

SECOND LENT

SUNDAY OF

FEBRUARY 28, 2021

From the cloud
came a voice:
"This is my beloved Son.
Listen to him."

MARK 9:7



Through the centuries, Christians and Jews alike have found the Binding of Isaac one of the most difficult passages in the Bible. Even though God intervenes to save Isaac, the whole episode strikes some readers as cruel. However, Abraham, the ultimate man of faith, raises no objection, offers no resistance as he simply goes about preparing for the trip and the sacrifice.

Today's other readings might help us see that text differently. In Mark's description of the Transfiguration, Jesus' clothes become white and shining, and Moses and Elijah appear with him. Moses was the great liberator and lawgiver who led the Jews out of bondage in Egypt and into the wilderness, forming them into the people of Israel by giving them the Law he received from God. Elijah was among Israel's greatest prophets, so close to God that, at the end of his life, he was taken up into heaven by a fiery chariot. Together, Moses and Elijah represent the Law and the Prophets, the ultimate authority for the Jews in the conduct of their daily lives.

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LOVE AND GENEROSITY

The Law, the Prophets—and Jesus. For Paul, Jesus is someone quite different from the other two. The reading from his letter to the Romans is short, but rich in meaning. When Paul declares that God "did not spare his own Son," and when God praises Abraham "who did not withhold from me your own beloved son," it is the same Greek word for "spare" and "withhold." God's voice at the Transfiguration identifies Jesus as his "beloved Son"—the same way God refers to Isaac as Abraham's beloved son. Ultimately, God spares Isaac but not his own Son, whom he "handed over for us." Even if we are disturbed that God tested Abraham like this, Paul says we should be overwhelmingly grateful that God did for us what, in the end, he did not require of Abraham. Jesus, God's Son "handed over to us" in love and generosity, is already a sacrificial gift, signifying that God wants to give us "everything else along with him."

Today's Readings: Gn 22:1–2, 9a, 10–13, 15–18; Ps 116:10, 15, 16–17, 18–19; Rom 8:31b–34; Mk 9:2–10

PASTOR: Rev. Michael T. "Mike" Snider
PERMANENT DEACON:

MASS TIMES:

Sat., 5:00PM & Sun., 9:00AM

Tues. - Fri. 9:00AM

CONFESSIONS:

Tues. & Wed., 9:00 - 10:00AM

Wednesday: 30 30 5:00 PM

Reconciliation:

Saturday & Sunday: 45
minutes before Mass

Marriage or Baptism:

Contact the parish office six (6)
months prior to the
anticipated date 903-769-3235

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Welcome Visitors!

We hope that you have enjoyed celebrating Mass with us and felt welcomed in our church as your "home away from home." Whether you are new to the area or have lived here for years, you are invited to join our parish family. Please come again!

Second Sunday of Lent

We remember in our prayers all the sick, especially the following:

Yvonne Scott. Ulysses Cormier. Szczepanski Family. Bollinger Family. Kate Guthrie. Charlie Parker. Molly Dunn. Richard Schuetz. Regina Davies. Tammy Johnson. Carolyn Simmons. Dianne & Gary Laudt. Gayle McCloskey. Shay Mikalonis. Wanda & George Duke. Fleming Family. Doris & Jo Hoffman. Jo Ann Crowell. Ann Richardson. Jacob Stephens. Frankie Durst. Mary Margaret Ellison. John Kominis. Ester Coronel. Ed & Diane Stanley. Elise Sugg. Joann Rayl. Judy Fazzio. Marsha & Marty Blahitka. Carolyn Edwards. Joshua & Chase Larsson. Avery Boultinghouse. Wanda & Mike Stephens. Jim & Geri O'Neil. We list the names of our sick Parishioners. Friends and Relatives for one month. **We remember in our prayers all those who have recently died, especially: Louise Laskoskie, sister of Charlie Clymer.**

Please pray for the men and women active military service from our

parish community: New active recruit, Reid Patrick Hope, US Marine (Nephew of Mike & Wanda Stephens). 2LT Joseph Chandler, U.S. Army (Nephew of Mike & Margaret Jernigan) Seaman Logan Adkinson (great grandson of Fr. Mike). Jay Guajardo, Navy Rescue School (Great Nephew of Lex & Liza Forster). Senior Airman, Natalie York (Daughter of Steve & Julie York). Pvt First Class Randall Scheaffer US Army (Grandson of Carlos & Pat Gallardo). Lt. Col. William P Shea. (Nephew of Deacon Sam and Nancy Mullen). Colonel John Anthony Fontana. U.S. Army (Son of John & Mary Fontana). Ensign Gary Buchanan; 2ndLt. Blake Gaughan (Nephews of Jess & Eva Corrigan). Paul Moreno E4 AMT 3rd Class (Grandson of Kathy & Dale Boman). Staff Sergeant Daniel Hodan. U.S. Army (Grandson of Ron & Barbara Eamma). Warrant Officer Michael Hauck (Son of Jerry & Vicki Hauck & brother of Cathy Ellis) & Seaman Rainer Hauck (Grandson of Jerry & Vicki Hauck & nephew of Jeff & Cathy Ellis).

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith (Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18).

Psalms: I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living (Psalm 116).

Second Reading: If God is for us, who can be against us? (Romans 8:31b-34).

Gospel: Jesus was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white (Mark 9:2-10).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Dn 9:4b-10; Ps 79:8, 9, 11, 13; Lk 6:36-38

Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23; Mt 23:1-12

Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20; Ps 31:5-6, 14-16; Mt 20:17-28

Thursday: Jer 17:5-10; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 16:19-31

Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Ps 105:16-21; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Ps 103:1-4, 9-12; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Sunday: Ex 20:1-17 [1-3, 7-8, 12-17]; Ps 19:8-11; 1 Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25

Mass—Intentions

Sat. 2/27 Carlos Gallardo+ (Pat Gallardo)

Sun 2/28 Brooks Funk (M/M Bonicard)

Tue 3/02 Ron Szczepanski+ (K of C)

Wed 3/03 Sadie Rose (M/M Bonicard)

Thurs 3/04 Delbert & Louise Laskoskie+ (Bridget Rich)

Fri. 3/05 Frank Duff+ (Legion of Mary)

Sat. 3/06 Ron Szczepanski+ (K of C)

PARISH SUPPORT

Average weekly amounts through January 31, 2021

Expenditures \$ 2,719

Regular and debt & maintenance collections \$ 2,164

Attendance 2/13 Sat 24

No Masses on 2/14, 2/20 & 2/21 due to weather

March Pope's Intention:

Sacrament of reconciliation. Let us pray that we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God.

A NEW IDEA

Everybody thinks of changing humanity; nobody thinks of changing themselves. —Leo Tolstoy

THE ART OF LISTENING

If you want God to listen to you when you pray, shouldn't you listen to God when God speaks to you? —Anonymous

HISTORY OF SALVATION

The first reading today continues the "history of salvation" narrative that we hear throughout Lent this year. Today's story was among the best-loved in the Jewish tradition (surely Joseph told the story to young Jesus as he formed him in the ways of their faith); the early fathers of the Church were very fond of it as a means of explaining the sacrifice of Christ on the cross. The overall tone of the first reading, psalm, and second reading seems a little incongruous with the dazzling Gospel, until we remember that the Transfiguration was placed as the Gospel for this Sunday precisely to remind us of the glory that awaits those who live faithfully and obediently to the will of God. In the life of Jesus, it is a preview of the glory of his resurrection; for us it is a glimpse of the destiny of those who continue, as we heard in last week's Gospel, to repent and believe in the Good News.

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Dispensation: The entire diocese of Tyler remains dispensed from the Sunday and holy day Mass obligation until further notice.

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Holy Spirit Garage Sale: April 9th & 10th

ON CHURCH PARKING LOT

Weather Permitting

We started pricing and you can **begin dropping off items every Wednesday between the hours of 9:30—11:30am. NO CLOTHING or ELECTRONICS.** Call Jean Kelly 903-857-9868 if you have questions or unable to drop off items on Wednesday mornings.

Cenacle of Life: Cenacle of Life devotion each **Wed. from 3:30—4:30pm.** Please join us in church as we pray two rosaries for an end to abortion, euthanasia and all sins against the sanctity of human life. **Questions call Vicki 817-637-9382**



Vespers (evening prayers) every Friday during Lent at 4:00pm, followed by the Stations of the Cross

2021 Bishop's Annual Appeal

Did you receive your letter and pledge envelope from the Diocese of Tyler? Have you mailed it in? If not we have pledge envelopes available in the Narthex by the parish hall. Fr. Mike will be glad to deliver yours to the Diocese. Or you can go online to www.dioceseoftyler.org, click on "Giving", then click "Bishops Annual Appeal" and fill in your information. Please make sure you do put down church "Holy Spirit-Holly Lake."

Rev. Mike Snider

While the hospitals have enough capacity at this moment, they do not have enough critical care staff to manage the overwhelming number of COVID-19 cases that are coming in.

Bishop Strickland is requesting that you offer your prayers for physicians, nurses, and health care workers during this time—for their protection and for the needs of our hospitals.

Reminder: Bishop Strickland has instructed all persons to wear facial masks during liturgies in the Diocese of Tyler.

Temporary Weekend Mass held in parish hall: Sat., Feb. 27th at 5:00pm and Sun., Feb. 28th at 9:00am.

Protocols for weekend Masses:

1. **Limitations on Attendance:** Limited seating maximum 81 seats are available. In order for the households to maintain at least 6-foot separation.
2. **Wear a mask that covers mouth & nose.**
3. **No socializing** in the parish hall. Avoid touching door handles, restrooms closed. Enter & exist double glass doors into the parish hall to the left of the overhang.
4. **Chairs** set-up 6-foot separation. Please **DO NOT MOVE CHAIRS.**

March Second Collections: 6th & 7th: "Building & Maintenance Fund". 13th & 14th: "Hunger Relief in the Diocese". 20th & 21st: "Easter Flowers".



Please join us as we pray the **patriotic rosary for peace in America.**



First Saturday of each month after the 9:00am Mass
Saturday March 6th

"The fight for the right to life is not the cause of a special few, but the cause of every man, woman and child who cares not only about his or her own family, but the whole family of man." *Dr. Mildred Jefferson*

The **ministries here at Holy Spirit** are now listed with **pictures and descriptions** on our parish website. Please take time to look them over and see the many ways that you can help our Holy Spirit parish. www.holyspirthollylake.com

Due to Covid restrictions, The **Legion of Mary** cannot do their routine weekly work. To fulfill their work obligation they are making information posters for our parishioners & visitors. The information will not be new to most of you, though some of it may be. It is their hope that each of you will find something in the information that encourages your spiritual growth.

Look for these posters in the entrance to the parish hall. They may also be placed outside also be placed outside, weather permitting.

Food Donations: *Blessings to all our givers!* Urgent need: **canned vegetables, Ramen Noodle S Peanut butter, and 1lb spaghetti pasta.** Plastic container is located in the **parish hall** for now. Please call or email Bob Mailliard at 903-769-3963 or theduckdude@att.net if you know someone that needs help or if you have questions for Bob.

CONFESSION ON TUES. MAR. 2nd & WED. MAR 3rd,

9:30—10:30AM. DUE TO THE COLD WEATHER FR. MIKE WILL HOLD CONFESSIONS IN HIS OFFICE BY THE WATER FOUNTAINS. PLEASE CALL HIM 903-490-3883 TO SET UP AN APPOINTMENT. WHEN YOU ARRIVE AND HIS OFFICE DOOR IS CLOSED PLEASE HAVE A SEAT IN CHURCH UNTIL HE IS READY FOR YOU.

If you have an emergency and need Fr. Mike call his cell # 903-490-3883.

Weekday Mass Tues. — Fri. of this week. Priests Retreat

Protocols for weekday Masses:

1. **Wearing a mask that covers mouth & nose.**
2. **No socializing** in the Narthex. Avoid touching door handles, restrooms closed. Enter & exit same set of double glass doors into the church through the overhang.
3. **In church alternating every other pew.** Households must maintain at least 6-foot separation.
4. **Limited seating maximum 31.** In order for the households to maintain at least 6 feet separation.



40 Days for Life—Tyler *Will you take up your cross and pray with us?*

40 Days for Life is a prayerful, peaceful, community-based campaign that draws attention to the injustice of abortion through prayer, fasting, and community outreach. Beginning February 17th through March 28th, you're invited to join other Christians in prayer and fasting to end abortion. The prayer vigil is held across the street from Planned Parenthood, located at 601 Turtle Creek Dr., Tyler. To sign up for vigil hours and for more information, please visit 40daysforlive.com/tyler or in front of Bridget's office is a sign up sheet. Sponsored by the Sanctity of Life Office for the Diocese of Tyler.

Announcements from Diocese of Tyler

[Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass](#)

Saturday, March 6th, 2021

Chapel of Sts. Peter and Paul (Tyler, Texas)

All couples in the Diocese of Tyler who are celebrating their 5th, 15th, 25th, 40th, or 50th+ anniversaries in the year 2021 are cordially invited to attend the Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass celebrated by Bishop Joseph Strickland. More info and registration following this page.

[Three to Get Married](#)

The 2021 Three to Get Married retreat schedule is now available. Please visit <https://stphilipinstitute.org/three-to-get-married/> for the full schedule of English and Spanish retreat weekends. These retreats are one part of the marriage formation process for engaged couples and are also available to couples who are already civilly married and are seeking a convalidation. If you have any questions please contact Angelina Estrada at Aestrada@st.philipinstitute.org or (903)630-5055 EXT 117

[From the Beginning: God's Search for Man](#)

Have you ever tried to read the Bible from cover to cover, only to wind up confused and frustrated? Have you ever fought your way through Lent by making tough sacrifices like giving up a bad habit, only to reach Easter and feel like you missed out on something? This Lent, join the St. Philip Institute for an exciting program, From the Beginning: God's Search for Man. Starting on Ash Wednesday, read selected passages from the Bible and in just 47 days you can learn the big picture moments of salvation history and how they all fit together and point us toward the mystery of Christ's Passion. Short reflections for each reading will help you see the way God constantly reaches out to save us and will allow you to enter deeply into the story of salvation history. Sign up today at www.stphilipinstitute.org! Available in English and Spanish.

[CET](#)

The Catholic East Texas will begin publishing weekly articles online.

Those with social media <http://www.catholic east texas online/>

[Year of St. Joseph](#)

Please see attached for a list of celebrations and activities for the Year of St. Joseph in the diocese. You can also find this information at <https://www.dioceseoftyler.org/yearofstjoseph>



✠ Year of St. Joseph ✠

Events and Celebrations

Feb. 15 to March 19: 33 Day Consecration to St. Joseph

Invitation to participate in this devotion based on the book by Father Don Calloway.

Feb. 24: 34th Anniversary of the Diocese of Tyler

Offer the Mass for the Dedication of a Church with special prayers for St. Joseph's intercession for the Church of Tyler.

March: Month of St. Joseph

Offer reflection on Joseph as a model of faith, hope and charity practiced under trying circumstances and a model of the heroic practice of virtue.

March 19: Solemnity of St. Joseph

Offer the Mass of the day with reflection and catechesis on St. Joseph's role in the work of our redemption.

March 25: Solemnity of the Annunciation

Offer the Mass of the day with reflection and catechesis on the Second Divine Person of the Trinity assuming human nature, under the care of Mary and Joseph, with special prayers for the sanctity of all life.

May 1: Optional Memorial of St. Joseph the Worker

Offer the Mass of the day with reflection and catechesis on social obligations, with special prayers for workers and those laboring in poverty.

June 6: Solemnity of Corpus Christi

Offer the Mass of the day with reflection and catechesis on the role of priests as fathers and custodians of the Eucharist, as St. Joseph was committed to loving and protecting Jesus.

November: Month of the Souls in Purgatory

Offer special prayers and catechesis on the role of St. Joseph as the model of the pious believer who receives grace at the moment of death.

Prayers and Devotions

- Pray the prayer "To you, O blessed Joseph" (*Ad te, beate Joseph*).
- Pray the Litany of St. Joseph on Wednesdays.
- Recite the Chaplet of St. Joseph, recalling the seven agonies and seven joys of Joseph.
- Pray the prayer of Pope Francis to St. Joseph (see below).
- Perform a corporal or spiritual work of mercy.
- Entrust your work daily to the protection of St. Joseph.
- Priests can offer the Votive Mass of St. Joseph on Wednesdays – the day ascribed to him in tradition.
- Make a pilgrimage to churches in the diocese under the patronage of St. Joseph – St. Joseph in Clarksville, St. Joseph in Marshall, and St. Joseph the Worker in Tyler; and under the patronage of the Immaculate Conception – the Cathedral in Tyler, Immaculate Conception in Jefferson, and Immaculate Conception in Moral.
- Offer Holy Hours with special prayers for St. Joseph's intercession.
- St. Joseph's Tables and Altars are a popular devotion on March 19.
- Study Pope Francis' Apostolic Letter "With a Father's Heart" (*Patris corde*).
- The St. Philip Institute will be working on special resources for this year.

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man.

**Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen.**

Article for the Big Sandy-Hawkins Journal. 3 March 2021 Edition
(Submission date: 26 February 2021) Submitted by Randy Munoz

The Stations of the Cross is a weekly prayer often shared by Parish Members as a special Lenten devotion. From the website, <https://www.catholic.org/encyclopedia/view.php?id=12231>, we can learn from a few excerpts.

Way of the Cross (Also called **Stations of the Cross**, **Via Crucis**, and **Via Dolorosa**). These names are used to signify either a series of pictures or tableaux representing certain scenes in the Passion of Christ, each corresponding to a particular incident, or the special form of devotion connected with such representations. Taken in the former sense, the Stations may be of stone, wood, or metal, sculptured or carved, or they may be merely paintings or engravings. (Some Stations are valuable works of art, as those, for instance, in Antwerp cathedral ...) They are usually arranged at intervals around the walls of a church, though sometimes they are to be found in the open air, especially on roads leading to a church or shrine. In monasteries they are often placed in the cloisters. The erection and use of the Stations did not become at all general before the end of the 17th century, but they are now to be found in almost every church. Formerly their number varied considerably in different places but fourteen are now prescribed by authority. They are as follows:

1. Christ is condemned to death
2. The cross is laid upon Christ
3. Christ falls the first time
4. Christ meets His Blessed Mother
5. Simon of Cyrene is made to bear the cross
6. Christ's face is wiped by Veronica
7. Christ falls the second time
8. Christ meets the women of Jerusalem
9. Christ falls the third time
10. Christ is stripped of His garments
11. Christ is crucified
12. Christ dies on the cross
13. Christ's body is taken down from the cross
14. Christ's body is laid in the tomb

The object of "the Stations", is to help the faithful make (in spirit) ... a pilgrimage to the chief scenes of Christ's sufferings and death. This has become one of the most popular of Catholic devotions. It is carried out by passing from Station to Station, with certain prayers at each, and devout meditation on the various incidents in turn. It is usual, when the devotion is performed publicly, to sing ... a Latin hymn while passing from one Station to the next. ...

READINGS FOR MARCH 7 – Third Sunday of Lent

First Reading (Ex 20:1-17) – Moses receives and delivers God's Commandments.

Responsorial Psalm (Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11) – "Lord, you have the words of everlasting life."

Second Reading (1 Cor 1:22-25) – God is wiser and more powerful than man.

Gospel (Jn 2:13-25) – Jesus clears the temple and reveals his death and resurrection.

(The English translation of the Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.)



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