



When I sit down to answer emails or write a Gospel reflection or return a phone call, I sometimes wonder: Does any of this humdrum work matter? Maybe you ask the same thing about your daily labor. Today's Gospel, the Transfiguration, offers a surprising answer.

Jesus leads Peter, James, and John up a mountain. There, "His face shone like the sun and His clothes became white as light" (Matthew 17:2). That detail regarding His clothes is worth considering. We know Jesus' body is inseparably united to the divine nature. But His clothing? That's something made by human hands. It's an artifact. And yet it shines with the same uncreated light. What does this detail mean? The early Church noted that Adam and Eve's first act after the Fall was to make clothing. This clothing symbolizes all human labor that supports our dignity. In Jesus' glorified garments, we see not just the redemption of our body, but of human effort to protect and uplift human dignity. Parents, your family is your work. Baristas, plumbers, nurses, accountants—your labor, your emails, your phone calls, your spreadsheets— can all become radiant when offered to God in love. The question isn't just do I believe in Jesus' glory, but do I believe He can share it with the work of my hands?

Lenten Challenge: Identify the "artifact" your are making to uplift the dignity of others: your job, your home, your relationships. Consciously bring it to the Lord this Sunday at Mass. Offer it to share in His glory. It will begin to shine. —Father John Muir

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR MARCH 7 & 8, 2026
Sat. Mar. 7 @ 4:30PM @ St. Nicholas

Reader: Brenda Tebbe
 Music: Sally Rehberger, Barb Zaloga, & Colleen Lozier
 Euch. Min.: Brenda & Marce Tebbe
 Server: Pat Kalous

Sun. Mar. 8 @ 8:00AM @ St. Gertrude

Reader: Janice Korsmeyer
 Music: Nick Worman & Randy Eckstein
 Sacristan: Carole Sauls
 Euch.Min.: Debby Schwarz, Zach Lewis & Jane Deiters
 Ushers: Terry Dickman & Bryan Rutz
 Servers: Makayla & Evonna Korsmeyer

Sun. Mar. 8 @ 10:00AM @ IC

Reader: Terry Potthast
 Music: Joy Winkeler
 Servers: Jentry Lobello & Landry Korte
 Euch. Min.: Amy Gilomen, Cindy Knebel & Mary Korte



Immaculate Conception Chicken Dinner
 Today, March 1st serving from 11am to 5pm.
 All Dinners \$15. This will be a drive-thru dinner with limited indoor seating available.
 We are requesting that each family bring three (9 x 12) cakes and/or cupcakes.
 This is a big fundraiser for our parish, your support is needed and always appreciated!



Anointing of the Sick will be offered after all Masses the weekend of March 7 & 8



REMEMBER in your prayers

Members of our parish families who are recovering in the hospital & at home, for their strength and patience each day, and for all those who ask for our prayers for health or other issues.

John Alberternst, Pat Beard, Ana Cantrell, Steve Crawford, Don Dapkus, Teresa Dickman, Garland Edwards, Jean Fields, Gabriel Frey, Jerry Fyke, Ed Gagen, Karen Grabowski, John Grubb, P.J. Hereford, James Hodge, Gene Jolliff, Pat Kalous, Val King, Janice Korsmeyer, Barrett Korte, Denny Korte, Randy Korte, Ruth Korte, Steve Korte, David Kuehn, Sue Lubber, Christopher Marti, Taylor Marti, Barry May, Alex McCall, Eleanor Munie, Cody Neal, Jeannie Oestringer, Robin Pollmann, Suzanne Steinbring, Marcia Rowe, Gunner Sadler, Abby Schrage, Bill Schroeder, Marie Weis, Ginny Werner, Dean Wernle.

FOR OUR PARISHIONERS IN NURSING HOMES:
 Delmar Knebel, Harold Schwarz, Barbara Weiss, Margie Zurliene and special people in our families.

FOR THOSE CURRENTLY SERVING IN THE MILITARY:
 Adam Canfield, Tim Doll, Ensign Eli Jones, Chad Knebel, Michael Knebel, Dustin Korte, Solon McGill, Lt. Abigail Mesaros, Jerritt Mettler, Jimmy O'Boyle, Sgt. Joseph Patterson, Rickie Schuster, Joseph Schatte, Greg Spina, T.J. Waddington, Sgt. Tyler Wegman, Sgt. Zach Weiss.

If you would like to have someone added or removed from the prayer list please call the parish office.



Last Sunday, the Rite of Election was celebrated by Bishop Paprocki at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Kelsi Hannan and 186 other catechumens from throughout the Springfield Diocese, were received by the Bishop and designated as the "elect", as they enter into the next step of their Christian initiation. Please continue to pray for Kelsi and all the elect as they enter into this period of purification and enlightenment prior to receiving the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist at the Easter Vigil.



† **Mass Intentions** †

- No Mass
- † All Souls
- † All Souls
- † Peggy Gibson — Int. of Bill & Denise Trickey
- † Larry Weiss — Int. of Mark Williams
- † Roman Korte — Int. of Jane Bircher
- † Loretta Frey — Int. of the Frey Family
- † Deceased members of St. Gertrude Altar Society — Int. of STG Altar Society

For the People of St. Gertrude, St. Nicholas & Immaculate Conception
 † Jess & Clara Knebel —Int. of Daniel & Regina Thomilson
 † Melvin & Marian Utecht —Int. of Lowell & Denise Wellen

Mon. (Mar. 2)	8:00am
Tues. (Mar. 3)	8:00am (St.G)
Tues. (Mar. 3)	9:30am (H.H.)
Wed. (Mar. 4)	8:00am (IC)
Thur. (Mar. 5)	8:00am (St.N)
Fri. (Mar. 6)	8:00am (IC)
Sat. (Mar. 7)	4:30pm (St.N)
Sun. (Mar. 8)	8:00am (St.G)

Sun. (Mar. 8) 10:00am (IC)

Readings for the week of March 1, 2026

Sunday:
 Gn 12:1-4a/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22/ 2 Tm 1:8b-10/Mt 17:1-9

Monday:
 Dn 9:4b-10/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13/ Lk 6:36-38

Tuesday:
 Is 1:10, 16-20/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/Mt 23:1-12

Wednesday:
 Jer 18:18-20/Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16/ Mt 20:17-28

Thursday:
 Jer 17:5-10/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 16:19-31

Friday:
 Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

Saturday:
 Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Next Sunday:
 Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

"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."

"Go forth," God told Abram. We hear that message again in the Transformation: go forth. We cannot always remain where we are comfortable. We cannot always remain where things are simple. We must go forth.



March HACSM Pantry Needs: Chicken Helper We appreciate your support! Thank You!

Lenten Penance Services



St. Jerome and MPH at St. Jerome in Troy - March 8 at 6pm

Immaculate Conception Pierron – March 11 @ 7:00PM

Tri City (Holy Family, St. Elizabeth, St. Mary/St. Mark- Granite City/ Madison) March 12 at 6:30 pm @ Holy Family

St. Cecilia/St. Mary Edw @ St. Cecilia – Wednesday, March 18, 6:00pm

St. Paul Highland – March 18 6:30pm

St. Paul Highland – March 19 10:00am

St. Boniface – March 22 2:30 p.m.

STN Collection	2/21/26
Envelopes/Loose	\$1,243.00
First Offering	\$5.00
Sister Parish	\$200.00
Catholic Times	\$30.00
Eastern Europe	\$170.00
Budget Goal	\$1,257.00
Weekly Surplus/Deficit	-\$9.00
Support Needed (budget)	\$42,738.00
Support Actual	\$48,530.27
Surplus/Deficit YTD	\$5,792.27



ECCE AGNUS DEI

Service of Scripture, sacred music, and silent prayer, reflecting on the Last Seven Words of Jesus Christ from the Cross.

Laetare Sunday, March 15th | 4:00 PM
 Holy Angels Catholic Church
 345 E Acton Ave, Wood River

Offered by the Father McGivney Catholic HS Choirs, under the direction of Ms. Dani Boulanger.

What Really Happens at Mass movie – *The Real Presence: The Mass* is a 28-minute film that reveals the unseen spiritual world of the Catholic Mass through a combination of beautiful liturgical imagery and artistic augmented reality. At the heart of the film is the belief that Jesus Christ is truly present in the Eucharist—not symbolically, but in reality. With alarming statistics showing that many Catholics no longer believe in this foundational truth, the film seeks to reawaken faith and offer compelling insights into what the Church teaches about the Real Presence. Watch for free: therealpresence.com.



Thank you to those that helped to make our 3rd annual movie night a success. The PSR youth raised \$225 and 80 pounds of food to help those in need. Especially want to thank the Altar Society and CFL for the delicious treats served at the event. Hope to see everyone again next year for our next Sight & Sound movie night.

STG Collection	2/22/26
Envelopes/Loose	\$1,404.00
Sister Parish	\$15.00
Easter Flowers	\$10.00
Maintenance Fund	\$55.00
Eastern Europe	\$65.00
Cemetery	\$30.00
Budget Goal	\$1,505.00
Weekly Surplus/Deficit	-\$101.00
Support Needed (budget)	\$51,170.00
Support Actual	\$46,140.66
Surplus/Deficit YTD	-\$5,029.34

IC Collection	2/22/26
Envelopes/Loose	\$2,237.00
Sister Parish	\$185.00
Candles	\$67.00
Catholic Times	\$15.00
Eastern Europe	\$533.00
Budget Goal	\$2,672.00
Weekly Surplus/Deficit	-\$435.00
Support Needed (budget)	\$90,848.00
Support Actual	\$93,372.77
Surplus/Deficit YTD	\$2,524.77

Join us for the 2026 Women's Prayer Breakfast

Join us as we explore the theme: We Are All Flowers in God's Garden

Hosted by the Ladies Sodality of St. Elizabeth Parish



Saturday, March 21, 2026
St. Elizabeth Catholic Church
2300 Pontoon Rd, Granite City, IL 62040

8:15am- 8:50 Registration/Rosary
Mass 9:00am
Breakfast 10:15am
Speaker 11:00am
Closing prayer 12:15pm

Guest Speaker:
Jen Ryan,
Director of Pastoral Education
and Evangelization
Kenrick-Glennon Seminary

Space is limited! Register before
March 10, 2026, to reserve your spot.

For more information, contact
Tammi Mooshagian, 618-920-1792 or
TammiRae58@gmail.com

Cost: \$30 per registrant accepted by mail or
via the QR code.
Checks payable to St. Elizabeth Ladies
Sodality

Name: _____ Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Parish: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Enclosed is my check to reserve my seat (\$30)

(one form per registrant)

Additional donation for Seminarians \$ _____



Beginning Ash Wednesday, February 18th, then every
Friday until Good Friday, April 3rd.

**DINE-IN AND CARRY OUT AVAILABLE CASH AND
CREDIT/DEBIT CARDS ACCEPTED**

Three meal sizes \$8, \$11, & \$14. Desserts available

THANK YOU 4:00 PM-- 7:00 PM



Virtues, Explained!

Self-control flows from the cardinal virtue of temperance, and it's really all about boundaries. Through self-control, a gift of the Holy Spirit, we avoid surrendering too much of ourselves to our passions.

Blessing of Hope

In Your goodness Lord, bless us. Help us to know Your abundance and Your gifts. Help us to hear Your voice and know Your assurance. Help us remember what You have done, and look forward to what You will do. Amen.

Virtues Explained!

Self-Control

Love. Joy. Anger.
Desire. Fear.

These are just a few of what are called the "passions" of humankind, and in order to understand self-control, we must first understand the passions. Our passions are neither good nor bad — it's all in how we interact with them.

Enter the virtue of self-control.

Self-control flows from the cardinal virtue of temperance, and it's really all about boundaries. Passions only become problematic when we allow them to control us. Through self-control, a gift of the Holy Spirit, we avoid surrendering too much of ourselves to our passions.

"When regulated by reason, and subjected to the control of the will, the passions may be considered good and used as a means of acquiring and exercising virtue," we read in The Catholic Encyclopedia. "The sensitive is given to man by God, and therefore its acts have to be employed in His service."

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From February 18 to March 29, we are uniting with many others for another major simultaneous pro-life mobilization — the 40 Days for Life campaign. The mission of 40 Days for Life is to bring together the Body of

Christ in a spirit of unity during a focused 40 day campaign of prayer, fasting and peaceful activism, with the purpose of repentance, to seek God's favor to turn hearts and minds from a culture of death to a culture of life, thus bringing an end to abortion. We (Immaculate Conception, St. Gertrude and St. Nicholas parishes) chose to Adopt a Day in the 40 Days for Life Granite City campaign to end the demand for abortion. We were assigned Sunday, February 22nd as our adopted day, and had many prayer warriors join us in this important mission. We had prayer warriors with us praying at the facility in Granite City, and some prayed from work, home, etc. too! 40 Days for Life works because prayer works!
Thank you for standing up for life!

Meet Our Seminarians



Sean Sullivan
Discipleship II
St. Meinrad Seminary



We are once again doing a "Just Jeans Drive for the Homeless" during the month of February. We ask that you please donate new or gently used adult jeans during the month of February. We will have boxes, to place the jeans in, at the following churches, Immaculate Conception, St. Gertrude, St. Nicholas and St. Paul, we will also have boxes at the KC Hall in Highland and the Highland Police Station. At the end of February, the jeans will be delivered to St. Vincent de Paul Parish in St. Louis. Should you have any questions, please reach out to Bill or Denise Trickey at 314-495-9080.

One thing I have learned so far in discernment is seeing God in the ordinary day to day by recognizing him in the present and inviting him into everything I do.



Empowering Growth in Ghana—By supporting CRS Rice Bowl, you help parents and caregivers in Ghana to receive training in health, nutrition and early childhood development. That means, young children in these communities are better able to thrive and meet critical milestones in their growth. Visit crsricebowl.org/week-2 to read this week's Story of Hope.

Spaghetti Dinner

ST. PAUL 6TH GRADE CARRY OUT
SPAGHETTI DINNER

Sunday, March 8, 2026
11:00 am – 5:00 pm

Pick up from: St. Paul School Cafeteria
(Corner of Ninth and Lemon Street, Highland, Illinois)

Includes Spaghetti with Meat Sauce, Italian Salad, Breadsticks, Freshly baked Desserts

Carryout - \$13

For tickets, see any 6th Grade student or contact St. Paul School (618-7525)

Proceeds will help fund the class trips in 7th and 8th grade

"We have the boundless gift, but also the tremendous responsibility, to become the hands, feet, and yes, even the heads that bear the living water to those in need."

LISA M. HENDEY
Beautiful Mercy



DynamicCatholic.com

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT FEB. 28 & MARCH 1, 2026



Saint Nicholas - Pocahontas



Immaculate Conception—Pierron



Saint Gertrude—Grantfork

SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2026

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

"This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." - Mt 17:5b

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPi

+BISHOP
THOMAS JOHN PAPROCKI
DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD
IN ILLINOIS



REV. CALLISTUS OSIAGA
PASTOR

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SECRETARY

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Mon.—Thurs. 9am to 4pm
Fridays 9am to 1pm

Mass Times
Immaculate Conception
Wed. & Fri. —8:00am
Sunday —10:00am

Saint Nicholas
Thursday — 8:00am
Saturday — 4:30pm

Saint Gertrude
Tuesday — 8:00am
Sunday — 8:00am