

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 5, 2023



Scripture Reflection...

The Transfiguration is the critical turning point of Jesus' public ministry. Behind him now was the success of his Galilean ministry, his preaching was eloquent, the miracles were dazzling and, large crowds followed wherever he went. Then he let it all go, and set his sights on Jerusalem where he would march into the jaws of death. He knew he was on a collision course with the authorities who were determined to kill him. There seemed to be no way out of the impending disaster. How could it all end like this?

It is at this point that Jesus took Peter, James and John along with him to pray for understanding on the mountain top. In the midst of intense prayer, Jesus was transfigured so that his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. And Moses and Elijah appeared conversing with him. In Luke's Gospel, we are told they were discussing Jesus' passage from this life to the next.

What, we might ask, is going on here? The Transfiguration is best understood as an interior spiritual experience Jesus had that resulted in external bodily effects. The aura of light surrounding Jesus was the result of a profound discovery on his part. It is as if something obscure and puzzling had suddenly become wonderfully meaningful. This profound, mystical discovery on the part of Jesus was that God would bring Messianic salvation to the world not in the human way of power and miracles but through the complete and utter vulnerability of the loving sacrifice of the cross.

In each of our lives, there is a time of an insightful "mountain top experience": a wonder-filled sense of wellbeing flowing from God's comforting and assuring presence. For most of us, it is like a brief shooting star, for others it is an abiding flame that brings insight and meaning to the challenging mystery of life. In the final analysis however, we are saved not by visions of transfiguration, but by the mystery of Jesus coming out of the earth at the Resurrection.

Stewardship Thought for the Week

*"Go forth from the land of your kinsfolk and from your father's house to a land that I will show you."
Genesis 12:1*

God calls all of us to leave behind our old ways and to follow Him, placing our complete trust in Him. Some of the old ways that we struggle to leave behind might be materialism, selfishness and greed. Yet, God promises to show us a new land and a better way to live. Remember what St. Teresa of Calcutta said, "God does not call us to be successful, God calls us to be faithful."

Thank you for your generosity for the weekend of February 25 and 26, 2023:

Number of Envelopes	280
Envelope Amount	\$11,481.59
Loose Cash	\$790.00
Electronic Offerings	\$8,529.12
Other	\$371.26
Total	\$21,171.97
10% Tithe	\$2,117.20
February 27, 2022	\$20,083.62



TRIDUUM 2023 – THE HOLIEST OF DAYS

PALM SUNDAY, VIGIL MASS, APRIL 1ST
Saturday, 5:00PM — Rosemont Chapel

PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 2ND
7:30AM — Villanova Church
9:00AM — Rosemont Chapel
10:30AM — Villanova Church

HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 6TH
7:00PM Mass of the Lord's Supper
— Villanova Church
Solemn Adoration until 11:00PM
in Corr Hall Chapel

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 7TH
3:00PM Celebration of the Lord's Passion —
Villanova Church

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 8TH
7:30PM Easter Vigil — Villanova Church

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 9TH
7:30AM - Villanova Church
9:00AM - Rosemont Chapel
9:30AM - Villanova Church
11:00AM - Rosemont Chapel
11:30AM – Villanova Church

There is no Evening Mass
on Easter Sunday.

Statement of Most Reverend Nelson J. Perez on the One-Year Anniversary of the Russian Invasion of Ukraine

One year ago today, Russia launched its invasion of Ukraine. Peace was shattered. Unnecessary pain and anguish were unleashed. As a society, our hearts are heavy with sadness to witness the ongoing conflict and the senseless loss of so many innocent lives.

On behalf of all people in the Church of Philadelphia, I express our continued prayerful solidarity with those embroiled by the conflict in Ukraine as well as Ukrainians in our region and throughout the world.

The fortitude and infinite hope of the Ukrainian people shines brightly in these dark times. May they be strengthened by God's grace.

I ask all people of goodwill to join me in praying fervently for an end to the suffering and devastation in Eastern Europe. May God pour His mercy on those in distress and may our Blessed Mother, the Queen of Peace, wrap them in her comforting mantle.

Most Reverend Nelson J. Perez, D.D.
 Archbishop of Philadelphia

This prayer has special ties to Ukraine and her people.

*We fly to Your patronage, O Virgin Mother of God.
 Despise not our prayers in our need,
 but deliver us from all dangers,
 since you alone are pure and blessed.
 O most glorious ever-Virgin Mary,
 The Mother of Christ our God, accept our prayers
 and present them to Your Son and our God,
 that for the sake of you,
 He enlighten and save our souls.*

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION OPPORTUNITIES IN LENT

Rosemont Chapel

Wednesdays after the 12:05pm Liturgy
Saturdays after the 9:00am Liturgy

Communal Reconciliation Service
Monday of Holy Week, April 3rd
Villanova Church 7:00pm

ST. THOMAS POSITION AVAILABLE

DIRECTOR OF FAMILY LIFE AND YOUTH MINISTRY

Part-time (approx. 15-18 hours per week) position available at St. Thomas of Villanova Parish, Bryn Mawr, PA. The individual must have a BA or BS degree with at least one year of related experience and must be available to work evenings and weekends. Submit resume via fax to 610-525-6041 or email to bizmgr@stvparish.org - no calls please.



*We congratulate the newly confirmed of our
St. Thomas of Villanova Parish Community!
The Most Reverend John J. McIntyre
was the Presider for our Confirmation this
year.*

Olivia Billows
Hendrik Bleyen
Molly Butler
Patrick Chang
Francesca Christy
Benjamin Collier
Henry Conlon
James Cox
Maren Diebold
Daniel Deering
Chloe DeSanctis
Jackson Evans
Maya Follett
Hudson Foley
James Glackin
Katie Granson
Emmi Grace Graversen
Claire Haines
Cameron Hartz
Luke Hoeffner
Christian Hoey
Liam Jolley
Vijay Khanna
Finn Kelleher
Samuel Kersting
Alexander Joseph Keszeli
Hermine Lucq
Alexandre Martins

Ryan McDonnell
Mason McGovern
Lila McGrath
Tomas Moreland
Remi Mozdzer
Robbert Mullin
Joseph Murphy
Drew Naegle
Landyn Niles
Rowan O'Sullivan
Michael Palazzi
Louis Petrizzo
Michael Petrizzo
Natalie Powers
James Robinson
Frances Rouse
Gabrielle Schreder
Campbell Schumann
Fiona Seeger
Andrew Sears
Emelia Selbach
James Sullivan
Julia Tobin
Alina Tuwalski
Jocelyn Wallace
Alivia Wallis
Leonie Weissenberger
Avery Welsh

*Faith Hope
Love*



LENT

WALKING WITH CHRIST

Mon., March 6th 12:05PM-RMCH	Lenten Weekday
Tues., March 7th 12:05PM-RMCH	Lenten Weekday; Saints Perpetua and Felicity Deceased Members of the Lynch Family
Wed., March 8th 12:05PM-RMCH	Lenten Weekday; Saint John of God Patricia Smith - Connie Mervine
Thurs., March 9th 12:05PM-RMCH	Lenten Thursday; Saint Frances of Rome Frances McCabe - Dr. Francine Mallon
Fri., March 10th 12:05PM-RMCH	Lenten Weekday Dr. William Poplaski - Mauriello Family
Sat., March 11th 9:00AM-RMCH 5:00PM-RMCH	Lenten Weekday All Intentions Listed in our Prayer Request Book
Sun., Mar. 12th 7:30AM-VNCH 9:00AM-RMCH	Third Sunday of Lent For the Parishioners of St. Thomas John F. X. Burton, S. J. - Gerri Burton
10:30AM-VNCH	Jeanne A. Lotito - Petrizzo Family

SOCCER AND A BROKEN RESERVOIR



In the Dry Corridor of Honduras, climate change causes persistent drought, making farming nearly impossible. With support from Catholic Relief Services, Rony, a farmer, repaired an old reservoir and installed a new irrigation system to improve his harvests. Now Rony can send his son to a soccer academy to pursue his dream of becoming a professional player. How can you work like Rony to support others' needs and dreams? Visit crisricebowl.org to learn more.

If you wish to donate to the CRS Rice Bowl, please remit a check made out to St. Thomas of Villanova Church with a notation indicating that this is intended for CRS Rice Bowl.

You can drop off your donation in our weekly collection basket at the Villanova Church or the Rosemont Chapel. You can also mail or drop off your donation to the Parish Center.

Thank you for your kindness and generosity!



Schedule of Events for the week of:

March 5, 2023

Recitation of the Rosary
after the daily Liturgy.

Monday, March 6, 2023

Centering Prayer	8:00AM
Teen Choir - RMCH	6:00PM
Parish Council Meeting - PC1	7:00PM

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Scripture Reflection - PC1	10:00AM
St. Francis de Sales Tutoring	2:00PM

Wednesday, March 8, 2023

Exercise Class - Harten Hall	10:00AM
Children's Choir Practice - RMCH	4:15PM
Religious Education Classes	4:45PM
Aquinas Center Tutoring - Zoom	5:00PM
Family Support Group - Harten Hall	7:00PM

Thursday, March 9, 2023

Men's Gathering - RMCH & Harten Hall	6:30AM
Walking with Purpose - Harten Hall	9:00AM
Walking with Purpose - PC-1	7:00PM
Bell Practice - RMCH	7:15PM

Friday, March 10, 2023

Saturday, March 11, 2023

First Reconciliation and Reception — RMCH and Harten Hall	10:30AM
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Sunday, March 12, 2023

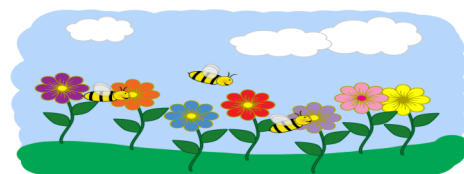
Mansion at Rosemont Communion Service	11:00AM
Religious Education Classes	10:10AM
Youth Ministry	

**Please note that the French Mass scheduled
for Sunday, March 12, 2023 has been
changed to Sunday, March 26, 2023
at 11:00AM in Rosemont.**

Congratulations to our Honor Student:

Villa Maria Academy
Second Honors:

Lucia Strid





We wish a warm welcome to the newest members of our parish:

Angela & William Pratt of Broomall

Congratulations to the newly Baptized member of our parish:

Chase, son of Chase & Jessica Gibson
Kalven, son of Carl & Pramiti Shoemaker

Resting in Peace:

Rev. John J. Ferrence, O.S.A.
Mr. Peter Shovlin

Remember those in need of our prayers, especially:

Katherine Breck, Brynn Busby, Peter Cellucci, Austin DePetris, Lina Fulton, Ian Gallagher, James Gibbons, Jr., Martin Gollin, Patricia Ann Harley, Joe Hopko, Sam Horsey, Bridget Kelly, Sara Keohane, Kelly Clarke, Ashley Lythgoe, Pamela LaMonaca, Joe Massaua, Joseph O'Malley, Bruno Petrillo, Bill Riley, Michael Salucci, Theresa Sherwin, Kevin Sousa, Peter Sousa, Terry Sousa and Robert J. Wahl

Please pray for our soldiers stationed throughout the world. Please also pray for the soldiers who are returning from their assignments, especially the wounded.

CHRISTIAN SERVICE

PRAYER LINE

The parish prayer line is waiting for your prayer requests. Please contact stvprayerline1@gmail.com or Marie DellaGreca at 856-981-7761 to activate the parish prayer line. We have parish teams available for your special intentions.

DINNERS TO THE DOORSTEP

This ministry is for parish families who are in crisis or for parish couples welcoming a new baby. Home-made dinners are delivered. Two parish coordinators keep a list of volunteers who are called as needed. If you are in need of this delicious community support, please contact Sarah Breck at 610-975-0444 or sarahbreck@verizon.net.

ST. FRANCIS INN

Volunteers are needed to serve the midday meal at St. Francis Inn in Kensington on Sunday, March 19th. The Inn tries to meet the immediate daily needs of the poor and homeless people they serve with food, clothing and hospitality. This ministry is open to anyone 16 years or older. For more information and to sign up, contact our parish coordinator, Sheila Holst at 610-659-5828 or hagan1126@verizon.net.

MOTHER AND NEW FAMILY SUPPORT MINISTRY

Parishioner and nurse practitioner volunteer offers support to new moms and their families who are navigating the complexities of motherhood and the addition of a new baby to the family. Contact Suzanne Foley at 610-952-0147 or suzannefoley@yahoo.com or Renee Massaua at service@stvparish.org.



The Volunteer English Program in Chester County will sponsor a 3-session training workshop for those who wish to tutor English as a second language to an adult immigrant or refugee. The workshop will be held via Zoom on March 21st (Tuesday), March 23rd (Thursday), and March 27th (Monday), 2023. Each session will run from 6:00pm to 8:00pm.

For more information about this exciting and rewarding volunteer opportunity or to register for the workshop, contact (610) 918-8222 or visit the website at www.volunteerenglish.org. A one-year commitment of approximately 3 hours a week is requested.

PARISH ANNIVERSARY

In August, our parish will celebrate its 175th anniversary. On our website you can read an in-depth description of our history. The official parish registry opened with the first Baptism on August 15, 1848, establishing the parish of St. Thomas of Villanova. The church building at Villanova was completed in 1887, and renovated in 1943. In 1900 the Rosemont Chapel was built for the convenience of the parishioners and the clergy who ministered to them, and in 1908 the Augustinians opened a school for children of the parish in Rosemont. The present Rosemont Chapel was completed in 1956 and renovated in 2000. In 1992 the Villanova church underwent a major renovation, and in 2020 was repainted. In 2022 the Rosemont Chapel was also repainted with some minor renovations.

Preparations are underway to celebrate this milestone. Suggestions and ideas for doing so are welcomed if you'd like to submit them to the parish office via email or letter.



Join us for a Brown Bag Lunch

**MONDAY, March 27th -
12:45pm in Harten Hall**
(auditorium underneath
the STV Rosemont Chapel)



TITLE: CHRISTIAN ART AT THE PHILADELPHIA ART MUSEUM

PRESENTER: Dr. John Immerwahr — a Docent at the Art Museum.
John is a retired Villanova Professor and a member of the parish.

In a PowerPoint presentation we will explore some of the most important Examples of Christian Art at the Museum, with an emphasis on art Relating to Easter.

Bring your lunch. Drinks and dessert are provided.
Please join us. All are welcome.



Thank you to everyone who participated in the Souper Bowl of Caring! Special thanks to our students who were shoppers! It was great to see all the items coming in that will be delivered to the food pantry at St. Cyprian's.



This is a picture of our RCIA candidate, Jeremy Belington, with Archbishop Perez on Sunday, February 26, 2023 at the Celebration of the Rite of Continuing Conversion at the Cathedral.



**STV Children's Choir
Sunday Mass - 9:00am**

STV Children's Choir is for any child
in the Parish in Grades 1st - 7th!!

STV Sunday Rehearsals are held with Mrs. Twohig
after Prep Class from 11:30-12:00pm in the Rosemont
Chapel.

STV Wednesday Rehearsals are held with Mrs.
Twohig before Prep Class from 4:15-4:45pm in the
Rosemont Chapel.

The Choir will be singing at the 9:00am Sunday
Mass on: March 12th
April 30th

If you would like to participate, contact Steph
Twohig at music-youth@stvparish.org.

WELCOME VISITORS

Thank you for worshipping with us today. If you are
visiting our beautiful church or chapel, please know
you are most welcome! If you have questions or
are interested in joining our parish community,
please call the parish office at
610-525-4801 or register on our website at
www.stvparish.net.



The STV Parish Community striving for integrity and accountability in Church.

As relevant news and background items come to light, we will highlight them here for your reading and thought.

What is Synodality--a New Online Course Explores its History, Theology and Practice

<https://www.ncronline.org/opinion/ncr-voices/what-synodality-new-online-course-explores-its-history-theology-and-practice>

Does Synodality Dilute the Apostolic Tradition

<https://international.la-croix.com/news/religion/does-synodality-dilute-the-apostolic-tradition/17325>

The Continental Assemblies of the Synod and the Emergence of Global Catholicism

Even Bigger Than a Church Battle Between Progressives and Conservatives

<https://international.la-croix.com/news/signs-of-the-times/even-bigger-than-a-church-battle-between-progressives-and-conservatives/17354>

Note: If you access these items from the parish website, the hotlinks can save a lot of error-prone typing.

Go Forth

Deepen Your Discipleship - Grow in Mission



Join Archbishop Perez in his mission to create a culture of missionary disciples in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia! Subscribe to receive a weekly text from the Archbishop with one action step you can take that week to deepen your friendship with Jesus or grow in your mission to bring Jesus to others. Texts will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 22, 2023.

To subscribe: Text *goforth* to the number 84576 or visit phillydisciples.org/goforth

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES

For Ukrainians, the last year has brought unimaginable heartbreak. But it's also been a testament to resilience, strength, partnership and love. CRS has contributed to Caritas partners reaching at least 1.4 million people in Ukraine and across the region. We thank you for your support!

In one year, CRS and its partners have provided 1,134,268 people with food, 100,648 people with mental health services, 100,059 people with homes, and 84,088 people with educational services. Visit www.crs.org to see how you can help!

If you would like to get involved with CRS at the parish level, please email service@stvparish.org to find out more about our parish CRS chapter, a joint effort with our sister parish, St. Cyprian.

St. Thomas of Villanova is hosting a
FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP
every Wednesday Evening at 7:00pm
in Harten Hall (Rosemont Auditorium).

Family Groups are designed to meet the needs of those with loved ones who are currently in treatment, are using alcohol and/or drugs in a problematic manner or are in recovery.

Our mission is to help ourselves and in turn help others whose loved ones are struggling with addiction.

The purpose of these groups is to provide family members a confidential, safe place to find support, education, encouragement and hope on their own path to Recovery for Life.

Those 18 years and older are welcome.



2023 RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE **Monday, May 22, 2023** **2:00pm to 7:00pm** **at St. Thomas of Villanova Parish** **Harten Hall (Rosemont Auditorium)**

Please call 1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org and Enter: StThomasRosemont to schedule an appointment.

While the need for blood and platelet donations is constant, a severe cold and flu season can result in fewer donations if many become sick and need to postpone a blood donation until they are well. According to health officials, both influenza and COVID-19 cases are expected to surge simultaneously this winter. With an increase in flu cases already being seen in some communities, it's particularly important that those who are in good health share their good health by giving blood.

There is no substitute for blood. **Donors provide the only supply of life-saving blood for those in need.** Donating is simple, fast, and convenient. The donation process can take as little as 45 minutes of your time, but can make a lifelong difference for someone else. Please sign up today.

Give the gift of life. Sign up to be a blood donor today!

**For questions about eligibility:
call 1 800-RED-CROSS**

Readings for the Week:

Monday:	Dn 9:4b-10; Lk 6:36-38
Tuesday:	Is 1:10, 16-20; Mt 23:1-12
Wednesday:	Jer 18:18-20; Mt 20:17-28
Thursday:	Jer 17:5-10; Lk 16:19-31
Friday:	Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Mt 21:33-34, 45-46
Saturday:	Mt 7:14-15, 18-20; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
Sunday:	Ex 17:3-7; Rom 5:1-2, 5:8; Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42



Join the
Pro-Life Union
at the First Annual



LIFE ADVOCATE RESOURCE CONFERENCE

Saturday, April 1, 2023

10:00 am - 1:00 pm

St Matthew Church Hall

219 Fayette St, Conshohocken, PA 19428

We will focus on:

- **how to become a more effective advocate for the unborn and for abortion vulnerable women**
- **how to make your church Right to Life group more effective**
- **how to start a church based Pro-Life group if you don't have one**
- **how to motivate other pro-life minded people to get involved**

**OVER 15 OF OUR MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS WILL BE ATTENDING
LEARN OF THEIR SPECIAL PRO-LIFE MISSIONS AND HOW THEY CAN HELP ADVANCE
THE PRO-LIFE MESSAGE IN YOUR CHURCH AND COMMUNITY**

Who should attend ?

Church pro-life groups

Everyone interested
in becoming more involved with
the pro-life movement

This is a free event but
registration is required

Register by emailing
pcorbett@prolifeunion.org
or calling
215-885-8150

Lunch will be provided