



faith FORMATION

ST. JUDE CATHOLIC CHURCH // VOLUME 1 // ISSUE 25 // MAR. 02, 2023

2nd
Sunday
of Lent

In the Beginning...

Martin Smith, Director of Religious Education
msmith@stjudes.net | 616-364-7488

I received some good news recently. The number of parishioners who have registered for Formed.org has nearly doubled over the past several months. There's some bad news that goes along with this however. Only 9% of our parish has registered. Doubling numbers is relatively easy when they're small numbers. According to Formed, a "good" number would be around 25%. Let's see if we can bump up that number even more.

There's so much available on Formed.org. It usually requires a paid subscription, but someone in our parish has generously donated a "parish subscription," meaning everyone in our parish can sign up for free. And it's super easy to sign up.

Go to <https://signup.formed.org/>
Enter zip code 49525, choose St. Jude and click "Next."
Enter your name and email address and click "Sign Up."

That's it! You'll have access to hundreds of videos, including movies, Bible studies, amazing series like Symbolon to learn about the faith, children's content, audiobooks, a book club and more! It's really pretty awesome.

They have apps for your phone, Roku, Amazon Fire, Apple TV (but be sure to sign up on your computer first; there's no way to sign up on the apps).

We utilize it for RCIA, 1st Communion/1st Reconciliation prep and other small group studies like the Rosary study I'm presently leading on Monday nights. And we use it at home for personal enrichment and entertainment. It's a great resource to have and we're blessed by someone's generosity to have it for "free."

Have a blessed week!

IN THIS ISSUE

[In the Beginning...](#)

[First Holy Communion
& Reconciliation Prep](#)

[Sunday Liturgy
Reflection by Scott
Hahn](#)

[The Gospel at Home](#)

[Did You Know?](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

[Kids' Bulletin](#)

Confession

Saturday: 2:00 - 3:30PM
Also, by appointment

Daily Mass

Tuesday: 8:30AM
Thursday: 8:30AM
Friday: 8:30AM

Weekend Mass

Saturday: 4:00PM
Sunday: 8:30AM, 10:30AM

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & RECONCILIATION PREP

We're continuing our series for parents. When parents live the faith and are equipped to explain it, children are more likely to remain Catholic. *Forgiven: The Transforming Power of Confession*, explores the grace and healing offered in Confession and shows how this sacrament of mercy reveals the depth and bounty of God's love. By looking at God's revelation of his mercy in Scripture and making a step-by-step examination of the Rite itself, *Forgiven* communicates God's invitation to each one of us to come experience his indescribable love in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

[Session 2: An Encounter
With Mercy](#)



SAINT JUDE FIRST HOLY COMMUNION / RECONCILIATION DATES TO REMEMBER

PARENT MEETINGS

Sunday, January 15, 2023 5:30- 7 PM

Sunday, February 19, 2023 5:30 - 7PM

Sunday, March 19, 2023 5:30 - 7 PM

FAMILY MASS & BREAKFAST

Sunday, April 16, 10:30AM Mass

Breakfast after Mass

Student decorate Communion Plates

RECONCILIATION REVIEW & CHURCH TOUR

Students only

Sunday April 23, 2023 5:30 - 6:30 PM

RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Thursday April 27, 2023 6:30 PM

FIRST COMMUNION PRACTICE

Thursday May 4, 2023 6:30PM

First Holy Communion Mass

Sunday May 7, 2023 10:30AM

Signs of Grace
"You Are Loved"
(about the Eucharist)

[Episode 1](#)

[Episode 2](#)

[Episode 3](#)

[Episode 4](#)

[Episode 5](#)

[Episode 6](#)

[Episode 7](#)

[Presence for Children](#)

Signs of Grace
"You Are Forgiven"
(about Reconciliation)

[Episode 1](#)

[Episode 2](#)

[Episode 3](#)

[Episode 4](#)

[Episode 5](#)

[Episode 6](#)

[How to Make a Great
Confession](#)

[Forgiven
Session 1](#)

According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church: "The role of parents in education is of such importance that it is almost impossible to provide an adequate substitute" (CCC 2221).

Although the parish helps to form our children in the faith, no one can take the place of the parents' role in forming holy individuals. As parents, we should be well equipped to answer questions and to act, not only as the first teachers, but as the first witnesses of faith. This page is intended to help you in the journey as we work together to prepare your children for this special moment in their lives!

SUNDAY LITURGY REFLECTION

By Scott Hahn

Readings:

[Genesis 12:1-4](#)

[Psalm 33:4-5,18-20, 22](#)

[2 Timothy 1:8-10](#)

[Matthew 17:1-9](#)

[LISTEN HERE](#)



Today's Gospel portrays Jesus as a new and greater Moses. Moses also took three companions up a mountain and on the seventh day was overshadowed by the shining cloud of God's presence. He too spoke with God and his face and clothing were made radiant in the encounter (see Exodus 24, 34).

But in today's Lenten Liturgy, the Church wants us to look back past Moses. Indeed, we are asked to contemplate what today's Epistle calls God's "design . . . from before time began." With His promises to Abram in today's First Reading, God formed the people through whom He would reveal Himself and bestow His blessings on all humanity.

He later elevated these promises to eternal covenants and changed Abram's name to Abraham, promising that he would be father of a host of nations (see Genesis 17:5). In remembrance of His covenant with Abraham, He raised up Moses (see Exodus 2:24; 3:8), and later swore an everlasting kingdom to David's sons (see Jeremiah 33:26).

In Jesus' transfiguration today, He is revealed as the One through whom God fulfills His divine plan from of old.

Not only a new Moses, Jesus is also the "beloved son" promised to Abraham and again to David (see Genesis 22:15-18; Psalm 2:7; Matthew 1:1).

Moses foretold a prophet like him to whom Israel would listen (see Deuteronomy 18:15, 18), and Isaiah foretold an anointed servant in whom God would be well pleased (see Isaiah 42:1). Jesus is this prophet and this servant, as the Voice on the mountain tells us today.

By faith we have been made children of the covenant with Abraham (see Galatians 3:7-9; Acts 3:25). He calls us, too, to a holy life, to follow His Son to the heavenly homeland He has promised. We know, as we sing in today's Psalm, that we who hope in Him will be delivered from death.

So like our father in faith, we go forth as the Lord directs us: "Listen to Him!"

Source: [St. Paul Center](#)

"And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain apart. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his garments became white as light. And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. 4 And 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."

MATTHEW 17:1-4

The Gospel at Home

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

Gospel Reading:

Matthew 17:1-9

Jesus is transfigured on the mountain in the presence of Peter, James, and John.

Background on the Gospel Reading

For the second Sunday of Lent, we move from Jesus' retreat to the desert to his Transfiguration. Each year on the first Sunday of Lent, our Gospel tells the story of Jesus' temptation in the desert. On the second Sunday of Lent each year, we hear the story of Jesus' Transfiguration.

The story of Jesus' Transfiguration is told in the three Synoptic Gospels: Matthew, Mark, and Luke. In each of those Gospels, the Transfiguration follows Jesus' first prediction of his death and his teaching about the costs of discipleship. Jesus' Transfiguration is a promise of Jesus' glory, his Resurrection.

On a mountain in today's reading, a voice affirms that Jesus is God's Son in words reminiscent of the voice at Jesus' baptism. In addition, the appearance of Moses and Elijah on the mountain connects this story with God's relationship to the people of Israel. Moses and Elijah represent the Law and the Prophets, respectively. Together with Jesus, they represent God's complete Word.

The Transfiguration occurs in the presence of just three of Jesus' disciples: Peter, James, and John. In Matthew's Gospel, those disciples are among the first whom Jesus calls. The three men are identified as an "inner circle" among Jesus' disciples when Jesus asks them to accompany him to the Garden of Gethsemane just before his arrest.

Family Connection

As a family, talk about some of your times of highs and lows. How have you been able to use the good times and experiences to sustain you in the difficult ones? Jesus' Transfiguration may have been an event from which Peter, James, and John drew courage when they faced the difficult events of Jesus' Passion. Read together today's Gospel, Matthew 17:1-9. Pray a prayer of thanksgiving for the good times and experiences that your family has had together. Pray that your family will use these experiences to sustain you during times of difficulty. Close by praying today's psalm, Psalm 33.

"He was still speaking, when lo, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces, and were filled with awe. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and have no fear." And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only. And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, "Tell no one the vision, until the Son of man is raised from the dead."

MATTHEW 17:5-9

Did You Know?

Everyone
will be
resurrected!

Resurrection of the body isn't just for those who go to Heaven. Everyone, even those who have chosen Hell, will receive a resurrected body. Let's see what Catholic Answers says about it:

"The Bible tells us that when Jesus returns to earth, he will physically raise all those who have died, giving them back the bodies they lost at death.

These will be the same bodies people had in earthly life—but our resurrection bodies will not die and, for the righteous, they will be transformed into a glorified state, freed from suffering and pain, and enabled to do many of the amazing things Jesus could do with his glorified body (see 1 Cor. 15:35–44, 1 John 3:2).

The resurrection of the body is an essential Christian doctrine, as the apostle Paul declares: "[I]f the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished" (1 Cor. 15:13–18).

Because, as Paul tells us, the Christian faith cannot exist without this doctrine, it has been infallibly defined by the Church. It is included in the three infallible professions of faith—the Apostles' Creed, the Nicene Creed, and the Athanasian Creed—and has been solemnly, infallibly taught by ecumenical councils.

The Fourth Lateran Council (1215), infallibly defined that at the second coming Jesus "will judge the living and the dead, to render to every person according to his works, both to the reprobate and to the elect. All of them will rise with their own bodies, which they now wear, so as to receive according to their deserts, whether these be good or bad [Rom. 2:6–11]" (constitution 1).

Most recently, the Catechism of the Catholic Church reiterated this long-defined teaching, stating, "'We believe in the true resurrection of this flesh that we now possess' (Council of Lyons II). We sow a corruptible body in the tomb, but he raises up an incorruptible body, a 'spiritual body' (cf. 1 Cor 15:42–44)" (CCC 1017)."

"I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen."

-from the Nicene Creed

[Continue reading for quotes from the Church Fathers...](#)

Source:
[Catholic Answers](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Opportunities to Grow in Faith

Sunday, March 5:

10:30am - Children's Liturgy of the Word during the 10:30am Mass.
10:30am - Rite of Sending for our RCIA candidates at Mass.
3:00pm - Rite of Election for our RCIA candidates at the Cathedral.
5:30pm - Religious education classes for grades 1-8.

Monday, March 6:

7:00pm - Women's Bible Study in the Thaddeus Center.
7:30pm - Bible Study on the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary in the Kelly Conference Room.

Tuesday, March 7:

7:00pm - Men of Emmaus in the Millennium Conference Room.
7:30pm - Book Club. This week we're discussing chapter 1 of "The Abolition of Man" by C.S. Lewis. [More info here!](#)

Wednesday, March 8:

8:30am - Senior Men's Group in the Thaddeus Center.

Thursday, March 9:

7:00pm - The Sacraments with Marie Cirenza. Do you know the basics about the sacraments and would like to know more? Come join us in the Kelly Conference Room to discover why the sacraments are an essential part of the Catholic faith!

Friday, March 10:

7:00pm - Stations of the Cross.

"Jesus replied,
'The first is
this: 'Hear, O
Israel! The Lord
our God is Lord
alone! You shall
love the Lord
your God with
all your heart,
with all your
soul, with all
your mind, and
with all your
strength.'"

MARK 12:29-30

Confession

Saturday: 2:00 - 3:30PM
Also, by appointment

Daily Mass

Tuesday: 8:30AM
Thursday: 8:30AM
Friday: 8:30AM

Weekend Mass

Saturday: 4:00PM
Sunday: 8:30AM, 10:30AM

BIBLE STUDY

The Sorrowful
Mysteries of the Rosary

faith
FORMATION
ST. JUDE PARISH

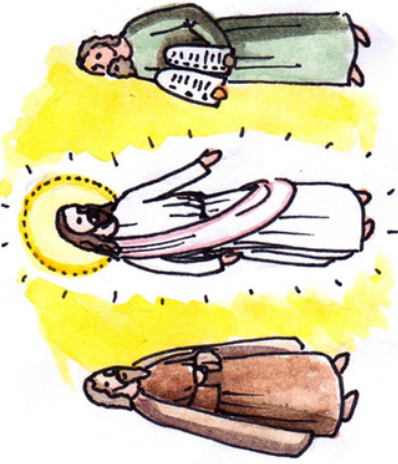
FORMEDNOW

A 5-week study:
February 27
March 6
March 13
March 20
March 27

All are welcome to join us Monday nights
7:30pm - 8:30pm in the Kelly Conference Room

Contact Marty Smith for more information:
msmith@stjudes.net

Jesus Shows His Glory

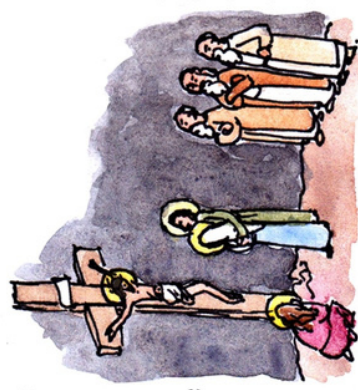


In today's Gospel reading Jesus took three of His apostles up a mountain and gave them a vision of His true glory. He shone as bright as the sun- so bright they could hardly look at Him. But did you know that what they saw was only a tiny bit of the true glory of God?

It was so beautiful that Peter wanted Him to stay that way. He offered to build tents for Jesus and Moses and Elijah, who appeared with Him. But the joy of this moment wasn't meant to last forever. It was just a little taste of Heaven.

Jesus gave this experience to the three apostles just a little while before He went to Jerusalem to suffer and die on the cross. He knew that they would be terrified and very sad when He died so He gave them a preview of the glory He would go back to after He rose from the dead. That way they knew they had a reason to hope even when He was killed.

Sometimes we have awful things to suffer through too. Maybe a friend will move away or one of our grandparents will die. But we never have to give up hope because we know that eventually everyone who loves Jesus will live in total happiness in Heaven.



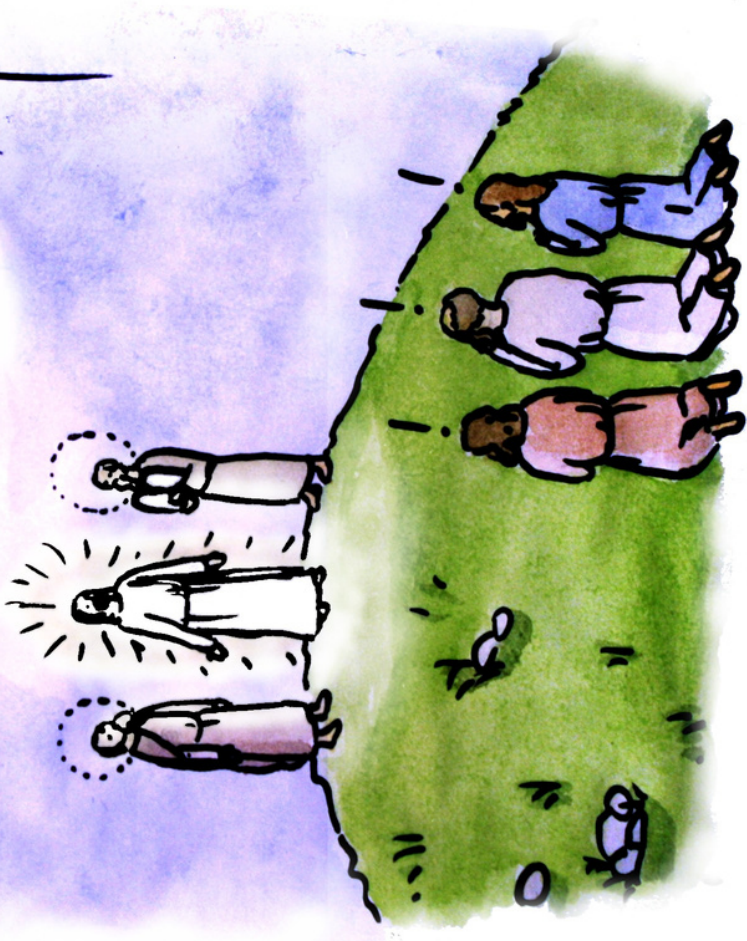
Answer to Word Find: until He had risen.

www.thekidsbulletin.com

The Kids' Bulletin

Second Sunday of Lent
March 5th, 2023

no2 bevoled ym zi zidT-
;b2asq llaw na I modw ntiw
.mid of nstzil



What did Peter, James and John hear from the bright cloud when Jesus was transfigured on the mountain?

Look in the mirror to find out!

Saint Frances of Rome

March 9



SAINT FRANCES OF ROME WANTED TO PRAY AND HELP THE POOR AS A NUN, BUT GOD WANTED HER TO DO WHAT HER FATHER TOLD HER. BECAUSE SHE WAS RICH SHE WAS ABLE TO HELP MANY POOR PEOPLE. GOD WANTS US TO USE OUR TALENTS AND THE GOOD THINGS WE HAVE TO HELP OTHERS.

Word Find

JESUS took Peter, JAMES, and JOHN his brother, and led them up a high MOUNTAIN by THEMSELVES.

And he was TRANSFIGURED before them; his FACE SHONE like the SUN and his CLOTHES became

WHITE as LIGHT. And behold, Moses and ELIJAH

appeared to them, conversing with him. Then PETER

said to Jesus in reply, "LORD, it is GOOD that we are

here. If you wish, I will make THREE tents here, one for

you, one for MOSES and one for Elijah." While he was

still speaking, behold, a bright CLOUD cast a SHADOW

OVER them, then from the cloud came a VOICE that

said, "This is my beloved SON, with whom I am well

PLEASED; listen to him." When the disciples heard this,

they FELL prostrate and were very much afraid. But

Jesus came and touched them, saying, "RISE, and do not

be AFRAID." And when the disciples raised their eyes,

they saw no one else but Jesus ALONE.

Find all the words in CAPITALS above in the puzzle. Use the left-over letters to fill in the blanks below.

After all this happened, Jesus told the disciples not to tell anyone

_____.

M V O I C E W H I T E U
O N P L E A S E D R C S
U J E S U S S O N A L H
N O T H R E E T I N O O
T H E M S E L V E S U N
A N R O A L O N E F D E
I J I S H A D O W I G A
N A S E L I J A H G O F
L M E S I O V E R U O R
F E L L G H E L O R D A
H S A D H R F A C E I I
S C L O T H E S E D N D