

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Mountains, for us ordinary people, suggest peace, rest, vacation and break. In Sacred Scriptures, mountains are known to be places of prayers. In the life of Jesus Christ, after His day's hectic schedule, He went to the mountain in order to pray and to be in union with His Father. Mountains are also powerful symbols of encounter with God. Hence, to speak of mountains is to expect an encounter with the divine.

Like an ordinary mountaintop experience, an encounter with the Lord strengthens, renews and prepares the faithful for the mission God entrusted as we live one's daily Christian life. It's like attending renewal seminars and others. In today's gospel, it's about the transfiguration of Jesus in the mountain. The word 'transfiguration' means a change in form or appearance. It is the same as the Greek word *metamorphosis* which the students and teachers of science are very much familiar. Transfiguration event depicts a glimpse of Christ's glory and a preview of his resurrection. But why does the Church put this particular gospel every Second Sunday of the year during Lenten season? First, to confirm us in our faith that Jesus is truly God and truly Son of God. Second, to make us reflect and to remember that if Christ was transfigured though God, we His followers should also strive to be transfigured, to be changed and to be metamorphosed in the newness of our minds and hearts. Third, as what I have said that transfiguration is a preview of His resurrection and glory. The church reminds us that this glorious event has to be achieved through suffering and pain. This truth applies to all of us. Hence, the saying, 'no guts, no glory, 'no pain, no gain,' 'no cross, no crown.' But before His transfiguration, in the first part of the Gospel, St. Luke writes: "While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white," (v. 29). In other words, He prayed. By means of prayer, Jesus is glorified and His appearance changes. What is the connection between prayer and transfiguration? They went up to the mountain in order to pray. Prayer is the time to connect the gap between Him and us and to align our thinking with God. Why? It is because there are times that we try to adjust God's thinking to ours as when Peter tried to change Jesus' mind about suffering and death but he was told: "Satan, get behind me." We should not get ahead of God to show Him the way. Instead we have to follow Him. We can go to God and talk to Him not only about our own problems, the broken pieces of our lives, the sad thing and the things we are missing, but also the beautiful things we have received but took for granted, all the talents and abilities and the resources which are still unused. Prayer is not in the first place, asking for good things. It is a transfiguration on our part. We can re-evaluate our commitment and find new vision in our lives –

Fr. Saju Oreethaparambil, C.Ss.R

Mass for the Intentions of the Week

Monday, March 17 **9:00 a.m.**

This Jubilee Year our Parish family prays for the intentions of Thompson family

For the repose of the soul of Margaret Vernon
In loving memory of Marcia Marcaccio req Donna Marcaccio
Repose of the soul of Marcia Marcaccio req Anne McInnis
Intentions of Debbie req Anne McInnis
For the soul of Lucena Fortich req Leilani

Tuesday, March 18 **9:00 a.m.**

This Jubilee Year our Parish family prays for the intentions of Jowin-Anju family

For the repose of the soul of Margaret Vernon
Mabel Marques req John and Charlotte
Birthday blessings for Angelita Agbing req Tess Naval
Intentions of George req Anne McInnis

Wednesday, March 19 **7:00 p.m.**



HEALING MASS

**The Solemnity of Saint Joseph,
Patron of Families and Patron of Canada**

6:00 p.m. ADORATION

7:00 p.m. HEALING MASS & ANOINTING WITH HOLY OIL

This Jubilee Year our Parish family prays for the intentions of Presta family

For the repose of the soul of Margaret Vernon
All souls in purgatory req Benilda Fajardo
Thanksgiving to St. Joseph req Suja and Lukose Mathew
Thanksgiving req Johna Charlotte Marques and family
In gratitude to God and St. Peregrine req Friends of Yola
In memory of Francisca and Federico Asuncion
req Catalina Garcia
Healing for Orlando Gundayao and family req BCBP
Repose of soul of Joseph Gustin and Joseph Kostelac, and
Blessing for Joseph Rendulic
req Andrew and Susan Miller

Thursday, March 20 **9:00 a.m.**

For the repose of the soul of Margaret Vernon
Repose of soul of Leo Didero req Anne McInnis

Friday, March 21 **9:00 a.m.**

For the repose of the soul of Margaret Vernon
Marion Vincent Mepin req Joe and Naty deLeon

Saturday, March 22 **5:00 p.m.**

For the repose of the soul of Margaret Vernon
Theresa Williams req Williams family
Intentions of Charlotte Marques req Perera family

Sunday, March 23 **10:00 a.m.**

For St. Charles Garnier Parish Community

March 8/9 , 2025



Sunday Offering \$2,025.00
Loose Collection 324 .00

Thank you for your generosity and continued support to St. Charles Garnier Parish



5 WAYS TO MAKE LENT MORE SPIRITUAL THIS YEAR

Lent, the Christian season of reflection and renewal, is an opportunity to step back and take a good, hard, 40-day look at our spiritual lives. Lent helps us grow a deeper awareness of ourselves, our world, and our God. *What should I do this Lent to grow spiritually?* Here are five spiritual touchstones we can all lean on during these days leading up to Easter.

1. **Choose a personal refrain.** Simple words or phrases that can help deepen prayer or meditation. For example, of Scripture like (Psalm 46:10) "Be still—*breathe in*—and know—*breathe out*." I repeat this when I'm entering into prayer, if I need to calm down.
2. **Create weekly intentions.** Think of an intention for the week. It may be about thinking simply. Call your parents, take five minutes to sit in silence. Go for a walk. The purpose of weekly intentions is to provide little markers to reflect on each week.
3. **Express gratitude daily:** When I'm grateful, I have little room in my heart for anger or judgment.
4. **Give and receive forgiveness:** Christianity is all about forgiveness—and Lent is the season to celebrate it!
5. **Pray in community:** Finally, Lent is a journey that shouldn't be undertaken alone. Why not for those who are able to come to Holy mass daily? Not to miss Sunday Eucharist on Lord's Day. Join our Lenten study group in our parish. Join and support all other spiritual activities of parish family. Invite a friend to grab a coffee and chat about the things going on in your heart.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS: AFTER EVERY MASS DURING LENT

*We adore You, O Christ,
and we praise You. +
Because by Your holy
Cross You have redeemed the world*

Bible Verse For This Week

"I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me." – Philippians 4:23



HEALING MASS Wednesday 19th of March The Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Patron of Families and Patron of Canada

6:00 p.m. ADORATION

7:00 p.m. HEALING MASS & ANOINTING WITH HOLY OIL

NOVENA TO ST. JOSEPH BEGINS ON MARCH 10 TO 18TH WITH 9:00 a. m. MASS IN THE MORNING.

**Please join us in with your family and friends
"Remembrance of the Just Will Last Forever" (Proverbs 10:7)
SAINT JOSEPH PRAY FOR US**

2024 PARISH FINANCIAL REPORTS

This report is presented on March 15,16. Should you like information, please contact the Finance Committee c/o Donna Marcaccio.

"Be reconciled to God for now is the acceptable time."

ST. CHARLES PARISH LENTEN SOUPFEST 2025



Sunday March 30th after the 10:00 Mass. Tickets must be purchased in advance. Cost: \$5.00 per ticket, available after each weekend Mass. In consideration of the environment, parishioners are encouraged to bring a mug for their soup."

VOCATIONS RECOGNITION DINNER 2025

The Serra Club of Hamilton invites you to gather on Wednesday, April 30, 2025, at Liuna Station in Hamilton to celebrate the service of our Priests, Religious Brothers and Sisters, Permanent Deacons, and Consecrated Virgins Living in the World. Doors open at 6:00 pm. Tickets are \$90 per person. To order tickets or for information, send an email to serrahamilton1965@gmail.com. You can pay for your ticket through e-transfer using the same email or you can also pay by credit card using the following link: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/events/>. This event is co-sponsored by the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Hamilton.