LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, August 6, 2017 – Solemnity – Transfiguration of the Lord

• 9:30 AM - Holy Mass
For St. Valentine's Parishioners

Monday, August 7, 2017 - Weekday

Tuesday, August 8, 2017 – Feast of St. James the Grater, Apostle

Wednesday, August 9, 2017 - Weekday

Thursday, August 10, 2017 - Weekday

Friday, August 11, 2017 - Weekday

Saturday, August 12, 2017 - Weekday

Sunday, August 13, 2017 – 19th Ordinary Sunday

• 9:30 AM - Holy Mass
For St. Valentine's Parishioners

FAITH SHARING

In the Transfiguration account in today's Gospel, Jesus is revealed as a glorious figure, superior to Moses and Elijah. The primary purpose of Jesus' Transfiguration was to allow Jesus to consult his Heavenly Father in order to



ascertain His plan for His Son's suffering. death and Resurrection. The secondary aim was to make his chosen disciples aware of Jesus' Divine glory, so that they might discard their worldly ambitions and dreams of a conquering political Messiah and might be strengthened in their time of trial. On the mountain, Jesus is identified by the Heavenly Voice as the Son of God. Thus, the Transfiguration narrative is a Christophany, that

is, a manifestation or revelation of Who Jesus really is. Describing Jesus' Transfiguration, the Gospel gives us a glimpse of the Heavenly glory awaiting those who do God's will by putting their trusting Faith in Him.

O LORD, OPEN HIS EYES SO HE MAY SEE

There is a mysterious story in 2 Kings that can help us understand what is happening in the Transfiguration. Israel is at war with Aram, and Elisha, the man of God, is using his prophetic powers to reveal the strategic plans of the Aramean army to the Israelites. At first the King of Aram thinks that one of his officers is playing the spy, but when he learns the truth he dispatches troops to go and capture Elisha who is residing in Dothan. The Aramean troops move in under cover of darkness and surround the city. In the morning Elisha's servant is the first to discover that they are surrounded and fears for his master's safety. He runs to Elisha and says, "Oh, my lord, what shall we do?" The prophet answers "Don't be afraid. Those who are with us are more than those who are with them." But who would believe that when the surrounding mountainside is covered with advancing enemy troops? So Elisha prays, "O Lord, open his eyes so he may see." Then the Lord opens the servant's eyes, and he looks and sees the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha (2 Kings 6:8-23). This vision was all that Elisha's disciple needed to reassure him. At the end of the story, not only was the prophet of God safe, but the invading army was totally humiliated.

DID YOU KNOW?

The word "transfigured" is a very interesting word. The Greek word is "metamorpho" and it means to transform, literally or figuratively to metamorphose, or to change. The word is a verb that means to change into another form. It also means to change the outside to match the inside. The prefix "meta" means to change and the "morphe" means form. In the case of the transfiguration of Jesus Christ it means to match the outside with the reality of the inside. To change the outward so that it matches the inward reality. Jesus' divine nature was "veiled" in human form and the transfiguration was a glimpse of that glory.

Western tradition celebrates the Transfiguration twice, first at the beginning of Lent with the Gospel account and second on August 6 with a full feast day liturgy.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Please mark your calendar to celebrate with us at St. Valentine's the Sacrament of Confirmation on Sunday, August 27, 2017, 9:30 AM.

Bishop of the Central Diocese, Rt. Rev. Bernard Nowicki will be the main



celebrant and preacher. Two of our young parishioners, confirmed in their faith, will receive the Seven Gifts of The Holy Spirit. Please keep them in your prayers.

PASTOR AWAY

Father Mariusz will be away for two weekends, August 13 and August 20. The other priests offered help and replacement. The Holy Mass will be celebrated as usually at 9:30 AM. Please keep Fr. Mariusz in your prayers.

MASS INTENTIONS AVAILABLE

If you wish to order a Holy Sacrifice of the Mass in our parish please call parish office (215-535-4978) or mail your request to:

2330 Margaret St, Philadelphia, PA 19137, or email it to stvalentinespncc@gmail.com

Holy Mass is not only reserved for repose of the soul but it can be offered for any person and any intention, for example your wedding anniversary, birthday, special blessing for your children or grandchildren, special blessing for your family etc.

MASS INTENTION REQUEST FORM Mass for
Date Requested Time
Requested by
Address
Phone Number Amount \$
Please mail this form and Mass stipend to: St. Valentine's PNCC, 2330 Margaret St, Philadelphia, PA 19137 or call parish office at (215) 535-4978.



ST. VALENTINE'S PARISH

Polish National Catholic Church

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Transfiguration of the Lord Przemienienie Pańskie

August 6, 2017