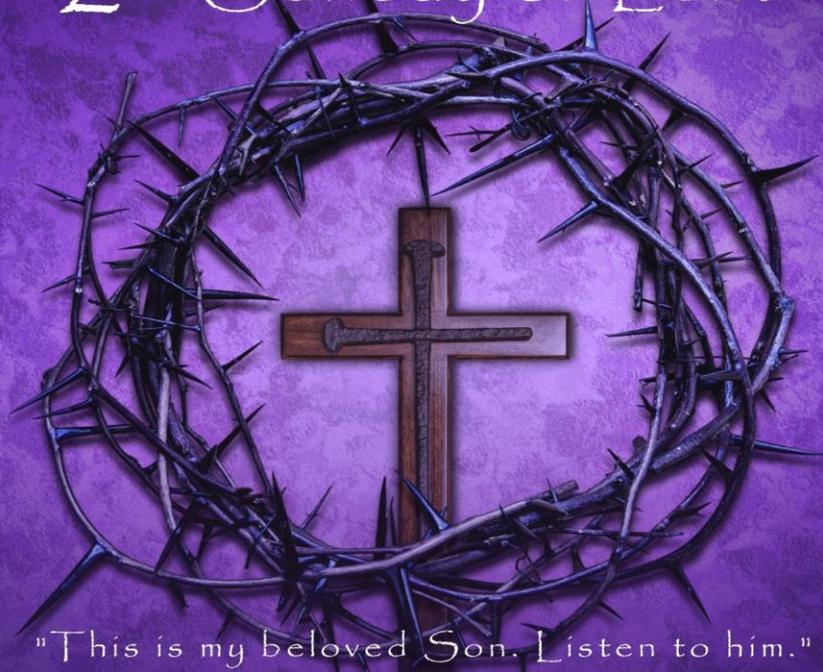


2nd Sunday of Lent



"This is my beloved Son. Listen to him."

Mark 9:7

St. Ann's Church

652 Main Street, PO Box 488, North Oxford, MA 01537

Rectory # 508-987-8892

To help us to keep in touch with you please email us at stannsrectory@hotmail.com

Please check out our website for live streamed Masses www.stannschurch.us

Please send prayer requests to StAnnParishPrayerline@hotmail.com

Fr. Michael Lavalley, Pastor

Deacon James Denning (Retired)

Mary Lajoie, Administrative Assistant

Peggy Moynahan, Religious Education Secretary

Dennis O'Brien, Maintenance Director

CONFESSIONS

Confessions will be heard in the parish hall on Saturdays from 3:00 to 3:30 pm or by appointment.

Our Mass schedule is Saturday, Mass 4:00 pm & Sunday, Mass 10:00 am

(The 4:00 pm Mass is live streamed directly to our website www.stannschurch.us)

Join us for **weekly Bible Study** lead by Fr. Michael on Wednesdays at 7:00pm in the church or on-line via Zoom. We gather to reflect upon the gospel readings for the coming Sunday in a group setting. For instructions on how to join by Zoom, please send email to ZoomGoodSt.Ann@outlook.com



Dear Friends in Christ,

On this Second Sunday of Lent, the Church invites us to reflect upon the events of the Transfiguration. At this event, Jesus showed His disciples the Resurrection in advance, preparing them for the difficult days ahead during which He would suffer and die.

What value was there to Jesus showing them the Resurrection in advance? In order to answer that question we have to consider what the meaning of the Resurrection is. The United States Catholic Catechism for Adults tells us that the Resurrection is “The triumph of Jesus over death on the third day after His Crucifixion. Christ’s Risen Body is real, but glorified, not restrained by space or time.”

The Resurrection means hope, victory, joy, triumph, power, glory. Through Baptism, Christians are united with Christ in His death so that they may later share in His Resurrection. Thus, Christ shares His victory over death itself with those who believe in Him.

By showing His disciples the Resurrection in advance, Jesus was revealing to them not only the happy ending to His own story but what their final destiny would be. The Transfiguration was meant to encourage them to have hope, faith and trust in God even when things seemed irreversibly dark and hopeless.

Right now it may seem that Easter is far away. We long for Winter’s cold and ice to depart and be replaced by Spring’s warmth and natural beauty. We desire new life in the midst of this pandemic and victory over the forces of darkness in our world. The Transfiguration of Jesus promises us Easter both in the Church and in our lives.

The Transfiguration shows us as well that we can be transformed by God’s grace like Jesus was transformed in power and that this grace is ours if we only open our hearts to receive it. As we continue on our Lenten journey may we desire from God this gift of transformed life.

In Christ, Fr. Michael

2021 Lenten Program

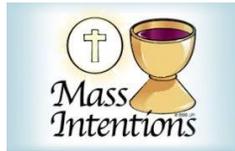
Please sign up and wait for the e-mails starting Feb. 17- Ash Wednesday.

Here is how you sign up:

Go to dynamiccatholic.com/bestlentever

Complimentary books, *I Heard God Laugh*, are available.

If you are unable to come to Mass, please contact the Rectory at 508-987-8892 to arrange to pick up a book. Limited delivery of the book is available by contacting Deacon Jim at 508-762-8879.



Saturday Feb. 27 4:00 pm Ruth Bourdeau, requested by Mark Bourdeau.

Sunday, Feb. 28 10:00 am Robert Fields, requested by the family.

Monday, March 1 8:30am Paul Graves Sr, requested by Brian Quillia.

Tuesday, March 2 8:30 am Sue Selby, requested by Germaine.

Wed., March 3 8:30 am Marcel LeClair, requested by SVDP.

Thursday, March 4 8:30 am Elden Bjurling, requested by Fr. Michael.

Saturday, March 6 4:00 pm Nils "Skip" Hagberg, requested by St. Ann's Parish.

Sunday, March 7 10:00 am Terry Laliberte Brown, requested by Deb Cashman.

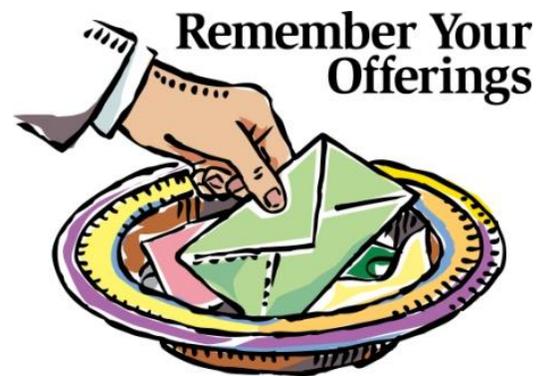
Offertory for the weekend of February 20 & 21

Offertory	\$1,920.00
Online Giving	\$ 280.00 (through 2/24)
Children's Offering	\$ 4.00
Maintenance	\$ 126.00
Fuel	\$ 161.00
Bottles & Cans	\$ 20.00
Other	\$ 128.00
Total	\$ 2,639.00

SVDP \$ 60.00

Ash Wednesday Priests Retirement \$146.00

Church in Latin America \$62.00



PARTNERS IN CHARITY APPEAL 2021

Our parish has begun conducting the Partners in Charity Appeal. In order to be prepared to prayerfully consider this annual request from Bishop McManus, we have attached an online version of this year's Appeal Video and a digital 2021 Appeal Brochure. Visit: <https://vimeo.com/499697734>

Thanks to all our parishioners who have made their gift to the *2021 Partners in Charity Appeal*. St. Ann's Goal is \$40,000.00. If you have not yet made a gift or pledge, please visit partners-charity.net to do it online or request a pledge envelope from the Rectory. Partners in Charity, *formerly known as the Bishop's Fund*, is the Annual Appeal for the Diocese of Worcester, serving 27 charitable, educational, and pastoral ministries. Through your generous support we are able to serve thousands of families and individuals in Worcester County through outreach, formation, evangelization, and worship. Thank you! **Total of donations \$ 16,020.00**

Announcements

Our Tuesday evening Rosary group will be meeting weekly from 6-6:30 PM. Join us to pray for the needs of the Church, world, nation and community. All are welcome!

- Office Hours at the Rectory are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 9-12.
- Fr. Michael will be available to meet with parishioners in the parish hall at this time.



If you are a parishioner and are in need of assistance, please call #508- 987-8892 and leave a message on the SVDP private line and someone from the SVDP will return your call. Maybe you have lost your job and are behind on your utilities or can't afford to have oil delivered. We can help. We also can point you in the direction of other resources that are available.

SCRIPTURE READINGS 2021	
SUNDAY Feb. 28	Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10
MONDAY March 1	Dn 9:4b-10/Lk 6:36-38
TUESDAY March 2	Is 1:10, 16-20/Mt 23:1-12
WEDNESDAY March 3	Jer 18:18-20/Mt 20:17-28
THURSDAY March 4	Jer 17:5-10/Lk 16:19-31
FRIDAY March 5	Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
SATURDAY March 6	Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
SUNDAY March 7	Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17/1 Cor 1:22-25/ Jn 2:13-25

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

This week: Monday, February 22, 2021. Classes 4-9. Parents who have concerns regarding their child's health or well-being during the pandemic and about their child's participation in religious education on-site this year should contact Peggy Moynahan at the religious education office 1-508-987-8892.

Sunshine Ministry for March 2021

Happy Birthday to:

Theresa Krevosky

Richard Rowe

Mary Worster

Anna Pelltier

Theresa Stone



Second Sunday of Lent

READING 1GN 22:1-2, 9A, 10-13, 15-18

God put Abraham to the test. He called to him, "Abraham!" "Here I am!" he replied. Then God said: "Take your son Isaac, your only one, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him up as a holocaust on a height that I will point out to you."

When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. Then he reached out and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the LORD's messenger called to him from heaven, "Abraham, Abraham!" "Here I am!" he answered. "Do not lay your hand on the boy," said the messenger. "Do not do the least thing to him. I know now how devoted you are to God, since you did not withhold from me your own beloved son." As Abraham looked about, he spied a ram caught by its horns in the thicket. So he went and took the ram and offered it up as a holocaust in place of his son.

Again the LORD's messenger called to Abraham from heaven and said: "I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you acted as you did in not withholding from me your beloved son, I will bless you abundantly and make your descendants as countless as the stars of the sky and the sands of the seashore; your descendants shall take possession of the gates of their enemies, and in your descendants all the nations of the earth shall find blessing—all this because you obeyed my command."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM.....116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19

R. (116:9) I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.

I believed, even when I said,
"I am greatly afflicted."
Precious in the eyes of the LORD
is the death of his faithful ones.

R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.

O LORD, I am your servant;
I am your servant, the son of your handmaid;
you have loosed my bonds.
To you will I offer sacrifice of thanksgiving,
and I will call upon the name of the LORD.

R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.

My vows to the LORD I will pay
in the presence of all his people,
In the courts of the house of the LORD,
in your midst, O Jerusalem.

R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.

READING 2ROM 8:31B-34

Brothers and sisters: If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, how will he not also give us everything else along with him?

Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones? It is God who acquits us, who will condemn? Christ Jesus it is who died—or, rather, was raised—who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.

VERSE BEFORE THE GOSPELCF. MT 17:5

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:
This is my beloved Son, listen to him.

GOSPELMK 9:2-10

Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. Then Elijah appeared to them along with Moses, and they were conversing with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Rabbi, it is good that we are here! Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified. Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them.

As they were coming down from the mountain, he charged them not to relate what they had seen to anyone, except when the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what rising from the dead meant.



**ST. PAUL CENTER
FOR BIBLICAL THEOLOGY**

By Dr. Scott Hahn
Bonds Loosed

2nd Sunday of Lent (Cycle B)

Genesis 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18

Psalm 116:10, 15-19

Romans 8:31-34

Mark 9:2-10

The Lenten season continues with another story of testing. Last Sunday, we heard the trial of Jesus in the desert. In this week's First Reading, we hear of how Abraham was put to the test.

The Church has always read this story as a sign of God's love for the world in giving His only begotten son.

In today's Epistle, Paul uses exact words drawn from this story to describe how God, like Abraham, did not withhold His only Son, but handed Him over for us on the cross (see Romans 8:32; Genesis 22:12,16).

In the Gospel today, too, we hear another echo. Jesus is called God's "beloved Son" - as Isaac is described as Abraham's beloved firstborn son.

These readings are given to us in Lent to reveal Christ's identity and to strengthen us in the face of our afflictions.

Jesus is shown to be the true son that Abraham rejoiced to see (see Matthew 1:1; John 8:56). In His transfiguration, He is revealed to be the "prophet like Moses" foretold by God - raised from among their own kinsmen, speaking with God's own authority (see Deuteronomy 18:15,19).

Like Moses, He climbs the mountain with three named friends and beholds God's glory in a cloud (see Exodus 24:1,9,15). He is the one prophesied to come after Elijah's return (see Sirach 48:9-10; Malachi 3:1,23-24).

And, as He discloses to the apostles, He is the Son of Man sent to suffer and die for our sins (see Isaiah 53:3).

As we sing in today's Psalm, Jesus believed in the face of His afflictions, and God loosed Him from the bonds of death (see Psalm 116:3).

His rising should give us the courage to face our trials, to offer ourselves totally to the Father - as He did, as Abraham and Isaac did.

Freed from death by His death, we come to this Mass to offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and to renew our vows - as His servants and faithful ones.

A service of the St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology
www.SalvationHistory.com

Coonan

Insurance Agency

Tom Coonan

267 Main St., Oxford

508-987-7122

www.coonaninsurance.com

"Serving Your Business And Personal Needs"

Auto • Home • Business • Life



DAVID BARBALE

**ROOFING
& REMODELING**

FREE ESTIMATES

(508) 248-6709

Chariton, MA

PARADIS · GIVNER
FUNERAL HOME

(508) 987-2100

357 Main Street, Oxford

www.paradisfuneralhome.com



841 Main Street
Tenkatabag, MA 01876
(978) 851-9103

Rosaries from Flowers

"Handmade from the Flowers
of your Loved One"

www.rosariesfromflowers.com




GROW YOUR
COMMUNITY
Buy Local

**AD SPACE
AVAILABLE**
617-779-3771



webster live

508-987-6433

343 Main Street Oxford, MA 01540

Honored Memory Grave Care
Professional Grave Care Providers

Headstone Cleaning

Flower Planting & Delivery

508 - 939 - 1338

www.honoredmemorygravecare.com



☺ **SAVE A LIFE** ☺

KIDNEY TRANSPLANT DONOR NEEDED

BLOOD TYPE "O" POSITIVE

CONTACT: SAVELICIA@GMAIL.COM

ADVERTISING SALES
PART TIME. WORK FROM HOME.

Sell Ads for this Bulletin and more.
Contact us or send your resume to hr@thepilot.com



Catholic Cruises and Tours

Take your
**FAITH ON A
JOURNEY**



Catholic Cruises and Tours and The Apostleship of The Sea of the United States of America

Mass is included with all of our tours!

Catholic Cruises and Tours to Worldwide Destinations

- Holy Land Discovery • Fatima, Lourdes and Shrines of Spain • Grand Catholic Italy • Footsteps of Apostle Paul • Shrines of Alpine Europe • Pilgrimage to Lourdes • Scottish Highlands
- Camino, A walking journey for the soul



Call us today at 860-399-1785 or email Janet@CatholicCruisesandTours.com
www.CatholicCruisesandTours.com