

ST. MARIANNE COPE PARISH

Roman Catholic Churches of St. Thomas of Canterbury and St. Joseph



18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME — JULY 31, 2022

Pastor: Rev. Rees W. Doughty
pastor@stmariannecope.com

Weekend Assistant: Rev. Robert Phelps

Deacons: Leonard Farmer, Anthony Ferraiuolo, Joseph Lieby, John Pelella

Faith Formation Director: Mary Ellen Tiernan
metiernan@stmariannecope.com

St. Thomas of Canterbury Church

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St. Joseph Church

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stmariannecope.com

Parish Office

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Mass Schedule

at St. Thomas of Canterbury Church

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 pm
Sunday: 8 am, 10 am, noon

Daily Mass:
Monday-Saturday, 8:30 am

Confession

Saturday: 9-9:45 am or by appointment

St. Marianne Cope Outreach Ministry
outreach@stmariannecope.com

Prayer Chain: 845.746.8829
prayerchain@stmariannecope.com

Offertory: Thank you for your generosity
and continued support of the parish!

July 23/24: \$5,709.00

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From Father John Sah...

I'm doing well by God's grace and having some quality time with Mom and the rest of the family. I'm so excited to learn that there is some progress being made on my application and am optimistic the process will go through smoothly. I have sincerely missed our Parish within such a short time and cannot wait to reunite with the parish as soon as possible.

You can email Fr. John at sahjohn8@gmail.com.

We request your support of the **Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa** on August 6/7. Africa faces the economic and social hurdles of enormous debt, epidemic, severe poverty, persecution, and political unrest. Despite these challenges, the Church in Africa has almost tripled in size in the past 30 years. It is difficult for the Church there to sustain its growth and maintain essential pastoral outreach. The Solidarity Fund provides grants to finance pastoral projects including programs, schools, evangelization, and education of clergy and lay ministers. For information, visit usccb.org/africa.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry will next meet on August 1st at 10 am in the St. Thomas old school building. New members are invited to join them for their monthly meeting. Members knit, crochet, quilt, embroider, etc. to make shawls which will be used to comfort the ill and/or bereaved. Please contact Regina (rlieby411@gmail.com) with any questions.

A study of Dante Alighieri's *Divine Comedy* is being held on Tuesdays at 7 pm in the St. Thomas old school. Visit the Adult Faith Formation subpage under the Ministries tab at stmariannecope.com for information on current and upcoming studies.

Need assistance? **The St. Marianne Cope Outreach Ministry** might be able to help. Have something to donate? Water, fresh fruit, or individually wrapped snacks are always needed. Email John at outreach@stmariannecope.com.

Children in fourth grade and above are invited to serve as an **altar server** at Sunday Masses. Email pastor@stmariannecope.com.

Did you register your child for 2022/23 Faith Formation Classes? Our classes begin in first grade. To register your child for classes, contact Faith Formation Director Mary Ellen Tiernan at 845.534.2547 (option 2) or metiernan@stmariannecope.com.

Inquiry and the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) and Teens (RCIT): Formal classes begin in the fall, but this is a time for "inquiry". For information, email metiernan@stmariannecope.com.

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Bulletin Cover Image: "Transfiguration", Raphael. Source: Wikimedia Commons.

THE PASTOR'S CORNER

"COME DOWN THE MOUNTAIN"

Address by Pope Francis for the Feast of the Transfiguration. Given in St. Peter's Square at the ANGELUS, Sunday, 6 August 2017

DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS,

Good morning! This Sunday, the liturgy celebrates the Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord. Today's Gospel passage recounts that the Apostles Peter, James, and John were witnesses to this extraordinary event. Jesus took them with him "and led them up a high mountain apart" (Mt 17:1) and, while he prayed, his face changed in appearance, "shone like the sun", and "his garments became white as light". Then Moses and Elijah appeared and began a dialogue with Him. At this point, Peter said to Jesus: "Lord, it is well that we are here; if you wish, I will make three booths here, one for you and one for Moses, and one for Elijah" (v. 4). He had not yet finished speaking when a bright cloud enveloped them.

The event of the Lord's Transfiguration offers us a message of hope — thus shall we be, with Him —: it invites us to *encounter Jesus*, to be *at the service of our brothers and sisters*.

The disciples' ascent up Mount Tabor leads us to reflect on the importance of disengaging from worldly matters in order to make a journey toward heaven and to contemplate Jesus. It is a matter of being attentive to the careful and prayerful listening of Christ, the beloved Son of the Father, seeking intimate moments of prayer that allow for the docile and joyful welcoming of the Word of God. In this spiritual ascent, in this disengagement from worldly matters, we are called to rediscover the peaceful and regenerative silence of meditating on the Gospel, on the reading of the Bible, which leads to a destination rich in beauty, splendor, and joy. When we meditate in this way, with the Bible in hand, in silence, we begin to feel this interior beauty, this joy that the Word of God engenders in us. In this perspective, the summer season is a providential time to cultivate our task of seeking and encountering the Lord. In this period, students are free of scholastic

commitments and many families take their holidays; it is important that in the period of rest and disengagement from daily activities, we can reinforce our strengths of body and soul, by deepening our spiritual journey.

At the end of the stunning experience of the Transfiguration, the disciples came down the mountain (cf. v. 9) with eyes and hearts transfigured by their encounter with the Lord. It is the journey that we too can make. The ever more vibrant rediscovery of Jesus is not the aim in itself but spurs us to "come down the mountain", energized by the power of the divine Spirit, so as to decide on new paths of conversion and to constantly witness to charity, as the law of daily life. Transformed by Christ's presence and by the ardor of his Word, we will be a concrete sign of the invigorating love of God for all our brothers and sisters, especially for those who are suffering, for those who are lonely and neglected, for the sick, and for the multitude of men and women who, in different parts of the world, are humiliated by injustice, abuse, and violence.

In the Transfiguration, the voice of the heavenly Father is heard saying: "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him!" (v. 5). Let us look to Mary, the *Virgin of listening*, ever ready to welcome and keep in her heart every word of the Divine Son (cf. Lk 2:51).

May our Mother and the Mother of God help us to be in harmony with the Word of God, so that Christ may become light and lodestar throughout our life. Let us entrust to her the holidays of all, so that they may be peaceful and fruitful, but above all the summer of those who cannot go on holiday due to impediments of age, to reasons of health or of work, to economic restrictions or other problems, so that it may be a time of eased tension, gladdened by the presence of friends and of happy moments.

THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE



ZECHARIAH IS THE 45TH BOOK IN OUR BIBLE. After this one, we have only one more book until we reach the New Testament. This book is tied with Amos (14 chapters) as the longest of the twelve minor prophets on this final single scroll of the Old Testament. During Zechariah's prophesying, Darius the Great was ruling Persia (522–486 B.C.).

Zechariah has great expectations for God's people, but these will not be realized until the people themselves have a change of heart from their evil ways. His book is filled with vivid imagery: many horses of various hues, a golden lampstand, and even a scroll flying through the air. As Timothy P. Schehr explains in *The Bible Made Easy* (pp. 138–140), the riders represent God's ministers patrolling the earth, the lampstand denotes God's guidance, and the flying scroll is the Word of God flying over all the earth. In his pages, we'll encounter a summons for Israel's conversion, a two-way Divine-Human commitment, and the 1st of 8 visions (ch. 1), a 2nd and 3rd vision (ch. 2, although in some Bibles the 2nd vision is at the end of ch. 1), a 4th vision involving Joshua's investiture and Satan (ch. 3), a 5th vision with the lampstand and some olive trees (ch. 4), the 6th and 7th visions with the flying scroll and a basket headed for exile in Babylon (ch. 5), an 8th vision of four chariots with different colored horses (ch. 6), a chastisement for hypocritical fasting, rejecting God's commands, and applying the law unfairly (ch. 7), God's covenantal promises to Jerusalem (ch. 8), the Old Testament roots of one of our Palm Sunday readings (ch. 9), the restoration of Judah and Israel and God's anger at the shepherds (ch. 10), the roots of Judas' 30 pieces of silver (ch. 11), a spiritual hernia (ch. 12:3), the roots of the shepherd being struck and the sheep being scattered for Mark 14:27 (ch. 13:7–9), and, once again, the Day of the Lord (ch. 14).

When you finish this book, you will have read 45 (61.6%) of the 73 books of the Bible, yet 1,071 (80.3%—that's over 4/5) of the 1,334 chapters of the Bible.

Permission granted by Rev. Robert J. Schrader (based on Timothy Schehr's book, The Bible Made Easy: A Book-by-Book Introduction).

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon, Aug 1: St. Alphonsus Liguori

8:30 +Holy Souls in Purgatory by a donor

Tues, Aug 2: St. Eusebius of Vercelli

8:30 +Bernadette Mamawal by Linda Siner

Wed, Aug 3

8:30 +Ray Lovell by Liebert family

Thurs, Aug 4: St. John Vianney

8:30 +Al Mazzoca by Thomas Kingman

Fri, Aug 5: Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major

8:30 Liv/Dec Mbrs of the CDA by the CDA

Sat, Aug 6: The Transfiguration of the Lord

8:30 +Horan and Kelly families by Kathy Kelly

4:30 +John Horan & +Jimmy Kelly by Sweeney family

Sun, Aug 7: 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 +Rose Grant by Hickey family

10:00 +Irene Lovelace Leto by her husband Frank

12:00 For the People of the Parish

The Sunday Mass at noon will ALWAYS be offered only for the People of the Parish. The offering for an unannounced Mass is \$10; for an announced Mass—\$15.

READINGS FOR THE 18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Reading I – Ecclesiastes 1:2; 21-23

At first enjoying the fruits of his toil, a man must then pass them on to some heir who did not labor to produce them. Nor did that heir endure any of the trials that production entailed. So it is foolhardy to base one's happiness solely on what we have done.

Reading II – Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11

Jesus fulfilled all the promises made about the Messiah. Listed are the vices that have to be "put to death" and the virtues that lead to holiness, teaching a person to set his/her heart on what lasts forever.

The Gospel – Luke 12:13-21

This section provides us with a long meditation on the harmful effects that many possessions can have on true disciples. A Christian should aim to be rich on "what matters to God."



Scan the QR code to visit the **Worship Aid** page for the readings, antiphons, and music for the Sunday Mass.

To watch a streamed Mass from St. Patrick Cathedral via the Catholic Faith Network, visit catholicfaithnetwork.org/masses.



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