

**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.

—J. S. Paluch Co.

SAINT KATHARINE DREXEL (1858-1955)

March 3

Born into Philadelphia society, Katharine was an infant when she lost her mother. Her father remarried and the couple taught their daughters that their wealth was a “gift on loan” to be shared with the poor, whom they fed and cared for in their home. Invited by priest friends to witness firsthand the destitution on Native American reservations, Katharine resolved to devote her inheritance to this apostolate and enter a contemplative order. When, however, in private audience, she begged Leo XIII to send missionaries to staff the schools she was building, the pope replied, “My child, why not become a missionary yourself?” Katharine renounced a twenty-million-dollar fortune and founded the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, adoring Christ present in the Eucharist and ministering to Christ suffering in victims of racial discrimination. Her Sisters established over sixty schools nationwide, including Xavier University, New Orleans, the first dedicated to professional education for African Americans. In 2000, John Paul II canonized “Mother Drexel,” praising her “excellent example of practical charity and generous solidarity with the less fortunate, long the distinguishing mark of American Catholics.”

—Peter Scagnelli, © J. S. Paluch Co.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mt 25:31-46
 Tuesday: Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7, 16-19; Mt 6:7-15
 Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19; Lk 11:29-32
 Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8; Mt 7:7-12
 Friday: Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-8; Mt 5:20-26
 Saturday: Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8; Mt 5:43-48
 Sunday: Gn 12:1-4a; Ps 33:4-5, 18-20, 22; 2 Tm 1:8b-10; Mt 17:1-9

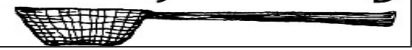
Prayer Requests: Call 874-3812. Teresa K., Pat K., Thomas T., Susan B., Lorri McC., Sarah, Clifford J., Terri A., Fred P., Theresa S., Sara, Mary Anne P., Barbara, Dave C., Jim P., William, Parson P., Dave, Mary O., Bill Z., Daniel, Sally T., Mary K., Michael D., Richard M., Kathleen, Peter, Rosa S., Susan B., Joyce D., Anita C., George H., Mimi H, Steve, Barry, Lorri K., Hugh P., Robert S., Britney N., Jacque W., Rebecca A., April K., Jacinta G., Leo [Ed] Arnold, Castellini family, Anne Favre, Kathy R., Donna W., Jim K., and for all who suffer from pain and anxiety, we pray

SAVE THE DATE: March 14

St. Patrick’s Dinner at the Hall
 Social Hour 6pm. Dinner 7pm. We will have a raffle.
 Price same as last year: \$25. Tickets available at church & office.

Finance Corner:

Weekly Offering



Your generosity is greatly needed and appreciated!

For the month of **February/March** offerings:

2/23: 1st Collection: \$1597. Rural Food: \$2075.
 2/26: [Ash Wed.] Church in Central/East Europe: TBD
 3/1: Operating Expenses. 3/8: Capital Expenditures.

Mark your Calendar for Future Events & Meetings:

Parish Council [PC]: TBA

Finance Council [FC]: Tues., 4/7/20, at 3PM in Hall

Liturgy Committee: Thurs., 3/5/20, at 9:45AM in Hall

St. Teresa Ladies Guild: Contact Diane, 823-6044

St. Philip Ladies Guild: Contact Penny, 559-367-7403

Every Friday, Centering Prayer: 9:30AM at St Philip
Coffee & Goodies: Following 8AM Sunday Mass and
 Wednesday/Friday after 9AM Mass, at St Philip Hall



Mondays & Wednesdays-Seniors Lunch at 12noon:

All seniors welcome! (No lunch Monday before 2nd Tues. of month)


✠ ♥ ✠ Mass Intentions ✠ ♥ ✠ Schedule

Sat., Feb. 29, 5pm Mass ✠ Marcella & Joseph Kiefer
 Sun., March 1, 8am Mass for the People
 Sun., March 1, 9:30am Mass for the Papke Family Special Intention
 Sun., March 1, 11:15am Mass ✠ Fr. Gary Logan
 Mon., March 2, 9am Prayer Service
 Tues., March 3, 8:50 morning Lent prayer & 9am Mass
 Wed., March 4, 9am Mass & Stations of the Cross
 Thurs., March 5, 9am Mass & Stations of the Cross; ✠ Linda Anne Smith
 Fri., March 6, 8:50 morning Lent prayer & 9am Mass
 Sat., March 7, 5pm Mass ✠ Jimmy Newlands
 Sun., March 8, 8am Mass for the People
 Sun., March 8, 9:30am Mass ✠ Jack Young
 Sun., March 8, 11:15am Mass Joe Burwell

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: First Sunday of Lent
 Tuesday: St. Katharine Drexel
 Wednesday: St. Casimir
 Friday: World Day of Prayer; Abstinence; First Friday
 Saturday: Ss. Perpetua and Felicity; First Saturday

saint snippets



March 2

God is asking me to be poor with the poor in order to bring them to Christ.

St. Angela of the Cross

Spanish foundress of a religious community. She devoted her life to serving the local poor and ill until her death in 1932.

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Pope Francis Quote

“The Lord has redeemed all of us, all of us, with the blood of Christ: all of us, not just Catholics. Everyone! ‘Father, the atheists?’ Even the atheists. Everyone!”

Music Note: Tom Hyde will be our guest trumpeter for our first-Saturday-of-the-month mini-recital: Sat., March 7th, at 4:30pm in St. Teresa Church. Please join us for the music, followed by 5pm Mass and healing service.

Earlier that Saturday: Thomas Stuart and John Plass will have their priestly ordination at St. Eugene Cathedral at 10am on March 7. All are welcome to attend and pray.

RURAL FOOD PROGRAM UPDATE: FEBRUARY 2020

On February 11th, 48 dedicated volunteers welcomed 98 families representing 110 adults, 28 children and 41 seniors, a total of 179 people receiving nutritional support. This program is funded through the Rural Food Collection on the last Sunday of each month as well as through private donations.

We have set goals of eliminating use of plastic bags and transitioning to reusable grocery bags by the end of 2020 to reduce our costs and to reduce our contribution to landfill. Please continue to collect reusable grocery bags, paper bags with handles, and clean egg cartons.

Spring cleaning? If you have clean, gently used sleeping bags or blankets, we are collecting now for distribution this fall when weather turns colder. Drop off at the parish hall.

RURAL FOOD VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Sat., March 7, from 9:00 --10:00am repackaging in Parish Hall
Mon., March 9, from 10:00am – 12:00pm to set up the Parish Hall
Tues., March 10, from 8:30 – 11:00am to distribute the food and to assist clients



"When I said 'Fish on Fridays', Bob, I didn't mean during Lent you skip work on Fridays and go fishing."

TEMPTATION

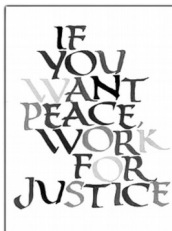
Every conquered temptation represents a new fund of moral energy. Every trial endured and weathered in the right spirit makes a soul nobler and stronger than it was before.

—William Butler Yeats

PRAYER

The value of persistent prayer is not that God will hear us, but that we will finally hear God.

—William McGill



Second Theme of Catholic Social Teaching: Call to Family Community and Participation [Part One]

The person is not only sacred but also social. How we organize our society—in economics and politics, in law and policy—directly affects human dignity and the capacity of individuals to grow in community. Marriage and the family are the central social institutions that must be supported and strengthened, not undermined. We believe people have a right and a duty to participate in society, seeking together the common good and well-being of all, especially the poor and vulnerable.

Family

"The family is thus an agent of pastoral activity through its explicit proclamation of the Gospel and its legacy of varied forms of witness, namely solidarity with the poor, openness to a diversity of people, the protection of creation, moral and material solidarity with other families, including those most in need, commitment to the promotion of the common good and the transformation of unjust social structures, beginning in the territory in which the family lives, through the practice of the corporal and spiritual works of mercy." (Pope Francis, *On Love in the Family [Amoris Laetitia. . .]*, no. 290, quoting the *Final Report of the Synod of Bishops*, 10/24/15)

Economic and social policies as well as organization of the work world should be continually evaluated in light of their impact on the strength and stability of family life. The long-range future of this nation is intimately linked with the well-being of families, for the family is the most basic form of human community. Efficiency and competition in the marketplace must be moderated by greater concern for the way work schedules and compensation support or threaten the bonds between spouses and between parents and children. (*United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Economic Justice for All*, no. 93)

The first and fundamental structure for a "human ecology" is the family . . . founded on marriage, in which the mutual gift of self as husband and wife creates an environment in which children can be born and develop their potentialities, become aware of their dignity and prepare to face their unique and individual destiny. (*St. John Paul II, On the Hundredth Year [Centesimus Annus. . .]*, no. 39)

Insofar as it is a "small- scale Church," the Christian family is called upon, like the "large- scale Church," to be a sign of unity for the world and in this way to exercise its prophetic role by bearing witness to the Kingdom and peace of Christ, towards which the whole world is journeying. Christian families can do this through their educational activity—that is to say by presenting to their children a model of life based on the values of truth, freedom, justice and love—both through active and responsible involvement in the authentically human growth of society and its institutions, and by supporting in various ways the associations specifically devoted to international issues. (*St. John Paul II, The Family in the Modern World [Familiaris Consortio. . .]*, no. 48)

To be continued

Lenten Scripture Discussion: Pat Griffith is offering a series of five discussions during Lent on "Why Jesus?" Each session will be 1 hour and will focus on three perspectives of Jesus: Messiah, Son of God, and Christ, and how they're described in both the New and Old Testaments. We will discuss "Why Jesus" is vital to understanding of our Christian Faith and celebration of his Resurrection. Discussions will be held in St. Philip Hall classroom on Tues. evenings at 6pm and Wed. mornings following the 9am Mass on the following dates: Tuesdays and Wednesdays, March 3 and 4; March 10 and 11; March 17 and 18; March 24 and 25; and April 7 and 8. If you are attending, please read these two scriptures in advance: Matthew Chapter 1 and John 1:1-14. To contact Pat and to RSVP, email: patrick@fairhill.com