

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 6, 2012

From The Desk of Fr. Michael Tang

If we stop and think about it, we realize that there is no such thing as a solitary Christian. Every Christian is linked to Christ and all other Christians. This is clear from the words of Jesus: "I am the vine and you are the branches."

The First Reading tells how Paul went up to Jerusalem three years after his conversion. In spite of being introduced by Barnabas, such was the hostility he encountered that he had to be smuggled out of the city. The fact that Paul took all these trials in stride shows the depth of his faith in Jesus.

In the Gospel we have the lovely image of the vine and the branches. Here Jesus stresses the unity that exists between him and his disciples. Vine and branches need one another. The vine cannot bear fruit without the branches. And the branches can have no life if separated from the vine. The branches need to be pruned (by trials) in order to be fruitful. (St. Paul is a good example).

The Second Reading tells us what we have to do in order to be right with God. We need to believe in his Son, Jesus and love one another as he told us. Active charity is what distinguishes true Christians from those who are such in name only. This is what makes them fruitful branches of Christ, the true vine.

As many of you know, we have been raising monies this year to repaint and refurbish the sanctuary and church. Although many of you have been generous, we have only managed to raise 10K. (This would be enough to reupholster the chairs, but nothing else.)

In late January, a miracle happened when a dear friend of mine gave us a gift of 30K to help complete the project. With monies available, the first step was to contact the Archdiocese of Los Angeles as any changes made to an interior of a church need their approval. The commission on liturgical design came to Transfiguration and told me that the altar needed to be centered in the sanctuary, they also said that the partition and side rail must be taken down. Dan White, a liturgical architect and member of the commission volunteered to draw up plans and choose paint colors "pro bono."

I am happy to say that work will commence on Monday, May 7th. Next week, the carpentry for the reconfigured platform will begin, and preparations will be made for painting. New carpeting, (also selected by the architect) will be installed on May 17th; the church will also be painted that week. Thank you for your patience during this period of refurbishment; after 20 years it is well overdue. Blessings on your week and say a prayer of thanksgiving for our very generous donor!

PETITION FOR THE SICK

Virgie Aguillar, Yolanda Anderson, LaVern Agnew, Oliver Bartholomew, Booker T. Ball, Edgar Banks, Timothy Baker, Stephanie Bell, Sr. Juliet Berber, Glenda Brown, Mary Brown, Andrei Briggs, Manual Brule, Bernard Byars, Barbara Butler, Brownie Cain, Dorothy Campbell, Mary Captain, Alberto Casanova, Katherine Clark, Clyde Clayton, Shirley Dieudonne, Beverly Colvin-Dorsey, John Crear, Nigel Dunn, Angela Dupré, Ethel Earley, Robert Evans, Connie Farlice, Dwight Fauria, Anita Finie, Edith Foster, Teresa Franklin, Stacy Franklin, Marian Fussey, Mavis Gibbs, Catherine Green, Lee Harrison, Pat Hernandez, Marion Hernandez, Mattie Hilburn, Janie Jackson, Angela Johnson, Ellis Jones, Ned Kennedy, Chester Keyes, Irwin Lagarde, Connie Louie, Joe McZeal, Sr. Marianna, Vyldred Manor, Yvonne Morgan, Dorothy Okoye, Paula Osborn, Dale Payne, Daisy Pratt, Gerald Pratt, Wiley R. Pugh, Michelle Raines, Emma Rausch, Barbara Samuels, Reanna Semien, Jerome Simon, Lionel Smith, Sr., Shirley Spicer, Darnell Stang, Michele Starks, Wilbur Starks, Ken Ruff, Alice Tenette, Louise Thomas, Stephanie Thompson, Emma Thornton, Curtis Tureaud, David Tureaud, Iris Turner, Lubertha Weathers, Doris Whayne, Leon Williams, Lilla Williams, and Patricia Williams.

SPRING CLEAN

SAVE THE DATE ST. VINCENT DEPAUL BUNDLE SUNDAY

On **Sunday, August 26** our Parish is having a Bundle Sunday for the Society of St. Vincent DePaul Thrift Stores. Please bring your usable clothing and usable household items on this day. The truck will be at our church parking lot. Please help in their endless efforts to assist the needy. They are in great need of furniture and large appliances. Call them for pick up of any heavy items at 323.224.6280 or 800/97-HELP-1.

SCHOOL NEWS

First Sunday Family/Alumni Mass Sunday, May 6th at 10:00 AM a reception will follow in the hall.

New student testing for grades K-7th at 2:00 PM. Please call the school office to reserve your space 323.292.3011.

PTO Meeting - Wednesday, May 9th – Earn a service hour if you attend.

First Communion - Sunday, May 20th at 12:15 PM. Come celebrate with us as we welcome some of our students into the church community.

School Spring Musical - Thursday, May 31st at 6:30 PM in the hall.

No More Receipts

The Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Mall is no longer sponsoring the program where the mall receipts are collected. **Thank you all** for saving your receipts and shopping in the community. Transfiguration School remained the reigning winners for the past three years.

TRANSFIGURATION CHURCH/SCHOOL

CARNIVAL MEMORIAL WEEKEND

MAY 25, 26, & 27, 2012

Pre-Sale tickets are available in the patio after all masses or from the rectory and school offices.

Please pick up flyers at the exits of the church to give to your friends, neighbors, relatives, co-workers, etc.

CARNIVAL WORKER SIGN-UPS

Weekend of May 5-6 after all Masses.

Fingerprinting

To comply with the Archdiocese's *Safeguard the Children Program*, "**All parish/staff and volunteers who are alone with a child or young person or who have supervisory control over a child or young person**" is required to be fingerprinted by the Archdiocese. The next Fingerprint session is May 16th at St. Lawrence of Brindisi, 10122 Compton Ave., Los Angeles. For an appointment, call 323.567.1439.

Transfiguration Church and School would like to thank **Felecia Johns Chair of Safeguard the Children** for doing a wonderful job helping us "*Protect God's Children*".



BLESSED 66th ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations to Sarah and Robert Johns who celebrated their 66th wedding anniversary on April 28, 2012. They were married in St. Patrick's Church in Los Angeles and joined Transfiguration Parish in 1964. May God continue to bless their union, as they renew their vows, with good health, kindness, joy, love and happiness!

MOTHERS DAY NOVENA

In the month of May, there will be a special Novena of Masses for the intentions of mothers. If you wish to enroll your mother, please take one of the cards located at the exit of the church.

4TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

& AWARDS BANQUET hosted by the Knights of Peter Claver Council #220 on Saturday, July 21, 2012. The tournament takes place at Chester Washington Golf Course, followed by an Awards Banquet at Transfiguration hall. For information call Frank Rhodes at 213.248.3600 or Maurice Simon 213.219.8010. **Deadline by July 5, 2012.**

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, May 5

5:15 p.m. Int. of all Parishioners

Sunday, May 6

8:00 a.m. +Thomas N. Stanley, Jr.

10:00 a.m. Int. of Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Baker (*Anniversary*)

12:15 p.m. Int. of Sarah and Robert Johns (*Anniversary*)

Tuesday, May 8

8:00 a.m. +Golden Gibson and Rita Williams

Friday, May 11

8:00 a.m. +Dilcia Morgan

Saturday, May 12

5:15 p.m. Int. of Cynthia Richardson

Sunday, May 13

8:00 a.m. Int. of Msgr. Robert E. Howard

10:00 a.m. Int. of all Mothers

12:15 p.m. Int. of all Parishioners

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday Acts 9:26-31, Ps 22:26-32, Jn 15:1-8

Monday Acts 14:5-18, Jn 14:21-26

Tuesday Acts 14:19-28, Jn 14:27-31a

Wednesday Acts 15:1-6, Jn 15:1-8

Thursday Acts 15:7-21, Jn 15:9-11

Friday Act 15:22-31, Jn 15:12-17

Saturday Acts 16:1-10, Jn 15:18-21

Sunday Acts 10:25-48, Ps 98:1-4, Jn 15:9-17

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE FOR MAY 12 and 13, 2012

5:15 PM	8:00 AM	10:00 AM	12:15 PM
Devon Wilson	Kalaya Morack	Carl Clay	Emilio Ramirez
Irwin Lagrade	Amanda Johnson	Latoya Chimilio	Nicholas Godfrey
Michael Newanda	Samantha Johnson	Thea Chimilio	Arianna Foster
	Andrea Mckinley	Keisha Manning	Logan Bush

SACRIFICIAL GIFTS

Sunday, April 24, 2011
\$7,108.99 Sacrificial Gift
597.63 Building Fund
341.50 "We Care"

SACRIFICIAL GIFTS

Sunday, April 29, 2012
\$5,575.89 Sacrificial Gift
455.07 Building Fund
260.04 "We Care"