

JMJ

Dear Parishioners,

On the Second Sunday of Lent, the Evangelist Luke emphasizes that Jesus went up on the mountain “to pray”, together with the Apostles Peter, James and John, and it was “while He prayed” that the luminous mystery of his Transfiguration occurred.

Thus, for the three Apostles, going up the mountain meant being involved in the prayer of Jesus, who frequently withdrew in prayer especially at dawn and after sunset, and sometimes all night. However, this was the only time, on the mountain, that he chose to reveal to his friends the inner light that filled him when he prayed: his face, we read in the Gospel, shone and his clothes were radiant with the splendor of the divine Person of the Incarnate Word.

There is another detail proper to Saint Luke’s narrative which deserves emphasis: the mention of the topic of Jesus’ conversation with Moses and Elijah, who appeared beside Him when He was transfigured. As the Evangelist tells us, they “talked with Him... and spoke of His departure” (in Greek, *éxodos*), “which He was to accomplish at Jerusalem”. Therefore, Jesus listens to the Law and the Prophets who spoke to Him about His death and Resurrection. In His intimate dialogue with the Father, He did not depart from history, He did not flee the mission for which He came into the world, although He knew that to attain glory He would have to pass through the Cross. On the contrary, Christ enters more deeply into this mission, adhering with all His being to the Father’s will; He shows us that true prayer consists precisely in uniting our will with that of God. For a Christian, therefore, to pray is not to evade reality and the responsibilities it brings but rather, to fully assume them, trusting in the faithful and inexhaustible love of the Lord. For this reason, the verification of the Transfiguration is, paradoxically, the Agony in Gethsemane. With His impending Passion, Jesus was to feel mortal anguish and entrust Himself to the Divine Will; His prayer at that moment would become a pledge of salvation for us all. Indeed, Christ was to implore the Heavenly Father “to free Him from death” and, as the author of the Letter to the Hebrews wrote: “he was heard for his godly fear”. The Resurrection is proof that he was heard.

Prayer is not an accessory or “optional”, but a question of life or death. In fact, only those who pray, in other words, who entrust themselves to God with filial love, can enter eternal life, which is God Himself. During this Season of Lent, let us ask Mary, Mother of the Incarnate Word and Teacher of the spiritual life, to teach us to pray as her Son did, so that our life may be transformed by the light of His presence.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Father Newcomb



Stations of the Cross will be prayed every Friday during Lent beginning at 7pm.

St. Mary's Day for the ***40 Days for Life*** is Saturday, March 23rd. Sign up with Nancy the weekends of March 9/10, and March 16/17 in the Narthex.

Liturgical Ministers for March 23rd/24th, 2019.

MASS	LECTOR	MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	ALTAR SERVERS
4:00PM	B. HECKMAN	A. WITKOWSKI	E. AND A. WITKOWSKI
8:30AM	P. CAL	J. HENDRICK, D. LIVINGSTON, S. RIORDAN	K. CASE, A. AND E. TRUJILLO
11:30AM	M. ESLING	T. MARION, N. SMITH, J. SNELLINGER	DJ PERRIN, Z. ADAMCIK, K. EPPS

Fr. Newcomb will hold a class on the Presence Mystery of the Eucharist. Classes will be held on:
 25th March Session 2: The Story of the Eucharist
 1st April Session 3: Bread of the Journey
 8th April Session 4: Biblical Foundations of the Eucharist.

St. Mary's Little Lambs is selling raffles for 3 baskets. \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Tickets may be purchased at the parish office.

The parish of the Immaculate Conception, Saint Mary's Church in Port Jervis is seeking a director for its early childhood education center. The center, which serves the tri-state area, includes an early childhood program for 3-year-olds and a pre-kindergarten program for 4 and 5-year-olds. Applicants must have at least a bachelor's degree in early childhood education, a firm commitment to the Catholic faith, and an ability to work collaboratively both with the center staff and that of the parish. Salary and benefits commensurate with education and experience. Please send resume and three professional references by e-mail (St-Marys-Rectory@hvc.rr.com), by fax (845-858-8375), or by regular mail (PO Box 712, Port Jervis, NY 12771).

The movie "GOSNELL" will be shown in M.S.H. Hall on Sunday, March 24th, at 3:00pm. This movie is a true story that took place in Philadelphia, Pa. It is a story of an abortionist who was in business for 30 years. A police raid came upon this accidentally. It is meant to be a teaching moment for both Pro Life and Pro Abortion minded people. Also for parents to be informed for their children. It is rated PG13, 93 minutes long, **FREE** no admission charge.



S.M.A.R.T. will be selling Palm Crosses the weekend of April 6/7 to be able to go to *Camp Veritas*. We appreciate your support.



To date our parish has received 36 pledges totaling \$6,100. Our goal is \$35,500. Please give it your prayerful consideration.

Save the Date! March for Life Monday, June 3rd to Albany, NY. Free Transportation. For more info., call Oneida 796-0228, Jane 292-4647, or Linda 292-0709.

ANNOUNCED MASSES

Monday, March 18 (Cyril of Jerusalem, bishop and doctor of the Church)

9:00am Josef Kucher, by the Prager family

Tuesday, March 19 (Joseph, spouse of BVM)

9:00am Jack Jarvies, by wife and family

Wednesday, March 20

9:00am Blaise Joseph Zorich, by Dr. Jane Brooks
 Inte.: Nancy Crumley, by Eda Lapolt

Thursday, March 21

9:00am Louis Napolitano, by Amelia Quinn

Saturday, March 23

4:00pm Joseph Portella, by Helen and Ed Eckes

Sunday, March 24

8:30am Joseph Portella, by Joyce Senkiew

11:30am The parishioners of St. Mary's

1:00pm *Latin Mass*



The Sanctuary lamp will burn brightly this week in the Church, in memory of Robert W. and Robert C. Ritchie, by the Ritchie and DiToto families.

Please Pray For the Sick: Angela Portella, Ramonita Irizarry, Debi Cotugno, Theresa Fuller, Maureen Hildebrandt, Charles Hildebrandt, Aedan Roach, Robin Radzikowski, Helen Andreano, Robert Witherow, J.D. Lipa, Nancy Crumley, Valentina Hall, Ryan O'Connor, Dorothy Lynch, Allen Lynch, Sarah Madison, Mary Ohl, Andrea Fedoruk, Donald Wolff, William Lincoln, Jeanine Lincoln, Michael Barnes, Elizabeth Brennan, Susan Upton, Chris Marion, III, Eppie Harford, Walter Szpakowicz, Genevieve Szpakowicz, Frances Brennan, Betty Jane Niemeyer, Carmella Balsamello, Wayne Demarco, Jose Ramos, Carmen Ramos, Francis Cruz, Michael Medaglia, Barbara Straub, Tress Loughrey, Sal Careri, Cody Bain, and Robert Cinerar.

Anyone who needs to report an alleged incident of sexual abuse of a minor by a priest, deacon, religious or lay person serving in the Archdiocese of New York is asked to contact Sr. Eileen Clifford, OP at 646-794-2949 or victimsassistance@archny.org. Information can also be found on the archdiocesan website www.archny.org. In keeping with archdiocesan policy regarding sexual abuse of minors, this information is provided to ensure that our children remain safe and secure.

The collection for March 9th/10th was \$4,071.
 Thank you for your continued generosity.