

Bulletin Letter February 28, 2021 2<sup>nd</sup> Lent Cycle B

### ***The Second Sunday of Lent***

Most of the time when I am called to celebrate a funeral home service, I usually read today's gospel story, the Transfiguration. The funeral home staff probably think, "Here he goes again!" I don't mind if they do, because repetition helps us understand and "drills" the point into us. For most Christian people, the story of the Transfiguration is one that they don't hear too often, or often enough. The Transfiguration narrative from St. Mark, takes place with inner core of the disciples group---Peter, James and John. The story takes place on a mountain. When Jesus goes to the top a mountain, expect something exciting to take place, like an encounter with his Father. There on the mountain, an affirmation of Jesus' identity takes place. This time it takes place through visual and auditory means and the disciples see it and hear it! Today Jesus is changed, so much so, that the disciples cannot look at him. His clothes are "whiter than any bleacher can make them." The disciples saw a glimpse of the resurrection. The disciples also see two major figures of the Old Testament: Moses the giver of the Law, and Elijah, one of the first of the prophets. Dead for ages, yet these two men are very much alive and speaking to Jesus. Peter is so beside himself he just wants to stay on the top of the mountain. Who wouldn't?! But Jesus knows he must go back down from the mountain, there to be rejected, crucified, and then resurrected from the dead. The final piece of this text is the cloud and the voice (remember the voice when Jesus was baptized) speaks somewhat the same message of Jesus' baptism: ***"This is my Son. Listen to Him."*** The voice of God attempts to soothe the disciples fear and apprehension as the life of Jesus will turn tragic at the hands of those who have no idea who Jesus really is. May we too experience the resurrection of Jesus from the dead one day as He resurrects our mortal bodies as well.

We welcome back **Fr. Jack Varno**, as he returns to the family of parishes' weekend schedule in March. We hope and pray he has been refreshed by his time away.

Snow removal at Immaculate is always a big job. We have pushed a lot of snow around this winter. Special thanks go to **Mike Nally, Joseph Nally, and James Gildea**. Working with heavy equipment, they spent a long day moving banks and creating more parking spaces and a safer lot. Great job guys!

We are grateful for **Mrs. Gerry Havasy**, who has generously shared her talents by providing beautifully sewn fabric walker bags enabling the user to carry items along with them hands-free.

A word about the **Fish Fry** held each year by our dedicated Knights at IC. This year it simply was not feasible due to Covid-19. We get lots of calls about it, but it is not occurring. Please keep an eye out for late spring **Chicken BBQ** drive-through meals, like they did last summer. Thanks for always supporting the Knights, as they support us!

Also, due to Covid-19, we cannot hold our annual penance services, but we will be offering additional confession times. On **Saturday, March 6, 13, and 20 we will hear confessions** in the IC church from 9 am-12 noon.

A reminder: you are welcome to take a **missalette** or **Stations of the Cross booklet** for your own use. Be sure to bring it home with you and bring it back to church when you return. This is a Covid-19 related issue. Thank you!

Until next week, be well, do good deeds, and say your prayers.

**Fr. Jerry**

*OUR PRAYER:* Loving God, be present to us and grant us wisdom, so that we, who may feel anxious about change, might trust in Your love and rest in the Changelessness that is You.