

### PARISH INFORMATION

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**St. Vincent de Paul Society Helpline**: Call 740-453-3301 and press 2 at the prompt to leave a message; a volunteer will return

**Emergency Anointing:** In a medical emergency, call the Parish Office and at the prompt, press 1. This automatically routes your call to our priest. For non-emergencies, call the office to schedule an anointing.

**Prayer Line:** Call any one of the following numbers; your request will be passed along to the entire team.

740-453-8397

740-588-0314

740-704-3136

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS:** 

Monday-Thursday: 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Friday Closed

Additional hours by appointment

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Sunday, February 26 - First Sunday of Lent

 $Scripture\ Readings:\ Gn\ 2:7-9;\ 3:1-7;\ Ps\ 51:3-4,\ 5-6,\ 12-13,\ 17;\ Rom\ 5:12-19\ or\ Rom\ 5:12,\ 17-19;$ 

Mt 4:1-11

4:30 p.m. Mass (Activity Center) for **P** Ralph Caruso

7:45 a.m. Mass (Activity Center) for the People of the Parish

9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal (Activity Center)

9:30 a.m. CCD (Parish Center)

11:00 a.m. Mass (Activity Center) for **T** Howard Andrews

Monday, February 27

Scripture Readings: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15; Mt 25:31-46

9:00 a.m. Mass (Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel) for a Special Intention

Tuesday, February 28

Scripture Readings: Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19; Mt 6:7-15

7:15 a.m. Mass at Genesis Hospital (Chapel)

9:00 a.m. Mass (Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel) for \$\frac{1}{2}\$ Earl Hankins

7:00 p.m. Evenings of Faith & Fellowship (Activity Center)

Wednesday, March 1

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

11:30 a.m. Stations of the Cross (Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel)

Noon Mass (Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel) for & Charles & Leota Schaumleffel

1:00-8:00 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration (Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel)

5:30 p.m. Rosary (Activity Center)

Thursday, March 2

Scripture Readings: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8; Mt 7:7-12

9:00 a.m. Mass (Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel) for & Howard Andrews

Friday, March 3

Scripture Readings: Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8; Mt 5:20-26

7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross (St. Thomas Facebook Page)

Saturday, March 4

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

3:30-4:15 p.m. Confessions (Activity Center)

Sunday, March 5 - Second Sunday of Lent

Scripture Readings: Gn 12:1-4a; Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22; 2 Tm 1:8b-10; Mt 17:1-9

4:30 p.m. Mass (Activity Center) for \$\P\$ Tammy Crawford

7:45 a.m. Mass (Activity Center) for 🕏 Anna Beardsley

9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal (Activity Center)

9:30 a.m. CCD (Parish Center)

11:00 a.m. Mass (Activity Center) for the People of the Parish

6:00 p.m. Catalyst Nights (Activity Center)

### **LENTEN EVENINGS OF FAITH AND FELLOWSHIP:**

Join Father Sullivan on the Tuesday evenings of Lent at 7:00 p.m. in the parish school cafeteria, as we consider Bishop Robert Barron's *Light from Light: A Theological Reflection on the Nicene Creed.* Each evening will consist of a video by Bishop Barron, questions for reflection and discussion, and an opportunity to grow in the Catholic Faith with one another. The Nicene Creed was authored by the Bishops of the Catholic Church gathered at the Council of Nicaea in 325 AD. The creed was written to proclaim the Catholic Faith, in its essentials, concerning the Incarnation of the Eternal Word of the Father, made flesh in the Virgin's womb, and the nature and relationship of the Blessed Trinity; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The Nicene Creed is a statement of faith that all believing Christians profess. In 2025, we will celebrate the seventeen hundredth anniversary of its promulgation. Father Barron's book was a Christmas gift from Saint Thomas Aquinas Parish to everyone who attended Mass here in celebration of the Nativity of the Lord. Almost 400 books were distributed. A few remain. Please feel free to pick one up after Mass. Father Sullivan will facilitate each Tuesday evening session. Come join other parishioners as we grow in faith and understanding during this year's Lenten journey.

### **SPRING CLEAN UP AT CEMETERIES:**

Soon, the grass will be green again, which means that Mount Calvary Cemetery will be in "spring cleanup" mode. Just a friendly reminder that all winter decorations needed to be removed prior to March 1. During the mowing season (March 1 to November 1), artificial flowers are not permitted, and if you place flowers for a holiday, they must be off the grave five days afterward. Also, the cemetery gate continues to be open from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily. Thank you very much for your understanding and cooperation.



### **BABY SHOWER FOR IESUS UPDATE:**

Thank you to all who donated to the Baby Shower for Jesus. We were able to provide the following items: \$70.00; 2 Baby Bouncer/Seat; 1 Stroller; 9 Health care Kits; 30 Utensils/Plates; 13 bottles of Diaper Rash/Powder; 55 Pacifiers/Toys; 111 Bibs/Towels/Washcloths; 117 Socks/Hats/Booties; 61 bottles of Shampoo/Lotion/Oil; 73 Blankets/Sheets; 26 Bottles/Sippy

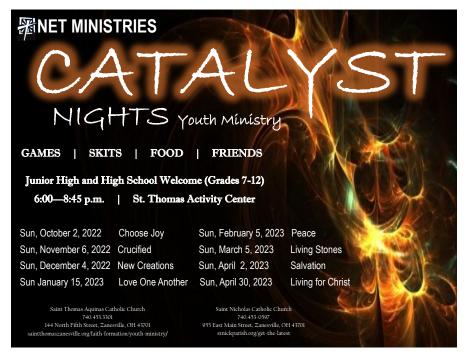
Cups; 190 Baby Clothing Items; 12,268 Baby Wipes; 4,664 Baby Diapers; 82 Food Items. Thank you for your generosity!

### THE CATHOLIC TIMES SUBSCRIPTION NEWS:

Thank you to all new and returning readers of *The Catholic Times* online and in print. It's not too late to subscribe for the upcoming year for a minimum donation of \$17.00. Sign up online at catholic timescolumbus.org under the subscribe tab. You may also write your name and *The Catholic Times* on a plain envelope, make your check payable to the Diocese of Columbus *Catholic Times* and drop it into the collection basket. Another option is to mail your \$17.00 check payable to Diocese of Columbus Catholic Times to our office at 197 E. Gay Street, Columbus, OH 43215. You'll find *The Catholic Times* very useful to keep up on Bishop Earl Fernandes and all of the news throughout the diocese and the Catholic Church.

### **BISHOP FENWICK OPEN HOUSE:**

Bishop Fenwick School will hold an Open House on Thursday, February 23, 2023 from 5:30-7:00 p.m. This Open House is for **NEW** K-8 families interested in enrolling their children for the 2023-2024 school year! New families are welcome to come and tour the school and learn more about our program.



### **STEWARDSHIP**

(Our fiscal year is July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023)

Collection unavailable due to early bulletin deadlines.



### **LENT IS HERE:**

Join our faith community – and nearly 13,000 Catholic communities across the United States in a transformative Lenten journey with CRS Rice Bowl. Pick up your family's CRS Rice Bowl from St. Thomas Aquinas starting on February 25th. During the 40 days of Lent, we will reflect on the impact of global hunger and climate change on vulnerable communities around the word, and we will pray, fast and give alms to help our sisters and brothers in need. Visit crsricebowl.org to learn more.

### **WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER:**

Give the gift of time to each other this year! Attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend and learn to prioritize the important things. Make 2023 the best year of your marriage by signing up today for a parish-based experience on March 10-12th at St. Mark Parish in Lancaster, or a residential experience with overnight accommodations on September 8-10th at the Procter Retreat Center in London. Early registration is highly recommended. For more information and to register, visit www.wwmecolumbus.org, email applicationcouple@wwmecolumbus.org, or call Paul and Marilou Clouse at 614-834-6880.

NEXT WEEKEND	ALTAR SERVERS	LECTORS	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	CANTORS
March 4, 4:30 p.m.	Brian Hunt	Ann Combs	Martha Newsom	Debbie Apperson
March 5, 7:45 a.m.	Abbi/Levi Crum	Sue Maxwell	Seth Mirgon	Christopher Urbiel
March 5, 11:00 a.m.	Dalton Frame, David Thornton	Sophie Marcum, Julie Guinta	Bob Fedorke	Jim Guinta



At Saint Thomas Aquinas, we serve all who come to our Food Pantry, but the majority of our visitors are homeless. Please consider single-servings instead of large boxes/cans when making your selections!

As you prepare for Easter, remember the 40 days and nights that Christ spent in the desert without food or water, praying and preparing for His sacrifice on behalf of all mankind. Your small sacrifice can make a big difference in the lives of others. Proceeds will benefit both our food pantry and other local pantries. Place items at the designated space in the Activity Center or bring them to the parish office M-Th 8am-3pm

This Lent, we ask each family to donate one non-perishable item per day, beginning on Ash Wednesday, for each of the 40 days of Lent.

# **SOME CONSIDERATIONS:**

Cans with pull-tops are preferred (if regular cans, please also supply a can opener).

We have plenty Corn & Green Beans at this time.

Please check expiration dates. 6 months ahead or more is appreciated. Homeless do not always have a heat source so pre-cooked items are a great option.

# FOOD ITEMS THE PANTRY IS IN NEED OF:

Individual Jello & Pudding

Rice A Roni Products

Canned Potatoes

**H20** Favor Packets

Individual Raisin Packets

Tea/coffee bags

Mixed Vegetables

Lima Beans

Boxed Cereal

The First Week of Lent

# PROCLAIMING CHRIST

Meditations for the Season of Lent



"To be attracted by power, by grandeur, by appearances, is tragically human. It is a great temptation that tries to insinuate itself everywhere.

But to give oneself to others, eliminating distances, dwelling in littleness and living the reality of one's everyday life: this is exquisitely divine."

— Pope Francis, July 28, 2016

# **Temptations**

Matthew 4:1-11

It's no accident that the Gospel reading for the First Sunday of Lent tells the story of Jesus being tempted by the devil. Jesus was divine, but he was also human. The temptation to put personal comfort, power, and pride ahead of what God wants is a struggle every human being faces at some point in life.

Being tempted is not a sin, but temptations can lead to sin. So it is important to recognize when we are being tempted. Our response must be an immediate "No!" The longer we allow temptations to linger in our minds, the more difficult they are to reject.

As we become more experienced in resisting temptations, their intensity usually weakens. St. Paul tells us

# FOR REFLECTION

- **>** What is one temptation you have experienced?
- > How did you overcome that temptation?
- > What have you learned about God and yourself by overcoming temptation?

that God allows us to be tempted, but God also offers us the grace we need to overcome temptations. "God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your strength, but with the temptation will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it" (1 Cor 10:13).



- There are forty days in the season of Lent because Jesus fasted for forty days in the wilderness.
- The word "Lent" comes from an Anglo-Saxon word that means "lengthen," a reference to the lengthening days as spring approaches.
- The first day of Lent is Ash Wednesday, one of the most popular days in the Church year.



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# "Bless Me, Father ..."

A great way to deal with temptations — and the times when we were not successful in overcoming temptations — is in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Prepare for confession by examining your conscience, which simply means thinking back on your temptations and the sins you have committed. Most people start their confession by saying: "Bless me, Father, for I have sinned. It has been (the amount of time) since my last confession."

If you can't remember the words or you don't recall how long it's been, don't worry. Just tell the priest it's been a long time, and he will guide you through the process. What you will experience is the healing gift of God's love, a clear conscience, and an overwhelming sense of gratitude!



St. Francis de Sales says, "A temptation disclosed is a temptation half-vanquished." Talk to your kids about temptations. Let each family member mention a problem area that he or she would like to pray about in a special way. Talking about temptations helps to overcome them.

# Catechism CONNECTION

"Fortitude is the moral virtue that ensures firmness in difficulties and constancy in the pursuit of the good. It strengthens the resolve to resist temptations and to overcome obstacles in the moral life."

— Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1808



# Lenten Prayer

A traditional prayer to help us overcome temptations invokes the assistance of St. Michael the Archangel:

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do you, O prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who roam about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.



In today's Gospel,

Jesus fasts for forty days in the

wilderness Fasting by wilderness. Fasting has always been an important part of Lent. We abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and every Friday during Lent. Many people also give up chocolate, potato chips, ice cream, or anything else that is really loved but isn't all that great for us! When we resist the temptation to eat treats during Lent, we strengthen our will. But the real purpose of fasting is to create in ourselves a feeling of longing that helps us recognize our deep spiritual hunger for God. You might want to decide as a family what to give up for Lent. Maybe you could fast from television or video games. Maybe you could fast from gossip or saying unkind things. Maybe you could fast from complaining, or jealousy, or irritability. The possibilities are endless!



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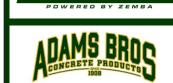
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