

## Pastor's Message



The readings for the Second Sunday of Lent highlight Jesus' identity as God's beloved Son (revealed at his baptism and

Transfiguration) and confront us with the mystery of his death on the cross. Hence, the main purpose of today's readings is to give us an invitation as well as a challenge to put our Faith in the loving promises of a merciful God Who sent His Son to die for us and to transform our lives by renewing them during Lent. Our transformed lives will enable us to radiate the glory and grace of the transfigured Lord around us by our Spirit-filled lives.

### Readings of the Day

The first reading shows us how God saved the life of Abraham's son Isaac as a reward for Abraham's trusting Faith. Because of this Faith, the Lord renewed his promise to Abraham for the blessings of land and progeny. While Abraham's son Isaac was spared, God's beloved Son, Jesus, died a cruel death on the cross. The linking of this story with the Gospel reading emphasizes God's infinite love, as seen in the redemptive sacrifice of His own Son for the salvation of the world. If the mystery of the sacrifice of Abraham's beloved son, Isaac, is hard to understand, the mystery of the death of God's beloved Son, Jesus, is far more challenging.

That is why Paul reminds us, in the second reading, that God the Father did not spare His Own Son's life. What an irony and paradox! God spared Abraham's son, but not His own! Why? It is because God loves

us with an everlasting love. Paul interprets God's willingness to sacrifice His Own Son as proof of His great love for humankind and as God's pledge that He will always protect and provide for us.

Today's Responsorial Psalm (Ps 116) speaks of God's distress at the death of anyone. "Too costly in the eyes of the LORD is the death of His faithful."

In the transfiguration story (a theophany) in today's Gospel, Jesus is revealed as a glorious figure, superior to Moses (Ex 19-20; 34) and Elijah (1 Kings 19:4-18) who experienced theophanies. He is identified by the Heavenly Voice as the Son of God. Thus, the transfiguration narrative is a Christophany, that is, a manifestation or revelation of Who Jesus really is. Describing Jesus' transfiguration, the Gospel shows us a glimpse of the Heavenly glory awaiting those who do God's will by putting their trusting Faith in Him.

### Purpose of Transfiguration

The primary purpose of Jesus' Transfiguration was to allow him to consult his Heavenly Father and ascertain His plan for His Son's suffering, death and Resurrection. God's secondary aim was to make Jesus' chosen disciples aware of Jesus' Divine glory, so that .....

... *For the complete homily, please visit our website at:-*  
<http://strichardsjamaica.com/information/homily>

## Happy Birthday to all who are celebrating Birthdays this Month!

Babbet	Addison
Janet	Afflick
Marjorie	Bennett
Kayla	Brown
Nicole	Bryan-Jacobs
Deborah	Chambers
Hyacinth	Chin
Jacynth	Chung
Vivene	Chung
Helen	Cowan
Julette	Douglas-Barnaby
Glovis	Gardner
Conrad	Hartley
Audrey	Martin
Patricia	McLean
Adam	Ming
Grace	Ming
Marian	Moore
Ilaisaane	Pofaiva
Lauren-Ashley	Rutland
Gloria	Schenk
Malia	Schloss
Dane	Soares
Tarik	Thompson
Bevon	Wood

## Lenten Schedule

**Stations of the Cross** continue at St. Richards, led by designated Ministry groups each Friday of Lent from 6pm to 7pm.

### **Family & Life Commission Marriage Ministry**

An additional meeting for Couples is scheduled for **March 19 to 21, 2021**. Interested couples may contact the Parish Office or the Deacons for registration details.

### **The Youth Commission & CYM present RE-AWAKENING**

Rising in your Purpose  
Weekly Zoom sessions on Saturdays from:-

**February 20, 2021 - April 2, 2021**

@7:00pm, Age: 12 – 21

### **Contact**

**Fr. Mario Burton: 876-479-5803  
or Patrice Walters-Gordon: 876-410-7315**

### **Government Curfew**

**Hours 8.00p.m. to 5.00 a.m.**

**Saturday Mass will continue  
from 6:00pm – 7:00pm**

The Thanksgiving Service for Mrs. Hermine McCalla will be live streamed from St. Richards Church on YouTube at [https://youtu.be/Nlpdxw\\_QXIQ](https://youtu.be/Nlpdxw_QXIQ)

## Thanksgiving Service

# Mrs. Hermine

# McCalla

13<sup>th</sup> March 2021

10:00am

St. Richard of Chichester RC Church Webstream



### Newly Confirmed Members of the Church

Posing to capture and share the joy after receiving the Sacrament, from Left to Right: Deacon Paul Dunn, Bianca Galloway, Archbishop Kenneth Richards, Lilly-Bell McLary, Gabrielle Hewitt, Fr. Xavier Kannickairaj.

Sunday school classes are being held virtually every Sunday via Zoom from 11am – 12:30

### **This WEEK's SCHEDULE – March 2021**

#### FRIDAY 5th

- Stations of the Cross 6pm – 7pm

#### SATURDAY 6th

- Service of Thanksgiving for Calvin Bryan
  - Livestream

#### SUNDAY 7th

- Mass 8:00am 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent
- Divine Mercy Prayer – 9:45AM
- Sunday School – 11:00AM

# St Richard of Chichester & Our Lady of Lourdes Communities

St. Richard's

Sunday Mass: 8:00AM

Sunday School: 11:00am – 12Noon

Adoration: Tuesdays 6:30PM (SUSPENDED)

Prayer Meetings: Tuesdays 7:00PM (SUSPENDED)

Our Lady of Lourdes Sunday Mass: 11:00AM

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of  
LENT, Year B

Gen 22:1-2, 9a 10-13,  
15-18

PS 32:1-2, 5

“ I will walk in the presence of  
God, in the land of the living ”

Rom 8:31b - 34

Mk 9:2-10



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