



*While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white.*

## *The Second Sunday of Lent*

### *March 13, 2022*

#### *Saint Francis of Assisi Parish*

*Missions of Our Lady of the Valley in Fall River Mills  
and Saint Stephen's in Bieber*

#### *Mission Statement*

*We, the Catholic Church of Saint Francis, are a community of faith called by Baptism to center our lives in the sacraments and the Holy Eucharist. We gather together to mutually grow in our love for God and neighbor by studying the Word of God; by believing in the Faith and Traditions from the Apostles; by accepting the teachings of the Magisterium and by receiving and giving support, hope, faith and charity.*

*Parroquia de San Francisco de Asís  
Misiones de Nuestra Señora del Valle en Fall River Mills  
y San Esteban en Bieber*

#### *Nuestra Misión*

*Nosotros la Iglesia de San Francisco, somos una comunidad de Fe llamados por el Bautismo a centrar nuestra vida en los sacramentos y la Santa Eucaristía. Nosotros nos reunimos para crecer mutuamente en nuestro amor a Dios y a nuestro semejante a través de estudiar la Palabra de Dios; a través de creer en la Fe y Tradición de los Apóstoles; a través de aceptar las enseñanzas del Magisterio y a través de recibir y dar Apoyo, Fe, Esperanza y Caridad.*

**St. Francis of Assisi Parish**

PO Box 160, 37464 Juniper Avenue  
Burney, CA 96013  
Tel. (530) 335-2372

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**MISSIONS**

Our Lady of the Valley      St. Stephen's  
43434 Hwy. 299E              201 Hwy. 299E  
Fall River Mills              Bieber

**MASS SCHEDULE**

See "Parish Calendar" (opposite) for changes.

**Weekends**

Saturday	4:30 pm	Our Lady of the Valley
Sunday	9:00 am	St. Francis
	11:00 am	Our Lady of the Valley (Spanish)
	1:00 pm	St. Stephen's

**Weekdays**

Mon, Tue, Fri	9:00 am	St. Francis
Thursday	6:30 pm	St. Francis (Spanish)
Friday	6:00 pm	Our Lady of the Valley (Spanish)

**ADORATION**

1st Friday	9:30 am—Noon	St. Francis
1st Saturday	3:30 pm	Our Lady of the Valley
1st Sunday	11:45 am	St. Stephen's
Thursdays	3—6:30 pm	St. Francis
Fridays	11 am—6 pm	Our Lady of the Valley

**First Sunday of the Month: All the Masses are said for the sick and following Mass, Anointing of the Sick will be administered.**

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)**

Confession is available one-half hour before scheduled Masses. Otherwise, call the parish for an appointment.

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD BANK**

Food is available on request. Call the parish at 335-2372 for food anytime you are in need or call Bob Gartner at 249-8641.

**NEW PARISHIONERS**

Please register at our website [www.stfrancisburney.org](http://www.stfrancisburney.org)

**RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION FOR CHILDREN (CCD)**

Please contact  
Elaine Shields (336-1003) or  
Estella Valdovinos (524-6434) Spanish

**MUSIC: WEDDINGS & FUNERALS**

Please contact Joan Knapp (530) 294-1234

**BECOMING CATHOLIC (RCIA)**

Program of study for non-Catholic adults or Catholics seeking the Sacrament of Confirmation. Contact Bob Gartner at (530) 249-8641 or email: [bobgartner@gmail.com](mailto:bobgartner@gmail.com)

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

Please contact Bob Gartner ([bobgartner@gmail.com](mailto:bobgartner@gmail.com))

**LECTORS**

**March 13**  
Kathy Billo  
Jim Billo

**March 20**  
Tom Weber  
Justin Olesen

**CALENDAR**

Sun	March 13	Daylight Savings Time begins at 2:00am
Sat/Sun	March 26-27	Catholic Relief Services Collection
Wed	March 30	Lenten Penance Service 6:30pm OLV
Sat	April 9	Pastoral Council Meeting at OLV, 3:00pm
Friday	April 15	Good Friday

**For more information see our website at [www.stfrancisburney.org](http://www.stfrancisburney.org)**

**Offertory Collections**

**Fiscal Year-to-Date**

	Actual	Budget	Difference	%
<b>St. Francis</b>	29,388	31,487	-2,099	-6.7%
<b>OLV-English</b>	15,969	14,138	1,831	13.0%
<b>OLV-Spanish</b>	12,832	13,024	-192	-1.5%
<b>St. Stephen's</b>	16,502	18,041	-1,539	-8.5%
<b>WeShare</b>	8,320	6,708	1,612	24.0%
<b>Other</b>	180	0	180	
<b>Total Collections</b>	<b>83,191</b>	<b>83,397</b>	<b>-207</b>	<b>-0.2%</b>

**REFLECTION**

The Lord leads us through our trials into heavenly glory. When we "listen to him," we receive the light and strength to persevere in faith and love. Let us listen to him at every moment, pondering his word as he speaks to us through the circumstances of our lives. Let us open our hearts to his transforming light that we may radiate his glory to all we meet.

**Hospitality at St. Stephen's**

Every Sunday is hospitality Sunday at St. Stephen's. Please join us for a nice lunch with soup/casserole, salad, bread, dessert and drinks. All are welcome, bring something to share if you can.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Thank you for helping our neighbors in need through the **Annual Catholic Appeal**. Your gifts will make a difference in the lives of those our suffer physical, material and spiritual poverty. If you have not made a donation, it's not too late! Envelopes are available here in the church. 25% is returned to our parish for our own ministry to the poor in our community.
- **Rosary Group/Legion of Mary** starts on **Thursday, March 24th**, at 4:30pm, at St Francis of Assisi Parish Hall.
- **Lenten Penance Service: Wednesday, March 30th**, at 6:30pm, at Our Lady of the Valley.
- **Parish Council Meeting** is scheduled for Saturday, April 9th, at 3:00 pm, at Our Lady of the Valley.
- **Offertory Collections** are 0.2% under budget.
- **16th Annual Benefit for the Poor Raffle Tickets** by the St. Vincent de Paul Society. 6 Days/5 Nights at the Sheraton Maui Resort and Spa. Airfare for two, Hertz rental car, \$500 American Express Gift Card. Value of the package is \$3,500. Tickets are being sold by Bob Gartner. Thank you for your support.

### Gospel Reflection by St. Leo the Great, Pope

The Lord reveals his glory in the presence of chosen witnesses. His body is like that of the rest of mankind, but he makes it shine with such splendor that his face becomes like the sun in glory, and his garments as white as snow.

The great reason for this transfiguration was to remove the scandal of the cross from the hearts of his disciples, and to prevent the humiliation of his voluntary suffering from disturbing the faith of those who had witnessed the surpassing glory that they concealed.

With no less forethought he was also providing a firm foundation for the hope of holy Church. The whole body of Christ was to understand the kind of transformation that it would receive as his gift. The members of that body were to look forward to a share in that glory which first blazed out in Christ their head.

The Lord had himself spoken of this when he foretold the splendor of his coming: Then the just will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Saint Paul the apostle bore witness to this same truth when he said: I consider that the sufferings of the present time are not to be compared with the future glory that is to be revealed in us. In another place he says: You are dead, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, your life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

This marvel of the transfiguration contains another lesson for the apostles, to strengthen them and lead them into the fullness of knowledge. Moses and Elijah, the law and the prophets, appeared with the Lord in conversation with him. This was in order to fulfill exactly, through the presence of these five men, the text which says: Before two or three witnesses every word is ratified. What word

could be more firmly established, more securely based, than the word which is proclaimed by the trumpets of both old and new testaments, sounding in harmony, and by the utterances of ancient prophecy and the teaching of the Gospel, in full agreement with each other?

The writings of the two testaments support each other. The radiance of the transfiguration reveals clearly and unmistakably the one who had been promised by signs foretelling him under the veils of mystery. As Saint John says: The law was given through Moses, grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. In him the promise made through the shadows of prophecy stands revealed, along with the full meaning of the precepts of the law. He is the one who teaches the truth of prophecy through his presence, and makes obedience to the commandments possible through grace.

In the preaching of the holy Gospel all should receive a strengthening of their faith. No one should be ashamed of the cross of Christ, through which the world has been redeemed.

No one should fear to suffer for the sake of justice; no one should lose confidence in the reward that has been promised. The way to rest is through toil, the way to life is through death. Christ has taken on himself the whole weakness of our lowly human nature. If then we are steadfast in our faith in him and in our love for him, we win the victory that he has won, we receive what he has promised.

When it comes to obeying the commandments or enduring adversity, the words uttered by the Father should always echo in our ears: This is my Son, the beloved, in whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

### Gospel Reflection of Pope Francis

On this Second Sunday of Lent, the liturgy leads us to contemplate the event of the Transfiguration in which Jesus allows the disciples Peter, James and John a foretaste of the glory of the Resurrection: a glimpse of heaven on earth. Luke the Evangelist (cf. 9:28-36) reveals to us Jesus transfigured on the mountain, which is the place of light, a fascinating symbol of the unique experience reserved to the three disciples. They go up the mountain with the Master, they see him immersed in prayer and, at a certain point, "the appearance of his countenance was altered" (v. 29). Accustomed to seeing him daily in the simple appearance of his humanity, they are astonished as they face that new splendor that also envelops his entire body. And Moses and Elijah appear beside Jesus and speak with Him about his forthcoming "exodus", that is, of his Paschal death and Resurrection. It is a preview of Easter. Then Peter exclaims: "Master, it is well that we are here" (v. 33). He wished that that moment of grace would never end!

The Transfiguration occurs at a precise moment in Christ's mission, that is, after he has confided to his disciples that he would have to "suffer many things,

be killed, and on the third day be raised" (v. 21). Jesus knows that they do not accept this reality — the reality of the Cross, the reality of Jesus' death —, and so he wants to prepare them to withstand the scandal of the passion and death on the Cross, so that they may know that this is the way through which the heavenly Father will lead his Son to glory; by raising him from the dead. And this will also be the way for the disciples: no one can reach eternal life if not by following Jesus, carrying their own cross in their earthly life. Each of us has his or her own cross. The Lord reveals to us the end of this journey which is the Resurrection, beauty: by carrying one's own cross.

Therefore, the Transfiguration of Christ shows us the Christian perspective of suffering. Suffering is not sado-masochism: it is a necessary but transitory passage. The point of arrival to which we are called is luminous like the face of Christ Transfigured: in him is salvation, beatitude, light and the boundless love of God. By revealing his glory in this way, Jesus ensures that the cross, the trials, the difficulties with which we struggle, are resolved and overcome in Easter. Thus this Lent, let us also go up the mountain with Jesus! But in what way? With prayer. Let us climb the mountain with prayer: silent prayer, heartfelt prayer, prayer that always seeks the Lord. Let us pause for some time in reflection, a little each day, let us fix our inner gaze on his countenance and let us allow his light to permeate us and shine in our life.

Indeed, Luke the Evangelist emphasizes the fact that Jesus was transfigured, "as he was praying" (v. 29). He was immersed in an intimate dialogue with the Father in which the Law and the Prophets — Moses and Elijah — also echoed; and as he adhered with his entire being to the Father's will of salvation, including the Cross, the glory of God flooded him, even shining on the outside. This is how it is, brothers and sisters: prayer in Christ and in the Holy Spirit transforms the person from the inside and can illuminate others and the surrounding world. How often have we found people who illuminate, who exude light from their eyes, who have that luminous gaze! They pray, and prayer does this: it makes us luminous with the light of the Holy Spirit.

Let us joyfully continue our Lenten journey. Let us make room for prayer and for the Word of God which the liturgy abundantly offers us these days. May the Virgin Mary teach us to abide with Christ even when we do not understand or comprehend him because only by abiding with him will we see his glory.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR**

**St. Francis**

Pete Giachetti, Ray Wanat, Irma Welty,  
Melba Facey, Christina Mora, Glenda Pearson &  
Barbara, Bob Heisinger

**Our Lady of the Valley**

Rick Phay, Eva Rebay, Gary Freeland

**St. Stephen's**

Olivia Cox, Ryan Graham, Vernon Ferreira,  
Trish Bautista, Nancy Fenner, Liz Paul,  
Breen Hofmann, Carl & Mary Doyle, Carol Mitchell,  
Joan Knapp

**The Holy Father's Prayer Intention (March)**  
**For a Christian response to bioethical challenges**  
We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges;  
may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life  
with prayer and action.

**Flocknote Enrollment**

Please enroll so we can contact you by email or  
text message.

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobil Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Clip and drop in collection basket.

TICKET #: 000330

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ \$10

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**16<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL**  
**"BENEFIT FOR THE POOR"**

April 29, 2022 | 5:30 pm | Double Tree Hotel

**GRAND PRIZE**  
6 DAYS/5 NIGHTS AT THE SHERATON MAUI RESORT AND SPA  
Airfare for two (\$1,000- max), Hertz Rental Car \$400 Voucher, & \$500 American Express Gift Card  
Value of Package \$ 3 5 0 0  
Winner does not have to be present to win.  
[www.svdp-sacramento.org](http://www.svdp-sacramento.org)

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