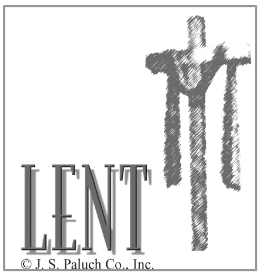

Second Sunday of Lent
February 25, 2018

If God is for us,
who can be against us?

— Romans 8:31b

THE OBEDIENCE OF ABRAHAM AND JESUS

God tested Abraham by asking not for an ordinary sacrifice, which would have been a partial burning with the meat divided between God and the people and eaten by those who sacrificed, but for a holocaust, a total burning of the sacrificial animal. This type of sacrifice consecrated the entire offering to God alone. This is what God was asking of Abraham in offering his only son, Isaac. When Abraham demonstrated his obedience, that was enough. This story from today's scriptures foretells the completion of the blood sacrifices of the old covenant in the new covenant: the blood of God's own Son, offered to us on the cross and in the Eucharist. Abraham's obedience foreshadows the obedience of Jesus to God's promise of salvation. The obedience of Abraham is rewarded in the birth to him, through Isaac, of many nations. The obedience of Jesus is rewarded in the salvation of all people for all time.

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TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

The second Sunday of Lent every year recalls the Transfiguration of the Lord. Since the fourth century, Mount Tabor has been the focus of devotion to this event. As mountains go, it is not particularly lofty, rising about fifteen hundred feet, within view of the Sea of Galilee and very close to Nazareth. Scripture doesn't identify the mountain, but in the year 348 Saint Cyril of Jerusalem said he preferred Mount Tabor to Mount Hermon as the site of the Transfiguration, and his opinion won. It has long been a strategic military site, and ancient fortresses are visible on the heights. Over the centuries, churches and fortified monasteries rose on the mountaintop, only to be destroyed by various invaders. Six hundred years ago, local Christians started to decorate the ruins with flags and banners on the Feast of the Transfiguration. In 1631, the Sultan granted permission to the Franciscans to live on Mount Tabor, and they have been there ever since, discovering the ruins of an old Crusader church and constructing the present church on the site in 1924.

The top of the mountain is divided into Greek Orthodox and Latin (that's us) zones. At one time, tourists arrived on the summit by bus, but this is no longer permitted. Some ride bicycles up a challenging and winding path, while others take the four thousand three hundred steps constructed for Christian pilgrims in the fourth century. It's hard to imagine the fishermen following Jesus up this craggy mountain without complaint. Visitors will sympathize with Peter's plan to construct booths and stay put with Jesus, Moses, and Elijah for a while, enjoying the view, and planning the trip back down.

—Rev. James Field, © J. S. Paluch Co.

Mon:	Dn 9:4b-10; Ps 79:8, 9, 11, 13; Lk 6:36-38
Tues:	Is 1:10, 16-20; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23; Mt 23:1-12
Wed:	Jer 18:18-20; Ps 31:5-6, 14-16; Mt 20:17-28
Thurs:	Jer 17:5-10; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 16:19-31
Fri:	Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a; 17b-28a; Ps 105:16-21; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
Sat:	Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Ps 103:1-4, 9-12; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
Sun:	Ex 20:1-17 [1-3, 7-8, 12-17]; Ps 19:8-11; 1 Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25

IMPRESSION

When we try to make an impression,
that's the impression we make.
—Anonymous

Finance Corner:

Your generosity is greatly needed and appreciated!

For the month of **February** offerings:

2/18: 1st Collection: $2657. Capital Expenditures: $1232.
2/14: St. Philip/St. Teresa Ministries: $458. 2/25: Rural Food.
3/4: Capital Expenditures.

Mark your Calendar for Future Events & Meetings:

Parish Council: Tues., 3/20/18, at 12Noon in Hall
Finance Council: Mon., 2/26/18, at 11:00AM in Hall

Liturgy Committee: Fri., 3/23/18, at 9:30AM in Hall

St. Teresa Ladies Guild: Contact Diane, 823-6044
St. Philip Ladies Guild: Contact Susan, 829-1189

Every Friday, Centering Prayer: 9:30AM at St Philip

Coffee & Goodies: Following 8AM Sunday Mass and Monday/Wednesday after 9AM Mass, at St Philip Hall

Mondays & Wednesdays-Seniors Lunch at 12noon:
All seniors welcome! (*No lunch Monday before 2nd Tuesday of month*)

✞ ♥ ✞ Mass Intentions ✞ ♥ ✞ Schedule

Sat., Feb. 24, 5pm Mass ✞ Brendan Smith
Sun., Feb. 25, 8am Mass
Sun., Feb. 25, 9:30am Mass for the People
Sun., Feb. 25, 11:15am Mass
Mon., Feb. 26, 9am Mass Papke family special intention
Tues., Feb. 27, 9am Mass
Wed., Feb. 28, 9am Mass
Thurs., March 1, 9am Mass & Anointing of the Sick
Fri., March 2, 9am Communion Service
Sat., March 3, 5pm Mass ✞ Brendan Smith
Sun., March 4, 8am Mass for the People
Sun., March 4, 9:30am Mass ✞ Peter Mizera
Sun., March 4, 11:15am Mass Papke family special intention

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday:	Second Sunday of Lent;
Friday:	Abstinence; First Friday; World Day of Prayer
Saturday:	St. Katharine Drexel; First Saturday

***Prayer Requests:* Call 874-3812 to add/remove names.**
Teresa Kooi, Pat Kampmann, Pete, Thomas Tolar, Susan Brown, Felicia Gonzalez, Holly White, Kathleen, Jamie Silva, Lorri McCamen, Sarah, Clifford James, Terri Andrews, Marilyn Vitali, Fred Pisani, Theresa Spiteri, Sara, Mary Anne Parque, Dorothy Komarek Denton, Steve, Sr. Marjorie, Barbara, Kathy Higgins, Dave Creeth, Jim Pearson, Ronald Porter, Annie Tobin, William, Parson Pfsorich, Dave, Mary O'Donnell, Bill Zandoski, Daniel, Papke family, Mary Karp, Randy Tonelli,, Robert and Amanda, Wanda McManus

Looking for a special gift in honor or in memory of a loved one?
The Rural Food program has a beautifully designed card that is sent to the recipient indicating that you made a gift to the program. The cards are available on pamphlet tables at both St. Philip & St. Teresa Churches or by contacting Rod DeMartini, Program Coordinator, at roddemar@comcast.net.

St Philip and St Teresa CAREGIVING MINISTRY:
Ministering to the sick, elderly and needy of the parish by…

- Visiting, shopping
- Transportation (to support groups, doctor appointments, religious functions, etc)
- Socializing and companionship
- Providing specialized information.

Program is available to people in the area in need of our support.
Contact: Dolores Novello (707-874-6072 or the office (707-874-3812)

Flowers for the Altar during the Year
Flowers for the altar are a spiritual investment for a loved one, to celebrate any occasion, or just to express gratitude for your blessings. Flowers are also a gift to all of us as we enter and see the glorious display around the altar and experience the liturgy framed by such exquisite beauty. We appreciate your donations! To contribute for St. Philip Church flowers, please call 874-6072.

RURAL FOOD PROGRAM UPDATE for FEBRUARY 2018

On February 13 we welcomed 110 families representing 141 adults, 37 children and 41 seniors for a total of 219 people receiving nutritional support. This program is funded through the Rural Food Collection on the last Sunday of each month as well as through private donations and the generous support of our volunteers.

In January and February, Rural Food clients were invited to participate in a survey regarding our service and the groceries and produce that we provide each month. This will enable us to continue to make improvements in this vital ministry as our parish enters a fourth decade of service in the Rural Food Program.

Please continue to collect paper grocery bags, especially with handles, and egg cartons. We are looking into biodegradable produce bags and recyclable grocery bags for our clients.

RURAL FOOD VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Saturday, March 10, *from 9:00 --10:00am repackaging in Parish Hall*
Monday, March 12, *from 12:30 – 2:30pm to set up the Parish Hall*
Tuesday, March 13, *from 8:30 – 11:00am to distribute the food and to assist clients*

Parish Notes: The Endowment Account with Christian Brothers Financial Services of San Francisco for the benefit of our parish of St. Philip/St Teresa provides a financial resource for this parish that will last forever. Contact Fr. Fergal McGuinness to discuss further: fmcguinness@srdiocese.org.

Exclusive Limited Print of Ansel Adam's original picture of St. Teresa Church from 1953: *All proceeds will support needed restoration of St. Teresa of Avila Mission. A limited number of prints have been printed from Ansel's original negative. Each reprint is individually numbered. Prints are available for a tax deductible donation of $175. Please contact restoration committee members for your own limited print: Peg 707-867-6073 or Bob 707-875-9148.*

St. Patrick's Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner

Saturday, March 17, 2018
No Host Bar: 6pm Dinner: 7pm
$25 Dinner ticket
Tickets now on sale after Mass or at the office
Sponsored by the St. Philip/St. Teresa Boosters Club
For more information, call Alma at 874-1851

Anointing of the Sick:
St. Teresa's after 9am Mass on Thursday
3/1/18

Penance Services with Individual Confessions:
St. Philip's on Wednesday 3/14/18 at 7pm
St. Teresa's on Thursday 3/15/18 at 9:30am

The Little Ones Jim Burrows

Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white,such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. Mk 9:2-3

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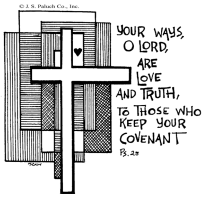
Scripture from the *New American Bible, rev. ed.* © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970, CCD. Used with permission.

A Lenten Discussion of the Book of Acts: Pat Griffith will conduct a Discussion of the Book of Acts during Lent. Acts is more than just a story of the early Church following the Ascension of Jesus. It gives us insight into the growth pains of the Church as it transitions from a small Jewish-Christian community in Jerusalem to a universal Church extending to the gentiles through Paul's ministry, showing how God creates change through the Holy Spirit. The Discussion will be held in the Parish Hall from 10:00Am to 11:30AM on the following dates: Tues. 2/20, Fri. 2/23, Tues. 2/27, Fri. 3/2, Fri. 3/9, Tues. 3/20, Fri. 3/23, and Tues. 3/27. Please text your registration to Pat at 707-477-2971 or email Patrick@fairyhill.com. Please prepare by reading first two chapters of Acts prior to the first meeting.

Pope Francis Tweet

"Only those able to acknowledge their mistakes and ask pardon receive understanding and forgiveness from others."

Remember Lord, those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith." These beautiful words at Mass recall our beloved dead. A Mass intention is a way to remember a beloved friend or family member, whether in death, for healing, in celebration of a special day, or simply for prayer and guidance. Come by the office (or call 707-874-3812) to arrange the Mass. A customary donation of $10 is appreciated.