



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

(Genesis 9:8-15; Psalm 25; 1 Peter 3:18-22); Mark 1:12-15

KEY VERSE: "The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel" (v 15).

READING: The Church marks the 40 day Lenten observance as an opportunity to make a new beginning with God. In the bible, the desert was a place of special encounters with God. The Israelites spent 40 years wandering in the desert after the exodus. Elijah spent 40 days in the desert until he was strengthened by God to resume his prophetic task. After Jesus' baptism, the Spirit sent him into the desert to fast and pray for forty days. There he confronted the powers of evil, which Mark termed "the wild beasts" (v 13). In contrast to the disobedience of God's people, Jesus rejected every temptation to earthly power. The ways of the world were not the ways of Jesus. As disciples of Jesus, we reject the so called wisdom of the world with its political power and military might. In Jesus, God's kingdom had arrived and the Messianic era had begun, a time for the restoration of all creation (Is 11:6). Like Jesus, we must go forth with the message to repent and believe in the good news.

REFLECTING: What are the temptations that I need to overcome this season of Lent?

PRAYING: Lord Jesus, I reject Satan, and all his works and empty promises, so that I might live in the freedom of God's children.



Holy Family Parish
National Catholic Church
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1st Sunday in Lent
March 1, 2009

Change of address or phone number, for parish registration, hospital visitations and sacramental needs, baptism and wedding arrangements, please contact the Parish Office by calling 412.276.5562 or 412.678.0566. **Office Hours:** Tuesdays & Fridays 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. Evenings by appointment. **Bulletin announcements** should be received by Father by Wednesday for Sunday publication either by phone or E-mail at BSleczkowski@aol.com

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OPENING HYMN "Forty Days and Forty Nights" Bulletin
INTRODUCTORY RITE Page 63
INTROIT Sirach 44:17-18

P: Noah, found just and perfect, renewed the race in the time of devastation.
Because of his worth there were survivors and with a sign to him the deluge ended.

R: A lasting agreement was made with him, that never should all flesh be destroyed.

P: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

R: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be world without end.

THE KYRIE Page 67

OPENING PRAYER

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading Genesis 9:8-15

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 25

L: Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep Your covenant.

R: Your ways, O lord, are love and truth to those who keep Your covenant.

Second Reading 1 Peter 3:18-22

Gospel Acclamations.

C: Glory and praise to You, O Lord Jesus Christ.

R: Glory and praise to You, O Lord Jesus Christ.

C: No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

R: Glory and praise to You, O Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Mark 1:12-15

NICENE CREED Page 71

HOMILY

GENERAL INTERCESSION

R: Lord, Hear our Prayer

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

SANCTUS Page 76

CANON Eucharistic Prayer 1 Page 77

THE LORD'S PRAYER Page 95

LAMB OF GOD Page 97

COMMUNION Page 98

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BLESSING Page 100

CLOSING HYMN "People My People" Bulletin

They're commandments not suggestions!

Thank You

The parish committee want to thank all who helped and donated to last week's "Night at the Races" making this parish event once again a fun and successful evening. Plans are underway for next year's Races on February 13, 2010.

PTO Sarris Easter Candy Sale

The annual Easter Candy sale has begun. Order forms are available in the bookrack in the Church Narthex. All orders must be returned by March 22nd to Carolyn Popovic, Janet Griffiths or Debbie Parknavy. The proceeds help the SOCL and Youth Programming of our parish.

Holy Trinity Parish, McKees Rocks, Pa.

"One Voice", Pittsburgh's premiere Christian vocal ensemble will perform their 2009 Lenten musical program in Holy Trinity PNCC Church, 200 Grace Street, McKees Rocks-Stowe Township on Sunday, March 29th at 2:00 P.M. A free will offering will be taken with a light reception to follow. For more information call 412.760.4558.

Our Lenten Journey

Lent has begun. The time for repentance, sacrifice, abstinence and almsgiving. What does all this mean? It means our own personal journey towards salvation. Repentance-we are sorry for offending God by separating ourselves from Him through sin; Sacrifice-we make more time doing God's work giving up some of our recreational time to reflect more in prayer, meditation and worship attending Mass on Sundays and Lenten Devotions and Programs; Abstinence-we do not overindulge in our daily eating and snacks but eat humble meals, remembering that Wednesdays and Friday should be meatless; and Almsgiving- taking some of our personal wealth and putting it towards good causes in the community or Parish. (We have Lenten boxes available to put that extra change into them and these boxes are designated towards the purchase of the choir's new keyboard.) Why do we do all this? For God! It was He who gave His life for us by dying on the Cross so that we may live. Remember, Lent is Repentance, sacrifice, abstinence and almsgiving. So little to give and much to gain.



Lajkoniki Dance Troupe News

A mandatory reorganization meeting followed by pizza party will be held on Sunday, March 8th at 5:00 P.M. Junior dancers must be accompanied by one parent. For more information, call Frank Pociask @ 724.861.0759. New members, young and old, are always welcomed to join the dance troupe and are asked to attend this important meeting.

United Choirs News

The United Choir of the Southern Deanery will be performing the cantata "Once Upon a Tree" on Sunday, April 19th at 4:00 P.M. in Washington, Pa. Singers are needed. Rehearsals: March 7th @ 2:30 P.M. Carnegie; March 15th @ 3:00 P.M. Washington; March 21st @ 2:30 P.M. Carnegie; March 29th @ 3:00 P.M. Washington; April 5th @ 3:00 P.M. Washington; April 17th @ 7:00 P.M. (Dress Rehearsal) Washington. For more information call 724.2585.

Historic Ecumenical Services

On two Wednesdays during Lent, joint Bitter Lamentation Services between St. Mary of Czestochowa Parish and Holy Family will be celebrated. On March 11th in St. Mary's Worship Site at 7:00 P.M. in English and on March 18th Gorzkie Zale in Polish will be celebrated in Holy Family's Worship Site at 7:00 P.M. Be a part of history and attend these Lenten Devotions our catholic brothers and sisters of St. Mary of Czestochowa Parish.

Passion Play

Sunday, March 15th the TriCounty Institute Teen Chorale will perform the passion play "Why Must He Die" in Holy Family at 2:00 P.M. "Why Must He Die?" is a meditation through music, drama and liturgical dance on the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. This is a unique passion play using a play within a play. There is no charge for the performance, but a free will offering will be taken. Let us fill our Church. Invite family and friends. Spread the news of this wonderful passion play to be performed. We thank the SAMBS and YMSR in co-sponsoring this Lenten performance. A small reception will follow the play. A request for baked good for the reception is being asked. Please call Barb Tadajski @ 412.751.2284.

Forty Days and Forty Nights

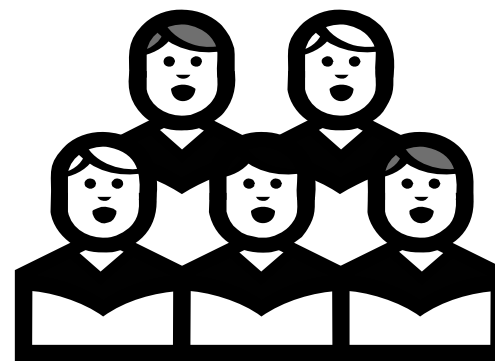
Forty days and forty nights Thou was fasting in the wild
Forty days and forty nights tempted and yet undefiled.

Shall not we Thy sorrows share and from worldly joys abstain
Fasting with unceasing pray'rs strong with Thee to suffer pain?

Then if Satan on us press, flesh or spirit to assail
Victor in the wilderness, grant we may not faint or fail.

So shall we have peace divine, holier gladness ours shall be,
Round us, too, shall angels shine such as ministered to Thee.

Keep, o keep us, Savior dear, ever constant by Thy side,
That with Thee we may appear at the eternal Eastertide.



People My People

People my people, how have I betrayed Thee?
How have I grieved Thee, how could I have failed Thee?
For I have saved thee from the might of Pharaoh
But now you lead me to the cross to suffer.

People my people, how have I betrayed Thee?
How have I grieved Thee, how could I have failed Thee?
For I have raised Thee over ev'ry nation
Now you would have me bear shame and crucifixion.

