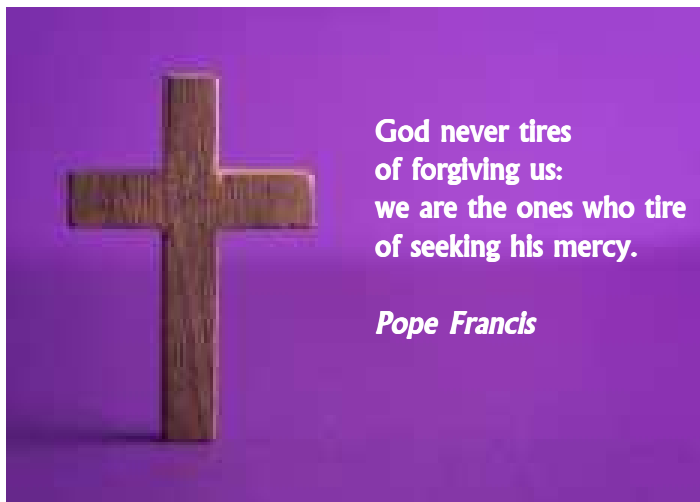


St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

Father Bill Fisher, Pastor

First Sunday of Lent - February 21, 2021



Our Parish Family

Help during Lent and throughout the year

In our parish and the greater community, we have many people in need, including those who are sick, lonely, sad or depressed, and others who are hungry, cold and homeless.

Beginning with this Lenten season, do what you can to help those in need - through prayer, kindness, donations or volunteer time.

Remember, the Lord said, "whatsoever you do to the least of your brothers and sisters, you do unto me." (Matthew 25:40)

Memories from grade school

In Sister Mary Praxeda's classroom, the kindergarten students would scoot to one side so there was room for the child's guardian angel.

Weekly Collections February 14, 2021

Envelopes:	\$	1,267
Maintenance:	\$	562
Candles:	\$	22
Central/Eastern Europe	\$	50
Black & Indian Mission	\$	50

Lent Services

There will be no services during Lent at St. John the Baptist or Holy Family to protect parishioners from the COVID-19 virus.

Stations of the Cross

St. Mary-St. Anthony will hold Stations of the Cross at 12:05 p.m. each Friday through March 26.

St. Peter's Cathedral will have Stations of the Cross at 6:30 p.m. Fridays during Lent.

Confession

Confession is available at St. John's by appointment. St. Mary-St. Anthony will offer confession from 6 to 7 p.m. Wednesday through March 31. St. Peter's will provide confession 6:30 to 8 p.m. Fridays.

The Lenten Season

The theme for Lent 2021 is "Reflect. Repent. Restore."

Lent began this week with Ash Wednesday and continues through sundown on Holy Thursday. Throughout the 40 days, we are asked to pray, fast and give alms to help us prepare for the Lord's Resurrection at Easter.

We seek the Lord in prayer by reading Sacred Scripture; we serve by giving alms; and we practice self-control through fasting.

During Lent, we are called to abstain from luxuries and also to create a true inner conversion of our heart as we seek to follow Christ's will more faithfully. Most of us have abstained from meat on Fridays, however, we should also practice self-discipline in other ways.

Giving alms is a way to share God's gifts—not only through the distribution of money, but also with our time and talents.

Throughout Lent, we are asked to renew our baptismal commitment as others prepare to be baptized as new Catholics.

For daily reflections to guide you through Lent, news about the Church and other Catholic resources, visit the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. at usccb.org.

Source: U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops



First Reading

God said to Noah and to his sons with him: "See, I am now establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you and with every living creature that was with you: all the birds, and the various tame and wild animals that were with you and came out of the ark.

I will establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all bodily creatures be destroyed by the waters of a flood; there shall not be another flood to devastate the earth."

God added: "This is the sign that I am giving for all ages to come, of the covenant between me and you and 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.

When I bring clouds over the earth, and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the covenant I have made between me and you and all living beings, so that the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all mortal beings."

Responsorial Psalm

R. Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

Your ways, O LORD, make known to me; teach me your paths,
Guide me in your truth and teach me,
for you are God my savior.

R. Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

Remember that your compassion, O LORD, and your love are from of old. In your kindness remember me, because of your goodness, O LORD.

R. Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

Good and upright is the LORD, thus he shows sinners the way. He guides the humble to justice, and he teaches the humble his way.

Readings - First Sunday of Lent
February 14, 2021 (bible.usccb.org)

Picture: Man of Sorrows
William Dyce (1806-1864)
Liturgytools.net

R. Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

Second Reading

Beloved: Christ suffered for sins once, the righteous for the sake of the unrighteous, that he might lead you to God.

Put to death in the flesh, he was brought to life in the Spirit. In it he also went to preach to the spirits in prison, who had once been disobedient while God patiently waited in the days of Noah during the building of the ark, in which a few persons, eight in all, were saved through water.

This prefigured baptism, which saves you now. It is not a removal of dirt from the body but an appeal to God for a clear conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers subject to him.

Verse Before the Gospel

One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

Gospel

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert, and he remained in the desert for forty days, tempted by Satan.

He was among wild beasts, and the angels ministered to him.

After John had been arrested, 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."

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