



# Our Parish COMMUNITY

February 28, 2021

Second Sunday of Lent (B)

Gn 22:1–2, 9a, 10–13, 15–18

Rom 8:31b–34

Mk 9:2–10

## Future Gazing

**S**ome spiritual writers and psychologists tell us how important it is to live in the present. Still, many of our decisions are made with an eye toward the future. Life commitments are always future oriented. Each newborn child carries promises for the future. Because we are part of the emerging universe, we are always called into the future. Today's readings also carry implications for the future.

Isaac was not only Abraham's beloved son; he was Abraham's legacy and future dynasty. Isaac's death would have put an end to Abraham's memory in the future. Consequently, this was more than a test of obedience. Abraham was presented with a choice: Choose Isaac and all that the future might bring to your family and memory through him. Or, trust that the promise God made—that your descendants would be as numerous as the stars in the sky—would be fulfilled even if Isaac dies. God asked Abraham to place his future in God's hands.

Some scholars believe that the real meaning of Jesus' transfiguration lies in its effects on the disciples who witnessed it. In this experience they came to see Jesus in a significantly new way. They saw that he has somehow associated with Moses, an agent of the law, and Elijah, a great prophet. In other words, Jesus was somehow associated with the very core of Jewish religion. The disciples did not understand how, nor did they grasp what "rising from the dead meant." Still they placed their future in his hands.

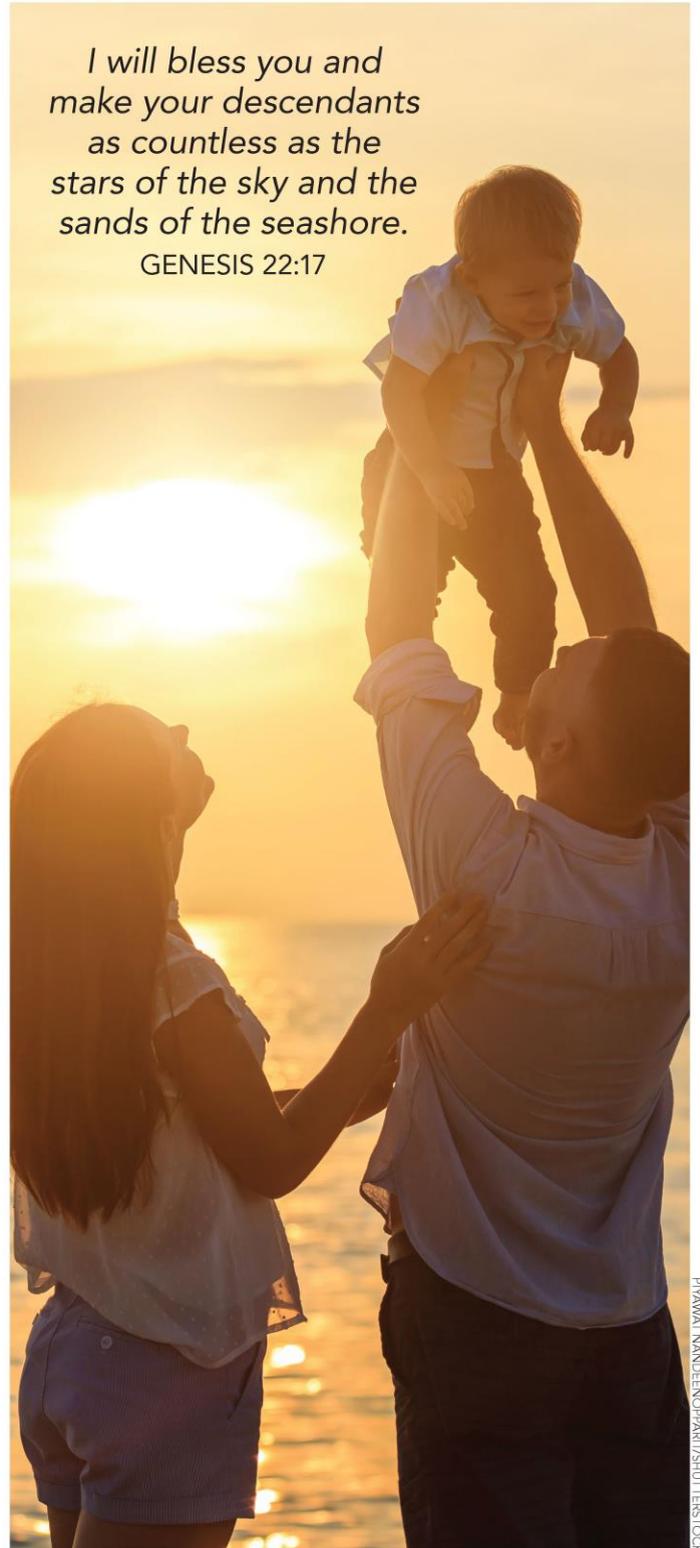
*Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA*

### FOR *Reflection*

- ✦ *Have you ever felt like your whole world has collapsed? How did you get through it?*
- ✦ *True disciples must place their lives in God's hands. Pray for this grace.*

*I will bless you and  
make your descendants  
as countless as the  
stars of the sky and the  
sands of the seashore.*

GENESIS 22:17





**St. Martin of Tours  
Catholic Community  
at Fort Belvoir, Virginia**

**Mass Schedule**

**Monday – Thursday, 1205** at Fairfax Chapel

**Saturday, 1700** at Belvoir Chapel

**Sunday, 0930** at Belvoir Chapel  
**1100** at Fairfax Chapel

**Pre-Registration is required for weekend Masses.**

**The link to register is:**

<https://einvitations.afit.edu/inv/anim.cfm?i=583972&k=076941007C55>

**The Sunday 0930 Mass is live-streamed  
and can be viewed from this link:**

<https://www.facebook.com/FortBelvoirRSO/>

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

**Saturday – 1600-1645** at Belvoir Chapel  
or by appointment. Contact Fr. Lindsay directly  
to schedule.

**For More Information**

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571-266.2086

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Office located at: Religious Support Annex, Bldg 221,  
10011 Middleton Rd, Ft Belvoir, near post office.

**Congratulations to:**

**Jerrell Flowers      Khaleal Flowers**

**Catechumens Elected to Receive the  
Sacrament of Initiation this Easter**

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING US!**

**Digital Giving Totals:**

**December 2020: \$7,765.00**

**January 2021: \$3,180.00**

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**Fort Belvoir, VA 22060**

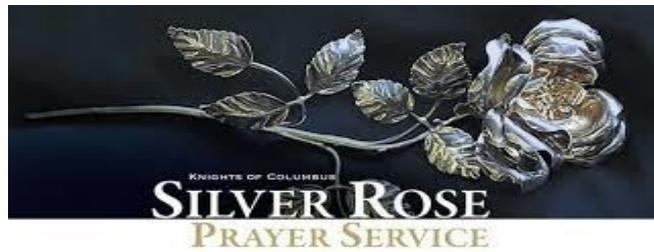
**Please write “Catholic Community”  
in the memo line for accurate depositing.**



**Young Man and Young Woman  
of the Year Awards**

The Knights of Columbus Council 11170 is  
sponsoring the annual **Young Man and Young  
Woman of the Year Award** program for  
2021. Award winners will receive a scholarship  
and will advance to the State level to compete for  
additional scholarship awards.

Any adult can nominate a candidate by requesting  
an Applications are available by email at:  
[FBKofC11170@gmail.com](mailto:FBKofC11170@gmail.com). Completed  
applications due 10 March.



### SPECIAL EVENT WE JUST FOUND OUT ABOUT

The Knights of Columbus are honored to host a stop for **Our Lady of Guadalupe's Silver Rose Program** which carries Roses from all over North America to the Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine in Mexico supporting respect for life.

Unfortunately, there is little notice, as the event will be held **on Monday March 1 and Tuesday March 2 after the Noon Mass at Fairfax Chapel.**

### 2021 Archdiocesan Chrism Mass Tuesday, March 23 at 6:00 p.m.

Each year Archbishop Broglio concelebrates with his priests the Chrism Mass, during which the priests renew their commitment and the oils intended for sacramental use on military installations and in VA medical centers served by the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA are blessed and consecrated.

The Chrism Mass is open to the public, and the faithful of the Archdiocese are encouraged to participate, though online registration is required. Lay faithful can register at:

[www.milarch.org/chrism-mass/](http://www.milarch.org/chrism-mass/)

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

*Hosted this week by:*

*Eucharistic Ministers & Mattheans*

Our traditional Friday Stations of the Cross services will continue this Lenten Season. We will hold an in-person service every Friday at 1800 for six weeks.

The service will be live-streamed. Those wanting to attend in-person will be required to pre-register. The link for pre-registration is:

<https://einvitations.afit.edu/inv/anim.cfm?i=588434&k=07694A0D7853>

## Homily Notes

### SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

28 FEBRUARY 2021

*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.*

(Roman's 8:31-34)

This passage from St. Paul's letter to the Romans is one of my favorite passages from his letters. "Paul's letter to the Romans is a powerful exposition of the doctrine of the supremacy of Christ and of faith in Christ as the salvation. It is an implicit plea to the Christians at Rome, and to all Christians, to hold fast to that faith."

(Introduction to Romans, New American Bible, pg. 1272)

Though our lives may not be as tough as Abraham's, we all encounter trials in life that challenge our faith in God. In the sacrifice of Isaac, Abraham faced ending not only his son's life, but also the lives of his whole family – past, present and future. Abraham demonstrates complete trust and faith in God. His faith is recognized and honored. This teaching moment becomes a great opportunity for God to affirm the sanctity of human life and to reject the practices of pagan child sacrifices that were happening among non-Jewish peoples living near Abraham.

No matter what we face with the trials of this life, we are called to have faith in God, to follow the example of Jesus Christ, to fully offer our lives as servants of God, and to bring the Gospel of life to the world. Following the example of Abraham, draw your strength from God and always remember, "that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ." Each year, Lent invites us to grow in our faith, surrender to God's love, and to always nurture and protect the lives all of our children as sacred gifts from God.

*Fr. Mike*

# Dear Padre,

## Was Lent always associated with sacrifice, sin, and penance? Did Lent have some other purpose in Church history?

**A** set period of Lent was not observed during the first centuries of Christianity. Rather, Christians prepared for the Easter celebration with an all-night vigil and a fast. This vigil concluded with a morning Eucharist. Gradually, Christians extended this celebration to include Jesus' own Passover (the supper on Holy Thursday and the death of Jesus on Friday). By the end of the second century, baptism became linked to the Easter Vigil, and the time leading to Easter became a period of intense preparation for baptism. At first, this preparation period lasted only three weeks. This baptismal preparation program eventually extended to forty days. The idea of forty days came out of Mark's Gospel (1:13), where we read about Jesus going into the desert for forty days to prepare for his ministry.

Today the Lenten period serves a double purpose. It is still a time of intense preparation for the catechumens, as they anticipate celebrating the sacrament of baptism at the Easter Vigil. But Lent also has become a time for baptized Christians to reflect on their own baptism. During Lent, the baptized are challenged to turn away from sin and choose again the deepest meaning of their baptism: the fact that they have died and risen with Christ and are now alive anew in Jesus. This renewal is done through the traditional penitential practices of fasting, prayer, and works of charity.

*From Dear Padre: Questions Catholics Ask © 2003 Liguori Publications  
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org*



JESUS CERNANTES/SHUTTERSTOCK

## Calendar

### Monday

MARCH 1

Lenten Weekday

Dn 9:4b–10

Lk 6:36–38

### Tuesday

MARCH 2

Lenten Weekday

Is 1:10, 16–20

Mt 23:1–12

### Wednesday

MARCH 3

Lenten Weekday

Jer 18:18–20

Mt 20:17–28

### Thursday

MARCH 4

Lenten Weekday

Jer 17:5–10

Lk 16:19–31

### Friday

MARCH 5

Lenten Weekday

Gn 37:3–4, 12–13a,  
17b–28a

Mt 21:33–43, 45–46

### Saturday

MARCH 6

Lenten Weekday

Mi 7:14–15, 18–20

Lk 15:1–3, 11–32

### Sunday

MARCH 7

Third Sunday of Lent

Ex 20:1–17 or

20:1–3, 7–8, 12–17

1 Cor 1:22–25

Jn 2:13–25



## A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

*We learn from Abraham to pray with faith, to dialogue, to argue, but always ready to receive the word of God and to put it into practice. We learn to talk with God as a child with his father: to listen to him, respond, argue, but transparent, as a child with his father.*

GENERAL AUDIENCE, JUNE 3, 2020