



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
1921 Eden Park Boulevard
McKeesport, Pa. 15132
412.678.0566 Office; Auditorium 412.664.7009
www.hfpncc.org

For in Him every one
of God's promises is



2 CORINTHIANS 1:20

7th Sunday Ordinary Time
February 22, 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 "Who Can Measure Heaven and Earth" Bulletin
INTRODUCTORY RITE Page 63
INTROIT Daniel 9:8-9

P: O Lord, we are shamed-faced, like our kings, our princes, and our fathers, for having sinned against You.

R: But Yours, O Lord, our God, are compassion and forgiveness yet we rebelled against You.

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.

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GLORIA Page 68

OPENING PRAYER

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading Isaiah 43:18-19, 21-22, 24b-25

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 41

L: Lord, heal my soul, for I have sinned against You.

R: Lord, heal my soul, for I have sinned against You.

Second Reading 2 Corinthians 18-22

Alleluia Verse

C: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

R: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

C: The Lord sent Me to bring Good News to the poor and freedom to prisoners.

R: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Gospel Mark 2:1-12

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 5 Page 92

THE LORD'S PRAYER All Sing Page 95

LAMB OF GOD Page 97

COMMUNION Page 98

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BLESSING Page 100

CLOSING HYMN "Let Us Sing Our Song of Praise" Bulletin

"When we present our petition before You, we
rely not on our just deeds, but on Your great mercy"
Daniel 9:18



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. Throughout the trial of Jesus by Pilate and the Accusers, the action is repeatedly frozen. The disciples and apostles are then seen reflecting on Jesus' life and reacting on what led to Jesus' impending death. They share these thoughts with the audience as if they hypothetically would have been allowed to observe the trial. Some of the feature soloists include: Mary Magdalene, who sings "I Don't Know How To Love Him"; Mother of Zebedee's sons, who sings "Turn Back Oh Man"; John, who sings "Why Does My Savior Weep" and "He" with Peter; Mary, Mother of Jesus, who sings "O Come And Mourn"; and Judas, who sings "Was It I Lord?" The play concludes with Jesus' death and resurrection portrayed through the songs, "Jesus Remember Me", "Take My Mother Home", "Who Was That Man?", "Why Did He Die?", "To Buy My Pardon", "Rise Again", and "Lamb of God" from the Gospel Mass of Robert Ray. Other members of the cast include: the Samaritan Woman; the Woman in the crowd, Pilate's Wife; Elizabeth; Veronica; Woman of Blood; Martha; Jarius' daughter and the Guard. "Why Must He Die?" is 1 hour and 20 minutes in length. 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.

Lent will prepare you for the joys of Easter

Lajkoniki Dance Troupe News

Reorganization mandatory meeting followed by pizza party, 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.

Income Tax Charitable Report

If you would like your 2008 charitable dollar amounts to Holy Family Parish for income tax reporting, please call the parish office and a letter with your donation amount will be given to you.

United Choirs News

The United Choir of the Southern Deanery will be performing the cantata "Once Upon a Tree" on Sunday, April 19th in Washington, Pa. Singers are needed. Rehearsals will begin today in Washington at 3:00 P.M. For more information, please speak with Fr. Bruce.

Great Lent

This Wednesday begins the liturgical Season of Lent with the blessing and distribution of ashes, as we publicly declare our mortality and culminates with the liturgies of Holy Week in the 40 day period set aside for the spiritual preparation of Easter. Lent is a time of renewal and penance. Easter will have more meaning if we earnestly observe Lent through fasting and abstinence (Wednesdays & Fridays), self denial, good deeds and almsgiving (special Lenten boxes), prayer and special worship through Lenten devotions. Located in the Narthex book rack are special Lenten Meditations for daily worship for your convenience. This year, two special healing ecumenical devotions will be celebrated between our parish and St. Mary of Czestochowa parish uniting our ethnic and catholic heritages in reconciliation. To help through our Lenten Pilgrimage will be a passion play performed in our parish. This is a good missionary tool to invite family and friends. This why we call this liturgical season, Great Lent. It allows many avenues to express our grateful thanks for God's forgiveness to our sins. Be a part of all the events Holy Family is offering this year. By our attendance, we will show our sacrificial love to the One who created and sustains us each day of our lives. Please, do not miss out on these opportunities being offered to you for your salvation through your Church.

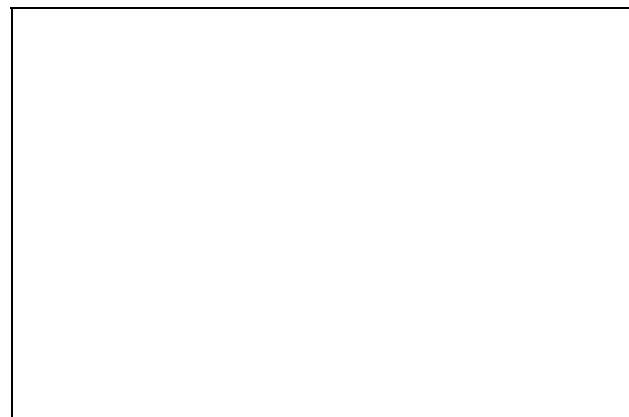
Who Can Measure Heaven and Earth

Who can measure heav'n and earth God was present at their birth
Who can number seeds or sand? Every grain is in his hands
Through creation's countless days, Ev'ry dawn sings out his praise

Who can tell what wisdom brings First of all created things
One alone is truly wise, Hidden from our earthbound eyes
Knowledge lies in him alone-God the Lord upon his throne.

Wisdom in his plan he laid, Planted her in all he made
Granted her to humankind, Sowed her truth in ev'ry mind
But with richest wisdom bless, Those who love him first and best

Wisdom gives the surest wealth, Bring her children life and health
Teaches us to fear the Lord, Marks a universe restored
Heav'n earth she will outlast-Happy those who hold her fast!



Let Us Sing Our Song of Praise

Let us sing our song of praise as our grateful hearts we raise
(and we sing in contemplation of Thy wond'rous ways).

In this Holy Sacrament, Christ our Lord from Heav'n is sent
(That we might have life eternal, blessed covenant).

THEME: We must let go of our past sins!

Last Sunday, we read, that wherever Jesus went, great crowds gathered. As word got around that Jesus was in a particular house, people gathered to be healed. Think about it, whenever we become ill and are suffering, no matter how faithful or unfaithful we may be, who do we seek out? Jesus. As a priest of the church for many years, I have personally witnessed this fact. Jesus knows how our sick bodies can affect our spiritual health. To show His authority over body and soul, Jesus says, "Rise and Walk." But before all this can be possible, we must hear the words, "Your sins are forgiven." What is being said here is this, we must be in the state of grace for all things to come together. This is why letting go of past sins and holding animosity against anyone is important. God cannot work through us if we hold onto what separates us from Him, sin.

"Remember not the events of the past," we are told. God knows how weary we become when we dwell on our past sins and failures. By not letting go, we can barely stand, let alone walk. But through the love of God, He offers us forgiveness and reconciliation. Forgiveness and reconciliation is offered but we individually must claim it for ourselves, but we must let go of those past sins.

We are rapidly approaching the season the Lent. This is the perfect time to reconnect to God by removing any separation between Him and ourselves. To succeed, the priority of our lives should be, "seek first the kingdom of God and all things shall be added." That is the promise.

Sunday Ministry Schedules

<u>This Week</u>	9:00 A.M.	11:30 A.M.
Lectors	Yellow Team	B. Zaucha
Greeter	J. Gibala	B. Kijowski
Ushers	F. Szatkowski Jr. & G. Jobes	T. Zaucha
Acolytes	All Servers	All Servers
<u>Next Week</u>	9:00 A.M.	11:30 A.M.
Lectors	Blue Team	B. Zaucha
Greeters	M. Krusienski	S. Kish
Ushers	J. Trumpe & J. Lawrence	J. Wagner
Acolytes	All Servers	All Servers

This Week

<u>Sunday, February 22, 2009</u>	7th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Holy Mass	9:00 A.M.
+ <u>Dwight Momeyer</u> Int Mr. Lou Novak; + <u>Helen Istvanick</u> Int Mr. & Mrs. Michael Zurovcik	
Nursery School	9:00 A.M.
Coffee Hour	10:15 A.M.
SOCL	10:15 A.M.
Holy Mass	11:30 A.M.

Monday, February 23, 2009

Annunciation Bell Choir Rehearsal	7:00 P.M.
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Wednesday, February 25, 2009

Holy Mass/Blessing and Distribution of Ashes	Ash Wednesday 10:00 A.M.
Holy Mass/Distribution of Ashes	7:00 A.M.
Frederic Chopin Choir Rehearsal	8:00 P.M.

Friday, February 27, 2009

Stations of the Cross	7:00 P.M.
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Saturday, February 28, 2009

First Communion Class	10:00 A.M.
Monthly Confessions	11:00 A.M.
PNU District V Meeting McKees Rocks, PA.	3:00 P.M.

Sunday, March 1, 2009

1st Sunday in Lent	
Monthly Mission Collection after Masses	
Holy Mass	9:00 A.M.
+ <u>Stella Solvay</u> Int Mr. & Mrs. T. Tomco & sons; + <u>Sophie Szalankiewicz</u> Int Mr. & Mrs. Randy Patch	
Nursery School	9:00 A.M.
Coffee Hour	10:15 A.M.
SOCL	10:15 A.M.
Holy Mass	11:30 A.M.
+ <u>Walter Eberwein</u> &+ <u>Helen Yurkovic</u> Int Richard Eberwein	

Pierogi Sale this week, Help is needed on Thursday and Friday