

# Bonds Loosed: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Second Sunday of Lent

Sunday Bible Reflections by Dr. Scott Hahn  
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First Reading: Genesis 22:1–2, 9–13, 15–18 | Psalm 116:10, 15–19  
Second Reading: Romans 8:31–34 | Gospel: Mark 9:2–10



The Lenten season continues with another story of testing. Last Sunday, we heard the trial of Jesus in the desert. In this week's First Reading, we hear of how Abraham was put to the test.

The Church has always read this story as a sign of God's love for the world in giving His only begotten son.

In today's Epistle, Paul uses exact words drawn from this story to describe how God, like Abraham, did not withhold His only Son, but handed Him over for us on the Cross (see Romans 8:32; Genesis 22:12,16).

In the Gospel today, too, we hear another echo. Jesus is called God's "beloved Son"—as Isaac is described as Abraham's beloved firstborn son. These readings are given to us in Lent to reveal Christ's identity and to strengthen us in the face of our afflictions.

Jesus is shown to be the true son that Abraham rejoiced to see (see Matthew 1:1; John 8:56). In His Transfiguration, He is revealed to be the "prophet like Moses" foretold by God—raised from among their own kinsmen, speaking with God's own authority (see Deuteronomy 18:15, 19). Like Moses, He climbs the mountain with three named friends and beholds God's glory in a cloud (see Exodus 24:1, 9, 15). He is the one prophesied to come after Elijah's return (see Sirach 48:9–10; Malachi 3:1, 23–24).

And, as He discloses to the Apostles, He is the Son of Man sent to suffer and die for our sins (see Isaiah 53:3).

As we sing in today's Psalm, Jesus believed in the face of His afflictions, and God loosed Him from the bonds of death (see Psalm 116:3).

His rising should give us the courage to face our trials, to offer ourselves totally to the Father—as He did, as Abraham and Isaac did.

Freed from death by His death, we come to this Mass to offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and to renew our vows—as His servants and faithful ones.

**ANNOUNCED MASSES**  
**February 24<sup>th</sup> – March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

<b>Saturday</b> 4:30 p.m.	<b>Feb. 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Sunday Vigil</b> Ofelia Roy – Birthday Blessings
<b>Sunday</b> 9:00 a.m.  11:00 a.m.	<b>Feb. 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Second Sunday of Lent</b> Jose Jacinto Ponte – RIP – by Connie and Jim  Victor O. Kramer – RIP – by the family
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Feb. 26<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>NO MASS</b>
<b>Tuesday</b> 7:00 p.m.	<b>Feb. 27<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Weekday</b> Bruna Alesi – RIP – by the family
<b>Wednesday</b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>Feb. 28<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Weekday</b> Thanksgiving by Ruth Gaudreau
<b>Thursday</b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>Mar. 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Weekday</b> Justina Garcia and Thomas Garcia – RIP – by the Timbol family
<b>Friday</b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>Mar. 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Weekday</b> Maria E.S. Ponte, Maria Melo and Jose Ponte – RIP – by Conceicao and Jeremias Pacheco
<b>Saturday</b> 10:00 a.m.	<b>Mar. 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Weekday</b> Special Intentions and Thanksgiving – by Ramya Aloysius
<b>Saturday</b> 4:30 p.m.	<b>Mar. 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Sunday Vigil</b> Rita Mosca – RIP – by the family
<b>Sunday</b> 9:00 a.m.  11:00 a.m.	<b>Mar. 4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Second Sunday of Lent</b> Cynthia Leekam – RIP – by the family  Maria E.S. Ponte – RIP –by Mercedes

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**Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.  
May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed  
through the mercy of God rest in peace.**

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**Collection:**  
February 18, 2018 - **\$2,849.65**  
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### **NEW WARDEN**

Congratulations and welcome to **Emil Tirona**, our newly elected warden. At the same time, we would like to extend our deep gratitude and appreciation to Francisco Henao, for his services to the parish as former warden.

### **WAY OF THE CROSS**

Everyone is invited to the Way of the Cross **every Friday** at 7 p.m. during this Lenten season.

### **HEMA-QUEBEC BLOOD DRIVE**

Hema Quebec – This year is its 11<sup>th</sup> annual blood drive. The Blood Donor Clinic will take place on Wednesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, from 1:30-7:30 p.m. at the Beth Ora Synagogue. **2600 Badeaux, Ville St Laurent**. There is a parking lot on the premises.

For more information, please contact Hema-Quebec at 514-832-5000 or at [www.hema-quebec.qc.ca](http://www.hema-quebec.qc.ca)

### **SINGLES FOR CHRIST: CHRISTIAN LIFE PROGRAM**

*"I will give them a heart to know me..." - Jr 24:7*

Singles for Christ (SFC), one of the family ministries of Couples for Christ, will be holding a Christian Life Program for single men and women ages 22-40. Curious? You're invited to join us in exploring a renewed understanding of God and self-discovery through the eyes of God.

The program will run for ten consecutive Fridays, beginning **March 2<sup>nd</sup>**, 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. each evening at Saint Kevin's Parish (5600 Côte-des-Neiges Rd., Montreal, H3T 1Z1). Please contact Glen at 514-708-5491 or Jasmine at 514-757-0818.

### **SHARE LENT 2018: TOGETHER FOR PEACE**

Once again, it's Lent! During this sacred time of year, Development and Peace - Caritas Canada invites you to take part in our new Share Lent campaign Together for Peace. This campaign calls on us to reflect on the profound meaning of peace by discovering the importance of dialogue as a means for reconciliation and for the construction of peace. Together, let us continue to believe that peace, human dignity and justice can triumph.

Thanks to money donated annually by Catholics during Share Lent, Development and Peace can support 170 partners and 202 projects in 36 countries around the world! There are many ways to be part of Share Lent. You can pick up a copy while leaving church today. You can make a donation on Solidarity Sunday, which will take place on March 18<sup>th</sup>. To find out more about Share Lent, please contact Betty Machny at [bmachny@bell.net](mailto:bmachny@bell.net)

### **HOLY HOUR**

Silent adoration every Tuesday evening, following the 7:00pm mass (from 7:30pm to 8:30pm) Also, Adoration every Friday, following the 9:00am mass (from 9:30am to 10:30am). Come and spend some time with the Lord!

"Our Lord hears our prayers anywhere, but He has revealed to His servants that those who visit Him in the Eucharist will obtain a more abundant measure of grace." -St.Alphonsus Ligouri