

March 1, 2020

First Sunday of Lent



STRENGTH AGAINST TEMPTATION

The first Sunday of the season of Lent always includes a Gospel account of the temptation of the Lord Jesus in the desert by the devil. This year, the story is set against the backdrop of the first reading from Genesis, which recounts the very first temptation by the devil. That story is set in a garden of delight. The Gospel story is set in the desert. As believers, we know that temptation comes our way in our own gardens of delight as well as the deserts of our lives. As Lent begins, our attention is drawn to that temptation within each of us to become like God—we want control, power, and answers to all of life's difficult questions. As communities of faith, we are given this season of repentance so that we can join our hearts with others on the difficult journey of conversion. We look to God and to one another for strength against temptation.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading The man and the woman ate the fruit of the one tree that God had told them to avoid, and their shame overtook them (Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7).

Psalm Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned (Psalm 51).

Second Reading Death reigned from Adam to Moses, but now grace and life abound in Christ Jesus (Romans 5:12-19 [12, 17-19]).

Gospel Jesus was led into the desert by the Spirit and there he fasted for forty days and forty nights (Matthew 4:1-11).

Lent is a privileged time of the liturgical year for prayer, penance and the generosity towards those who are in need of love and attention. Pope Francis suggests that family is the ideal place for living true love and to perfect it with joyful attention.

Love rejoices with others

When a loving person can do good for others, or sees that others are happy, they themselves live happily and in this way give glory to God, for “God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Cor 9:7). Our Lord especially appreciates those who find joy in the happiness of others. If we fail to learn how to rejoice in the well-being of others and focus primarily on our own needs, we condemn ourselves to a joyless existence, for, as Jesus said, “it is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35). The family must always be a place where, when something good happens to one of its members, they know that others will be there to celebrate it with them.

Married couples joined by love speak well of each other; they try to show their spouse's good side, not their weakness and faults. In any event, they keep silent rather than speak ill of them. This is not merely a way of acting in front of others; it springs from an interior attitude. Far from ingenuously claiming not to see the problems and weaknesses of others, it sees those weaknesses and faults in a wider context. It recognizes that these failings are a part of a bigger picture. We have to realize that all of us are a complex mixture of light and shadows. The other person is much more than the sum of the little things that annoy me. Love does not have to be perfect for us to value it. The other person loves me as best they can, with all their limits, but the fact that love is imperfect does not mean that it is untrue or unreal. It is real, albeit limited and earthly. If I expect too much, the other person will let me know, for he or she can neither play God nor serve all my needs. Love coexists with imperfection. It “bears all things” and can hold its peace before the limitations of the loved one.

Lord, give me the serenity to accept the things I can not change, the courage to change the things I can and the wisdom to know the difference.

Masses for the Week

February 29, 2020 – March 6, 2020

Saturday, February 29

6:00 p.m. People of the Parish

Sunday, March 1

9:30 a.m. +Nelso & Gabriella Luppino Giglio

+ Adrianna Blasi by Aldo Blasi

11:00 a.m. +Emily Busalacchi by Vienna & Frank
Busalacchi

+Diana Zoni by Vienna & Frank Busalacchi

+Domenica & Raffaele Deligio

by Francesca Cseh

+Vito & Ardele Caterino by Vita Russell

+ Michele & Grazia Caterino

by Olimpia Fasano

+Rosina Cordisco by society

+Isabel Farac by society

For the deceased members of **Costantinopoli Society**

6:00 p.m. People of the Parish

Monday, March 2

6:00 p.m. No Mass

Tuesday, March 3

6:00 p.m. People of the Parish

Wednesday, March 4

6:00 p.m.

Thursday, March 5

6:00 p.m. People of the Parish

Friday, March 6

6:00 p.m. People of the Parish- Stations of the cross

Saturday, March 7

6:00 p.m. People of the Parish

Did you know we have **Vespers** at 5:45 p.m. Tuesday – Friday

Adoration: Thursday 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

Offerte Della Settimana Scorsa

Last week's Offering: \$1,669.00

****Offerta settimanale necessaria per far fronte alle
spese ordinarie**

Weekly offering needed to meet ordinary expenses

****Minimum Ordinary expenses are for rectory and
church only: Priests, utilities, property insurance,
property tax, assessment, and church expenses. NO
staff, program or other expenses are included in this
weekly calculation.**

- \$3783.00-

MARK YOU CALENDAR

Lenten Crab fest fundraiser

Friday, April 3, 2020.

Contact Maria Bruno for reservations:

818.841.4672

Visit St. Peter's website: <http://stpeteritalianchurchla.org>

Visit us on Facebook: "St Peter's Italian Church Los Angeles"

Happy Feast of Madonna di Costantinopoli



February/March Society

Dates to Remember

March 1, Feast of Costantinopoli

Mass 11:00 followed by the procession.

Dinner and dancing at Casa Italiana.

Check at Casa for day of feast availability.

March 3, Feast of St. Joseph volunteer meeting

Contact Mike Foschetti, 323.257.0302

March 6, San Trifone meeting after 6:00 pm mass

March 9, Padre Pio Meeting 7:00 pm

March 11, St. Anthony meeting 7:00 pm

March 12, Scalabrini Seminaries fundraiser

*meeting. Please come early to help prepare
mailing.*

March 18 & 19 Feast of St. Joseph

Mass at 11:00 am each day, followed by

blessing of the table at noon. Doors close at

*8:00 pm. **Volunteers are needed.** Please*

contact Mike Foschetti (323) 257-0302

March 29, All parish brunch at noon.

DID YOU KNOW?

Personalize your fire safety plan

Research shows that having a fire escape plan, and executing it quickly, greatly increases the chances of a successful escape from a house fire. In studies, researchers tested standard high-decibel smoke alarms on sleeping children, and found that just over half the children woke up to the noise. However, when researchers used personalized messages recorded by the children's parents in conjunction with the beeping smoke alarms, almost 100 percent of the children woke up and successfully followed their escape plan. For more information on fire safety, get a copy of the VIRTUS® article "A New Study Sounds the Alarm on Children and Fire Safety - What Can You Do?" at <http://www.la-archdiocese.org/org/protecting/Pages/VIRTUS-Current-Online-Articles.aspx>.