

# St. Cletus Faith Formation Newsletter



**Friday, March 3, 2023**

Dear Parents,

Sunday is the *Second Sunday of Lent* and we hear the story of the Transfiguration.

In the Gospel, 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.

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.

This is the First Sunday of Lent our Gospel today tells the story of the temptation of Jesus in the desert. Click on the link to listen to the reflection by Father Freidman, OFM.

**[Reflection for the Second Sunday of Lent](#)**

**Take Part in Our Parish Wide Survey**

If you have not already done so, please take the Parish Survey. **Let your voice be heard!**

**All family members are asked to complete the survey. The survey will take approximately 15 minutes, so please participate.**

**We are especially interested in having our young people – eighth graders and up, participating in the survey, so please participate.**

Your opinions will be invaluable to Father Elmer and our various ministries as we plan for the future. Click on the link to access the survey

**Take Survey**

## **Calendar**

Just a reminder, Faith Formation Classes are in session this week. Sunday-Monday, March 5 & 6. We will also be in session on March 12 & 13, as well as March 19 & 20.

A reminder for our all of our children who will be receiving their First Communion on May 6<sup>th</sup>; we will be hosting our First Communion Retreat on Saturday, March 18 from 9:00 until 12:00 noon.

More information will be coming.

### **Special Sacrament Group**

Because of a conflict the First Eucharist Meeting scheduled for those children in grades 3 – 7, preparing for their First Communion has been postponed. We will be sending out an e-mail when the session is rescheduled.

**These children are invited to attend the First Communion Retreat on Saturday, March 18 from 9:00 until 12:00 noon in Morrissey Hall.**

### **Lenten Outreach Volunteer Opportunity**

As we prepare for Lent, we partner with Catholic Relief Services (CRS) to reach out and serve others through the Rice Bowl program. Please help distribute Rice Bowls after Masses **February 25-26**. All ages are welcome.

Visit: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e094cacac2ea2fc1-rice#/> to view slots and sign up.

Below you will find a second service opportunity for our Food Pantry.

Food Pantry: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e094cacac2ea2fc1-stcletus#/>

### **For Our Kids!**

**Sunday Readings and Resources especially for our children and families.**

*Catholic Kid's Media –The Transfiguration and Why We Listen to God.* Second Sunday of Lent, cycle A.

**[Reflection for the Second Sunday of Lent](#)**

### **Fun Activities for Children**

**[Gospel Activity](#)**

**[Sunday Gospel Coloring Sheets](#)**

**You Tube Video – Learn about our saints of the week. St. Dominic Savio and St. Frances of Rome whose feast day is March 9<sup>th</sup>.**

**[Saint Dominic Savio](#)**

**[St. Frances of Rome](#)**

If you were at the 9:30 a.m. Mass on Ash Wednesday you witnessed Father Kalas putting the Alleluia away. But why is this done?

### **What is the Burial of the Alleluia?**

“Alleluia” is the Church’s great song of joy and praise, used throughout most of the liturgical year.

However, the solemnity of the coming Lenten season brings a more somber, reflective atmosphere to her liturgies, which will culminate in the sorrowful mysteries of Our Lord’s Passion and Death.

The “burial of the Alleluia” refers to the ceremony surrounding the official liturgical end of the use of this word until the Easter Vigil, when it will be joyfully sung again in celebration of Our Lord’s Resurrection.

The ceremonial dismissal of the Alleluia from the liturgy began as a simple ritual in the time of Pope Alexander II in the 11th century. However, different regions developed their own, often spectacular, variations.

These customs often included the physical removal of the “Alleluia” from the church: the word being written on a plaque or board, deposited in a box, carried in procession, and removed from view. In France, where these customs seem to have been especially splendid, the ceremony sometimes included placing the Alleluia in a box, burying it, and even burning a straw “Alleluia” outside the church!

Many parishes still continue some version of this tradition, leading up to Ash Wednesday. Even if a physical removal of the Alleluia isn’t included, we all participate in the silence that encourages us to gradually gather our thoughts and prepare ourselves to embark on the spiritual journey of Lent. (From Get Fed – Bite Sized Faith).

Have A Great Week!

God Bless,

Lawrence Manetti  
Director of Faith Formation

Hector Obregon-Luna  
Associate Director of Faith Formation