

February 28, 2021
Second Sunday of Lent
Genesis 22: 1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18
Psalms 116
Romans 8: 31b-34
Mark 9: 2-10

It Takes Time

Some matters of life are easy for me to comprehend. Others take me some time.

God understands the creatures he has made. We human beings learn a little at a time. Knowledge builds on what was learned previously. Wisdom rises from knowledge applied to life's situations. Eventually we come to make sense of the course of life and recognize God has been a part of it all.

The story we read today about Abraham and the sacrifice of his son is very profound. The Old Testament presents us with a situation that is harsh. Many times things in the Old Testament seem cruel. To test Abraham's faith, obedience and trust he is asked by God to sacrifice his only son for whom he waited a lifetime. Abraham, servant of God, trusted the divine plan. He figured there must be a purpose to God's request beyond what was immediately apparent.

More than for Abraham this episode in Genesis is a witness to us today. It witnesses to God's interaction with humankind and our response to God. God involves himself with us in an intimate way. The story of Abraham shows us humankind is able to respond to God's guidance. Abraham vindicated himself as he responded to God with great obedience and devotion. His son survived and became the path to multiple generations of people, the legacy of Abraham. These people would be guided by God and, for the most part, obedient as and devoted as Abraham was. Saint Paul gives us more confidence.

Saint Paul declares God is for us! There is no one who might be against us who may ultimately prevail over us in an evil way.

Finally, the gospel story shows us the great glory of Jesus Christ. He is transfigured before the eyes of a select group of apostles. The Father (God) makes clear by declaration Jesus is the messiah. These apostles get a glimpse of what is yet to come. That is Jesus's Resurrection and Ascension. This is a moment of glory but "the story" is not over yet. There is still the passion, death, resurrection, ascension and sending of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. And then there is the growth of the Church to this day. It all takes time.

Perhaps you are able to see in this short column the progression of God's revelation to us. Moreover, you

may see how we humans take time to come to knowledge and understanding. It is a process that happens little by little. What is beautiful and encouraging is God accommodates us along the way. In his compassion he shows patience.

As you progress through life it will take time to appreciate your own understanding of God's relationship with you. Or, should it be said, you may come to appreciate your relationship with God.

Keep praying, reading scripture, and participating in the Sunday Liturgy. You will see your relationship with God grow. It takes time.

<u>Stewardship</u>	
Ash Wednesday Attendance:	118
Ash Wednesday tithes:	\$1,193.00
Attendance last week:	238
Tithes Collected:	\$3,859.00
Online Giving:	\$610.00
Total:	\$4,469.00
Thank you!	

Next weeks' second collection is for the Church in Latin America

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS
Ex20:1-17; 1Cor1:22-25; Jn2:13-25

Lenten Disciplines

- Wish "Peace" and "God Bless You" to people.
- Give to the "Operation Utility Bag" project.
- Put out positive comments on Social Media.
- Pray for Vocations.

LITURGY FOR FEBRUARY 28, 2021
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT-B

- **SONG # 1: CHRIST IN ME ARISE (T. Thomson)**

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**CHRIST IN ME ARISE AND DISPEL ALL THE DARKNESS.
CHRIST IN ME ARISE WITH YOUR POWER AND YOUR
STRENGTH. CHRIST IN ME POUR OUT YOUR BLESSING AND
HEALING. CHRIST IN ME ARISE AND I SHALL RISE WITH
YOU.**

1. Be now my vision; open these eyes, showing me all that I must see. Onward to the kingdom, you are the way. Arise in me and I shall rise with you.
 2. Be now my footsteps, leading the way, taking me where I must go. . Onward to the kingdom, you are the way. Arise in me and I shall rise with you.
- **PSALM 116: I WILL WALK BEFORE THE LORD, IN THE LAND OF THE LIVING.(Pérez-Cuan)**

SONG # 2: TRANSFIGURE US, O LORD (B.Hurd)

TRANSFIGURE US, O LORD, TRANSFIGURE US, O LORD. BREAK THE CHAINS THAT BIND US; SPEAK YOUR HEALING WORD, AND WHERE YOU LEAD WE'LL FOLLOW. TRANSFIGURE US, O LORD.

1. Down from heights of glory into the depths below, the love of God self-emptied, the love of God to show. You light the path before us, the way that we must go.
2. Light for those in darkness, the hungry have their fill, glad tiding for the humble, the healing of all ills; in these we glimpse your glory, God's promises fulfilled.
3. Pardon for the sinner, a shepherd for the sheep, a drink of living water for all who thirst and seek, and feasting at your table, the lowly and the least.

• **SONG # 3: ONE LOVE RELEASED (Frenzel/Keil)**
ONE BREAD, ONE BODY, ONE CUP, ONE CALL, ONE FAITH, ONE SPIRIT PRESENT IN US ALL. ONE PRAYER, ONE BLESSING, ONE HOPE, ONE PEACE, ONE CHURCH, ONE PEOPLE, ONE LOVE RELEASED.

1. Is not this bread we share, the body of our Lord? Is not this wine we drink, the blood of Christ out-poured?
2. I am the bread of life, eat and you shall live. To those who share this meal, my strength I'll always give.
3. I am the living bread, as manna from the sky. This bread I give to you, that you may never die.
4. No one will come to me, unless our God has led. And I shall raise them up, raise them from the dead!

SONG #4: SACRED SILENCE (Booth/Pixler)

SACRED SILENCE, HOLY OCEAN, GENTLE WATER, WASHING OVER ME; HELP ME LISTEN, HOLY SPIRIT. COME AND SPEAK TO ME.

1. God my Father, Christ my brother, Holy Spirit, sanctifying me; Lord I'm sorry, please forgive me. Come and set me free.
2. Holy Mary, gentle mother, God's pure vessel, praying for me; saints and angels, all in heaven, come and be with me.

• **SONG # 5: BEYOND THE DAYS (R. Manalo)**
BEYOND THE DAYS OF HOPE AND MYSTERY WE SEE A LIGHT OF FAITH RENEWED, AND IN OUR LONGING WE THRIST FOR GUIDANCE TO WALK WITH YOU DAY BY DAY, TO WALK WITH YOU DAY BY DAY.

1. Forty days and nights, you guide the steps of our journey. May your presence be felt in the whisper of your voice.
2. Not on bread alone we are to walk on this journey. Speak the words that give life to the yearning of our hearts.
3. In your hands, O God, we feel the touch of your guidance. Keep us safe in your care: may your gentleness be there.
4. On your Lenten path we see the dawn of a new day. Be our vision of hope; be the promise of our lives.

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PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Joe Alfaro, Jordan Almendral, JoAnn Anderson, Michael Beard, Karen Becker, Mary Benivegna, Margarita Bogle, Tom Carver, Sean Chin, Robert Clark, Mary Collis, John Cooper, Logan Costante, Gregoria Daen, Sam DeMarco, Ines DeSalle, Roseanne DeSimone, Lisa DeStasio, John Dooney, Nelson Douaihi, Peggy Duff, Susan Fabbri, Lisa Findlay, Megan Forrester, Joshua Freeman, Richard Gossett, Ana Gilajota, Stephen Goch, Keri Greenan, Richard & Cathy Harper, Tyler Harrison, Cindy Hogman, Tiffany Kentosh, Butch Klinger, John LaNeve, Rey Lizcano, Judith Kolo, Tamika Lee, Bernie Ligget, Gail Martin, Sean Martin, Mary McKelvey, Betsy McMahan, Clare McMahan, Frank McNeil, Dan Murphy, Teresita Nazareno, Lauren Nicole, Thomas O'Brien, Barbara Perry, Della Mae Reblin, Lucy Reitano, Coleen Riley, Dee Ripple, Matilda Rivier, Charles Rousseau, Anthony Ruggiero, Theresa Schluter, Brad Schroder, Ellen Seaman, Roger Sherman, Jim Smullen, Vivian Spasiano, Rick Steffan, M. Stoufer, Richard Taylor, Antoinette Teresi, Constantino Thomas, Margarita Verano, Peggy Weiss, Ed Wrisley, Nancy Zakem, Marie & Jeff, Lucas Zaky

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 27

- 4:00 p.m. † Morris Wiener by wife Maria
† Jean Ingraham by Linda & Peggy

Sunday, February 28

- 9:00 a.m. † Lenny Conforti by Frank Malatasta
10:45 a.m. For Vocations
† James Newton Lockett, Sr. by Sean Kennedy

Monday, March 1

- 8:00 a.m. NO MASS

Tuesday, March 2

- 8:00 a.m. † Alan Gordon by Anita

Wednesday, March 3

- 8:00 a.m. † Paul Cohen by John

Thursday, March 4

- 8:00 a.m. † Anita Polt by Family

Friday, March 5

- 8:00 a.m. † Andrew Murphy by Doris Emmett

Saturday, March 6

- 4:00 p.m. † James Riedy by Friends
† Jean Ingraham by Linda & Peggy

Sunday, March 7

- 9:00 a.m. Blessed Sacrament Parish
10:45 a.m. † Candida Martin by children/grandchildren
† Fernando Armenti by Angiolino Armenti