

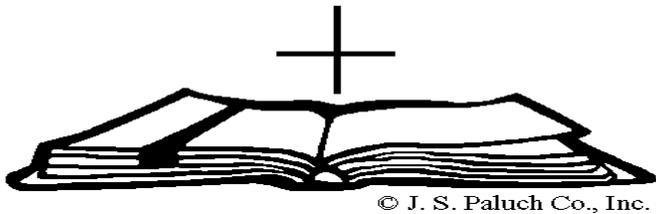
First Sunday of Lent
 February 21, 2021
 Your ways, O LORD, make known to me;
 teach me your paths.
 — Psalm 25:4

REPENT AND BELIEVE IN THE GOSPEL

Lent is the time of year we devote to scrutinizing our lives in the light of our baptism into the death and resurrection of Jesus. Today's readings are a nice shorthand catechism of what our baptized lives mean. As Noah passed through the waters of the flood to a covenant with God, so did we enter into a covenant, a promised relationship with God through our baptism.

Peter's letter gives an explicit explanation of what our baptism means: it is an appeal we make to God for a clear conscience. How do we obtain this clear conscience? The words proclaimed by Jesus immediately following his temptation show us the way: "Repent and believe in the gospel" (Mark 1:15). It might be a good spiritual exercise to keep these readings before us throughout the entire season of Lent, a means to help us return to a life lived by our baptismal promises.

Mass Intentions



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- Sat., Feb. 20, 4:30 p.m. Dennis McCloskey, Huval Family, Louis Perschall Sr., Nick Sita, Laura Lee Kent, James "Mac" McLachlan IV, **and for the living**; Special Intention, Karge Family, Kelly Constanza, and Karen Bovia
- Sun. Feb. 21, 7:30 a.m. Parishioners
- Sun. Feb. 21, 9:15 a.m. Al Stumpf, Normie Miller, Marlys White, Bridget Mizell Miller, Noel Labourdette, Bob Eittle, Kenny Whited, Kenneth Miller, Kim Hammergren, Carol Pieri, Fred Kopfler, Mary Ulmer, Gene Grabbe **and for the living**; Mary Helen Grabbe, Priscilla Stahel and Debbie Reggenbach
- Sun., Feb. 21, 11:00 a.m. Conner Metz
- Mon., Feb. 22, 8:00 a.m. Margaret Mary Mule'
- Tues., Feb. 23 NO MASS
- Wed., Feb. 24, 8:00 a.m. Frank Minyard
- Thurs., Feb. 25, 8:00 a.m. Richard Naretty
- Fri., Feb. 26, 8:00 a.m. Arthur Bartel

PRAYER LIST

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Rosalind Baham | Ryan Ware |
| Walter Boroughs | Louise Cashmere |
| Kenneth Vicari | Yolanda Bourgeois |
| Roy M. Piazza | LeLe Kopfler |
| Catherine Atkins | Roxanne Troxclair |
| Debra Vandendorre | Robert Till |
| Gene Cambus | Diane Rodriguez |
| Tuck Tucker | |



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Envelopes	\$ 1,886.00
Loose	\$ 1,392.00
E-giving	\$ 230.00
Building and Preservation Fund	\$ 420.00

Thank you to all for the continued contributions. If you wish to give online, please go to:
<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/stjohnfolsom>.

THE CANDLES BURN IN HONOR OF:

- Sanctuary: Drew Penney
- Blessed Mother: Special Intention
- St. Joseph: Jason Stein
- St. Anne: Stephanie Penney

If you would like to honor your intention by burning a 7-day candle please call 796-3806.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Friday's during Lent, the stations of the cross will be at 3:30 p.m. outdoors weather permitting. On the first Friday in Lent the booklets will be available on the Church porch. Each parishioner attending the Stations of the Cross is requested to keep the booklet for personal use during this entire Lenten Season. New booklets will be purchased when we return to indoors.

POPE FRANCIS'S FEBRUARY PRAYER INTENTION
Violence Against Women

We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.

PRAYER FOR PROTECTION FROM CORONAVIRUS LET US PRAY,

Loving and faithful God, the coronavirus reminds us that we have no power, and we are dependent on you. We place ourselves in your loving hands. Give eternal rest to all who have died from the virus. Place your healing hand on those who are ill and give your protection to us in this time of fear and uncertainty. Calm our fears and help us to trust you as our faithful God. Enlighten our government and Church leaders as they are faced with important decisions. Give blessing to those in health care and protect them. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Our Lady of Prompt Succor hasten to help us. Blessed Francis Seelos, pray for us.
AMEN

RICE BOWL-HUNGER IN OUR WORLD

Jesus told us that whatever we did for one of these least brothers of his we did for him. Reflect on the challenge of global hunger— it is a reality for millions of our sisters and brothers. What will you do to support the hungry in our community and around the world? Visit crsricebowl.org to learn more.

KC FRIED-FISH DINNERS continue Fridays in Lent. We are practicing safe social distancing by only offering drive-thru, pick-up service. We will serve you without you leaving the comfort of your car. We are offering our traditional domestic farm-raised fried catfish plate including the usual sides of a cheese-topped potato dish, coleslaw, and hush puppies. Sorry, we are unable to offer baked fish this year. The cost is unchanged at \$10. We will also offer canned drinks or bottled water for \$1 each to complete your meal. Please spread the word to your neighbors and friends. We look forward to serving you some great food! Thank y'all for your terrific support of this program! The Knights of Columbus

"NUN RUN"

Sister Mary Brigid (Angelle-Marie Damare') and her monastery are having their annual "Nun Run" which is usually a local event in Tonopah, AZ, but this year, because of Covid 19 concerns it will be a virtual event. Hopefully, it will become an even bigger success due to the necessity of going online. We will have a group walking the Tammany Trace in Covington Saturday, March 20th at noon, starting at Harbor Freight, and walking about 3 miles to the Trailhead Museum in Abita Springs. All will be welcome to join us but the beauty of "virtual" is it can be done anywhere! Feel free to bring chairs or whatever for a picnic at the park afterwards. We'll be taking a picture as well to send. Use the link "DesertNunRun.Com" to register and get more information.

FEAST OF FAITH

Seasonal Changes for the Liturgies of Lent

Today is the First Sunday of Lent. During this season of preparation for Easter, our churches look stark and simply—no flowers at the altar, no festive banners or decorations. And our liturgies feel different, too. The organ is quiet except to accompany the singing of the assembly. The Gloria, our Sunday song of rejoicing, is not heard except on solemnities, and we will not sing the Alleluia, our joyful acclamation of praise, until the Easter Vigil. "Alleluia cannot always / Be our song while here below," says an eleventh-century hymn. "Alleluia our transgressions / Make us for a while forego; / For the solemn time is coming / When our tears for sins must flow" (Alleluia dulce carmen, J. M. Neale, trans.).

These changes in the liturgy will catch our attention and make us eager for the festive outpouring of joy that will return with Easter. This year may the stripped-away liturgies of Lent remind us to strip away what is not essential in our lives to make space for the crucified and risen One, and thus to be ready to sing "Alleluia" once again when Easter returns.

ARCHDIOCESAN GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Registration is now open if you and your spouse have been married for 50 years or more. The celebration (not a Mass) will be on Sunday, June 27, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. at St. Philip Neri Church in Metairie. Each couple will receive a certificate and a picture with Archbishop Gregory Aymond. Please call the office at 796-3806 to register by March 12th

REMINDERS

PSR Classes, Wednesdays, 6:15 – 7:30 a.m., Jonathan Hall and Office Classrooms

First Saturday Mass at 8:00 a.m.

Weekly Wednesday Adoration, 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.

First Friday Adoration Benediction, 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.

Men's Study Group in Odilo Hall, Mondays, 6:30 p.m.

Knights of Columbus meeting, Thurs, Feb 11th at 7 p.m.

Weekly Wednesday Evening Adoration, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Stations of the Cross Fridays, during Lent

On Monday, February 22nd at 9:00 a.m. in Odilo Hall, our Church history class will continue our study of the time period, Protestors and Defenders, by focusing our attention on the English Reformation. We will do this by viewing the classic film, "A Man for All Seasons," which narrates the conflict between St. Thomas More and King Henry VIII. The movie is 2 hours long so there will be no discussion afterward.