First Sunday of Lent

March 10, 2019

Jesus said to the devil, “You shall not put the Lord, your God, to the test.”

Luke 4:12

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It may be difficult for us to imagine Jesus being tempted. He was God, after all. But he was also fully human, and faced the temptations and trials of life just like the rest of us. In fact, this is one of the key aspects of our faith. Jesus came to be one with us in all things but sin. He understands our weaknesses and the difficulties that sometimes happen in life, and he is with us, strengthening us to stand firm in faith, as he did in the desert, throughout his earthly ministry, and on the cross.

TRUST IN GOD

When Moses and the Israelites were in the desert, they sometimes grumbled. Fearful and anxious, they questioned whether God was really with them, in spite of the many signs and wonders of God’s fidelity to them. Gradually, they learned to trust that God would always lead and be with them. They grew in awareness of God’s presence, and were thankful for the gifts of God in their midst. In celebrating the first harvest in the Promised Land, they gave their first fruits back to God as a sign of their gratitude. Have you ever grumbled at God in a time of anxiety or worry? At times, we may be tempted to turn away from the life to which we are called. It is in just such moments that we may learn from Jesus, who responded to temptation by turning toward God and trusting God’s will completely. Look around. Be attentive to the many blessings in your life, and know that all good things come from God. Lent is a season when we turn our lives around, opening our hearts and lives to see the Lord’s goodness and responding to it with our lives. Let us follow Jesus out of the desert, ready to give of our first fruits, the fruits of our lives, talents, resources, and faith.

Today’s Readings: Dt 26:4–10; Ps 91:1–2, 10–11, 12–13, 14–15; Rom 10:8–13; Lk 4:1–13

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**St. Francis Xavier Church.**
**Stations of the Cross**
**Every Friday of Lent at 6:30 p.m.**

**WEEKLY SCHEDULES**

**Lectors/ Eucharistic Ministers:**
- 3/16  4:00 p.m.  Julie Fecat/ L. Yoho
- 3/17  8:00 a.m.  Mark Hitt/ L. Remke
- 3/17  10:00 a.m.  Children’s Mass

**Altar Servers:**
- 3/16  4:00 p.m.  Whitelatch
- 3/17  8:00 a.m.  Kent
- 3/17  10:00 a.m.  Blatt/ Miller

**Gift Bearers:**
- 3/16  4:00 p.m.  John & Loretta Niemiec
- 3/17  8:00 a.m.  Dan & Lori Laberdeee
- 3/17  10:00 a.m.  Carolyn Gordon

**Sacristy Cleaners: Week of March 11th**
- Julie Anderson & Ruth Bertrand

**Bingo March 15, 2019**
- Raffle: John & Sheree Leonard
- Kitchen: Cindy Gunto

**COLLECTION: February 24, 2019**
- Envelopes - $2607.00
- Loose Offering - $ 535.00
- Building Repair - $ 10.00
- Electronic Giving - $ 25.00
- Xavier Hall - $ 5.00
- Black & Native American - $ 35.00
- Pennies for God - $ 4.67
- Attendance - 295

**Make note of these calendar changes:**
- Indian cooking class - Thursday, March 14
- Parish Council meeting - March 20

**Beginning Monday, March 11:**
**Weekday masses** will be held in the Church Basement
For two weeks ending on March 22

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSIONS):**
Sat. 3:30 p.m., or any other time upon request.

**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:**
By appointment. Contact the parish office at least six months before the date of the marriage.
Pre-Cana is required.

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:**
By appointment. The Diocese requires instructions beforehand for the parents.
Contact the parish office.

**RECOMMENDED EDUCATION (C.C.D.):**
- Sundays during the school term at 9:00 a.m. to 9:50 a.m. for Grades 1-12.

**REGISTRATION AND CHURCH SUPPORT:**
Parishioners should be properly registered at the Parish Office
MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**Mar. 13** - Lenten Service @ noon First Christian Church on Third St.
**Mar. 13** - Morning Bible Study begins
**Mar. 14** - Evening Bible Study Begins
**Mar. 14** - Monthly Cooking Class: Indian Cuisine in Xavier Hall
**Mar. 15** - K of C and SFX Fish Fry
**Mar. 17** - Cajun Creole Cooking Class
**Mar. 19** - The Saint Joseph Altar
**Mar. 20** - Parish Council Meeting 6:30 p.m.
**Mar. 31** - Penance Service: SFX @ 6:30 p.m.

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As requested, a special cooking class has been added this month on a Sunday so those who are unavailable during the week can join in the fun.

**Cajun Creole Cooking Class**
Sunday, March 17 @ 11:00
Led by Jamie Boudreaux
This will be our final class of the season. Stay tuned for what’s cooking next winter!

**ST. FRANCIS XAVIER / KNIGHTS FISH FRY**

Friday, March 15-11am to 5 pm
Fish sandwiches, pierogi, macaroni and cheese, french fries, cole slaw and homemade desserts. For deliveries call: 304-845-7080

**Father Gary Naegele** will lead a Lenten Reflection at our annual Lenten Penance Service:
Sunday March 31 at 6:30 p.m.

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**HE’S ALIVE!**

**A musical Passion Play!**

Palm Sunday Weekend
April 12 & 13 - 7:30 PM
April 14 - 3:30 PM
Capitol Theater
1015 Main Street, Wheeling
For more information
724-883-2241 or 304-232-6122
www.heavenboundministriesinc.org

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Scholarship applications for any 8th grader interested in attending Wheeling Central Catholic High School are available in the church office.

Lenten Vespers at the Cathedral
Each Sunday evening in Lent
beginning at 6 p.m.
Vespers will include Lenten reflection and music.

Saint Joseph’s Feast Day is Tuesday, March 19. Everyone is invited to help decorate his altar in celebration. The St. Joseph’s Altar is a Sicilian tradition of thanksgiving and homage dating back to the Middle Ages. It continues to be embraced today for a host of reasons—such as in thanks for blessings bestowed throughout the year or for a sick loved one. Cookies, cakes, breads fruits, figurines, flowers, and pictures are all common decorations. We also have St. Joseph memorial candles available for $5.

The Moundsville Ministerial Association invites all to attend its
**Wednesday Lenten Services**
12:00 Noon followed by a light lunch

**3/13** First Christian Church
1200 Third Street, Moundsville

**3/20** St. Jude Church
710 Jefferson Ave., Glen Dale

**3/27** Messiah Lutheran Church
5th Street, Moundsville

**4/3** Simpson United Methodist Church
800 Seventh Street, Moundsville

**4/10** Trinity Episcopal Church
1 Oak Ave., Moundsville

**4/19** Saint Francis Xavier Church