

From the Desk of the Pastor

March 1, 2026

St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church

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SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

One cannot miss a discernible pattern in the various stories in the book of Genesis. God bestows innumerable blessings upon people who instead of appreciating the giver of the gifts, consistently display ingratitude.

Adam and Eve, disobeyed God and chose to place themselves out of God's loving and providential care. Cain refuses to mend his ways, become self-centered and gives in to envy to the point of killing his brother Abel and eliminate competition. The people of God during the time of Noah took God and his gifts for granted and pursued evil. The people building the tower of Babel attempted to appropriate the gift of language in order to promote pride and to build a city for themselves rather than enhance divine worship and praise.

However, today's first reading presents a welcome change: Abraham and his wife Sara; We are invited to explore in detail their faith journey.

Abraham upon hearing God's call, responds generously and leaves behind all that is familiar to him, even the land of his ancestors, and seek security in the words God speaks to him. God establishes a covenant with him and promises him with the blessings to become the 'father of a great nation' through his son Isaac and grandson, Jacob: Israel.

The Gospel recounts the event on Mount Tabor, where Peter, James and John witness the stunning power of God, as Jesus is transfigured before their eyes. God's voice thunders forth: "This is my Chosen Son, Listen to Him.

On Mount Tabor, the sky was clear. Jesus was praying. As he prayed, his face shone and his clothes dazzled. On one side of him was Moses – the great lawgiver. On the other side was Elijah – the greatest of all the prophets. And, there was the voice of the Father. No wonder Peter exclaimed: 'It is wonderful for us to be here!'

Then there would be another day and another Hill. This time the sky was dark. The face of Jesus was covered with sweat and blood. His clothes did not dazzle – they had been taken from him. For companions he had two thieves. There was no voice from heaven, only scoffers were heard. The disciples in fear for their lives, did not want any part of this, they ran away.

The only thing in common was that once again Jesus was praying. What sustained Him in bright and dark moments alike was his special relationship of fidelity and filial devotion with the Father.

This special relationship is now open to us. It will sustain us through all our dark moments until the glory of Easter shines fully on us.

The readings today challenge us to listen to God speaking to us: having chosen us in Christ, He calls us each by name, and continues to establish a covenant of love with us.

SEGUNDO DOMINGO DE CUARESMA

Uno no puede fallar en ver un patrón discernible en las diversas historias del libro de Génesis. Dios otorga innumerables bendiciones a quienes en lugar de apreciar el donador de los dones, constantemente muestran ingratitude.

Adán y Eva desobedecieron a Dios y decidieron colocarse fuera del cuidado amoroso y providencial de Dios. Caín se niega a reparar sus caminos, se hace egocéntrico y se vence a la envidia al punto de matar a su hermano Abel y eliminar la competencia. El pueblo de Dios durante el tiempo de Noé tomó a Dios y sus dones por concedidos y persiguieron el mal. La gente construyendo la torre de Babel intentaron apropiarse el don del lenguaje con el fin de promover orgullo y construir una ciudad para sí mismos en lugar de mejorar la alabanza y adoración divina.

Sin embargo, la primera lectura de hoy presenta un cambio positivo: Abraham y su esposa Sara; Se nos invita explorar con detalle su viaje de fé. Abraham al oír el llamado de Dios, responde generosamente y deja atrás todo lo que le es familiar, incluso la tierra de sus antepasados y busca la seguridad en las palabras de Dios para él. Dios establece un pacto con él y le promete las bendiciones de convertirse en el "padre de una gran nación" a través de su hijo Isaac y nieto, Jacobo: Israel.

El Evangelio nos relata el evento en el Monte Tabor, donde Pedro, Santiago y Juan presenciar el impresionante poder de Dios, conforme Jesús se transfigura delante de sus ojos. La voz de Dios clama: "Este es mi hijo elegido, escúchenlo.

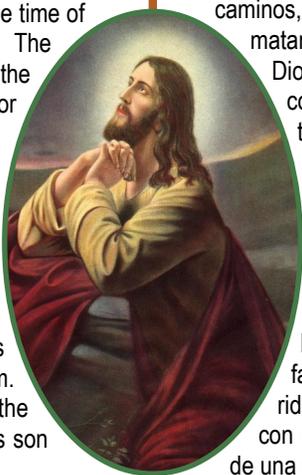
En el Monte Tabor, el cielo estaba despejado. Jesús estaba orando. Mientras oraba, su rostro brillaba y su ropa deslumbraba. Por un lado de Él estaba Moisés – el gran legislador. Del otro lado estaba Elías – el más grande de todos los profetas. Y, allí estaba la voz del Padre. Con razón Pedro exclamó: '¡Es maravilloso para nosotros estar aquí!'

Entonces habrá otro día y otra Colina. Esta vez el cielo estaba oscuro. El rostro de Jesús estaba cubierto de sudor y sangre. Su ropa no deslumbraba – se lo habían quitado. De compañeros tenía a dos ladrones. No había ninguna voz del cielo, solo burlas se escucharon. Los discípulos en temor por sus vidas, no querían ser parte de esto, salieron huyendo.

Lo único en común era que una vez más Jesús estaba orando. Lo que lo sostuvo en momentos brillantes y oscuros fue su especial relación de fidelidad y devoción con el Padre.

Esta relación especial ahora está abierta para nosotros. Nos sostendrá en todos nuestros momentos oscuros hasta que la gloria de la Pascua brille plenamente en nosotros.

Las lecturas de hoy nos retan a escuchar a Dios hablándonos: habiéndonos escogido en Cristo, Él nos llama a cada uno por nuestro nombre y continúa estableciendo un pacto de amor con nosotros.



On Weekdays of Lent:
9 am Mass in English
 Followed by
The Recitation of
the Holy Rosary



On Fridays during Lent:
 we have the praying of
the Stations of the Cross
 after the 9:00 am Mass

VIA CRUCIS

Domingo
a las 11:00 am

2026 ARCHDIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

“Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.” Isaiah 40:31

The Annual Appeal is our chance to join with Catholics throughout our Archdiocese to assist those who depend on us. Your generosity supports essential ministries that care for our youth, accompany families, serve those most in need, and support our priests.

Our Parish assessment for this year 2026 is \$32,295.00.

Your generosity makes a real difference in the lives of many throughout our Archdiocese. Our parish mailing has gone out this weekend. It is our hope, you will receive it soon. For more information or to make a donation, please go to:

<https://sfarchdiocese.org/aaa/>

Thank you in advance for your prayerful consideration of this request!



LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS
COLECTA DE LA SEMANA PASADA

February 18 — February 22, 2026

Weekday Masses Offerings.....\$ 284.10
 Ash Wednesday.....\$1,275.50
 Weekend Mass Offerings.....\$2,159.36

UPCOMING 2nd COLLECTIONS

- March 1: Reserve Fund**
- March 8: Archdiocesan Annual Appeal**
- March 15: Catholic Relief Services**
- March 29: Palm Sunday**

A A A 2026
Archdiocesan Annual Appeal

We urge you to help us meet our goal:

2026 Parish Assessment \$32,295.00

Kindly consider in any way you can help our Parish make this assessment. Thank you for your generosity!

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 28 TO MARCH 7

SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
February 28, 2026	March 1, 2026	March 2, 2026	March 3, 2026	March 4, 2026
<p>9:00am Ada Cayabyab † Eufrone Tobes</p> <p>4:30pm Parish of St. John</p>	<p>8:00m Living members of the Young Men’s Institute</p> <p>10:00am † Fr. Michael Brillantes † Bonifacio de Guzman † Deceased Members of the Hierro Family † Clara Abungan</p> <p>12:00pm Parish of St. John</p>	<p>9:00am Parish of St. John</p>	<p>9:00am † Crescencia Rabara</p>	<p>9:00am † Maria de la Paz Avila † Ramon Berry † Manuel Simpliciano</p>
		THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		March 5, 2026	March 6, 2026	March 7, 2026
		<p>9:00am † Benjamin Caceres</p>	<p>9:00am Deceased members of the Young Men’s Institute</p>	<p>9:00am † Albert & Michael Gagnani</p> <p>4:30pm Parish of St. John</p>

