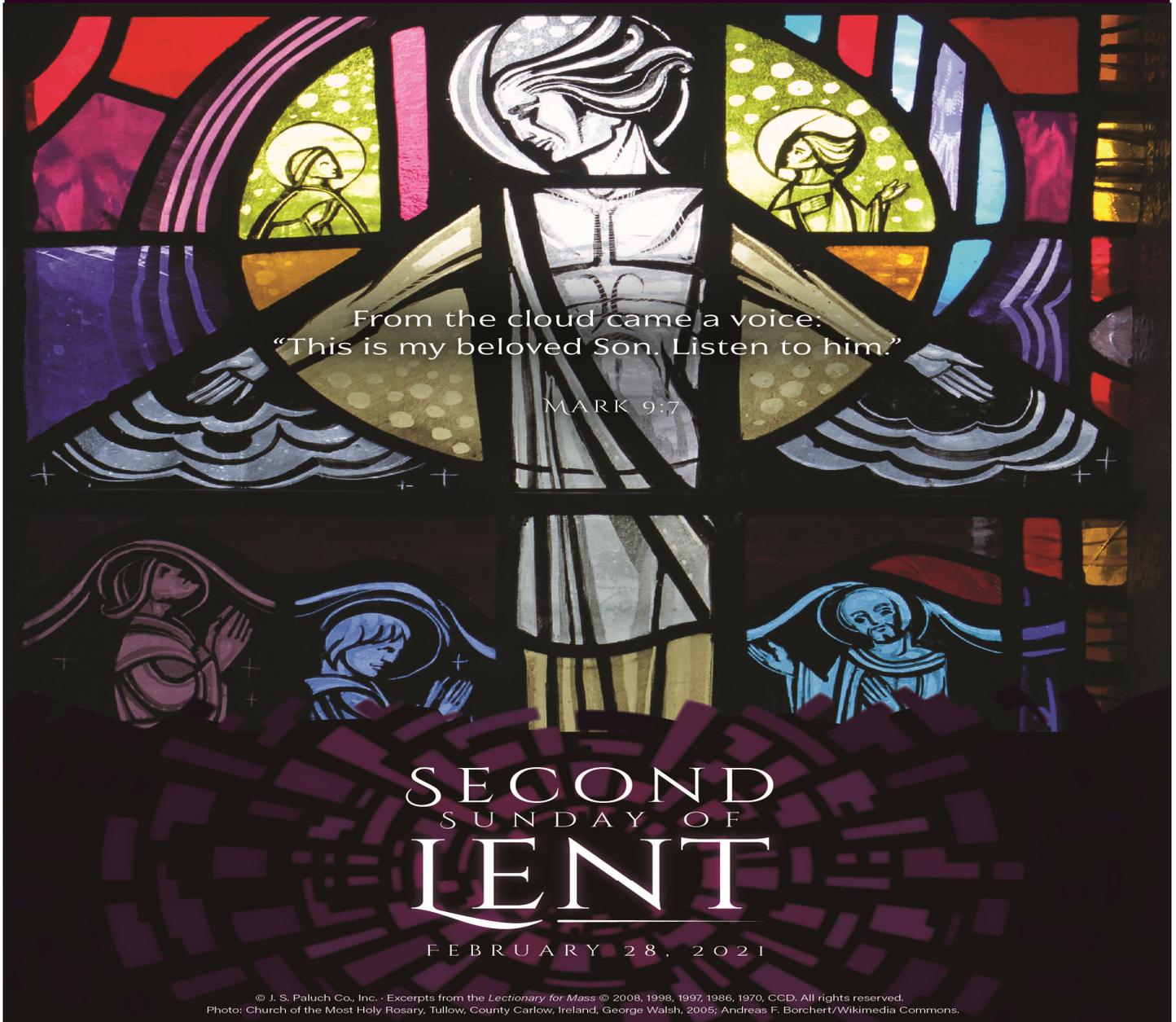


St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church Martinez, California



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

MARK 9:7

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

FEBRUARY 28, 2021

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Photo: Church of the Most Holy Rosary, Tullow, County Carlow, Ireland, George Walsh, 2005; Andreas F. Borchert/Wikimedia Commons.

LITURGY SCHEDULE

ALL SUNDAY MASSES REQUIRE ON-LINE REGISTRATION

SATURDAY: 8:00 AM - INDOOR AND LIVESTREAMED
SUNDAY: 8:30 AM - INDOOR AND LIVESTREAMED (Drive-thru Communion after Mass)
11:00 AM - OUTDOOR MASS- LIVESTREAMED (Drive-thru Communion after Mass) **103.5 FM**
1:00 PM - SPANISH MASS - INDOOR

ADORATION- TBD **Please call the office for access.**
(Private Prayer available after weekday daily mass)
DAILY ROSARY: Monday - Saturday 7:30 AM
DAILY MASS: 8:00 AM - Indoor and Livestreamed
DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET: 8:30 AM

DAILY (Mon- Fri): 7:15 AM - 7:45 AM - Indoor
RECONCILIATION: 9-10 AM Saturday's -Indoor
Sunday: 10:10-10:40 AM (Preschool courtyard) or
by appointment. Please call /email the office.

PARISH & SCHOOL STAFF

PARISH OFFICE: (925) 228 - 2230
FAX: (925) 228 - 1318

Fr. Michael Nufable, Ext 6
Parochial Administrator
frmiken@stcmtz.org

CHURCH LOCATION:
606 Mellus Street, Martinez, CA

PARISH OFFICE/CENTER & MAILING ADDRESS:
1125 Ferry Street
Martinez, CA 94553-1720

PARISH WEBSITE: www.stcmtz.org

**OFFICE HOURS: PLEASE CALL FOR APPOINTMENT
CLOSED ON WEEKENDS**

Sylvia Lloren Ext. 1
Office Administrator/Sacramental Coordinator/
Communications
sylvial@stcmtz.org

Troy Killorn Ext. 3
Director of Music Ministry / Maintenance Manager
troyk@stcmtz.org

Karen Glen Ext. 4
Bookkeeper / Safe Environment Coordinator / RCIA
kareng@stcmtz.org

Andrea Watkins Ext. 5
Director Religious Education (K-8)
Family Sunday Faith Formation Ministry
andrea@stcmtz.org

Deacon Albert Dizon Ext. 7
dcnalbertd@stcmtz.org

Deacon David Holland Ext. 7
dcndaveh@stcmtz.org

Paul & Jennifer Holland Ext. 8
Co-coordinators, Confirmation Ministry
paulh@stcmtz.org & jennyh@stcmtz.org



ST. CATHERINE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Jessica Griswold, Principal
jgriswold@csdo.org

SCHOOL K-8: 604 Mellus Street,
Martinez, CA 94553

TELEPHONE: 925-228-4140

FAX: 925-228-0697

OFFICE HOURS: TBD

SCHOOL WEBSITE: <http://school.stcatherinemartinez.com>

ST. CATHERINE PRE-SCHOOL 925-229-2255

Mea Auld, Pre-School Director mauld@csdo.org
scpreschool@comcast.net

PRE-SCHOOL LOCATION: 1125 Ferry Street, Martinez, CA

SAFE ENVIRONMENT: Before serving or continuing in your ministry or organization, please complete the Diocesan required Safe Environment for Children Project Training @ www.virtusonline.org

COURTESY REMINDER

Please register your vehicle to park in the upper parking lot. Vehicle registrations are intended for you and your family to remain inside your vehicle. Not for parking your car and sitting outside.

Thank you for understanding and cooperation.

The Mass schedule update

As of 2-12-2021

8:00 AM Daily Mass

(Mon-Sat. Indoor & Livestreamed)

REGISTRATION REQUIRED For Sunday, Holy Masses

8:30 AM Sunday, Mass (Indoor - Livestreamed)

- Communion will be provided for 15 minutes after the Mass in front of the church.

11:00 AM Sunday, Mass (Outdoor - Livestreamed)

- Communion will continue to be provided for 15 minutes after the Mass in front of the church.
 - Both Pedestrian and Vehicle registration available.
- 11:00 AM TRANSMITTED on 103.5 FM**

1:00 PM Sunday, Spanish Mass (Indoor)

Please continue to sign up via:

Eventbrite or on our Parish Website.

The link is also available through **MyParishApp** message and/or our **Facebook** page.

“Let’s stay connected” via one of our many social media platforms:

Parish Website: www.stcmtz.org

Bulletin Submission email:

stcathmtz@yahoo.com

Submissions are due no later than 12 PM every Friday for the following Sunday.

Exception: Early Holiday Deadlines



Facebook:

<https://OfficialStCatherineofSienaChurch>



MyParishapp:

Please download: **myparishapp** to your phones.

Step 1. Text App to number 88202.

Step 2. Download the app via the link.

Step 3. Search for St. Catherine of Siena Parish, Martinez.

Step 4. Now stay connected!

Step 5. Share with others, you know.

Go to the **menu**, click **share**, and choose who you want to share!



*From the Desk of the
Parochial Administrator*



Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Many lessons can be gleaned from the story of Isaac and Abraham. God appears to be asking the impossible of him: to surrender his only Son through human sacrifice. Perhaps what is being asked for is trust, faith, and total self-gift back to God – in the same way that God has been all, and only, total self-gift to us.

Abraham does not kill his Son. Nor does God demand it. He tells Abraham to prepare the sacrifice and then stops him. Abraham's willingness to comply is not reflective of aberrant behavior but representative of complete vulnerability and the desire to put the love of God before any and every other attachment and affection. That is a tough act to follow.

Moses and Elijah were two men of the covenant who also gave their all to God, withholding nothing. In their carrying out of God's divine plan, they prefigure Jesus Christ. Jesus gave his all to God, putting his love for God, and us, above all else, to the point of sacrificing his own life for the sake of obedience to God's will. And he now intercedes for us as we, too, strive to put God ahead of all things.

Saint Paul reminds the Romans and each of us today that Jesus always intercedes for us to the Father. To paraphrase Saint Paul: "Our God did not spare his own Son to prove how far he is willing to go for each of us. Will he not provide whatever we truly need throughout our journey of life?"

Every year on the Second Sunday of Lent, the pre-resurrection event of the Transfiguration of Jesus is proclaimed. It sets the stage for the Passion of Christ to unfold right before the disciples and strengthen their resolve to endure what was coming.

Christ crucified, Christ glorified is who gives us the strength to work through our ways of the cross that end with "Resurrection grace." Think of Resurrection grace as the grace of letting go of fear: the grace of letting go of the transient and focusing on the eternal; the grace of vulnerability that allows us to put the love of God before any and every other attachment and affection.

In this season of Lent, and every season, may we have such grace? May your Lenten journey continue to be rewarding, spiritual, and safe.

In Christ,
Fr. Mike Nufable

**"Day In and Day Out, For The Greater Glory of God"
"Life with Christ is a wonderful adventure"
St. Pope John Paul II.**

Fr. Mike is available for confession **daily M-F from 7:15-7:45 AM and Saturday 9-10AM.**
Sunday: **10:10 - 10:40AM** prior to the 11 AM Mass in the Preschool courtyard.
If you choose to make an appointment please contact the office or **Fr. Mike at (925) 228-2230 Ext 6**

**Join in the Weekly Scripture
Reflection with the Clergy-Tuesdays
7- 8:15 PM**
**Please call the office (925) 228-2230 Ext 4
or 7 to be connected to the ZOOM link.**

St. Catherine of Siena Parish follows Jesus by welcoming all, sharing our gifts, and giving glory to God.



2nd Sunday of Lent - February 28, 2021

Gathering Hymn: O Bless the Lord, My Soul ST. THOMAS (WILLIAMS)

1. O bless the Lord, my soul! His grace to thee proclaim! And all that is within me join To bless his holy name!
2. O bless the Lord, my soul! His mercies bear in mind! Forget not all his benefits! The Lord to thee is kind.
3. He clothes us with his love; Upholds us with his truth; He heals all our infirmities And ransoms us from death.
4. Then bless his holy name, Whose grace hath made us whole, Whose loving kindness crowns our days! O bless the Lord, my soul!

Text: SM; para. of Psalm 103:1-5; James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt. Music: New Universal Psalmist, 1770; Aaron Williams, 1731-1776, alt

Penitential Act:

First Reading: Gen 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: PS 116 *R. 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.**

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.**

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.**

Second Reading Rom 8:31-34

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.

R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ King of Endless Glory

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

**R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ King of Endless
Glory**

Gospel

Mk 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.

Profession of Faith

(During Lent - Apostles' Creed)

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
*At the words that follow, up to and including "the Virgin Mary,"
all bow.*

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father
almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the
dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.

Presentation of the Gifts: Renew Me, Lord

Bernadette Farrell

1. O God, I seek safe harbor in this storm,
a place of peace in which my soul can form the inner
strength to follow day by day your will for me unceasing-
ly. **Renew me, Lord, I pray.**

2. O God, I seek new vision, clear and strong, that once
again the sign that all along you held before these eyes,
once turned away, I now may see more faithfully.

Renew me, Lord, I pray.

3. O God, I seek to serve but you alone,
for deep within my spirit you have sown
the gift of faith which calls forth bold display: love unde-
rtered in deed and word.

Renew me, Lord, I pray.

4. O God, I seek from time to time the joy
afforded those whose daily deeds employ
the work of love giv'n freely, come what may. O Charity,
come, dwell in me.

Renew me, Lord, I pray.

5. O God, I seek to recommit my life, to honor well the
gospel of the Christ, to speak of peace and only peace
obey, to daily raise my hands in praise.

Renew me, Lord, I pray.

Text: 10 10 10 44 6; © 2004, Owen Alstott. Music: SAFE HARBOUR; © 2009,
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The Liturgy of the Eucharist

Holy, Holy, Holy / Great Amen

The Lord's Prayer / Sign of Peace; Lamb of God

Communion: Transfigure Us, O Lord

Bob Hurd

Refrain

***Transfigure us, O Lord, transfigure us, O Lord.
Break the chains that bind us; speak your healing
word, and where you lead we'll follow. Transfigure
us, O Lord.***

1. Down from heights of glory into the depths below, the
love of God self-emptied, the love of God to show. You
light the path before us, the way that we must go.

2. Light for those in darkness, the hungry have their fill,
glad tidings for the humble, the healing of all ills; in these
we glimpse your glory, God's promises fulfilled.

3. Pardon for the sinner, a shepherd for the sheep, a drink
of living water
for all who thirst and seek, and feasting at your table, the
lowly and the least.

4. To the holy city, Jerusalem, you go;
your face set toward the ending, the cross to be your
throne. Shall we journey with you and share your paschal
road?

Text: Based on Matthew 17:1-9; Mark 9:2-10; Luke 9:28b-36.
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rights reserved.

**Sending Forth: During the Season of Lent we
shall depart in a silent prayerful manner. Please
wait in your pews for the ushers to dismiss you.**



FEBRUARY 28, 2021

*Jesus was transfigured
before them, and his clothes
became dazzling white.*

Mark 9:2-3

THE BELOVED SON

Today's first reading, known as "the Binding of Isaac," refers to the way Isaac is bound and laid upon the wood of the altar of sacrifice. God directs Abraham to offer his son in sacrifice, killing the beloved son that had been a special gift to him and Sarah in their old age. How could God ask Abraham to do such a thing? Abraham offers no resistance, but in preparing for the sacrifice, Abraham may have agreed with the psalmist that he was "greatly afflicted." Saint Paul's letter to the Romans refers to Jesus as God's beloved Son, which is also how God identifies Jesus to Peter, James, and John at the Transfiguration. Afterward, Jesus tells those disciples not to mention the event to anyone until after his resurrection from the dead. The event, together with Jesus' comments, leaves the disciples thoroughly confused.

HOW COULD GOD ASK ABRAHAM TO DO THAT?

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.

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

Genesis 22:1–2, 9a, 10–13, 15–18
Psalm 116:10, 15, 16–17, 18–19
Romans 8:31b–34
Mark 9:2–10

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LENT

SECOND
SUNDAY OF



Parish Hall and School (Boiler) Heat and Air

UPDATE

Timeline of Events

In the fall 2019 the St. Catherine of Siena Parish leadership presented a “State of the Parish” report to the parish, school, and community at large. The needs of the Parish, School and Cemetery facilities were addressed in this report, which was published in the Parish bulletin and on our website @ stcmztz.org. The Five Years of Grace Facilities Team drafted a plan to address the urgent needs of the community. The Parish at this time did not have funds available to cover the 2.5 million dollars of repairs and improvements that were needed. St. Catherine of Siena Parish had been in a 20-year building project which was brought to an end and the donors were invited to reclaim their money or have it repurposed to the capital needs of the parish and/or school. The Parish Finance Committee and the Five Years of Grace Facilities Team worked to prioritize the projects with the consideration of the donor’s requests.

In 2018 with the Formation of Lumen Christi Academies, the overall responsibility of the school and its facilities was shifted from the Parish community to the network of schools, asking the Parish to continue to provide for the faith and spiritual needs of the students, families and staff. One of the benefits of the school moving to this network was the accessibility of shared funding to enhance each individual school. In January of St. Catherine of Siena School, a Lumen Christi Academy received a generous grant from the Shea Foundation for the renovation of the school building. With the onset of COVID 19, the renovation of the school took some unexpected turns and the total monies available to complete the projects necessitated the scaling back of some of the work originally planned.

In May of 2020 a meeting was held that included the Paul Bongiovanni/CFO of the Diocese of Oakland, Rodney Pierre-Antoine/Director of Lumen Christi Academy, Jessica Griswold/Principal of St. Catherine of Siena School, Fr. Anthony Le/Parochial Administrator of the Parish, Troy Killorn/Facilities Manager and the Shea Foundation representatives. Knowing the condition of the boiler system was a major concern, as to its functionality and longevity, the topic was discussed at this time. The Shea Foundation’s generous grant was already allocated to specific needs of renovation – interior remodel and painting of the school, new windows, new lighting, security doors and a partial painting of the exterior of the school. The St. Catherine of Siena Parish contracted with the Shea Foundation vendors to complete the exterior painting of the school building, the lighting in the parish hall and kitchen and the addition of the keyless entry doors/security to the parish hall. Due to the COVID 19 restrictions and strict OSHA protocols, additional vendors could not have access to the building during the planned renovation. The St. Catherine of Siena Facilities team planned for an evaluation of the boiler upon Shea Foundation vendors completion of the project. The timeframe for completion was extended, but we were able to gain access in September.

The Parish contracted with Bay City Boiler to open, clean, and inspect the boiler. In late October we received a bid to retube the boiler for \$25,580, which would have been a temporary fix. The bid to replace the boiler was \$47,155 with an additional cost of at least \$8700 more to do repairs on what was visible to the degree the tubing could be examined. Bringing the total to \$55,855.

At this time there was no additional inspection of the radiant heat lines that run through the building by Bay City Boiler. Some of the heating lines have been abandoned in the lower part of the building. In past attempts to improve the quality of heat for the building "Heat-a-lators" were added to the main floor to force heat into the classrooms and offices and these show visible signs of leaking. The estimated cost of a full and safe repair of the system is not available without further cost to evaluate the system which would include opening ceilings and walls to inspect.

The Five Years of Grace facilities team, under the leadership of Troy Killorn had concurrently investigated a more efficient heating and cooling system for the school. Bids were acquired for the cost of the units, as well as the upgrades to the electrical system which are necessary to accommodate the units. The proposals are for individual room units that will provide both heat and air conditioning. These units will heat and cool quickly and are energy efficient. This upgrade will save money over the years in utility costs and enable the addition of solar panels for additional cost savings in the future.

Due to circumstances outside of our control the processes have been delayed over the winter months.

On January 1, 2021, Father Michael Nufable was assigned to St. Catherine of Siena Parish, as the new Parochial Administrator. Fr. Michael was quickly brought up to speed on the details and delays in the project. As our new Parochial Administrator, Fr. Michael is responsible for all major decisions in consultation with the Diocese of Oakland. The Diocese of Oakland is legally the owner of all Parish and School properties and must approve major repairs and renovations. The process for approval of all major projects requires the submission of all evaluations, bids and liability information. We have officially requested the project to be approved. We are asking for this approval outside of the normal policies and procedures we are asked to follow for these types of projects.

On Monday, January 25th we were able to convene a meeting of the Diocese, the Parish, and the contractors to execute a plan of action. This meeting delegated the responsibilities of each vendor and entity for the execution of the project. The details of the project were submitted to the City of Martinez for approval and permitting.

On Tuesday, January 26th we met with St. Catherine of Siena staff, Jessica Griswold/Principal, Rodney Pierre Antoine/Director, Lumen Christi Academies and Paul Bongiovanni/CFO, Diocese of Oakland to discuss the plan and timeline for the project. The estimated time for the completion of the project once approval is received from the Diocese, the City of Martinez and PG&E is 3 to 4 weeks. The project involves the HVAC installer, an electrical contractor, and a general contractor. Permits are needed from the City of Martinez and PG&E. The project may be staggered to help facilitate a faster timeline.

It is best for the contractors to have unlimited access to the building during the installation of the units. The issue of Safe Environment must be considered if the children are present. Jessica will consider the plan for adaptation, distance or hybrid learning based on the information Troy will give her regarding the actual start dates and construction needs.

The overall cost of the project is estimated to be about \$175,000 dollars. St. Catherine of Siena Parish has funds to execute the project in our Building and Renovation Fund, from the repurposed monies of the Building/Activity Center Project. In a collaboration with the Parish, Lumen Christi Academies will share in a percentage of the cost from their Capital Grant funds.

Thank you!

God Bless!

Fr. Michael Nufable—Parochial Administrator, St. Catherine of Siena Parish
Jessica Griswold – School Principal, St. Catherine of Siena School
Rodney Pierre-Antoine – Director, Lumen Christi Academy



STEWARDSHIP

To create a culture in the parish rooted in gratitude and generosity.

WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS

February 21, 2021		ONLINE
Weekly Offering:	\$4,886.00	\$2,167.00
Ash Wednesday:	\$ 120.00	\$ 90.00
Easter Flowers:	\$ 495.00	\$ 70.00
Seminary:	\$ 25.00	
Special Donation:	\$ 980.79	
Maintenance:		\$ 320.00
School Scholarship:		\$ 230.00
St. Vincent de Paul:		\$ 85.00

If you are looking for a ways to help our parish, here are a few options:

- 1) **On-line Giving:** www.stcmtz.org
- 2) **My parish App:**
CLICK on the "giving icon"
- 3) **Diocesan Support for the Parishes**
Go to the Diocese of Oakland home page
CLICK on the Giving tab
Select the Parish Support option
<https://www.oakdiocese.org/parish-support>



BETTER MEALS IN MADAGASCAR

In Madagascar, half of all children are undernourished. That means 50% of kids won't grow to reach their full potential. But communities are changing this by focusing on improving health and nutrition. What role has food played in your life? How can you help those who lack access to enough nutritious food. Visit crsricebowl.org to learn more.

Activity Center/Gymnasium: PACE I, II, FTP

Week Ending 2/19/2021

Repurposed Donations:

Households/Individuals: 0 Amount: \$0

Reclaimed Donations:

Households/Individuals: 0 Amount: \$0

YEAR TO DATE : Household/Individuals

Week Ending 1/31/2021

Repurposed: \$791,064.75 254

Reclaimed: \$345,153.90 79

As of 02/19/21 \$345,153.90 has been paid to back to Donor's.



DISCIPLESHIP

To empower a community of Christian people walking together as disciples of Jesus in order to share His good news.

Mass Intentions for the 2021 calendar year are now being accepted. Please fill out the form located on our website: WWW.STCMTZ.ORG

MASS INTENTIONS

SAT	2/27	8:00	Int. Dominic Buscaglia - Birthday
		4:30	Rose and Santo Tavormina†
SUN	2/28	8:30	Gina V. Juan†
		11:00	Juan Delchini†
		1:00	Alida Quijano†
MON	3/1	8:00	Jose Gonzalez†
TUES	3/2	8:00	Int. Esther Concepcion -75th Birthday
WED	3/3	8:00	Int. St. Catherine School Families
THUR	3/4	8:00	Mary & Jim Brennan†
FRI	3/5	8:00	Int. Marvin V. Juan - Birthday
SAT	3/6	8:00	Ann & Tom Thompson†
SUN	3/7	7:00	Int. of Young Ladies Institute
		8:30	John DeVito†
		11:00	Int. St. Catherine Parishioners
		1:00	Cardenas & Polina Families†



St. Catherine Parish offers deepest sympathy and prayers for the families and, the repose of the soul of all who entered into eternal life.

Victims of the Coronavirus

Beneath His Cross

Thursday, March 4th, 2021 at 6PM
Jessica Preciado 925-354-1656 or
stcbeneaththiscross@att.net for questions.



Stations of the Cross
Every Friday beginning at 7PM
Please **register on-line** through our Website, Facebook, or Parish App.

“OUR SPECIAL 2021 GIFT TO YOU”

FORMED: The Catholic Faith.

On Demand

Get thousands of movies, programs, audio, and books instantly. FORMED provides the very best Catholic content from more than 60 organizations to help parishes, families and individuals explore their faith anywhere. Supporting thousands of movies, children’s programs, E-books, audio, parish programs and studies direct to your browser, mobile or connected device. **Available in English and Spanish.** Now, parishioners simply need to go to <https://formed.org/>



Come and pray the rosary. Our Hispanic Community will begin praying the rosary in front of Our Lady of Guadalupe on the last Thursday of each month. Beginning on Feb 25th, 2021 at 7 PM. “All are invited”.

Give to the Poor

Lent is a call not just to "give up something" but more important to "give something for the poor". Wherever you live in the parish, there are poor families within walking distance of your home. When in need, they ring the office bell. They are, in effect, ringing your doorbell. Your almsgiving to St Vincent de Paul will help the poor to celebrate the grace of God's love this Easter.



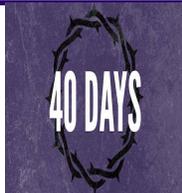
Please join other members of our parish community in participating in CRS Rice Bowl this Lent. You can pick up your family’s rice bowl from the vestibule/ushers after Masses. Remember, your contributions to Rice Bowl changes lives: **25% of the proceeds remain in the Oakland Diocese**, with a portion being given out as **grants to St. Vincent de Paul conferences** and other organizations working to alleviate hunger and food insecurity in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties.

LENTEN FOOD DRIVE

The annual “**40 CANS IN 40 DAYS**” food drive, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, will be ongoing throughout the Lenten Season.

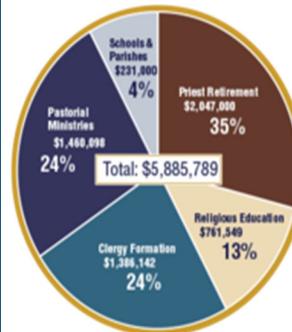
Collection barrels will be set up in the in the outside parking lot for all Sunday Masses. Please drop off your canned goods during this time only. Each family is asked to donate at least 40 cans of food over the 40 days of Lent. The donated cans will be presented to the local food bank.

Please, **no frozen food, boxed food or expired cans.** For more information please contact Orlando Conti (925) 586-9071



This year has been challenging for so many. Now, more than ever, the good work of the Church is needed in our community. From Faith Formation for students and adults, to important ministry works, to supporting our schools and parishes, our Diocese is making a difference in people's lives every single day — thanks to the prayers and contributions of our catholic community.

We are appreciative of every gift we received this past year. It is because of you that we are able to support the work St. Catherine of Siena Parish’s goal this year is \$23,000. that furthers Christ's mission in the Diocese of Oakland.



The goal for the 2021 Bishop's Appeal is \$3 million. The funds raised will help offset the costs of services and ministries.

All gifts to the Bishop's Appeal go solely to those purposes listed inside. Funds are never redirected to any other use.

2021 BISHOP'S APPEAL PRAYER

As sisters and brothers, bound together in the mission of our great Diocese of Oakland, we come into Your presence, gracious God, with gratitude and awe. We call on our blessed Mother, Queen of the World, along with St. Francis of Assisi and all the great saints who brought forth renewal and new life, to accompany us in the ‘rebuilding’ of our Church and of our world. With our hearts and hands outstretched to receive the other and impart healing and hope, we dedicate our energies and resources to that new life, which You, gracious God, are bringing forth now, already, in the midst of the disorientation and birthing pains that are also a part of our present circumstances. You, O God, are Creator and Lord of all. For this we, the bishop, priests, ministers and all the faithful of the Diocese, give You abundant thanks. With our beloved St. Francis we, too, cry out: ‘Laudato Si’ ... Praise to You, O Lord!

READINGS & REFLECTIONS

Sunday, Feb 28, 2021 SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Go all in

Erin became a Roman Catholic in midlife. When asked why, she says she tried fiercely to make life work according to her plan. Erin told God many times how it should go, attempting to persuade the powers that be to see it her way. Then one day God replied: My plan for you is so beautiful, wonderful, elegant. Why not try it instead? When Erin celebrated the Rites for Candidates for Full Communion on a Lenten Sunday just like this one, she found the joy she was missing. Pray for this year's candidates— and for candidates for years to come.

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Romans 8:31b-34; Mark 9:2-10 (26). *"If God is for us, who can be against us?"*

Monday, Mar 01, 2021 LENTEN WEEKDAY

Mercy me!

Pope Francis called mercy the "beating heart of the gospel." Mercy is forbearance, divine favor, compassionate treatment of the distressed and undeserving. It's another word for God's love. Consider showing devotion to it by reciting the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, a rosary-based prayer that was received by Saint Faustina, a Polish nun in the 1930s, through visions of Jesus. Divine Mercy Sunday is celebrated the week after Easter, but many make the Chaplet part of their regular Lenten practice by reciting it every day at 3 p.m. (the traditional hour of Christ's death). You can find the Chaplet on the USCCB website. **TODAY'S READINGS:** Daniel 9:4b-10; Luke 6:36-38 (230). *"Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful."*

Tuesday, Mar 02, 2021 LENTEN WEEKDAY

Celebrate humble history

Women's History Month celebrates well-known women but also unsung heroines. How appropriate, then, that today is the feast of Agnes of Bohemia, a lesser-known saint. First cousin of Elizabeth of Hungary—and descendent of Good King Wenceslaus—Agnes came upon her vocation naturally. She built a hospital for the poor, a Franciscan friary, and a monastery for Poor Clare nuns. When she also became a nun and was urged to become abbess, she referred to herself only as "senior sister." She continued to cook for her sisters and mend the clothing of lepers rather than live a royal life. Celebrate the unsung heroines in your life. **TODAY'S READINGS:** Isaiah 1:10, 16-20; Matthew 23:1-12 (231). *"Whoever exalts himself will be humbled; but whoever humbles himself will be exalted."*

Wednesday, Mar 03, 2021

MEMORIAL OF KATHARINE DREXEL, RELIGIOUS FOUNDER

We have work to do

Katharine Drexel (1858-1955) is a saint for our time. Born into a successful Philadelphia banking family, she used her wealth to improve the lives of others. Her Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament devoted their lives to education of Native and African Americans, building more than 100 schools in cities, rural areas, and on reservations. Though Katharine and her sisters at times faced criticism, endured racist taunts, and were threatened by the Ku Klux Klan, they remained steadfast in their

sacrifice of the Blessed Sacrament. How will you commit your own life to making the world more just?

TODAY'S READINGS: Jeremiah 18:18-20; Matthew 20:17-28 (232). *"Can you drink the chalice that I am going to drink?"*

Thursday, Mar 04, 2021 MEMORIAL OF CASIMIR

Grace under pressure

Saint Casimir seemed destined for riches and power, but this patron saint of Poland, called the Peacemaker, took a different path. Born in 1458 to the king and queen of Poland, he was a devout, ascetic child. At age 14 his father had him lead an army to install himself as king of Hungary, but with an overpowering enemy and troops beginning to desert, Casimir instead returned home. His furious father exiled him, but Casimir would never again take up arms. Rejecting violence when those around you embrace it can take great inner strength. Cultivate an inner compass that can pursue peace despite pressure.

TODAY'S READINGS: Jeremiah 17:5-10; Luke 16:19-31 (233). *"Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose hope is the LORD."*

Friday, Mar 05, 2021 LENTEN WEEKDAY; DAY OF ABSTINENCE

Pray for besieged people everywhere

Prayer is our life with God. Sometimes we carve out a particular time during the day, and sometimes there are specific words, images, or experiences that help us be more aware of or express our relationship with God. And so of course during Lent prayer is one of the pillars, along with fasting and almsgiving, that help us turn to God. On today's 2021 World Day of Prayer, an ecumenical observance, we are invited to "Build on a strong foundation." This theme comes from the women of Vanuatu, an island hit by Cyclone Harold in 2020. Despite the perils they faced—and we've all faced in a year of pandemic—the message of today's prayer is one of confidence in God's steadfastness and the rock of faith. Unite in prayer for healing and recovery. **TODAY'S READINGS:** Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46 (234). *"The kingdom of God will be . . . given to a people that will produce its fruit."*

Saturday, Mar 06, 2021 LENTEN WEEKDAY

Sibling rivalry of biblical proportions

The Parable of the Prodigal Son could as easily be called the Parable of the Bitter Brother. The story might have ended with the celebration at the return of the repentant prodigal. But instead we are left to ponder the feelings of the "good son," the obedient one who followed all the rules but never got a party thrown in *his* honor. It's a very human story, reenacted in nearly every family in one form or another. "Mother always liked you best." "You were Dad's favorite." "All we ever did was bail you out of trouble." Will the bitter brother in the gospel story reconcile? Has bitterness or division in your own family been reconciled?

Consider being the reconciler who brings it about.

TODAY'S READINGS: Micah 7:14-15, 18-20; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32 (235). *"Look, all these years I served you and not once did I disobey your orders; yet you never gave me even a young goat to feast on with my friends."*

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