

STEWARDSHIP

February 11th.....\$1,742 Catholic Higher Education.....\$368

Bobcat Catholics like you provide more than half the resources necessary to bring students of Texas State closer to Christ. Contact a staff member anytime to join our mission at 512-392-5925 or giving@txstatecatholic.org

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Mark 1:12-15

The Scriptural readings for the season of Lent are carefully chosen so as to replay salvation history before our very eyes. Jesus in the desert is the Gospel for the first Sunday of Lent. Mark presents Jesus wrestling with the power of Satan, alone and silent in the desert wastes. Mark's focus is on presenting the temptations of Jesus as part of the great struggle between good and evil, between God and Satan. Jesus' desert experience raises important questions for us. What are some of the "desert" experiences I have experienced in my life? When and how do I find moments of contemplation in the midst of a busy life? Have I been courageous and persistent in fighting with the demons? How have I resisted transforming my own deserts into places of abundant life?

From Jesus we learn that God is present and sustaining us in the midst of test, temptation and even sinfulness. We realize that we must have some spiritual space in our lives where we can strip away the

false things that cling to us and breathe new life into our dreams and begin again. We come to believe that God can take the parched surface of our hope and make it bloom. These are the lessons of the desert. That is why we need -- even in the activity of our daily lives and work, moments of prayer, of stillness, of listening to the voice of God. We meet God in the midst of our deserts of sinfulness, selfishness, jealousy, efficiency, isolation, cynicism and despair. And in the midst of the desert we hear what God will do if we open our hearts to him and allow him to make our own deserts bloom. The ways of the desert were deep within the heart of Jesus, and it must be the same for all who would follow him.

-from Fr. Thomas Roscia, CSB

Message of the Holy Father for Lent 2018

God in His providence offers us each year the season of Lent as a "sacramental sign of our conversion." Lent summons us, and enables us to come back to the Lord wholeheartedly and in every aspect of our life. With this message,

I would like again this year to help the entire Church experience this time of grace anew, with joy and in truth. I will take my cue from the words of Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew: "Because of the increase of iniquity, the love of many will grow cold." (Mt. 24:12) These words appear in Christ's preaching about the end of time. Jesus foretells a great tribulation and describes a situation in which the community of believers might find itself: amid great trials, false prophets would lead people astray and the love that is the core of the Gospel would grow cold in the hearts of many. Perhaps we see, deep within ourselves and all about us, the signs. But the Church, our Mother and Teacher, offers us in the Lenten season the soothing remedy of prayer, almsgiving and fasting.

Find the entire message on the Vatican website <http://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2018/02/06/180206c.html>

YOUR WEEKLY BULLETIN IS BACK!

Please send content to bulletin@txstatecatholic.org Wednesdays by 5pm.

BOBCAT AWAKENING

There are still openings to attend BA #51! Register today! Thank you for your continued prayers for this important step in our students' spiritual journey.

SECOND COLLECTIONS 2/18 St. Vincent de Paul

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL TRUCK,

St. John's back parking lot, Saturday, March 10th from 10am - 1pm.

FRIDAYS DURING LENT

Each Friday during Lent we abstain from meat together. This is intended to be a religious experience and so we need to explore it and prepare for it. How meaningful and powerful the experience is, depends upon how reflective we are about it, and the kind of choices we make, to ensure that there is some sacrifice and some experience of solidarity in our Lenten Fridays.

<http://onlineministries.creighton.edu>



OVERVIEW OF THE LENTEN SEASON

explaining practices, rituals and lots of other good stuff about this holy time is available on the Austin Diocese website. www.austindiocese.org/lenten-resources

LENTEN DAY OF REFLECTION

Fr. Craig will host an evening of reflection on the *Seven Last Words of Christ* on Friday March 23rd from 5-7pm in the Chapel. All parishioners and students are invited to attend!

DAY OF FASTING

His Holiness Pope Francis announced that Fri., Feb. 23rd, will be a day of prayer and fasting for peace, in particular for the populations of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and South Sudan. Catholics in good health from age 18 until age 59 are obliged to fast and pray. The Friday Stations of the Cross are an excellent prayer for peace. The faithful are asked to spend time in prayer that day. Perhaps consider offering the day's work and trials for the people who are suffering in these regions.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays during Lent after our 12:30pm Mass in the Chapel led by Fr. Craig or Deacon Cris and ending with Benediction. (Spring Break week March 16th there will be no Stations or Benediction)

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES

Be spiritually prepared for Easter! Penance Service here at Our Lady of Wisdom is Wednesday, February 28th.

In addition, there are services at St. Anthony's in Kyle on Tue. March 20th & St. John's in San Marcos on Wed., March 14th. All Penance Services begin at 7pm.

SCHEDULE CHANGE

No Mass or Reconciliation on Monday February 19th We will have a Communion Service at 12:30pm