

# The First Sunday Of Lent

March 9, 2025

## Mass Intentions

March	10	8:00 AM	<b>NO MASS</b>
March	11	8:00 AM	<b>Keena Wolferd requested by The Strazisar Family</b>
March	12	8:00 AM	<b>Colette Landis requested by Kathy Landis</b>
March	13	8:00 AM	<b>Diana Prowell requested by Joseph &amp; Suzann Meyer</b>
March	14	8:00 AM	<b>I/O Christina &amp; Jason Fordyce req. by Jerry &amp; Karen Kupris</b>
March	15	5:00 PM	<b>Joseph Maciora requested by Jerry &amp; Karen Kupris</b>
March	16	8:00 AM	<b>Deceased of The Harshberger &amp; Trispagonas Families</b>
		10:30 AM	<b>People Of The Parish</b>

## Liturgical Ministries March 15-16

	Lectors	Extraordinary Ministers	Servers
5:00 PM	Sue Guarducci	Patty Suydam	Dave Suydam
8:00 AM	Joe Dailey	Scott Dunkelberger	Joseph Morrison Helena Krieger
10:30 AM	Kathy Dubois	Rose Wheatley	The Morrison Family

## Schmidt Center Cleaning

**March 9**

Robin & Mike Chiccini

**March 16**

Madeline Rogers & Pat Harshberger

## Next Sunday's Readings

*Please prepare for Mass and the Homily by reflecting on these texts from the Sacred Scriptures*

**Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18**

**Philippians 3:17 – 4:1**

**Luke 9:28b-36**

## Christian Stewardship

**Last Sunday's Collection amounted to: \$7,146.00**

**The Collection One Year Ago amounted to: \$6,446.00**

**May God Bless you for your generous and responsible stewardship!!!**

## Church Calendar

### **Sunday, March 9<sup>th</sup>**

Confessions, 7:00-7:45AM

Masses, 8:00 and 10:30AM

CCD, 9:15-10:15AM

Confirmation, 10:30AM Mass with Bishop Senior

### **Monday, March 10<sup>th</sup>**

No Mass

### **Tuesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>**

Mass, 8:00AM

### **Wednesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>**

Masses, 8:00AM

### **Thursday, March 13<sup>th</sup>**

Mass, 8:00AM

### **Friday, March 14<sup>th</sup>**

Mass, 8:00AM

Confessions, 6:15

Stations of the Cross, 7:00PM

### **Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup>**

Confessions, 4:00-4:45PM

Sunday Vigil Mass, 5:00PM

### **Sunday, March 16<sup>th</sup>**

Confessions, 7:00-7:45AM

Masses, 8:00 and 10:30AM

CCD, 9:15-10:15AM

### **From the Pastor's Desk:**

We've all seen it: the standard cartoon sketch in which the main character, faced with a decision, imagines the devil coaxing him toward evil on one



shoulder while an angel encourages him toward good on the other. Lighthearted

though they are, these classic scenes are the product of Biblical wisdom and millennia of human experience. In fact, the Garden of Eden provided the prototype: Eve was the first to listen to Satan in a conversation that was disastrous for her and

her descendants. It is no coincidence that, in today's Gospel, Jesus finds himself in a desert – the “opposite” of a garden, so to speak – where he, too, confronts the devil. But note Jesus' response to Satan's advances: the Incarnate Word of God neither barter nor argues from human

wisdom. For no amount of time does he turn over Satan's proposals in his heart. Instead, Jesus rejects the temptations immediately and relies on the power of the Word of God to put the devil in his place.

The Lenten season is meant to be a “desert” in which we, like Jesus, confront temptation. It is not a self-improvement program; it is an opportunity to reject sins, habits, and attitudes which keep us distant from God so that we can give a wholehearted “yes” to his plan for our lives. But the scene from today's Gospel is offered on the first Sunday of Lent to remind us that we do not go into the desert alone. Jesus entered first to show us that he would be with us every time we are tempted. If, instead of giving Satan airtime, we stay close to Jesus (in prayer and by frequenting the sacraments) and immerse ourselves in the Word of God (by reading Scripture), we, like him, will draw our strength from God. We will emerge victorious because, as St. Paul reminds us, “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart,” and, “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

Have you made a Lenten plan yet? If not, the time is now! Don't be afraid to be generous with God. Remember the three pillars of Lent: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Could you add a daily Mass or Rosary to your schedule? Could you incorporate some form of self-denial into your weekly meal plan or media consumption? Once you've worked out a plan, offer it to God and ask him to bless your efforts to grow in virtue out of love for him.

**Remember the Sick of our Parish** in your charity and prayers: Cathy Steiner, Marietta McQuaid, Marie Dishman, Suzanne Matunis, Pat Widdowson, Kay Dorundo, Gene Odato, Annetta Round, Joann Speis, Joni Lawrence, Shirley Scotta, Samantha Strazisar, Ellen White, Dennis Haag, Louise Kline, Frances Kute, Nancy Zelenky, Tom Polcha, Joe Rich, and all the long-suffering in our community and at Perry Village.

**Online Information:** You can access the weekly bulletin and other information at our parish website ([www.stbernardsnbpa.org](http://www.stbernardsnbpa.org)).

**Deacon Robinson's Contact Information:** Contact Deacon Robinson at his cell phone (602-6298) or [deacon.robinson@analogyapologetics.com](mailto:deacon.robinson@analogyapologetics.com).

**The Fran Hannon Educational Grant** is being offered by the parish Knights of Columbus to any high school senior graduating in the spring of 2025 that plan to continue their education. The grant is \$500. To apply you must be a practicing member of the parish, and must submit an essay of 500 words or less on the theme **“What My Catholic Faith Means to Me.”** The application deadline is March 30<sup>th</sup> and they are available on the bulletin board in the narthex.



**Lenten Stations of the Cross:** Come and walk the way of the Cross with Jesus during Lent. Stations begin at 7:00 PM in the church and are followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. These beautiful Lenten devotions can help us spiritually prepare to celebrate the Easter Mysteries by meditating on the passion and death of Christ and the Paschal Mystery of His life, death, and resurrection. Confession precedes the Stations.



**Lenten Confessions** will be heard daily, Tuesday through Friday, from 7:15 – 7:50AM. Confessions on Saturday begin at 4:00PM to 4:45PM. Sunday morning confessions are available from 7:00AM to 7:40AM and from 9:45 to 10:10AM.

**Lenten Parish Penance Service:** Our Parish Penance Service will be celebrated for the season of Lent on Monday evening, March 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM in the Church. Additional priests will be available to help with confessions. Please plan to attend with your family to spiritually prepare for Easter.



**Diocesan Annual Campaign:** Through the Diocesan Annual Campaign, your compassion and charity will be assisting individuals and families who

seek shelter and guidance at the Interfaith Shelter for Homeless Families. You will be helping mothers with children recover from dependency on drugs and alcohol at Evergreen House. Your gifts will enable the Diocesan-wide Counseling Services to offer



professional counseling to those who need such services. You will be supporting Specialized Foster Care and Adoption Services in their efforts to find homes for children, and you will bring the Word of Christ to young people through Youth and Campus Ministries. These and so many other ministries are directly supported by your Lenten charity. **Our parish goal this year is \$30,800.00.** You can make your pledge in-pew on March 15/16 or in the narthex on March 21/22. As Jesus humbly served the needs of God’s people and performed the menial work of a simple slave in washing the Apostle’s feet at the Last Supper, so we should follow His example and find ways to serve the “least ones” of the Lord.

**Congratulations to our Newly Confirmed:** As we warmly welcome Bishop Senior to our parish to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation, we congratulate our newly confirmed and pledge to them our prayerful support. Strengthened by the Holy Spirit, we pray they may bear witness to the power of the Spirit and generously use His gifts



for the building up of His Kingdom. Let us continue to pray for Austin Hoffman, Alexandra Mondell, Alyssa Morret, Abigail Risner, Mia Smith, Anna Ticehurst, Magdalyn Trispagonas, Viktor Zurenko, Giovanna Cottone, and Leo Malfara.

**“Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.”**