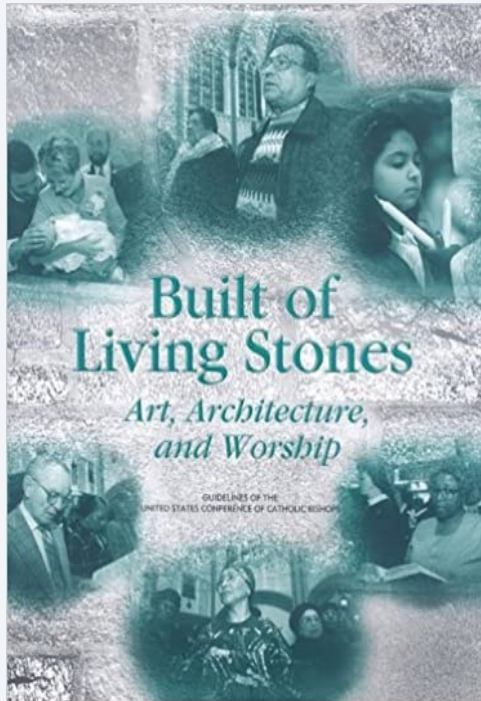


Rev. Nicholas Glisson, Pastor
The Most Rev. Michael C. Barber, SJ, Bishop of Oakland

Notes from Fr. Nick



ART AND THE CHURCH



Even before *homo sapiens* roamed the earth, some of our primitive ancestors made religious art. This is one way that archeologists recognize the presence of ancient hominids. It was, therefore, natural that early Christians immortalized their devotion in catacomb paintings. In spite of this, the Catholic Church has always expressed a certain ambivalence about art. The same Church that built the Sistine Chapel later covered the nudity in Michelangelo's *Last Judgment*. Protestants once smashed stained-glass windows as idolatrous. Liturgical dance has been praised and condemned. The arts are less easily controlled than theology.

So what are we to make of art in the Church today? There are several kinds of art: liturgical accoutrements are used in the act of worship, e.g., the tabernacle and the processional cross. They can be both practical and aesthetic. Catechetical art teaches through images by the likes of stained-glass windows and paintings in the Sistine Chapel. Beyond this, there is devotional art, such as icons. The Eastern Church regards this kind of art as similar to a sacrament: it places the beholder in the presence of the saint in heaven.

In November of 2000, the bishops of the United States promulgated the document *Built of Living Stones*. Beyond offering a thoroughgoing discussion of the role of art and architecture in worship, this document emphasizes the place of artists in the Church. It states: "*Excellent designs can be brought to beautiful completion only by competent and trustworthy professionals. These professionals have a right to compensation that matches the expectations of the outstanding competence and expertise demanded of them.*" (BLS 202) This volume may be the first time that the Church in the United States has acknowledged the rightful place of artists and architects in creating sacred art. Too often in the past artists were relegated to 'hired help', while the role of their spiritual expression was ignored.

Art is a basic impulse in human beings, and religious art speaks directly to this deep creative urge. Consider how creating or appreciating religious art adds to your spiritual life. When the pandemic is over, you should visit the Palace of the Legion of Honor and view the beautiful medieval art there. Even better, try your own hand at painting... or dance, music, sculpture or writing. It may open up an avenue to God's presence and broaden your spiritual life.

*"Together we share our
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and we care for others."*

MASS TIMES

Sunday 9:00 am—Livestream Mass

Sunday 11:00 am—Dominican Garden

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Saturday 4:00 pm

(and by appointment)

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The Kids' Bulletin

First Sunday of Lent
February 21, 2021

thekidsbulletin.com



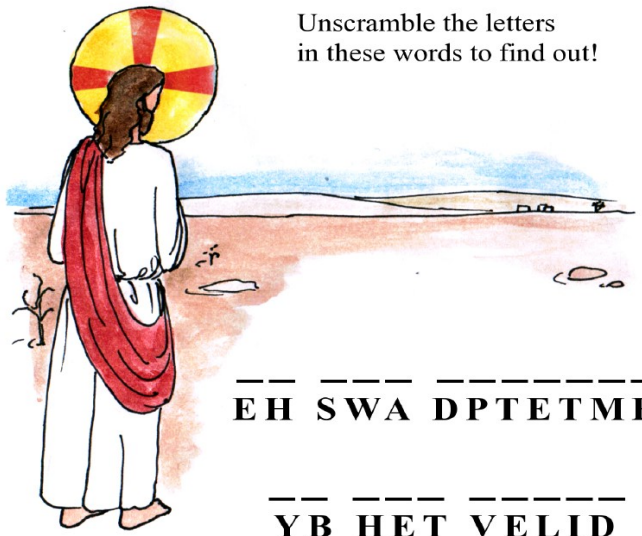
What was the story mentioned in today's first reading that talks about God washing away the sins of the world and making a covenant with His people?

Connect the dots to find out what the story was about!

JESUS IN THE DESERT

Today's Gospel reading tells us that Jesus was fasting in the desert for forty days. He was preparing Himself for His special work.

We know that Jesus was a real person. He was just like we are except that He never sinned. There was something that happened when He was in the desert that shows us that He had to decide between right and wrong just like we do. What was it?



Unscramble the letters in these words to find out!

EH SWA DPTETME

YB HET VELID

February 21st, 2021 ~ First Sunday in Lent

Collection for the Week Ending February 14 th , 2021			
Sunday	Actual	Budget	Difference
02/14/2021	\$6,690.63	\$8,471.00	-\$1,780.37
Year-to-Date	\$51,135.42	\$59,297.00	-\$8,161.58
<i>Thank you for your care of the parish.</i>			

Please Pray for the Members of our RCIA Class

RCIA Inquirer, *Maham*, took her first step toward Christianity on February 11th, when she was accepted into the *Order of Catechumens*. At the 11:00 am Mass this Sunday, Maham will participate in her next step, the *Rite of Election*, which begins her final preparation for initiation into the Catholic Faith. Please pray for Maham and her RCIA companions, *Kelly* and *Camillo*, as they journey toward the Easter Sacraments.

(As a result of the pandemic, the Rite of Election, normally celebrated at the Cathedral of Christ the Light, will instead be celebrated in the Dominican Garden this Sunday.)

Scripture Readings for the Week

21st *FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT*

Genesis 9:8-15 / 1 Peter 3:18-22 / Mark 1:12-15

22nd *Feast: The Chair of Saint Peter the Apostle*

1 Peter 5:1-4 / Matthew 16:13-19

23rd *Lenten Weekday [Saint Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr]*

Isaiah 55:10-11 / Matthew 6:7-15

24th *Lenten Weekday*

Jonah 3:1-10 / Luke 11:29-32

25th *Lenten Weekday*

Esther C:12, 14-16, 23-25 / Matthew 7:7-12

26th *Lenten Weekday*

Ezekiel 18:21-28 / Matthew 5:20-26

27th *Lenten Weekday*

Deuteronomy 26:16-19 / Matthew 5:43-48

Mass Intentions

Saturday	5:30	Rosemary Calderon RIP
Sunday	9:00	Charles Ortman RIP
	11:00	For the People of the Parish
Monday	8:30	Lisa Montgomery RIP
	5:30	Intentions of Chet Grycz
Tuesday	8:30	Intentions of Angela & Joe Hansen
	5:30	Mary L. Bernas RIP
Wednesday	8:30	Intentions of Tony Bucher
	7:30	Intentions of Jack Doherty
Thursday	8:30	Intentions of the Lukban Family
	5:30	Larry Thompson RIP
Friday	8:30	Intentions of Will Silloway
	5:30	Barbara Gamba RIP
Saturday	8:30	Alfred Hansen RIP

Peace & Justice Notes

Cristo Rey de la Salle East Bay High School, St. Elizabeth Campus: The *Peace & Justice Committee* enjoyed a virtual tour of this Oakland school at our last meeting, and learned about its unique program. Cristo Rey offers a college-prep education for grades 9-12, *only* admitting students whose families earn less than \$50,000 per year and could not afford the tuition of other local Catholic schools without the unique corporate work-study component that supports the cost of their education. The *Committee* is exploring ways that we can support this school's mission.

"Welcome the Stranger": President Joseph Biden has reversed or modified some of the previous Administration's actions to limit asylum claims and to restrict immigrant rights, including:

~ **Terminating the "Remain In Mexico" policy.** Asylum seekers are again allowed to enter the U.S. while their cases are being processed, freeing them from the dangerous and squalid camps along the Mexico/U.S. border in which the previous Administration detained them for the past two years. The Biden Administration intends to speed up the legal processes to which refugees are entitled; however, Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas says "I cannot overstate the fact that the prior administration completely dismantled the program, and it takes time to rebuild it in a way that addresses the humanitarian needs of the individuals who seek to access it."

~ **Introducing a path to citizenship for DACA recipients and Temporary Protected Status holders.** If passed, the *U.S. Citizenship Act*, introduced by President Biden on January 20, would allow TPS immigrants to turn their legal, temporary status into a path to U.S. citizenship after 3 years and give them green cards (so they can work!) in the interim. DACA recipients would have the same fast track to citizenship. Undocumented people living in the U.S. would secure the same after eight years.

~ **Developing new guidelines for Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE).** The Biden Administration intends to reorient ICE, which under the previous administration had wide latitude to arrest and deport immigrants. Many local immigrants *with no criminal background* were separated from their families and deported, despite having local ties and having made long-term contributions in our community.

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