

# FIRST SUNDAY OF THE LENT

March 1, 2020

*Dear Parishioners,*

If you are the Son of God . . . (Matthew 4:3, 6)

What father would send his son on a starvation mission in the wilderness? That's the cunning strategy the devil used: sow doubt about God's goodness and love into Jesus' mind. If he could shake Jesus' trust in his Father, then maybe Jesus would feel less obligated to stay faithful. The temptations pile up until the final gambit: *God isn't helping you here; all he's left you with is hunger and humiliation. Is it worth all the pain? I can give you so much more, so why not bow down to me instead? Do we have a deal?*

This is the same strategy the serpent used against Adam and Eve in today's first reading: "Did God really say . . . ?" (Genesis 3:1). *God knows that if you eat that fruit, you'll be just like him. He's trying to keep you from becoming all that you can be because he doesn't want any rivals.*

But where our first parents failed, Jesus succeeded. And in succeeding, he opened the way for us to succeed as well. He beat back the devil's temptations by doing the one thing that even we can do when we are tempted: he exercised stubborn faith. Yes, Jesus was hungry and exhausted. Yes, he desperately wanted relief. But he knew what God had asked of him, and he held fast to God's will and God's promises.

In the end, Jesus won out. Where once he heard only the devil's words of harassment, now he heard angels singing songs of comfort and praise.

Make no mistake, you will be tempted this Lent, if you haven't been already. The devil will try to convince you that God doesn't care about you or that obeying the commandments will leave you unsatisfied. Don't believe it! Hold fast to your Lenten commitments. Stay faithful in prayer. And if you should fall short, remember that you are still a child of God. He loves you and he will always help you. He may even send an angel to comfort you!

"Lord, strengthen me with your grace this Lent so that I can overcome any temptation."

*Deacon Mark Race, Administrator*

## **Sacred Heart Retreat**

Ladies, it's that time of year again for our Silent Retreat at the Sacred Heart Retreat House in Alhambra. Enjoy days focused on the theme: Come Holy Spirit - "He will guide you to all truth" (John 16:13). Our retreat will take place March 27th - 29th. You can commute daily or stay the entire weekend. Spaces are filling up fast. So please contact Evelyn Payne at 323.291.8325 or Sonya Robertson at 323.291.4846 to get registered right away.

## Daily Scripture Readings

Sunday	Gn 2:7-9, 3:1-7, Ps 51:3-17, Mt 4:1-11
Monday	lv 19:1-18, Mt 25:31-46
Tuesday	Is 55:10-11, Mt 6:7-15
Wednesday	Jon 3:1-10, Lk 11:29-32
Thursday	Est C:12-25, Mt 7:7-12
Friday	Ez 18:21-28, Mt 5:20-26
Saturday	Dt 26:16-19, Mt 5:43-48
Sunday	Gn 12:1-4a, Ps 33:4-22, Mt 17:1-9

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday February 29

5:15 PM Intention of Mary Jene

### Sunday March 1

8:00 AM Souls of Robert and Sarah Johns

10:00 AM Soul of Joyce Verrette

12:15 PM Intention of all Parishioners

### Thursday March 5

8:00 AM Intention of Elizabeth Quinn

## Weekly Offering for February 23, 2020

\$4511.00 Tithe and Offering

445.00 Building Fund

215.00 "We Care"

## Transfiguration Church & School

### ANNUAL FISH FRY RAFFLE

1st Prize: \$1000.00

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: \$500.00

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: \$250.00

You are asked to sell one book which is 40 tickets, total of \$40. There is no need for a **STUB TO WIN**.

All we need is your name, phone number or address.

**Drawing: Friday, April 3, 2020 in the hall.**

*(Winner need not be present to win)*

## Stations of the Cross

*Every Friday during Lent at 6PM.*

## Lenten Fish Fry

*Fridays 5-9PM beginning February 28.*

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### TRANSFIGURATION LENTEN REVIVAL



### Sr. / Dr. Oralisa Martin, O.R.A.

Sunday, Monday, & Tuesday Nights at 7PM

March 15, 16, & 17, 2020 and

Sunday March 15<sup>th</sup> at 10AM Mass

**Spread the Word!**

### Winter Cold and Flu Season

You are reminded to use common sense in your participation at mass and the reception of Holy Communion from the chalice during the annual cold and flu season. If you are feeling ill or think you may have been exposed to a virus, you should refrain from partaking of the Blood of Christ from the communal chalice. In the same way, you should refrain from offering your hand to others at the sign of peace (or during the Lord's prayer). A smile and a heartfelt, "Peace be with you," should suffice. Likewise, if you are not comfortable sharing the sign of peace or receiving Holy Communion from the communal chalice for fear of infection, you should feel no pressure to do so. All of us must be aware of such sensitive matters in the intimate life of the Christian community and we should expect that some will refrain from participation in the liturgy or the sign of peace and the communal chalice out of care for our wellbeing and not out of unkindness or a lack of piety. For further clarification please contact Sr. Rosanne Belpedio, CSJ at the Office for Worship [rbelpedio@la-archdiocese.org](mailto:rbelpedio@la-archdiocese.org) Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

### ACCW News

Catholic Women, you are invited to attend the next ACCW meeting on Friday, March 20th at St. Bernadette Catholic Church, 3825 Don Felipe Drive, Los Angeles, CA. 90008. Registration begins at 9:30 AM. For information please call Helen Argusta at 323.295.-9024.

## Pray for the Sick

LaVerne Agnew, Cyd Michelle Anderson, Brian Argusta, Percenia Beasley, Fr. Emile Belletty, Glenda Brown, Vivian Burgess, Barbara Butler, Brownie Cain, Sister Cecilia Calva, Alberto Casanova, Christopher Chestnut, Sister Ann Paul Clare, Katherine Clark, Agnes Cooper, Edward Cousin, Juanita Davis, Beverly Colvin-Dorsey, Jayden Dunn, Nigel Dunn, Alton Duhon, Cynthia Fortier, Teresa Franklin, Judy Felton-Gardner, Michael Frierson, Avis Gibbs, Barbara Harris, Darren Harris, Jacqueline Holman, Janie Jackson, Aaron Katz, Briana Katz, Barbara Lagarde, Irwin Lagarde, Mercedes LeBlanc, Barbara Lindsey, Joe McZeal, Vylfred Manor, Sister Marianna, Dorothy Okoye, Aliyah Patterson, Sally Price, Wiley R. Pugh, Vickie Race, Andrea Raggette, Doris Rogers, Dana Semien, Dudley Semien, Chris Simon, Joan Spencer, Annie Starks, Sandra Sterling, Leila Thomas, Iris Turner, Mabel Walton, Johnnye Washington, and Alice Williams.