

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**Monday, March 17, 2025**

7:30 AM The Unborn Children
 12:30 PM James Agnew
 7:30 PM Spanish Mass

Tuesday, March 18, 2025

7:30 AM Souls in Purgatory
 12:30 PM Joseph Carney

Wednesday, March 19, 2025

7:30 AM Cecilia Martins
 12:30 PM Joseph & Anna Grattagliano
 & family

Thursday, March 20, 2025

7:30 AM Sr. Marie Josee Seide
 12:30 PM Jacque LaPrarie Sr.

Friday, March 21, 2025

7:30 AM The Homeless
 12:30 PM Terry Hettinger

Saturday, March 22, 2025

5:00 PM The Lutz family
 Rose & Charles Hoffmann
 Larry Egan
 Frances Dempsey
 Joseph & Rosalee Carroll
 Marion Napolitano
 Terry Hettinger
 Jim O'Keefe

Sunday, March 23, 2025

7:00 AM Joaquim Estevinho
 8:30 AM Portuguese Intentions
 10:00 AM Sophia Maglione
(Birth Remembrance)
 11:30 AM People of the Parish
 5:00 PM Spanish Intentions
 7:00 PM Vocations to the Priesthood

PRIEST CELEBRANTS' SCHEDULE**Saturday, March 22, 2025**

5:00 PM Fr. Yesudas

Sunday, March 23, 2025

7:00 AM Fr. Malcolm

8:30 AM Fr. Malcolm

10:00 AM Fr. Ngozi

11:30 AM Fr. Ngozi

5:00 PM Fr. Andres

7:00 PM Fr. Malcolm

(Schedule is subject to change)

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Sharing Time, Talent and Treasure

"I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land as a possession."

- GENESIS 15:7

Just as the Lord gave Abraham, Moses, and the Israelites a land to possess, He has also given each of us a home. Whether your home is grand or humble, it is a gift from God. Abraham prepared a great sacrifice to the Lord in gratitude for the home God gave him. How do you show your gratitude to God for the home He has given you? Do you make a Stewards sacrifice of any kind? Do you return any of your finances to God, investing in your eternal home just as you invest in your earthly home?

March 9th Actual Collections = \$9,807

March 9th Mail-In Donations = \$2,646

March 9th Electronic Donations = \$936

March 9th Total Collection = \$13,389

Attendance = 1,188

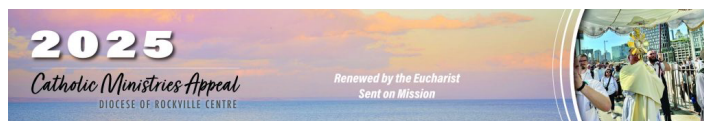
Snow Removal = \$1,105

Ash Wednesday = \$2,129

Church \$\$\$ Scams

For better or for worse, the reality is that we live in an ever-advancing world of technology; especially lately with explosive developments in "Artificial Intelligence" (A.I.). As your Pastor in the name of Jesus the Good Shepherd, my role is to protect you to the best of my ability; even guarding over your financial assets here at Corpus Christi. Please know that I will never ask you for money via a phone-call, a text, a voicemail, or email. These are all potential scams/frauds by a possible "robotic father malcolm", not me! The only time I would appeal to your monetary generosity is in person on the Altar, or in a parish/CMA letter. Thank you for your attention to these worldly matters, so that we might focus more deeply on our spiritual life.

Yours in Christ, Father Malcolm (The priest, not a robot!!)

**CMA Numbers for 2025**

Goal = \$95,900

Pledges = \$16,600

Donors = 77

Payments = \$12,770

Average = \$216

Thank you to all the families who already have made a sacrificial gift. Please consider a yearly offering.



Sun., Mar. 16

9:30 AM Gr. 5-6 (*Fitz. Hall*)

10:00 AM Class Mass, introducing our new junior lectors:
Miss Viivian Siracusa & Miss Jane Siracusa

Mon., Mar. 17

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Tues., Mar. 18

4:00 PM Gr. 6 Confirmation Books due (*Ms. Stringer*)

First Holy Communion banners & fee due: 2A Mrs. Rosier

7:00 PM Confirmation Practice (*Fitz. Hall and Church*)

Wed., Mar. 19

Happy St. Joseph's Day!

First Holy Communion banner and fee due:

2B Mrs. Garcia, 2C Mrs. Parente/Ms. Cunha & IC-2, IC-3 Ms Carmen

5:30 PM Gr. 6 Confirmation books due

(*Mrs. Jeanne Ludwig/Mr. Ryan Ludwig*)

Thur. Mar. 20 Confirmation Books due:

4:00 PM Gr. 6 Mr. Harrington/Mr. Macchia

Gr. 7 Mr. Fischer/Mr. Stephen Mr. Moscheni/ Mr. Zuccarello

5:30 PM Mrs. Gandarela/Mrs. Picarello

First Holy Communion banner and fee due: 2D Ms. Stringer

Sun., Mar. 23

9:30 AM Gr. 3, 4

10:00 AM Class Mass, introducing our new junior lector:
Master Peter Guy

Junior Lectors 10:00 AM Mass

Sunday, March 23

Nicole Henriques and Peter Guy

Sunday, March 30

Lisbeth McIntosh and Ana Pereira

Sunday, April 6

Lucy Romito and Robert Kearns

Twenty Minutes with the Director

Sunday, March 23, 2025

Gr. 3, 4

Sunday, April 6, 2025

Gr. 7, 8, IC-4



SOCKS FOR THE HOMELESS

Mrs. Karen Rosier's class (2A) began their almsgiving project by donating a new pair of socks to the Parish Outreach who in turn will bring them to the INN in Hempstead.



ASH WEDNESDAY

Deacon Brian Mannix visited the Religious Education classes on Ash Wednesday, March 5th. The students gathered together for a prayer service and then received their ashes. Lent has begun!



GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY

Girl Scout Sunday was celebrated at the 10:00 AM Mass on Sunday, March 9, 2025, following "Twenty Minutes with the Director". Brownies and Daisies processed in with Father Malcolm and served as the gift presenters. Two former girl scouts, Ashley and Jasmine, served as the lectors. Father Malcolm blessed the Scouts along with their "Girl Scout" Badges and "My Faith, My Promise" Pins. The Girl Scouts sold their signature cookies in the lobby following the 10:00 AM Mass under the direction of Mrs. Fatima DeVasconcelos.





All of us at Parish Outreach wish to thank those parishioners who donated or attempted to donate blood at our Blood Drive on March 2, 2025.

We collected 49 pints of blood and blood products which will be used to help cancer patients, burn and accident victims, cardiac, emergency surgery and sickle cell anemia patients, and mothers and babies post-delivery when needed. Most appreciated are those 24 donors who walked in without having registered prior to the drive.

There is no substitute for human blood because it cannot be artificially made. Patients requiring a blood transfusion rely solely on the kindness and generosity of volunteer donors to provide them with this life-saving gift. In the United States, more than 15 million pints are transfused each year. One pint of blood can save 3 lives. Your donations may help many patients enjoy another tomorrow. It is deeply gratifying to see that we, members of Corpus Christi, The Body and Blood of Christ, responded to this vital need embodied in our parish motto, ***You Together are My Body.***



Lenten Regulations

Weekdays of Lent:

There is no obligation to fast. However, voluntary acts of self-denial are recommended.

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday:

These are days of Fast and Abstinence from meat.

There is a limit to one full meal on these days for all between the ages of 18 and 59 inclusive.

Days of Abstinence: (All Fridays in Lent)

All who have reached their 14th year are bound to abstain totally from meat.



DIocese of Rockville Centre
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Lent 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

It is no coincidence that the global inauguration of our 2025 Jubilee Year of Hope occurred on the Solemnity of the Holy Family. The Jubilee Year of Hope in this 2025 Lenten season runs through the family and fidelity to the splendors of the liberating and objective truths of Christ and the Catholic Church on Marriage and the Family.

Lenten prayer, fasting and almsgiving lead individual family members to Christ's light of conversion and repentance. Conversion and repentance, in turn, open families to a family spirit and daily chemistry animated by the Holy Spirit. Family patterns ensnared in the ruts of sin become family patterns transformed by the grooves of grace, humility, charity and the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit. The Jubilee Year of Hope runs through every family experiencing Christ's Cross: grief, tragedy, crisis, tension, alienation and transition.

Pope Francis emphasized: "All of us have received the gift and task of bringing hope wherever hope has been lost, lives broken, promises unkept, dreams shattered and hearts overwhelmed by adversity. We are called to bring hope to the weary who have no strength to carry on, the lonely oppressed by the bitterness of failure, and all those who are broken-hearted. To bring hope to the interminable, dreary days of prisoners, to the cold and dismal lodging of the poor, and to all those places desecrated by war and violence. To bring hope there, to sow hope there."¹

The Holy Family was a refugee family and they are deeply present today to every struggling refugee family in the world to rekindle their hope. The Lenten season of the Jubilee Year of Hope reminds us that while all families are imperfect and have their problems and challenges, all families are called to grow together in holiness and a missionary spirit.

And so we heed the powerful words of St. Paul as they apply to our daily family life: "Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another... Let the peace of Christ control your hearts... Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly." (Colossians 3:12-17)

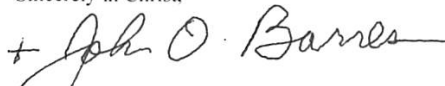
Our Lady invites us to have a pondering heart as we contemplate God's providential design in the past, present and future of our families, especially as we begin this Lenten season in the Jubilee Year of Hope. In unity with the Holy Family, our own families are called to transform the world and history with Christ's love and the mission of mercy of the Church which He Himself founded.

In the 2025 Jubilee Year of Hope, the Church presents us with the canonizations of soon-to-be Saint Carlo Acutis (1991-2006) and Saint Piergiorgio Frassati (1900-1924). As children, teenagers and young adults, they helped Christ transform their own families with their faith and their holiness as they helped Christ transform the Church and the world to this day. Together, they are asking every young Catholic to do the same in their time, in their place and in their own family.

The 2025 Jubilee Year of Hope is a time for us and our extended families to cast the nets of Eucharistic charity throughout Long Island, understanding that the Eucharist is a "Fountain of Charity" -- a Fountain of the spiritual and corporal works of mercy, a Fountain of the Gospel of Life and a Fountain of every dimension of Catholic Social Justice teaching.

As the Successor of the Apostles on Long Island, I want to thank every Catholic family on Long Island and beyond for being Lights of Christ's Hope and Lights of Catholic evangelization to the world.

Sincerely in Christ,


Most Reverend John O. Barres
Bishop of Rockville Centre

¹Francis, "Opening of the Holy Door and Midnight Mass: Homily" (December 24, 2024).
<https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/homilies/2024/documents/20241224-omelia-natale.html>.

Lenten Nail Meditation

Once again this Lent, we will provide Lenten Nails for you to take and use as your personal Lenten meditation. These nails are intended to revive the ancient Christian practice of meditation, to help you think, ponder, reflect and consider and certainly pray about the meaning of the suffering and death of Jesus Christ for you. This Lent we hope you will take one and keep it with you in your pocket, pocketbook, car, anywhere you go. These Lenten Nails will be available on Ash Wednesday and the first Sunday of Lent on a table in the back vestibule of the Church.



Stations of the Cross

There will be Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent.

7:00 PM in English

&

7:30 PM in Spanish/Portuguese.

Corpus Christi Bible Study

Corpus Christi will be starting a Bible Study group very soon!! We will meet on Tuesdays, 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM, in the basement of the church.

If you are interested, please contact the rectory as soon as possible (516-746-1223) so we know how many books to order. There will be a fee for each book.





Corpus Christi Parish
Lenten Project

SOCKS *for the* **HOMELESS**



One of the most requested items from homeless shelters is new, unused socks.

During the six weeks of Lent, Parish Outreach will be sponsoring “Socks for the Homeless”, where we will be donating new, unopened socks for men, women and children to The INN in Hempstead.

There will be a container in the Church lobby for your generous donations.

We will bring them forth at evening Mass on Holy Thursday.

‘For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’

The King will reply, ‘I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’

LECTIO DIVINA

- Lectio
- Meditatio
- Oratio
- Contemplatio



Join Bishop Andrzej
For Scripture Reflection Series
on JOHN the BAPTIST

Tuesday, March 11, 2025

Wednesday, April 2, 2025

at 7:30 pm - ZOOM webinar.

Study of Bible Texts

JOHN the BAPTIST
The Friend of the Bridegroom
Preparing the Way for New Life

Registration is required
in order to receive the ZOOM link to each session.
Please contact the Western Vicariate office
with your name, parish, email and phone number.

Send your email to:

westernvicariate@drvc.org

or call Suzanne at 516-744-6850.





COFFEE with JESUS

Lenten Reflections on the Meaning of Season in Christian Life



Join Bishop Andrzej

All Fridays of Lent

March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4, 11 at 3 pm

for Webinar Lenten Reflections

Registration Required

Call Suzanne at 516.744.6850

or email - westernvicariate@drvc.org

to receive Zoom Webinar Link





DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

20
25

Return to Me.

40 DAYS OF EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Starting on March 7th, visit 40 different parishes across Long Island for the 40 days of Lent.

MARCH

March 7: Our Lady of Ostrabrama

Cutchogue | 7:00-8:00 p.m.

March 8: St. Gertrude

Bayville | 3:00-4:45 p.m.

March 9: Mary Immaculate

Bellport | 1:30-2:30 p.m.

March 10: St. Raymond

East Rockaway | 7:00-8:00 p.m.

March 11: St. Luke

Brentwood | 5:00-6:00 p.m.

March 12: Our Lady of Lourdes

Malverne | 3:00-4:00 p.m.

March 13: Our Lady of the Assumption

Copiague | 7:00-8:00 p.m.

March 14: St. Catherine of Sienna

Franklin Square | 3:00-4:00 p.m.

March 15: St. Francis Cabrini

Coram | 3:30-4:30 p.m.

March 16: Holy Cross

Nesconset | 1:00-2:00 p.m.

March 17: St. Patrick

Huntington | 12:00-8:00 p.m.

March 18: St. Joseph

Hewlett | 7:00-8:00 p.m.

March 19: Most Holy Trinity

East Hampton | 8:30-9:30 a.m.

March 20: Our Lady of Mercy

Hicksville | 9:30-10:30 a.m.

March 21: St. Aloysius

Great Neck | 5:30-6:30 p.m.

March 22: Sacred Heart

Island Park | 3:30-4:30 p.m.

March 23: St. Anthony of Padua

East Northport | 7:00-8:00 p.m.

March 24: St. Mary

East Islip | 7:00-8:00 p.m.

March 25: Resurrection

Farmingville | 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

March 26: St. Boniface

Elmont | 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

March 27: St. Agnes

Greenport | 5:00-9:00 p.m.

March 28: Our Lady of Lourdes

Massapequa Park | 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

March 29: Good Shepherd

Holbrook | 7:00-8:00 p.m.

March 30: Sacred Heart

North Merrick | 1:00-2:00 p.m.

March 31: St. Joseph

Kings Park | 6:00-7:00 p.m.

APRIL

April 1: St. Bernard

Levittown | 12:30-1:30 p.m.

April 2: St. Jude

Mastic Beach | 1:00-3:00 p.m.

April 3: St. Gerard Majella

Port Jefferson Station | 7:00-8:00 p.m.

April 4: St. Aidan

Williston Park | 1:00-3:00 p.m.

April 5: Queen of the Most Holy Rosary

Roosevelt | 6:30-7:30 p.m.

April 6: St. John the Evangelist

Riverhead | 1:00-2:00 p.m.

April 7: St. Martin of Tours

Bethpage | 7:30-9:00 p.m.

April 8: Our Lady of the Mirac. Medal

Wyandanch | 8:00-9:00 p.m.

April 9: Holy Name of Mary

Valley Stream | 7:00-8:00 p.m.

April 10: St. Louis de Montfort

Sound Beach | 7:00-8:30 p.m.

April 11: St. Thomas the Apostle

West Hempstead | 9:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

April 12: Our Lady of Grace

West Babylon | 8:30-9:30 a.m.

April 14: St. Rose of Lima

Massapequa | 8:00-9:00 p.m.

April 15: Our Lady of Lourdes

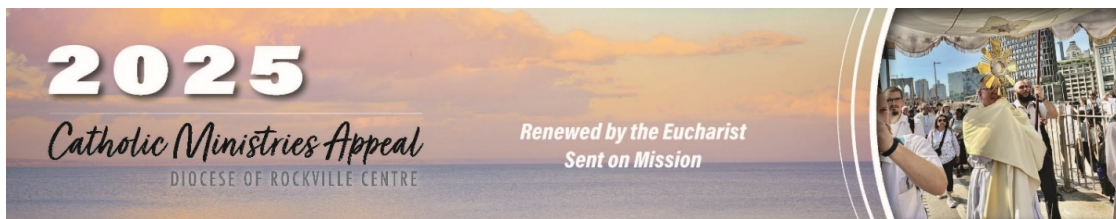
West Islip | 12:30-7:30 p.m.

April 16: St. Kilian

Farmingdale | 12:45-7:30 p.m.



To learn more, visit:
drvc.org/return25



Dear Friends:

In announcing the Jubilee Year, Pope Francis asked us to celebrate, “with deep faith, lively hope and active charity.” During this most holy season of Lent, let us be reminded that we are called to discover hope in current times and to be the instruments of hope for others.

One tangible way to accomplish this is by giving to the Catholic Ministries Appeal. Through our shared support of our pastoral, educational and charitable ministries, we are assisting those most in need and spreading the message of hope in the Lord.

Your gifts to the Appeal support the education of our seminarians and priests who are dedicating their lives to serving Christ and His Church; assist college students and our young people to grow in their faith and relationship with the Lord; and ensure that vital resources are made available for children and families through Catholic Charities, Respect Life, and our Parish Outreach programs.

During this time of Jubilee in the life of our Church, I ask you to consider contributing to the 2025 Catholic Ministries Appeal so that we can enrich the lives of others and that the hope of Christ may abound more fruitfully throughout our diocese.

Thank you for your support and prayers.

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "+ John O. Barres". The signature is written in a cursive style with a cross at the beginning.

Most Reverend John O. Barres
Bishop of Rockville Centre



St. Francis Hospital Outreach Bus

Free Health Screenings

Includes a brief cardiac history, blood pressure and a simple blood test for cholesterol and diabetes for adults 18 and older.

We also provide patient education and referrals.

No appointment is required.

Corpus Christi Church

155 Garfield Avenue

Mineola, NY 11501

March 19, 2025

10am-2pm

(Last Screening at 1:45pm)



Catholic Daughters of the Americas®

Court Immaculata #444 will be sponsoring a **Basket Raffle** the weekend of **March 22-23, 2025** following all masses in our parish. The wide array of baskets, all of which have been donated by our members, will be displayed in the church lobby. The assortment of baskets will encompass wine, food, crafts, seasons, flowers, and lottery, to name a few; there are fifteen plus (15+) at present with more on the way. Contents will be identified for your convenience and lucky winners will be drawn by lottery following the last mass.

This is a major fundraiser for Court Immaculata #444 as all the funds go to supporting scholarships and charitable causes within our community and elsewhere. Give good fortune a nudge; take a chance or chances. There's something in it for everyone! We are eternally grateful for you, for your kind response and generosity. **See you on Saturday and Sunday, March 22-23, 2025.** May good fortune arrive early at your door and remain late. Thank you.

NIGHT OF PRAYER & REFLECTION

We invite all our parishioners and those far and wide to attend our **Night of Prayer & Reflection** which we will host on **Thursday, April 10, 2025, at 6:00 PM in FitzGerald Hall**. Our Chairperson, Gloria Carney, advises our guest speaker will be **Rev. Kenneth Grooms**. You may remember Father Ken from his ministry here at Corpus Christi and later at St. Aidan's, Williston Park. Father Ken is now Pastor of Immaculate Conception Church in Westhampton, NY. We are delighted with his return and trust you will be too.

Our evening will begin with a Turkey Dinner, and a brief Court meeting, to be followed by our guest speaker. Father Ken will provide insight into The Divine Mercy with a Q&A session following his discourse.

All are welcome so encourage your family and friends to this Lenten experience. **The cost of the evening is \$33.00 per person, checks to be made payable to Court Immaculata #444 by April 5, 2025. Please contact Patricia Gavin by 4/5/25 at 516.741.8077.**



Please remember the sick in your daily prayers, including the following who have asked to be included in our list:

Connie Altvater, Aurora Antunes, Armandina Araujo, Violeta Bernal, Anne Boland, Diane Bombardi, Erin Burke, Marie Byrnes, Jeanne Carroll, Jackson Carvalho, Michael Castalino, Frank de Carolis, Sue Citro, Emmanuel Colon, Joann Cornacchioli, James Cunney, Jerry Daraio, Kate Donovan, Virginia Fallon, Laurie Fefta, Lilly Fuentes, Anne Gallagher, Kenneth Gallagher, Elba Garcia, Vanessa Gomes, Filomena Iavarone, Pat Kober, Diane LaBianca, Joseph LaBianca, Lorraine Liqury, Vincent Lodato, Thomas Lowe, Christine Lucivero, Augustus & Camella Lodato, Jason Lopes, Thomas Mitchell, Susan O'Brien, Gabriel Palhete, Linda Pires, Charles Procaccini, Dennis Radovic, Mary Renker, Elizabeth Rose, JoAnn Russo, Mary Santucci, Robert Santucci, Ann Schwarz, Victoria Sheridan, Lisa Simeone, Lucy Elena Sivirichi, Paul Tubito, Lorraine Verdade, and any other members of our parish who are sick at this time.

Altar Server Schedule



Sat., March 22
Sun., March 23

5:00 PM Gabriel Lamme-Damas
10:00 AM K.Alvarez/A.Alvarez
11:30 AM L.Wasserman/C.Gaffney



Knights of Columbus®

FINANCES & FAITH You and your Family are invited to join us for a Fraternal Benefit Event at Corpus Christi Council #2502 of the Knights of Columbus (186 Jericho Tpke, Mineola) on March 20th at 7:00 pm. Come and learn more about how you can align your finances with your faith. Attendance is open to members & non-members alike. RSVP to Dan Garcia (email - Daniel.Garcia@kofc.org). Please RSVP by March 18th.

Church Donation Envelopes



Before giving your Church donation envelopes, please make sure that the amounts of your donations are written on the envelope. Please also avoid using tape to seal the envelopes. The money counters, thank you very much.

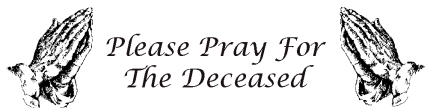
KING KULLEN RECEIPTS

If you shop at the King Kullen in Garden City Park, please save your register receipts and place them in the white basket in the vestibule or in the collection basket or together with your donation in the stewardship envelope. 1% of your total purchase gets donated to the Corpus Christi Religious Education Program.



Banns III

Alexandrina Lanceri, Holy Ghost, Rochester & Connor McDermott, St. Aidan



Florence M. Pajak

Memorials Bread & Wine



Sunday, March 23 – 10:00am Mass
In Loving Memory of
Sophia Maglione
Requested by John & Susan Anaischik

Español

II DOMINGO DE CUARESMA



EVANGELIO DE SAN LUCAS 9, 28-36

En aquel tiempo, Jesús se hizo acompañar de Pedro, Santiago y Juan, y subió a un monte para hacer oración. Mientras oraba, su rostro cambió de aspecto y sus vestiduras se hicieron blancas y relampagueantes. De pronto aparecieron con él dos personajes, rodeados de esplendor: eran Moisés y Elías. Y hablaban de la muerte que le esperaba en Jerusalén. Pedro y sus compañeros estaban rendidos de sueño; pero, despertándose, vieron la gloria de Jesús y de los que estaban con él. Cuando éstos se retiraban, Pedro le dijo a Jesús: *“Maestro, sería bueno que nos quedáramos aquí y que hiciéramos tres chozas: una para ti, una para Moisés y otra para Elías”*, sin saber lo que decía. No había germinado de hablar, cuando se formó una nube que los cubrió; y ellos, al verse envueltos por la nube, se llenaron de miedo. De la nube salió una voz que decía: *“Este es mi Hijo, mui escogido; escúchenlo”*. Cuando cesó la voz, se quedó Jesús solo. Los discípulos guardaron silencio y por entonces no dijeron a nadie nada de lo que habían visto.



A dónde nos lleva el evangelio de hoy? Si seguimos el texto en sus inicios: subió al monte a orar. Esto es muy propio de Lucas y siempre en momentos importantes de la vida de Jesús. La Transfiguración es una preparación para la hora tan decisiva que le espera a Jesús. Los discípulos más conocidos acompañan a Jesús en este momento, como sucederá también en el relato de Getsanani, en el momento de la pasión, pero tanto aquí como allí, el verdadero protagonista es Jesús, porque es él quien afronta las consecuencias de su vida y del evangelio que ha predicado. No obstante, aquí los discípulos se ven envueltos en una experiencia profunda, que les hace evadirse de toda realidad. Dos personajes, Moisés y Elías, que subieron cada uno en su momento al Sinaí para encontrarse con Dios, ahora se hacen testigos de esta experiencia. La escena se llena de contenido con la voz divina que proclama algo extraordinario. Quien está allí es alguien más importante que el mismo Moisés y Elías, la Ley y los Profetas.



En la primera lectura, del Libro de Génesis, se nos presenta a Abrahán,, al que le da contar las estrellas del cielo para significar que todos los que se fien de Dios serán su pueblo, su familia. Eso es lo que se quiere representar muy especialmente y ese es el sentido de la alianza que Dios hace con él. La teología de la alianza, como sabemos, es determinante en el pueblo bíblico, y aunque la alianza más originaria es la del Sinaí, para sellar la liberación de Egipto, tampoco podía faltar un signo que expresara la alianza y el compromiso de Dios con el padre de un pueblo de creyentes. Así lo verá muy acertadamente San Pablo en su carta a los Gálatas (Gal 3) cuando considera que las promesas que se hicieron a Abrahán se cumplen cuando todos los hombres, judíos y paganos, puedan formar parte de ese pueblo, sencillamente por la fe en Dios, como Abrahán.

Português

DOMINGO II DA QUARESMA



EVANGELHO DE SÃO LUCAS 9, 28-36

Naquele tempo, Jesus tomou consigo Pedro, João e Tiago e subiu ao monte, para orar. Enquanto orava, alterou-se o aspecto do seu rosto e as suas vestes ficaram de uma brancura refulgente. Dois homens falavam com ele: eram Moisés e Elias, que, tendo aparecido em glória, falavam da morte de Jesus, que ia consumir-se em Jerusalém. Pedro e os companheiros estavam a cair de sono; mas, despertando, viram a glória de Jesus e os dois homens que estavam com ele. Quando estes se iam afastando, Pedro disse a Jesus: *“Mestre, como é bom estarmos aqui! Fazemos três tendas: uma para ti, outra para Moisés e outra para Elias”*. Não sabia o que estava a dizer. Enquanto assim falava, veio uma nuvem que os cobriu com a sua sombra; e eles ficaram cheios de medo, ao entrarem na nuvem. Da nuvem saiu uma voz, que dizia: *“Este é o meu Filho, o meu Eleito: escutai-o”*. Quando a voz se fez ouvir, Jesus ficou sozinho. Os discípulos guardaram silêncio e, naqueles dias, a ninguém contaram nada do que tinham visto.



Este trecho do evangelho é interpretado, por algumas pessoas, como uma breve antecipação da experiência do paraíso, concedida por Jesus a um grupo restrito de amigos para os preparar a suportar a dura prova da sua paixão e morte. O relato da transfiguração de Jesus, é referido de modo quase

idêntico por Marcos, Mateus e Lucas. Apenas Lucas especifica por que razão Jesus sobe ao monte: “vai lá para orar”. Jesus dedica normalmente muito tempo à oração. Durante esta experiência espiritual de Jesus, aparece duas personagens: Moisés e Elias. Eles são o símbolo da Lei e dos Profetas, representam todo o Antigo Testamento. Apenas Lucas lembra o tema do diálogo de Jesus: falavam da sua morte, da sua passagem deste mundo para o Pai. Notemos um pormenor: nos momentos em que temos alguma referência à paixão e morte de Jesus, estes três discípulos são sempre vencidos pelo sono. Também no Jardim das Oliveiras eles adormecem. O monte situa-nos num contexto de revelação: é sempre num monte que Deus se revela; e, em especial, é no monte Sinai que ele faz uma aliança com o seu Povo e dá a Moisés as tábuas da Lei.



A primeira leitura, do Livro do Gênesis, apresenta-nos Abraão, o modelo do crente. Ele confiou plenamente em Deus, mesmo quando as suas promessas pareciam impossíveis. e ele não saiu defraudado. Com Abraão somos convidados a acreditar, isto é, a viver numa atitude de confiança total, de aceitação radical, de entrega plena aos designios desse Deus que não falha e é sempre fiel às suas promessas.

"POIS A NOSSA PÁTRIA ESTÁ NOS
CÉUS, DE ONDE TAMBÉM
AGUARDAMOS O SALVADOR, O
SENHOR JESUS CRISTO."

Filipenses 3:20 ARA

Carta de Paulo aos Filipenses, 3, 20-4.1

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+Joaquim Martins Carvalho + Maria Rodrigues
Araújo + Ernesto e Adelaide Lopes + João Rodrigues
+José Carlos Silva + Cecília Lopes
+ Rosa Fernandes Barbosa + Manuel Miranda
+Almas do Purgatório