

The Transfiguration of the Lord

There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. ³ Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus.

Matthew 17:2-3



Mission Statement

“Good Shepherd parish, under the guidance of the true Shepherd Jesus Christ, is a Catholic faith based community seeking to proclaim and live the gospel message. Recognizing our diversity, we strive to bring together a church family, welcoming all people as we grow together in faith, hope and love.”

954 Stuyvesant Ave Irvington NJ 07111 Phone: (973) 375-8568

Fax (973) 375-7040 Email gsirvington@comcast.net

Website: www.goodshepherdnj.com



SERVED BY

Rev. Valentine Ugwuanya Pastor
Ed Stolarz Director of Music Ministry
Denise Perry Secretary

For more information on our parish
please go to:
Goodshepherdnj.com
Or email us at
gsirvington@comcast.net

A NOTE FROM FR. VALENTINE. REFLECTION ON FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION AUG. 6, 2023.

On this Solemnity of the Transfiguration, from Matthew’s reading, the voice in the cloud heard, repeats, almost identically the words Jesus first heard from the heavens at his baptism: “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.” This is what parents should constantly with no hesitation to repeat this message to their children. The human heart cries out just this, this taste for love from a father or mother to a child. And as we know human cultures offer many ways of grounding and obscuring our identity. Some of these are healthy and necessary; others are exploitative and manipulative.

Ideologies as we have seen this modern time that limit our understanding of the human person to the delineation of certain arbitrary characteristics, that sow confusion and turn us against one another. But even the noble impulses of human culture are relativized by the good news of God’s fatherly love for each of us in Christ Jesus. Peter’s instinct on the mountain, to preserve the experience, weren’t bad. But he has to come down from his mountain experience in order to bear witness. The voice from the cloud did not even let him finish his thought. What the voice said was to “Listen.” This was what Peter forgot, to listen to Jesus, the Beloved.

So, as we celebrate the Transfiguration of our Lord today, the centrality of this event is that this “veil” which obscures our ability to see Christ as He is, was lifted and Christ was seen with the clearest of spiritual vision by three Disciples. Today’s reading is a call to our true holiness, of true greatness, of faith and trust in God and to the ultimate glory that awaits us. We encounter God who speaks to us and the ultimate glory that awaits us. We encounter a God who speaks to us, whom we are called to listen to, and respond to him. We are called to a life of transformation in order to see that which is Kadosh- holy, sacred and “mysterion.”

As pilgrims, people on a journey - “homo viator”, our Blessed Lord had to take His three disciples and apostles on a journey, on a pilgrimage to the mountain for a change, to see a new scenery, to be alone with them. The Transfiguration of Jesus happened at night!!! A new truth for me; now it makes perfect sense that in the fullness of the darkest of night an astounding brilliance shown forth from the Transfigured Jesus. This feast describes Jesus at the peak or pinnacle of His earthly life when He reveals Himself to three of His closest disciples, be means of a miraculous and supernatural light The setting for the Transfiguration was like a flat, table plateau where hearts get changed on the mountain. Worlds get changed on the mountain.

Learn more at formed.org



THE CATHOLIC FAITH.
ON DEMAND.

Good Shepherd Parish Schedule for Mass & Worship (schedules are subject to change)

Saturday (anticipated) 5:30pm
Holy Day TBD.

Sundays —9:00am, 11:00am
Reconciliation: Saturdays 4:30-5:00pm

National Holidays —9:00am

Mass Intentions For the week of August 6—August 12, 2023

Saturday 5:30pm For the Protection of Babies in the Womb and Their Families
Aug 5

Sunday 9:00am H&WB Rhianna Scott

Aug 6 11:00am For the Protection of Babies in the Womb and Their Families

Monday 7:00am Thanksgiving for the Wedding Anniversary of Emmanuel & Victoria Oguh
Aug 7

Tuesday 7:00am H&WB Debbie Watson
Aug 8

Wednesday 7:00am Thanksgiving for Betina lamysaair
Aug 8

Thursday 7:00am H&WB Angela Freeman
Aug 9

Friday 7:00am H&WB Curtis Richards
Aug 11

Saturday 8:30am Thanksgiving for the Devine Baby Jesus

Aug 12 5:30pm Thanksgiving for Gods' Tender Mercies and Favors Received

Kindly keep our parishioner's family, with health and other challenges, in your prayers

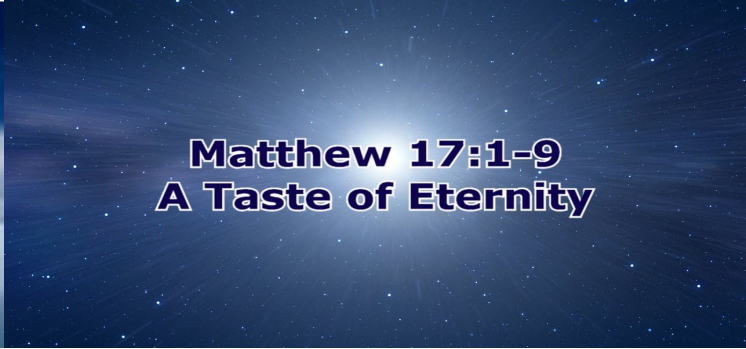
Let us always remember in our prayers the sick members of our Parish

Angela Freeman	Paul Kocum	Sandi Mosley	Debbie Watson
Elizabeth Cassata	Emily Lugo	Bob and Barbara Nezlick	Pope Francis
Frederick Hamilton	Curtis Richards	Carlos Quinones	Josephine DiPietro
Tom and Janice Ho	Jean Michelin	Corizon Abuzied	Venus Matthews

* Please advise if any names should be added or delete from the list

Hospital Privacy | Please remember that current privacy laws regarding patients in hospitals do not allow hospitals/ pastoral care offices to contact parishes. If you or a loved one are in the hospital and want a priest to visit, please call the I office at (973)375-8568

Please contact Fr. Valentine or call the rectory if you are interested in Intentions, of a Sanctuary Lamp, Alter bread and wine or Alter Flowers



Collection Report		July 30, 2023
Weekly Target		\$8,645.00
Collection (Offering+ Fuel & Energy)		Data will be available in the August 20th
Surplus (Deficit)		Bulletin
Fiscal Year to Date		
Budget:		
Actual:		
Surplus (Deficit)		
Rolling 4 Week Averages		
Average Collection:		
Average Surplus (Deficit)		

GSP EVENT CALENDER	
Sunday August 6	
Presentation By brother Sean Moffett on Christian Brothers Mission Appeal	
Monday August 7	
Tuesday August 8	
Wednesday August 9	
Thursday August 10	
Friday August 11	
Saturday August 12	
11:00AM Catechism session with all the Confirmation Candidates	

Minister Assignments August 12-13 2023

Saturday	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Presider
Sunday			
8/12 5:30pm	Denise Perry	Minya Yago Barbara Banks Nellie Bate	Fr. Val
8/13 9:00am	Brenda Freeman	Stanislaus Egeolu- Obimezie Helen –Chife-Akude Alexandra Dunac	Fr. Val
8/13 11:00am	Uchenna Duru	Denise Younker Pathinathan Thevarajah Janet Drews	Fr. Val

Good Shepherd Parish Information

PARISH REGISTRATION Forms can be found at the back of the church or call the rectory (973) 375-8568

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION Saturday 4:30- 5:00 pm

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM In order to have your child baptized at Good Shepherd, the parents must be registered and active members of our parish for at least 6 months. Godparents or sponsors must meet qualifications as to have received both sacraments of Communion and Confirmation, attend Mass regularly and been a registered parishioner at a Catholic Church For more information please call the Rectory 9(73) 375-8568

THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY Couples who are planning a wedding should call the parish at least one year prior to the chosen date and before they make any other arrangements, (973)375-8568

PASTORAL OF THE SICK Notify a priest of all who are hospitalized, home-bound, or Emergencies.(973)375-8568

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS, RCIA. Adults interested in becoming members of the Catholic Church and Catholics in need of Sacraments, Confirmation or Eucharist; inquire at the Rectory.To register please call the rectory(973-375-8568

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION Sunday of October-April from 10:00-11:00 am in the Church building. For more information please call the Rectory (973-375-8568

Website: www.goodcheperdnj.com

Email : gsirvington@comcast.net

Pope Francis: Treat others with dignity, not as object

Rome Newsroom, Jun 10, 2023 / 11:43 am

Pope Francis said in a message Saturday that others should be treated with dignity and respect, not as objects to exploit or throw away.

The pope's speech was read aloud at [a live-streamed event on human fraternity](#), sponsored by the Fratelli Tutti Foundation, held in St. Peter's Square June 10. Pope Francis was scheduled to attend before being hospitalized on Wednesday for an abdominal surgery.

"Even though I am unable to greet you in person, I would like to welcome and thank you wholeheartedly for coming," Francis said in the message, read by Cardinal Mauro Gambetti, archpriest of St. Peter's Basilica and president of the Fratelli Tutti Foundation.

"In the encyclical *Fratelli tutti*," the pope said, "I wrote: 'Fraternity necessarily calls for something greater, which in turn enhances freedom and equality,' since the one who sees the other as a brother or sister sees in him or her a face, not a number."

"The other is always 'someone' who has dignity and merits respect, and not 'something' to be used, exploited or thrown away," he added.

The June 10 event, called "#Not Alone," was centered on the signing of a declaration on human fraternity drafted by a dozen Nobel Peace Prize winners together with representatives of former Nobel Prize-winning organizations.

"United with Pope Francis, we want to reaffirm that 'authentic reconciliation does not flee from conflict, but is achieved in conflict, resolving it through dialogue and open, honest and patient negotiation' (*Fratelli Tutti*, n. 244). All this within the context of the human rights framework," the declaration says.

Cardinal Pietro Parolin, secretary of state, signed the document in Pope Francis' place June 10.

After the signing of the document, young people representing different countries formed "a symbolic embrace" by joining hands in a ring around St. Peter's Square.

"In our world torn apart by violence and war, tweaks and adjustments are not enough," Pope Francis said in his message. "Only a great spiritual and social covenant born from the heart and centered on fraternity can restore the sacredness and inviolability of human dignity as the core of relationships."

"This does not require theories on fraternity but concrete gestures and shared decisions that make it a culture of peace," he continued. "The question to ask ourselves is not what society and the world can give me, but what can I give to my brothers and sisters."

"When we return home, let us think of some concrete gesture of fraternity that we can make: reconciling with family members, friends and neighbors, praying for those who hurt us, recognizing and helping those in need, speaking words of peace at school, university or in society, 'anointing' with closeness those who feel alone," he said.

