

Dear Brothers and Sisters



*“And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white.”*

The three theological virtues are Faith, Hope and Charity. In the afterlife only Charity will remain, Faith and Hope will not. Charity, Love, will continue to be experienced, either in its fullness (Heaven) or its eternal absence (Hell). Faith will be already fulfilled (or not), and Hope will no longer be necessary, since that which was hoped for – the Beatific vision - will already be attained (or eternally rejected).

During Lent, these three virtues want to be awakened in us.

The Pandemic has made one thing clear; we need Faith Hope and Charity.

Our Faith can never be a merely virtual experience. Zoom and live-streaming can serve a purpose, but are no substitute for in

person participation in the Faith Life of the Church. We cannot receive the Sacraments online. Faith can only be transmitted in person.

Our Hope is nourished in the Body of Christ. Hope never disappoints, no matter how dire the situations we may be facing. Conversely the opposite is true: without Hope we are continuously disappointed, as evidenced by the hopelessness of 35% of the population who are experiencing mental illness during the Pandemic.

Charity, the Love of God, has been poured into our hearts. This love is something we have seen with our own eyes, touched with our own hands. Charity gives us communion with God and with one another. Without Charity there is isolation and loneliness. Charity dispels fear, anxiety and worry. Charity vanquishes suffering and even death.

The absence of Faith. Hope and Charity is darkness. Yet this darkness is pierced by the presence of Christ, who is

Transfigured in the sight of the disciples.

This Transfiguration awaits each of us this Lent.

Are you fed up with the Pandemic? While despair, hopelessness, and loneliness surround us, there is a light which has pierced the darkness.

There is Good News for each one of us this Lent. I invite you to come, IN PERSON, and LISTEN to the announcement of Salvation: Mondays and Thursdays at 8:00pm in the McCarthy Center.

Fr. Sean