## God's Gifts and Our Desires

There are two desires that lie deep within the human soul: descendants and property. Some people are blessed with plenty of each. Others have very little to show, even for a life lived well.

Some people receive descendants and property in different ways. They have students, disciples or friends who admire them and strive to be like them. Or they have access to the land that others own. One need not have blood descendants and deeds of property to make life worthwhile. But it is what many people want.

It is what Abram wanted. He was an old man, childless. He lived in Ur of the Chaldeans, in modern day Iraq. God made him a promise. God promised him the two desires that lay deep in his soul: descendants and **property**. **“Count the stars, if you can. Just so shall your descendants be.” And then, “To your descendants I give this land, from the Wadi of Egypt to the Great River.”** It was an amazingly generous gift. It could only come from God. It was beyond what someone could even hope for.

Because these desires are so strong, people react strongly when something goes wrong with them. If a child turns out different from what one hoped, or if property is vandalized, damaged, or lost—people feel a huge sense of betrayal and despair.

God knows the desires of our hearts. And God wants to fulfill them with the descendants and property that will unfold the divine plan.

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Second Sunday of Lent C 2  
Philippians 3:17-4:1

## Changing into Glory

Teachers have the special joy of watching students change. Right before their eyes, they see students begin the year one size and shape, and end the year with more knowledge, maturity, and life. They have a special role in this change, and they deserve all the thanks our society can give.

Change usually comes hard to us, but it is a necessary part of life. Some people, sadly, change for the worse. They meet the wrong friends and develop the wrong habits. They change their values and lose the respect of those who hoped for their future.

But when change is for the better, marvelous things happen. You grow in wisdom and understanding. You inspire others by your thoughts and deeds. And you reveal yourself as a true child of God, a citizen of heaven, growing more and more into the likeness of Christ.

Of course, the most dramatic change will come at the end. We will change from our earthly body into heavenly beings. **Paul wrote to the Philippians, “The Lord Jesus Christ will change our lowly body to conform with his glorified body.”**

Jesus demonstrated this hope in his transfiguration. Like a good teacher, he revealed the glory of God, a model for the change he has in mind for us. This Lent, let us not be discouraged by our sin, but encouraged by the vision of glory Christ holds out for us.

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## Liturgical Roles

Weekend of Feb 27/28

### 5:00 p.m.

Altar Servers: Aidan Murray  
Extraordinary Ministers: Patti Shawbitz, Michael Klickovich, Anni Labatte, Carrie Gagnon, Ken Olson  
Lectors: Paul Gagnon II, Mary Pinsoneault  
Ushers: Mickey Shawbitz, Rachel Metruck, Dan Brenton  
Greeter: Liz Simmons  
Sacristan: Joe Davison  
Elijah Cup: Aidan and Sheila Murray

### 8:00 a.m.

Altar Servers: Audrey Moore  
Extraordinary Ministers: Bobby Stockbridge, Kathy Stockbridge, Jean Jordan, Nancy McCreary, Susan Johansen  
Lectors: Michael Moore, Kathy Moore  
Ushers: Tina Henderson, Bob Flanagan, Joni Flanagan, James Johansen  
Greeter: Deidre Henderson  
Sacristan: Maria Bridges  
Elijah Cup: Eden Carter  
Coffee & Donuts: Steve Berthelette

### 10:30 a.m.

Altar Servers: Gannon Casey, Killian Casey, Patrick Sweeney, Karly Casey, Jared Dunn, Joseph Sweeney  
Extraordinary Ministers: Penny Sweeney, Rick Grecco, Alicia Grecco  
Lectors: Dawn Ciccarello, Therese Sweeney  
Ushers: John Fails, Mike Sweeney, Brian Prescott, Ray Schlitt  
Greeter: Ana Fails  
Sacristan: Mike Brennan  
Coffee & Donuts: Karen Clayton, Tom Blossman

Open Registration began at Saint Mary School for K3 through 8th Grade on February 16th. Come visit our school and take a tour of our beautiful campus! Let us help you make a Catholic education a reality. There are numerous scholarship opportunities. Cal 243-8913 for more information, and check out our website at [www.saintmaryschool.net](http://www.saintmaryschool.net)

## Liturgical Ministers for Saturday Mass Needed

Please consider offering your time to serve in a ministry at the Saturday evening, 5:00 PM Mass. We need altar servers, ushers, extraordinary ministers, and lectors. If you are already trained in one of these positions and would be willing to serve once a month on Saturday, or allow us to add you as a substitute for the Saturday Mass (so you receive sub requests when they become available), that would be a tremendous help. If you are not currently serving in one of these ministries but would like to begin, contact, Joni Flanagan, 830-2875.

Saint Peter Parish Prayer Chain: For prayer needs, please contact Susi Evers at 664-9165 or email her at [saintpeterparishprayerchain@gmail.com](mailto:saintpeterparishprayerchain@gmail.com)

Hospitalized Parishioners: If you or a family member are hospitalized, please call the Parish Office, otherwise we have no way of knowing who in our parish is there.

*In Your Daily Prayers, Please Remember our parishioners who are deployed and:*

Monday Johanna Adam\*, Charles Cummings\*, Steve Lange, Mike and Jeanne Trueting, Julie Bourge

Tuesday Lynn Graham\*, Thomas Holdsworth, Pam Stockbridge, Ashley Marie Code, Mary Eichler

Wednesday Gordon Pritchard\*, James Smith\*, Ken and Bette Dellner\*, Caroline Frederick, Pam Holt, Barbara Kirschten\*, Wilda Mayhew\*

Thursday Gene and Pam Bauchwitz\*, Robert Welniak, Frank Crowder\*, Theresa Stegall, Connie Jordan, Lucille Kesler, Clare Van Zelfden

Friday Lloyd Biehl\*, Doug Babiak\*, Sharon Lewis, Shannon Anderson, Vera Thornburg\*

Saturday Peter Adam\*, Mary Anyel\*, Joel & Leo Grieves\*, Dan Brenton\*, Harriett Warren

Sunday Theresa Fowler\* Mary Beth Downer, Greg Babiak, Tony Kelly, Jeff Harp

\*Indicates our parishioners.

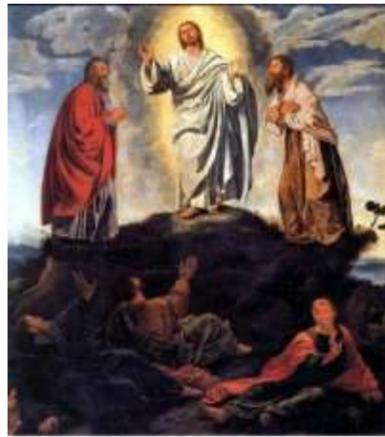
[Please call the church office if you or a family member can be removed from this prayer list.](#)

Each liturgical year on the Second Sunday of Lent our Gospel Reading recounts what we call the Transfiguration of Christ. On the First Sunday (last week) we heard one of the accounts of Jesus' temptations in the desert. There is a reason we hear this Gospel Word in this order. Last week we were informed of the temptations that await us, especially during this Holy Lenten period.

This week the way to overcome these temptations is revealed. The word "transfiguration" comes from the Latin *trans*, which means "across" and *figura*, meaning "form" or "shape." It signifies a change of form or appearance, and this is exactly what happened to Jesus; His appearance changed and became glorious.

The description of the Transfiguration occurs in all three Synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark, and Luke). This is a proclamation of the Lord's divinity. It is intended for all of us. In fact, each of us is invited, just as Peter, James, and John are, to become a part of this experience. We are called to conversion and witness of the truth.

That is what Lent should be all about for us. The stewardship message is that we need to strive for conversion, for grasping the hope offered by Christ. St. Thomas Aquinas wrote, "At His Transfiguration Christ showed His disciples the splendor of His beauty, to which He will shape and color those who are His." Are we His? The Catechism of the Catholic Church says, "Christ, Head of the Church, manifests what His Body contains and radiates the sacraments, 'the hope of glory.'" (CCC 568)



### Living God's Word

While we pray that one day we will see the Lord in his glory, we can also ask, even now, that we may receive a glimpse of that glory as we walk by faith. We pray that we may live in awareness of the presence of God.

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From the top of Mount Tabor in Israel, the supposed site of Jesus' transfiguration, visitors can see clearly across the valley to the distant Golan Heights some forty-five miles away. The view takes your breath away. When I was in the valley, I could only see the immediate area, but at the top I was mesmerized by both the distance and the beauty of the land. Maybe that's why mountains have always been places of prayer, of divine unveiling, and why Jesus took Peter, James, and John up to the top of a mountain to experience this vision of his glory. He wanted them to see more than their daily life and work. He wanted them to see further than they ever thought they could. He wanted them to see the depths of who he was in a new and profound way. It was important that

they do this. The transfiguration happens in the midst of Jesus' predictions of his passion and death, before he begins his deliberate journey to Jerusalem. Without an image of the glorified Christ, the apostles might not have had the courage to continue following him.

Like the story of Jesus' temptation in the desert, we hear this transfiguration account every Lent. Jesus takes the Church, and each one of us, up the mountain and dares us to see further, better, more deeply than ever before. Through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, he dares us to leave what we know, listen to him, and follow in his footsteps. May we have the courage to accept the challenge.

MARY KATHARINE DEELEY  
sundaybulletin@liguori.org

# BISHOP'S Charity Gala

CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITIES

benefiting



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**MOST REVEREND GREGORY PARKES**  
BISHOP OF PENSACOLA-TALLAHASSEE

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**A Word From Pope Francis**  
"We all need to go apart, to ascend the mountain in a space of silence, to find ourselves and better perceive the voice of the Lord. This we do in prayer."  
—Angeles, March 16, 2014



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