



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT ✕ FEBRUARY 18, 2024

Masses For The Week



- Sat. Feb. 17 4:00pm **VIGIL-FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT**
Joseph and Louisa Pineiro by Susan Dawn
- Sun. Feb 18 9:00am **FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT**
Amby Pickarski by Marilyn Croak
10:30am The People of the Parish
- Tues. Feb. 20 9:00am **FIRST WEEK IN LENT TIME**
Theresa Vishnesky by Dorothy Keyasko
- Thur. Feb 22 9:00am **THE CHAIR OF SAINT PETER THE APOSTLE**
Alex Marker by Stephanie & George Martin
- Sat. Feb. 24 4:00pm **VIGIL-SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT**
Desiree Checki Polakowski-Liehowitz by Joe & Lori Pierageli
- Sun. Feb 25 9:00am **SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT**
Vincent Chiodo by Mary Ann Chiodo
10:30am John Voyko by St Catherine's Choir



Parishioners who are sick and in need of prayers can be added to our prayer list by calling the parish office at 570-842-4995. Please pray for: Margaret Adamiac, Josephine Amato, Joanne Arredondo, Chelsey Barto, Michael Bota, Rose Bremer, Reilly Canas, Tony Cannella, P.J. Cappola, Dennis Corbisiero, Jim Dantis, William Delahanty, Barbara Derrenbacher, Carole Dougherty, Linda & Bob Earthy, Dan Edwards, Lisa Fay, Mary Ann Flaherty, Kealy Ford, Kyle Gemberling, Brian Harriett, Pat Henes, Sarah Hewitt, Marge Imperatrice, Jaime Jantz, Mary Knowles, Betsy Kressler, Susie LaFave, Viviana Lewis, Donna Jean Marabella, Roland Matthews, Ellie McCauley, Tim McGovern, Carol McKnight, Donald Migliorato, Richie Morrison, Paul Natoli, Tom Natoli, Gioia Palmerio, Victor Panzella, Ben Pickarski, James Pilosi, Ruth Pilosi, Frank Quattro, Jennifer Quinn, Howard Rife, Steve Rish, Anthony Romaro, Lisa Sarnicola, Michael Sawko, Mary Schaub, Beth Schuil, Larry Shock, Duane Sprovach, Millie Stoia, Jason Scott Taylor, Dana Thorne, Skyler Thorne, Jack Tizio, Gregory Tobin, Pat Topar, Marivita Williams, Helen Zerbe, and all the sick of the Parish.

Please call the Parish Office if someone should be taken off the list.

OPERATION SNOWFLAKE



Daily Masses will be cancelled any time North Pocono School District is delayed or cancelled. Weather delays and cancellations are broadcast on TV channels:
WNEP 16 – WYOU 22 – WBRE 28.

This is a **SIGN** 
for all ages to come

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading: Genesis 9:8-15

God made a promise to Noah that he would never again devastate the entire planet with a flood. He also told Noah that the symbol of this promise would be a rainbow in the clouds.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:18-22

This letter from Peter reminds all people that Christ died for us so that we might be led to God. We have been saved by our baptism; not a physical cleansing, but a promise to continually strive to obey God.

Gospel: Mark 1:12-15

Mark briefly tells of Jesus' stay in the desert, where he was tested by Satan. He did not give in to temptation but reappeared in Galilee to proclaim the good news.

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Sunday

Gn 9:8-15; 1 Pt 3:18-22; Mk 1:12-15

Monday

Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday

Is 55:10-11; Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday

Jon 3:1-10; Lk 11:29-32

Thursday

1 Pt 5:1-4; Mt 16:13-19

Friday

Ez 18:21-28; Mt 5:20-26

Saturday

Dt 26:16-19; Mt 5:43-48



Sacrificial Giving

WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH

God's Plan for Giving 02/04/24.

Sunday Offering	\$1708.00
Loose	\$ 199.00
Utilities	\$ 169.00
Fuel	\$ 5.00
Ash Wednesday	\$ 19.00
	\$2100.00

Diocesan:	
Rice Bowl	\$ 5.00
	\$ 5.00

TOTAL: \$2105.00

Mass Attendance:

Sat: 4:00PM--27

**Sun: 9:00AM--41
10:30AM--50**



Father Rawel's Corner

In today's readings, we encounter the profound theme of God's covenant with humility. It's the theme that stretches from the ancient times of Noah to the ministry of Jesus in the gospel of Mark. This covenant reveals God's unwavering love and his invitation to us to respond with faith and repentance.

In the first reading from Genesis, God establishes a covenant with Noah and all living creatures, symbolized by the rainbow. This covenant is a promise of God's protection and mercy, even in the face of our human failings. The Second Reading, from the first letter of Peter, speaks of Christ's suffering and sacrifice. It highlights the transformative power of his redemption, bringing us onto a new covenant with God. In the Gospel of Mark, we see Jesus beginning his ministry by proclaiming, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe in the Good News". God's covenant is a call to a Life of faith, repentance, and transformation. It's a call to trust in God's promise, to turn away from sin, and to follow the path of righteousness. As we journey through Lent, let us reflect on the covenant God has made with us and the incredible love He has shown.

Pray and practice: Heavenly Father, we find redemption and hope in the covenant of grace. As we reflect on your boundless love, we are humbled by our imperfections. Today, we answer your call to repentance. Grant us the strength to turn from our ways and walk in your light as we strive to live in the beauty of your covenant.

Have a blessed weekend.

LENTEN REGULATIONS:

ASH WEDNESDAY AND GOOD FRIDAY: These are DAYS OF FAST and ABSTINENCE. Limit of one full meal on these days for all between the ages of 18 and 59 inclusive. These are also known as meatless days.

WEEKDAYS OF LENT: These days do not have any special obligations to fast. However, voluntary acts of self-denial are recommended.

LENTEN FRIDAYS: All Fridays in Lent are DAYS OF ABSTINENCE. All who have reached their 14th year are bound to abstain totally from meat.



Street2Feet needs your support to continue providing vital services to people experiencing homelessness. Street2Feet is the only day shelter and outreach program for adults who are homeless or facing homelessness in Monroe County. Your support continues to make sure our clients will always have a place to go.

We are collecting men & women's socks, gloves, caps, shoes & boots. Drop them in the box at Church

Announcement

Help Needed

An older couple in our Parish needs help with house cleaning and errands.

If you are interested call 570-676-8815 or 570-390-0882.



The Season of Lent



First Sunday of Lent, Cycle B

First Reading

Genesis 9:8-15

God establishes a covenant with Noah, giving a rainbow as its sign.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 25:4-5,6-7,8-9

A prayer praising God for his covenant

Second Reading

1 Peter 3:18-22

In our baptism, we are saved through Christ's death and Resurrection.

Gospel Reading

Mark 1:12-15

Jesus is tempted in the desert by Satan.

Background on the Gospel Reading

On the first Sunday of Lent, the Gospel reading in each Lectionary cycle is about Jesus' temptation in the desert. This event in the life of Jesus is reported in each of the Synoptic Gospels—Matthew, Mark, and Luke—but it is not found in John's Gospel. This year we read Mark's account of this event.

Compared to the Gospels of Matthew and Luke, the details throughout Mark's narrative are sparse. This is evident in Mark's account of Jesus' temptation in the desert. Mark tells us only that Jesus was led into the desert by the Spirit and that for 40 days he was tempted by Satan. The Gospels of Matthew and Luke explain that Jesus fasted while in the desert, that Satan presented him with three temptations, and that Jesus refused each one, quoting Scripture. Only the Gospels of Matthew and Mark report that angels ministered to Jesus at the end of his time in the desert.

In each of the Synoptic Gospels, the temptation of Jesus follows his baptism by John the Baptist. In Mark's Gospel, we are told that Jesus went into the desert immediately after his baptism, led by the Spirit. Jesus' public ministry in Galilee begins after his temptation in the desert. Mark's Gospel makes a connection between the arrest of John the Baptist and the beginning of Jesus' ministry. Jesus' preaching about the Kingdom of God is in continuity with the preaching of John the Baptist, but it is also something new. As Jesus announces it, the Kingdom of God is beginning; the time of the fulfillment of God's promises is here.

The fact that Jesus spent 40 days in the desert is significant. This recalls the 40 years that the Israelites wandered in the desert after being led from slavery in Egypt. The prophet Elijah also journeyed in the desert for 40 days and nights, making his way to Horeb, the mountain of God, where he was also attended to by an angel of the Lord. Remembering the significance of these events, we also set aside 40 days for the season of Lent.

In Mark's Gospel, the desert marks beginning of Jesus' battle with Satan; the ultimate test will be in Jesus' final hours on the cross. In a similar way, our Lenten observances are only a beginning, a preparation for and a reinforcement of our ongoing struggle to resist the temptations we face in our lives. During Lent, we are led by the Holy Spirit to remember the vows of Baptism in which we promised to reject sin and to follow Jesus. Just as Jesus was ministered to by the angels, God also supports us in our struggle against sin and temptation. We succeed because Jesus conquered sin once and for all in his saving death on the cross. ---From LoyolaPress

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

“This is the sign that I am giving for all ages to come, of the covenant between me and you and of every living creature with you. I set my bow in the clouds to serve as a sign of the covenant between me and the earth... Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God. ‘This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and believe in the gospel.’”

We heard the same words when the blessed ashes were signed in the form of a cross on our foreheads this past Wednesday. We begin this season of repentance and renewal because we are the ones in need. The covenant of God, made with Abraham and Moses, was renewed through the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

At the last supper Jesus told us that the content of the chalice was His blood, the blood of the new and everlasting covenant poured out for us for the forgiveness of sins. We embark on this period of prayer grateful for the opportunity to amend our lives, as this Lent is to be different than any other.

As we observe our wayward world, we see the need for renewal, a renewal in our spiritual life, which begins with me. I will allow the kingdom of God to be truly present for me. By my prayer, sacrifice and good works that kingdom becomes real.

HIS WORD TODAY

BY REV. WILLIAM J. REILLY

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON
THE SUNDAY READINGS

LENT

