



St. Joseph Catholic Church
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First Sunday Lent 3.5.2017

St. Joseph			
\$567.00			

Due to age, the washer and dryer needs to be replaced. Cost is \$1800.00. Please consider a donation to help replace the washer and dryer.

Do you have an abundance attitude
 Or
 Do you have a scarcity attitude?



Announcements
Lent is a time of fasting, prayer, and acts of charity. Also a time to confession our sins and being consoled of our sinfulness

.....
March 5 Religious Education Sunday
we ask all students to come to Mass and Class.

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March 12 – 17 Fr. Kuffel will be in Anchorage for the Priest Convocation of Alaska.

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March 17 – 23 Fr. Kuffel will be in Kotz.



Why we Fast is not to punish ourselves for sin, but to learn virtues:



It will hurt.
 It will take time.
 It will require dedication.
 It will require willpower.
 You will need to make healthy decisions.
 It requires sacrifice.
 You will need to push your body to its max.
 There will be temptation.
 But, I promise you, when you reach your goal, it's **worth it.**

Lenten Ideas:

- Mondays
Read Luke's Gospel
- Tuesdays
Call an old Friend
- Wednesday
Say the Divine Mercy Chaplet
- Thursdays
Read Matthew 5 - 7
- Fridays
Stations of the Cross
*No meat
*No Snacks
- Saturdays
Pray the Rosary
Spring Clean the house
- Sunday
Mass and Communion

Stewardship:

Kindness and Generosity

- It is proven that people who give of their money are **happier** than people who do not give.
- It is proven that people who give not only of their money, but of their time to a cause are **happier still**.
- It is proven that people who give not only of their time and money but engage in relationships with the cause or the persons they support they are the **happiest**.

(Harbaugh, May, Burghart Study)

Stewardship
has little
to do with money,
but
everything to do
with relationship!

Generosity and Kindness are virtues which challenge us to overcome our fears. The reason we tend not give as much as we could to a charity or cause is because of greed:

Greed is the fear of losing it all!
Greed is the grasp that we control our lives and our future

Charity is the bravery to give all that you can. It does not fear as St. John tells us for true love casts out all fear.

Love understands that the other is in charge. Charity teaches us that God, our loving Father is in control and I have to trust in Him – not in my strength.

When we accept that we control nothing then we stop useless pursuits then we can relate to God!

Catechism: Temptation of Christ!

Satan is much talked about today. We see so many stories and videos of possessed and obsessed people.

But Satan and his minions prefer not the diabolic demonstrations of evil for when he does possess or obsess a person; he has to expose himself and all his ugliness. Instead of attracting people through his displays of evil, he in fact turns people away.

Satan much prefers to tempt us with the subtle and sly seductions which are cunning clever. Adam and Eve were tempted with knowledge of things they did not know. Satan tempted Jesus with Food, Power, and Fame.

Satan seduced the Sadducees and Pharisees with self-importance, making them think they were the standard of righteousness, using murder to protect them from Jesus and his accusations: Hypocrites.

Their hardness of heart was their real sin for they had to defend their self-righteousness. We all do this. We all try to defend our opinion, our ways, and our traditions and culture even if it is wrong, even evil.

The decline of morality is not some major or tragic event. It is simply the lack of forming a Christian Conscience. Look at what we hold to be rights and virtues in society today:

- Abortion
- Euthanasia
- Free drug use
- Divorce and co habitation
- Sexual freedom and same sex marriage

Satanic temptations are not the dramatic scenes we see in the movies; they are the simple seductions that cause us to think that I know what is best for myself.

The real temptation of Satan is the loss of the sense of sin which comes from accepting little sins. That my choices are not sins at all. This leads to thinking that I should not be held responsible even if I should sin, or just make a mistake.

Sin progressively grows and takes a person away from God undisturbed. Everything becomes lawful and eventually persons and society become hard of hard like the Pharisees. Egotistical, narcissistic, and conceited: murderers. Hypocritical we please ourselves with the most common temptations of Satan:

• **Money Power Pleasure**

Notice how Jesus responds to Satan and his temptations? He does not engage. He does not argue with him, He does not answer any question. He defeats him through the power of Scripture. He defeats him with God's power. We will defeat Satan the same way!

So submit yourselves to God.
Resist the devil, and he will flee from you
(Jm 4:16).

Weekly Schedule:

Date	Mass Time	Place	Feast Day	Lector/Minister	Intention	Activity
Mon Mar 6	5:30 PM	Nome			Caleb Richter	
Tue Mar 7	5:30 PM	Nome			Caleb Richter	
Wed March 8	5:30 PM	Nome			Jerry Korpan	
Thu Mar 9	5:30 PM	Nome			Jerry Korpan	Bible Study
Fri Mar 10	6:00 PM	Nome			Artz Family	
Fri Mar 10	6:30 PM	Nome				Stations
Sat Mar 11	5:30 PM	Nome	Second Lent	E. Bronson	L. Lemkuhl	
Sun Mar 12	10:30 AM	Nome	Second Lent	S. Paniataaq	St. Jude Parish	



Temptation Island First Sunday of Lent (Year A)

Temptations come in many forms and fashions. Each temptation has many facets and factions, which allow us to examine our own consciences as to what really tempts us: body, mind, or spirit?

The seven fold vices that are better known as the capital sins sum up the different ways we are tempted. Pride anger, avarice, lust, envy, gluttony, and sloth all tempt us to personally sin. Sin is personal, but it is also social and original.

Personal Sin is to choose to be less than our best!

Sin is “an offense against reason, truth, and right conscience; it is failure in genuine love for God and neighbor caused by a perverse attachment to certain goods” (CCC. #1849). We set ourselves against God when we sin which either breaks or strains our relationship with God. If it breaks our relationship with God it is a mortal or deadly sin. If it strains our relationship with God it is venial (See CCC. # 1854 – 1864; 1 John 5:16 - 17).

Original Sin, unlike social and personal sin effects the nature of our being – our DNA. Before the Fall, Adam and Eve had original justice. They harmonized with God and each other. They did not feel the push and pull of their emotions, desires, passions, and feelings, but they were in tune with God and his authority.

Satan came and tempted them by offering them power and possessions. They would become gods and possess knowledge of good and evil. They fell from God’s grace and suffered the consequence of addiction.

Original Sin destroys our ability to control our passions and emotions. “The harmony in which they had found themselves, thanks to original justice, is now destroyed: the control of the soul’s spiritual faculties over the body is shattered; the union of man and woman becomes subject to tensions, their relationship henceforth marked by lust and domination” (CCC. # 400).

After the fall, the tensions between Adam and Eve and God grew, so did creation. It became a hostile environment to life. We see great natural disasters that come and devastate creation. We also see the intrusion of death, which destroys life itself.

Jesus comes to redeem us from death caused by our sinfulness. He repairs the rift between mankind and God, but just as important He repairs our relationships between ourselves and prepares us for a new creation.

“For just as through the disobedience of one person the many were made sinners, so through the obedience of one the many will be made righteous” (Rom. 5: 18 – 19).

Justification removes the guilt and punishment due to sin. Christ’s suffering, death, and resurrection free us from our slavery to sin. “Jesus atoned for our faults and made satisfaction for our sins to the Father” (CCC. # 615).

Justification is not sanctification.

That we are justified by Christ’s blood does not mean we are sanctified. Sanctification is holiness. Jesus offers us the grace, which sanctifies us, but we have to choose to do what is good and avoid evil.

It is not enough to accept Christ’s atonement for sin, but we have to respond effectively and affectivity to God’s grace. We have to act in accordance to the commands of new Adam: Love God and neighbor as thyself.

**We have to choose either to serve God or not
It is our choice: choices have consequences.**

Source of Temptation:

Temptation comes from:

1. Pleasure
2. Power
3. Possessions,
4. Satan himself.

Christ was tempted to eat bread. His senses acutely aware of his need for food saw beyond the physical, knowing He would not die.

Lent is a time for mortification. We teach ourselves to conscientiously control our bodily desires and needs.

Power is Satan’s next temptation. We think we will be satisfied with power, yet, power adulterates us while we commit idolatry.

Adam and Eve were tempted with power; knowledge gave them evil powers.

Unless our power is at the service of God, we will become like Satan and abuse our powers becoming a dictator. As a dictator, we think we are our own gods.

Prayer reveals just how powerless we are.

Lent is a time for prayer in which we turn to God to have Him solve our earthly problems.

Finally, Satan tempts us with possessions. Part of Lent is to give our possessions away so we may free ourselves from the selfishness that comes with possessions.

Possessions should never possess us.

Anything we have is expendable; the only thing we are dependent upon is God and grace.

Almsgiving teaches us to spend the excess and even the principle of our wealth. In this way we serve God rather than our world and material possessions.

Lent cleanses our bodies, minds, and hearts. We purify our bodies from carnal sins so we can have purity of body, which in turn purifies our mind.

Our bodies want only that which our mind teaches it to have. Cleansing our minds will filter our physical desires as well as our spiritual desires, so we pray.

“Who may go up the mountain of the LORD? Who can stand in his holy place? The clean of hand and pure of heart, who are not devoted to idols, who have not sworn falsely. They will receive blessings from the LORD, and justice from their saving God” (Ps. 24:3).