

February 21, 2021

1st Sunday of Lent

Each year the Gospel for the First Sunday of Lent is one of 3 Gospel accounts of Jesus in the beginning of His public ministry going into the desert. The desert is a harsh place- it forces human beings to the essentials of life. It puts us to the test. This year the first reading gives us an account of God promising Noah in the story of the great flood that He will establish a Covenant with His people. St. Paul in the second reading speaks of the flood as a sign prefiguring Baptism. Indeed the Lord or God is renewing His Covenant with us in the whole Lenten and Easter celebrations. Lent is a time to prepare converts for Baptism and that is the time for all of us to renew our Commitment of Baptism. We will be asked to renew our vows of Baptism at Easter.

In the Gospel we hear Jesus at the beginning of His ministry: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and believe in the Gospel." As ashes were placed on our heads on Ash Wednesday we heard the words- "Repent and believe in the Gospel."

Daily Lenten Schedule

Masses Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday:
7am, and 9am

**Monday, Wednesday, & Saturday Morning
Mass at 9:00am ONLY**

Stations of the Cross

Lenten Friday evenings at 7:30pm

PLEASE NOTE

Due to the lower Mass attendance because of Coronavirus and the lack of priests available to help with celebration of daily Masses, we will not be able to have daily Noon Mass or 7am Mass on Monday and Wednesday. We have made every attempt to contact those who scheduled a Mass Intention for one of our Noon Masses; however, if we were unable to reach you and you have a Mass scheduled during Lent for 12 Noon, please give the office a call at 302-764-0325 x100 so we may reschedule your Intention. Thank you for your understanding.

Lenten Guidelines

Prayer: We urge you to make the effort to participate in the daily Masses of Lent.

Penance: We are encouraged to do something difficult to strengthen our will power to resist sin and temptation.

Abstinence: All Catholics from age 14 on are expected to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and the Fridays of Lent.

Fasting: All Catholics from age 18 to 59 are expected to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. This means ONE full meal a day: two other light meals, no snacks between meals. **These are the minimum expectations.** The church as our mother encourages us to do something so we can share the dying of Christ in order to rise with Him at Easter to New Life.

Works of Charity: We are challenged by the Church not only to open our hearts to God but to one another. Reach out to help the needy.

The Rice Bowl: This campaign of the American Catholic Church is an effort to help our hungry brothers and sisters. We are asked to have one simple meatless meal each week and give what we save to help the hungry.

Lent began as a time for the Church to prepare those who wished to join the body of Christ through the Easter Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist. Please pray for people throughout the world preparing to receive these sacraments in the Easter Season.

Knights of Columbus annual Friday Night Lenten Fish Fry Dinners begin Friday February 19. Dinners will be served from 5:00 - 7:00 PM in Masci Hall, subject to COVID restrictions, with limited socially distanced seating available for members of the same household. In addition to our usual take out dinners, limited contact curbside service will also be available. Credit card payments are accepted. Telephone orders will be accepted after 4:00 PM for pick up after 5:00 PM. Please call or text (302) 598-8685. Your prior support of these dinners has helped fund some of Christopher Council's charitable activities during the pandemic by helping Christopher Council; you help support the food pantry, the Parish, feeding the homeless and needy, Special Olympics and many other charitable works. Thank you.

PLEASE SEE OUR WEBSITE

<https://www.sainthelenas.org>

Coronavirus News Important Update!

Friday Reflections with Msgr. Russell

Friday Reflections is a weekly check-in video with Msgr. Russell. Please visit our [YouTube Channel](#) to watch this week’s video, and be sure to SUBSCRIBE to our channel. You can even arrange for YouTube to let you know every time we add a new video!

Reminder! We’ll be broadcasting Mass on YouTube afterward for you to watch.

Please Pray For Our Sick Parishioners

Ruth Bower, Jayne Davenport, Bob Davis, Julia Davis, Gerri Episcopo, Sara Garrison, Sarah Hess, Ella Kirksey, Fr. Roy Pollard, Terri Reed, Dorothy Rich, Helen Rupnicki, Kathleen Schaubert, Irma Shock, Caitlin Soper, Frank Sullivan, Catherine Thomson, Vaughn Whisker, Ann Wilson, Cindy Zych, Anita Tyrawski, Mary Gabel, Alline Da Grossa, Toni Di Lezio, Sister Dorothy Prettyman, Janet Szubieolski, Catalina Weddle, Ray Altamuro, Marie Spinden, Jane Parsons, Francis Medeiros, Friends at the Kutz Home Nicolas Childs, Alfred Palmer, Bridget Robinson, Fr. Charles Dillingham, Bill Thomas, Geri Crockett, Jim Fedena, Sr, Carly Fedena, Susan Watkins, Judy Wilbank, Joan Morgan, Anna Mae Shewbrooks, Aliyah Miller, Theresa Kelleher Cassidy, Francis Salvatore



PLEASE NOTE

Because we need to follow procedures to help maintain a safe situation for all:

- No one can enter the Church if you are sick or have been exposed to someone with the virus within the last 14 days. Or if you will not wear a mask.
- Every other pew will be roped off to help social distancing.
- All MUST WEAR A MASK except children under 2.
- Please use hand sanitizer.

WEEKLY CALENDAR



Sunday, February 21

The 2nd Collection: Social Ministry

12:15pm Baptism

Monday, February 22

6:30pm Religious Ed Classes-School

6:30pm Adult Scripture Study-Zoom

Friday, February 26

5:00pm Knights of Columbus -Fish Fry-Masci Hall

7:30pm Stations of the Cross-Church

Sunday, February 28

12:15pm First Eucharist Parent/Child Mtg- Masci Hall

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, Feb 20

5:00pm (SR) Mary Ann & Leonard Kelleher

Sunday, Feb 21

7:00am (EF) People of the Parish

9:00am (SR) Joanne Reese

11:00am (SR) Anthony Cutrona

Monday, Feb 22

9:00am (SR) Catherine Wood

Tuesday, Feb 23

7:00am (EF) Paul O. Knight

9:00am (SR) Mary & Bernard Fiore

Wednesday, Feb 24

9:00am (SR) Joseph McDonough

Thursday, Feb 25

7:00am (EF) Mary & Dominic Roggero

9:00am (SR) Jacqueline Wilson

Friday, Feb 26

7:00am (EF) Special Intention

9:00am (SR) Living Intention for Brian James

Saturday, Feb 27

9:00am (SR) Ralph Gioffre

5:00pm (SR) Sophie Rich

Sunday, Feb 28

7:00am (SR) John Deely

9:00am (EF) Ruth Kaderbek (Living)

11:00am (SR) People of the Parish



PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY



CALL TO FAMILY, COMMUNITY, AND PARTICIPATION

The person is not only scared but also social. How we organize our society--in economics and politics, in law and policy – directly affects human dignity and capacity of individuals to grow in community.

The family is the central social institution that must be supported and strengthened, not undermined. We believe people have a right and a duty to participate in society, seeking together the common good and well-being of all, especially the poor and vulnerable.

LISTEN TO CATHOLIC FORUM

Every Saturday afternoon at 1:30 on Relevant Radio 640. Next Saturday, February 27th, Richelle Vible, Executive Director of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Wilmington will look back at her 13-year career at the agency's helm. Listen to *Catholic Forum* online anytime at cdow.org/CatholicForum..., or search "Catholic Forum" on Apple, Spotify, or iHeartRadio podcasts. For photos, information regarding upcoming guests, links and more, "Like" *Catholic Forum* on Facebook at facebook.com/CatholicForum..



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION meets tomorrow (MONDAY) as follows: 6th, 7th and 8th graders meet in MASCI HALL from 6:30p – 7:30p. After this the 6th, 7th and 8th will meet back in Dougherty Hall. First Graders will meet in the Religious Education Office with Ms Hummy.

A new schedule will be coming out in one week for Religious Education classes beginning in March.

FIRST EUCHARIST class is NEXT SUNDAY, February 28. It is for a parent and the child and will be held in Masci Hall at 12:15p.

YOUTH GROUP will meet TONIGHT in Masci Hall at 7pm. This will be a planning meeting for possible upcoming events.

Join the Employment Support Network and get the help you need. As an organization committed to supporting individuals and families during unexpected challenges and difficult transitions, Jewish Family Services understands the impact sudden unemployment has on your financial stability and emotional well-being. The Employment Support Network can help you overcome the challenges of job loss due to COVID-19. This free program connects you with reliable, trained volunteers, who provide emotional support and wellness coaching, financial management training, and access to appropriate mental health resources. You don't have to do this on your own!

Visit <https://www.jfsdelaware.org/family-support/employment-support-network/>

Rachel's Vineyard Catholic Retreat for the Diocese of Wilmington. We are hosting a retreat May 14-16, 2021. The retreat weekend is a beautiful opportunity for emotional and spiritual healing for any woman or man who has struggled with abortion. For more info contact Nan Freeman at 302-463-7711 or visit rachelsvineyard.org.

Marriage Moments and Parenting Pointers By Susan Vogt



Marriage Moments: Have you thought of a meaningful Lenten practice? If not, why not choose at least one penance that you will both do. It can reinforce and bond you in a common effort.

Parenting Pointers: We all must at some point let go of our expectations for our children and trust God to lead them in ways we might not have chosen.



Need a little help as you journey through Lent? Visit the Diocese of Wilmington's Lent web page at cdow.org/Lent for a calendar of Lenten activities, videos, resources, and more.



Pope Francis declared the time between December 8, 2020 and December 8, 2021 as the **Year of Saint Joseph**

DIOCESE OF WILMINGTON CATECHETICAL DAY ATTENTION ALL CATECHISTS!

This year *Catechetical Day* will be celebrated on March 20, 2021 from 9:00 m-12:30pm (virtually) with Bishop W. Francis Malooly. *Catechetical Day* honors and celebrates Catechists through prayer, recognition of their years of service to the Catechetical Ministry, in addition to spiritual and professional development.

All Clergy, Directors/Coordinators of Religious Education, and Catechists are warmly invited to attend this annual event hosted by the Office for Religious Education. Please share this invitation widely in your parish with those who serve in the Catechetical Ministry!

Catechetical Day - March 20, 2021 with Bishop W. Francis Malooly

- *All who serve in the Catechetical Ministry are welcome to attend!*
- Registration Packet:
cdow.org/fresh/wp-cont...
- Register Online:
cdowcym.wufoo.com/form...
- Registration deadline is February 26, 2021.
- *Some highlights of the day!*
- D/CREs and Catechists celebrating anniversary years of service will be honored via a live presentation.
- Award recipients are encouraged to upload their pictures for inclusion in the presentation. *Please note: certificates signed by the Bishop will be mailed to each recipient following Catechetical Day.*
- Bob McCarty, D. Min. is the keynote speaker and will lead participants in two spiritual and professional development sessions.
- A Young Adult Panel will share their real experiences of faith and discipleship.
- *Office for Religious Education Contact Information*

Linda Jackson, Assistant to the Director, at LJackson@cdow.org or [302-573-3130](tel:302-573-3130).