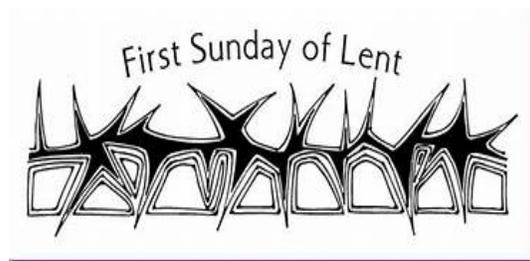


For The Bulletin Of March 10, 2019



From Father Robert

Even the devil can quote scripture! This dismissive line is often declared when one tries to “one up” another by quoting a familiar scripture passage to make a point. Simply knowing scripture does not guarantee one’s right relationship with God. One scholar said “Give me thirty minutes with the Bible and I’ll make up any religion you want.” So merely citing scripture does not win the argument. There is much more to it than that.

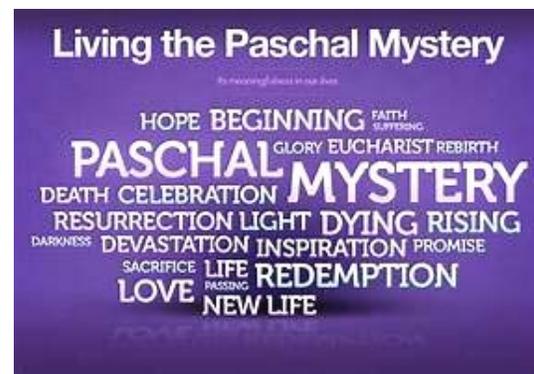
Luke’s version of the temptation of Jesus is more elaborate than the story we find in Mark, which Luke used as a source. In fact, Mark tells the story (if we can even call it that) of the temptation in two verses, whereas Luke uses thirteen. Luke gives us a dialogue between Jesus and the devil that is completely absent in Mark. To each of the devil’s temptations, some supported by scripture, Jesus retorts with scripture. The scene is almost one of a theological debating club.

Luke expanded on the story he inherited from Mark to convey theological insights and truths rather than compose a journalist’s description of “what really happened.” Early church fathers recognized this immediately when they asked how the devil could take Jesus to a

place where he could show Him all the kingdoms of the world in an instant when no such place exists. The church fathers knew that this story was meant to convey theology, and it was meant to be read metaphorically rather than literally.

By this story Luke tells us a number of things, not least of which is that Jesus was tempted by the devil. And Luke’s expansion of the story from what he inherited read more like debating societies than true temptations. They also indicate that even the devil can quote scripture. In other words, it is not enough merely to know scriptures and have the ability to quote them.

As a master storyteller, Luke concludes the episode with three words that set the stage for later drama, namely, that the devil departed from Him “for a time.” We know that this was not to be the last encounter between the devil and Jesus. This first encounter with its triple temptations ultimately would lead to the Last Supper, the agony in the garden, the passion, and the cross.



We human beings are faced with temptations that concern our well-being (bread), our own power and glory (kingdoms of the world), or the limits of God’s power (throwing oneself off the parapet of the temple). Jesus overcame each of these temptations with the power

and knowledge of scripture, and secure in His relationship with God as His Son. As Jesus faced such fundamental temptations we shouldn't be surprised by temptation either. However, in Luke's telling there might be a slight disservice to us. For our temptations will likely not come in the physical personification of the devil. But we will be tempted, nonetheless, by appeals to our well-being, our own power and glory, and what we would consider the limits of God's power. If we, like Jesus, can be assured of our relationship with God, secure in our filial relationship with the divine, we can overcome temptation as well. Though the devil left Jesus for a time, he did return. And it was then that the ultimate temptation faced Jesus. Then He trusted in God to the point of death, only to be raised up to new life.

- The first reading from Deuteronomy includes a telling of God's saving action in the history of the Hebrew people. In your life, how have you experienced God's presence in times of distress?
- What helps you to remain steadfast in times of temptation?
- In the gospel, Jesus declares, "One does not live on bread alone. During this Lenten time of fasting, how can you feast on the Word and presence of God?"
- Lent is a time for the whole church, in unity with the catechumens, to go on retreat in preparation for celebrating the sacraments of initiation at Easter. How can you make this season more retreat-like in both the way you live it individually and celebrate it as a part of the parish community?

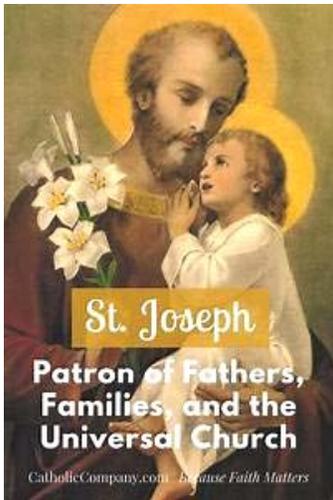
In Loving Memory

Our beloved Rose Lafferty, 103 years of age, has fallen asleep in Christ. Her Funeral Services will take place this coming week as follows:

Tuesday, March 12: Visitation at 6:00 p.m. with the Vigil Liturgy at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 13: Funeral Liturgy at 10:00 a.m., followed by a Luncheon Reception in our Parish hall. Committal at Holy Cross Cemetery, 2:00 p.m.

Rose and her husband, Bill, were founding/Charter members of the parish. They were active in helping to build our facility, taught Faith Formation, Scripture Study, and RCIA. Her life was characterized by great faith, strength, courage, and grace. The Word of God lived powerfully in everything she did, everything she said, in every action of her life. She knew, beyond a shadow of a doubt, who she was and to Whom she belonged. She loved God and our parish with every fiber of her being. How blessed we have been to have had her in our lives individually as well as a faith community. I hope you will be able to join us in thanking God for the Gift of her life, now caught up in God's life and love forever.



Wednesday, March 20th: Immaculate Heart of Mary, Brentwood; 7:00 p.m.

Monday, March 25th: Holy Rosary, Antioch; 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 27th: St. Peter Martyr, Pittsburg; 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, April 3rd: St. Anthony, Oakley; 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 4th: St. Ignatius of Antioch, Antioch; 7:30 p.m.

St. Anne Parish, Byron; 7:00 p.m.

Monday, April 8th: Church of the Good Shepherd, Pittsburg; 7:00 p.m.



We are once again combining our celebration of St. Patrick's Day and St. Joseph's Day with a festive dinner this coming Saturday evening, March 16, 2019, immediately following the Saturday evening 4:00 p.m. Vigil Eucharist. Tickets are on sale after each liturgy today and you will not want to miss this unique and wonderful celebration that honors both our Irish and Italian heritage. This is always a **SOLD OUT** event so be sure and get your tickets today!



If you have not registered in our parish and have been attending regularly, I invite you to join us officially by registering. It is a simple process of either coming to the parish office in person or even registering over the phone. To register means you are making the commitment to be a member of our parish community, to become involved in ministry as a disciple of Jesus, and to support the parish financially through your tithes and offerings. Over the past weeks we have encountered a number of people who thought that just because they worship with us on the weekend that that made them automatically members – that is



The Delta Deanery will be offering the Sacrament of Penance in each of the eight parishes in communal celebrations on the following dates:

not the case. To register is to make a commitment, to take responsibility for your share in supporting the ministry of the parish, to have ownership, to belong. If you have questions about what it means to be a registered member, please do not hesitate to reach out to either me or our secretary, Maryann Peddicord, and we will be happy to speak with you.



Our parish is incredibly blessed by our volunteers who help out in so many ways and without whom we could not accomplish all that we do. A very special thank you to those who came and helped with the Lenten Environment: **Carole Miller, Rich Confetti, Claudia Gumina, Don Benson, Dorothy O'Connor, Fr. Robert, Lorraine Lohmeier, Janice Kegler, Pat Kramer, Shelli Daviess, Lisa Lombardo, Nancy DiMaggio, Brenda Head, Patricia Britton, Judi Heckendorn, David Rodrigues, Pablo & Norma Villegas, Rosemary Anyanwu, Theresa Nelms, Kristine Shoemaker and Tom & Stevie Catchings.**

Our thanks to those who clean the church each Saturday morning: **Rose Salamanca, Angela Bueno, Carole Miller, Jean Rogers, Mency Osborne, Jun Bajet, and Al Cosce.**

...to those who clean and maintain the bathrooms in the church and parish hall: **Steve Rojek, Mary Ewing, Patricia Britton, and Father Robert.**

...to **Dilcia Aparicio** who does such an excellent job of washing, ironing, and caring for the Sacred Linens.

...to our Sacristans and Altar Guild who prepare the sanctuary for the celebration of Eucharist each week:

Peter Degl'Innocenti, Pam and Rich Confetti, Vincent Rodriguez, Harlan Young, Monika Kauer, Cynthia Enrique, Nancy Santos and Rose Salamanca.

...to **our counting teams** who are here every week to count the weekly collections.

...to our volunteers who assisted in the parish office last week:

Sharon Cissell, Mel Costanza, Rowena Cayaban, Alicia Perez, Yvette Young, Joe Fanfa, Bev Iacona and Paul Riofski.

...to our St. Vincent de Paul and Mobile Mall volunteers who transported last week's donations: **Frank Zamora and Barbara Jackson.**

...to our faithful weekly bulletin assembly team: **Dave Costanza (Lead), Carole Miller, Vangie Parrilla, Beth Enea, Richard Enea, Kathy Augusta, Vince Augusta and Sherry Webb.**

...to our wonderful Parking Lot Security who keeps watch over our vehicles during the weekend Liturgies: **Don Benson, Steve Rojek and Tony Gumina.**



The St. Ignatius of Antioch Social Events Committee's mission statement is: "To gather together socially as a community of friendship and hospitality. To promote the spirit of belonging to St. Ignatius of Antioch Parish through the help of Christ, our Lord."

The St. Ignatius of Antioch Social Events Committee would like to **THANK** all the parishioners who supported our events in **2018**. The Social Events Committee sponsored six events last year. The first was the Super Bowl 50/50 Raffle in February and then the St. Joseph's Festival Dinner in March. There was also a Luau in June and a Hot August Night- Western Style Dinner held on August 25th. The Oktoberfest in October and ending the year with our very special St. Nicholas Dinner. The proceeds from the Luau went to the 40th Anniversary Committee to use to help defray costs of the Anniversary receptions. The proceeds from the Oktoberfest went to the Gala/Festival committee. The proceeds from the other events went into the operating funds of the parish. Because of your continued support and your generosity, the total amount raised by the Social Events Committee in 2018 was over \$13,000.00. We hope to provide fellowship and fun in 2019 and we hope you will join us at our many events!

A big **THANK YOU** to the committee members who cook, serve, sell tickets,

donate raffle and auction prizes, clean, decorate and help wherever needed! You are **awesome!** Also **THANK YOU** to our Knights of Columbus who help us set up, bartend and clean up. We couldn't do it without you!! And finally, a big **THANK YOU** to Father Robert who makes **every** event very special and fun...especially the auctions!

If you would like to become a member of this wonderful committee and help with our future events, please call Marla at 925-513-5069.

