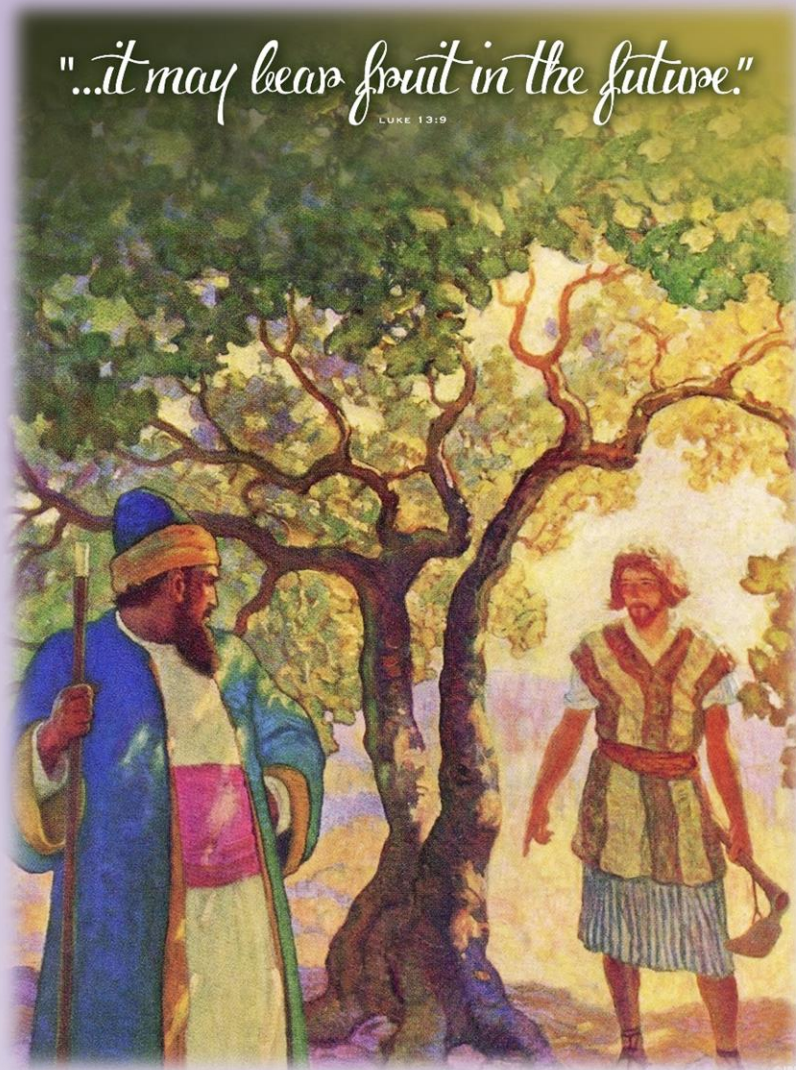


Third Sunday of Lent

March 20, 2022



"...it may bear fruit in the future."
LUKE 13:9



Saint Mary 14 Park Street + Sacred Heart 58 Church Street + Saint Mark 105 Stanley Street
North Attleborough, Massachusetts

Transfiguration of the Lord Parish

Rev. Rodney E. Thibault, J.C.L., Pastor

Rev. Deacon Joseph E. Regali

Mrs. Monica T. Forte, Administrative Assistant

Mrs. Jean Howard, Business Manager

Mrs. Elaine Corvese, Director of Religious Education, Grades 1-8 & Confirmation

Ms. Nicole Barton, Music Director

Mr. Miguel Peixoto, Buildings Supervisor

Mr. James Kitsock, Building Maintenance

Saint Mary-Sacred Heart School

Mrs. Charlotte Lourenco, Principal

57 Richards Avenue,

North Attleborough, Massachusetts 02760

(508) 695-3072 FAX (508) 695-9074

smsh@smsh.dfrcs.org www.smshschool.com

Saint Mary Cemetery

Mr. Jarrod Ward, Superintendent

Towne Street

North Attleborough, Massachusetts 02760

(508) 695-1173 or email ripco@comcast.net

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saint Mary Church • Saturday 3:00 pm

Sacrament of Baptism

Baptisms are currently scheduled on scheduled Saturday afternoons at 1:00 pm, with a limit of four families at each baptism. Please contact Monica Forte in the office at stmaryna@noozi.com for more information and available dates.

Sacrament of Marriage

Marriage is usually celebrated on Saturday morning and afternoon. Please contact the Parish Office at least nine months in advance to begin preparation.

Sacrament of the Sick

Pastoral care to those in need of the sacrament of the sick is arranged with our parish priests. Please call the parish office to arrange a visit.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Adoration is offered on the 1st Tuesday of each month in Saint Mary Church, beginning at 9:00 am with Morning Prayer and ending at 6:00 pm with Evening Prayer and Benediction.

Parish Offering

If you are attending in person, you may drop your contribution in the collection basket. You are welcome to mail your budget envelope to the parish office, at 14 Park Street, North Attleborough, MA 02760. You may also leave your envelope in the drop box located outside the parish office door, to the right on the landing. Or you can use this link for on line giving:

<https://app.gabrielsoft.com/guest/mafrdiocese/31>

Thank you for your ongoing support!

Weekend Masses

Saturday 4:00 pm Saint Mary Church

Sunday 8:00 am Saint Mark Church

Sunday 9:30 am Saint Mary Church

Sunday 11:00 am Sacred Heart Church

Weekday Masses

Monday 4:30 pm Saint Mary Church

Tuesday 8:00 am Saint Mark Church

Wednesday 4:30 pm Saint Mary Church

Thursday 8:00 am Communion Service

Saint Mark Church

**Friday 7:00 pm Saint Mary Church*
during Lent**

Links to: Transfiguration of the Lord Facebook page
<https://www.facebook.com/Transfiguration-of-the-Lord-Parish-North-Attleborough-106529317647894/>

YouTube at <https://tinyurl.com/ysfaxaty>

Parish Office

14 Park Street, North Attleborough,
Massachusetts 02760

Parish e-mail • stmaryna@noozi.com

Parish website • www.saintmaryna.com

Phone (508) 695-6161 Fax (508) 695-5248

Faith Formation • TransfigurationRelEd@gmail.com

MASS Intentions

March 20 - Third Sunday of Lent

| | |
|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <u>Saturday</u> | <u>March 19</u> |
| 4:00 pm | Joshua Ferns |
| <u>Sunday</u> | <u>March 20</u> |
| 8:00 am | Deceased members of Seymour family |
| <u>Sunday</u> | <u>March 20</u> |
| 9:30 am | Joseph & Gloria Cardello |
| <u>Sunday</u> | <u>March 20</u> |
| 11:00 am | Mary Ruth Torrey |
| <u>Monday</u> | <u>March 21</u> |
| 4:30 pm | Paul Molinario |
| <u>Tuesday</u> | <u>March 22</u> |
| 8:00 am | Roland Seymour |
| <u>Wednesday</u> | <u>March 23</u> |
| 4:30 pm | Rita Kelleher |
| <u>Thursday</u> | <u>March 24</u> |
| 8:00 am | |
| <u>Friday</u> | <u>March 25</u> |
| 7:00 pm | |

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March 27 - Fourth Sunday of Lent

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| <u>Saturday</u> | <u>March 26</u> |
| 4:00 pm | Herman William Lapointe |
| <u>Sunday</u> | <u>March 27</u> |
| 8:00 am | Robert Gilmore |
| <u>Sunday</u> | <u>March 27</u> |
| 9:30 am | Margaret & William Spadoni |
| <u>Sunday</u> | <u>March 27</u> |
| 11:00 am | Maura O'Heir Chapman |

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Please join us

Fridays during Lent in Saint Mary Church,
Father Rodney will be available for
Confessions from 6:00 – 6:25 pm
Stations of the Cross will begin at 6:30 pm
Mass will be celebrated at 7:00 pm

From Father Rodney

“The Lord is kind and merciful.” Our psalm response this 3rd Sunday of Lent is a gentle reminder to each of us as we continue our Lenten journey. As we prepare ourselves for the glory of the Resurrection, we are challenged to look inward and ask ourselves if we are kind and merciful with one another. It always amazes me that God is so willing to shower his abundant kindness upon us, but we can sometimes be less than willing to do so with our brothers and sisters. I did an internet search looking specifically at quotes that involve kindness and I was amazed at what I found. There are hundreds of sites dedicated to stories and quotes about kindness. It got me thinking: if there is such great interest in kindness, why don't we see more of it lived and expressed each day? Kindness, it seems to me, is a movement. It is the human person turning back to God. When we spread kindness, we bring about the eradication of evil. Kindness is the direct opposite of evil. Kindness is like smothering darkness. I often use the image of what happens at the Easter Vigil once the fire is blessed. The paschal candle is brought into a dark church and the deacon, or the priest holds up the candle and boldly proclaims that “Christ our Light.” In response the congregation sings: “Thanks be to God.” The next action is the most profound in my humble opinion. The light from that one candle is spread to the entire congregation and a church that was once cloaked in darkness is transfigured into a shining beacon of hope because of each of the attendees gathered. We participate in making the light grow brighter. So, too, do we eradicate evil when we spread acts of kindness in our world. We are living in what seems to be extremely dark times with a senseless war raging in Ukraine but even in the darkness of that war-torn country, we see glimmers of light as hearts band together and acts of kindness are witnessed. Perhaps as we mark the middle of our Lenten journey, we can dedicate ourselves to performing one (1) act of kindness each day for the rest of the Lenten season (it surely does not need to stop there). In doing so, we will bring such radiant light and brightness into the world.

Continues next page

From Father Rodney continues:

Special Second Collection for Ukraine

As was announced at all weekend Masses last weekend, Transfiguration of the Lord Parish will be taking up a special second collection for victims of the war raging in Ukraine. If you choose to pay by check, please make your check payable to Transfiguration of the Lord Parish. A parish check will be sent directly to Catholic Relief Services (CRS). CRS has a distinct reputation when it comes to humanitarian efforts around the Globe. This is the charitable arm of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. If you got to their website, you will see that \$.92 cents of every dollar collected goes directly to relief.

Parish Contributions

Collection figures from March 5/6:

\$19,174.32

Ash Wednesday: \$2,129.00

Collection for Ukraine: March 19/20

If you would like to have your contribution for Ukraine assistance on next year's tax report, please place it in an envelope with your name, address, and budget number on the OUTSIDE of the envelope.

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Holy Hour for Peace in Ukraine

The situation in Ukraine only seems to intensify with the passing of each day. Please join us Monday, 21 March 2022 at 5:00PM for a Holy Hour for Peace. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will begin at the conclusion of the 4:30 Mass. Quiet time; a brief reading and homily; more quiet time and intercessory prayer will be included all with exposition to take place at 6:00PM. Join us to pray for those whose lives have been ravaged due to the scourges of war. Please join us in prayer.



FAITH FORMATION

Director of Religious Education

Mrs. Elaine Corvese

508-695-3823

Please note new email address:

TransfigurationRelEd@gmail.com

Faith Formation classes for the remainder of the 2021 -2022 year are as follows:

First Grade: Tuesday, March 29th - 4:15 -5:30 pm
Saturday, April 2nd – 10:00 -11:15 am

Second Grade: Tuesday, March 29th- 4:15 -5:30 pm
Saturday, April 2nd – 10:00 -11:15 am

Eucharist Workshop will be held for all second grade students preparing for First Communion. Please attend the workshop offered during your regular class time

Tuesday, April 5th from 4:15 – 5:30 pm

Saturday, April 9 from 10:00 – 11:15 am

Grades 3, 4, and 5 workshops have been cancelled for March and April.

Sixth Grade: Monday, March 28th -6:30- 7:45 pm

Seventh Grade: Monday, April 4th -6:30 -7:45 pm

Eighth Grade: Wed., March 23- 6:30 -7:45 pm

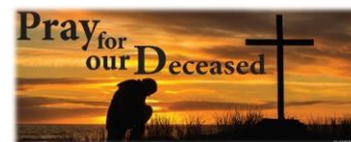


HOLY EUCHARIST

First Communion will be held on **Saturday, May 14, 2022, at Saint Mary Church,** groups as follows:

10:00 am for students with the last name A-J

1:00 pm for students with the last name K-Z.



In Your Prayers
Signe O'Donnell Sioui
Harold Edgar

*Eternal rest grant unto our beloved dead,
O Lord.*

*Let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest always in the loving arms of God*

BAPTISM



Scheduling Baptisms

Parents requesting the baptism of their child should be registered members of the parish who attend weekend Mass on a weekly basis. Baptisms are celebrated on Saturdays at 1:00 pm at 14 Park Street with a maximum of four families. Please contact Monica in the office via email (stmaryna@noozi.com) for more information and visit the parish website www.saintmaryna.com and click on the "Sacraments" tab for more detailed information.

What Are The Requirements To Be a Godparent or Sponsor? If you have been asked to be a godparent, requirements set by the Roman Catholic Church are as follows: You must be a confirmed Catholic, at least 16 years old, registered in a parish and practicing your faith by regular participation at Mass. If you are married, your marriage must be recognized as valid by the Church. If you are currently a member of Transfiguration of the Lord Parish and have been asked to be a godparent, please see Father Rodney after Mass. You may contact the office for more information.



We Welcome

On March 12 we welcomed a new member into our Catholic faith and Transfiguration of the Lord Parish at the sacrament of baptism. We welcome: *Hailey Marie Gortze*, daughter of Zoe & Daniel Gortze. Congratulations to Hailey Marie, her parents, godparents, family and friends on this joyous celebration of faith and family.

Men's Group FOR LENT!

Join us next Saturday March 26 at St. John's in Attleboro. Topic will be Evolution and Faith with Dr. Chris Baglow. Program starts at 7am and runs through 8:15am. Join us at 6:30am for a free breakfast! Each week stands on its own so even if you can only make one week it will be worth it for you and us!



Pray for Ukraine

Please join together in praying a decade (or more) of the Rosary daily for the people of Ukraine and Russia and for the end of the war. At the back of each of the churches in the Parish there is a blue binder with the Ukrainian colors on the front. If you feel led by the Holy Spirit to do so, please sign your name as a simple commitment to pray daily until the end of this crisis. Sometimes even as a people of God we can feel overwhelmed or powerless when we see the images coming out of Ukraine and hear about demonstrators in Russia being beaten and any independent news sources being shut down. We can lose heart. We often forget that we have the most powerful weapon of all... prayer and when we come together as a community there is real power. Thank you for taking a few moments out of your day to unite with the larger Catholic/Christian community to pray for an end to this crisis.



Eucharistic ADORATION

Monthly Adoration

Monthly Adoration is offered the *first Tuesday of every month (April 5 is next)*. You are invited to join us in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in Saint Mary church, beginning at 9 a.m. with Morning Prayer and ending at 6 p.m. with Evening Prayer and Benediction. You can drop in at any time for as long as you like or, if you would like a specific time slot, please call Joanne Regali 508-643-3821 and leave a message.



Synod Listening Phase

You are invited first to participate in our online survey. Take a picture of the QR Code with your phone or browse to this link:



TOLSurvey.com

Live listening sessions are taking place after all Masses this weekend March 19th and 20th.

Additional sessions are also:

Monday evening March 21st at 7pm, and Tuesday after daily Mass on March 22nd.

A Zoom session will also be held on Thursday March 24th at 7pm.

Please take a few minutes to complete the survey, even if you are not attending a listening session.

Donation Statements

The 2021 year end tax reports are available for those parishioners using the budget envelope system. Please contact Monica in the office, email preferred, (stmaryna@noozi.com), if you would like your statement. You may also call (508-695-6161) and leave a message with your name and address. Letters can be mailed or emailed to you.

Knights of Columbus

Council #330 of North Attleboro was founded over 120 years ago in 1898 and this Council has always represented the entire Catholic community of North Attleboro. Charity is our leading principle, and our focus is on providing support and assistance locally. We are looking for Catholic men to join our Council and help us support our community as our members have been doing since 1898. If you are interested in learning more about membership, please contact Jim Schromm, jim.schromm@verizon.net or (508) 643-3623.



Join the “Ashes to Fire Choir”!

This is a perfect opportunity to get involved in the music ministry here at Transfiguration of the Lord but not have the yearlong commitment. The ATF Choir will run from Ash Wednesday through Pentecost and provide music for Palm Sunday and the Holy Triduum. Weekly rehearsals will be on Wednesdays from 7-9pm with the possibility of additional rehearsals as needed. You do not have to know how to read music, but it is helpful. All are welcome. We are always looking for instrumentalists to enhance the liturgy.

The Children’s choir started back up again on the first Sunday of March. Rehearsals will be held at **Sacred Heart following the 11am mass until 1:30pm.** The children’s choir will sing on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. (More information to follow regarding Mass times) Grade 1-6 and 7-12 are all welcome.

If you play an instrument, we also welcome you to join us! We are always looking for instrumentalists to enhance the liturgy. (String, brass, woodwind, drums/percussion, guitar, bass, piano, etc.) **For more information on either group, please see our music director, Nikkie Barton, after Mass or via e-mail at Transfigurationmusicdirector@gmail.com**

LENTEN FASTING & ABSTINENCE

| Fasting | Abstinence |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Ash Wednesday Good Friday | Every Friday during Lent |
| Ages 18-59 | Ages 14+ |

How do we fast?
When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal.

Am I excused from fasting and abstinence?
Those that are excused from fast and abstinence outside the age limits include the **physically or mentally ill** including individuals suffering from chronic illnesses such as diabetes. Also excluded are pregnant or nursing women.

For more information on fasting and abstinence, visit uscgb.org.

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As is recommended in the rubrics, during the season of Lent (and later in Easter) we will be using the Apostles' Creed in lieu of the Nicene Creed. This briefer, earlier Creed is a good way for us to keep an ancient practice alive. The Apostles' Creed can be found on page 10 in the missalette. We will also use the Penitential Act found on page 4 and below.

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God,
the Father Almighty,
Creator of Heaven and earth;
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, Our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and is seated at
the right hand of God, the Father
almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living
and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body
and life everlasting.

Amen

Penitential Act

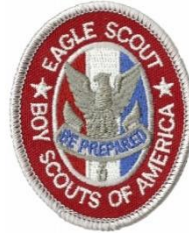
I confess to almighty God
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and in what I have
failed to do,
through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Transfiguration of the Lord Parish Saint Vincent de Paul Society

Inspired by Gospel values, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, a Catholic lay organization, leads women and men to join to grow spiritually by offering person-to-person service to those who are needy and suffering in the tradition of its founder, Blessed Frédéric Ozanam, and patron, St. Vincent de Paul. If you need assistance, please call the help line for our parish Saint Vincent de Paul Society. They can offer information about the types of assistance available. Please call 508-212-4755 for help or more information.

Benjamin Bonville's Eagle Project Diaper Drive

Benjamin Bonville, a Boy Scout in Troop 23 North Attleboro, is conducting his Eagle Project by running a Diaper Dive to serve to help the mothers and families of North Attleboro and Attleboro. All of the donations will be distributed to Abundant Hope Pregnancy Recourse Center. There is no government agency that will contribute to the rising cost of diapers, not even WIC or SNAP! During the month of March, Benjamin and his fellow Scouts will be



collecting diapers of any size. The Diaper Drive Eagle Project will run through March 31st. Aware, that diapers are expensive, perhaps, you could share the cost with friends. There are pack 'n plays in the main entrance entrances of all churches for your donations continuing through the month of March. Scout Benjamin Bonville thanks you in advance for your generosity in support of his Eagle project.

Pope Francis

“Prayer, charity and fasting are not medicines meant only for ourselves but for everyone: they can change history, because they are the principal ways for God to intervene in our lives and in the world. They are weapons of the spirit.” ~March 11, 2022

Readings for March 20

FIRST READING

A reading from the Book of Exodus

Moses was tending the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian. Leading the flock across the desert, he came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There an angel of the LORD appeared to Moses in fire flaming out of a bush. As he looked on, he was surprised to see that the bush, though on fire, was not consumed. So Moses decided, "I must go over to look at this remarkable sight, and see why the bush is not burned."

When the LORD saw him coming over to look at it more closely, God called out to him from the bush, "Moses! Moses!" He answered, "Here I am." God said, "Come no nearer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your fathers," he continued, "the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob." Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. But the LORD said, "I have witnessed the affliction of my people in Egypt and have heard their cry of complaint against their slave drivers, so I know well what they are suffering. Therefore I have come down to rescue them from the hands of the Egyptians and lead them out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey."

Moses said to God, "But when I go to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' if they ask me, 'What is his name?' what am I to tell them?" God replied, "I am who am." Then he added, "This is what you shall tell the Israelites: I AM sent me to you."

God spoke further to Moses, "Thus shall you say to the Israelites: The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.

"This is my name forever;
thus am I to be remembered
through all generations."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

Bless the LORD, O my soul;
and all my being, bless his holy name.
Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits.

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

He pardons all your iniquities,
heals all your ills,
He redeems your life from destruction,
crowns you with kindness and
compassion.

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

The LORD secures justice
and the rights of all the oppressed.
He has made known his ways to Moses,
and his deeds to the children of
Israel.

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

Merciful and gracious is the LORD,
slow to anger and abounding in
kindness.
For as the heavens are high above the
earth,
so surpassing is his kindness toward
those who fear him.

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

SECOND READING

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud and all passed through the sea, and all of them were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. All ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink, for they drank from a spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was the Christ. Yet God was not pleased with most of them, for they were struck down in the desert.

These things happened as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil things, as they did. Do not grumble as some of them did, and suffered death by the destroyer. These things happened to them as an example, and they have been written down as a warning to us, upon whom the end of the ages has come. Therefore, whoever thinks he is standing secure should take care not to fall.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God



GOSPEL

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Glory to you, O Lord. †

Some people told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with the blood of their sacrifices. Jesus said to them in reply, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were greater sinners than all other Galileans? By no means! But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did! Or those eighteen people who were killed when the tower at Siloam fell on them— do you think they were more guilty than everyone else who lived in Jerusalem? By no means! But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did!”

And he told them this parable: “There once was a person who had a fig tree planted in his orchard, and when he came in search of fruit on it but found none, he said to the gardener, ‘For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none. So cut it down. Why should it exhaust the soil?’ He said to him in reply, ‘Sir, leave it for this year also, and I shall cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it; it may bear fruit in the future. If not you can cut it down.’”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ



Please share this activity with your children as we continue our Lenten journey or use this as a starting point for your personal prayer this week.

ON THE ROAD TO EASTER WORD SEARCH



- | | | |
|------------|---------------|--------------|
| Ash | Holy Week | Palm Branch |
| Wednesday | Holy Thursday | Forty Days |
| Sacrifice | Good Friday | Jesus |
| Almsgiving | Holy Saturday | Passover |
| Prayer | Easter | Foot Washing |
| Fasting | Palm Sunday | Resurrection |
| Lent | Purple | Love |



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