

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 10, 2019

Every tree is known by its own fruit.

The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart.

— Romans 10:8

ALMSGIVING, PRAYER, FASTING, AND TEMPTATION

As we begin our season of fasting, prayer, and almsgiving, the reading from Deuteronomy reminds us of our duty of almsgiving, that we “set [our offerings] before the Lord, [our] God, [and] shall bow down in [God’s] presence” (Deuteronomy 26:10). The reading from Romans refers us to our prayer, reminding us that “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart . . . For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved” (Romans 10:8, 13). These are comforting words, and encourage us to ask God for what we need and to aid us in our prayer. Finally, the Gospel of Luke shows us a fasting Jesus, who was tempted as we are, and who knows what it means to be human. Someone once said that temptation arises when you’re tired and weary, and the devil comes along and makes a perfectly reasonable suggestion. Jesus shows us that, with his help, we too can overcome our temptations, reasonable as they may sound.

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TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — God brought us into this land flowing with milk and honey (Deuteronomy 26:4-10).

Psalms — Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble (Psalm 91).

Second Reading — The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart (Romans 10:8-13).

Gospel — Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus was led into the desert for forty days (Luke 4:1-13).

OUR GIFTS RECORD

	Offertory	Development
Last Week’s Collection	\$2,361.00	\$1,702.00
Number of Families contributing	106	78
Total Pledge for 2019	\$167,031.00	\$163,188.00
Pledged to Date (9 Weeks)	\$29,855.00	\$29,108.00
Received to Date	\$23,077.00	\$19,584.00
Envelopes Outstanding	\$6,778.00	\$9,524.00

LADIES OFFERTORY RECORD

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2019
\$306.00	\$2,524.00

Thirty-five ladies made a contribution last week.

PARISH LIFE CENTER HALL FUND WEEKLY REPORT

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2019
\$250.00	\$6,672.00

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

BICENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN

Parish Goal	\$165,000.00
Amount Received to Date	\$776.00
Amount Outstanding	\$164,224.00

Eight people made a B.C. contribution last week.

PARKING LOT totaled \$5.00.

30 **CHILDREN** contributed \$115.00.

POOR BOX totaled \$45.00.

CENTRAL & EASTERN EUROPE totaled \$111.00.

The **ATTENDANCE** for last Saturday 4:00 p.m. Mass was 150, 7:00 p.m. Mass was 160 and Sunday 10:00 a.m. Mass was 110.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Some time ago, a few ladies met to study the scriptures. While reading the third chapter of Malachi, they came upon a remarkable statement in the third verse:

“He shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver” (Malachi 3:3)

One lady decided to visit a silversmith, and report to the others what he said about the subject. She went accordingly, and without telling the silversmith the reason for her visit, asked him to tell her about the process of refining silver. After he had fully described it to her, she asked, “Sir, do you watch while the work or refining is going on?” “Oh, yes ma’am,” replied the silversmith. “I must sit and watch the furnace constantly, for, if the time necessary for refining is exceeded in the slightest degree, the silver will be injured.” The lady at once saw the beauty and comfort of the statement, “He shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver.”

God sees it as necessary to put His children into the furnace but his eye is steadily intent on the work of purifying, and His wisdom and love are both engaged in the best manner for us. Our trials do not come at random, and He will not let us be tested beyond what we can endure.

Before she left, the lady asked one final question, “How do you know when the process is finished?” “Oh, that’s quite simple,” replied the silversmith. . . “When I can see my own image in the silver, the refining process is complete.”

God allows us to go through hard times so that we may grow and become smooth and shiny. His goal is for us to become a reflection of Him that not only he can see, but also so others can see Him in us.

FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH ARE OFFERED BY:

1. Michael Jude and Alaina in thanks for Mike Thomas O’Hara on his 9th Birthday;
2. Mary Jean and Family in loving memory of Ned Sherlock on his Birthday;
3. the Family of Rat’s Pat Riley in loving memory of him on the 23rd Anniversary of his death;
4. and a Parish Family Member in thanks to St. Expedite;
5. and another Parish Member in thanks to St. Expedite.

BANNS OF MARRIAGE

The Banns of Marriage are announced for the second time for Pete Gerard Riley and Eden O’Hara.

MORNING AND EVENING PRAYER SCHEDULE

MORNING PRAYER Mon. thru Friday 9:30 a.m.

EVENING PRAYER Monday & Friday 6:30 p.m.
Tues., Wed., & Thurs. 4:15 p.m.

RIVERS NEVER GO REVERSE

*So try to live like a RIVER,
Forget PAST and focus on FUTURE...
Always be POSITIVE!*

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME begins this Sunday, March 10th. Remember to set your clocks forward by one hour.

RICE BOWLS are in the Atrium of the Church, please do collect it.

MASS ON FRIDAYS during Lent will be at 7 P.M and Stations of the Cross is prayed after mass.

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. 15: Legion – O.L. of Epiphany**
- Mar. 22: Religious Education Teachers**
- Mar. 29: Lectors**
- Apr. 5: Youth Group & Young Girls Org.**
- Apr. 12: Society of Mary Immaculate**
- Apr. 19: Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**

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

FEAST OF ST. PATRICK will be celebrated on Thursday, March 14th at 10:00 A.M. Mass. To prepare ourselves spiritually for the feast we will begin a Triduum Prayer on Monday, March 11th. The Society of Mary Immaculate will take care of the Feast.

FEAST OF ST. JOSEPH will be celebrated on Tuesday, March 19th at 10:00 A.M Mass. As a spiritual preparation for the Feast of St. Joseph a Novena will begin on Sunday, March 10th. The Youth Group will take care of the Feast.

THANK YOU to a member for a \$100 donation in thanks to St. Expedite and a member for a donation in thanks to St. Expedite.

EASTER LILIES It is asked that each family donate \$10 for the Easter lilies. Please give your donation to Mary Rita O'Hara, Bridget Rita or the Church Office.

JOKE OF THE WEEK

A young girl came home from a date looking sad. "Why are you sad," her mother asked.

"He mentioned that he was an atheist, Mom. He doesn't believe there is a hell."

"Don't worry daughter, marry him. Later he will understand there is hell."

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: First Sunday of Lent; Rite of Election; Rite of Calling the Candidates to Continuing Conversion; Rite of Sending; Daylight Saving Time begins.

Friday: Abstinence

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday: Funeral.

Tuesday: For the repose of the soul of Patsy Butts on the 3rd Anniversary of his death and for the repose of the soul of Rat's Pat Riley on the 23rd Anniversary of his death.

Wednesday: For the repose of the soul of Brian Benedict Carroll on his 30th Birthday.

Thursday: In thanks for Jim Richmon Carroll on his 8th Birthday.

Friday: In honor of the Holy Souls and Precious Blood and for Matt Edward Sherlock on his Birthday.

READERS

Sat. Mar. 9th, 4:00 P.M. Grace & Rita Riley

Sat. March 9th, 7:00 P.M. Christina & Natalie

Sun. Mar. 10th, 10:00 A.M. Jimmy Joseph & Theresa Maria

Sat. Mar. 16th, 4:00 P.M. Joy & Leah

Sat. Mar. 16th, 7:00 P.M. Jay & Christina Apple

Sun. Mar. 17th, 10:00 A.M. Jimmy Joseph & Theresa Maria

READERS – WEEKDAYS

Monday	-	Reed
Tuesday	-	Karen
Wednesday	-	Natalie
Thursday	-	Celia
Friday	-	Christina

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS – WEEKEND

Saturday 4:00 P.M.	March 9th
Front	Bridget Ann
Left Cup	Winnie Ann

Sunday 10:00 A.M.

March 10th	March 17th
Pete Man's Nora	Pete Man's Nora
Rose Marie	Rose Marie

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS - WEEKDAY

Monday	Bridget Rita
Tuesday	Pete Man's Nora
Wednesday	Rosie Cat
Thursday	Betty Jo
Friday	P.A.'s Ann Marie

TRUST YOURSELF

If you are depressed, confused or hurt don't worry go in front of the mirror. You will find the person who will solve your problems.

ENJOY THE LENTEN SEASON

Give up complaining...and focus on gratitude.
Give up harsh judgments...think kind thoughts.
Give up bitterness...turn to forgiveness.
Give up hatred...return good for evil.
Give up anger...practice patience.
Give up gossiping...control your tongue.
Give up sin...turn to virtue.
You can't direct the wind,
but you can adjust your sail.

~~~~~PRAYER CORNER~~~~~

A PRAYER FOR LENTEN GRACE

Loving God, during the sacred season of Lent, bring me closer to You. Prepare a place in my home and heart for silence and solitude, so that I may re-discover the grace of a prayer-full life. Help me to fast from those things that threaten the well-being of body and soul and remind me of the grace of simplicity. Enlarge my heart so that I give to those in need and, in so doing, re-discover the grace of gratitude and generosity. May this season be a grace-filled time to rekindle my love for and faith in You. Amen.