

## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 1, 2020

*“The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve.”*

— Matthew 4:10

### STRENGTH AGAINST TEMPTATION

The first Sunday of the season of Lent always includes a Gospel account of the temptation of the Lord Jesus in the desert by the devil. This year, the story is set against the backdrop of the first reading from Genesis, which recounts the very first temptation by the devil. That story is set in a garden of delight. The Gospel story is set in the desert. As believers, we know that temptation comes our way in our own gardens of delight as well as the deserts of our lives. As Lent begins, our attention is drawn to that temptation within each of us to become like God—we want control, power, and answers to all of life’s difficult questions. As communities of faith, we are given this season of repentance so that we can join our hearts with others on the difficult journey of conversion. We look to God and to one another for strength against temptation.

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### TODAY’S READINGS

**First Reading** — The man and the woman ate the fruit of the one tree that God had told them to avoid, and their shame overtook them (Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7).

**Psalm** — Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned (Psalm 51).

**Second Reading** — Death reigned from Adam to Moses, but now grace and life abound in Christ Jesus (Romans 5:12-19 [12, 17-19]).

**Gospel** — Jesus was led into the desert by the Spirit and there he fasted for forty days and forty nights

### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

A policeman was summoned to the scene of an automobile accident involving a hit-and-run driver.

The victim, a middle-aged woman, took some time to compose herself. Finally, the policeman got around to the questioning.

“Did you get the license plate number of the car that hit you, Madam?” he asked.

“No, I didn’t,” replied the victim, “But the woman who was driving was wearing a red hat trimmed with flowers, a gray tailored suit and a white blouse.”

Many people go through life missing the big thing — the real purpose of their existence. They become so involved in incidentals and side issues of life that they completely overlook what it is all about.

In order to keep yourself always in the best condition to do external work for God, make sure that you increase your interior life power by reflection and prayer.

**For we have not here a lasting city, but we seek one that is to come.**

—Hebrews, 13:14

*Let us reflect on our lives especially during this Lenten season and find out what is important for us.*

### FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH ARE OFFERED BY:

1. Pete Mike, Allison, Luxe and Seve in loving memory of Ned Sherlock on the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of his death;
2. and a Parish Member in thanks to St. Expedite.

**SPECIAL COLLECTION** The second collection this weekend will be for *Black and Indian Home Missions*. Please be generous in this collection.

### JOKE OF THE WEEK

A cowboy appeared before St. Peter at the pearly gates.

“Have you ever done anything of particular merit?” St. Peter asked.

“Well, I can think of one thing,” the cowboy offered. “once, a trip to the Black Hills of South Dakota, I came upon a gang of bikers, who were threatening a young woman. I directed them to leave her alone, but they wouldn’t listen. So, I approached the largest and most heavily tattooed biker and smacked him in his face, kicked his bike over, ripped out his nose ring, and threw it on the ground. I then yelled, ‘Now, back off, or I’ll kick the crap out of all of you!’”

St. Peter was impressed. He leafed through the great book he held. “When did this happen?”

“Just a couple of minutes ago.”

**MASTER’S TABLE** Scully’s Mary Rita’s Legion Group is scheduled to prepare and serve a hot meal to their guests at the Master’s Table in Augusta this Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to participate in this God rewarding opportunity, please contact Scully’s Mary Rita.

### OUR GIFTS RECORD

Offertory                      Development

<b>Last Week’s Collection</b>	\$3,177.00	\$2,166.00
Number of Families contributing	98	86
Total Pledge for 2020	\$167,031.00	\$162,928.00
Pledged to Date (8 Weeks)	\$27,043.00	\$26,328.00
Received to Date	\$19,119.00	\$13,955.00
Envelopes Outstanding	\$7924.00	\$12,373.00

### LADIES OFFERTORY RECORD

<b>Amount given last week</b>	<b>Amount given to Date in 2020</b>
\$278.00	\$1,956.00

Thirty-two ladies made a contribution last week.

### PARISH LIFE CENTER HALL FUND WEEKLY REPORT

<b>Amount given last week</b>	<b>Amount given to Date in 2020</b>
\$80.00	\$28,375.00

Four people made a P.L.C. contribution last week.

### BICENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN

<b>GOAL</b>	<b>\$165,000.00</b>
Total Pledged	\$210,300.00
Total Received	\$43,642.00

Poor Box totaled \$23.00.

28 **CHILDREN** contributed \$90.00

**CENTRAL & EASTERN EUROPE** totaled \$94.00.

The **ATTENDANCE** for last Saturday 4:00 p.m. Mass was 290; Saturday 7:00 P.M. was 70 and Sunday 10:00 a.m. Mass was 105.

MASS ON FRIDAYS during Lent will be at 7 P.M.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS during Lent, will be held every Friday after 7:00 p.m. Mass. The Stations of the Cross will be led on Friday:

Mar. 6: Legion – O.L. of Epiphany  
Mar. 13: Religious Education Teachers  
Mar. 20: Lectors  
Apr. 27: Youth Group & Young Girls Org.  
Apr. 3: Society of Mary Immaculate  
Apr. 10: Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

#### WHY 40 DAYS OF LENT?

The 40-day period of Lent is based on two episodes of spiritual testing in the Bible: the 40 years of wilderness wanderings by the Israelites after the exodus from Egypt and the Temptation of Jesus after he spent 40 days fasting in the wilderness.

THANK YOU to a member for a donation in honor of the Infant of Prague; a member for a donation in thanks to the Holy Spirit, Sacred Heart, the Precious Blood and St. Expedite; to a member for a donation in thanks to St. Mother Theresa and St. Raphael; and a member for a donation in thanks to St. Expedite.

#### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

**Monday:** Julian Calendar Lent begins  
**Tuesday:** St. Katharine Drexel  
**Wednesday:** St. Casimir  
**Friday:** World Day of Prayer; **Abstinence**; First Friday  
**Saturday:** Ss. Perpetua and Felicity; First Saturday

#### MASS INTENTIONS

**Monday:** *Funeral.*  
**Tuesday:** In honor of the Infant Jesus of Prague for all the sick and St. Joseph for all the holy souls in purgatory.  
**Wednesday:** For Matt Edward Sherlock on his Birthday.  
**Thursday:** In thanks for Monroe on her 13<sup>th</sup> Birthday and in loving memory of Betty Costello on her Birthday.  
**Friday:** For the repose of the soul of Pete Curly Riley on the 9<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of his death.

#### LENT

***Lent is a time to take time to let the power  
Of our faith story to take a hold of us,  
A time to let the events get up  
And walk in around us,  
A time to intensify our living unto Christ,  
A time to place our feet on the streets of Jerusalem  
Or to walk along the sea and listen to his Word,  
A time to touch His robe  
And feel the healing surge through us,  
A time to ponder and a time to wonder...  
Lent is time to allow a fresh new taste of God!  
Perhaps we're afraid to have time to think,  
For thoughts come unbidden.  
Perhaps we're afraid to face our future knowing our past,  
Give us courage, O God, to hear your Word  
And to read our living into it.  
Give us the trust to know we're forgiven  
And give us the faith  
To take up our lives and walk with You.***

#### READERS

Sat. Feb. 29 <sup>th</sup> , 4:00 P.M. Cathy Lisa & Karen	Sat. Feb. 29 <sup>th</sup> , 7:00 P.M. Christina & Natalie
Sun. Mar. 1 <sup>st</sup> , 10:00 A.M.	Jimmy Joseph & Mary Cat
Sat. Mar. 7 <sup>th</sup> , 4:00 P.M. Grace & Rita Riley	Sat. Mar. 7 <sup>th</sup> , 7:00 P.M. Carolyn & Jay
Sun. Mar. 8 <sup>th</sup> , 10:00 A.M.	Jimmy Joseph & Mary Cat

#### READERS – WEEKDAYS

Monday	- Taneil
Tuesday	- Fallon
Wednesday	- Cathy Lisa
Thursday	- Natalie
Friday	- Christina

#### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS – WEEKEND

Saturday 4:00 P.M.	Feb. 29 <sup>th</sup>
Front	Bridget Ann
Left Cup	Winnie Ann

#### Sunday 10:00 A.M.

Mar. 1 <sup>st</sup>	Mar. 8 <sup>th</sup>
Pete Man's Nora	Pete Man's Nora
Rose Marie	Rose Marie

#### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS - WEEKDAY

Monday	Cathy Pole
Tuesday	Pete Man's Nora
Wednesday	Margaret Butts
Thursday	Betty Jo
Friday	Mary Cat

#### GIVE UP

**GRUMBLING** — *Instead, "In everything give thanks."*  
**10 TO 15 MINUTES IN BED** — *Instead, use that time in prayer, Bible study and personal devotion.*  
**LOOKING AT OTHER PEOPLE'S WORST POINTS** — *Instead concentrate on their best points.*  
**SPEAKING UNKINDLY** — *Instead let your speech be generous and understanding.*  
**YOUR HATRED OF ANYONE OR ANYTHING** — *Instead, learn the discipline of love.*  
**YOUR WORRIES AND ANXIETIES** — *Instead trust God with them.*  
**TV ONE EVENING A WEEK** — *Instead, visit some lonely or sick person.*  
**BUYING ANYTHING BUT ESSENTIALS FOR YOURSELF** — *Instead, give money to God.*  
**JUDGING BY APPEARANCES AND BY THE STANDARD OF THE WORLD** — *Instead, learn to give up yourself to God.*

#### ~~~~~PRAYER CORNER~~~~~

#### A LENTEN PRAYER

*Lord Jesus, give me a lively faith, a firm hope, a fervent charity, and a great love of you. Take from me all luke warmness in the meditation of your word, and dullness in prayer. Give me fervor and delight in thinking of you and your grace, and fill me with compassion for others, especially those in need, that I may respond with generosity. Amen.*