

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

February 25, 2018

Dear Parishioners,

Here I am! (Genesis 22:1)

Abraham must have felt trapped. He had already given up so much to follow the Lord, and God had blessed him richly. So logic would tell him that he would be blessed if he obeyed the Lord this time. But this was the hardest thing God could possibly ask of him: to kill his son with a knife and burn his corpse in ritual sacrifice. Could God really want that? But Abraham had already told God, "Here I am!" (Genesis 22:1). He had committed himself, and there was no backing out.

Try to imagine that three-day journey to the place of sacrifice. The silence, the awkward answers to Isaac's questions, the agonizing over what he was about to do. How many times did Abraham almost turn around and head back home? But somehow, Abraham trusted that God would still fulfill his promises. So when he arrived at the place, Abraham told his servants, "We will . . . come back to you" (Genesis 22:4). Even then, he trusted that both he and Isaac would return.

Notice, when the angel intervenes, Abraham again repeats the only thing he had said to God so far: "Here I am" (Genesis 22:11). These words must have sounded much different now, three harrowing days later, as he was on the verge of doing the unthinkable to his son. Imagine the fear, the exhaustion, even the anger, in his voice. Yet even now, as his grip on his faith was fragile at best, he held on and trusted.

We all have times when God seems to be asking the impossible of us: to accept a terminal illness or permanent disability; to resolve a bitter, long-standing conflict; to give up on a treasured dream. Abraham's response, "Here I am," may feel like the hardest thing to say. But this story tells us that God still loves us and is still offering us his grace.

So if it feels like you're barely hanging onto your faith, remember Abraham. Remember that God is still with you. And even if the unthinkable occurs, repeat what Abraham said to God: "Here I am" (Genesis 22:1, 11).

"Here I am, Father. I trust that you will never abandon me."

Deacon Mark Race, Administrator

NOTHING MORE AND NOTHING LESS

Join Bible Study for our 5 week Lenten Reflection, "*Nothing More and Nothing Less*" based on the British movie, "I, Daniel Blake", about a man trying to collect his disability allowance from the government. We show the movie at 2:30 PM in the hall Sunday February 25. Week one begins our study of the movie on Monday February 26 with the topic, *Systems of Oppression*. The topic for Week 2 on Monday March 4 is *Staying Human*. Join us Monday nights at 7:00 PM in the hall.

PRAY FOR THE SICK

LaVerne Agnew, Brian Argusta, Joyce Barnett, Rose Ball, Percenia Beasley, Veronica Bearce, Fr. Emile Belletty, Sister Juliet Berber, Glenda Brown, Andrei Briggs, Vivian Burgess, Barbara Butler, Brownie Cain, Sister Cecilia Calva, Mary Captain, Alberto Casanova, Jeannie Chapron, Katherine Clark, Sister Ann Paul Clare, Agnes Cooper, Rita Cormire, Edward Cousin, Juanita Davis, Beverly Colvin-Dorsey, Jayden Dunn, Nigel Dunn, Gwen Files, Ferdinand Foye, Betty Flowers, Teresa Franklin, Judy Felton-Gardner, Mavis Gibbs, Refugio Godinez, Nancy Goosby, Barbara Harris, Jacqueline Holman, Mattie Hilburn, Joyce Hith, Janie Jackson, Aaron Jittu, Louis Johnson, Aaron Katz, Briana Katz, Barbara Lagarde, Irwin Lagarde, Jeanne LeBlanc, Barbara Lindsey, Connie Louie, Joe McZeal, Gloria McClaurin, Vyldred Manor, Sister Marianna, Sabrina Markos, Dorothy Okoye, Aliyah Patterson, Martina Peters, Daisy Pratt, Wiley R. Pugh, Vickie Race, Andrea Raggette, Dottie Rodriguez, Doris Rogers, Dana Semien, Dudley Semien, Chris Simon, Maurice Simon, Jeremiah Skyes, Darnell Stang, Michele Starks, Annie Starks, Leila Thomas, Stephanie Thompson, Emma Thornton, Iris Turner, Johnnye Washington, Jacqueline Williams, Cassandra Williams, Thomas Williams, Peggy Wright and Emmerson Young.

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Sunday	Gn 22:1-18, Ps 116:10-19, Mk 9:2-10
Monday	Dn 9:4b-10, Lk 6:36-38
Tuesday	Is 1:10-20, Mt 23:1-12
Wednesday	Jer 18:18-20, Mt 20:17-28
Thursday	Jer 17:5-10, Lk 16:19-31
Friday	Gn 37:3-28a, Mt 21:33-46
Saturday	Mi 7:14-20, Lk 15:1-32
Sunday	Ex 20:1-17, Ps 19:8-11, Jn 2:13 -25

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday February 24

5:15 PM Intention of all Parishioners

Sunday February 25

8:00 AM Intention of Ruby Chapman

10:00 AM Souls of Yvonne, Jackeline, Dilcia, & Wilfred Morgan, Jr.

12:15 PM Intention of Gwen Harmon

Sunday March 4

12:15 PM Intention of all Parishioners

WEEKLY OFFERING FEBRUARY 18, 2018

\$5,820.00 Tithe and Offering

80.00 Building Fund

91.00 "We Care"

Did you Know?

Helping children understand that they have the right to establish boundaries if anyone tries to hurt them or touch them in a way that makes them feel uncomfortable is an important, but sometimes difficult, task. Establishing boundaries around touch is integral to keeping kids safe. Having regular, open conversations about safety is one of the best ways to help keep kids safe. Remind children that their bodies are their own, encourage them to talk about their concerns and listen respectfully when they do.

For more information from kidsmartz.org

visit, http://www.kidsmartz.org/~media/KidSmarztz/ResourceDocuments/KidSmarztz_Setting_Physical_Boundaries.pdf

Sacred Heart Retreat

Ladies, it's just about that time again for the Silent Retreat at Sacred Heart Retreat House in Alhambra. This year, we are delighted to celebrate the weekend of Divine Mercy - April 6th, 7th, and 8th. What a great way to continue your Easter celebration. Rooms are filling up fast! So please call Sonya Robertson at 323.291.4846 right away to reserve your space.

Rosary Procession

Fr. Bernard invites you to join him in a Rosary Procession on Saturday, March 3, 2018 at 4:30 PM followed by 5:15 PM Mass here at Transfiguration. Confession is a 4PM on that day.

Religious Education Congress

March 15 – Youth Day

March 16 -18, 2018

Anaheim Convention Center

800 West Katella Avenue

Anaheim, CA 92802

This year theme is: Rise Up!

To register please see Ms. Refugio Godinez
or call the rectory at 323.291.1136.

Transfiguration Church & School ANNUAL FISH FRY RAFFLE

1st Prize: \$1000.00

2nd Prize: \$500.00

3rd Prize: \$250.00

You are asked to sell one book which is 40 tickets,
total of \$40. There is no need for a **STUB TO WIN**.
All we need is your name, phone number or address.

Drawing: Friday, March 23, 2018 in the hall.

(Winner need not be present to win)

LENTEN FISH FRY

Fridays 5-9PM

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Friday during Lent at 6PM.

Memorial Mass

The memorial mass for **Rudolph Liggins** is Saturday, March 3, 2018 at 10 AM here at Transfiguration. Please keep the family in your prayers.

JOIN US SUNDAY IN THE HALL FOR

