

He [Jesus] took them [Peter, James, John] up onto the mountain so they could hear his Father's voice calling him "son", and he could show them that he was truly the Son of God and was himself divine. He took them up onto the mountain in order to show them his kingship before they witnessed his passion ... to let them see his mighty power before they watched his death ... to reveal his glory to them before they beheld his humiliation.

Then when the Jews took him captive and condemned him to the cross, the apostles would understand that it was not for any lack of power on his part that Jesus allowed himself to be crucified by his enemies, but because he had freely chosen to suffer in that way for the world's salvation.

He took them up onto the mountain....so that when he rose from the dead in that same divine glory, they would realize that this was not something given him as a reward for his labor, [but so they could see] that glory had been his with the Father from all eternity, as is clear from his words on approaching his freely chosen passion: "Father, glorify me now with the glory I had with you before the world was made" (Jn 17:5).

St. Ephrem the Syrian, excerpts from Sermon 16 on the Transfiguration, 1,3,4

St. Louis University (Sunday Website), St. Louis, MO

Friends caught a dazed glimpse of him as he really was!
In blinding brightness, his clothes turned dazzling white as no eyes on earth had ever seen.

O Christ, take us to your mountain.
Transform all our acts, our very being,
into your love.

"We are all walking around shining like the sun."

Let us see it.
Let us glimpse your glory.

In beauty ... in skies and flowers and butterflies.
In a happy child's face, in music that our souls sing, in joyful folks helping other folks.

Anne Osdieck
(Quotes by Thomas Merton)

"Every moment and every event of every man's life on earth plants something in his soul."



You are invited to join other Christians for **40 Days for Life** campaign of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion, from February 14th through **March 25th** (Palm Sunday). There is also a peaceful prayer vigil during this 40-day campaign, in the public right-of-way in front of the Planned Parenthood facility (3579 Franklin Blvd). More volunteers are needed to stand and peacefully pray! Fr. Theodore Lange will be leading a mid-point rally on Saturday, **March 10th**, at **10am**, at the Planned Parenthood facility. For more info, or to volunteer, contact Eileen at 541-543-7168 (or email to: etmoregon@yahoo.com); website is: 40DaysforLife.com/Eugene.

THE DOCTOR IS IN!! Dr. Ray is coming to Eugene! Join Mater Dei Radio for an exciting evening with EWTN's Dr. Ray Guarendi. Equip yourself for Lent, and don't miss Dr. Ray's "*Strengthen Your Family with Catholic Media*" at **7:00pm, March 13th**, at Marist High School. Tickets are free, but *very* limited. Get yours now, at: MaterDeiRadio.com.

YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY Join Eugene Catholic Young Adult group (ages 21-39, married or single) for Thursday evening Bible Study, **6:45pm**, at St. Mary in the Parish Center – discussion on how St. Paul's letters apply to our lives today. For info contact: eugeneyoungadults@gmail.com or 541-270-9329 or [facebook.com/EugeneCYA](https://www.facebook.com/EugeneCYA). ALSO – *Theology on Tap* every 2nd Thursday at the K of C Hall Fr. Mark Bentz is speaker on March 8th.

UPCOMING RETREATS:

WOMEN'S PRAYER DAY — Offered at St. Benedict Lodge (McKenzie Bridge, OR), on **March 6th, 9:30am—4:00pm**. Theme: Lent—Our Joy, with presenter Linda Beach. Cost is \$15, and includes morning snack & lunch. To reserve your spot, call St. Benedict Lodge (541-822-3572), or Linda (541-747-1064), or email to: sblodge@opwest.org.

..... **HOLY WEEK RETREAT** — Also at St. Benedict Lodge, **March 29th (begins with dinner) — April 1st at noon**. Cost is \$125/person for a private room or \$90/person with double occupancy — \$30/person deposit required with registration. For info: 541-822-3572 or website (www.sblodge.opwest.org). Address for St. Benedict Lodge: 56630 North Bank Rd, McKenzie Bridge, OR 97413.

FAITH SERIES: CATECHISM THROUGH THE YEAR

WHY ARE ABORTION AND EMBRYONIC RESEARCH WRONG?

David speaks in a psalm of God's intimate and abiding love for him, even before he was born. He prays: "You formed my inmost being; you knit me in my mother's womb.... My very self you know; my bones are not hidden from you when I was being made in secret" (Ps 139:13-15). Other biblical passages confirm the truth that the child in the womb, at whatever stage of development, is a fully human person—known and loved by God, sharing the great dignity and value of every human person created by God in his image (Gn 1:26-27).

The bible condemns murder, the wrongful taking of innocent human life (Ex 20:13). Since children in the womb are regarded as human persons in scripture, killing them is included in this prohibition. In addition, we should note that Jesus shows special concern for children because of their vulnerability, and is explicit in his condemnation of those who would hurt these "little ones" (Mt 18:1-6; 19:13-15). So the Church, in keeping with his example, and with the consistent teaching of ancient Scripture and Tradition, condemns abortion as a particularly wicked act.

Infanticide takes place when an infant is intentionally killed or allowed to die through neglect. Embryonic stem cell research, however noble may be its medical objectives, involves the destruction of unborn children in the embryonic stage (weeks 2-8 in the womb). Consequently, the Church condemns this type of research as gravely immoral, on the same grounds she opposes murder in any form. OTHER forms of stem cell research are acceptable.

For similar reasons, human cloning is also an unacceptable form of experimentation, as it involves manipulation and "manufacturing" of living embryos for commercial or other purposes — treated as commodities to be used by others, and not as a child known and loved by God.

Finally, the Church insists that the human right to life of the innocent, and the inherent dignity of all, should be defended in civil law. This right is not merely a religious matter, but a part of the universal natural law that should be recognized by all societies.

RECOMMENDED READING: Excerpt taken from The NEW Catholic Answer Bible

2 Mc 7:22-23 · Job 12:10; 31:15 · Ps 51:7; 82:3-4 · Prv 24:11 · Is 44:2; 49:1,5 · Jer 1:5; 7:6 · Lk 1:15,41-44 · Acts 17:28 · Gal 1:15 · 1 Jn 3:15 · & Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) No. 362-368 · 2270-2275 · 2319 · 2322-2323