

First Sunday of Lent

MARCH 6, 2022



THIS WEEKEND'S READINGS

First: Sirach 27:4-7

Second: 1 Corinthians 15: 54-58

Gospel: Luke 4:1-13

FOCUS: Faithfulness to God is rewarded with grace and strength.

The Church has begun the spiritual journey of this holy season of Lent. With Christ, we enter the desert – to confront the Evil One and resist his false and empty promises. Once again, we seek the abundant mercy and power of God.

LITURGY OF THE WORD: Moses gives the people instruction on giving proper praise and thanksgiving before the Lord God. Saint Paul writes, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. In the Gospel, Jesus is led into the desert by the Spirit, where he overcomes three temptations by the devil.



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday: Joseph Ferguson, Kenneth Carson and Rosemary Quinn

Sunday: Virginia Trochymczuk, Romaine Melnick and Anthony Raia

TREASURER'S REPORT

February 26-March 6: Totaled \$ 5,172.12
Envelopes: \$ 2,762.00 – Online: \$ 2,410.12

THANK YOU!

THE GIVING BASKET

You will note during Lent quite the innovative Easter basket in Deacon John Hall, waiting to be filled. However, rather than the Easter Bunny, it's students in our Religious Education program – along with any parishioners who wish to hop to it as well – who will be bringing gifts for Montgomery Nursing Home residents.

All ears yet?

It is these eggs-act items only that are needed, unused and unwrapped, and placed in the basket by Sunday, April 3:

Beaded bracelets
Small coin purses
Baseball caps
Adult coloring books/colored pencils
Stationery and pens
Word Find puzzle books
Large-piece puzzles
Scarves/shawls
Blankets/throws
Slipper socks with non-skid soles
Small stuffed animals

Room décor

(Such as small artificial plants and wall hangings)

Lip balm

Lotion

Some bunny's sure to be grateful for your generosity!

ORANGE COUNTY SYNOD SESSION

All are invited to the Orange County Synod Listening Session scheduled for Saturday, March 12, at St. Joseph's Church, Middletown, from 9 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

To register, archny.org/synod/listening-sessions/ or go to our website, www.stpaulsbulleville.org, and click on the link on the home page.



For a synodal Church

communion | participation | mission

SPRING AHEAD

Daylight Savings Time begins next Sunday, March 13, so don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour before you turn in next Saturday night.



A CALL TO SOCIAL JUSTICE

Harden Not Your Heart

By Sr. Norma Pimentel

Recently I came across a woman I often see sitting on the side of the street, huddled up, wrapped in a shawl that somewhat protected her from the cold. She looked as if she was in another world as people passed by. Nobody seemed to notice her. She needed someone to stop and say, "Hello. How can I help you?"

I asked myself some of the questions we may all have: What happened to her? How did she come to be homeless? Does she have family? This woman, and thousands more who are homeless, are a part of the harsh reality that we look away from and ignore.



While I am uplifted by the people with kind and generous hearts who reach out to others, I also encounter

moments of great frustration when I see people like this unfortunate woman who go unnoticed and invisible. Their lives have unraveled beyond control, and it frustrates me to find it beyond my control to help them all. However, it was grace that day to know that a smile, a short talk and a meal uplifted her in that moment.

At times, too, we find ourselves uncomfortable and frustrated in all that may be going on in our lives and in the world. Our life may feel in disarray as if one thing after another is falling apart. But it may be in these moments of frustration that we can take a step back and listen to the Holy Spirit. Maybe our attempts to focus too much on our own lives could be blinding us from letting the Holy Spirit guide us.

As we embark on our Lenten journey, we must be attentive to the grace of offering ourselves in humility. We must let go and hand our lives over to God who inspires the goodness that we do. We must also be sure to proceed with the purity of intention. "Take care not to perform righteous deeds in order that people may see them; do not let your left hand know what your right is doing." (Mt 6:1-6)

When we permit ourselves to do this, we allow ourselves to be truly guided by God and focus on the good that God is doing in our lives and the lives of others. Don't let frustration prevent you from embracing the sacredness of God's presence all around you.

During your Lenten journey, do not be afraid of the messiness of life. I invite you to reach out to others, people you ordinarily might never reach out to – a man or woman experiencing homelessness, an immigrant, or someone you know who you have failed to see or get close to. A smile will let them know you actually see them and that they are not invisible. Getting close enough to care will let them know God loves both of you.

IN THE LOOP



Last weekend's **Walkkill East Rotary/Town of Crawford food drive** was quite successful. St. Paul's received a carload of pantry items, and Charlotte's Pantry on Route 302 and New Prospect Reformed Church in Walker Valley also benefited. This couldn't be done without your generosity!



Capuchin Youth & Family Ministries is returning to the community of Harlan, KY, in Appalachia in July - where half the children live in poverty. These missionaries will help improve living conditions with construction projects, visit the elderly and infirm, provide Vacation Bible School and set up a food and clothing outreach. High-school-age teens and adults must register by March 31. Registration fee is \$275 plus fundraising. For more information, visit <https://bit.ly/CYFMOUTREACH> or email Mary Ellen Yannitelli at myannitelli@capuchin.org



Free tax-preparation assistance is available through AARP Foundation Tax-Aide. For an appointment, call 2-1-1 (the United Way's Help Line) between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. Monday-Thursday or 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Friday. There are 15 sites in Orange County.

*Patience is the companion
of wisdom.*

- St. Augustine

CARDINAL'S APPEAL UPDATE

From supporting needy parishes and religious education to mission and charitable works, your generosity makes a difference. As of last Friday, February 25, \$17,400.80 toward our goal of \$45,500 has been received/pledged by 47 families. Thank you.



the
CARDINAL'S
ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL
Sharing God's Gifts

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

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