

# St. Mary's Catholic Church

First Sunday in Lent

March 1, 2020

Dear Parishioners:

How come we don't like being told what to do? If someone tells us: "You can't do this or that..." then we are tempted to say: "Oh yea, just you watch me!" Whether it is a troublesome two year old learning to say: "No" or a defiant teenager challenging their parents rules and regulations or an impatient road-rage driver ignoring the rules of the road, we don't like being told what we have to do. We rather be rebellious and do things our own way. Rebellion which translates into pride or arrogance is part of our human condition and usually leads to **sin**. So what is **sin**? Is it a condition, a state of mind and heart? Is it a type of action that is wrong or evil? Is it simply making a bad choice on our part?

Scripture talks a lot about **sin** as seen in today's readings. In our first reading from the Book of Genesis we hear about **sin's** origin in the story of Adam and Eve in what Christian writers have often called "the fall" of humanity. God created Adam and Eve with **free will** enabling them to make their **own** choices. **Free will** is God's greatest gift to all of us as we are able to decide for ourselves what kind of person we want to be. Unfortunately Adam and Eve made a bad choice as they **disobeyed** God and rebelled against His wishes. In doing so they **sinned**, breaking their relationship with God. The end result was that their **sin** tainted all of humanity forever. Although "**original sin**" entered the world because of Adam and Eve's **disobedience** and pride, God still made a promise of salvation which gave hope for all of humanity.

St. Paul in today's second reading reminds us who hope is -- Jesus Christ. Paul tells us that **sin** entered the world through one man's **disobedience** and through **sin** came death, so too, salvation and new life enters the world through Jesus' **obedience**. Adam and Eve's **sin** brought separation between God and humanity, bringing death into the world. However Jesus' death restores the relationship between God and humanity, giving pardon, and bringing about new life. Jesus' righteousness outweighs all the harm and damage caused by Adam and Eve's **sin**.

Today's Gospel passage is St. Matthew's story of Jesus' temptations by the devil. The theme of Jesus' temptations centers on His **obedience** in doing His Father's will. The first temptation for Jesus is to distrust Divine providence by taking power into His own hands. It is a temptation for Jesus to lose confidence in His Father's ability for providing ordinary material needs for Him. The second temptation is to presume His Father's providence and take Him for granted. (continued...)



## Weekend Masses

Sat Feb 29	4:00 p.m	Kathy Sehlhorst
Sun Mar 1	10:00 a.m.	Dolores Hermiller & James Trenkamp, Lena Baderstcher
Sat Mar 7	4:00 p.m	Cassie and Gregory Kiene Mary Zaleskie
Sun Mar 8	10:00 a.m.	Carl and Bertha Greulich

## Daily Mass

Mon Mar 2		9:00 a.m. St. Mary's
Wed Mar 3	10:30 a.m.	Hilty – Communion Service
Fri Mar 6		9:00 a.m. St. Mary's

## SUNDAY COLLECTION

Adults	\$2,343.00	Loose \$356.00
Children	\$21.75	Total \$2,720.75
68 envelopes returned = 32%		



*Thank you for your generosity!  
Thank you also to those who give  
electronically!!*

## Assignments for March 7 & 8, 2020

**Money Counters:** Deb Goldenetz & Deb Buck

**4:00 p.m.** – *please sign the sheet in the main entrance*

**Greeters:** Basil Meyer

**Cantor:** Kevin Vance

**Ushers:** Dave and Mary Hoffer

**Lector:** Jenny Roby

**E.M.:** Jennifer Tschuor, Brianna Atkins

**Servers:** Adelyn Althaus, Grace and Greta Myers

### 10:00 a.m.

**Greeters:** John and Sarah Schulte

**Cantor:** Kevin Vance

**Ushers:** John Schlumbohm and Debbie Bullman

**Lectors:** Jane Bowerman

**E.M.:** Wes Lovett, Noralu Kahle, Ron Bowerman,  
Jim Tabler, Mark Zwiebel

**Servers:** Lovett Boys

## **Readings for March 8, 2020**

### **Second Sunday of Lent**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Genesis 12:1 – 4

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 2 Timothy 1:8 – 10

Gospel Reading: Matthew 17:1 – 9

