

John La Farge, *Visit of Nicodemus to Christ*, 1880,
Smithsonian American Art Museum

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

11 a.m. Solemn High Mass
March 1, 2026
Church of the Ascension

Parish Schedule

Sun	Mar 1	The Second Sunday in Lent
	9 a.m.	Sung Mass
	10:15 a.m.	Confession available
	11 a.m.	Solemn High Mass
	12:45 p.m.	Lenten Faith Formation in the Library: Into the Desert: Monastic Wisdom for Our Lives
		March 1 - The Rule of Saint Benedict
		Fr. Christopher Poore, Assisting Priest and Ph.D. Student in Theology at The University of Chicago Divinity School
	3:30 p.m.	Organ Recital
	4 p.m.	Choral Evensong & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
Fri	Mar 6	Friday after The Second Sunday in Lent
	12 p.m.	Low Mass
	6 p.m.	Stations of the Cross & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
Sun	Mar 8	The Third Sunday in Lent
	9 a.m.	Sung Mass
	10:15 a.m.	Confession available
	11 a.m.	Solemn High Mass
	12:45 p.m.	Lenten Faith Formation in the Library: Into the Desert: Monastic Wisdom for Our Lives
		March 8 - One Monk's Journey: Monasticism for Our Times
		Br. Ephrem Arcement, OHC, Guestmaster at Holy Cross Monastery, West Park, NY
Fri	Mar 13	Friday after The Third Sunday in Lent
	12 p.m.	Low Mass
	6 p.m.	Stations of the Cross & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

Schedule of Weekday Masses

Monday and Friday: 12 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday: 8 a.m.; Wednesday: 6:30 p.m.

- Please join us for Coffee Hour in Wheeler Hall after the Mass.
- If you are a visitor, please consider completing one of the blue visitor cards in the pews.

Organ Voluntaries are omitted on this Sunday in Lent.

THE ENTRANCE RITE

Please stand as you are able as the Ministers enter. The Altar, Ministers and People are aspersed, sprinkled with holy water. During the Introit, the Altar is censed.

Opening Hymn 401

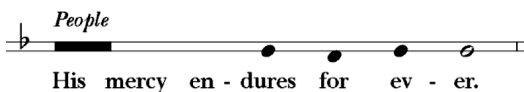
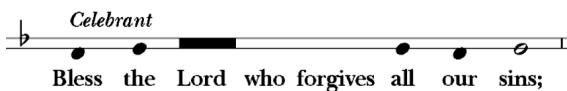
LEONI

Introit "Reminiscere" (Ps. 25) Mode IV

Reminiscere miserationum tuarum, Domine, et misericordiae tuae, quae a saeculo sunt: ne unquam dominantur nobis inimici nostri: libera nos Deus Israel ex omnibus angustiis nostris. Ps. Ad te Domine levavi animam meam: Deus meus in te confido, non erubescam. V. Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto. Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in saecula saeculorum. Amen. Reminiscere ...

Call to remembrance, O Lord, thy tender mercies, and thy loving-kindnesses, which have been ever of old: O let not our enemies triumph over us: deliver us, O God of Israel, out of all of our troubles. Ps. Unto thee, O Lord, will I lift up my soul: O my God, I have put my trust in thee, O let me not be confounded. V. Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: world without end. Amen. Call to remembrance ...

The Opening Acclamation



Celebrant Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these." *Mark 12:29-31*

The Deacon then says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

The People kneel as able.

Minister and People

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

The Priest says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

Kyrie eleison

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Setting: Antonio Lotti (1667-1740) *Missa brevis in D minor*

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The People are seated.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The First Lesson

Genesis 12:1-8

The Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother's son Lot, and all the possessions that they had gathered, and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran; and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. Then the Lord appeared to Abram, and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him. From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; and there he built an altar to the Lord and invoked the name of the Lord.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual "Sciant gentes" Mode I

Sciant gentes quoniam nomen tibi Deus: tu solus Altissimus super omnem terram.

Let the Gentiles know that God is Your Name. You alone are the Most High over all the earth.

The Epistle

Romans 4:1-17

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. So also David speaks of the blessedness of those to whom God reckons righteousness apart from works: "Blessed are those whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are

covered; blessed is the one against whom the Lord will not reckon sin.” Is this blessedness, then, pronounced only on the circumcised, or also on the uncircumcised? We say, “Faith was reckoned to Abraham as righteousness.” How then was it reckoned to him? Was it before or after he had been circumcised? It was not after, but before he was circumcised. He received the sign of circumcision as a seal of the righteousness that he had by faith while he was still uncircumcised. The purpose was to make him the ancestor of all who believe without being circumcised and who thus have righteousness reckoned to them, and likewise the ancestor of the circumcised who are not only circumcised but who also follow the example of the faith that our ancestor Abraham had before he was circumcised. For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”) – in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

As the Gospel procession moves into the pews, the People stand.

Tract “Commovisti Domine” (Ps. 59) Mode VIII

Commovisti Domine terram, et conturbasti eam. V. Sana contritiones eius, quia mota est. V. Ut fugiant a facie arcus, ut liberentur electi tui.

You have made the land quake, O Lord, you have shaken it. V. Repair its breaches, for it trembles. V. That they may flee from before the bow, that your chosen may be saved.

The Holy Gospel

John 3:1-17

Deacon The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Deacon The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory be to you, Lord Christ.**

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The People are seated.

The Sermon

The Rev. Peter Lane

The People stand as able.

The Nicene Creed



We be - lieve in one God, the Fa - ther, the Al - might - y, ma - ker of
hea - ven and earth, of all that is, seen and un - seen. We be - lieve
in one Lord, Je - sus Christ, the on - ly Son of God, e - ter - nal - ly
be - got - ten of the Fa - ther, God from God, Light from Light, true God
from true God, be - got - ten, not made, of one Be - ing with the Fa - ther.
Through him all things were made. For us and for our sal - va - tion
he came down from hea - ven: by the pow - er of the Ho - ly Spi - rit
he be - came in - car - nate from the Vir - gin Ma - ry, and was made man.
For our sake he was cru - ci - fied un - der Pon - tius Pi - late;
he suf - fered death and was bur - ied. On the third day he rose a - gain
in ac - cord - ance with the Scrip - tures; he a - scend - ed in - to hea - ven
and is seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther. He will come a -

gain in glo - ry to judge the liv - ing and the dead, and his king-dom
will have no end. We be-lieve in the Ho - ly Spi - rit, the Lord,
the giv - er of life, who pro - ceeds from the Fa - ther and the Son.
With the Fa - ther and the Son he is wor-shiped and glo - ri - fied.
He has spo - ken through the Pro - phets. We be-lieve in one ho - ly
cath - o - lic and a - po - sto - lic Church. We ac - know - ledge one bap - tism
for the for - give - ness of sins. We look for the re - sur - rec - tion of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. A - men.

The Prayers of the People

Form I BCP p. 383

Deacon or other leader

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, have mercy.”

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our Bishop, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this city, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the blessings of this life, and for those whose lives are closely linked with ours, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

In the communion of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Saint Anne, Saint Michael the Archangel, and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

To thee, O Lord our God.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

The Peace

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Then the Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY

Offertory “Meditabor” (Ps. 119) Mode II

Meditabor in mandatis tuis, quae dilexi valde: et levabo manus meas ad mandata tua, quae dilexi.

My delight shall be in thy commandments, which I have loved exceedingly: my hands also will I lift up unto thy commandments, which I have loved.

Offertory Motet

Also hat Gott die Welt geliebt, daß er seinen eingebornen Sohn gab, auf daß alle, die an ihn glauben, nicht verloren werden, sondern das ewige Leben haben.
(Lutherbibel, 1545)

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. (KJV)

Setting: Heinrich Schütz (1585-1672) *Also hat Gott die Welt geliebt*
John 3:16

Offertory Hymn 472

DONNE SECOURS

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer A (BCP p. 361)

Orate Fratres

Celebrant Pray, beloved, that this my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God the Father Almighty.

People **May the Lord receive this sacrifice at your hands, to the praise and glory of his Name, both to our benefit and that of all his holy Church.**

Celebrant Amen.

Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed
 be thy Name, thy king - dom come, thy will be done,
 on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our
 dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pas - ses,
 as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us. And lead
 us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us
 from e - vil. For thine is the king - dom, and the power,
 and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant

Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

People

There - fore let us keep the feast.

Invitation to Communion

Celebrant Behold the Lamb of God; behold him that takes away the sins of the world. Happy are they who are called to his supper.

Lord, I am not worthy that you should come under my roof.

People **But speak the word only, and my soul shall be healed.**

† *All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion.*

Those who are not baptized or who do not wish to receive may come forward and indicate a desire for a blessing by crossing arms on the chest upon approaching the priest. If you prefer not to receive the Chalice, please cross your arms on your chest and remain until the minister has said the words of reception, "The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation."

If you require a gluten-free host, put your right hand over your heart.

† *Please alert an usher if you need the Sacrament brought to you in the pew.*

Agnus Dei

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: dona nobis pacem.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world: have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world: have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world: grant us thy peace.

Setting: Antonio Lotti (1667-1740) *Missa brevis in D minor*

THE COMMUNION

Communion "Intellige clamorem" (Ps. 5) Mode V

Intellige clamorem meum: intende voci orationis meae, Rex meus, et Deus meus: quoniam ad te orabo, Domine. V. Gloria Patri.

Consider my meditation: hearken thou unto the voice of my calling, my King, and my God: for unto thee will I make my prayer, O Lord. V. Glory be.

Communion Motet

Tantum ergo sacramentum veneremur cernui, et antiquum documentum novo cedat ritui; praestet fides supplementum sensuum defectui.

Therefore so great a Sacrament Let us fall down and worship, And let the old law Give way to a new rite, And let faith stand forward To make good the defects of sense.

Genitori Genitoque laus et iubilatio, salus, honor, virtus quoque sit et benedictio; procedenti ab utroque compar sit laudatio. Amen.

To the Father and the Son Be praise and joy, Health, honour and virtue And blessing, And to him proceeding from both Be equal praise. Amen.

Setting: Thurlow Weed (b. 1966) *Tantum ergo* (2008)

Communion Hymn 337

UNDE ET MEMORES

The People kneel as able. The Celebrant says Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

**Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Solemn Prayer over the People

Deacon Bow down before the Lord.

Celebrant Keep this your family, Lord, with your never-failing mercy, that relying solely on the help of your heavenly grace, they may be upheld by your divine protection; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

LENT AT ASCENSION

Stations of the Cross & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament on the Fridays of Lent at 6 p.m.

March 6, 13, 20, 27

*Following Stations & Benediction a vegetarian soup and bread supper
will be offered in Wheeler Hall.*

Lenten Faith Formation Into the Desert: Monastic Wisdom for Our Lives March 1, 8 & 15 at 12:45 p.m.

During Lent, the Church follows Jesus Christ into his forty-day fast in the desert, but the Church's monastics simply take up permanent residence in this desert, dedicating their lives to prayer, penance, and the study of Scripture. This Lent, we will explore the contours of the monastic vocation, asking how the wisdom gained from the desert can enrich our lives in the modern world. A hearty lunch will be provided.

March 1 - The Rule of Saint Benedict

Fr. Christopher Poore, Assisting Priest and Ph.D. Student in Theology at The University of Chicago Divinity School

March 8 - One Monk's Journey: Monasticism for Our Times

Br. Ephrem Arcement, OHC, Guestmaster at Holy Cross Monastery, West Park, NY
Guest Preacher at 9 a.m. Sung Mass & 11 a.m. Solemn High Mass

March 15 - Revival of Anglican Monastic Orders and their Companions

Fr. Robert Petite, Assisting Priest and Oblate of the Society of St. John the Evangelist
(Fellowship of St. John)

Ascension Prayer List

For our prayers: Eoin O'Donoghue, Betty Smith, Pat Carmichael, William Van'tKruis, Gwen Hubbard, Shannon Ayala, Jose Vargas, Mary Callahan, Lynette Ngumi, Leslie Sterk, Marcela Simpson, Christina Kimmel, Daynen Heldt, Nate Cole, Ed Blatz, Marlea Edinger, Elizabeth McLaughlin, MB Hwang, Juanita Malone, Claire Green, Brenda Martins

Birthdays: Rowan Giles Hedley, 3/2; MB Hwang 3/3; Benjamin Rivera, 3/5; Dan O'Connell, 3/6

Requiescat in pace: Emily Hopkins, 2/23/2026; Edward Carson Kast, 2/7/2026

Thank you to those who serve The Rev. Carlos de la Torre, *Celebrant*; The Rev. Christopher Poore, *Deacon*; The Rev. Peter Lane, *Preacher*; Marlea Edinger, *Lector*; Eric Canales, *Technology*

Choir of the Ascension

Soprano Carlyne DalMonte, Nini Marchese, Alexia Rivera

Alto Miya Higashiyama, Amy Johnson, Cassidy Smith

Tenor Damon Cole, Michael St. Peter, Steven Wilson

Bass Matthew Brennan, Peter Olson, Ian Prichard

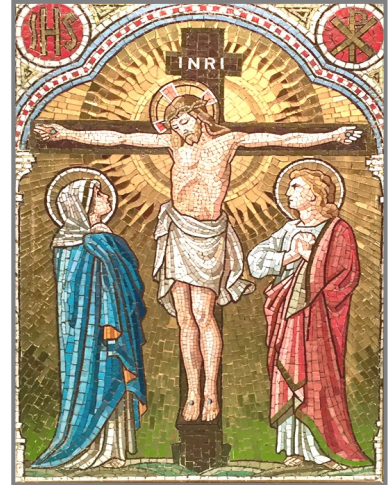
MUSIC ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Nicene Creed (S 104) Plainsong Mode 4; Credo 1; adapt. Mason Martins © 1985;; **The Lord's Prayer** (S119); Plainsong; adapt. C. Winfred Douglas (1867-1944) © 1985, Church Publishing, Inc.; **Sursum Corda** (S120); **Memorial Acclamation A** (S133); **Christ our Passover** (S153); **Dismissal** (S174) © 1985 Church Publishing Inc.

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WELCOME TO THE
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The mosaic on the door of the Altar tabernacle, Church of the Ascension

THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION is a parish in the Episcopal Church, a province of the Anglican Communion within the Catholic Church. Our Christian life and worship is rooted in the Anglo-Catholic tradition. As an Anglo-Catholic parish we praise, worship, and adore our Lord Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament, rejoice in the Communion of Saints, and relish in the beauty of liturgy and music. Thank you and bless you for being with us this day.

CLERGY & STAFF

The Rt. Rev. Paula Clark, *Bishop of Chicago*

The Rev. Carlos de la Torre, *Rector*
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