

Dear Padre,

What is the rationale for believing in God?

While Scripture tells us in story form how God created heaven, earth, and humanity, science tells how he has really done so: from a Big Bang of unharnessed energy; to the formation of Earth and the universe; to the evolution of life; and finally, to us! Creation's unfolding is like a magnificent symphony formed from nothing by a powerful, omniscient composer. This "musical score" of evolution rises and falls, inexorably leading to its culmination—intelligent beings who can ponder the beauty and awe of God's creation.

The odds are totally against an accumulation of "lucky breaks" that make creation possible: our Earth being in a narrow habitable zone, neither too near nor too far from the sun; the appearance of oxygenating plants, allowing us to breathe; a dinosaur-destroying asteroid collision permitting mammals—and eventually us—to evolve. How could all of that be accidental?

Indeed, multitudes have dedicated their lives to God's existence. For more than two millennia, our Church has taught about a loving God in the person of Jesus Christ. Not only do we learn Jesus' teachings regarding God's compassion, forgiveness, and the promises of eternal life, but we see that compassion and forgiveness at work in today's ministry.

A loving relationship with anyone is impossible without trust and faith. So it is with God. We must entrust ourselves to him, opening ourselves to knowing and loving him. For this reason, belief in God is always a grace, a gift freely given from God, which we ask for ourselves.

Fr. Gary Lauenstein, CSSR / Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

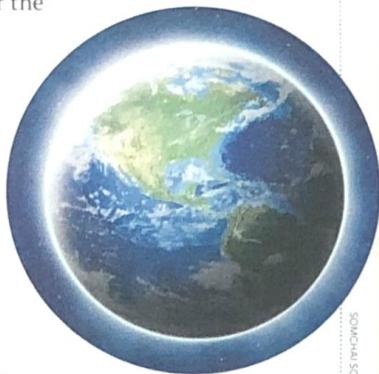
Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

A WORD FROM Pope Francis

Belief in God and the worship of God are not enough to ensure that we are actually living in a way pleasing to God. A believer may be untrue to everything that his faith demands of him, and yet think he is close to God and better than others.

ON FRATERNITY AND SOCIAL FRIENDSHIP
(FRATELLI TUTTI), OCTOBER 3, 2020



SOMCHAI SORN / SHUTTERSTOCK

Calendar

Monday
MARCH 14
Lenten Weekday
Dn 9:4b–10
Lk 6:36–38

Tuesday
MARCH 15
Lenten Weekday
Is 1:10, 16–20
Mt 23:1–12

Wednesday
MARCH 16
Lenten Weekday
Jer 18:18–20
Mt 20:17–28

Thursday
MARCH 17
Lenten Weekday
Jer 17:5–10
Lk 16:19–31

Friday
MARCH 18
Lenten Weekday
Gn 37:3–4, 12–13a,
17b–28a
Mt 21:33–43, 45–46

Saturday
MARCH 19
St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary
2 Sm 7:4–5a, 12–14a, 16
Rom 4:13, 16–18, 22
Mt 1:16, 18–21, 24a or
Lk 2:41–51a

Sunday
MARCH 20
Third Sunday of Lent
Ex 3:1–8a, 13–15
1 Cor 10:1–6, 10–12
Lk 13:1–9

Know Someone Overly Anxious About Sin?
Since 1964, the Redemptorists' *Scrupulous Anonymous* free monthly newsletter has ministered compassionately to those struggling with scrupulosity. To subscribe, visit ScrupulousAnonymous.org.



Our Parish COMMUNITY

March 13, 2022

Second Sunday of Lent (C)

Gn 15:5–12, 17–18

Phil 3:17–4:1 or Phil 3:20–4:1

Lk 9:28b–36

Who Was This Man?

Peter, John, and James must have asked this question themselves. This Jesus was certainly not the man they had come to know. Here he was radiant, and his clothing was dazzling. Furthermore, he was in deep conversation with two of the greatest heroes of the religious tradition: Moses, the agent of the law, and Elijah the prophet. And then there was that voice that identified Jesus as "my chosen Son" and commanded them to "listen to him" (Luke 9:35). What were they to think? What would anyone think? Who was this man?

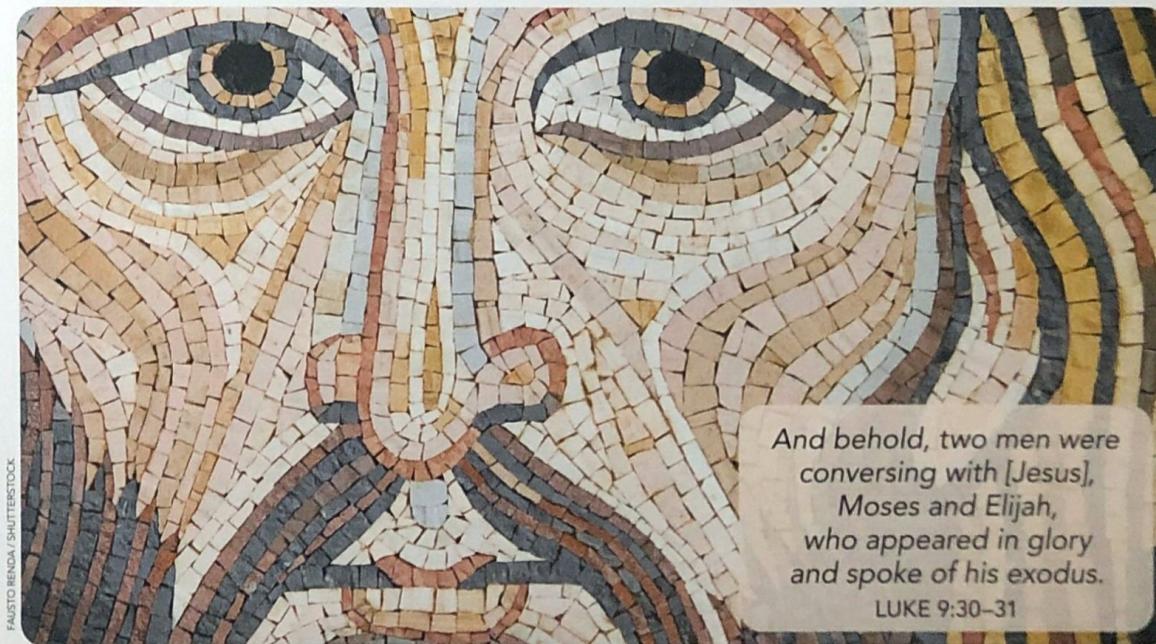
Jesus' own experience was quite different. While he prayed, he was transfigured, and in that transformed state he engaged Moses and Elijah in conversation. They discussed his future death in Jerusalem, his exodus, his deliverance. It is important to note that they maintain that his exodus was to be his own accomplishment—not a deed done to him. Who was this man?

It was the mysterious voice from the cloud that provided an answer to that question: "This is my chosen Son." But what did "my Son" mean? Unlike we who profess faith in the Trinity, it's likely the disciples still had to learn what being God's Son was all about. However, they must have realized that it meant something about Jesus' relationship with God. Every aspect of this mystifying experience told them so. When they came to their senses, the light had disappeared, the ancient men were gone, the voice was silent. And there he was again, the man they had come to know. But who was this man?

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

- ★ Give praise and glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
- ★ What does Jesus mean in your life?



FAUSTO BENDA / SHUTTERSTOCK

And behold, two men were conversing with [Jesus], Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of his exodus.

LUKE 9:30–31



Rectory & Parish Office
 600 Soderberg St. Lakin, KS 67860
 Mailing Address: PO Box 983
 Fr. Peter Tran, Pastor—355-6405
 Tuesday—Friday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
 Email: saintanthonylakin@gmail.com
 Website: saintanthonylakin.org

Karen Burden, Rel.Edu. Committee 355-6388
 Lisa Gannett, DRE 355-6611
 RCIA 355-6405
 Gwen Waechter, Parish Council Chair 272-1030
 Tressa Powers, Finance Council Chair 355-6206
 Altar Society President, Nanette Rice 355-7676
 Tom Bachman, Grand Knight 640-8259
 Prayer Line Starters, Allison Bushek 355-1696
 & Nanette Rice 355-7676

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, Mar. 12 4:00 p.m. Bob Rooney
Sunday, Mar. 13 9:00 a.m. Alan Hein
Monday, Mar. 14 8:00 a.m. Harold Smith
Tuesday, Mar. 15 8:00 a.m. Charles & Eileen Hoff
Thursday, Mar. 17 8:00 a.m. For the People
Friday, Mar. 18 8:00 a.m. Special Int.-Power
Saturday, Mar. 19 4: 00 p.m. For the People
Sunday, Mar. 20 9:00 a.m. For rain

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (color: Violet)

3/12/2022 - Saturday, 4: 00 p.m.

Servers: Maggie Gannett, Jonathan Gannett, Nathan Gannett

Reader: Tom Bachman

3/13/2022 –Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

Servers: Kirbe Koons, Taybree Lohman-Fuller, Joleigh Lohman-Fuller

Reader: Mike Broeckelman

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (color: Violet)

3/26/2022 - Saturday, 4: 00 p.m.

Servers: Maggie Gannett, Jonathan Gannett, Nathan Gannett

Reader: Gwen Waechter

3/27/2022–Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

Servers: Cade Berning, Jace Berning, Luke Woodrow

Reader: Alvin Bergkamp

Reconciliation: Confessions will be heard every Saturday at 3:00 p.m. and every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. or by appointment.

Baptism: Parents who have children to be baptized must be registered. Godparents must be 16 years of age or older and have received Confirmation and Eucharist. Please call the parish office for an appointment.

Marriage: Please contact parish priest at least four to six months before the wedding.

Anointing of the Sick: Celebrated anytime by calling a priest.

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT – MARCH 13, 2022



Friends, this Second Sunday of Lent, we have the Gospel account of Jesus transfigured – to show His true identity of Peter, James and John. In a certain sense, Jesus sees the “transfigured” you and the “transfigured” me --- sees the deeper reality. And while the “real” you and me are not the same as the real Lord Jesus, the real you and me are so much more than what we often reveal to the world, reveal to others, or at times even reveal to ourselves.

And that means, that what Jesus did for Peter, John, and James, he wants US to do for others. He wants us to peel back the layers, remove the stuff that’s in the way, unleash the authentic person he knows each of us can be. Put simply, he wants the person He sees to be the person others see as well.

My friends, believing that we can be so much more than we are today --- takes faith. Believing that underneath our faults and failings and pettiness and sin is a person capable of great love and compassion and mercy --- takes faith. Believing that the person we see is not the person God sees --- takes faith. And believing that the real you and the real me don’t need to remain hidden --- takes faith.

God wants us to be transfigured, wants us to live up to our dignity and calling, wants us to be a shining light on a hill -- radiating love and kindness and every good thing into every corner of the world.

That’s who we are. That’s how God made us. That’s the deeper reality.

May this Lenten season help us discover that truth.
 Fr. Peter

COLLECTION for March 6th, 2022: Envelopes: \$920; Loose: \$538; Online Giving: \$1467.67; Total \$2925.67; Average Weekly Expense: \$1,761.17. Income over/under +1164.50

CHURCH PROJECT GOAL: \$52000—Last weekend contribution: \$698.26; Building Fund To Date: \$6929.26

Thank you so much for your love for our parish church and your faithful stewards.

CCD LENT CONFESSIONS THIS YEAR March 23rd at 6:30 p.m.—3rd and 4th grade; March 30th at 6:30 p.m.—5th and 6th grade.

BUDGET SHOP We will be working at the Budget Shop on Saturday, Tuesday, March 15. Any help will be greatly appreciated. And “Thank You” ahead of time.

CRS RICE BOWL Please pick up your Rice Bowl at the church vestibule and make it part of your Lenten Practice of Almsgiving



LENT FASTING AND MEAT ABSTINENCE Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence. For members of the Latin Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards. **STATIONS OF THE CROSS** Praying the “Stations of the Cross” is one of the most popular devotions for Roman Catholic and is often performed in a spirit of reparation for the sufferings and insults that Jesus endured during His Passion. The object of the Stations is to help us make a spiritual pilgrimage of prayer, through meditating upon the chief scenes of Christ's sufferings and death. We hold Stations of the Cross led by Knights of Columbus every Wednesday night at 6:00 p.m. during Lent. We hope you will join us for this prayerful devotion. A plenary indulgence may be gained by praying the Stations of the Cross.

VALUE THEM BOTH The statewide campaign to pass the Value Them Both amendment for life is heating up. The abortion industry is raising money and getting their message out through a sympathetic secular news media. Our most effective efforts are at the grassroots level - that's you! PLEASE CONSIDER VOTING "YES" ON AUGUST 2ND Prayer to Our Lady of Guadalupe Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Unborn, we implore your powerful intercession at this most critical time. Now that the Kansas Supreme Court has removed lifesaving protections for the unborn and mothers in crisis, we humbly ask that you strengthen our efforts to secure an amendment to reverse this decision. and defend the sanctity of life in our state.

VOCATION VIEW “This is my beloved Son, hear him.” Is our Lord asking you to follow him in tending His flock as a priest, deacon, sister or brother?

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT Peter, James and John wanted to build a “booth” for Jesus and just stay on the mountain where His transfiguration took place. But the Son of God, the Chosen One, knew that He must instead keep moving toward His Crucifixion. We, too, must rise from worship and do what we can to hasten the coming of the Kingdom.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK (Collect for the Second Sunday of Lent) Father of light, in you is found no shadow of change but only the fullness of life and limitless truth. Open our hearts to the voice of your Word and free us from the darkness that shadows our vision. Restore our sight that we may look upon your Son, who calls us to repentance and a change of heart, for he lives and reigns with you forever and ever. Amen .

UNDERSTANDING THE GOSPEL OF THE WEEK - (Luke 9:28b-36)

While he was praying Luke emphasizes the importance of prayer. In his Gospel the Holy Spirit descends upon Jesus after his baptism, while Jesus is praying. Here Jesus is praying on a mountain. In the Old Testament dramatic encounters with God often took place on mountains. Mountains were close to the heavens, the realm of God.

Moses & Elijah Two of the most revered figures in Jewish tradition appear with Jesus. Their stories interconnect. • Moses led people out of slavery and into a new relationship with God • Moses went up a mountain to receive God's law, and a cloud descended upon it • Elijah glimpsed God while on a mountain • Elijah didn't die, but was taken up to heaven; people believed he would return to warn people of God's coming Moses and Elijah represent God's law and the prophets. In the presence of Jesus, however, even these important people fade away. Jesus is the final law-giver and the greatest of God's prophets. Waking up After his baptism God called Jesus his beloved Son. Now God declares that Jesus is his chosen Son. Although Peter calls Jesus the Messiah of God (9:20), a title that implies God has chosen Jesus for a special mission, Peter and the others struggle to understand that mission (9:44-45, 18:31-34). God tries to awaken the disciples to who Jesus is and what true discipleship requires. God thus tells them to pay closer attention to what Jesus says about suffering and discipleship (9:22-23, 46-48).

Jesus' exodus Jesus talks with Moses and Elijah about his exodus or departure. This refers both to his death and the new life his death brings. Such glorious new life can't be separated from Jesus' passion and death. Peter and the other disciples can't stay on the mountain. Jesus has begun to warn his disciples that he will suffer and be killed. True disciples of Jesus will also walk difficult paths. New life will come, but only if Jesus' disciples listen to him and follow where he leads. (www.oursundayreadings)

UNDERSTANDING THE FIRST READING (Genesis 15:5-12,17-18)

Children and land The people of Abram's era didn't believe in an afterlife. The only way to “live” after death was to have children, who would remember and honor their parents and other ancestors. Children were so important that the inability to have them was often regarded as a curse. Every family also needed land to sustain themselves and any flocks or herds they had. The larger the family, the more land they needed. God promises Abram a region of land that is as vast as his descendants will be. This passage includes two versions of a story that were written down and woven together. There are differences in the original versions. In verses 5-6 Abram simply believes God. In verses 7-18 he asks God to help him believe.

Cutting a covenant At this time in the ancient near east, when two people or groups made a formal agreement, they followed a ritual like the one in this passage. If the ritual seems disturbing, note that there are vast differences between that era and our own. To make a covenant, people first cut the required animals in half. Then they placed the carcasses several feet apart in two parallel rows. Each person or leader next walked between the two rows. By this symbolic action they declared, “If I break our treaty, let it be done to me as was done to these animals.” In this passage God is represented by the smoke and fire. (www.oursundayreadings)

NOTES FROM OUR KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL

Greetings. The Lenten season is upon us. Ash Wednesday service filled the church, as usual. And the large turnout aided a big turnout for our monthly meeting. I'm trying to remember when we had 20 members at a meeting. A portion of this number was 2 of the 3 new members, who were initiated into our ranks on Sunday morning.

The new member initiation was held after Mass Sunday morning. This is the first time I had witnessed the new iteration of the member initiation for the Knights. Although it is a very good ceremony, I still yearn for the "Good ole days" of the old version. One feature I DO like about the new version is the incorporation of, not just allowing, but embracing and encouraging the family members to attend and experience the initiation. I feel that this creates a 'buy-in' of all the family into what the Knights stand for, do and expect of new members. Welcome to our new members, James Pettz, Julio Esquivel and Andrew Powers.

The "Value Them Both" initiative is gearing up. We will have yard signs available soon for those who would like to put them in their lawns....these will be available to any parish member. Just contact a Knight and we will make sure you get one. We have ordered 100 of them. For more information on what this amendment is all about you can visit <https://valuethemboth.com/>

If you have been in the church in the last couple of weeks you have seen the transformation taking place. Pews moved, choir position moved, a platform for the musicians/choir built, a TV in the entry in place of the old bulletin boards and a new Alter surround. All this in preparation for the new carpet. Don't get entirely comfortable with the changes as Father is still feeling out the arrangements and positions. All these changes are not free, we can use your help with donations to the building fund. The organ is still on a cart in the back of church awaiting movement up into the choir loft. A big thanks to all who have helped with all the work involved with these changes.

We are planning a "Church Work-Day" for later this Spring to clean-up, fix-up of things that need attention around the Church grounds/buildings. The Knights are not snobs....we'll accept any help in doing these chores, from whomever would like to help, just contact a Knight, or keep reading my monthly notes as to when these activities will occur.

As I opened this note, we are in the Lenten season. Something that goes along with Lent, is the Stations of the Cross. The Knights will be leading the Stations every Wednesday evening at 6:30 pm. Not sure if this is a time change from the past, but this is a time I felt was appropriate, so that IF some of our CCD teachers wanted, they could bring their classes over to participate in this Lenten activity. Of course, ALL parishioners and all others are welcome to attend and participate as well. It's always great to have a good turnout when we do the Stations.

I hope that everyone enjoyed the breakfast after Sunday Mass on the 27th. I think the biscuits and gravy went over well, at least we didn't have any left over... :-) Planning another breakfast in April. I hope you all attend.

I hope and pray that you and yours have a great Lenten season.

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

A heart –warming witness

If She was divorced—twice. Mary Clarke Brenner (1926-2013) lived in Beverly Hills: not an address associated with holy living. Yet this remarkable woman would go on to become the "Prison Angel," dedicating her life to criminals in a maximum-security jail. Mother Antonia, as she was later known, didn't just visit the incarcerated; she moved into the jail and lived among them for years. Others sought to imitate her generous spirit and formed the Eudist Servants of the Eleventh Hour—mindful that any of us might need saving in the end. "Warm the coldest heart," was her prayer. Pray for prison ministries. (Prepare the Word)

SEGUNDO DOMINGO DE CUARESMA

Un testimonio conmovedor

Se divorció dos veces. Mary Clarke Brenner (1926-2013) vivía en Beverly Hills: no es una dirección asociada con una vida santa. Sin embargo, esta extraordinaria mujer se convertiría en el "Ángel de la Prisión", dedicando su vida a los delincuentes de una cárcel de máxima seguridad. La Madre Antonia, como se la conoció más tarde, no se limitó a visitar a los presos, sino que se instaló en la cárcel y vivió entre ellos durante años. Otras quisieron imitar su espíritu generoso y formaron las Eudist Servants of the Eleventh Hour (Siervas Eudistas de la Undécima Hora), conscientes de que cualquiera de nosotros podría necesitar ser salvado al final. "Calentar el corazón más frío," era su oración. Reza por los ministerios de prisiones.