

# THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

March 24, 2019

*Dear Parishioners,*

*I have witnessed the affliction of my people. (Exodus 3:7)*

On Ash Wednesday, we began Lent with the age-old call to repentance: “Return to me with your whole heart, with fasting, and weeping, and mourning” (Joel 2:12). That theme continues in today’s second reading and Gospel. But the first reading is something different. It’s not about our need to repent; it’s about God’s free, overflowing mercy.

For the children of Abraham, God’s mercy came in the form of release from slavery in Egypt. For us, that mercy comes in the form of release from slavery to sin.

God showed mercy and grace to the Israelites, not because they were perfect, but because they were his people and he cared for them. Likewise, he shows mercy to us because we are his children, and he doesn’t want to see us bound in sin.

Exodus was just the beginning too. From age to age, God has shown himself to be merciful toward his people. He told Moses that this is how he should always be remembered: “The Lord, the Lord, a God gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in love and fidelity” (Exodus 34:6). Other prophets then continued the teaching, always referring to God as “gracious and merciful” (Joel 2:13; Jonah 4:2). Even the psalms praise God’s mercy repeatedly.

When Jesus came, he focused his ministry on the mercy and graciousness of his heavenly Father as well (Matthew 5:7; Luke 6:36; 10:37). But even more important, he showed himself to be the very mercy of God. He refused to condemn a woman caught in adultery (John 8:1-11). He welcomed tax collectors and sinners as disciples (Luke 15:1-2). And best of all, he promised the thief on the cross, “Today you will be with me in Paradise” (23:43).

It’s no wonder that one of the most common sentences Jesus heard while he was on earth was “Have mercy on me!” It’s a prayer he cannot help but answer!

*“Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy.”*

*Deacon Mark Race, Administrator*

## **Stewardship thought**

“He said to the gardener, ‘For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none.’” (LUKE 13:7)

We can all be like the barren fig tree at times. Do you cling to what you have or do you generously share with others? How will you respond when God asks you what you have done with all the gifts He has given you? Remember, not only are we called to be generous, we are called to develop and nurture our gifts and return with increase.

## **Bible Study**

Bible Study continues our 5 week Lenten Reflection, “*A Beautiful Friendship*” based on the classic movie “Casablanca”. We’re at the midway point. Week 3 begins on Monday, March 25 with the topic, “*Rick sees through a glass darkly. You’re part of the bigger picture.*” All are welcome Monday nights at 7:00 PM in the hall.

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday March 23

5:15 PM Soul of Henry Marine, Jr.

### Sunday March 24

8:00 AM Intention of all Parishioners

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

12:15 PM Soul of Henry Marine, Jr.

### Saturday March 30

5:15 PM Soul of Lorina Fernandez

### Sunday March 31

8:00 AM Souls Wilton and Edna Mae Brown

10:00 AM Soul of Daniel Raggette

12:15 PM Intention of all Parishioners

## DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Sunday Ex 3:1-15, Ps 103:1-11, Lk 13:1-9

Monday Is 7:10-14, 8:10, Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday Dn 3:25-43, Mt 18:21-35

Wednesday Dt 4:1-9, Mt 5:17-19

Thursday Jer 7:23-28, Lk 11:14-23

Friday Hos 14:2-10, Mt 12:28-34

Saturday Hos 6:1-6, Lk 18:9-14

Sunday Jos 5:9a-12, Ps 34:2-7, Lk 15:1-32



## WEEKLY OFFERING

March 17, 2019

\$7835.69 Tithe and Offering

70.00 Building Fund

105.00 "We Care"

## Mass of Anointing

Our church community will celebrate the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick on **Wednesday, April 10, 2019 at 11AM**. **No 8AM Mass on that day**. A light luncheon will follow in the hall.

## Did you know? Know who is most vulnerable to abuse

All children are vulnerable to potential sexual abuse, but predators look for situations and circumstances to manipulate that may make some children more susceptible than others. Many studies show that a higher percentage of young girls are vulnerable to sexual abuse than young males. Child abuse is a societal problem, and we must be aware of signs that indicate vulnerability or potentially troubling circumstances – inappropriate relationships between an adult and a young child, a child demonstrating signs of abuse by his or her behavior. All children are our responsibility. To read the full VIRTUS® article "Who is Most Vulnerable to Potential Sexual Abuse?", go to [www.la-archdiocese.org/org/protecting/Pages/VIRTUS-Current-Online-Articles](http://www.la-archdiocese.org/org/protecting/Pages/VIRTUS-Current-Online-Articles).

## Easter Egg Hunt

On Easter Sunday, April 21, 2019 Transfiguration is hosting an **Easter Egg Hunt** for our children. Please bring candy and plastic eggs to the rectory office. **NO JELLY BEANS OR UNWRAPPED CANDY** because it's unsanitary to handle. Thank you for your cooperation.



## Transfiguration Church & School

### Annual Fish Fry Raffle

1<sup>st</sup> Prize: \$1000.00

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: \$500.00

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: \$250.00

**Drawing: Friday, April 12, 2019 in the hall.**

*(Winner need not be present to win)*

Please turn in your raffle tickets at the Friday night Fish Fry or drop them into the offering basket on Sunday.

### Stations of the Cross

*Every Friday during Lent at 6PM.*

### Lenten Fish Fry

*Fridays 5-9PM beginning March 8.*

### Lenten Penance Service

*at Holy Name of Jesus Church*

**Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at 7PM.**

## Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to clean and decorate the church for Easter Sunday. If you are available, please call Jo Ann in the rectory at 323.291.1136 for more details.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Black and White Gala

Transfiguration School's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Black and White Gala will take place on **Saturday, April 13, 2019** at the Westin Hotel, 5400 W. Century Blvd., Los Angeles, 90045. Cocktail hour from 6PM to 7PM and Dinner and Dancing from 7PM to Midnight. *Please save the date!* This year's honorees are Larry Brown, Legacy Award and Oscar Pratt, Lifetime Achievement Award. Ticket prices are \$80 before April 1<sup>st</sup> and after April 1<sup>st</sup> ticket prices will be \$90. If you are interested in purchasing a table for 10 people, the cost is \$750 before April 1st and \$850 after April 1st. Tickets can be purchased in the school's main office. Please call Mrs. Crockett at 323.292.3011, the school's secretary, if you have any questions.

## Pray for our sick...

LaVerne Agnew, Cyd Michelle Anderson, Brian Argusta, Rose Ball, Percenia Beasley, Fr. Emile Belletty, Sister Juliet Berber, Glenda Brown, Vivian Burgess, Barbara Butler, Brownie Cain, Sister Cecilia Calva, Alberto Casanova, Christopher Chestnut, Sister Ann Paul Clare, Katherine Clark, Ramona Clark, Agnes Cooper, Edward Cousin, Juanita Davis, Fr. Jarlath Dolan, Beverly Colvin-Dorsey, Jayden Dunn, Nigel Dunn, Alton Duhon, Gwen Files, Cynthia Fortier, Teresa Franklin, Judy Felton-Gardner, Avis Gibbs, Barbara Harris, Darren Harris, Jacqueline Holman, Janie Jackson, Aaron Katz, Briana Katz, Barbara Lagarde, Irwin Lagarde, Jeanne LeBlanc, Mercedes LeBlanc, Barbara Lindsey, Connie Louie, Joe McZeal, Vyldred Manor, Sister Marianna, Dorothy Okoye, Aliyah Patterson, Sally Price, Wiley R. Pugh, Vickie Race, Andrea Raggette, Doris Rogers, Dana Semien, Dudley Semien, Chris Simon, Joan Spencer, Dorothy Stanley, Annie Starks, Leila Thomas, Iris Turner, Mabel Walton, Johnnye Washington, and Alice Williams.