

## 2nd Sunday of Lent

How are your Lenten resolutions? By the time week two rolls around, plenty of well-meaning people have skipped, neglected, or outright forgotten their Lenten resolutions at least once. It can be easy to start excusing our Lenten commitments altogether.

Last week we saw Jesus driven into the desert. This Sunday, we see Jesus leading his disciples to an equally barren place: he "led them up a high mountain apart by themselves." But what happens there? "And he was transfigured before them and his clothes became dazzling white." Today's Gospel reminds us of the goal. We don't enter into the desert for the sake of suffering, but for the sake of transformation.

Mountain imagery is prevalent throughout Scripture. The sacrifice of Isaac, Moses receiving the 10 Commandments, Elijah's revelation of God as a tiny whispering sound: all these occur on the mountaintop. Mountains are strenuous to hike. To assist the traveler in the ascent, trails often involve switchbacks. These lead the traveler back and forth across the mountainside, sometimes appearing as if hardly any ground is gained. Perhaps Peter, James, and John hiked a similar path as Jesus led them up the side of Mount Tabor.

A climb is difficult. A climb in a barren place leaves you thirsty, exhausted, and quite possibly frustrated or discouraged. Yet this is precisely how Jesus leads his closest disciples. Why? Because he has something to reveal to them. Practically speaking, Jesus needed to bring Peter, James and John away from the crowds for this revelation of glory to remain hidden. There are spiritual truths we will encounter only if we pass through difficulty. So let's persevere this Lent! Today's Gospel invites us to trust that, if we persevere in following Jesus, he'll lead us to something beautiful and glorious as well.

### Sunday Collection

Collection for Sunday, February 17 & 18, 2018 was \$3,642.50.

### St. Francis of Paola Now Open Weekdays

The Church of St. Francis of Paola will now remain open during daytime hours weekdays Monday through Friday 7am to 2pm. Come and spend some time with the Lord.

## 2º Domingo de la Cuaresma

Las presiones de la vida, frecuentemente nos fuerzan a detenernos y escuchar - unos a otros, a nosotros mismos y a Dios. Pero, solamente, tomando tiempo para escuchar se puede crecer en relaciones, tener calidad de vida, entendimiento propio y el discipulado. Esto es lo que pasó a Pedro, Santiago y Juan el día de la Transfiguración del Señor. Fueron llamados a escuchar, ver, y oír lo que pasaba a su alrededor. Ellos fueron testigos oculares de una escena teofánica, que da respuesta a la pregunta de ¿Quién es Jesús? Vieron una especie de preludio pascual. Ahora, imagina la escena, está presente en ese momento, cierra los ojos y contempla, escucha, siente y vive lo mismo que los apóstoles. ¿Qué ves, que escuchas, que sientes al contemplar tan grande belleza?

Los ingenuos discípulos, querían hacer tres tiendas y quedarse allí para siempre. Si como lo escuchas, para siempre. Quieren un deseo imposible, permanecer en la gloria e evitar el sufrimiento. De repente la voz de Dios los vuelve a la realidad. "Este es mi Hijo, el amado, escúchenlo". (Marcos 9:7). Al momento, se va la ilusión. El Mesías tenía que padecer una muerte de Cruz. Ellos entendieron todo después de la resurrección. Marcos, ahora, nos ayuda a comprender una anticipación de la gloria de Jesús que se avecinaba. Pidamos a Dios esta semana por la gracia de saber escuchar donde Él está. Abraham supo escuchar a Dios y obedecerlo, Pedro, Santiago y Juan hicieron lo suyo. Ahora, es nuestro tiempo de escuchar y aprender. ¿Dónde crees que puedes escuchar la voz de Dios en esta semana?

#### Readings for the Week of February 25, 2018

Sunday:	Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 [9]/Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10
Monday:	Dn 9:4b-10/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13 [cf. 103:10a]/Lk 6:36-38
Tuesday:	Is 1:10, 16-20/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23 [23b]/Mt 23:1-12
Wednesday:	Jer 18:18-20/Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16 [17b]/Mt 20:17-28
Thursday:	Jer 17:5-10/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [40:5a]/Lk 16:19-31
Friday:	Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21 [5a]/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
Saturday:	Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 [8a]/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
Next Sunday:	Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [Jn 6:68c]/1 Cor 1:22-25/Jn 2:13-25
Scrutiny:	Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 [8]/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

## SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

### A Message from Fr. Tom

God asks Abraham to sacrifice his first-born son Isaac. This story presents a problem religious people have struggled with for ages. It is hard to receive *any kind of* a message, moral or otherwise from a request, is just so unreasonable. We can approach this story by recognizing that the legitimacy of this request is not the point. Rather focus on:

- The fact that Abraham is tested by God. And, Abraham passes the test. Abraham is submissive to God's will.
- Second, the story reveals to us the type of relationship between God and his Son Jesus. Jesus is submissive to the will of the Father.

We can look at human history and read a story of exploitation and injustice written with very large letters. Some say that for human society to survive in some form or another human sacrifice must be practiced. We know human sacrifice was a significant practice for much of early human civilization. Yet we should not be so deluded in thinking that in our own time we are beyond this tendency. Consider the very recent exploitation of Native Americans or the practice of slavery which was an important part of the economic development of this country. And it lasted for over 300 years! We value things and disrespect the value of people. In our own time we say the practice of slavery is a thing of the past and yet how many undocumented—especially from Asia—essentially live as slaves in our midst. Women are bought and sold to work as prostitutes right here in New York City. There was an article about this recently in the newspaper 'El Diario.' It is a matter of record that over forty percent of pregnancies in the Hispanic community in New York City end in abortion; and for African Americans the number is sixty percent. Who among us can deny that a significant characteristic of human society in our own time is exploitation and death?

Jesus by his suffering and death on the cross breaks the cycle of exploitation and death that surrounds us. Jesus by his life and sacrificial death offers humanity an escape from this endless cycle. It is God who sacrifices himself for us. We have a God that does not ask for death, but rather invites us to bring to life his divine will in our lives. Therefore, we should ask ourselves the question what represents authentic religion. God desires that we sacrifice ourselves in acts of charity, justice and kindness. The glory of the transfiguration

of Jesus is the anticipation of the glory of all human life that is submissive to God's divine will. **Fr. Tom**

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### Congratulations

We congratulate the following students from our parish who have received academic distinction at the following School:

#### Msgr. McClancy Memorial High School

Steven Clementi	First Honors
Antonio Cipriano	Second Honors

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### Divine Mercy Parish

#### Church Restoration Memorials 2018

If you would like to let someone (a family member, friend, etc.) know how special they are to you, or to honor the memory of a deceased loved one or in the name of your family please consider one of the following Church Restoration Memorial's. An engraved brass plaque or a material tag will be affixed on or near the fixture noting your dedication.

#### St. Francis of Paola Church

Restoration of O. L. Mt. Carmel Statue	\$ 500.00
New Vestment	\$ 500.00
Funeral Pall	\$ 1,500.00
Window Restoration	\$ 2,000.00
Garden Trellis for St. Francis	\$ 3,000.00

#### St. Cecilia Church

Chapel Restored Pews	\$ 1,500.00
Funeral Pall	\$ 1,500.00
Remounting St. Cecilia Mural	\$ 2,000.00
Chapel Sanctuary Mosaic	\$ 2,000.00
Organ Restoration	\$ 5,000.00
Restored Pulpit	\$ 10,000.00

#### St. Nicholas Church

New Vestment	\$ 500.00
Funeral Pall	\$ 1,500.00
Organ Restoration	\$ 2,000.00
Baptismal Font	\$ 3,000.00

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### Stations of the Cross During Lent

St. Cecilia	Thursday's 12:30pm (English)
St. Francis of Paola	Friday's 7:00pm (English/Italian)
St. Nicholas	Friday's 7:00pm (Spanish)

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### Wedding Banns

James Coppinger & Sarah Beckhart  
Daniel Balmert & Meghan Ventura  
Christopher Copeland & Mary Emmi

**SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

**GIFTS OF LOVE EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY  
AT DIVINE MERCY PARISH  
ALL ARE WELCOME**

*For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome...” (Matt. 25:35-36)*

“Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.” Hebrews 13:16

When we serve the poor, we love God. When we use the time, talent and treasure that is given to us by God to help those less fortunate, we become the hands and feet of God in our world. Service to the needy- almsgiving - is an essential part of our Lenten devotion and Catholic tradition.

Specific items needed this week: **Hot Chocolate, Tea, Coffee**

Food Pantry Coordinator and Volunteers

**St. Francis of Paola Church  
Memorial Gifts – February 25, 2018**

**BREAD & WINE**

Jesus Christ, Saints and Angels by Gertradis Vidot Linares

**Registration for 2018-19  
is Now Open At**

**QUEEN OF THE ROSARY CATHOLIC ACADEMY**

Don't miss out on scholarship opportunities!

Received a scholarship last year?

Re-apply by March 30, 2018

First time scholarship applicant?

Apply by April 30, 2018

[www.futuresineducation.org](http://www.futuresineducation.org)

To learn about the benefits of a Catholic education, please contact Principal James Daino at 718-388-7992.

**WE'RE SAVING A SEAT FOR YOU!**

11 Catherine Street, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11211

[www.queenoftherosarybrooklyn.org](http://www.queenoftherosarybrooklyn.org)

**Religious Education Time & Talent**

In love I give my time

- Michael G. in singing
- Alanis S. in dancing
- Antonio A. in shoveling snow
- Carlie M. helping my friends in school

**Mass Intentions for the Week  
St. Francis of Paola Church**

**Saturday, February 24, 2018**

5:00pm Deceased Members of the Grieco & Ferzola Families by Rose Ferzola

**Sunday, February 25, 2018**

8:00am For the People of Divine Mercy Parish  
 11:30am Sofia Ramirez  
 Sabino Godice  
 Deacon John Orlandello by St. Theresa Guild

**Monday, February 26, 2018**

7:45am Michael & Angelina D'Annunzio by Grandchildren

**Tuesday, February 27, 2018**

7:45am Antonio & Maria Trocchio by daughter Christina

**Wednesday, February 28, 2018**

7:45am Linda Anacrelico by Dittus Family

**Thursday, March 1, 2018**

7:45am Linda Anacrelico by Pasko Family

**Friday, March 2, 2018**

7:45am Charles Naccari by wife Jeanne

**Saturday, March 3, 2018**

7:45am Dorothy Wisniewski by Colon Family  
 5:00pm Sofia Ramirez

**Sunday, March 4, 2018**

8:00am De Martino Family by Family  
 11:30am Pietro Paolo Bianco by Maria Sciotti

**Save the Date**

- Sun., March 11 Daylight Savings Time begins
- Sun., March 25 Palm Sunday
- Mon., March 26 Reconciliation Monday
- Thurs., March 29 Holy Thursday
- Fri., March 30 Good Friday
- Sat., March 31 Easter Vigil
- Sun., April 1 Easter Sunday
- Fri., April 6 40 Hours Devotion
- Sun., April 8 Divine Mercy Sunday

**Choir:** Come join the Divine Mercy Parish Choir. Rehearsals will be held every other Thursday, (3/1, 3/15, 4/5) at St. Cecilia Church from 6:30pm to 8:15pm.

FEBRUARY 25, 2018

## Mass Intentions for the Week

### St. Nicholas Church

#### Sunday, February 25, 2018

10:30am Carsillo

#### Sunday, March 4, 2018

10:30am Open Intention

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### Pray For the Sick

Carlos Linares, John H. Pelletier, Karen Marchione, Wanda Zadwarny, Clara Chang, Maria D'Amato, Nicola Loguercio, James Smith, Pietrina Morena, Ralph Varano, Rae Pacifico, Louis Carnivale, Catherine Carnivale, Dora Logosso, John Porcelli, Carmella Caiafa, Carol Reilly, Nancy & Vincent Gonzeles, Arthur Salerno, Pat Stead, Marilyn & Joe, Thomas Veneski

### Pray for the Recently Deceased

Jonathan Barkhouse, Rose Heffernan, Eleanor Rossner, Vincent Socci, Joan Toner, Carl Joseph Wallin, John Caiafa, Domingo Rodriguez

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### Regulations for Lent

**ABSTINENCE** The faithful who have reached 14 years of age are required to abstain totally from meat on GOOD FRIDAY and the FRIDAYS of Lent.

**FASTING** All the faithful between the ages of 18 and 59 are bound to fast on GOOD FRIDAY. This practice involves limiting oneself to a single full meal and avoiding food between meals. If need be two lighter meals may be taken.

**PENANCE & EUCHARIST** The faithful are encouraged to receive the Eucharist and participate in the Sacrament of Penance or Reconciliation frequently, especially during Lent.

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### Praying the Rosary

On March 4, the first Sunday of the month the rosary will be prayed 20 minutes before the 9:30am Mass at our Parish Church of St. Cecilia.

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### Nocturnal Adoration

All are invited to attend the monthly Nocturnal Adoration on Saturday, March 3, 2018 in St. Cecilia's Chapel, located at 84 Herbert Street at 8pm.

## Mass Intentions for the Week

### St. Cecilia Church

#### Sunday, February 25, 2018

9:30am Patrick Del Vicario

Margaret Korte

Eleanor Rossner

Armand Fiordelisi

7:00pm For all creatures who have been abandoned and abused

#### Monday, February 26, 2018

8:30am Open Intention

#### Tuesday, February 27, 2018

8:30am Open Intention

#### Wednesday, February 28, 2018

8:30am Open Intention

#### Thursday, March 1, 2018

8:30am Open Intention

#### Friday, March 2, 2018 - First Friday

8:30am Purgatorial Society

#### Saturday, March 3, 2018

8:30am Arthur Knapp, Sr.

#### Sunday, March 4, 2018

9:30am For the People of Divine Mercy Parish

7:00pm Open Intention

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### Rosary Society of DMP

The next meeting of the Rosary Society will take place on Wednesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, in the St. Cecilia Auditorium at 7:00pm.

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### St. Theresa Guild

The next meeting of the St. Theresa Guild will take place on Thursday, March 8, 2018, at 7pm in the St. Francis of Paola Rectory basement. Please note the earlier start time, which will allow us to serve refreshments and have a brief business meeting immediately followed by the movie "Risen" (at approximately 7:30pm). No raffles will be sold this evening. New members are always welcome.

Please join in prayer following the 5pm Mass on Saturday, March 3, 2018, at St. Francis of Paola Church. We will assemble in the front left pews.

**END OF BULLETIN**  
**ANY TEXT OR GRAPHICS ENTERED ON THIS PAGE**  
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CHURCH NAME: **Divine Mercy Parish**

CHURCH CITY: **Brooklyn, NY**

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EDITOR/ CONTACT: **Maryann**

**CURRENT FORMAT: EBSWUE**

**Comments:**

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### **Memorial Gifts- At Divine Mercy Parish**

Memorial Gifts are a wonderful way to honor and remember your loved ones. Please come to the Rectory (or call) for information and available dates.

The following Memorial Gifts are available for the week:

Bread & Wine	Sanctuary Lamp	Tabernacle Candles	Altar Candles
	Blessed Mother Candles	St. Joseph Candles	

Also available are Tree of Life Memorial Leaf and Blessed Mother Yearly Candle (this candle is lit for a year).

All Memorials can be In Honor Of or Remembrance Of a family member or friend.

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