



**St. Joseph Catholic Church**  
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**Parish: 907-443-5527; Cell 907-434-6117**  
**Second Sunday Lent 3.12.2017**

**Announcements**  
***Lent is a time of fasting, prayer, and acts of charity. Also a time to confession our sins and being consoled of our sinfulness***

St. Joseph			
1118.00			

Due to age, the washer and dryer needs to be replaced. Cost is \$1800.00. Please consider a donation to help replace the washer and dryer.

**There are no shortcuts  
when it comes to getting out of debt.**



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**March 12 – 17 Fr. Kuffel will be in Anchorage for the Priest Convocation of Alaska.**  
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**March 17 – 23 Fr. Kuffel will be in Kotz.**  
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**Stewardship: Prayer**

Lord Jesus, through your passion, death, and resurrection you give me everything and make it possible for me to become a partaker in your divine nature.

**I accept your gift.**

Come into my heart more and more each day and as you do, inspire me to give myself fully to the people in my life.

Let me look for ways to give more of my time, presence, and treasure to those I live with, those I work with, those I meet today.

Give me a heart that burns with generosity so that I may surrender the illusion of control in my life and trust nothing more than to trust in you.

You are my all in all and I trust my life, my family, my work, my relationships, my well-being, my entire life and eternity to your loving care. I ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen

**Being a faithful steward  
 Begins with prayer.  
 Lent is a time to pray!**

Here are some questions to reflect on:

1. How many times have you read the entire bible?
2. How many times have you come to Church to visit our Lord in the Tabernacle?
3. Do you make an effort to come to the extra devotions that are available during Lent?
4. Do you ever plan on attending a daily Mass?

Stewardship is a relationship with God knowing He is your Father and Jesus is your Saviour.

Stewardship recognizes what God has done for you. In turn you make it a point to offer thanks to HIM!

**Sunday a Day of Rest – IN GOD**

Society demands us to be busy – extremely busy! We rush about relying upon our own strength to solve all our struggles. This is the root of greed. Greed has become a virtue now: Trust in yourself and your own abilities.

It's exhausting always to be running. It is deceptive to rely upon our own strength and will power to deal with all our responsibilities. We need synergy: that is we need the power of partnership. Combined energies create more force than when one single person can. Two horses can pull the weight of 4 single horses. Birds fly thousands of miles by flying in formation. Just as a bike rider what the peloton does for him.

However, rest makes people feel guilty. But busyness is not a badge of honor—it's a code red. And it's actually unbiblical. *"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light"* (Matt 11:28). We need to rest, not just take a break, but to rest in God's presence.

In the Creation Narrative, God rested on the seventh day. He asked Adam and Eve to rest on the seventh day. He doesn't just call us to rest; that is take a break from life and go do some hobby. What God actually calls us to do is Rest In Him!

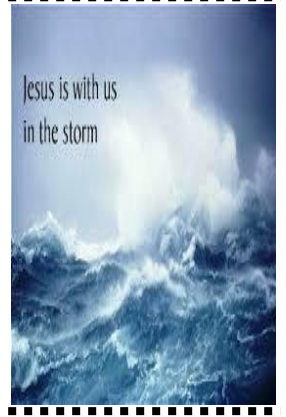
The seventh day is not just a term for the week. The seventh day, that is to seventh oneself, means to enter into a covenant. The Hebrew word for seven is the same word as covenant. On the Seventh Day, God made a covenant with us; that is He binds Himself to us and we are to bind ourselves to Him.

Jesus during the Last Supper tells us *Then he took the bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, This is my body, which will be given for you; do this in memory of me. And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup is the New Covenant in my blood, which will be shed for you* (Lk 22:20).

Sundays are not just to take a break, but to renew our relationship with God for the covenant tells us that God is a bridegroom, Jesus, and we, the church, are the bride. In other words, we are to rest that is embrace and be embraced in God's love for us. That is what Sundays are for.

Lent prepares us for the great Sunday: Easter Sunday. That we rest in the resurrected Lord Who will raise us up in his love.

Sundays are not a day to catch up on chores, old friends, visit relatives, attend sporting events, or go on a vacation. This is tempting. This is what most people do. These activities are not restful. In fact they can be downright draining. Resting in God is anything but taxing; it is restorative. Just as a couple rest in embrace so that is what we are to do on Sunday: Rest in God's embrace.

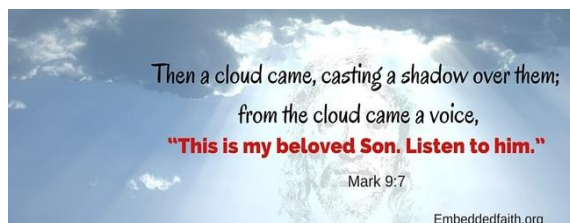


**Rise,  
 Do not be  
 afraid.**



## Weekly Schedule:

Date	Mass Time	Place	Feast Day	Lector/Minister	Intention	Activity
Mon Mar 13	No Mass				Alex Martinez	
Tue Mar 14	No Mass				Caleb Richter	
Wed Mar 15	No Mass				Caleb Richter	
Thu Mar 16	No Mass				Sarah Korpan	Bible Study
Fri Mar 17	No Mass				Sarah Korpan	
Sat Mar 18	6:00 PM	Kotz	Third Lent	B. Brennan	Fr. Murphy	
Sun Mar 19	11:00 AM	Kotz	Third Lent	L. Mavac	St. Francis Parish	



**Divinization requires radical trust!**  
**In our brokenness, sinfulness, and imperfections,**  
**How can I aspire to become perfect as God expects**  
**is laughable if not downright offensive.**  
**Except**  
**That is exactly what God has told us He intends to do!**

### Greatness: Are you Great?

We all seek greatness, but to achieve greatness demands heroic efforts on our part. Heroism is not merely being at the right place at the right time, but is a lifelong commitment to do what is right. It is a commitment to discipline, which builds character, which in turn, disposes us for greatness.

Heroes are not born they are made: made from the stuff that sets them apart from the common and conventional attitudes of weak-minded persons. They look to explore the unknown and experience the agony of defeat and the glory of victory. Fearless and dauntless they face life confident, triumphant, and dominant. How are these heroes made?

Many think the luck of the draw makes heroes. For those who have succeeded, however, they reveal that it was not mere luck, but influence. Great leaders are not lucky, they are trained.

Spiritual heroes are in love with God. More so than in anything else in this world, God is their priority. Seeing their example, we are moved to seek the same bond that they have with God.

“Our deepest need is to belong, to be in a relationship, to have a spiritual and emotional ‘home.’ The very nature of God is to be in relationship: ‘God is love,’ says 1 John 4:16. Love means relationship – caring, committed connection of one individual to another (Boundaries Dr. Henry Cloud, Dr. John Townsend p. 64).

### Peter is Chosen

The beginning of this process to create new heroic leaders begins with Jesus Who invites us into his inner circle. This inner circle is the call of Christ. He called twelve men and out of those twelve He chose three to be always at his side especially at the most critical and crucial times.

When Jesus raised the little girl He took with him Peter, James and John (Mk 5:36 – 43). When Jesus suffered his agony in the garden Peter, James, and John were with Him. When Jesus went up to Mount Tabor, Peter, James, and John witnessed the transfiguration. Jesus always chooses these three to be part of his inner circle.

The inner circle of Jesus was not exclusion but empowerment. Jesus did not exclude the others, but were training these three so that they could replace him; so they could do what He did!

Look at Peter who witnessed the resurrection of the little girl. It was Peter who raised the little girl, Tabitha, from the dead (Act 9: 39 – 41). It was Peter who became the new Jesus because Jesus empowered Peter: “Simon, Simon, behold Satan has demanded to sift all of you like wheat, but I have prayed that your own faith may not fail; and once you have turned back, you must strengthen your brothers” (Lk 22:3- 32). Empowered by his relationship with Christ, Peter becomes the leader after the death of Jesus.

### Transfiguration!

This leadership quality was not merely for Peter, but for us as well. Today we are privileged to read the secret of the transfiguration.

On the Mount, Peter, James, and John see. They see, hear and feel God in all his glory manifested in Christ. This is not merely a secret tale that we are privileged to read about, but we are called to be part of the inner circle of Peter, James, and John.

Through their experience, we undergo the same encounter. Jesus wants to empower us with the same power that He gave Peter. “The transfiguration is precisely a sign of this divine power, which entered human history with Christ’s coming. It has the power to transform humanity into God’s likeness, the power to divinize mankind. The Lord’s transfiguration is a sign and symbol of this power of God” (John Paul II).

### God’s Power

God’s power is ours if we allow ourselves to be transfigured. God creates us to be in his image and likeness. To be like God, we have to become divine. God bonds his glory with our humanity. This is our transfiguration. This is our rebirth. This is what happens to us at Baptism; this is strengthened at Confirmation. This is what Easter Celebrates: God’s Power transfiguring us into his image.

### Satan’s Power

However, Satan wishes to corrupt our transfiguration. We must be “Alert, faithful against temptations, which cloud the mind and subject it to the dominion of the senses” (John Paul).

To be free from the lust of the senses and false prophets who promote disfiguration of our divine dignity we must “instill in (our) souls love for the Church, the image of God on earth, the power of the truth which makes us free, and the enjoyment of the beauty of one who redeems his body from the corruption of sin with the help of the grace of the sacraments, one who restores his own dignity in order to acquire a tide to the supernatural immortality of the resurrection and eternal life” (John Paul II).

### The Inner Circle

Unless we become part of the inner circle of Christ, we cannot partake in the transfiguration. Without being transfigured, we are without the resurrection. Hopeless, our lives enter the darkness of evil.

To be resurrected from the evil that surrounds us, we have to be fully transfigured by our relationship with Christ.

In an intimate and bonded covenant we have the support structure to grow into the likeness and image of God as He designed us to be.

United with Jesus, we set the transfiguration as our goal. Then we prioritize this goal as the most important goal there is. Lastly and most importantly, we discipline ourselves to reach this goal knowing Jesus is at our side to correct our faults and encourage us in our success.

With this three part formula: goals, priorities and discipline, we can conquer the greatest of evils, because Jesus conquered the source of evil – Satan.