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**Sunday, February 21st, 2016**  
**Second Sunday of Lent**

While he was still speaking, a cloud came and cast a shadow over them, and they became frightened when they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my chosen Son; listen to him." – Lk 9:34-35

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

Sat. Feb 20	9-10am 4-4:45pm 5:00pm	Reconciliation Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation ✠ Marko Kotar (Family)
Sun. Feb 21	9:30am 11:00am	Missa Pro Populo ✠ Jenny & Mary Lenik (Mary Ann Biggar)
Mon. Feb 22	7:00pm	Holy Hour & Reconciliation
Tues. Feb 23	9:30am	<b>Intention Available</b>
Wed. Feb 24	9:30am	<b>Intention Available</b>
Thurs. Feb 25	9:30am	✠ Louis Marshall (Mike & Anne Young)
Fri. Feb 26	9:30am 7:00pm	<b>Intention Available</b> <b>Stations of the Cross</b>
Sat. Feb 27	9-10am 4-4:45pm 5:00pm	Reconciliation Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation <b>Intention Available</b>
Sun. Feb 28	9:30am 11:00am	Missa Pro Populo ✠ Teresa Sporbeck (Mary Ann Biggar)

**Reconciliation from 9-9:20am before all weekday masses.**

**Offertory February 13th & 14th, 2016**

82 Envelopes	\$1, 868.45
Loose Collection	\$ 116.90
Total Offertory	\$1, 985.35

**Bulletin Sponsors:** There is one spot available for advertising in the church bulletin. If you are interested, please phone the church office soon. The size would be 2 X2 inch, cost \$100. Ads run for minimum one year and usually longer.

**Mass Intentions:** There are a number of spots available for Mass intentions, particularly during the week. If you would like a Mass celebrated for a loved one, living or deceased, phone the office or you may use the envelopes at the back of the church.

**Second Sunday of Lent**

"Peter and his companions had been overcome by sleep, but becoming fully awake, they saw his glory." Today's Gospel records the event we call the Transfiguration of the Lord. In this miraculous moment, Jesus' divine nature was revealed clearly to Peter, James and John. Often, we think only in terms of what happened to Jesus: "his face changed" and "his clothing became dazzling white" and he began a supernatural conversation with two ancient prophets. But that was only half of the story. The other part is what happened to the men.

They were able to witness this revelation of Jesus only because they were "fully awake." Had they stayed sleeping, they would have missed out. They would not have had this astonishing insight into the glory of their friend and Master.

It's an obvious point but one that may need more attention than we'd care to admit. Of course we have to be "awake" in order to absorb the fullness of our faith. If we are not tuned in, not attentive, not exerting any effort, then we are certainly going to miss out. But the fact is that we don't always realize we are falling asleep.

Just as Peter, James, and John were "overcome" with sleep, we too can slip into this state without necessarily realizing it's happening. Spiritually speaking, we can become numb or lazy and slowly fade away from the fervor of authentic faith. This is why the church, in her wisdom, gives us the season of Lent. During these weeks, we strive to purify ourselves by attacking the sins and selfishness that make us spiritual sleepwalkers. This is the time to refocus, to clear away the cobwebs and to become "fully awake." Ultimately, we pray that these efforts will allow us to truly see "his glory" come Eastertide.

**Lent 2016:** Lent offers us all a very special opportunity to grow in our relationship with God and to deepen our commitment to a way of life, rooted in our baptism. In our busy world, Lent provides us with an opportunity to reflect upon our patterns, to pray more deeply, experience sorrow for offending God in what we have done and failed to do, to seek God's mercy and forgiveness in Confession and to be generous to those in need. **Second week of Lent Daily Meditation:** Listen to him. It is wonderful to begin this week acknowledging that we need God's help in listening and hearing. It is so powerful to ask for the "gift of integrity" - to express our desire for wholeness. And, we humbly ask for light in the midst of whatever might "shadow our vision." This is the God who allows Jesus to be transfigured before his disciples, to prepare them for what they were about to face. This is our God, who can give each of us the change of heart we ask for. *O LORD, I am your servant; I am your servant; To you will I offer sacrifice of thanksgiving, and I will call upon the name of the LORD. Psalm 116. Living Lent With Mercy- Pope Francis: Second Sunday in Lent- In Service to Others-* In order to be capable of mercy, therefore, we must of all dispose ourselves to listen to the Word of God. This means rediscovering the value of silence in order to meditate on the Word that comes to us. In this way, it will be possible to contemplate God's mercy and adopt it as our lifestyle. *Misericordiae Vultus, N.22*

Lord, your word and deeds reveal the tender mercy and love of God. You continue to reveal yourself in so many ways, but I often do not pay attention. You are present in my heart, in creation, in the Word of God, in the Eucharist and sacraments, in the human condition and especially in the poor. Move me to create a sacred space where I can be present to you. Inspire me to prayerfully read your Word and meditate on the various ways you reveal God's love and mercy. Help me to rediscover the richness of the Word of God and its power to transform me in your image and likeness. Amen.



**The Jubilee Year of Mercy : In response to our Bishop's request, St. Ann's has a Prayer Hour for Mercy with Eucharistic Adoration every Monday evening at 7:00 p.m.** The Sacrament of Confession is available during that time until 7:55 p.m. when we will have Benediction. In addition, Confession is available before each weekday Mass from 9:00 a.m. to 9:20 a.m. Tuesday to Friday. Confessions on Saturday are available from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. in addition to the usual 4:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. It is my hope that this Year of Mercy will be a time of increased prayer and increased reception of the Sacraments, especially Confession and the Eucharist, so that we may grow much closer to Our Lord Jesus Christ and better appreciate and put into practice the great love and mercy He shows us. **Also, at any time you would like to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation, you may come to the rectory or phone to make an appointment.**

**On Saturday March 5th, 2016** in every parish church across the diocese, a priest will be available from 10am-2pm to hear individual confessions. There will also be Eucharistic Adoration during this time. **We need volunteers to commit to a time in Adoration so that the four hours are covered. There is a sign up sheet at the back of the church where you may sign up for as long as you like.**



**Share Lent Calendar 2016**  
**A Climate of Change pilgrimage starts in Haiti**  
 This year for Share Lent, Development and Peace invites you to join a Climate of Change pilgrimage. Together we will journey through Lent with people whose lives are being changed with your support. Please read today's insert, a copy of the Mini-Magazine. This is your pilgrimage guide. In Wee 1 we meet Adonis Medjine from Haiti. A survivor of the 2010 earthquake, she is benefiting from a social enterprise project to raise chickens. "I have a husband and two children. Thanks to this job and the wages I receive, I can take care of my family, send my children to school and complete a few projects." **The Share Lent collection will take place on March 13th, Solidarity Sunday.**

**Syrian Refugee Sponsorship Committee & Fundraising:** Our parish commitment to sponsor a Syrian Refugee Family with 5-7 members will move forward with **thanks** to those parishioners who have volunteered to assist with this project. The Committee meeting date has been scheduled for **Tuesday, February 23rd at 7m. If you would like to learn more about this initiative, please join us!** Our next step is to **secure funding** for this project. If you would like to assist financially there is still time to donate. Please use a separate envelope labelled "Syrian Refugee Family" with your name and address on it. If donating by cheque, please make it payable to "St. Ann Parish".



All youth ministry members from Grades 5-12 are invited to a Youth Ministry Brainstorming Night on Wednesday, February 24th from 6:30pm-8:00pm in the St. Ann's conference room. This is your chance to tell us what you want from your youth ministry program! If you have never attended youth ministry, this is a great opportunity to get to know the members. Contact Youth Minister Roberta at 904.401.0174 with any questions. God Bless!

**Parish Calendar**

- March..... World Day of Prayer—St. Alexander Parish
- March 4th.... More to follow
- March 4th.... Visitation of the sick and homebound
- March 13th.... Solidarity Sunday
- March 20th.... Palm Sunday
- March 24th.... Holy Thursday
- March 25th.... Good Friday
- March 26th.... Holy Saturday/Easter Vigil
- March 27th.... Easter Sunday
- March 30th... St. Ann School Easter Mass 9:30am

**The Way of the Cross: Join us each Friday during Lent at 7pm including Good Friday, March 25th.**



**World Day of Prayer**

The World Day of Prayer Service will be held at **St. Alexander Parish, Fonthill on Friday, March 4, 2015 at 2:00 pm.**

**Cuba 2016 "Receive children. Receive me." Join us on March 4** for the 2016 worship celebration **written by WDP Cuba.** Maybe that is what Jesus would have liked to hear from the disciples when the little children were brought to him for a blessing! Instead, the disciples spoke sternly to them. Then Jesus challenged the disciples to see God's love in the face of those children and to care for them. Let them come, and you will learn how to receive the Kingdom of God! Receive children. Receive me!

Which of those attitudes has been yours? Who are the children whom Jesus embraces and blesses while challenging us to receive them like the Kingdom of God? How would you with the worldwide WDP community continue to share this blessing? In silence, we listen to the voice of women and children in Cuba, meditate and embrace as we pray with them. **Through World Day of Prayer, women affirm that prayer and action are inseparable and both have immeasurable influence in the world.**



**The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul**

**The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul at St. Ann's needs new members.** The SVDP is a lay Catholic organization whose mission is to live the Gospel message of serving Christ through the poor with love, respect, justice and joy. The society is open to all those who seek to live their faith, loving and committing themselves to their neighbors in need. By turning concern into action Vincentians see Christ in anyone who suffers and come together as a family to have personal contact with the poor and help in all possible ways.

**The motto is that no work of charity is foreign to the society, and assistance is provided in many areas such as:**

- Low-cost food outlets
  - Budget counselling
  - Children's activities and holiday programs
  - Prison visitation
  - Drug and alcohol rehabilitation
  - Home and hospital visitation
  - Emergency food, rent, utilities, clothing
  - Comfort and where applicable spiritual guidance
- The ultimate goal is for members to give hope to all the people we assist and if you can help please speak with Father Chad, Deacon Jim or Liliana.