



The First Sunday of Lent

TRANSFORM US

O Lord!

Mon. 03/10 **A Day of Prayer for Victims of Cancer**
Feast Lenten Weekday
8:00 AM Mass Janet Pufka, *Peg Bieniek*

Tues. 03/11 **A Day of Prayer for Victims of Heart Diseases**
Feast Lenten Weekday
8:00 AM Mass Helen Pufka, *The Adelman's*

Wed. 03/12 **A Day of Prayer for Victims of Arthritis**
Feast Lenten Weekday
8:00 AM Mass Pauline Christelmeier, *Anita Kitting and Family*
6:00 PM Mass Louis Mangiacarne, *Stanley Krish and Family*

Thur. 03/13 **A Day of Prayer for Victims of Nervous Disorders**
Feast Lenten Weekday
8:00 AM Mass In Memory of Parents B/days, Ed & Rita Raichle, *daughter-Barbara*

Fri. 03/14 **A Day of Prayer for Victims of Emotional Disorders**
Feast Lenten Weekday
8:00 AM Mass Rose Marie Simanski, *Terry and Kathy Tomassetti*

Sat. 03/15 **A Day of Prayer for Victims of Diabetes**
Feast Second Sunday of Lent
4:30 PM Mass Denise Keagy, *Diana Monnikendan*

Sun. 03/16 **A Day of Prayer for Victims of Addictions**
Feast Second Sunday of Lent
9:00 AM Mass Larry Dorazio, *Family*
11:00 AM Mass Our Lady of Fatima Parish Family

*Lord
Jesus
Christ
Son
Of
God
Have
Mercy
On
Me
A
Sinner*

Happy Birthday:

- 03/10 Bert Bravin
- 03/12 Darlene Mills
Jordan Pufka
- 03/13 Jerry Smith
- 03/14 Ed Ptak
- 03/15 Bev Fabian
Rachael Hosgood
Olivia Ronan
- 03/17 Helen Glashouser



Fridays of Lent
Stations of the Cross @ 6:00 PM
followed by
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Our Lady of Fatima Pleaded That we pray
the Holy Rosary Daily
At O.L.F. before each Mass and privately
from 8:30am to 7:00pm

MONEY MATTERS
Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (March 2, 2014)
95 people Celebrated Liturgy at O.L.F. contributing \$ 1,917.00 of which \$ 140.00 accounted for non-envelope contributions.

# Envelopes In Circulation	191	# Used	92	# Unused	99
Collection One Year Ago = \$	3.046.00				

First Sunday of Lent

TRANSFORM US, O LORD!

Reflections for the
Season of Lent

Jesus Is Put to the Test

Matthew 4:1-11

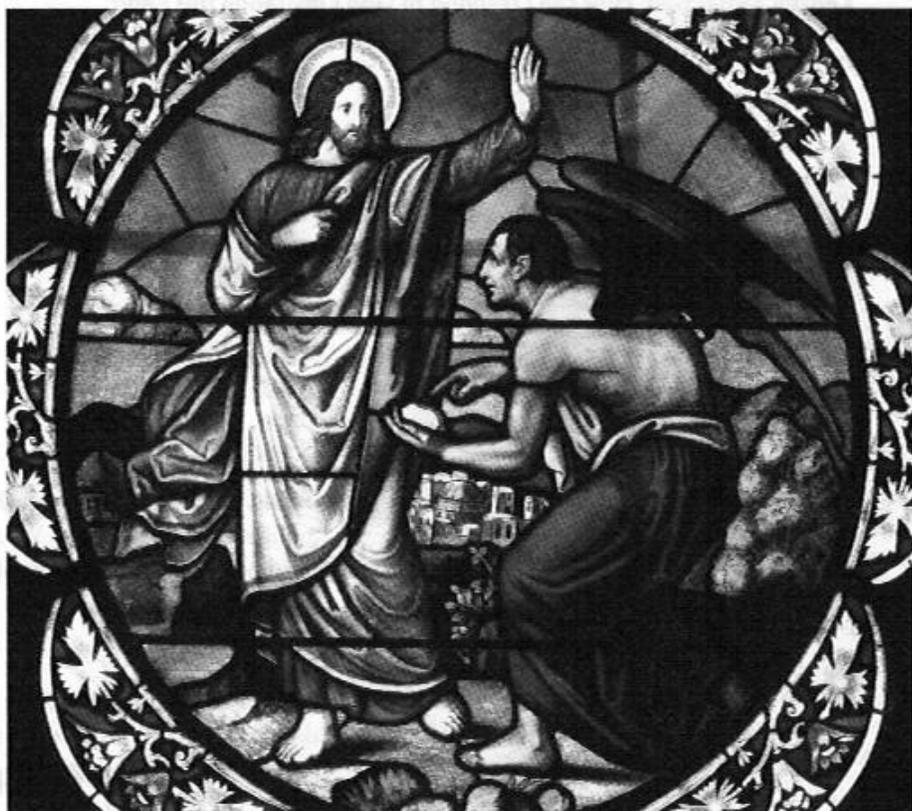
In preparation for his public ministry, Jesus is led by the Spirit into the desert and tested for forty days. The threefold test is aimed at Jesus' core: his identity, his fidelity, and the covenant God made with the Israelites.

IDENTITY: The devil cleverly goads Jesus to prove that he is the Son of God by performing acts that would betray that very same identity — an identity characterized by Jesus' full union with the will of God the Father. Our identity, in turn, stems from being created in the image and likeness of God and becoming adopted daughters and sons of God through baptism.

1 What stands in my way in accepting that I am a beloved child of God? How can I stay true to my identity as such?

FIDELITY (FAITHFULNESS): Jesus responds to each of these tests with a quote from the Book of Deuteronomy. Jesus knows and lives the Scripture passage: "You shall not put the Lord, your God, to the test" (Mt 4:7). We, on the other hand, might find ourselves bargaining with or testing God rather than trusting in God's mercy and love for us.

2 What fears do I need to let go of in order to live the prayer "Jesus, I put my trust in you?"



The Crossings. Above: W.P. Westman Ltd.

COVENANT: The devil tests whether Jesus will uphold Israel's covenantal relationship with God: "The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve" (Mt 4:10). Jesus is the New Covenant, the definitive Word, in whom God established the covenant forever (see *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 73).

3 In this holy season of Lent, how deeply do we accept that God is the source and reason for our existence?

LIVING THE LITURGICAL YEAR

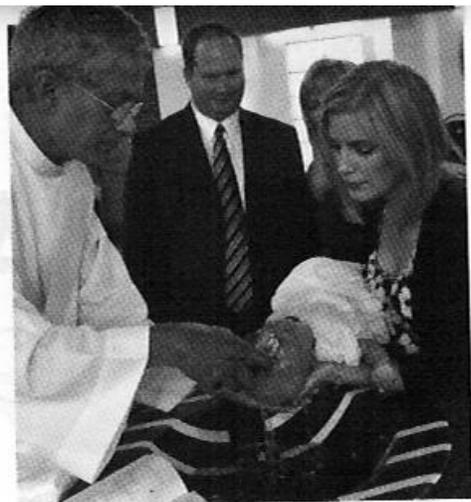
Preparing for Easter

Lent is preparation for the celebration of the greatest feast of the liturgical year — Easter. It has both a repentant and a baptismal character. We are quite familiar with the repentant character, but how does baptism enter into the picture?

In the fourth and fifth centuries, the Church developed a system of rites to accompany the faith journey of those who wished to become Christians. The final forty days of this journey became what we now call Lent. Witnessing the catechumens' journey through

the stages of Christian initiation in our parishes helps those of us already baptized to remember and recommit to our own baptismal promises.

Baptism is about dying and rising: dying to sin and rising to new life in Christ. Dying to sin requires attention to our relationships with God and others. Lent offers a chance to take measure of and re-form our lives, both individual and communal. The Scripture readings throughout the season help us recall God's saving presence and invitation to fullness of life.



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Catechism **CONNECTION**

“Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit” (CCC, 1213).

Lenten Reflection: How can I respond to God's invitation this Lent? What difference does it make that I am a baptized Christian?



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FamilyTime

In our fast-paced world, let Lent stand for retreat, as it did for the early Christians. One idea is to try slowing down by “giving up” technology on Sundays. Instead of everyone burying their noses in a computer, tablet, or phone, take a walk together or play a board game as a family.

What are some other ways our family can slow down this Lent?

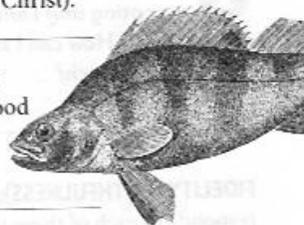
SYMBOLS OF THE SEASON



BARREN STONES: They call to mind the desert and Jesus' testing by the devil there.

ASHES: Made from palm leaves of the previous year, ashes can remind us both of the baptismal and penitential character of Lent. They not only represent our own mortality and utter dependence on God but also symbolize our efforts of dying to sin (and rising to new life in Christ).

FISH: As a Lenten symbol, fish stands for the obligation to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday and abstain from meat on other Fridays of the season.



PRETZELS: Made from simple dough which has no dairy or fat, they remind us of fasting. Shaped like two arms crossed, they remind us of prayer.



VIOLET (DEEP PURPLE): Violet is the liturgical color of the season and symbolizes its repentant character, as well as Christ as the king of the world. (Deep purple was a color reserved for royalty in Jesus' time.)

PRAYER: “A clean heart create for me, God; renew within me a steadfast spirit” (Psalm 51:12).

School Project - Gabrielle Smith will be collecting non-perishable food items collection for the St. Vincent de Paul Society and also the local food bank. Items will be collected from now until the 23rd of March. Any donations are greatly appreciated. **Receptacle will be available in the back of the church.**

2014 Annual Catholic Appeal Goal for Our Lady of Fatima \$15,100

Serving the Lord includes supporting your parish in the weekly offertory and supporting your diocese annually in the ACA. Your sacrificial ACA gift this Lent becomes a source of hope for families and individuals who are nourished by the Church's ministries.

In this year of pastoral planning, you can learn about diocesan ministries and current events, subscribe to our free monthly newsletter or make your gift online by visiting www.dioceseaj.org. Visit the Annual Catholic Appeal page to see how ACA gifts are distributed among our ministries.

Please reflect upon all of the blessings God has given to you and return your Annual Catholic Appeal gift in the collection basket on March 23 as a sign of your gratitude. Thank you!

ACA Announcement Sunday March 16
ACA Commitment Sunday March 23

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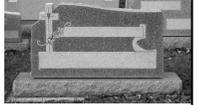
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-Dick Van Patten

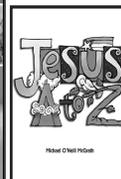
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