

*A Reflection from Fr. Joseph*

A baby was born by caesarean section. Because his mother was still under the anesthetic, the nurse brought the child to his father who was waiting in the hospital nursery. Immediately upon seeing the boy, the father became concerned. He had rather large ears that were sticking out, quite prominently, from his head. *“Oh, this is bad,”* said the father. *“I can already hear the children at school calling him Dumbo.”* The nurse tried to console the man. *“You have a healthy son,”* she said, *“and if necessary there is possible surgery to correct this problem in the future.”* *“Thanks,”* said the father, *“but I’m really worried about how my wife is going to react to this. She doesn’t take things as easily as I do.”*

When the mother was ready, the father gingerly carried the child into her hospital room wrapped in a blanket. He placed the child on her lap. Then, he carefully uncovered the child’s head so that she could see her son for the first time. Immediately upon seeing the child’s face, she gasped, looked at her husband, and said, *“Oh honey, Look! He has your ears.”*

There is what is, and then there is the way we see it. There is reality and then there is our perception of it. The two do not always match. Today’s Gospel of the Transfiguration presents an interplay of reality and perception. The disciples, on the mountain, do not see Jesus in a new way. They see Jesus in a deeper way. They are able to perceive the glory that has always been a part of who Jesus is. The Gospel, of course, does not simply tell us things about Jesus, it addresses us. This Gospel invites us to see the people in our lives and in our world in a deeper way. It invites us to look beyond the surface and to perceive the reality that lies deep within.

As Christians, we see that reality from the perspective of faith. We believe that at the heart of every person and every created thing, lies the goodness and the glory of God. The great American mystic, Thomas Merton, puts it this way: *“The gate of heaven is everywhere. We live in a world that is transparent and the divine shines through it all the time.”* What a difference it would make in our life if we would be able to see that deep inner reality, the glory of God that is always around us.

This truth, however, is too big to be taken in all at once. Like the disciples on the mountain, we can only catch a glimpse of God’s glory. But those glimpses are important, and we’ve all had them. Maybe it happens when we are walking in the woods and see the sunlight filter through the trees or when we see the joy in our children’s faces on Christmas morning. Maybe we catch a glimpse as we share a truth with a close friend or stand before a great work of art. In those moments, we do not see things differently, we see more deeply the grace of God that is always around us.



This is why it’s important to keep our hearts open to those moments and to treasure them. Because they lead us beyond the surface of things, to the true reality that lies deep within them. They are the Gate of Heaven through which we find hope, through which we find peace, through which we find God.

**DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS**

- Mon. Mar. 18<sup>th</sup>** - Daniel 9:3, 4b-10; Luke 6:36-38
- Tue. Mar. 19<sup>th</sup>** - ST. JOSEPH, solemnity  
2 Sam 7:4-5a,12-14a,16; Rom.4:13,16-18,22; Luke 2:41-51a
- Wed. Mar. 20<sup>th</sup>** - Jeremiah 18:18-20; Mat. 20:17-28
- Thurs. Mar. 21<sup>st</sup>** - Jeremiah 17:5-10; Luke 16:19-31
- Fri. Mar. 22<sup>nd</sup>** - Gen. 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28; Mat. 21:33-43,45-46
- Sat. Mar. 23<sup>rd</sup>** - Micah 7:14-15, 18-20; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32
- Sun. Mar. 24<sup>th</sup>** - THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT  
Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15; 1 Cor. 10:1-6, 10-12; Luke 13:1-9



**TAX RECEIPTS**

Tax receipts for your church contributions as well as your Project Advance contributions have been mailed. Thank you again for your generosity and support.

**EXTRA LENTEN SERVICES**

During Lent, we have Stations of the Cross, on Fridays at 7 pm, followed by Mass. All are invited to attend.



**ALTAR SERVERS**

- Wed. Mar. 20<sup>th</sup> - 7:30 PM** - Volunteers
- Fri. Mar. 22<sup>nd</sup> - 7:30 PM** - Volunteers
- Sat. Mar. 23<sup>rd</sup> - 5:00 PM** - Anna, Henry & Lynn Cao, C.Lee, L.Soliman.
- Sun. Mar. 24<sup>th</sup> - 9:00 AM** - E.Garrovillas, S & S Lee, K.Tuguinay.
- 11:00 AM** - A & E Biason, T.Laygo, P.Que. **5:00 PM** - A & J Arias, A.Belnas, Emily, Jaden & Kaitlyn Chan, E.Jarvis, I.Picariello

During Lent, as part of your prayer life, why not check out **FORMED**, a virtual library with video and ebooks for adults and children. You will find lots of good content for Lent. Sign-up for FREE! Visit [formed.org](http://formed.org) and enter our parish access code: **RMNYFF** and create your personal account.

# ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

## Up-Coming Events

### MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sat. Mar. 16 <sup>th</sup>	5 pm Mass for Francis Cimolai, R.I.P.
Sun. Mar. 17 <sup>th</sup>	9 am Mass for Anthony K.L. Law, R.I.P. 11 am Mass for all the souls in purgatory 5 pm Mass for parishioners
Mon. Mar. 18 <sup>th</sup>	8 am Mass for the int. of Luzviminda Carlos
Tue. Mar. 19 <sup>th</sup>	8 am Mass for the dec. memb. of the Baldasso fmly
Wed. Mar. 20 <sup>th</sup>	9 am Mass for Trinidad Balmaceda Gaonzales, R.I.P. 7:30 pm Novena Mass
Thur. Mar. 21 <sup>st</sup>	8:00 am Mass for Milka Sandric, R.I.P.
Fri. Mar. 22 <sup>nd</sup>	8:00 am Mass for the int. of Michelle Pang 7:30 pm Mass for Idelfonso & Isabelo Timbal, R.I.P.
Sat. Mar. 23 <sup>rd</sup>	9:00 am Mass for Fortunata C. De Yro, R.I.P.

### SCHOOL NEWS

- Spring Break: Our school is now closed for Spring Break. We wish all our staff and students a safe and enjoyable time. The school will re-open on April 1<sup>st</sup>.



### ST. JUDE'S PARISH - LENTEN MISSION

March 26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm  
"Behold the Man" - John 19:5

Mark your calendars and plan to attend our Parish Mission being preached by Fr. James Kairu, assistant pastor of Corpus Christi Parish.

- Tues. Mar. 26<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm - Mission Talk (No Mass)
- Wed. Mar. 27<sup>th</sup> Novena Mass at 7 pm followed by Mission Talk
- Thurs. Mar. 28<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm - Mission Talk (No Mass)

Bring along a family member or friend. Confessions will also be heard.

### CHANGE IN MASS TIME

Please Note: That due to the Lenten Mission, our Novena Mass, on Wed, Mar. 27<sup>th</sup>, will start at 7 pm.

### ST. JUDE'S MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT RETREAT

All married couples are invited to our Marriage Enrichment Retreat, sponsored by Couples for Christ, on Saturday, Apr. 6<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm in the school meeting room, followed by Mass at 5 pm and renewal of vows. The retreat is FREE. Lunch and snacks will be served. We will be handing out registration forms or they will be at the entrance of the church. You may also call JR and Jovie Dinong at 604-379-7741 or Senen/Virginia Basbas at 604-512-8295.

### Stewardship Reflection

*"I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land as a possession."* (Gen 15:7)

Just as the Lord gave Abraham, Moses and the Israelites a land to possess, he has also given each of us a home. Whether your home is grand or humble, it is a gift from God. Abraham prepared a great sacrifice to the Lord in gratitude for the home God gave him. How do you show your gratitude to God for the home he has given you? Do you make a sacrifice of any kind? Do you return any of your finances to God, investing equally in your eternal home just as you invest in your earthly home?

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### 2019 Parish Mission with Fr. Emmerich Vogt

Join Fr. Emmerich Vogt for a "Spiritual Healing", a 2019 Parish Mission offered by Corpus Christi Parish, Mar. 18-21. Two conference options: 9-10am with confession at 7:30-7:55 p.m. and 7-8 p.m. with confession at 6-6:45 p.m.

### Quo Vadis – Men's Discernment Events

Day of Reflection with Archbishop Miller on Saturday, March 23, 10-3 p.m. at John Paul II Pastoral Centre, Vancouver. Open to single Catholic men ages 18+ who want to answer the question: What is God calling me to do with my life? Please register at least one week in advance by contacting the Vocations Office at [vocations@rcav.org](mailto:vocations@rcav.org) or call 604-443-3254.

### Fiat: Women's Discernment Events – Day of Reflection

Day of Reflection – Fiat of Women in the New Testament on Saturday, March 23, 12-3:30 p.m. at FSE Convent, 2811 Venables Street, Vancouver. Fiat, the women's vocation discernment group for the Archdiocese of Vancouver, is getting ready for another year of events. Events are open to single, Catholic young women ages 18-35 who are open to discerning and responding to God's call in their life. Sign up now to receive emails of events throughout the year. Email [womensvocations@rcav.o...](mailto:womensvocations@rcav.o...) for more information.

**HELP LINE Volunteers Needed for Domestic Abuse Services – OLGCS** No experience needed but would be a valuable asset! Volunteer from home; choose your hours! Our next comprehensive training session starts Mar. 29<sup>th</sup> Fridays and Saturdays (3wks) at St. Francis of Assisi Parish. If you're interested in volunteering, please call 604.585.6688 or email us: [operationsmgr@domesticabuseservices.ca](mailto:operationsmgr@domesticabuseservices.ca)

### Notre Dame Alumni Trivia Night

Join us for Fun, food, and prizes at the Notre Dame Alumni Trivia Night on Friday, April 5, at 6 p.m. Pasta dinner starting 6:15 p.m. and games at 7 p.m. Cost \$25. For info call Diane at 604-291-7969

### Rachel's Vineyard Retreat

*"I stretch out my hands toward you, my soul to you like a parched land."* – Psalm 143:6

Has your soul felt dry and without life since your abortion experience? Your Rachel's Vineyard™ Retreat team has been there and wants nothing more than to walk with you as you stretch out your hands to God for His mercy. You are not alone. Join us on our next Retreat in May 2019. For confidential info and to register contact 604-525-0999.

