

Liturgy

“As Servants of Christ, through the various Liturgical Ministries, we offer our gifts to one another with the mutual kindness and respect, providing and enhancing opportunities for prayerful worship and celebration.” **Liturgy Pastoral Secretary:** PJ Chavez pchavez@walsh.edu or Mike Reed mreed @christtheservantparish.org

**The Transfiguration : Bringing the Who and the How of our Community Together
- Does it have anything to do with being good stewards?**

The Transfiguration of Jesus is a challenging concept for us. Scripture tells Jesus' appearance changes. I remember during the summer growing up, jumping out of bed, putting whatever clothes were set out by my mom for the day, gobbling down my breakfast and then running outside to play. I never worried about my appearance. Until, the day I met the new neighbor girl. The next day, I jumped out of bed and passing the usual play clothes for a different pair of jeans and a different shirt that I believed was better coordinated than what my mom had set out. I then inhaled my breakfast, but then went back to the bathroom and brushed my teeth again, and combed my hair. I think I even used some of my dad's after shave. All of a sudden my appearance changed. I was coming to discover more about myself, which had a determining factor on how I presented myself. At least for that stage of my life the **who** and the **how** of my life was coming together. My inner messaging system was telling me something. I could recreate my image to win over the affection of the girl down the street.

What happens when the “**who**” and the “**how**” in our lives come together - come together. Jesus' appearance changed in the sight of the apostles; his inner messaging system was reminding him that he was the beloved of God. If we follow the gospel stories, Jesus seems to come to clarity of not only **who** he is but **how** he is supposed to be in this world. No longer was he just the carpenter's son, the teacher or prophet from Nazareth, after all, as Nathaniel asked, “Could anything good ever come from Nazareth?”

As Jesus grew in age, wisdom and grace he came to more fully understand **who** he was, and it was that growing awareness that determined **how** he would be in this world. Jesus' mission was to help people come to understand the power of Abba-God the Father's unconditional love and unbounded forgiveness, enabling them through His words and actions to understand more fully how much they shared with Jesus – how complete their lives would be accepting their place in the family of the Beloved.

The Celebration of the Second Sunday of Lent is a challenge for us as the Community of Christ the Servant to allow the presence of God to be more fully realized within our community life. The inner messaging system –God's grace – should be helping us to come to a greater clarity of **who** we are as a Catholic Community, and in turn we will better understand **how** to be a Community responding to Christ continuing mission in the Church. L Gaetano

**Mass Intentions****Tuesday March 2**

9 AM– Amy & Bill Johnston by Margaret Gracia

Wednesday March 3

****SCHOOL MASS- STUDENTS ONLY****

10 AM– Helen Sonnhalter by Connie Niemeyer

Thursday March 4

9 AM–Dee Mennett by Donna Adams

Friday March 5

9 AM– William LePar by Nancy LePar

Saturday March 6

4:30 pm–David Hussar by Dolly Hussar

Deceased Members of Ruegg Family by Jim and Linda Friedman

Sunday March 7

9AM –David Hussar by Peggy & Robert Brown

11 AM–Darrin Newman by Linda & Dave Miller

Christ the Servant Bible Study

Engaging, fourteen-week Bible study on the Gospel of Mark. These gatherings will meet on ZOOM and are offered at two different times to accommodate a variety of schedules. We will be making use of the study by Tim Gray found on FORMED. We will view the video as a group during our ZOOM sessions. Our hour together will start with prayer, video for that week and then a discussion on what we heard and saw. We will provide the study guide which not only has a guide for the day of our meeting, but also offers a daily guide for you to use during the week.



WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Morning Session: Tuesdays - 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

March 16, 23, 30 - April 6, 13, 20, 27 - May 4, 11, 18, 25 - June 1, 8, 15

Evening Session: Thursdays - 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

March 18, 25 - April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 - May 6, 13, 20, 27 - June 3, 10, 17

How Do I register?

Email at rkingsbury@christtheservantparish.org or call at 330-492-0757 Ext. 107 with Name, Email, Address, Phone

Thank you and God bless! We look forward to taking this journey of faith with you.

We ask for a \$5.00 good will donation to cover the cost of the program.

Following excerpt taken from the Bible Study Guide:

The Study Guide includes five daily COMMIT reflections that will help you more deeply explore the main topics of each session and more firmly commit to following Christ in your daily life. These reflections include more information on Sacred Tradition and Sacred Scripture, as well as topics such as geography, history, and art. Some of these reflections will also include times of prayer, including the practice of Scripture meditation known as Lectio Divina.



The Steps of *Lectio Divina*

Choose a text of the Scriptures that you wish to pray. Place yourself in a quiet environment. Calm your anxieties and thoughts and acknowledge God's presence. Offer a prayer to the Holy Spirit for inspiration and guidance.

1. *Lectio*: Read the text slowly and prayerfully, constantly listening for that word that God has prepared for you. Listen and receive the Word that God speaks to you.
2. *Meditatio*: When a word or phrase strikes you, stop and rest with it. Repeat the word or phrase to yourself. Allow it to speak to you in a personal way by pondering the word in your heart, reflecting on what it means to you. Memorize it and repeat it to yourself, allowing it to interact with your thoughts, hopes, memories, and desires.
3. *Oratio*: Prayer is your response to God's word. It begins your dialogue with God that comes from your heart. Formulate a prayer, as a response to God. What do you want to say to the Lord in response to the Word spoken to you? Enter into this loving conversation with God.
4. *Contemplatio*: Rest in God's presence and receive His transforming embrace. Sit still with God, realizing that in this deep and profound relationship, words are not necessary. Be content and at peace with a wordless, quiet rest in God, which brings joy to the heart. Remember that contemplation is not your action or doing, rather it is allowing God to act in you.

LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRAYER AND REFLECTION

Christ the Servant Parish

Let Us Dream: A Lenten Journey with Pope Francis
Tuesday Evenings March 2-March 30 7:00-8:30



Each week you will hear topics presented by our Speakers on Pope Francis' message of Fratelli Tutti and his book *Let Us Dream: The Path to a Better Future*. Both address the need to see our world's situation and to learn to personally connect with one another especially those in most need through Fraternity and Social Friendship. The encyclical was written not just to Catholics, but to the whole world, and his book was more the personal witness and application in his life and ours.

Our five Tuesdays together can be a Lenten retreat with Pope Francis as we hear speakers, pray together, dialogue with one another, and engage in concrete actions. The workshop was designed to be flexible to your needs to allow a minimal amount of preparation for those pressed for time, and to provide many resources for those that want to do more. Each session stands on its own, so if you cannot attend all the sessions, come as often as you can. Also, keep in mind that if you choose, you can participate virtually in this entire series.

Topics and speakers are as follows:

- March 2 Opening Prayer Service for Living *Fratelli Tutti* **at Christ the Servant Church**
 Msgr. Lewis Gaetano
 Orientation to our Lenten sessions

- March 9 Session 2 – An Open World and an Open Heart via **ZOOM**
 Chapters 3 & 4 of *Fratelli Tutti* Pages 16-23 in Group Reading Guide
 Immigrant Worker's Project – (IWP) Speaker and witnesses

- March 16 Session 3 - A Stranger on the Road via **ZOOM**
 Chapters 1 & 2 of *Fratelli Tutti* Pages 4-15 in Group Reading Guide
 Pastor Marilyn Roman, Hope Outreach Ministry

- March 23 Session 4 – A Better Kind of Politics and Dialogue and Friendship in Society **ZOOM**
 Chapters 5 & 6 of *Fratelli Tutti* Pages 24-33 in Study Guide
 Civic and Civil Dialogue

- March 30 Session 5 - Prayer Service of Reconciliation **at Christ the Servant Church**
 Paths of Renewed Encounter and Religion at the Service of Fraternity in our World
 Msgr. Lewis Gaetano
 Where do we go from here?

Email Rita at rkingsbury@christtheservantparish.org or

Register Online at: <https://forms.gle/uyyZHVE7stGTrKyN6>

2021 Annual Bishop's Appeal for Catholic Charities and Diocesan Ministries Faith – Hope – Charity This weekend every member of Christ the Servant Parish is called upon to support the work of our Lord Jesus made possible through the Annual Bishop's Appeal. As followers of Jesus, we make sacrifices that will bring His love and hope to the less fortunate served by Catholic Charities. Our support will also enable our diocesan Church to provide programs which meet pastoral needs and enhance Jesus' mission in our time and place.



Please make your sacrificial commitment to the 2021 Bishop's Appeal. Bishop Bonnar is counting on the support of every parish family to meet our parish goal of **79,400.00**.

Prayer for the Bishop's Appeal

Loving and gracious God,
 you gave us your Son, Jesus Christ.
 He gave of himself, not only on the cross, but in every moment of his life.
 Jesus saw the hungry; he fed them.
 Jesus saw the lame; he cured them.
 Jesus saw the sick; he healed them.
 Jesus saw the discouraged; he encouraged them. Jesus saw the dying; he gave them new life.
 Jesus gave.
 In this way, he taught us to give.
 Loving and gracious God,
 open our hearts to the many ministries offered throughout our Diocesan Church.
 Strengthen our resolve to be like your Son, Jesus Christ, to give of ourselves in every moment of our lives.
 Amen



Bible Study Reflections

When Jesus Calls Your Name

When Jesus Calls Your Name – Discipleship in Matthew

Last week we discussed Discipleship as presented in Mark where we saw a focus on suffering and the cross for the Christian disciple. This week we turn to the Gospel of Matthew. Scholars believe that Matthew wrote his Gospel for Jewish Christians. We see many Old Testament and Jewish ritual references and an image of Jesus portrayed as the New Moses. As we explore the topic of discipleship we find that the Apostle Matthew especially lived out this calling as he, the tax collector, had to truly leave his old life behind and take on a new life. Christ was highly criticized for even choosing to call Matthew. This is a challenge to us today to be careful of judging who we think might not be worthy to join us in Christian discipleship.

There are many passages in Matthew that speak to the call to discipleship. I would like to focus on two main areas. Chapters 5-7, the Sermon on the Mount, and Chapter 25, Judgment.

The scripture scholar Felix Just, SJ identifies 4 characteristics of discipleship brought out in the Sermon on the Mount. First: the disciple is to be a loyal and obedient subject to the King. Mt. 5:19 “Whoever obeys and teaches these commandments will be called greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven.” Second: the disciple must live in right relationships with God and others. Mt. 5:3-10, the Beatitudes, establishes the way to right relationships. Third the disciple must put faith into action. Mt. 5:16 “Just so your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.” and Mt. 7:21 “Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord Lord', will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven.” The call is to be taken into our day to day actions, it should permeate all that we do. Fourth: the disciple must exemplify mercy and forgiveness. Mt. 5:23 “Therefore, if you bring your gift to the altar, and there you recall that your brother has anything against you, leave your gift there at the altar, go first and be reconciled with your brother, and then come and offer your gift.” Mt. 6:14-15 “If you forgive others their transgressions, your heavenly Father will forgive you. But if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your transgressions.” These four characteristics are developed further throughout the rest of Matthew.

Felix Just identifies two additional characteristics later in Matthew. Fifth: the disciple is a good student who learns from the Master and comes to understanding. Jesus taught the Apostles with many parables and then would lead them to understanding. In Mt. 16: 5-12 we see an example of this. Jesus warns them to beware of the “leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees”. The Apostles thought he was saying this because they forgot to bring any bread to eat. Jesus responds: “How do you not comprehend that I was not speaking to you about bread? Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees.” Then they understood that he was not telling them to beware of the leaven of the bread but of the teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees.” Sixth: the disciple needs to connect to the community of believers. An individualistic Christian is a contradiction, we need others and others need us. This is why gathering for Eucharist with the community is important. Chapter 18 of Matthew deals with this with a number of passages. In particular Mt.18:1-6 calls the disciple to have the humility of a little child and never lead another to turn away from God.

Chapter 25 of Matthew deals with how the disciple will be judged. First we are given the Parable of the Ten Virgins which challenges us to be ready “for you know not the day nor the hour”. Then we have the Parable of the Talents which calls us to be active in using the gifts God has blessed us with for the benefits of others. We can not bury them or keep them for ourselves. Finally we have the Judgment of Nations telling us we must reach out to the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked, the ill, the imprisoned, for in caring for them we are caring for Christ. Mt.25:40 “Amen I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.”

Peace and Joy Jim

For More go to : <https://Catholic-resources.org/Bible/Matthew-Christology-Discipleship.htm>

Song reflections; go to youtube.com and search Broadway;”The Matthew 25 song”

and youtube.com/watch?v=TWIP6rM and youtube.com/watch?v=scfzSHOoRmg

Parish Life

Parish Life Pastoral Area Mission Statement

As servants of Christ, through the various Parish Life ministries, we offer our gifts to one another with mutual kindness and respect, providing and enhancing diverse opportunities for fellowship, mutual support and ministry to our Parish community, led by Christ's example of hospitality and inclusiveness." Parish Life Pastoral Secretary: rkingsbury@christtheservantparish.org.

DISPENSATION FROM THE OBLIGATION TO ATTEND SUNDAY MASS The Catholic faithful who reside in the Diocese of Youngstown and all other Catholics in the diocese and especially those who are sick, or at high risk of becoming sick continue to be dispensed from their Sunday obligation until further notice. The Easter Duty obligation is extended for a period of one year from the end of the Easter Season 2020.

CHRIST THE SERVANT MARCH MADNESS**"2021"****March 6-7**

Catholic Charities and Hope Outreach Ministries
Our Food Collection Goal for March 6-7 is 2021 lbs. of Food



I Was Hungry and You Fed Me; I Was Thirsty and You Gave Me a Drink. I Was a Stranger and You Welcomed Me; Naked and You Clothed Me Matthew 25:35-36

Non-Perishable Food Collection will take place in the parking lot immediately behind the Parish Offices from 3:30—5:00 on Saturday, March 6 and on Sunday, March 7 from 8:30—11:00 am.

2/21/2021 \$12,112.20
Ash Wednesday \$1,084.00

Professional sponsors of the bulletin
Judge Natalie Haupt and Family
Roberto Novoa MD

**For stewardship or any other donations to the parish or school, please make checks payable to Christ the Servant Parish—
 Thank you**