

St. Francis Xavier Parish

912 SEVENTH STREET, MOUNDSVILLE, W. VA. 26041
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sfxmoundsville@comcast.net



THE JUDEAN
DESERT
WESTERN ISRAEL

Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert
to be tempted by the devil.

MATTHEW 4:1

MARCH 1
2020

firstsunday
OF LENT

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The story of Adam and Eve, in Genesis 2 and 3, considers the origins of the trials and sufferings that we experience in human life. Part of the problem, the story suggests, is the human effort to be like God. Humans are therefore forbidden to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. The story is quite a contrast to Genesis 1, which proclaims that we are made in the image and likeness of God, and called to seek to become more like God. This creates a tension that points to a challenge in our life of faith: we are created both to embody God by developing our God-given human capacities, and also to live in radical trust and dependence on God. We are called to embrace and to live into this tension.

GOD'S BELOVED

When the people of Israel were freed from Egypt, they were declared to be God's chosen and beloved people. They wandered in the desert for forty years, often with great resistance, as God prepared them to enter the Promised Land.

Jesus' forty days in the desert echo their story, and offer a

contrast. At his baptism, just before being led into the desert by the Spirit, Jesus was declared by a voice from the heavens to be God's "beloved Son." So, twice in today's passage, he is lured with the words "If you are the Son of God . . ." The devil tempts Jesus to redefine his sonship of God on his own terms, instead of following his Father. Israel had failed to understand its identity as God's people, but Jesus demonstrates how to live as God's Beloved.

These contrasting stories of Israel and of Jesus present us with a challenge. We are regularly tempted to redefine our identity as Christians on our own terms, to make faith comfortable and non-threatening. This Lenten season can remind us to allow God to transform our minds and hearts on God's terms.

Today's Readings: Gen 2:7-9, 3:1-7; Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17;
Rom 5:12-19 [12, 17-19]; Mt 4:1-11

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FEB. 29 SATURDAY
 4:00 P.M. **Stephanie Phillips†**
(Chester & Charlotte Nadolski)

MAR. 1 SUNDAY
 8:00 A.M. **John & Dorothy Wayman†**
(Bob & Margaret Shutler)
 10:00 A.M. **Scott Minor†**
(Tina Minor)

MAR. 2 MONDAY
 8:00 A.M. **Sophia & Stanley Tomczyk†**
(Norman & Barbara Vilkoski)

MAR. 3 TUESDAY
 8:00 A.M. **Living & Deceased Members of the Urban Klug Family†**
(Jane Klug)

MAR. 4 WEDNESDAY
 8:00 A.M. **Catherine Pellerin**
(Jane Klug)

MAR. 5 THURSDAY
 8:00 A.M. **Maria Ducci†**
(Sandina Leonard)

MAR. 6 FRIDAY
 8:00 A.M. **Deceased Members of the Maxwell Family†**
(Pam Maxwell)

MAR. 7 SATURDAY
 4:00 P.M. **Tony & Mary Drobnik†**
(Gina & Dean Hoops)

MAR. 8 SUNDAY
 8:00 A.M. **Steve Eisenhower†**
(Karen Eisenhower)
 10:00 A.M. **Pat Kleinedler†**
(Phil & Loretta Remke)

LENTEN VESPERS AT THE CATHEDRAL

Each Sunday evening during Lent, the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling will celebrate Solemn Vespers at 6:00 p.m. Vespers, also known as Evening Prayer, is part of the Liturgy of the Hours, the official prayer of the church. Vespers at the Cathedral will include a Lenten reflection and music provided by the Cathedral Schola.

WEEKLY SCHEDULES

Lectors/ Eucharistic Ministers:

3/7 4:00 p.m. Danny Prado/M. Klug
 3/8 8:00 a.m. L. Remke/P. Remke
 3/8 10:00 a.m. P. Whitwam/J. Klug

Altar Servers:

3/7 4:00 p.m. Frizzell
 3/8 8:00 a.m. Laberde
 3/8 10:00 a.m. Blatt

Gift Bearers:

4:00 p.m. Kay Bosworth/Daunel Gump
 8:00 a.m. Dan & Lori Laberde
 10:00 a.m. Carolyn Gordon

Sacristy Cleaners: Week of March 2, 2020

Judy Mysliwie & Kitty Pazyk

Greeters:

4:00 p.m. Gina & Mark Hedrick
 8:00 a.m. Roger Frame
 10:00 a.m. Kuskey Family

Bingo: March 6, 2020

Raffle: Bob Kleinedler

Kitchen: Jenny Ingram

COLLECTION: February 16, 2020

Envelopes	\$ 2506.00
Loose Offering	\$ 1065.00
Building Repairs	\$ 45.00
Memorial Offerings	\$ 450.00
Pennies for God	\$ 32.00

Attendance - 300

PRIESTS HEALTH AND RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION (PHRA)

Next week, we will have a special second collection to support the PHRA, a fund that provides health insurance and retirement benefits to retired priests of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. Please take a moment to reflect on the many years of service by our priests and how we can take this opportunity to thank them in a very particular way with a gift to the PHRA collection.

Rev. That Son Ngoc Nguyen, pastor

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.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (P.S.R.):

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

Church Office Phone: 304-845-1593
Church Hall Phone: 304-845-9238
Xavier Hall Phone: 304-845-7080
Rev. That Son Cell: 408-858-7467
Parish Office Email:

sfxmoundsville@comcast.net
Website: sfxmoundsville.org

MASS SCHEDULE:

Weekends: Saturday - 4:00 p.m.
 Sunday - 8:00 a.m./10:00 a.m.

Weekdays: Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m.

Holy Day Mass Schedule:

8:00 am, 7:00 p.m.

PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS & FRIENDS

Prayer Request: Diane Hill, Connie Howard, Ronnie Hill, Eleanor Smith, Katherine Peligrin, Christine McDonald, Mary Coffield, Jim Conner, Thomas Sullivan, Sara Walters, Diane Young, Joanne Potts, Tex Reynolds, Bobby Kleinedler. **Homebound:** Semon & Phyllis Prado, Doris Murphy, Rachel Kerekes. **Nursing Home:** Bertie Gaughenbaugh, Bill Tennant, Gary Dobbs, Patricia Schmidt, Helen Remke, Barbara Meyer, Elizabeth Potts, Ron Jaworski.

SPOTLIGHT ON MINISTRY

Would you like to be a Gabriel Project Angel? That is what we call our volunteers, and indeed they are angels. They volunteer to protect and honor life by providing immediate and practical support to pregnant women and families with infants and young children under 3 years old. Gabriel Project assistance helps families to parent and nurture their children and to keep them healthy and safe.

The St. Francis Xavier chapter of the Gabriel Project began in September 2018. With the dedicated support from 11 parish volunteers, by January of this year, it had a total of 68 new clients and 157 client visits. As knowledge of our site spreads, so too have our needs grown for supplies and baby items. **Currently, we need girls' winter clothing size 6-24 months.** We also need used baby equipment (strollers, high chairs, walkers, baby gates, booster chairs, toys). We always accept and are in need of good used clothing from birth to size 5, as some of our 2 year olds wear larger sizes. If you or someone you know can help us with these items, we would be most grateful. Donations can be brought to Xavier Hall on Thursdays from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. Donations can always be dropped off at the church office or in the church vestibule.

If you would like to know more or become a volunteer, please call the church office, contact me directly at 304-845-3892 or talk to: Tina Minor, Rose Hess, Cathy Bee, Libby, Carolyn Gordon, Ruth Ann South, Paula Conners, Chris McDonald, or Ellen McCormick. You can also find us on Facebook: *Gabriel Project - Moundsville.*

- Cathy Frame.



Desserts needed for the fish fry!

Don't forget to come and eat on Friday From 11 a. m. to 5 p.m. in Xavier Hall

DATES TO REMEMBER

Feb. 29 & Mar. 1 - Gifts from the Holy Land sale
Mar. 4 - Noon Ecumenical Lenten Service
First Christian Church 1200 3rd St.
Mar. 5 - 11:00 Community Taco Fiesta Cooking Class
Mar. 6 - Fish Fry
Mar. 6 - 6:30 Stations of the Cross
Mar. 11 - Noon Ecumenical Lenten Service
First Presbyterian Church 1000 Third Street
Mar. 13 - Fish Fry
Mar. 14-20 - Praying Penguins Missionaries

MAKE NOTE OF THESE CHANGES:

*** The Community Taco Fiesta Cooking Class is on **Thursday, March 5th** at 11:00 in Xavier Hall.
*** Lenten Reflection with Amy Gamble has been changed to **Sunday, March 29th** at 1:00 pm

PARISH DIRECTORY

You are invited to be a part of our new parish photo directory. Our last directory was printed in May, 2014. Since that time, we have added new families, there have been weddings, and babies, and kids who are young adults now. We are changing and a new directory will help us capture these changes as well as update current information. Our directory won't be complete without you so please sign up today! The link to schedule your appointment is located on the St. Francis Xavier website, sfxmoundsville.org, and our Facebook page. Click on the link and follow the directions. We are scheduling photo sessions on April 2nd, 3rd, and 4th. Please call Loretta Niemiec at 304-830-1137 with any questions or if you need help navigating the website.

ST. JOSEPH ALTAR

St. Joseph's Feast Day is Thursday, March 19th. Everyone is invited to help decorate his altar in celebration. Cookies, cakes, breads, fruits, figurines, flowers and pictures are items commonly placed on the altar. It is a tradition of thanksgiving and homage dating back to the Middle Ages. Today we embrace this tradition for a host of reasons—such as in thanks for blessings bestowed throughout the year or for a sick loved one.

You can bring items for the altar and leave them in the altar servers' sacristy during the week of March 15th. If you would like a St. Joseph memorial candle, they are available for \$5.

Office of Safe Environment

To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, contact local law enforcement, or contact WV Child Protective Services: 800-352-6513. To report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese, contact this diocesan number: 888-434-6237.

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