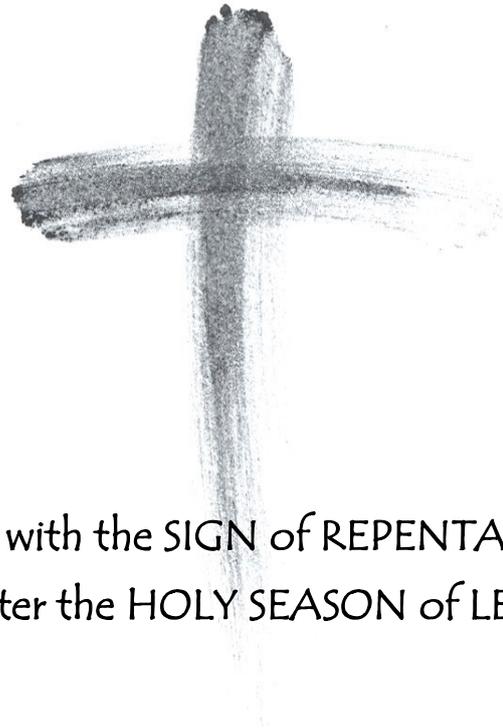




ST MARK PARISH

602 Military Road, Rothschild, Wisconsin

Ordinal Time, Lent 1 February 21, 2021



Marked with the SIGN of REPENTANCE
We enter the HOLY SEASON of LENT

Liturgical Schedule

(Masks will be worn for weekday and weekend Liturgies)

Monday, February 22

The Chair of Saint Peter the Apostle

No Sacrament of Eucharist

Tuesday, February 23

Saint Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr

Sacrament of Eucharist, 8:10 am

Wednesday, February 24

Sacrament of Eucharist, (Grades 3, 4, 5)

No parents or parish members at this time

Thursday, February 25

Sacrament of Eucharist, (Grades K, 1, 2)

No parents or parish members at this time

Friday, February 26

Sacrament of Eucharist, 8:10 am

Stations of the Cross, 4:30 pm

Saturday, February 27

Lent 1

Sacrament of Reconciliation, 10:30 am

Sacrament of Eucharist, 4:30 pm

Sunday, February 28

Lent 1

Sacrament of Eucharist, 8:00 am

Sacrament of Eucharist, 10:00 am

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM - Contact the Parish Offices for baptism dates and to register for preparation sessions.

SACRAMENT of RECONCILIATION Saturday - 10:30 am

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING - Celebrated in the Spring and Fall or in the home and hospital.

RCIA - A catechetical process to assist adults interested in becoming Catholic. Contact the Parish Offices.

MARRIAGE - Couples planning to marry are to notify the Parish Offices one year prior to the desired wedding date.

FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH with the parish, Contact the Parish Offices and ask for Father Slowiak.

Parish Offices: 715-359-5206. Monday through Thursday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, Friday 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Pastor: (Rev) Allan L. Slowiak, 715-359-5206

Deacon: Patrick McKeough, 715-359-5206

Director of Religious Education: Mary Hart, 715-359-5206

Pastoral Musician: Mary Martin, 715-359-5206

Primary Accompanist: Mikki Fronck, 715-359-5206

Pastoral Care to the Homebound: Susan Soriano, 715-675-3262

Secretary to the Parish: Mary Maly, 715-359-5206

Bookkeeper: Amy Tishken, 715-359-5206

Newman Catholic Schools at St. Mark 715-359-9662. Principal: Tina Meyer

Email: stmarkroths@smproths.org

Web: www.smproths.org

Bulletin article deadline: Tuesdays by Noon

SACRED WORSHIP



St. Mark Parish Sacrament of the Eucharist Live Stream on Facebook, Sunday, February 21, at 10:00 am.

Visit [St Mark Catholic Parish, Rothschild Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/StMarkCatholicParish/) "Like", "share" and "invite" your friends and family (<https://www.facebook.com/StMarkCatholicParish/>)

The 8:00 am Sunday Liturgy opened on February 21 until Easter Sunday, April 4. During this time the capacity of the Liturgies will be monitored to see if the 8:00 am Liturgy should continue. Register to attend the 8:00 am Liturgy by calling the parish office **by Noon on Friday.**

Reflection of Today's Scripture Texts

—Father Slowiak

Genesis 9:8-15 Most, if not all, of the eastern religions of the Near East—in the ancient days have a flood story. Most of them are remarkably similar to the Noah story in form and character . . . with one major difference. There is evidence that the text of Genesis 1-12 was written around or during the great Babylonian Exile (587-539 BC). In the Exile, the Hebrews-Israelites encountered polytheism. They feared that the story of their experience with the One God might be forgotten so they wrote their experience on paper. The difference with the Noah story . . . even in the disaster of the Exile, is that the folks did not lose sight of the mercy and faithfulness of God who would not destroy the world because humankind would be destroyed . . . and God promised that humankind would live forever, thus it would be.

1 Peter 3:18-22. Peter, having been schooled in the Old Testament from his youth knew the four theological truths in Geneses 1-12, (God created everything, humans were created differently, humankind sinned) the fourth being that God promised to restore the unity of creation destroyed by the sins of humans. Looking back, he sees the Noah story as a sign of the fulfillment of this promise in our baptism into Christ Jesus, noting that baptism is not the answer in itself but the beginning which must lead to an internal change in one's life.

Mark 1:12-15. There has been the baptism of Jesus by John, the voice from the heavens, then we find Jesus in the wilderness. Jesus is on his own. He has distanced himself from his kinship network, which brought him security. Without this kinship network, Jesus is vulnerable to attack by anyone. And here's the point of the Markan Gospel Community . . . the Son of God (acknowledged in the voice from the heavens) has a kinship network that crosses all distance and time. With such help Jesus will certainly be successful in defending his honor even against Satan.

Sacred Worship Committee

Minute Summary for 9 February 2021

01. Prayer commemorated Sunday 5 of Ordinal Time.
02. The discussion of Chapter 6 of the General Instruction of the Roman Missal, Chapter 6, was tabled.
03. Consensus from the discussion . . . beginning the first Sunday of Lent, February 21, the 8:00 am Sacrament of Eucharist will be opened. Roman chant is planned for the opening rites and dismissal and eventually for Liturgy of the Eucharist. The Responsorial Psalm will be spoken, in turn, between the East and West church assembly. Father noted that parish members have been very adaptable to the necessary changes made this past year.
04. Regarding the observance of Lent, a) Ash Wednesday, in light of COVID-19, ashes will be sprinkled on the head instead of marked on foreheads this year (a European custom) per the recommendation of Bishop Callahan. b) Stations of the Cross on the Fridays of Lent. c) On Palm Sunday, parish members will pick up palms at the entrance instead of the distributed.
05. Parish Project in Lent. The members hip recommended that we assist the local warming center this year.
06. Celebration of the Holy Thursday, Friday, Saturday . . . we will follow the order of last years with the exception that we can have a 25% church occupancy. On Good Friday, we will venerate the cross with a bow verses touching the cross. A note that the celebration of the Sacrament of Eucharist on Holy Saturday is the "first Mass" of Easter.
07. Celebration of the Liturgical Season of Easter last year's format because the uncertainties of the time.
08. Celebration of the Sacraments. a) Baptisms and Weddings, will be celebration outside of Mass. b) Regarding First Eucharist, whether a few children each week or at a time or a gathering of all is under discussion. Ac) As last year Bishop Callahan has granted faculties to the pastors to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation.
09. PFC Budget Committee. Father expressed his gratefulness for the financial support of the church by the parish members. The funds of Reunite*Rebuild*Respond program are being held in reserve.
10. Pastoral Musician. The Gathering Rite for Lent will be "Return to God," the Responsorial Psalm will be the psalm of the day with an instrumental closing.
10. A meeting is scheduled for March 2, 2021.

Marian Shrine

Week of February 21, 2021

Mary Maccani



Liturgical Ministry

February 20 and 21, Lent 1

4:30 pm

Lector. **Dennis B.**

Extraordinary Minister. **Nancy B.**

Greeter/Usher. **Don B.**

8:00 am

Lector. **William S.**

Extraordinary Minister. **Volunteer Needed**

Greeter/Usher. **Margaret K.**

10:00 am

Lector. **Sara G.**

Extraordinary Minister. **Linda S.**

Greeter/Usher. **Volunteer Needed**

February 27 and 28, Lent 2

4:30 pm

Lector. **Concetta G.**

Extraordinary Minister. **Phyllis B.**

Greeter/Usher. **Don B.**

8:00 am

Lector. **Ruth L.**

Extraordinary Minister. **John P.**

Greeter/Usher. **Margaret K.**

10:00 am

Lector. **Russ S.**

Extraordinary Minister. **Linda S.**

Greeter/Usher. **Paula S.**

Pastoral Music —Mary Martin

The **Handbell Choir** will rehearse on Tuesday, February 23, at 3:45 pm, in the church.

In the Liturgy of the Church —Helen Ackermann

Paying close attention to the words of Scripture can lead us to meditate on what we have read with new insight. This liturgical year we read from the community of Mark. As we have been told, this gospel is a short one that moves quickly establishing who the person of Jesus Christ is in his role of healing and salvation.

The first Sunday of Lent provides a description of Jesus and his time in the desert. He is tempted by evil spirits but is also supported by angels according to Mark. In Mark, very little detail is given regarding the temptations that Jesus encounters. We need to read either Luke or Matthew for more detail. What did catch my eye in Mark was the use of the word “drove.” The community of Mark says that “The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert for forty days, tempted by Satan.” Both Luke and Matthew use the word, “led” when referring to this desert experience.

In our spiritual life, each of us experiences desert times. This pandemic time might be one of those. Perhaps we

need to be “driven” into this experience so that we may encounter the goodness of God. Lent is the time when we can examine what temptations hold us back from trusting in God’s goodness. Allowing God to love us completely is not always easy. We would rather be in control. We have found in this past year, however, that we have had to give up many things over which we thought we had control. Now is the time to dig deeper into our self to discover what keeps us from moving more deeply into our relationship with God through his son, Jesus Christ.

The desert time of Lent when we are “driven” by the Holy Spirit into a time of both quiet and unrest can challenge us indeed. If we take time to practice almsgiving, prayer and fasting, we might find that the Lenten journey will bring us to an Easter joy that is quite wonderful. We need to let God be God.

We remember this week, Chair of St. Peter the Apostle (Monday) Polycarp, bishop and martyr (Tuesday)

St. Polycarp, bishop, martyr (died 155)

Polycarp was a second generation Christian. He knew people who had known Jesus. The apostle John appointed Polycarp, bishop of Smyrna in what is now Turkey. As Bishop he faced many challenges. Many people there believed in other gods. Christians were in the minority. The Romans were executing Christians. Polycarp was arrested and brought to the Smyrna stadium where he was to be burned. It is said that the fire would not burn. He was stabbed to death. The emperor’s police tried to burn his body so people would not come to worship it. His bones are entombed in the church of St. Ambrose in Rome.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION/FORMATION

Religious Education —Mary Hart

The Sacred Season of Lent is here! The time when Catholic Christians all over the world, not only fast from eating meat on Friday, but also change their routines a bit with extra prayer, fasting and sharing our blessings with others. The parish has provided a packet of resources with opportunities for families to help deepen their experience of the Season of Lent. Here’s what is in the packets:

- “A New Kind of Hope” booklet that has a verse from the day’s reading and a short reflection for parents, along with a prayer to pray with your family and an activity to do together.
- Lenten Calendar with 40 daily suggestions in the areas of prayer, fasting and sharing (almsgiving) for everyone in the family.
- Each child is invited to use the “This Lent I Promise to” form and make their own Lenten promise. Then check the “How am I doing?” section of the form each week.

- Mission Box Project: All youth in the parish, along with all parishes in the diocese of La Crosse, are invited to be a part of the “children helping children” Missionary Childhood Association Mission box project. By contributing money to their mission box, they are helping to provide children around the world with teaching and learning resources and health and nutrition programs. Mission boxes should be turned in to their catechist after Easter.

Parents of children preparing for First Eucharist: The first enrichment session with Father Al is scheduled for Tuesday, February 23 at 6:00 pm, in the church building. **This session is a parent only session.**

This Week in Religious Ed . . .

February 23 First Eucharist Parent Session, 6:00 pm, in the church building.
 February 24 6:15 pm, Sessions for Grades 1 - 9

Newman Catholic Schools

The NCS Mission Statement reads:

Newman Catholic Schools provides excellence in education in a Catholic environment and enhances the personal and spiritual growth of our students to meet life's challenges.



NCES: St Mark

February 23 Sacrament of Reconciliation, Grade 2
 February 24 Sacrament of Eucharist Grades 3, 4, 5
 No parents or parish members
 February 25 Sacrament of Eucharist Grades K, 1, 2
 No parents or parish members
 Stations of the Cross, Grades 3, 4, 5
 February 26 Sacrament of Reconciliation, Grade 3
 4K Only, No School

SOCIAL CONCERNS



Parish members are invited to participate in the Parish Project for Lent: Catholic Charities Wausau Community Warming Center. A collection basket is located in the main entrance of Church, until Easter Sunday, April 4, for

monetary donations which will be presented to the Wausau Community Warming Center in support of the work they do for the local community. Checks can be made out to St. Mark Parish (in memo: Warming Center.)

Catholic Charities operates the warming center and works with United Way and other community organizations to ensure success. The Community Warming Center is an action step of the Wausau Housing and Homelessness Coalition, an initiative of United Way that exists to collaboratively raise community awareness to work towards ending homelessness in Marathon County. The Warming Center:

- Provides a clean, warm and safe environment for up to 25 adult men and women
- Accepts and encourages guests’ ambitions or hopes
- Provides a nightly hot meal to our guests
- Ensures each guest’s personal dignity, safety and respect



Circle of Joy. The St. Mark **Circle of Joy** facilitates the distribution of staple food items to those with temporary needs within the “area” of St. Mark Parish. If you know a person or family who is in need of assistance, contact the Parish Offices (715-359-5206).

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

Budget Committee

Operating Income

	14-Feb	1 Jul-14 Feb	2021	Balance
Adult	8,631.00	362,064.80	585,000	222,935.20
Student		0.00	500	500.00
Offering	155.00	3,525.75	23,000	19,474.25
Debt Rcdtn	140.00	9,287.63		
Totals	8,926.00	374,878.18		

Adult Tithe Summary

Tithe Budgeted Per Week	11,250.00
Received this Week	<u>8,631.00</u>
	-2,619.00
Avg Contribution this Week	132.78 72 families/individuals
Received Weeks 1-33	362,064.80
Budgeted Weeks 1-33	<u>371,250.00</u>
Budget	(9,185.20)

Other Income/Transfers

Circle of Joy	50.00	4,655.00
Votive Candles	0.00	779.66
Catholic Life	160.00	400.00
Human Development	235.00	395.00

Stewardship of Time and Talent

Volunteer/community involvement this week
by parish members, 36 hours.

Mass Attendance

	24-Jan	31-Jan	7-Feb	14-Feb
4:30	70	51	38	42
8:00	0	0	0	0
10:00	<u>68</u>	<u>74</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>52</u>
Total	138	125	113	94

We welcome your continued financial support during these uncertain times. Your tithes are appreciated and they can be mailed in or brought to the Parish Office.

Or, go to <https://diolc.org/st-mark-parish-rothschild/> to use the "Online Offertory" designated to St. Mark Parish, Rothschild, set up for us by the Diocese of La Crosse.

Diocesan Annual Appeal



HIS CHURCH

**IS STILL HERE
IT STILL PROVIDES
IS YOU AND ME**

The 2020-2021 Diocesan Annual Appeal for St. Mark Parish is **\$88,760.00**. As of 14 February, 184 parish members have contributed 46.91 % of the target, \$41,636.10

There are 691 registered households who make up the parish. Where are the other 507? Currently we are paying \$1000 per month interest on former Appeals that have not been met. This is the proper use of your hard earned dollars? \$93 from 507 parish households would meet the target, less that \$10 per month. -Fr Slowiak

LADIES COUNCIL OF ST. MARK PARISH

Prayer Shawl Ministry. Gatherings take place Thursdays in the Catechetical Resource Room of the school from 12:30 to 2:00 pm. New members are always welcome to join this ministry; gathering in person (safe distancing - with masks) or knit and pray from home. Finished items can be brought to the Parish Office or members of the group will pick up from your home.

Prayer shawls are available in the Parish Office for anyone who has need of one. Donations of yarn are greatly appreciated!

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

The 8:00 am Sunday Liturgy will open on February 21 until Easter Sunday, April 4. During that time the capacity of the Liturgies will be monitored to see if the 8:00 am Liturgy should continue.

Registration for Celebrating the Lord's Day Liturgies:

We are authorized a seating capacity of 25% per seating. 25% of the nave and wings is 75 persons with social distancing. Register to attend the weekend Liturgies by calling the parish office **by Noon on Friday**.

LOOKING OUT THE WINDOW by

— Father Slowiak

A thought as we move in the Season of Lent. A writer on the way of John Wesley (Richard Heitzenrater) notes that Wesley's renewal groups of 5 to 10 persons would begin each meeting with four questions:

What known sins have you committed since our last meeting? What temptations have you met with? How were you delivered for the temptations? What have you thought, said, or done, of which you doubt whether it be sin or not?

In other words, they began, on Saint Paul's words to "imitate Christ Jesus" accepting that the way of Christ Jesus life is a struggle against temptations provided by the brokenness of the world we have created because of sin, and there is a need for examination, confession, and the deliverance from temptation.

PARISH OFFICE

Check out the "redesigned" St. Mark Parish Website: www.smproths.org.

There have been reports of people receiving fake email or text messages from area clergy, asking for a gift card purchase, or some other type of purchase, donation, or money transfer. **Do not open or act upon these messages.** If you receive a suspicious email, phone message, or text and it looks like it came from Fr. Al or the parish, call the Parish Offices to report it. **Remember:** Fr. Al and members of the staff will never text, email, or call asking for gift cards, monetary donations, or money transfers.

FROM THE DIOCESE —Diocese of La Crosse

Bishop Callahan's Lenten Video Message. Bishop Callahan's Lenten video greeting is available by going to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tN3ivPPH3x0&feature=youtu.be>



We share with you an update for the Christ Our Cornerstone Cathedral restoration campaign. Presently, more than \$2.4 million has been pledged from diocesan parishes, clergy, and Cathedral parishioners to restore the Cathedral! These faithful gifts, combined with the generous

match from St. Ambrose Financial Services brings the total up to more than \$5.4 million! The total \$6.1 million restoration need for the Cathedral is well within reach! We are so grateful for the outpouring of support that we have seen from throughout the diocese, and especially from within this community. If you have not yet had the chance to make your pledge, now is the time to act. Pledges can be made by visiting cathedralsjworkman.org/cornerstone.

Cathedral Restoration Work Blessing at 1:30 pm and Press Conference at 2:00 pm, March, 12. Everyone is invited to be present or join via live stream at cathedralsjworkman.org.

New Lay Formation Institute (LFI) class starts in the fall – Registration is open for the next two-year Lay Formation cycle that begins in fall of 2021. Draw closer to Christ and deepen your knowledge of the Faith in a joyful community of learners! For complete information, schedule and the application form, visit diolc.org/layformation. Discuss with your pastor and contact the Office for Ministries and Social Concerns at ministries@diolc.org or call (608) 791-0161.

New Leader of Prayer Class Begins in July 2021. Applications are now being accepted for a new class for men and women who wish to serve as Leaders of Prayer for the Diocese of La Crosse. This is a three-part course of study by which lay persons are prepared and commissioned to serve their parishes by bringing Holy Communion to the sick; conducting a Liturgy of the Word on weekdays when a priest is unavailable (or on Sunday in care facilities or jails); and by leading parishioners in prayer at other times. Applicants must have completed the Lay Formation Institute and be sponsored by their pastor. For more information and to apply, visit diolc.org/ministries and click on “Leader of Prayer.”

Help for Farmers–Rural Resiliency: Caring for You and Yours. A four week webinar Series March 2, 9, 16, 23 from 7:30 pm to 8:45 pm (Tuesday nights.) Rev. Dr. Larry Tranel, Pastoral Psychologist and Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Dairy Specialist is the featured speaker for:
 March 2, Farm Stress Resiliency and Grief
 March 9, Personality Keys When “Married” to Farm Stress
 March 16, Dealing with the Stresses of Men, Women, and Children
 March 23, Brain and Behavioral Health “Hacks” to Mitigate Distress

Questions directed to: tranel@iastate.edu. Registration is available at: aep.iastate.edu/stress.



FAITH ENRICHMENT

St. Anthony Spirituality Center, Marathon, for information about retreats and events visit <https://sarcenter.com/retreats-and-events/>. Register by calling 715-443-2236 or email info@sarcenter.com.

Guests will be asked to wear a mask or face covering in common areas **except at mealtimes**. We strongly encourage each guest to bring his/her own face covering; however, a limited number of masks will be available for those who do not have their own.

- Lenten Day of Prayer: Psalms and Our Lenten Prayer Life Presented by Deacon Peter Burek | March 7, 2021 | 9:00 am to 4:00 pm | Cost \$65

Registration begins at 9:00 am, with a continental breakfast. The program runs from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm and will include Liturgy of the Word and the noon meal.

IN THE AREA

Court St. Rose #1062 of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas will meet on Thursday, March 4, 2021 at 1:00 pm, at St. Therese Church Hall. Fr. Sam Martin will be the guest speaker and the raffle drawing will be held. Wearing masks and social distancing will be required.



2021 Virtual Open Houses

Enrollment Window Opens February 1st
Take a tour and learn more!

Virtual Tours of Our Six Schools

Wausau

Newman Catholic High School
 Newman Catholic Middle School
 Newman Catholic Elementary at St. Anne
 Newman Catholic Early Childhood Center at St. Michael

Rothschild/Schofield

Newman Catholic Elementary at St. Mark
 Newman Catholic Early Childhood Center at St. Therese

Visit: newmancatholicsschools.com/virtualtours
for more information

2021 - 2022 Private School Choice Program

TUITION FREE!



Students Entering Kindergarten - Gr. 12
Wisconsin Resident Income Eligibility
 (at or below 220% of Federal poverty level)
 Adjusted Gross Income - 2020

Family Size	Single	Married
2	\$37,928	N/A
3	\$47,784	\$54,784
4	\$57,640	\$64,640
5	\$67,496	\$74,496
6	\$77,352	\$84,352

(Each additional member add \$9,856)

Entry Points for WPCP
 Homeschooled Students - All Grades
 Current Public School Students - All Grades
 Current Newman Students - Entering Grades K, 1 and 9

Choice program application window:
<https://dpi.wi.gov/choice>

Parents must complete on-line application:
<https://dpi.wi.gov/choice>

Parents must complete on-line application:
February 1 - April 15, 2021

Must provide WI residency and 2020 income documentation

Visit: newmancatholicsschools.com/wpcp
for more information or contact Jacci Lepak - 715-849-7721

FY21

6

SCRIPTURE TEXTS—Lent 2

Opening Prayer: Lord God, as I meditate on Your Holy Word, fill me with a desire during this Lenten Season, to rid myself from those things that keep me from loving Your Son, Jesus Christ as I ought. I make this prayer in His name, He who is Lord forever and ever. Amen

Genesis 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 you have loosed my bonds. To you will I offer sacrifice of thanksgiving, and I will call upon the name of the LORD. I will walk before the Lord, in the lathe gates of their enemies, and in your descendants all the nations of the earth shall find blessing—all this because you obeyed my command."

Psalms 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19

R. (116:9) **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. **I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.**

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. **I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.**

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. **I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.**

Romans 8:31b-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.

Mark 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.

Reflection Questions:

1. In your prayer life, do you take time to listen to Jesus or are you busy simply asking him to answer your needs? Is this a real relationship?
2. In what way are you fasting during this Lenten Season? Fasting can take many forms, can you fast from gossip, negative thoughts, unkind words?

Concluding Prayer: Lord God, may the Transfiguration of Your Son, Jesus Christ help me to realize His power and glory. I make this prayer in His name, He who is Lord forever and ever. Amen.

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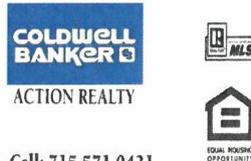


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your financial
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