

Our Lady Queen of Peace

4696 Notre Dame Lane, House Springs, Mo 63051 636-671-3062

www.olqpparish.org

March 13, 2011



PASTOR

Reverend Michael Murphy

ASSOCIATES

Reverend James Beighlie, C.M.

Reverend Donald F. Molitor, Retired

DEACONS

Reverend Dr. Thomas Gerling

Reverend Mr. Paul Turek, Sr.

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Mr. Bob Ellison

GRADE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Ms. Renée Chauvin

PSR COORDINATOR

Mrs. Debra O'Donnell

PRESCHOOL COORDINATOR

Mrs. Nancy Lorenz

YOUTH MINISTER

Mrs. Terry Ostlund

PARISH COUNCIL

Sandee Burkemper

Joanne David

Vicki De Long

René Heibeck

Arnie Lohbeck

Dave Mills

Denise Ortmann

Rich Ortmann

Linda Weber

PHONES

Parish Office

671-3062

School

671-0247

Cafeteria

375-5335

SCHEDULE OF HOLY MASSES

Saturday Evening

5:00pm

(Rosary before Mass - Fatima Prayers included on 1st Sat.)

Sunday

7:30, 9:30, 11:30am

Holy Days

as announced

Weekdays

8:00am

PERPETUAL HELP DEVOTIONS

Tuesday after 8:00am Mass

ROSARY FOR VOCATIONS

2nd Monday of each month after 8:00am Mass

ROSARY FOR PEACE

Every Monday evening at 7:30pm

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

First and third Sunday of the month after 11:30am Mass

Make arrangements by calling Parish Office

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Saturday

4:00 - 4:45pm or by appointment

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

As soon as marriage is contemplated, contact one of the parish priests.

STEPHEN MINISTRY

314-223-8751

YOUTH MINISTRY

314-566-8363

Upcoming OLQP Parish Events

2011

March

- Sun 20 **Red Hat Bingo** KC Hall
 Wed 30 **Confirmation** 7:30pm Church

April

- Sat 9 **K C Meat Shoot**, Soccer Fields
 Sat 16 **Parish All Day Confessions**
Athletic Association Trivia Night
 Sun 17 **Palm Sunday**
Seder Meal, 4pm, KC Hall
 Thu 21 **Holy Thursday, 7 pm**
 Fri 22 **Good Friday, 7 pm**
 Sat 23 **Easter Vigil, 8 pm**
 Sun 24 **Easter**
 Sat 30 **Daughters Tailgate Sale**
 Sat 30 **Annual Catholic Appeal** begins

May

- Sun 1 **First Communion**
 Fri 13 **2011 Spring Fishing Tournament**
 Sun 15 **Daughters May Crowning**
Annual Catholic Appeal ends

June

- Sat 11 **OLQP PARISH PICNIC**
 Thr 30 **Blood Drive**, 2-7 pm Cafeteria

July

- Mon-Thur 25-29 **Soccer Camp**, Athletic Field

August

- Sat 20 **Daughters Tailgate Sale**

September

- Sat 24 **Moonlight Golf Tournament**
 Sun 25 **OLQP Quilt Social** KC Hall

October

- Sat 1 **Hoedown**
 Sat 8 **Harvest Moon Auction** KC Hall
 Sun 16 **Daughters Fashion Show** KC Hall

November

- Sat 5 **K C Meat Shoot**

December

- Sun 4 **Advent Tea** KC Hall

2012

January

- Sat 14 **Knights Mouse Races** KC Hall



Pastor's Desk

Parish Survey

So far we have had over 160 people respond to our parish survey. After next week we will tally up the results and begin to take a look at how the parish perceives itself. The results of this survey will help the Parish Council develop goals to improve our parish. Fr. Beighlie will also publish a summary of the results.

If you have not participated in the parish survey, there is still time. Go to our website at www.olqpparish.org and follow the link.

Signs & Posters

I've received a few complaints over the past few months about the number of signs, posters and flyers being taped to the glass doors at the entrance of church. It is a strategic place to place a message because people can't avoid seeing them as they enter church. However, it does look tacky, especially as more and more people and groups compete for prime space on the doors. After this Sunday we will remove any signs, flyers or posters that are taped or attached to the doors. Please make use of the bulletin boards and other designated areas for posting messages. (And please take the time to read the posted messages.)

Fr. Mike

OLQP Parish Email List

Subscribe to our **Parish Email List** and receive:

- Parish News
- Event Calendar & Reminders
- Death Notices
- Holy Day & Holiday Mass Schedules
- Event Cancellation Notices
- Urgent Messages
- And so much more!

It's easy and safe to subscribe and unsubscribe.

This email list is for parochial use only and will not be sold or shared with anyone!

Go to www.olqpparish.org and submit your name and email address in the form on the bottom of the home page

OR

Email your name and email address to:
frbeighlie@olqpparish.org

Dial-A-Saint

For an inspirational message about the Saint of the Day please call (314) 421-4775.
 The message changes daily.



OLQP School News

- The 7th graders are busy working on their social justice project.
- The kindergarten class has been accepted as part of the Spring norming group for the IOWA tests. They will be testing between April 4-12.
- The 8th graders are dividing into teams to teach a chapter on Church History to their classmates.
- The students at OLQP will be on Spring Break from March 14-18. Have fun and stay safe!

BINGO
Knights of Columbus Hall
Every Friday Night
Doors open at 4:30 pm
Bingo starts 6:45 pm



On Monday, March 14, we will meet at Red Lobster (on Lindbergh) for lunch at 1 pm. Looking forward to seeing everyone there.

RCIA

We meet every Monday evening at 7 pm in the Cafeteria meeting room. All parishioners or guests are invited to sit in on any of our sessions when the topic being discussed might interest them.

Upcoming Sessions:

- March 14 - What is Lent
- March 21 - Saying "YES" to Jesus
 Commitments to a Life of Faith
- March 28 - The Nicene Creed
- April 4 - The Way of the Cross
 The Lord's Prayer
- April 11 - The Meaning of Holy Week
- April 16 - RCIA Retreat
- April 18 - No Classes



YOUTH MINISTRY

Fight Temptations and Win

God and family time are so very important but they can easily get bumped to the bottom of our priority list. Over packed schedules have led us into the temptation of making excuses about why we put God and family in our weekly schedules last instead of first. How do we fight temptations that lead us away from God and family? Prayer, fasting and alms-giving are great weapons to fight temptations of any kind. This Sunday's gospel spells that out for us plain and simple. Jesus chooses to go to the desert to pray, to fight temptations, and listen to His Father's will.

As parents, we are the leaders of our "domestic church", our family. Where are we leading our family, toward God and His will for us, or toward power, greed and fame? Jesus was tempted by all of these in the desert but He fought those temptations with prayer and fasting so He could then pour out His life for us on the cross. Lent is an awesome opportunity to spend time prioritizing our family life, fighting temptations and putting God as the head of our family. The reward for this is the peace that surpasses all understanding and the priceless gift of treasured family time. Enjoy fighting temptations and winning!

Thanks a Bunch!

Thanks to our amazing chaperones, Lori Carbone and Pete Ostlund and our youth planning committee for a fun "Dance Party" last Friday evening.

Thanks to all of you for helping us collect \$273.60 in our precious metals collection last Sunday.

Wednesday Evenings

All high school youth are invited to bring a friend and join us every Wednesday evening from 6-8 pm in the Bear's Den. Enjoy eating popcorn, growing in faith and having fun.

Terry Ostlund, Youth Minister
314-566-8363

**50th Anniversary News
WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

We are making a slide show presentation for our 50th Anniversary celebration and we need PICTURES! If you have pictures of parish events from the last 50 years we would love to see them and possibly use them in the presentation. You can email the pictures to us or bring them to the parish office in an envelope. We will make sure the photos are returned. Please put your name and phone number on the envelope, and on each picture. If you have any questions please call Denise, 636-671-0454 or email OLQP50th@olqpparish.org.

Thank you!



Parish Corner

Every week a different organization is featured in the bulletin. The following week they have representatives in the Church lobby to talk about their organization and sign up potential members.

No Organization this week.

**Awareness Conference
For Me and My House**
The parish Awareness Conference will be on Monday, March 14th and Wednesday, March 16th from 6:30-7:30 pm in the Cafeteria. We will have babysitting available. We hope many will be able to attend.

Tuition Assistance

Application Deadline April 1

Any Catholic family wishing to apply for tuition assistance, from the parish or the Archdiocese, for the 2011-2012 school year **must** obtain a "FACTS" application from the Parish Office.

The due date for the application is April 1, 2011 and **must** include a copy of your 2010 Income Tax Return.

Lenten Workshop Series on Prayer

This Lent, we will offer a six week workshop series focusing on practical suggestions on how you can improve your prayer life. We will use the Catechism and writings of the saints as our foundation. We'll then translate these writings into our everyday life. The goal is to leave the meeting with solid dogma, uplifting inspiration and several practical ideas on how to put it into practice. We will meet from 7 to 8 pm each Wednesday during Lent in the Cafeteria meeting room. Discussion topics will be:

- March 16—Finding Time for Prayer and Getting Started
- March 23—The Gift of the Mass - the Highest Form of Prayer
- March 30—The Rosary—Spending Lent with Mary
- April 6— Mediation— Opening Up to the Lord
- April 13— The Psalms—Praying the Prayers Jesus Prayed
- April 20— Adoration— "Can You Spend an Hour with Me?"

Feel free to come to all the workshops or select the ones that appeal to you most. Any questions please call Phyllis 677-4364 or email phyllis106@charter.net.

St. Vincent De Paul



...is an organization of parish men and women who have joined together to help their neighbors in need. We have dedicated ourselves to helping families in need in our parish and community both materially and spiritually.

Stephen Ministry

Who are the people in need of care? Those experiencing grief, divorce, financial stress, spiritual crisis, cancer diagnosis, job loss, disability, chronic illness, convalescence, loneliness, hospitalization, etc. A Stephen Minister is a parishioner who is trained to listen, care, encourage, pray and walk alongside you during difficult times. It's confidential, free and very helpful. To learn how you can receive care please call Margaret, 314-223-8751. All calls and sessions are confidential.



God bless you!

**3rd Annual Used Book Fair
April 1st, 2nd and 3rd
We Want Your Books!**

Our Lady Queen of Peace will be holding their annual used Book Fair. We are looking for donations of books; kids, adults, cooking, history, etc. Your donations can be dropped off in the Church lobby (on the bench by the east door).

**Girl Scout Troop 4642
Father - Daughter Dance**

Troop 4642 is hosting the Father - Daughter Sock Hop. It is Saturday, March 26th, from 6 to 9 pm in the Our Lady Queen of Peace Cafeteria for all girl scouts and their dads. The cost is \$10 for dads and \$5 for the girls. The price includes dancing, games, dinner, a picture and much more.

Any questions please call Sherry, 636-285-5581.

**Archdiocesan Lenten
Regulations**

Good Friday (April 22) is a day of abstinence for all Catholics over the age of 14. On these days, fast as well as abstinence is also obligatory for those from the ages of 18 to 59. Abstinence means abstinence from meat. Fast means one full meal a day, with two smaller meals and nothing between meals (liquids are permitted). No Catholic will lightly excuse himself or herself from this obligation.

All other Fridays of Lent (except March 25 this year) are days of abstinence from meat. Here again Catholics will not hold themselves lightly excused, but if there is a serious health problem, this obligation would not apply.

We should strive to make all days of Lent a time of prayer and penance.

**Girl Scout Troop 4642
Thank you!**

Girl Scout Troop 4642 would like to thank our parish family for all the cookies they bought. We would like to especially thank those who donated money so we can ship cookies to our parish service people serving overseas. Because of you, we will be shipping 60 boxes of cookies to 10 of our soldiers.

Thank you!

Thank You!

With sincerest thanks and appreciation, for all your prayers, cards, gifts and kindness for Jane Fisher.

The Tenny and Ganey Families

**Senior Citizen Prom
Northwest High School
Saturday, April 9, 5 to 9 pm
RSVP no later than April 2**

Hosted by Northwest High School's Student Council. The formal occasion has a "Viva Las Vegas" theme. If you are young at heart and want to enjoy great food, dancing and fun please come and be our guest.

For more information or any questions please call 274-0555 ext. 148 or email loromaine@nwr1.k12.mo.us.

**American Cancer Society
Relay For Life
Friday, May 6th, 6 pm through
Saturday, May 7th, 6 am
Faith Community Church**

For more information please call 1-800-227-2345 or email www.relayforlife.org/nwjeffersoncomo

Windows in Church

Many thanks for the generous donation of bulletin boards. There are bulletin boards in each entrance on the Cafeteria level and one on the east side of the lobby. We still have the standing one on the west side of the lobby. This has given us the ability to no longer use the glass doors to tape up announcements. Please check with the parish office to get the okay to place your announcement in Church. We are no longer allowing announcements to be taped to the windows. This allows a much cleaner look to our Church and a continuity place for people to check for announcements. Thank you so much for your help.

**Fr. William Scheid Presents
Neil Simon's "Fools"**

The Archdiocesan Catholic Youth Apostolate and The Fr. William Scheid players will present Neil Simon's "Fools" on Friday, April 8th and Saturday, April 9th, at 8pm and Sunday, April 10th at 3pm. All performances will be at Pope John Paul II Auditorium at the Cardinal Rigali Center, 20 Archbishop May Dr. This year there will be a special Wine and Cheese Party prior to the Saturday performance. All proceeds support the Catholic Youth Apostolate youth programs. All tickets are \$12 each. There will be an additional \$10 charge to attend the Wine and Cheese Party. For more information please contact Allison, 314-792-7624 or email: allisontabeta@archstl.org for tickets.

IL Ritiro Help Wanted

IL Ritiro is looking for housekeeping and maintenance help! If interested please contact Fr. Paul at 636-274-0554 or frpaulgallagher.ofm@gmail.com.

**St. James Quilt Bingo
(Potosi, MO)**

**Sunday, March 13
Doors open at 11:30 am
Games begin at 1 pm**

St. Patrick Dinner

**St. Stephen's in Richwoods
Sunday, March 13, 11 am to 4 pm**
Cost is \$8 for adults and children 6-12 \$3
Serving Corned Beef and Cabbage or Ham
Quilt drawing, 50/50 drawing, etc.

Seven Days of Inspiration

Take one a day...
and feel great all week!

Hope is the golden
bridge that joins our hearts
to the eternal.

Your kindness radiates
like the sun and warms
all those it touches.

If you get up one
more time than you fall,
you will make it through.

Have the courage to
go after your dreams and
you will see how truly
wonderful life can be.

Good or bad, each of
life's events is a
stepping stone to a
greater tomorrow.

When you are kind to
others, it not only changes
you, it changes the world.

A friend is someone
who gives you total
freedom to be yourself!

Welcome to Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish

We rejoice to have you with us, whether a long-time resident or newly arrived in our parish! Please fill out this form and return it to the Parish Office or place it in the Sunday collection basket if you would like to be a registered member of our parish. If you have recently changed your status, married, moved out of your parents' home or graduated from college, you need to re-register. Please help us keep our records in order.

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ Phone _____ # of people registering _____

email address _____

Please circle one: New Registration Address or phone number change Moving out of parish

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Our next Eucharistic Adoration is
 Wednesday, March 16
 From 8:30 am – 8:00 pm.

**Black and Native American Indian
 Collection is this weekend.
 Thank you for your generosity.**

Survey Deadline

Thank you to all who have responded to our Parish survey. If you have not completed the survey and wish to please do so by Tuesday, March 15th. Go to our website at www.olqpparish.org and follow the link.

Lenten Schedule

Adoration on Wednesdays of Lent

8:30 am to 8 pm

Stations of the Cross

Fridays of Lent after 8 am Mass
 School Children Fridays 2:15 pm
 (except March 18)

Fish Fry's

Every Friday of Lent 3 to 7 pm
 Good Friday, April 22, noon to 7 pm

Parish All Day Confessions

Saturday, April 16
 9am - noon and 1pm - 4:45 pm

April 17, Seder Meal, 4 pm, KC Hall

April 21, Holy Thursday Mass, 7 pm

April 22, Good Friday Service, 7 pm

April 23, Easter Vigil, 8pm

Easter Masses, 7:30, 9:30 and 11:30 am

*Absent from the body present with our Lord.
 In your kindness pray for the repose of the soul*

Kathy Kroen, mother of Kelly Fischer

*May God welcome her home, fill her with peace,
 and bless those who will miss her*

Our Gifts to God and Parish
262 Envelopes Used

Special Collections

Black/Indian Mission	\$	25.00
Eastern European	\$	76.00
St. Louis Review	\$	23.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$	846.00

New Building Fund

Lavender Envelopes	\$	482.00
Total Received to date	\$	690,210.10

Offertory

Sunday Envelopes	\$	13,355.00
Sunday Loose	\$	631.56
Above and Beyond	\$	12.00
Present and Future	\$	548.00
Total Offertory	\$	14,546.56
Offertory Goal	\$	13,699.00

Thank you for your generosity.

As of March 7, 2011

Contributions Year To Date	\$	438,668.45
Projected Year to Date Budget	\$	493,164.00

Script Gift Cards

Sales	\$	1,895.00
Profits/tuition reduction	\$	90.47

Script gift cards are available in the Parish Office from 8am to 4:30pm Monday through Friday and every weekend after Mass.

**If you would like a 2010 Contribution Statement
 please drop a note in the collection
 or call Linda, 6761-3062**

Stewardship

"It is written: The Lord, your God, shall you worship and hHm alone shall you serve." Matthew 4:10

The world tempts us with so much. Like Jesus on the top of the mountain, we can all see magnificent possessions, power, adventures, activities or accomplishments that tempt us to push God into the background of our lives. Yet, we must follow the example of Jesus and back away from the temptations of the world so that we have more time in our lives to worship and serve God. Lent provides us with the perfect opportunity to make a change that will last not just for forty days but for a lifetime.

Parish Activities

Mon	March 14	Vocations Rosary after 8 am Mass PSR, 6:15-7:30 pm Awareness Conference, 6:30 pm, Cafeteria RCIA, 7 pm, Cafeteria meeting room Rosary for Peace, 7:30 pm, Church
Tues	March 15	Devotions after 8am Mass Quilters, 9 am - 3pm, 6 - 8:30 pm, Activity Center Church History Class, 7 pm, Cafeteria meeting room Finance Meeting, 7 pm, Rectory
Wed	March 16	Eucharistic Adoration, 8:30 am - 8 pm Awareness Conference, 6:30 pm, Cafeteria Lenten Prayer, 7 pm, Cafeteria meeting room
Thurs	March 17	Choir Practice, 7 pm, Church Bible Study, 7pm, Cafeteria mtg. room
Fri	March 18	Fish Fry, 3 to 7 pm, Cafeteria Stations of the Cross after 8 am Mass
Sun	March 20	Children's Liturgy during 9:30 am Mass, Cafeteria

Mass Intentions

Mon	March 14	8:00 am	Tyler Freihaut
		6:30 pm	Debbie O'Brien
Tues	March 15	8:00 am	Jeanette Ellison
Wed	March 16	8:00 am	Ruth Reid
Thurs	March 17	8:00 am	Lou Duchinsky
Fri	March 18	8:00 am	Roland and Irma Ecker
Sat	March 19	8:00 am	Marie Delue
		5:00 pm	Eleanor Tiemann
Sun	March 20	7:30 am	Alice Nahlik
		9:30 am	People of the Parish
		11:30 am	Tyler Freihaut

March 19th and 20th

Special Ministers of the Eucharist

5:00 pm	Larry & Margaret Bottchen, Christine Camden, Peggy Mikko, Barb Nenninger, *Michael & Joyce Ruopp
7:30 am	Gerald Bachmann, *Mary Bjornstad, Patsy Boyer, Vicki De Long, *Ruth Haen, Jo Jahnsen, Marie Strayhorn
9:30 am	Tom Broadbent, Fran Corley, *Joanne David, Margaret Gerling, Richard Rousseau, Helen Salamone, Kelly Smith, *Maria Webb
11:30 am	Tom Ecker, Carol Freihaut, Paul McDonnell, *Dan & Kim Horn, Barb Oppelz, Denise Witt

* You are responsible to clean the vessels after Mass

Proclaimers

5:00 pm	Sandy Munzlinger, Joe Nenninger
7:30 am	Bev Gregory, Linda Weber
9:30 am	Maryann Turek, Jo Ann Vess
11:30 am	Andrea Lawson, Michelle Mose

Servers

5:00 pm	Helen & John Myers, Joe Wigge
7:30 am	McKenzie Beck, Ann & Jane Kenney
9:30 am	Paige Smith, Bridget & Mary Turney
11:30 am	Joe & Tom Carbone, Delaney Lawson

Ushers

5:00 pm	Bill & Donna Clifton, Ken Ganey, Ralph Munzlinger, Jerry Sheets, Katie Tutass
7:30 am	Doug Bjornstad, Carl Boyer, Robert De Long, Jeff Eschbach, Larry Lammert, John Nahlik
9:30 am	Tim Diffey, Cal & George Flynn, Lee Hoffman, Tom Mattingly, Ray Wieschhaus
11:30 am	Don Brooks, John Holmes, Don Reno, Jim Robertson, Al Schuld, David Witt

Please pray for those who are ill (parishioners are in bold)

Jackie Nappier	Andy Nappier
Vince Ferrara	Ann Bevard
Janet Bachmann	Rich Leiber
Gerry Schroeder	Margaret Bottchen

Mary Slodkowski
Ralph Michael, father of Geraldine Little
Baby Henley, relative of Geraldine Little
Tracy Musselwhite, niece of Lynette Rawlins
Rachel Preston, granddaughter of L. Rawlins
Jimmy Rawlins, son of Lynette Rawlins
Anice Nixon, mother of Ruth Barbato
Hubert Taylor, father of Nancy Wilfong
Debbie Laird, friend of Geraldine Little
Donna Henslee, friend of Geraldine Little
Buck Thomas, husband of Donna Thomas
Kay Oestman, sister of Maureen Turney
Dave Haig, friend of Ken and Jan DeClue
Louise Gunter, mother of Lynette Rawlins
~ the homebound, shut-ins of the parish and all

in nursing homes. To add a name please call the
Parish Office, 636-671-3062. Names will be
removed after 3 weeks.

Parish Office email
parishoffice@olqpparish.org
OLQP Web Site
www.olqpparish.org
submit articles for bulletin
olqpbulletin@yahoo.com
Deadline Tuesday at 4:30 pm



Donna O'Malley,
Theresa Haug,
Mary Copeland,
and Judy Mottert

**Second Sunday of Lent
Cycle A**



THEME: The path to glory leads through suffering for the sake of others.

The Gospel readings for the First Sunday of Lent in all three cycles of readings are accounts of the temptation of Jesus in the wilderness after His baptism by John. On the Second Sunday of Lent the Gospel reading in each of the three cycles is an account of the Transfiguration. Biblical scholarship is uniform in its treatment of the Transfiguration stories. On His way to Jerusalem and His passion and death, Jesus gives His disciples a glimpse of resurrection glory, a glimpse of what is possible, but the path to that glory leads through suffering for the sake of others.

The readings for the First Sunday of Lent focused on human nature and the need to surrender to our God and the relationship He offers us. Today's readings focus on what is possible for us when we make that surrender.

THE READINGS:

FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4

The first reading, from Genesis, follows immediately after the Primeval History and is the first episode in the Abraham cycle of tales – the call of Abraham. Within the context of the developing story of the Pentateuch, the call of Abraham is God's first step in reversing what went wrong in the original plan of creation. He chooses

a man, a human being, to begin to be a means of blessing for all creation, to begin to bring all people back to their God. The call of Abraham bears the stamp of the Jerusalem theology of the Yahwist source. Election is a key theme, but election for a purpose. Israel is chosen to bring God's blessings to all others.

The call of Abraham is the first instance in Genesis of the promises made to the patriarchs – the promise of land, of being a great nation, of having a special relationship with God. These promises translate into the promise of home, of safety and security, of physical well-being; the promise of other people, of social well-being; and the promise of a relationship with God, spiritual well-being. But here, and in all instances of the promises, they are given for a purpose – so that all the families of the earth may find blessing, so that all the families of the earth may return to God.

There is a second element of the promises to the patriarchs that is worth noting. To live into the promises requires surrender. Abraham is called to leave his homeland, his family, his whole life as he had known it and set off on a journey based solely on trust that God's promises would be fulfilled. In biblical tradition, Abraham is known as the Father of Faith because he does surrender to God and trust in His promises, but the way to that faith and trust was not an easy journey. Repeatedly, Abraham is depicted as doubtful and uncertain, taking matters into his own hands to make sure the promises would be fulfilled and this tendency begins immediately in response to his call. He, in his old age, is told to leave everything behind and trust that he will be the father of a great nation. He sets out, but brings along his nephew, a possible heir if he can't father a child in his old age. In the call of Abraham we hear again God's will for us to experience well-being – physical, social and spiritual, but with a purpose: to share that well-being offered by God with all others. The road to that promised well-being is a surrender to God in faith and trust and that, given our human nature, is never an easy road to follow.

SECOND READING: II Timothy 1:8-10

The second reading is from the Second Letter to Timothy. II Timothy is a late letter, not written by Paul but drawing on Paul's teaching. It comes from a time when church order and a basic body of church teaching has become formalized. This core deposit of teaching holds out the possibility of holiness for us if we hold true to our commitment of faith – even in the face of suffering. Holiness is God-likeness; holiness is transformational; holiness is a possibility for the world of humanity if we can surrender to our God.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 17:1-9

The Gospel reading is Matthew's account of the Transfiguration. The setting for the Transfiguration is on a high mountain, a favorite setting in Matthew for encounters with God. On this mountain, Peter, James and John get a glimpse of Jesus' glory, a preview of resurrection glory. They get a glimpse of what is possible.

In biblical narrative, dialogue holds a place of prominence. Characters reveal their true nature in what they say. The basic meaning that the story-teller wants to convey in an episode is carried in the dialogue. In this brief episode, three voices are heard – that of Peter, that of God, and that of Jesus. On the setting of a high mountain, Jesus is transformed before His disciples and is seen with Moses and Elijah, representatives of the Law and the Prophets. Jesus is on His way to Jerusalem and His final surrender to the Father's will in order to bring the Law and the Prophets to their fulfillment – in order to effect the reconciliation of humanity with its God, forgive sin and win salvation. Along the way there is a glimpse of glory, but the story is not finished.

Enter the voice of Peter: "Lord, it's good to be here. Let's settle in and hang on." Either Peter doesn't realize that there's more to come, that this is but a brief glimpse of the final glory to be won by Jesus, or he does. He knows that Jesus is on His way to Jerusalem and he knows the hostility of the religious leaders in Jerusalem to Jesus. He knows a confrontation is imminent and that it can't turn out well. So, he's willing to settle. "This is good enough. Let's stop here!" Now comes the voice of God: "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased. Listen to him!" Note the structuring elements present here. At the beginning of Matthew's Gospel, Jesus is named Emmanuel, "God is with us." At the end of the Gospel, in the Ascension scene, Jesus promises to be with us until the end of the age. The whole story told by Matthew's Gospel is the story of God being with us. At the beginning of Jesus public life, in the baptism by John, God's voice is heard saying, "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased." Now, toward the end of Jesus' public life and ministry, in the Transfiguration scene, God's voice again intrudes into the story and we have an exact repetition of God's affirmation of Jesus at His baptism. But there is something added here. God goes on to say, "Listen to him!" Jesus has just been seen in glory with Moses and Elijah, with representatives of the Law and the Prophets, with representatives of God's word to His people. But now God says, "Go beyond my word in scripture and listen to my Son who reveals me, who accomplishes my will for my people."

A constant theme in Matthew's Gospel is that the people of God, the "Chosen People" is not a people determined by blood lines but by those who accept and believe in Jesus the Messiah. The voice of God affirms this claim. If you would be my people, listen to my Son.

Finally comes the voice of Jesus: "Get up. Do not be afraid. Tell no one of the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead." Peter, James and John (and we, too) have just been told by our God to listen to Jesus. And what does He say. He tells us to put fears aside and get moving. He tells us not to focus on the temporary but look to and live for the permanent. He tells us not to settle for what is but to live for what can be, despite our fears and uncertainties, despite our inertia, despite our humanity.

A common theme running through today's readings is the idea that we are faced with boundless possibilities, possibilities for living with our God in a world where God's blessings are shared with all others. But to live into these possibilities requires a surrender to God and His will for us, a surrender to the relationship He offers us and the responsibilities living that relationship places on us. That surrender is never easy. It means letting go, being vulnerable, making sacrifices.

Those who have been hurt, abused, victimized build walls of defenses to protect themselves, to keep from being hurt again. Can the walls come down? Can they trust? Those who are comfortable let go of what is safe and comfortable in their lives to go where God leads them, to live the next chapter of the story?

Those who struggle in life are tempted to settle for what is, to be afraid to hope for a better life, a fulfilling relationship, a positive sense of self. Can they refuse to settle for what is and dare to hope for what can be?

FOR REFLECTION:

- Am I willing to walk the path that Jesus walked, to sacrifice myself for the sake of others? In what ways can I do this?
- As I look at the world, what do I see as God's will for the physical, social and spiritual well-being of all people? What can I do to make God's promises a reality in the world?
- In what ways is it difficult for me to trust that God has a place for me in His plan for all creation? In what ways is it difficult for me to trust that God's promises to me will be fulfilled?
- Faced with the possibilities of the future, faced with all the unknowns of the future, how am I like Peter - ready to settle in and just hang on to the certainty of the present moment?
- What walls have I built to protect myself? What are my hurts and vulnerabilities? How willing am I to break down those walls? How willing am I to trust God and other people?

KENRICK GLENNON DAYS... on the road!

June 7th - 9th

Pallottine Renewal Center, 15270 Old Halls Ferry Road, Florissant, MO 63034

The Office of Vocations is pleased to announce Kenrick-Glennon Days 2011 which will take place this summer in one session, June 7th - 9th, and will be open to boys in the 7th, 8th and 9th grades (fall 2011). **Due to construction at the seminary, this year's camp will be held at the Pallottine Renewal Center in Florissant, Missouri.** As you may know, this program is designed to give grade school boys and young men in high school an opportunity to have fun and discover more about a possible vocation to the priesthood. **Please note that camp will be limited to 75 campers.** Registration for camper will end on May 22, 2011 or when camp is full.

Young men who have completed at least one year of high school are eligible to participate as Junior Counselors from June 5th - 9th. Junior Counselors (JC's) will be expected to set an example for camp participants, exhibiting an attitude of good, Catholic integrity. This will be a great opportunity for these young men to meet some of the priests and seminarians of the Archdiocese. **Space for JC's is limited to 30 participants and all will be asked to fill out an application to be approved by Bishop Rice and the Kenrick-Glennon Days coordinator.** Registration forms and applications for JC's, payment and liability/medical release forms must be returned to the Office of Vocations at 5200 Glennon Drive, St. Louis, MO 63119 prior to May 6, 2011.

Registration forms for campers, JC applications, and medical release forms are available online at www.stlvocations.org. For more information or questions regarding applications or camp registrations, please contact Renae Novak at 314-792-6465 or email: Rnovak@archstl.org

This Office is supported by funds from the Annual Catholic Appeal. Please remember to donate generously!

Trivia Night Sts. Peter and Paul in Soulard Saturday, March 26

Cost is \$20 per person/\$160 per 8 person table... \$175 at door. Doors open at 6:15 pm, trivia starts at 7 pm. Price includes beer, soda, popcorn and LOTS OF FUN! We will also have a silent auction, prizes for the winning table, a table decorating contest "Spring" is the theme & 50/50! Trivia Night will be held in the lower level hall at the parish hall building on 8th and Allen, parking is available in front. Call 314-846-9653 to reserve your table today!

Concert Benefit

...given by Terry Lynn Rose and Friends. Bring family and or friends to a fun filled evening of entertainment at a Benefit Concert. The concert is on Friday, April 1, St. Andrew Parish Gym (309 Hoffmeister, Lemay). Doors open at 6:30 pm and the concert will begin at 7:30 pm. While being entertained, you will also be supporting a good cause. The proceeds of this event will support the St. Joseph Worker Program which is sponsored by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet through their CSJ Ministries Division. St. Joseph Worker Program is a one year volunteer opportunity for women ages 21-35. The volunteers commit a year to developing their skills in service exploring justice, leadership for social change, spirituality, intentional community and living simply.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call 314-919-0771.

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