

First Sunday of LENT



March 6, 2022

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the desert for forty days, to be tempted by the devil.

Luke 4:1-2

In the chapter of Luke preceding today's Gospel, Jesus was baptized in the Jordan and began his adult ministry. Immediately afterward he was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tested. While this might seem almost surreal as we imagine the devil taking Jesus from place to place, it is really much more simple and common than that. For many of us, as we strive to live our lives, we deal with many temptations. Sometimes it is a matter of having the zeal and desire, but not the practical experience or knowledge to carry out a goal. Other times, we are afraid to ask for the assistance that we need to carry a project through to completion. Or we might think that we deserve more, or that our results should be happening more quickly. Our egos can be destructive.

KNOWING YOUR TOUCHSTONES

When Jesus found himself tested by the devil, he was given several different scenarios. The devil brought up situ-

ations that he knew could specifically test Jesus, but similar situations would test any of us. Physical hunger is a real need, and many of us might yearn for success, or better paying jobs, or power, or the like. The difference is that when Jesus was tempted, he had some strong "touchstones" to hold onto, secure answers to lead him. He went to simple, basic scriptures that he could call upon in his time of need. For many, one of those basics would be Jeremiah, "I know the plans I have in mind for you—plans for peace and not disaster." For another it might be the Beatitudes or the twenty-third Psalm. Whatever it may be, have ready those touchstones, those "go to" prayers or phrases that you can hold onto during the times when you are sorely tested in your life. Let those stones be your firm foundation.

Today's Readings: Dt 26:4-10; Ps 91:1-2, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15; Rom 10:8-13; Lk 4:1-13

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PASTOR: Rev. Michael T. "Mike" Snider

Celebration of the Sacraments:

Mass: Saturday: 5:00 PM
Sunday: 9:00 AM
Tues - Fri: 9:00 AM

Reconciliation:

Saturday & Sunday:
45 minutes before Mass

Marriage or Baptism:

Contact the parish office six
(6) months prior to the
anticipated date 903-769-3235

Holy Spirit

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Welcome Visitors!

*We hope that you have enjoyed celebrating Mass with us
and felt welcomed in our church as your "home away from home."*

*Whether you are new to the area or have lived here for years,
you are invited to join our parish family. **Please come again!***

First Sunday of Lent

We remember in our prayers all the sick, especially the following:

Yolanda & Eldon Boyd. Gayle & Jim Hickey. Doris Hoffman. Wanda & George Duke. Lonnie & Tammy McClung. Jean Hamilton. Randy & Louise Beard. Sven Sterner. Kathy Gravatt. Nancy Rasca. Jess Corrigan Jr. Clifford & Frances Jo Moore. Fran & Kathleen Fleming. Dave Cormier. Thomas Holzmann. . Michael Allen. Joe Fazzio. Ron Emma. Kate Serres. Belinda Flowers. Dona Jordan. Jaye Anderson. Georgette March. Kyle Fabitz. Greg Mooney. Garry Fetsch. Karee Haney. Bollinger Family. Charlie Parker. Tammy Johnson. Carolyn Simmons. Dianne & Gary Laudt. Jo Ann Crowell. Ann Richardson. Jacob Stephens. Mary Margaret Ellison. John Kominis. Esther Coronel. Elise Sugg. Joann Rayl. Avery Boultinghouse. Wanda & Mike Stephens. Geri O'Neil. We list the names of our sick Parishioners. Friends and Relatives for one month.

Please pray for the men and women active military service from our parish community:

Dawn Quinn, US Army PFC (Granddaughter of Bob & Jean Quinn). Reid Patrick Hope, US Marine (Nephew of Mike & Wanda Stephens). 1LT Joseph Chandler, U.S. Army (Nephew of Mike & Margaret Jernigan) Seaman Logan Adkinson (great grandson of Fr. Mike). Jay Guajardo, Navy Rescue School (Great Nephew of Lex & Liza Forster). Senior Airman, Natalie York (Daughter of Steve & Julie York). Pvt First Class Randall Scheaffer US Army (Grandson of Carlos & Pat Gallardo). Lt. "JG" Gary Buchanan; Capt. Blake Gaughan; 2nd Lt. Will Corrigan (Great Nephews of Jess & Eva Corrigan). Paul Moreno E4 AMT 3rd Class (Grandson of Kathy & Dale Boman). Staff Sergeant Daniel Hodan. U.S. Army (Grandson of Ron & Barbara Emma). Warrant Officer Michael Hauck (Son of Jerry & Vicki Hauck & brother of Cathy Ellis) & Seaman Rainer Hauck (Grandson of Jerry & Vicki Hauck & nephew of Jeff & Cathy Ellis).

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: First Sunday of Lent; Girl Scouting Sunday

Monday: Ss. Perpetua and Felicity; Julian calendar Lent begins

Tuesday: St. John of God

Wednesday: St. Frances of Rome

Friday: Abstinence

CHARACTER

A simple judge of my character is how I treat a person who can do absolutely nothing for me.—Anonymous

CLOSER THAN YOU THINK

Many of life's failures are people who did not realize how close they were to success when they gave up.—Thomas Edison

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: The Israelites show their faith by offering the LORD first fruits of the products of their new land (Deuteronomy 26:4-10).

Psalms: Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble (Psalm 91).

Second Reading: All who express faith in the risen Christ and confess that he is Lord will be saved (Romans 10:8-13).

Gospel: Jesus was led into the desert by the Spirit and was tempted (Luke 4:1-13).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7, 16-19; Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19; Lk 11:29-32

Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8; Mt 7:7-12

Friday: Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-8; Mt 5:20-26

Saturday: Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8; Mt 5:43-48

Sunday: Gn 15:5-12, 17-18; Ps 27:1, 7-9, 13-14; Phil 3:17 — 4:1 [3:20 — 4:1]; Lk 9:28b-36

Mass—Intentions

Sat. 3/05 Virginia Elick+ (Laudt Family)

Sun 3/06 Frank Duff+ (Legion of Mary)

Tue 3/08 John Todaro+ (K of C)

Wed 3/09 Caroline Todaro (K of C)

Thurs 3/10 NO 9:00am MASS Fr. Mike attending Deanery Mtg.

Fri. 3/11 Sadie Rose (Carolyn Bonicard)

Sat. 3/12 Joseph & Barbara Pericak+ (Mary Catalano)

PARISH SUPPORT

Average weekly amounts for the year of 2021

Expenditures \$ 3,666

Regular and debt & maintenance collections \$ 3,799

Attendance: 2/26 Saturday: 53 2/27 Sunday: 72

One can Give without Loving...But one cannot Love without Giving.



Pope's Intention for March:

For a Christian response to bioethical challenges. We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life and prayer and action.

Reflection question:

What Lenten observances do I intend to keep this year?

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Grant, almighty God,
through the yearly observances of holy Lent,
that we may grow in understanding
of the riches hidden in Christ
and by worthy conduct pursue their effects.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

IN THE DESERT

Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert for forty days, and then the devil tested him. Moses and the Israelites had been in the desert for forty years before being led to the land of milk and honey. There were times when they called out to God, sure that, as Saint Paul wrote to the Romans, "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." We sometimes spend time in the desert as well. Not a literal desert most of the time, but a desert in which it seems difficult to perceive God's presence, times when we face difficulty and are tempted to leave God's ways behind. On this First Sunday of Lent, Jesus shows us what to do in these moments: stand firm and trust in God.

MARCH NEWS & EVENTS

Fri., Mar. 4th: Vespers (evening prayers) at 4:00pm followed by the Stations of the Cross. We will start back with soup supper in St. Jude's Hall, immediately following the stations.

Sun., Mar. 6th: Immediately following 9:00am Mass in St. Jude's Hall. **Knights of Columbus** starts back with the **best breakfast in town**. Children eat FREE to 12th grade; adults \$ 5.00 each.

Tues., Mar. 8th: 9:00am Mass & Adoration (Adoration 9:30am—12:30pm; 6:00-8:00pm).

Fri., Mar. 11th: Vespers at 4:00pm followed by the Stations of the Cross. *Soup supper* in St. Jude's Hall, immediately following the stations.

Sat., Mar. 12th: 9:00am Patriotic Mass & Rosary. **St. Patrick's Cornbeef Pot Luck Dinner** immediately following the 5:00pm Mass in St. Jude's Hall. Cornbeef provided by Bob Mailliard. **Please bring a vegetable; pasta; salad or dessert dish. WEAR YOUR GREEN!**



Sun., Mar. 13th: Day light savings time begins. Set your clocks forward one hour. Following 9:00am Mass, coffee & donuts in St. Jude's Hall.

Tues., Mar. 15th: 9:00am Mass & Adoration (Adoration 9:30am—12:30pm; 6:00-8:00pm).

Wed., Mar. 16th: Casino Fundraiser Meeting at 6:00pm in St. Jude's hall.

Fri., Mar. 18th: Vespers at 4:00pm followed by the Stations of the Cross. **Knights of Columbus starts back with the best fish fry and best price \$13.00pp in Wood County.** Immediately following the stations in St. Jude's Hall.



Sat., Mar. 19th & Sun. Mar. 20th: After Mass Casino Event Tickets and raffle tickets go on sale.

Sun. Mar. 20th: Immediately following 9:00am Mass, coffee, juice, biscuits & gravy provided by Bryan & Dolly Todd, in St. Jude's Hall. Jane Bidlack facilitates "The Mass as Heaven on Earth" (Hebrews & Revelation)" Class in the middle classroom.

Tues., Mar. 22nd: 9:00am Mass & Adoration (Adoration 9:30am—12:30pm; 6:00-8:00pm).

Thurs., Mar. 24th: No 9:00am Mass due to Fr. Mike attending a Study Day in Tyler.

Fri., Mar. 25th: Vespers at 4:00pm followed by the Stations of the Cross. Soup supper in St. Jude's Hall, immediately following the stations.

Sun., Mar. 27th: Daylight savings time begins. Set your clocks forward one hour. Following 9:00am Mass, coffee & donuts in St. Jude's Hall.

Tues., Mar. 29th: 9:00am Mass & Adoration (Adoration 9:30am—12:30pm; 6:00-8:00pm). Confessions: 5—8pm in the Deacon's Office.

March Second Collections:

5th & 6th: "Building & Maintenance."

12th & 13th: "Black & Indian Missions."

19th & 20th: "Holy Spirit Easter Flowers."

26th & 27th: "Hunger Relief in the Diocese."

Legion of Mary—Pilgrim Statue: Our Lady of Fatima Statue is now ready to visit your home. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex or you may contact: Marge Clymer, 903-216-7953 or Jane Bidlack, 903-569-7749. If scheduling permits, the Statue may be kept for two weeks.

Celebrate Life Banquet

Sat., March 26, 2022 at 6:30pm (Seating by 7:00pm for beginning of program). Infinity Event Center, Holiday Inn North, 300 Tuttle Circle, Longview, TX (behind Hobby Lobby). Reservations Required, \$ 40.00 per person. Seating is limited, reservations by Sat., March 18, 2022.

Fr. Mike would like to reserve at least one table possibly two. Please notify him if you want to attend this event.

SAVE THE DATE: *The Roaring 20's*

DINNER & CASINO NIGHT SAT., APRIL 30, 2022

TICKETS TO ATTEND EVENT \$ 40.00 PER PERSON or TABLE OF 8 \$ 320.00

RAFFLE TICKETS \$5.00 each or a book of 6 for \$ 20.00

PRIZES: FIVE --- \$ 500.00 Visa Gift Cards

EVENT & RAFFLE TICKETS GO ON SALE MAR. 19TH & 20TH



SATURDAY, MARCH 12th:

St. Patrick's Cornbeef Pot Luck Dinner

Immediately following the 5:00pm Mass

in St. Jude's Hall. Cornbeef provided by Bob Mailliard.

Please bring a vegetable; pasta; salad or dessert dish.

WEAR YOUR GREEN & VISIT WITH PARISHIONERS!

Please Join Us

Knights of Columbus Fish Fry

Fri., March 18th & Fri., April 1st



Fried Catfish with all the trimmings
Adults \$ 13.00 Children under 5 years old is free

Tickets available at the door
DINNER SERVED FROM 5:00—6:30pm



The Holy Spirit Food Ministry would like to thank all our parishioners for their food donations. The large plastic bin is located by in the hallway by Bridget's office. **Cake & muffin mix; cereal and pudding cups.**

Looking for volunteers to get involved with the Food Ministry. Call or email Bob Mailliard at 903-769-3963 or theduckdude@att.net

Thank you, Bob Mailliard; Bryan & Dolly Todd; Stan & Terry Evans; Al & Evelyn Murfin. Holy Spirit Food Ministry Team

**Please
Join us**

Two more...

Knights of Columbus Friday Fish Fry

March 18 & April 1

FRIED CATFISH W/ALL THE TRIMMINGS:

- French Fries
- Hush Puppies
- Beans
- Coleslaw
- Desserts
- Coffee/tea



**Dinner
served from
5:00-6:30pm**

Tickets at the door
Carry-out available

Adults \$13
**(Children under
5 yrs free)**

**Holy Spirit Catholic
Church Hall
1612 FM 2869**

Article for the Big Sandy-Hawkins Journal. 2 March 2022 Edition

(Submission date: 25 February 2022) Submitted by Randy Munoz

Snacking on Scripture – Little Nibbles of the Bible.

Series 1, Snack 3 –Jacob by Francis E. Gigot (<https://www.catholic.com/encyclopedia/jacob>)

Jacob, (Hebrew: Y`QB; Sept. Iakob): the {second} son of Isaac and Rebecca; {eventually renamed Israel}; third great patriarch of the chosen people; and the immediate ancestor of the twelve tribes of Israel. The incidents of his life are given in parts (Gen., 25, 21+), wherein the documents (J, E, P – Yahwist, Elohist, Priestly, in turn) are distinguished by modern scholars ... His name – possibly an abbreviation of Jacob-El (Babylonian: Ya`kub-ilu), with which compare Israel, Ismael etc. – means “supplanter”, and refers to well-known circumstances of his birth (Gen. 25: 25). His early years were marked by various efforts to get the birthright from his brother Esau. His struggle for it began before he was born (25:22-28). Later, he took advantage of Esau’s thoughtlessness and despair to buy it from him for a pottage of lentils (25:29-33). In virtue of this purchase, and through a ruse, he finally got it by securing the blessing which Isaac intended for Esau (27:1-37). Then it was that, to escape his brother’s avenging wrath, and apparently also to obtain a wife from his parents’ stock, he fled to Haran, the dwelling place of Laban, his maternal uncle (27-37). On his way, he had at Luza the vision of the angels ascending and descending by a mysterious ladder which reached from earth to heaven, and of Yahweh renewing to him the glorious promises which He had made to Abraham and to Isaac; in consequence of this, he called the place Beth-El, and vowed exclusive worship to Yahweh should He accompany him on his way and bring him back safely home (28:11-22). Jacob’s relations with Laban’s household form an interesting episode, the details of which are perfectly true to Eastern life and need not be set forth here. Besides blessing him with eleven children, God granted to Jacob a great material prosperity, so that Laban was naturally desirous of detaining him. But Jacob, long wearied with Laban’s frequent trickery, and also bidden by God to return, departed secretly, and, although overtaken and threatened by his angry father-in-law, he managed to appease him and to pursue his own way towards Canaan (29-31). He managed also—after a vision of angels at Mahanaim, and a whole night’s wrestling with God at Phanuel, on which latter occasion he received a new blessing and the significant name of Israel – to appease his brother Esau, who had come to meet him with 400 men. Passing through Succoth, Jacob first settled near Salem, a city of the Sichemites, and there raised an altar to the God of Israel (33:17-20). Compelled to leave on account of the enmity of the Canaanites – the precise occasion of which is uncertain – he went to Bethel, where he fulfilled the vow which he had made when on his way to Haran. Proceeding farther south, he came to Ephrata, where he buried Rachel, who died giving birth to Benjamin, and where he erected a pillar on the site of her grave. Thence, through Migdal-Eder, he came to Hebron, where he was joined by Esau for their father’s burial (35:16-29). In Hebron, Jacob lived quietly as the head of a numerous pastoral family, received with inconsolable grief the apparent evidence of his son, Joseph’s, cruel death, passed through the pressure of famine, and agreed most reluctantly to his separation from Benjamin. The news that Joseph was still alive and invited him to come to Egypt revived the patriarch, who, passing through Bersabee, reached Egypt with his sons and grandchildren. There it was given him to meet Joseph again, to enjoy the honors conferred upon him by Pharaoh, and to spend prosperously his last days in the land of Gessen. There, on his deathbed, he foretold the future fortunes of the respective descendants of his sons and passed away at the age of 147. According to his last wishes, he was buried in the land of Canaan. Despite the various difficulties met with in the examination of the Biblical narrative and dealt with in detail by commentators, it is quite certain that the history of Jacob is that of a real person whose actual deeds are recorded with substantial accuracy. Jacob’s character is a mixture of good and evil, gradually chastened by the experience of a long life, and upon the whole not unworthy of being used by God for the purpose of His mercy towards the chosen people. The Talmudic legends concerning Jacob are the acme of fancy.


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