

First Sunday of Lent–March 6, 2022

Deuteronomy 26:4-10. Psalm 91:1-2, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15. Romans 10:8-13. Luke 4:1-13.

In a time of crisis, will I remain true to my principles, no matter the cost? The first and third readings on this Lenten Sunday pose this challenging question.

The selection from Deuteronomy is a presentation prayer. Recalled are the experiences of slavery in Egypt and of victory in the Promised Land where the Israelites settled down to farming. The prayer was recited as the first fruits of the harvest were offered. The reading urges the Israelites to preserve their values and principles against the false gods of the Canaanites who also inhabited the land.

Luke shows how Jesus succeeds in his desert experience, in contrast to Israel. Jesus would not be bought off by Satan's offer of political power in the second temptation. Jesus' ultimate victory against evil will come in the passion (see Luke 22:53).

Temptation is real in our human experience. Our free will means a choice between selling out or remaining true. We also have a choice of roles, to be the tempter or the spirit-giver!

-- John Craghan, Th.D., S.S.L.

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Reflecting on Baptism and Temptations. Luke's gospel recounts that Jesus, filled with the Holy Spirit at Jordan's baptism, is led by that same Spirit into the desert – a place for reflection and prayer. And hunger. And temptations by *diabolos*, the false accuser. What happens? Strengthened by baptism at which he is called “beloved”, temptations are resisted – not easily, but resisted nonetheless. Food for our thoughtful reflections this Lent.

- ◆ How does my Baptism strengthen me for Christian living?
- ◆ How can I face temptations of eating, of power, of vain glory this Lent?
- ◆ How will I pray for and support the elect throughout the diocese called this day to Baptism-Confirmation-Eucharist at the coming Easter Vigil?

2nd Sunday of Lent Sunday, March 13, 202

Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18. Psalm 27:1, 7-8, 8-9, 13-14. Philippians 3:17–4:1. Luke 9:28b-36.



**Pastor: Rev Christian
Iwuagwu**

Phone (618) 658 – 4501

E-mail: spccil@frontier.com

Website:

www.stpaulvienna.org



Mission: Live Catholic teachings,

Participate in Sacramental and Liturgical Celebrations, Serve our Community

ST. PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH

2020 State Rte. 146 E, Vienna, IL – 62995

Parish Council Chair: Becky Bowers

Trustees: Matthew Slife, Jared Bergmann

Sundays – 8:00 am

Weekdays –Fri 6:00 pm

Bread and Stones

In the Gospel Reading, Jesus has not eaten for forty days in the desert, and he feels the whole forty days' worth of hunger. That's a lot of hunger! At that point, Satan comes to him in the desert and urges him to turn stones into bread so that Jesus has something to eat.

Now there's nothing good about hunger, and there's nothing bad about bread. On the contrary, Jesus himself commands us to pray for bread daily.

And there is no question about the fact that Jesus has the power to provide bread for himself. He can turn water into wine, and he can stop being hungry by turning stones into bread. As far as that goes, Jesus himself tells us that if a son asks his father for bread, no good father will give him a stone. (Lk.11:11) So Jesus could get bread from stones just by asking his father, who is God and good, to give him bread.

Why doesn't Jesus do so? And what are we to make of the line with which Jesus refuses Satan's suggestion: people do not live by bread alone? If I suggest that you might like some ham, what sense does it make for you to tell me that people do not live by ham alone?

Notice, though, that that line does make sense if what you are telling me is that you are full. In another Gospel, Jesus says, “Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God” (Matthew 4:4). Jesus himself is the Word of God, and he came into the desert filled with the Spirit of God (Lk. 4:1). Even though he is hungry after so long a fast, then, there is another sense in which he really is full.

Jesus' rejection of Satan's urging gives us a pattern for our lives too. In our suffering, when those things we think we need in order to live are denied us, we do not have to be desperate. When we are hungry for what we do not have because our Father God has not given it, we still have the Word of God, which comes into us and can fill us. Jesus, who is the stone—the cornerstone—of the Church, is our bread at the same time. And so we can be like him: full, even when, in the stony parts of our lives, we are hungry, too.

-- Eleonore Stump from SLU Sunday Website

Vol. 23 # 10, First Sunday of Lent March 6, 2022

Schedule of Masses

Sun Mar 6 8:00 am Mass Billie Anderson
Fri Mar 11 6:00 pm Mass
Sun Mar 13 8:00 am Mass Martina Battreall

Birthdays
Mar 6 Beth Palmer
Mar 8 Ella Bergmann
Mar 9 Bill Porter
Mar 10 Nathan Zmuda
Beverly Bishop

Liturgical Ministers

Mar 6	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>Servers</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
	M Miller	L Coleman	L Miller	M Palmer, C Bergmann	*F Dueker, P Widowski
			<u>Cantor</u>	J Starrett	
Mar 13	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>Servers</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
	S Widowski	B Porter	Z Garrett	Vol.	*Joe Nelson, Je Nelson
			<u>Cantor</u>	J Starrett	

STEWARDSHIP OFFERING Feb 27, 2022

Envelope (20) \$950.00

Loose \$83.00

Masses (1) \$10.00

Total: \$1043.00

Building & Maint. (1) \$10.00

Total \$10.00

CSMA \$320.00

THIS WEEK’S SCHEDULE

Sun Mar 6 8:00 am Mass
9:00 am PSR class
9:00 am 1st Sunday Social Mar 2

Fri Mar 11 6:00 pm Mass
Sun Mar 13 8:00 am Mass
9:00 am PSR class
9:00 am Adult Bible Study

SYNOD – WHAT IS IT? Synod is a Greek word (synodos) meaning a meeting or assembly. The two Greek words that make up Synod are” syn” meaning together and “hodos” meaning way or journey. The entire Catholic Church is called to participate in the upcoming Synod of Bishops! The upcoming Synod is entitled: “For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, and Mission.” Is your parish or parish partnership hosting a Synod Listening Session? Watch the bulletin for dates and locations or go to the Diocese of Belleville website - <https://www.diobelle.org/> for more information. Bishop McGovern has a short video at this site which explains the goals and timelines.

CATHOLIC SERVICE AND MINISTY (CSMA) APPEAL IS HERE. Please consider making a pledge or a one time gift. Every dollar given to the appeal is earmarked to support Belleville diocese programs. Parishioners should have received their pledge information for the 2022 year, directly by mail from the diocese last week. If you did not receive this information, blank CSMA envelopes are available in the church foyer.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS WILL BE OFFERED BEFORE EACH SUNDAY MASS DURING LENT. Please volunteer to lead one of these Sundays. A sign in sheet is available in the foyer.

FOOD DRIVE FOR CAIRO DAYSTAR STARTS TODAYTHRU EASTER. We have a tub in the foyer for donations. A check can be made payable to Cairo Day Star in lieu of food. Your donations are appreciated.

FISH FRYs WILL BE MARCH 18 AND APRIL 1 FROM 4:30-6:30 PM. PLEASE CONSIDER HELPING. Besides desserts, there is a need for set-up, kitchen help, and servers, Please sign up on the sheet in the bulletin board if you can help in person. Desserts may be dropped off in the prayer room through the outside east door of the parish hall the Thursday before the Fish Fry. Proceeds from the Fish Frys will be donated to the Vienna Baptist Church Food Bank, the Heather Treat Memorial and Blessings in a Backpack. Questions? please contact Pam Shallenberger at 217-714-4568

FEED THE HUNGRY-GIVE WATER TO THE THIRSTY-VISIT THE PRISONER-VISIT THE SICK-BURY THE DEAD-SHELTER THE HOMELESS-GIVE ALMS TO THE POOR

All women of the diocese are invited to the BDCCW (Belleville Diocesan Council of Catholic Women) South Vicariate Spring meeting on Saturday March 26, 2022 from 9 am until noon at St. Joseph parish in Elizabethtown. Our theme will focus on the corporal works of mercy and we plan on praying the Stations of the Cross outdoors if weather permits. Registration fee of \$5 will cover snacks and a light lunch. We look forward to gathering with our Catholic sisters to share in faith filled fellowship! You may contact BDCCW South Vicariate President, Jo Mayer for any questions 618 751-3549