

February 14, 2016

## Lent

First Sunday



### Jesus Led By The Spirit Through The Desert

**“Filled with the Holy Spirit,” Jesus leaves the banks of the River Jordan and goes into the desert for forty days, to be tempted by the devil. The devil tempts Jesus in the same way he tempts us daily. The Spirit helps Jesus, as the Spirit helps us, overcome temptation. The temptation in all three instances, is to misuse his power. Jesus however overcomes the temptation by using his power for good in the service of the Kingdom of God.**

### MASS INTENTIONS



Wednesday, February 17  
6:00 p.m. For the Welfare of Parishioners  
Saturday, February 20  
4:30 p.m. Frank Jasek  
Sunday, February 21  
8:00 a.m. Spec. Int. – Jurgen Hutzler

### Full, Conscious and Active Participation in the Liturgy



Next weekend is *The Second Sunday of Lent*. Prepare for the liturgy by reflecting on these passages from your Bible.

**First Reading: Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18**  
**Responsorial Psalm: 27**  
**Second Reading: Philippians 3:17—4:1**  
**Gospel: Luke 9:28b-36**

*No Bible Study Wednesday, February 17*

*C.C.D. Wednesday, February 17*

### ALTAR SOCIETY NEWS

Praha Altar Society dues of \$5.00 for 2016 are now due. Contact or give to an Altar Society officer: Kathleen Svatek, Liz Janak or Virginia Olsovsky. Thank you for your promptness.

### WELCOME

We welcome Fr. Bob Fisher, S.V.D. to St. Mary's Church. Fr. Fisher is here in residence while Fr. Gabriel is away.

### 2015 DIOCESAN SERVICES APPEAL

2015 Assessment ..... \$7,532.00  
Amount Contributed ..... \$6,841.28

We thank the following for their recent contributions:  
*Jill & Brain Noska*

### Restoring Maticka Praha



### Church Restoration Fund Donations

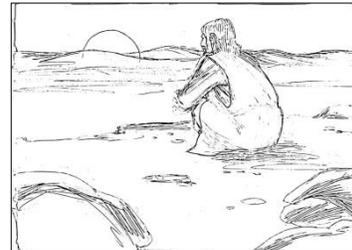
We thank the following for their recent donations:

*Liz & Leo Janak - \$3,000*

*In Memory of Anton Okruhlik*  
*Pat Masek - \$15*

To make a donation to the project contact Fr. Gabriel at 361-596-4674 or send an email to [st\\_joe@sbcglobal.net](mailto:st_joe@sbcglobal.net).

### ORIENTATION



During the 40 days Jesus spends in the wilderness, he undergoes through temptation. As his body is craving food, he is tempted to create loaves of bread and escape the spiritual discipline of fasting. As his mind prepares for his public ministry, he is tempted to seize great power in a worldly way, instead of the simple life of preaching, teaching, service, and sacrifice ahead of him. Finally, his spirit is tempted to test God to ascertain if God will really be there for him, even through Calvary. Like us in every way but sin, Jesus's temptations grew out of the fears he may have had about having to carry out his calling. Yet his trust in God was greater. What are your greatest fears? Take these in prayer to God as you entrust yourself to God's care.

### LENTEN FISH FRY – FRIDAYS OF LENT

*St. Joseph's Church, Moulton*

5:00-7:00 p.m., \$8.00 Per Plate

Fish, Hush Puppies, Sides & Dessert

*Dine in the Parish Hall Or Drive-Thru Plates-To-Go*

\*All proceeds go to charities.

## REFLECTION

### *Facing Our Demons This Lent*

Each year, the Season of Lent affords us the opportunity to face our demons. These demons are not little horned creatures that wreck havoc in our lives. These demons are our bad habits, and wrong choices. They are the sins we have committed, in what we have done and in what we failed to do.

Facing these demons and dealing with them is the first step on the long road of conversion. Each year, the model set before us, to inspire and move us forward, is Jesus Christ. Jesus was tempted by the devil as to how he would use the power he wielded as the Son of God. Would it be for himself and his own satisfaction, or would he live for God? Despite the cost, Jesus faced down his tempter and chose to remain true to himself and to God. Jesus' choice stands in sharp contrast to the choice made by Adam and Eve. As a result of their poor choices, they found themselves alienated from God, from each other and at odds with the world that was to be their home. Although the temptation of Jesus is presented in today's Gospel passage as a one-time event, these same trails were a part of Jesus' daily life. The way he dealt with each struggle was an integral aspect of his ongoing faith response to God. In his manner of dealing with his temptations, Jesus remains a model of obedience to God and an inspiration for all of us as we face our own demons. Jesus' desert experience has taught us how to conduct ourselves when put to the test.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



February 19 – Jill Noska

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!



February 17 – Pam & Nathan Vrazel  
February 18 – Congratulations Jill & Brian Noska  
on your 10<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary

## God's Embrace Ministry Upcoming Events

Directed by Dr. Michael Fonseca

Seminar Series 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.:

February 27 - Practicing the Presence of God

March 19 - The Mass

April 2 - Catholic Family Life

April 30 - Contemplative Prayer: The Cloud of Unknowing

Retreats:

February 13 - Jesus in His Public Life

March 11-13 - God's Plan of Salvation: Jesus in His  
Passion, Death, and Resurrection

For more information phone 979-561-8883 or email  
[info@godsembrace.org](mailto:info@godsembrace.org) .

## LENTEN BULLETIN BOARD



Lent offers us a special opportunity to grow in our relationship with God. We are invited to practices of **Prayer**, **Fasting** and **Almsgiving** as outlined in the Ash Wednesday Gospel. We do this to divest

ourselves of anything that is blocking us from God, and to ask God to use that space to bring us closer to him.

Lent is an act of **Prayer** spread out over 40 days. As we journey, our prayer is the invitation that God will transform us, opening our hearts and minds so that this Easter we can encounter the Risen Lord in new and powerful ways.

Lenten **Fasting** typically brings our minds to food. We can honor the fast from meat without having our Friday meals become meatless banquets. It is also a time for personal discipline in general. Our self-denial can include letting go of behaviors God would not wish for us.

Lenten **Almsgiving** provides us the opportunity to reach out in charity to others. In addition to our annual Rice Bowl collection, consider visiting the homebound, or nursing home residents; supporting families that are stretched thin by supporting the food drive; reaching out and helping others without question as a way of sharing the experience of God's unconditional love.

As we journey through Lent God draws us home as individuals. But, it is also a very communal journey. Let us pray for each other on this journey to the foot of the cross.

### **Second Collection Today – Rice Bowl**

This fund helps bring drinking water, food, shelter and other essentials of life to people less fortunate than we are.



During Lent go the extra mile to help others. Consider taking the money you save fasting from your excess in life and put it in the Second Collection.

*Weekly Rice Bowl envelopes are provided in your monthly envelope*

*mailing. Be generous.*

**Stations of the Cross:** Fridays of Lent, 6:30 p.m.

**Lenten Food Drive:** Leave your canned goods for the needy at the back of Church.

**The Season of Lent:** See insert.

## HOLY ROSARY MEN'S A.C.T.S. RETREAT

**February 18 - 21, 2016**

Remember the team members and the retreatants in your prayers this week.