

Dear Friends,

Temptation. It's all around us. From the moment we get up in the morning, to the moment we lay our head to rest, temptations bombard us. They can be something as simple as the temptation to sleep a little bit longer or as serious as the temptation to be unfaithful. Lately, it seems that I have been battling the chocolate temptations sitting on my coffee table and in my kitchen. Whatever the case may be, and no matter how holy we might be, we all encounter temptations of some sort. What we do with them is the critical question.

The main thing to remember with regard to temptations is that they are not sinful in and of themselves. We commit sin only when we give in to temptation. If we can repudiate temptation, it builds within us a strength of character. That is why Jesus is such a model for us. When he went into the desert, the Scriptures tell us, he was tempted in every way that we are, including the temptations to accrue money, fame, and power. Yet, he scorned all of these for he knew that possessing any of them would bring only transitory benefits. Instead, he chose fidelity to His call and mission to preach the Gospel message in humility, poverty, and love. In a very real way then, His temptations in the desert helped forge His resolve to do the will of the Father.

Obviously, none of us can equal the perfection with which Jesus handled temptation. We frequently succumb to the temptations we encounter every day. I don't know of anyone who doesn't have some weakness that gets the best of them. Most everyone struggles with temptations to impatience, negative thinking, impurity, excessive alcohol, food, wasting time on the internet, leaving church early, materialism, shopping, overwork, or even excessive sleep. There is not one person who has ever lived on this planet that has ever escaped temptation.

Despite that fact, God gives us strength through our faith in Jesus Christ in order to combat the daily onslaught of these temptations. Every time we pray the "Our Father" we say, "lead us not into temptation." It is this constant appeal through prayer that enables us to be more proactive in avoiding temptation's allure.

Jesus went into the desert to commune with God. This constant communication with the Father enabled Him to face temptations head on. But notice that it was also his fasting and self-deprivation that helped Him to detach and attune himself to God. That is why the Lenten Season is like a journey into the desert. In the desert we deprive ourselves of certain things in order to hone our spiritual acuity so as to see more clearly.

I invite you to make a journey into the "spiritual desert" during this Lenten season so that you may be more attuned to God's Word and to his will for you. This Lent we are distributing digital audio recordings of the New Testament. I invite you to make a little time for yourself to listen to this CD for 30 minutes every day so that you can be attentive to God's Word. It can become a mini desert experience over the next 40 days. When we hear God's Word and let it live in our hearts, then temptations are more easily brushed aside. Give it a shot! You might be amazed at its affect in your life! God bless!

Fr. Paul



Saturday, February 20, 2010

8:00 AM +Brandon Angel Castillo
by Josie & Ramon Castillo
4:30 PM +Jose & Evita Mendez
by Manuel & Sylvia Rosales

Sunday, February 21, 2010

First Sunday of Lent

8:30 AM Alvaro Ramos Olier (Health)
by Antle Family
11:00AM Rene & Janie Esquivel 40th Wedd Ann
by Family
6:00 PM Parishioners & Benefactors of St. John's

Monday, February 22, 2010

8:00 AM +Robert Marion Black
Mrs. Christine Black

Tuesday, February 23, 2010

8:00 AM In Thanksgiving to St. Jude
by Paulita Barrera

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

8:00 AM Special Intention

Thursday, February 25, 2010

8:00 AM +Josefa Sandoval
The Rivera Family

Friday, February 26, 2010

8:00 AM +Jose & Tomasita Rodriguez
by Carlos Rodriguez

Next Saturday, February 27, 2010

8:00 AM In Thanksgiving to our Lady of Guadalupe
by Paulita Barrera
4:30 PM Souls of Purgatory
by Mr & Mrs Bayardo

Next Sunday, February 28, 2010

Second Sunday of Lent

8:30 AM +Chris Garza
by Faustino Garza & Family
Parishioners & Benefactors
11:00 AM In Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Guadalupe
6:00 PM by Cindy Salinas

Readings for the Week of February 21, 2010

Sunday: First Sunday of Lent
Dt 26:4-10; Ps 91; Rom 10:8-13; Lk 4:1-13
Monday: The Chair of Saint Peter, apostle
1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23; Mt 16:13-19
Tuesday: Saint Polycarp, bishop, martyr
Is 55:10-11; Ps 34; Mt 6:7-15
Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51; Lk 11:29-32
Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Ps 138; Mt 7:7-12
Friday: Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130; Mt 5:20-26
Saturday: Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119; Mt 5:43-48
Sunday: Second Sunday of Lent
Gn 15:5-12,17-18; Ps 27; Phil 3:17—4:1 or 3:20—4:1; Lk 9:28b-36

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH ...



Paul Koehler, Chris Perez, Beatrice Ferrell, Joseph A. Eicher, Edward Nemecek, Oscar Soliz, Gus Blomquist, Jimmy Alvarez, Florence Fuertez, Eddie Rivera, Mary Ann Broyles, Mike Konz, Gabriel Alvarado, Cookie Adame, Cameron Marshall, Gilbert Rodriguez, Alvaro Ramos Olier, Cattia Longoria, Debbie Fuqua, Amelia Ysasi Herrera, David & Ariana Hernandez, Joseph Treviño, J. R. Rios, Adan Benavides, Sr., Mia Jolie Rios, Ofelia Arredondo, Carlos Ysasi, Ryan Rojas, Cynthia Rojas, Rachel Rojas, Linda Bush, Sylvia Cox, Jane Cheesman, John O'Flynn, Jerry Alvarez, Virginia Garza, Kathy Izassi, Sylvia Rojas, Mr & Mrs Tony Salinas, Maria Salas, Elena Bosquez, Eddie Elizondo, Teresa Koehler, Bonnie Maloy, Olivia Marshall.

First Sunday of Lent

Please Pray For Our Troops



Sgt. Roger Elkins, Glen Turner Jr., Sgt Matt Maufin, Aaron Philipchuck, Dwayne Solis, Charles Krohn Jr., Oscar Rossi Billy Swatzell, James O'Donnell, Paul Adame, Brandon Felton, Zicorian Coleman, Wendy Hand, D'Aldo Alaniz, Paul Walton, Joseph Yglesias, Jaime Robles, Rudy Hoyt, Roseann Guerrero, Sr. Airman Charlie Stevens, Sr. Airman Patrick Scheuter, Matt Hettinger, Mike Brown, Erik Garza, Damian Saldivar, Maj. Chuck Taylor, Alex Saucedo, Jay Alvarez, John Rodriguez, Jr., Jimmy Karjian, Orlando Rodriguez, Ken Demick, Yvette T. Demick, Scott Nielsen, Timothy Johnson, Mr. Rogers, Lt. jg John Dolby III, Michael Nelson, Michael A. Berry, Gabriel Reza, Mike Llamas, Manny Olvalle, Luis Martinez, Lt. Hector Jude Garcia, Lt. jg Kristopher McAbee, Capt. John A. Malley, Chris Hesse, Natalie Manzano, Capt. Cristian Alejandro Pinzon, David D. Ruiz, Melissa Davila, Ramon Panganiban, Jr., Sgt. Carlos Torres, Jr., Michael D. Valdez, Lt. Norman Renfro.

Ministry Schedules

This Week's Lectors:

Next Week' Lectors

4:30 pm Annisa Hernandez	4:30 pm Richard Longoria
8:30am Lillian Cardiel	8:30am Paulette Guajardo
11:00am Claudia Lichtenberger	11:00am Children's Mass

This Week's EM's:

Next Week's EM's:

4:30 pm Ed & Janie Salinas, Crystal Hite, Maricela Spencer, Judy & Gerald Beckman, Mary Jones	4:30 pm Samantha, Tracy & Mary Mora, Olaya Solis, Anita Joya, Luz Bernardo, Sally Escobar
8:30am Connie Salas, Roland & Leila Longoria, Kathy Jo & Lee Overstreet	8:30am Bonner Dorsey, Imelda Ramirez, Mary Carrillo, Mary & Ed De La Garza
11:00am Catalina Longoria, Beto & Minnie Peña, Rene & Janie Esquivel, Cindy Morin	11:00 am Marlene King, Norma Huerta, Velma Moreno, Cynthia & Gabriel Gatica, Albert Lichtenberger

This Week's Ushers:

Next Week's Ushers:

4:30pm James Coburn, Patty Dolan, Richard Dolan, Gene Gonzalez	4:30pm Michael Hite, James Coburn, George Fegan, Gene Gonzalez
8:30am Bea Heenan, David Berlanga, Elizabeth Berlanga, Allen Rasmussen	8:30am Bill Cheesman, Jane Cheesman, Leila Longoria, Roland Longoria
11:00am David Garcia, Mike O'Flynn, Robert Moreno, Albert Lichtenberger	11:00am Kathy Deis, Mike Nevada, Eddie Cruz, Albert Lichtenberger

Sunday Collection



Gifts for God

February 14, 2010

Envelope & Loose \$ 8,310.39
 Building Fund 265.00

***Be With Me,
 Lord, When I
 Am In Trouble.***



St. John's Parish Dates to Remember

Feb 22 5:00 PM	Intercessors of the Lamb	RM#1
Feb 23 6:30 PM	Choir Practice	RM#4
Feb 23 6:30 PM	KC Meeting	RM#1
Feb 23 6:30 PM	Junior Girl Scouts Meeting	RM#3
Feb 24 7:00 PM	Bible Study	Church
Feb 24 7:00 PM	RCIA	RM#3

The Lord Misses You



Have you spent time in adoration? We encourage you to use this Lenten Season to spend a little time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. Come to church to pray on Thursday evenings from 7pm - 8pm or Friday mornings between 8:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Be amazed at God's blessings!!

Women's Council News



Congratulations to Virginia Haasl, the winner of the Dinner with the Padre. Also a big **Thank You** to all our parishioners for their great support of the Women's Council Fundraiser.

Candles For Sale



The Guadalupana Society has candles for sale with the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe. If you are interested in buying candles please contact Josie Castillo at 813-0814.

Fish Fry



The Knights of Columbus will have their Annual Fish Fry every Friday evening during lent starting **February 19th at 5:00 PM** at St. John's Parking Lot. And the Guadalupana Society will be selling desserts during the fish fry. Please come and support them.

Stations of the Cross



We will be having Stations of the Cross every Friday night at 7:00 PM during Lent beginning February 19th, we invite you to come and join us.

Altar Servers Waffle Breakfast

Altar Servers 6th Annual All you can eat Waffle breakfast **Saturday, February 27, 2010**

Cost: \$6.00

Altar Servers will be selling tickets before & after all masses or you can contact Rachel Dimas 814.2037 to buy a ticket.



Taquito Sale



The Knights of Columbus are having a Taquito Sale on **Sunday, February 28th** after the morning masses. Please come and have breakfast with us.

Youth Ministry Announcements

LIFE TEEN: (grades 9-12) See you this Sunday at 7pm-8:30pm! **STEBENVILLE SOUTH** is June 25-27!!! Sign up today with Angie or go to www.stjohnyouth.com, click on Life Teen then the Steubenville tab on your right to print a form. All high schoolers are welcome!
EDGE: (grades 6-8) See you Wednesday for an EDGE night on loving God in our families at 7pm - 8:15pm!