



# Saint Matthew Church The PULSE

March 10, 2019

Detroit, Michigan

*1st Sunday*  
OF LENT

+

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the desert for forty days, to be tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and when they were over he was hungry. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread." - Lk 4:1-3

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

**Prayer  
Fasting &  
Almsgiving**

CLM



## From Father Duane's Desk

With the First Sunday of Lent, many of us will choose to give something up for Lent. This is certainly a good and admirable practice with a long history and tradition in the Church. Oftentimes I fear, though, it can be like a New Year's Eve resolution. After a couple of weeks, it goes by-the-by. One way in which we can be encouraged to keep up our Lenten practice is to see it as a discipline. The word discipline often has a negative connotation to it. For example, I am being disciplined for doing something bad. However, in the best sense of the word, a *discipline*, according to Webster, is a field of study and a training that corrects, molds, or perfects; especially, a moral character. This very positive understanding can help us "discipline our lives" so as to become better people.

Now, because our lives are physical, psychological, and spiritual, any discipline we do for ourselves should also have spiritual effects. Therefore, the disciplining of our body and mind can open our souls to the presence of God. Developing a spiritual discipline can lead to a better prayer life, a deeper awareness of God, and a greater sensitivity to the needs of others. In short, Lent is a great discipline of body, mind, and soul for the greater glory of God.

But, one thing is important lest our Lenten discipline becomes a New Year's Eve resolution; **KEEP IT SIMPLE**. Trying to do it all may just frustrate us. For starters, try the *1-1-1 Plan*; one sin, one add-in, one give-up.

- 1) Concentrate or focus on one sin or fault that is your stumbling block.
- 2) Add on a positive activity; like focusing on your morning or evening prayer.
- 3) Deny yourself one thing that you really like or are attracted to.

Certainly there are many ways to observe this season of repentance. But, if you are having a hard time, remember; **KEEP IT SIMPLE**.

Good luck, God bless,  
and keeping thinking of Easter joy!

Father Duane

## **Readings for the week of March 10, 2019**

Sunday: Dt 26:4-10/Ps 91:1-2, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15  
[cf. 15b]/Rom 10:8-13/Lk 4:1-13  
Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15 [Jn 6:63b]/  
Mt 25:31-46  
Tuesday: Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19 [18b]/  
Mt 6:7-15  
Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19 [19b]/  
Lk 11:29-32  
Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3,  
7c-8 [3a]/Mt 7:7-12  
Friday: Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8 [3]/  
Mt 5:20-26  
Saturday: Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8 [1b]/Mt 5:43-48  
Next Sunday: Gn 15:5-12, 17-18/Ps 27:1, 7-8, 8-9, 13-14  
[1a]/Phil 3:17—4:1 or 3:20—4:1/Lk 9:28b-36



### **1st Sunday of Lent**

As we enter into this Lenten season of penance and self-denial, we're reminded that the God we follow is no stranger to these things. In this Sunday's Gospel, we see the temptations of Jesus which have parallels throughout Scripture and in our own lives. The apostle John

warns against temptations to sensual lust, enticement of the eyes, and a pretentious life (cf. 1 John 2:16). Before Eve plucks the fruit from the tree, she hears it is good for food, pleasing to the eyes, and desirable for gaining wisdom (cf. Genesis 3:6). The temptations of Jesus are our own.

"Turn these stones to bread." Here is the lure of bodily comfort, like good food or sensual lust. It's the simplest of temptations because it's instinctual. We want good for our bodies! But there may be times these bodily goods don't serve the higher good for our souls. The leap "from the temple parapet" would entice the eye of the person watching. A feat like this would prove Jesus' Messianic ability. His popularity could be a shortcut to the cross. We might not be daredevils, but we want people to like us and be impressed by us. Do we sacrifice our values along the way? To "bow and worship" the devil - and so claim power and a pretentious life - seems like a dramatic temptation. Not everyone may feel enticed by power in the professional sense, but all of us want control. A volunteer team can feel just as intense as the boardroom! How often do we prefer to be in control of our lives (and perhaps even the lives of others), rather than allow God to be God?

When we consider areas of temptation and sin, it's not to feel ashamed. The temptation in the desert reminds us that we are not alone and that the strength of Jesus can be our strength, too.



### **A Family Perspective**

**by Bud Ozar**

Jesus "was led by the Spirit in the wilderness." What is the wilderness in your life to which the Holy Spirit is leading you this Lent? Perhaps there are uncharted areas in your marriage or family relationships. Spend this Lent in your "wilderness" with God. Where is the Spirit leading you this Lent?

## **BLESSING OF THE CRS RICE BOWLS**

As we look ahead to our Lenten journey, may our fasting be a hunger for justice, our alms an offering of peace, and our prayers a reflection of humble and grateful hearts. We ask the Holy Spirit to accompany us as we spend these 40 days reflecting on what it means to emerge from the desert ready to encounter the needs of the world with the hope of the Resurrection.

*God of all people,  
You are the source of every blessing.  
May we be mindful of your presence now  
and as we use these Rice Bowls  
in prayer, fasting and almsgiving.  
May they be instruments of encounter,  
bringing us closer to you, our God,  
and to our neighbors both near and far.  
May these days in the desert inspire us to bring hope  
to the most vulnerable -  
those experiencing hunger, lack of economic opportunity,  
and violence that force them to migrate.  
Through these 40 days, may we deepen our faith in you  
and our love for one another,  
as we prepare for the great celebration of Easter. Amen.*



### **Journey to Guatemala**

*Guatemala is a country slightly smaller than Pennsylvania and has the highest population of all the countries in Central America, as well as the youngest, almost half of the population is under the age of 19. CRS has been providing assistance in Guatemala since 1963, supporting food security, nutrition health, agriculture education, disaster risk reduction, and emergency response programs.*

**Encounter Norma** - For young families living in the mountains of Guatemala, raising a baby can be hard. Most families grow corn and beans for a living, but a long-standing drought has caused harvests to shrink. There are few job opportunities, which means putting food on the table is a daily challenge. That's why when Norma discovered she was pregnant, she wondered how she would manage. "When I was young, my mom and dad didn't have money to buy much food," she says. "My mom would spit one egg among four children." Norma wanted more for her son, Victor.

But at age 20, she didn't have much experience beyond helping her mother around the house. So, she looked for help and found it in a CRS-sponsored program that teaches young mothers how to raise healthy children, grow nutritious food in small gardens, and manage a healthy diet. Plus, CRS provided Norma with food throughout her pregnancy and monthly medical check-ups during Victor's first two years of life!

"I learned a lot of beautiful things," Norma says. "I learned how to take care of my boy and what foods to feed him so that he can grow healthy and strong."

Now, Norma is sharing what she learned with others as a "mother monitor." "It makes me proud to share the experience I had and the lessons I learned with other women," she says. It makes Norma proud and makes her community a better place to raise a family.

## St. Matthew Parish ~ Happenings

**Saturday, March 9, and Sunday, March 10, 4:30 pm and 10 am Masses, respectively** - Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe

**Tuesday, March 12, 6 pm** - Parish Council Meeting, Rectory Conference Room

**Sunday, March 17, St. Patrick's Day** - following the 10 am Mass, Hospitality Sunday, Church Auditorium

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## **Jazz Nite 2019**

**~ City Rhythms ~  
20th Century Detroit**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 6:30 to 11 pm**

We are looking forward to another successful spring fundraiser, our **Jazz Nite 2019**, to be held at the Assumption Greek Orthodox Banquet Center.

There are special opportunities for individuals to help sponsor our Jazz Nite event ensuring its success. A Program Booklet is being prepared that will highlight sponsors for our **City Rhythms** Jazz Nite. Please see the enclosed flyer for the many ways you can support this fundraising event and gain recognition for your generosity. Make your commitment as **soon as possible, the deadline for publication is March 22nd**. For business ads, please contact Gerianne LaPratt or Patricia Camazola by calling the rectory. They have the necessary paperwork for your use.

This event promises to take you down memory lane through 20th Century Detroit. There will be photo opportunities, vintage and classic vehicles (for real!), and other surprises. The five-course dinner served family style will include chicken soup, Michigan salad, entrees of beef tenderloin and chicken picante, and dessert (ice cream fudge sundaes, just like Sanders); and, of course, Heart 'n Soul will play for our dancing and listening pleasure.

**TICKETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR YOU TO PURCHASE FOR THE EVENT!** Please see one of our committee members at the back vestibule of the church after the weekend Masses for ticket order forms and to make your payment. Ticket sales are in advance only!

## **CSA Minute ~ Sharing Christ**



**Priestly Vocations** - Men actively discerning a vocation to the priesthood are invited to a gathering of The Watchmen for discussion, fellowship, and prayer.

Thanks to your gifts to the CSA, there are four of these regional, no-pressure discernment groups in the Archdiocese of Detroit for men ages 16 to 22. They provide an information setting to ask questions about the seminary and the priesthood including what it means to discern. The Hispanic Outreach is meeting at St. Damien of Molokai Parish in Pontiac from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 13, and the Northwest Region is meeting at the National Shrine of the Little Flower Basilica from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 28.

The Watchmen is an offering of the archdiocesan Office of Priestly Vocations, which promotes vocations through opportunities for understanding and discerning the Lord's call.

## **Support the Church in Central and Eastern Europe Restore the Church ~ Build the Future**

*This week our second collection supports the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. One of these countries affected by the communist regime was the country of Georgia, set between Armenia and Russia. The fall of communism brought independence in 1991 and a new freedom for the Church.*

*Now the people of Georgia along with other formerly oppressed countries are struggling to re-build their churches, their communities, and their economies. Your support of this collection helps rebuild churches, supports seminary programs, promotes ministries and education for children and families, and renews community life around the region. Please be generous, and prayerfully consider how you can support this collection.*



This weekend is the start of Daylight Savings Time. Can spring be far behind? Set your clocks ahead one hour and check or change your smoke alarm batteries .

**Be Safe!**

## **News from the Neighborhood Courtesy of EEV**

Our friends at the DPD 5th Precinct will be holding a Peace Walk in this area on Friday, March 29, from 3 to 4 pm. This is an effort to bring attention to the need for more security and safety in our surrounding neighborhoods.

The Peace Walk is sponsored by the Wayne State University's AmeriCorps Urban Safety Team to help make a difference in this area.

You are encouraged to participate and help make a difference. If you have questions or need further information, please contact Jamillah Douthet, WSU Center for Urban Studies, 313-577-1163.

## ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH DIRECTORY

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Dennis Costello ~ *St. Vincent de Paul / Christian Service*  
Dan McBride ~ *St. Vincent de Paul / Christian Service*

### WEEKEND/WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday	4:30 p.m.
Sunday	10:00 a.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday	9:00 a.m.
Reconciliation	By Appointment
Holydays	9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.

*In your prayers...*

*Please remember those in our parish and in our families who are sick or in need of our prayers.*

Chuck Schuster  
Bienvenido Fajardo  
Lolita Dorado  
Rita Moroni  
Albert Fajardo  
Virginia Fajardo  
Madeline O'Neill  
Kurt Beghuyn  
Laura Bush-Terry  
Sebastiano Stellino  
Allen McKee  
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Kathy Bush

Peggy Bates  
Glenda Johnson  
Daniel Adams  
Robert Stark  
Stephanie Smith  
Alice Mocerri  
Janice Lafferty  
Janet Law  
Dan Lusch  
Jesse Ocampo  
Mike Holster  
Larry Hamel  
Laura Alix  
Bob Rabe

# Ministers, Lectors, and Servers

## EUCCHARISTIC

### MINISTERS

Janet Bielman  
Mary Bielman  
Patti Hammond

### LECTORS

Saturday, March 16, 2019, 4:30 p.m.

Julie Smith

### SERVERS

Mary Pocius  
Lauren Smith

Sunday, March 17, 2019, 10:00 a.m.

Marilyn Lynn  
Patti Adams  
Dorothy Brooks  
Beverly Goll  
Debra Nieddu  
Joseph Nieddu  
Michelle VandenBrooks

Mary Anne Pilette

Cory Fullilove  
Lauren Gross  
Julia Zuerblis

## Mass Schedule

### Saturday, March 9 - Vigil: 1st Sunday in Lent

4:30 p.m. - George Zainea

### Sunday, March 10 - 1st Sunday in Lent

10:00 a.m. - Judy Stark, Bruno Bush, Casimir Kleinsmith,  
George Zainea

### Monday, March 11 -

### Tuesday, March 12 -

9:00 a.m. - For the Poor and Needy in Our Community

### Wednesday, March 13 -

9:00 a.m. - For the Sick, Suffering, and Dying

### Thursday, March 14 -

### Friday, March 15 -

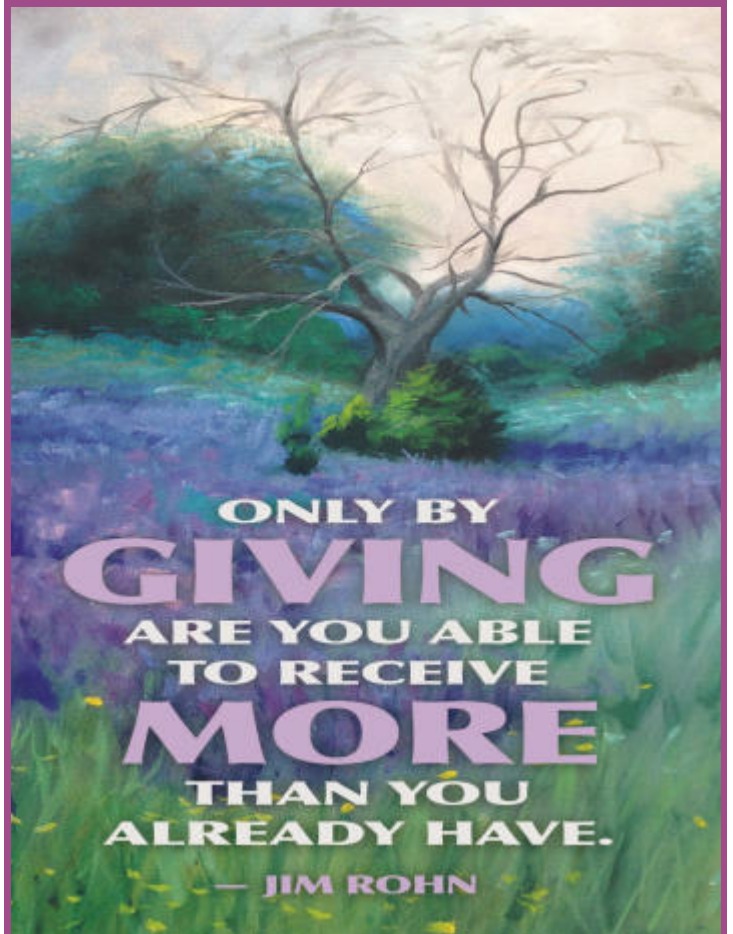
9:00 a.m. - For our Military Men and Women serving both Here  
and Overseas

### Saturday, March 16 - Vigil: 2nd Sunday in Lent

4:30 p.m. - George Zainea, Julian Edward Habrowski (50th  
Anniv)

### Sunday, March 17 - 2nd Sunday in Lent

10:00 a.m. - Judy Stark, Hugh Glen McGillivray, Veronica  
Kaminski, George Zainea



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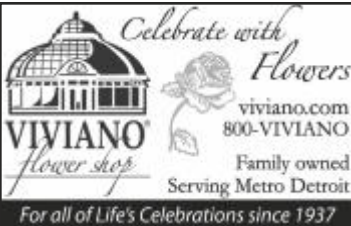
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