

Dear Visitation Family,

Shalom (Peace)!

August 6th is remembered by most people as one of the most horrific days in recent history, since it was on this day in 1945 that the first atomic bomb was dropped by America over the Japanese city of Hiroshima. It was a dark and deadly act on humanity. While we as a nation sadly observe this infamous anniversary and pray for forgiveness and peace, **the Catholic Church for a very long time has been celebrating on August 6th the Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord Jesus Christ. This feast in contrast, is about light, hope and life!**

The Transfiguration of our Lord is so important in the life of Jesus that when Saint Pope John Paul II gave us the new Luminous mysteries of the Rosary, he included the Transfiguration as the fourth Luminous mystery. Our Blessed Lord always prayed to His Father and always did His will. As for example, before He chose the Twelve from among His disciples, He prayed and asked the Father to make known His concurrence. A couple of times He wanted His father to speak aloud his affirmation of whatever He was venturing on for the glory of God and salvation of people. As for example, in today's gospel (*Mt. 17:1-9*) before He goes to His Passion and Death and Resurrection (Paschal event), Jesus is asking for His Father's confirmation. Such an affirmation from the One whom you trust and love to death is always encouraging and inspiring.

The Transfiguration of Jesus was so important to the three apostles who were with Him. If the twelve apostles were Jesus' circle of friends who knew Him so well and were with Him in all important moments of His life, then the band of three: *Peter, James and John*, were His inner circle. They had primary role among the apostles to strengthen the others and lead them in faith. They could never do it unless they themselves were strong in their faith. With opposition to Jesus rising openly, and doubts lingering in their minds about the future, they needed a boost for their faith in the Son of God. And the transfiguration was like a shot in the arm, so to speak.

The Transfiguration is a feast that all of us need in the middle of our liturgical year. With its many burdens, life can wear us down a bit and we may like the apostles lose sight of who we are, what we are called to be, and what we promised to do. We are the privileged chosen ones of God who are called as members of His family to the deeper intimacy with Him, especially through the Eucharist. We promised that we will **SEE Jesus in Liturgy and Life, and BE Jesus in Family and Community.** Like the apostles who went up the mountain knowing Jesus only as the ordinary carpenter from Nazareth, (albeit in Mt 16, Simon Peter, by the prompting of grace from above confessed Jesus as the Son of God), but came down from there renewed and confirmed in their faith in Him, having seen His glory as God, may we encounter and experience the divine glorious presence of Jesus at every Mass. We too are told as the apostles were, to listen to Jesus. But even more, through our baptism, we are called to BE Jesus in the world and the family, radiating the divine glory and mercy of the Son of Man through our lives. Pope Benedict XVI in his reflection on Transfiguration put it beautifully: "*Transfiguration was meant not to change who Jesus was, but to reveal who really Jesus is: God, our Lord the King, the Most High over all the earth.*" (*Ps 97*). May our encounters with the Eucharistic Lord strengthen us in our resolve to be **GROWING DISCIPLES of and for Jesus. We all need reminders about who we are, and what we are meant to be. Transfiguration is an anticipation of our resurrection.**

May God bless and Mary protect you and yours!

I am blessed to be your father in Christ,

Rev. Edwin Kagoo

THY WILL, LORD!

Announcements

(Please submit bulletin announcements 2 weeks in advance of the expected publication date.)

DID YOU KNOW?

8 Modern Errors Every Catholic Should Know and Avoid (contd.)

By Monsignor Charles Pope

5. Equating Love with Kindness – Kindness is an aspect of love. But so is rebuke; so is punishment; as is praise. Yet today many, even in the Church, think of love only as kindness, affirmation, approval, encouragement, and other positive attributes. But true love is, at times, willing to punish, to insist on change, and to rebuke error.

Yet the modern age, equating love with mere kindness says, "If you really love me you will affirm, even celebrate, what I do." In this sort of climate, when Church teaching does not conform with modern notions of sexuality, for example, the Church is accused of "hate" simply because we do not "affirm" what people demand we affirm. Identity politics (where people hinge their whole identity and dignity on a narrow range of behaviors or attributes) intensifies the perception of a personal affront.

But instead of standing our ground and insisting that setting love and truth in opposition is a false dichotomy, most Catholics cave and many also come to believe that love can be reduced to mere kindness. Many of them take up the view of the world that the Church is unkind and therefore mean or even hateful. Never mind that Jesus said things that were, by this standard, unkind, and that he often spoke quite frankly about sin (beyond mere social justice and pharisaical attitudes to include things such as sexual sin, adultery, divorce, unbelief and so forth). No, forget all that, because God is love, and love is kindness and kindness is always pleasant and affirming. Therefore they conclude that Jesus couldn't really have said many of the things attributed to him. This error reduces Jesus to a harmless hippie and misconstrues love by equating it with mere kindness and unconditional affirmation. **(to be continued)**

Building Fund Collection this weekend. Please be generous.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Wednesday, August 9th at 6:00pm.

Religion Education News: Parent's Meeting and Registration will be held on the first two weekends of August after Mass, August 5th and 6th, and 12th and 13th. If these times are not possible for you, please call Linda Lorenz, [254-715-0573](tel:254-715-0573) to schedule a time to come in to register. All Kindergartners need to bring their Baptismal Certificates (a copy will be made). All non-registered parishioners need to bring a letter of approval to attend Church of the Visitation Religious Education Program from the pastor of the parish you belong. Fees: Church of the Visitation Parishioners \$25.00 per child and non-parishioners \$35.00 per child. If you would like to print and fill out a registration form, they are online at:

http://www.churchofthevisitation.org/religious_education.shtm but all parents need to attend one of the meetings. The Program is in need of Catechists, classroom aides, helpers and substitutes for both intermediate and high school classes. There are only two requirements needed, love for God and the little souls He put in our care, and to be EIM compliant.

Fr Edwin's Birthday Social will be this Sunday, August 6th. The Altar Society will host it. Thank you!

10 WEEK SERIES ON CATHOLICISM: Look forward in September to an awesome series on different aspects of our Catholic Faith taught by the well-known author and evangelist Bishop Robert Barron in our parish as part of our spiritual growth as disciples.

WESTPHALIA PICNIC MEETING: - A picnic meeting will be held after Mass on Sunday, August 13, to discuss this year's plans for our picnic. All are invited to attend. Suggestions for improvement are appreciated.

Altar Servers party will be August 20th from 3:30 to 6:00pm at SpareTime, 5434 208 Loop Temple. Pizza will be served from 5 to 6 pm. If you have questions call Louis Vrana at 254-721-8962.

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU INVITED SOMEONE TO BE A PRIEST OR A RELIGIOUS? DO IT TODAY!

LISTEN TO CATHOLIC RADIO LOCALLY @ 98.3 FM

<i>The Transfiguration of the Lord</i>				<i>August 6, 2017</i>
	August 5th <i>Saturday, 6:00pm</i>	August 6th <i>Sunday, 8:00am</i>	August 12th <i>Saturday, 6:00pm</i>	August 13th <i>Sunday, 8:00am</i>
Intentions	+Gilbert Wilde +Pauline Wilde +Gerald Hoelscher	Parishioners	+Connie Smiser +Harold Ranly +Margaret Moeller +Charlotte Ann Thornton	Parishioners
Altar Servers	Kolby Kosel Kelby Kosel Brenden Dorskocil Kasen Ordner	Nolan Kahlig Logan Kleypas Bryce Fikes Maddie Dach	Emma Hering Preston Hering Brenden Dorskocil Kasen Ordner	Adam Herwald Mike Lewis Helen Gausemeier James Lorenz
Lector	Laurie Hoelscher	Susan Neumann	Tammy Ryan	Ray Rabroker
Gift Bearers	Lynwood Kleypas Family	David Williams Family	Charles Moeller Family	Ronnie Kleypas Family
Ushers	Paul Dorskocil & Randy Lorenz	Gary Frei & Gary Ketterman	Calvin Wilde & Craig Ordner	Bradley Rudloff & Jonathan Frei
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Connie Petru	Walton Hering, Jr.	Doris Wright	Cindy Moeller
Money Counters		Louis & Jerlene Vrana and Horest & Bernice Weaver		Calvin & Cheryl Wilde and Craig & Debbie Ordner
Rosary Leaders	Charles & Greneta Ordner	Johnnie Thornton & Gary Ketterman	Charles & Greneta Ordner	Johnnie Thornton & Gary Ketterman
Vocations Cross Family		Curtis & Catherine Kahlig		Raymond & Margaret Moeller
Church Cleaners	8/12 & 8/19	Rita Kleypas, Claralee Gausemeier, Machel Culp, Shirley Hoelscher, Susan Neumann, Sharon Herwald		
Weekday Mass Intentions	August 8th <i>Tuesday, 8:00am</i>	August 9th <i>Wednesday, 8:00am</i>	August 10th <i>Thursday</i>	August 11th <i>Friday</i>
	+Angeline Hoelscher +Evelyn Lehman Zeig	+Alberta Lehman Goertz +Leo Zeig	NO MASS	NO MASS

Parish of the Visitation Westphalia, Texas



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westphaliaparish@gmail.com

Rev. Edwin Kagoo, Pastor
Deacon Bill Smetana
Deacon Charlie Wright
Deacon Julian Tyboroski

Saturday Mass – 6:00pm
Sunday Mass – 8:00am

Reconciliation: Sat. 5:20pm - 5:50pm and Sun. 7:20am – 7:50am

The Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord

August 06, 2017

Our Mission is:

TO SEE JESUS & **TO BE JESUS**
In life and liturgy & *In family and community*

Sanctuary Candle – in Memory of Wilbert & Mildred Bruggman

Please pray for the sick & suffering:

Jeff Bernsen, Carla Welch, Josie Kleypas, Dennis Fuchs, Beatrice Arnold, Steven Pletzke, Sr. Clemence Ribitzki, Pattie Pletzke, Mike Meyer, Kyla Frei, Bobby Bulls, Cathy Didner, Sr. Benedict Zimmerer, Don Drake, Al Buckholt, Gene Kreger, Hudson John Halfmann, George Wright, Charles Ordner, Edwin Green, Craig Thornton, and Grace Hoelscher.

Meetings:

Knights of Columbus 8/7 @ 6:30pm
K.C.'s Corporate Communion 8/13

Choir 8/9 @ 7:00pm

Altar Society 8/20 after Mass

DCCW Deanery meeting 8/16 @ St. Mary's, Temple

Offerings:

July 30th \$2,024.00

Children's Collection \$29.00