

FEBRUARY 21, 2021
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Reflection from Fr. Bernard Doré

Lent is the sacred springtime for preparing our hearts and souls for Easter. No 40 is very important in The Sacred Scriptures. So The Church gives us 40 days, inviting us for conversion, intense prayer, fasting, penance and charity. Since we are all sinners, we need to be converted. Conversion means a change of mind from unbelief to faith and a change of heart from sin to the practice of virtue. Conversion is the first and fundamental teaching of Christ. Conversion was also the first thing, demanded by St. Peter, on the day of Pentecost and is considered essential to the pursuit of Christian perfection. Christ always gives the grace and the means for our conversion and salvation.

The First Reading tells us how after the flood, God made a new covenant with Noah and his descendants.

In The Second Reading, St. Peter says that the waters of the flood of Noah's time were a type of the waters of our Baptism by which we are all saved.

The Gospel tells us that after being baptized by St. John the Baptist, Jesus spent forty days in the desert. While there, He was tempted by Satan. Jesus Himself invites us to the desert. He calls us to the conversion of heart that is to repent of our sins and find forgiveness through The Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation. He invites us to take delight in the nourishment, we receive from the table of His Word and the table of His body and Blood in The Holy Eucharist. And through the grace that comes throughout the forty days of this Holy Season of Lent, We are to be strengthened in body, mind and soul to live out our lives in His Service: putting into practice the faith, we believe as good and faithful stewards.

So let us sincerely pray for the grace to overcome all our temptations, and to make the best use of this Holy season of Lent, through prayer, fasting, penance, The Reading of The Sacred Scriptures and the practice of Charity towards our brothers and sisters in need.

**Your ways, O Lord,
are love and truth to those
who keep your covenant.**
Psalm 25



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OFFICE HOURS	9:00 AM – 2:00 PM (MON, WED, THU, FRI)
WEEKDAY MASSES	9:00 AM (MON, WED, FRI)
SATURDAY VIGIL MASS	5:00 PM
SUNDAY MASSES	8:00 AM 10:00 AM

ST. PAUL'S UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Saturday	February 20
9:30—11 AM	Food Closet Open
5:00 PM	Mass: Arlene Green (RIP)
Sunday	February 21
8:00 AM	Mass: People of the Parish
9:15 AM	Rosary
10:00 AM	Mass: Deceased Members of the Matterese Family
Monday	February 22
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Grandchildren of Mary O'Reilly
Tuesday	February 23
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass:
Wednesday	February 24
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Charles Bradbury (RIP)
Thursday	February 25
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass:
Friday	February 26
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Souls in Purgatory
9:30 AM	Stations of the Cross

NEXT WEEKEND'S MASS INTENTIONS

5:00 PM	Open for your Intentions
8:00 AM	Open for your Intentions
10:00 AM	Mass: Joseph & Jennie Petrucci (RIP)

PLEASE CONSIDER COMMEMORATING
A LOVED ONE AT THE EUCHARIST



Take advantage of these ways in which we can meet God's mercy this Lent at our parish:

Daily Mass & Rosary

Daily Mass will be celebrated from Monday through Friday at 9 AM. The Rosary will also be prayed before Mass starting at 8:35 AM.

Stations of the Cross

This traditional Lenten devotion will be prayed every Friday at 9:30 AM.

Lenten Mission

with Fr. Paul Laporte

Sunday, February 28 ~ 10AM Mass

Sunday, March 14 ~ 10AM Mass

Sunday, March 21 ~ 10AM Mass

Lenten Confessions

Sunday, March 21 ~ 11AM-12PM

Fasting During Lent

As a sign of regret for sin and rededication to God, Catholics observe two simple obligations about fasting during Lent: First, if we are 14 years or older, (and in good health), we don't eat meat on Ash Wednesday and the Fridays of Lent. Second, those of us who are between the ages of 18 and 59 have the special obligation to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. We eat only one full meal that day and take no solid foods between meals. That means our other regular meals are of much smaller portions, with no snacking in between meals.

K of C Italian Dinner Take Out

Saturday, March 20

K of C Annual Authentic Italia Dinner, will be 100% TAKE OUT.

St. Paul's Knights of Columbus invite us to order **Takeout** Authentic Italian Dinner prepared by the Master Italian Chefs of Council 95. The menu will be confirmed soon. Tickets will be sold starting next weekend.

Food Closet Ministry

This month we are in need of **Toiletries: Soap, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Deoderant.**

The Food Closet is open every other Saturday morning 9:30- 11 AM.

BAPTISM

Please welcome into the family of God's People, **Jace Cole**, who was baptized Saturday afternoon. He is the newest member of Christ's Body--the Church.



Please pray that he and his family be strengthened by the Holy Spirit's gifts of faith, hope and love.

May 2021 Calendar Raffle

St. Paul's is having a FUNdraiser to offset our Christmas Bazaar Shortfall.

During the month of April we will be selling Calendar Raffle Tickets for \$10 each. There will be a drawing every day during the month of May. All winning tickets will go back into the pot for another chance to **WIN!**

To make this fundraiser a success we are asking for \$25 gift card donations to help fill the calendar.

If anyone:

- has a gift card to a restaurant or store you are willing to donate,
- knows a restaurant/company that would donate
- or if you are able to purchase one, that would be appreciated.

Thank you for your support.

HUNGER IN OUR WORLD

Jesus told us that whatever we do for one of these least brothers of his we did for him. Reflect on the challenge of global hunger-- it is a reality for millions of our sisters and brothers. What will you do to support the hungry in our community and around the world? Visit csrcricebowl.org to learn more.

GIFTS RECEIVED

Offertory Collection - February 13/14

\$ 2,753.15

Thank you for your support!

Living the Liturgy

Inspiration for the week

Throughout history God has given his people signs. Our season of Lent offers us God's sign that it is time to stop the ordinary routines of our lives, create some desert space, and listen more attentively for God to reveal his presence. We are asked to unplug from our attachments, compulsions, obsessions, addictions, routines, and busyness to clear the slate and take stock in who we have become. We are asked to remember the ancient sign of God's covenant with humanity in which he vowed to nurture, sustain, and protect the relationship he has with his people. Once we slow down a bit and clear away some of the clutter, we can see how the journey of our life is unfolding. We can see what brings us in and out of tune with God's love and how we can better imitate God's loving fidelity in our relationship with him. Even though some good solid self-denial is the order of the day, greater happiness and wholeness will be the fruit of our labors. Pleasant journey through the desert!



KIDS CORNER

Sharing the Gospel

Every day turn back to God. If your bedroom is messy, straighten it up. If you push your sister off her bike, help her get up and ride again. If you tear down your brother's blocks, help him build something new. If you disobey your parents, go and do the right thing right now. Ask God to help you stay close to him today. Then you will be close to him in heaven forever.

Prayer

Holy Spirit, help me remember to obey you every day.

Mission for the Week

I will be a builder, not a wrecker