

Readings for the week of March 1, 2026

Sunday:

Gn 12:1-4a/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22/
2 Tm 1:8b-10/Mt 17:1-9

Monday:

Dn 9:4b-10/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13/
Lk 6:36-38

Tuesday:

Is 1:10, 16-20/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and
23/Mt 23:1-12

Wednesday:

Jer 18:18-20/Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16/
Mt 20:17-28

Thursday:

Jer 17:5-10/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 16:19-31

Friday:

Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Ps 105:16-17,
18-19, 20-21/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

Saturday:

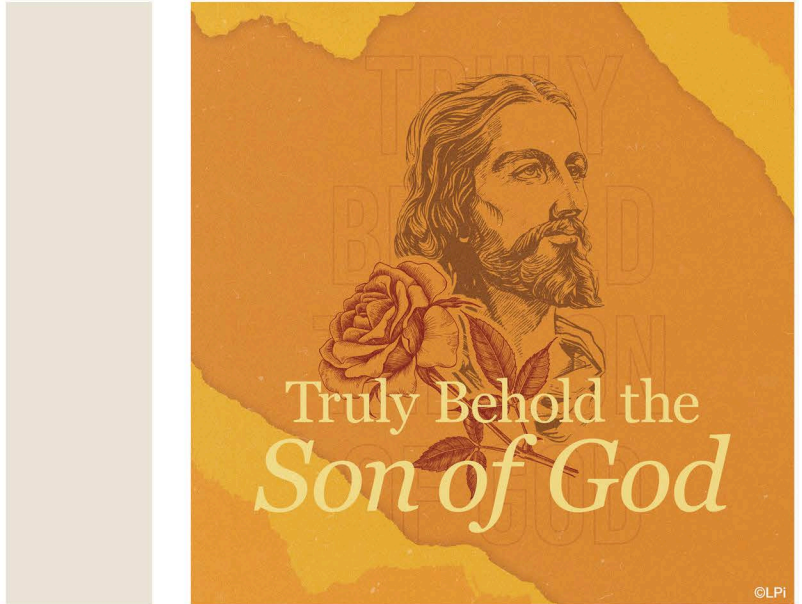
Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10,
11-12/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Next Sunday:

Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Rom 5:1-2,
5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a,
40-42



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

When I sit down to answer emails or write a Gospel reflection or return a phone call, I sometimes wonder: Does any of this humdrum work matter? Maybe you ask the same thing about your daily labor. Today's Gospel, the Transfiguration, offers a surprising answer.

Jesus leads Peter, James, and John up a mountain. There, **“his face shone like the sun face and his clothes become white as light” (Matthew 17:2)**. That detail regarding his clothes is worth considering.

We know Jesus' body is inseparably united to the divine nature. But his clothing? That's something made by human hands. It's an artifact. And yet it shines with the same uncreated light. What does this detail mean? The early Church noted that Adam and Eve's first act after the Fall was to make clothing. This clothing symbolizes all human labor that supports our dignity. In Jesus' glorified garments, we see not just the redemption of our body, but of human effort to protect and uplift human dignity.

Parents, your family is your work. Baristas, plumbers, nurses, accountants — your labor, your emails, your phone calls, your spreadsheets — can all become radiant when offered to God in love. The question isn't just do I believe in Jesus' glory, but do I believe he can share it with the work of my hands?

Lenten Challenge: Identify the “artifact” you are making to uplift the dignity of others: your job, your home, your relationships. Consciously bring it to the Lord this Sunday at Mass. Offer it to share in His glory. It will begin to shine.

— *Father John Muir*

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: It's not our job to bring the world to the Truth. It's our job to bring the Truth into the world. What a tragedy it would be, if Truth only lived on the mountaintop.

Three Tents

You guys, I was *such* a good Catholic at the National Eucharistic Congress.

Mass every day? Check. Rosary every day? Check (and check — we said a lot of rosaries). Deep thoughts and deep conversations about God with total strangers? Check. Hours in adoration reflecting on the state of my soul? Check.

When I went to Indianapolis in the summer of 2024 to cover the NEC for our archdiocesan newspaper, I knew it would be a fun and spiritually rich experience. But I didn't expect that it would make me think differently about my whole life (and afterlife). And when people ask me why — "What happened in Indianapolis that changed you?" — I can only tell them this: I spent time with God.

Of course, I do all these things in my regular life at home, too. I try to be a good Catholic here. But good grief, it's a lot harder. In Indianapolis, I didn't have a calendar full of appointments and to-do lists that filled me with dread. I didn't have the world crowding around me, grasping at my attention and my will.

Indianapolis was the mountain, and if I could have, I would have built three tents.

So I understand Peter's feelings at the Transfiguration. He's thrilled — he sees it all clearly now. Here is the fullness of Truth, revealed in all its glory, and he's ready to start bringing groups of tourists up to see it. He's ready to bring people to Christ. But in the blood-soaked, fear-filled days to come, Peter will realize that it's not his job to bring the world to the Truth. His job is to bring the Truth into the world.

What a tragedy it would be, if Truth only lived on the mountaintop.

So build three tents, strong and durable shelters for the Truth to dwell. But build them in your heart. And then, the Transfiguration won't be just an event, something that happened at a certain time and a certain place. It'll be a reality that lives within us all. And we will bear it with us wherever we go.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

Question:

What is the Christian attitude towards violent conflicts?

Answer:

In the Beatitudes, Jesus teaches us "Blessed are the peacemakers" and to "love your enemies." All human beings are made in God's image and likeness. We are one human family — brothers and sisters despite what divides us. Christians have the obligation to prioritize peaceful means to resolve conflicts. War wreaks a toll on a nation. Civilians bear a disproportionate burden of this cost during the war itself and as the nation rebuilds. However, those in authority have the obligation to protect the innocent.

During the gradual fall of the Roman Empire, theologians began to theorize that war could be just if it was a defensive measure of last resort. The "Just War Theory" was later expanded by St. Thomas Aquinas, who also included moral obligations during the war itself, including the protection of civilians. Those in public authority have the obligation to carefully examine their motives, agendas, and rationale for violent force. Should a cause be just, those who fight and defend under such circumstances must be valued and honored. They deserve our support both during and after the war.

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

I will make of you a great nation,
and I will bless you;
I will make your name great,
so that you will be a blessing. (Gn 12:2)

Psalm:

Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you. (Ps 33)

Second Reading:

Bear your share of hardship for the gospel
with the strength that comes from God.
He saved us and called us to a holy life. (2 Tm 1:8-9)

Gospel:

Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother,
and led them up a high mountain by themselves.
And he was transfigured before them;
his face shone like the sun. (Mt 17:1-2)

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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

“Go forth,” God told Abram. We hear that message again in the Transformation: go forth. We cannot always remain where we are comfortable. We cannot always remain where things are simple. We must go forth.

Observances for the week of March 1, 2026

- Sunday:** 2nd Sunday of Lent
Tuesday: St. Katharine Drexel, Virgin
Wednesday: St. Casimir
Saturday: Sts. Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs
Next Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Lent;
Daylight Saving Time begins



Virtues, Explained!

Self-control flows from the cardinal virtue of temperance, and it's really all about boundaries. Through self-control, a gift of the Holy Spirit, we avoid surrendering too much of ourselves to our passions.

Blessing of Hope

In Your goodness Lord, bless us.
Help us to know Your abundance
and Your gifts.
Help us to hear Your voice and
know Your assurance.
Help us remember what You have
done,
and look forward to what You will
do.
Amen.

Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, conversing with him.
- Mt 17:1-3

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Questions of the Week

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading:

Trusting in the Lord, Abram is obedient to the directive to leave his land and home. When have others had to place their trust in you?

Second Reading:

Paul instructs Timothy to draw on the strength God gives us when facing hardships. Can you think of a difficult time when you relied on God's strength to help you?

Gospel:

In the transfiguration of Jesus, Peter, James, and John are fearful when they hear God's voice speak from the cloud. As the season of Lent continues, what are some fears you are facing?



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Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud cast a shadow over them, then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." - Mt 17:4-5

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