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A TITHING PARISH

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Good News!

March 9, 2014

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (A)

Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7 / Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19 / Mt 4:1-11

In the campus Church where I work, more people show up on Ash Wednesday than on any other day. Practicing Catholics, Catholics who are a little (or a lot) out of practice, and non-Catholics who sense the need for a period of discipline stream through the doors to remember that they are dust and into dust they shall return.

With a cross smudged on their foreheads, they go out, sensing that this defined six-week block we call Lent is a real chance to change course and renew their lives. Many of them return each Sunday to hear ancient stories and try to live into the good intentions symbolized by the ashes.

Ash Wednesday creates a framework for conversion, and the First Sunday of Lent tells us why we need it. The Genesis story is an explanation for the brokenness of the world that comes not from God's error in creation, but from our desire to be God and control our own destiny. The creature cannot be the creator. We cannot know fully what God knows. For Adam and Eve, such knowledge is power, and they aren't content with what God has given them.

In the desert, Jesus is also tempted to show his power and take control from his Father. He could refuse to subject himself to God's will. He could make bread and force God to care for him. Even more, he could give power over to one who is not God.

Instead, Jesus gives his life over to God. With his grace, we can do the same.

Where are *you* being tempted to push God aside and take control?

MARY KATHARINE DEELEY
sundaybulletin@liguori.org

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First Sunday of Lent • March 9, 2014

Prayer Line

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WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturdays at 5:00 p.m.

Sundays at 7:30 and 10:00 a.m.

Holy Days at 9:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

WELCOME!

If you are new in the Parish, please register and introduce yourself to the Pastor. The Parishioners wish to meet and serve you! Drop by at our Coffee Social or Pancake Breakfast after the Sunday Mass, both per the Calendar online or as announced inside the bulletin. We hope you will favor our Parish with your prayers, your presence, your talents and your financial assistance according to your means!

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION):

By appointment.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

Please call the rectory (860-643-4466) to arrange for a meeting with the Pastor.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

Arrangements must start more than 6 months before marriage. Necessary interviews, a pre-cana course and plenty of paperwork is required. We strongly urge you to contact us to begin the Diocesan preparation course as soon as you are engaged to get the most out of it without rush.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP:

The Sacramental Guidelines define Church Membership in terms of Sunday Mass attendance and Church support. For membership verification and sponsorship certificate, registration and regular use of the envelope system are the only way we have of verifying this for you. Please notify us if there are changes in your address, marital status, etc., so that we may update your records.

VISITATION TO THE SICK:

We are most anxious to help anyone who is not able to celebrate Mass with us in Church due to illness, handicapped or age. If you wish the Sacraments, please call 860-643-4466.

THIS WEEK**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
MAR. 8 — MAR. 9, 2014
USHERS GROUP III
MAINTENANCE COLLECTION****SATURDAY, MAR. 8 —**

4:00 P.M. Mass offered for +John Garvan at the request of Arline Nolan

3:30 P.M. ROSARY BEFORE 4 P.M. MASS

Coffee Social after 4 P.M. Mass in the Church Basement

SUNDAY, MAR. 9 —

7:30 A.M. Mass offered for +John Sheetz at the request of Jennifer and Phil Daly

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY after Mass

FAITH FORMATION CLASSES / Breakfast available

10:00 A.M. — Mass offered for all Parishioners

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY after Mass

5:30 P.M.— LITURGY OF THE HOURS

MONDAY, MAR. 10 —

9:00 A.M.— Mass offered for +James Bloznalis at the request of the Dean and Bloznalis Families

5:00 P.M.— Parish BINGO—Food available from 5 P.M. Games begin at 6:30 P.M. Jackpot \$450

TUESDAY, MAR. 11 —

9:00 A.M.— Mass offered for +Samuel Guglielmino

7:00 P.M.— PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

7:15 P.M.— CHOIR REHEARSAL

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 12 —

9:00 A.M. — Mass offered for +Elizabeth Whalen at the request of Jennifer and Phil Daly

THURSDAY, MAR. 13 — No mass

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BUSINESS MEETING

FRIDAY, MAR. 14 — 7:00 P.M. — Stations of the Cross and Mass

Mass offered for +June Jackopsic at the request of Jennifer and Phil Daly

SATURDAY, MAR. 15 —

4:30 P.M. — ROSARY BEFORE 5 P.M. MASS

PLEASE NOTE TIME CHANGE FOR VIGIL MASS TO 5 P.M.

Last week's Offertory — March 2 — \$2,950

Last year's Offertory — March 3 — \$3,524

"It is written: The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve." Matthew 4:10

Tempted between the riches and power of this world and service to God, Jesus chose service to His Father. If we wish to truly follow Jesus, we, too, must decide to turn away from power and riches and put God at the center of our lives.

NEXT WEEK**SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
MAR. 15 — MAR. 16, 2014
SUNDAY — COFFEE SOCIAL AFTER MASSES
USHERS GROUP IV****SATURDAY, MAR. 15 —**

5:00 P.M. Mass offered for +Chad Papineau at the request of the O'Brien Family

Altar Servers: Josh Meyers

Lector: Georgette Pelletier

Eucharistic Minister: Linda Wiley

Coffee Social after 5 P.M. Mass in the Church Basement

SUNDAY, MAR. 16 —

7:30 A.M. Mass offered for +James Bloznalis at the request of the Dean and Bloznalis Families

Altar Servers: Lynn Mancino

Lector: Lynn Mancino

Eucharistic Minister: Arlene Giglio

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY after Mass

FAITH FORMATION CLASSES / Breakfast available

10:00 A.M. — Mass offered for all Parishioners

Altar Servers: Alex Czercoway

Lector: Evelyn O'Connor

Eucharistic Minister: Betty Aitkin

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY after Mass

5:30 P.M.— LITURGY OF THE HOURS

MONDAY, MAR. 17 —

9:00 A.M.— Mass offered for +Samuel Guglielmino

5:00 P.M.— Parish BINGO—Food available from 5 P.M. Games begin at 6:30 P.M.

TUESDAY, MAR. 18 —

9:00 A.M.— Mass offered for +Martha Berganty at the request of Jennifer and Phil Daly

7:15 P.M.— CHOIR REHEARSAL

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 19 —

9:00 A.M. — Mass offered for +Henry Dolan at the request of the Cloutier Family

THURSDAY, MAR. 20 — No mass

FRIDAY, MAR. 21 — 7:00 P.M. — Stations of the Cross and Mass
Mass offered for +Dawn Marrotte at the request of the O'Brien Family

Altar Servers: Alex Czercoway and Nicholas VanDine

Lector: Alex Boutin

Eucharistic Minister: Clifford Scorso

SATURDAY, MAR. 22 —

4:30 P.M. — ROSARY BEFORE 5 P.M. MASS

Readings for the Week of March 9, 2014

Sunday: Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/Mt 4:1-11

Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11/Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10/Lk 11:29-32

Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Mt 7:7-12

Friday: Ez 18:21-28/Mt 5:20-26

Saturday: Dt 26:16-19/Mt 5:43-48

Next Sunday: Gn 12:1-4a/2 Tm 1:8b-10/Mt 17:1-9

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ADULT FAITH FORMATION

"I have come to light a fire on the earth..." Luke 12:49

During this Lent to help deepen our relationship with God, we will offer three separate video presentations followed by a time for reflection. The first injects an invigorating enthusiasm for the Catholic faith, the second discusses the Seven Deadly Sins and hope found in the Seven Lively Virtues, and the third seeks God at Westminster Abbey. All sessions will be held at the Parish Center from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

1. Sunday, March 23rd, **Catholicism: The New Evangelization.** Join the Very Rev. Robert Barron in his follow up to his **Catholicism** series and explore the Church's mission within the challenges of contemporary culture. What are the cultural obstacles? the "new atheism"? What are the new ardor, new expression and new methods that Catholics are called to share the Apostolic Faith with?
2. Sunday, March 30th, **Seven Deadly Sins/Seven Lively Virtues.** Fr. Barron explains how sin keeps us dead to God, but how the gifts of the Holy Spirit help us find Christ present in our lives.
3. Sunday, April 13th, **This Side of Eden.** This film presents a compelling and richly intimate portrait of the life of the Benedictine Monks at work, prayer and leisure with the focus on the days of Holy Week and the Easter Triduum. Set in British Columbia, the outer beauty of the natural world along with the majestic beauty of the Abbey is breathtaking.

Senior Renewal Days with Fr. Roger Couture, O.M.I.

Wednesdays in 2014 — 9:30AM to 1:00PM at Immaculata Retreat House, 289 Windham Rd., Willimantic

Theme

God is Among Us: Religions of the World
 March 12 — "Islam"
 April 9 — "Native American Religion"
 May 14 "Vatican II and Interreligious Dialog"

Program

9:30AM — Opening Prayer — Conference and time for sharing
 11:15AM — Mass
 Noon — Lunch and departure
 Offering: \$10.00
 Please register in advance so we know how many to count on for lunch. Telephone: 860-423-8484

A THANK YOU NOTE

A heartfelt thank you to all who helped ease the overwhelming sadness of losing my husband, Tony, and my son Donald, at the same time this past January. Special gratitude to the Share and Care Group and all the volunteers who provided my family and friends with a lovely reception. To all others who offered prayers or gave hugs or offered encouraging words. Your thoughtfulness means so much.

Vi Sobol and Family

Defending Our Religious Liberty

The U.S. Supreme Court is scheduled to listen to oral arguments in the case of *Sebelius v. Hobby Lobby* on March 25th. In its mission statement, Hobby Lobby Stores, Inc., a nation-wide chain of craft stores, includes: "Honoring the Lord in all we do by operating the company in a manner consistent with Biblical principles." Hobby Lobby is arguing that it should not be forced by the government to pay for provisions of the federal health insurance mandate that violate its moral beliefs.

If you haven't done so already, please voice your opposition to the mandate by calling President Obama at the White House at 202-456-1111 or Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius at 202-205-5445. Let them know that the mandate is in violation of our First Amendment right to religious freedom.

FROM THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH

Discover Natural Family Planning ~ For Married and Engaged. What is NFP? Not only is it the safe alternative to the dangerous, chemical, synthetic hormonal side-effects of contraception and birth control, but it is a loving gift to your spouse. **NFP** is scientific, helps with fertility problems and 99% effective for conceiving or responsibly postponing a baby. Ongoing classes in our diocese and you also have the opportunity if taking the CCLI Home Study course to call our instructors with any questions or attend a class for free. For more information call the Collison's 860-399-8265 or the Schantz's at 860-464-1184. www.ccli.org

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR THE OBSERVANCE OF LENT FAST AND ABSTINENCE

These regulations unite the whole Catholic Church throughout the world in the Lenten journey of repentance and conversion of heart. Observed in a spirit of generosity, fast and abstinence remind us of our own frailty and make us more sensitive to the needs of others. Acts of penance find their completion in works of charity and justice.

Fasting: Those between the ages of 18 and 59 years old are obliged to observe the laws on fasting. Traditionally, to fast means limiting oneself to one full meal in the day and two smaller meals. The two prescribed days of fasting are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Abstinence: The law of abstinence obliges all those who are over the age of 14. On days of abstinence meat is not eaten at any meal. The prescribed days of abstinence are Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays of Lent, including Good Friday.

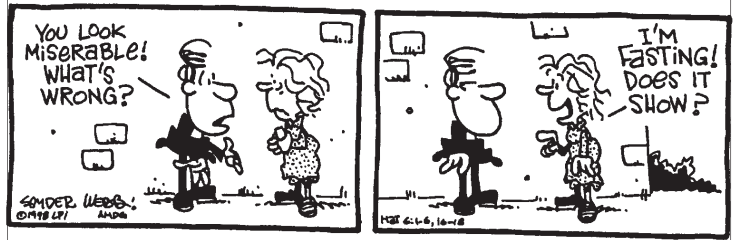
RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT WEEKENDS "I did not think the sorrow and wounds from my abortion, could be healed". Healing and forgiveness can begin with a **Rachel's Vineyard Retreat**. Retreat March 14-16 in Stockbridge, MA call 413-452-0661. Retreat March 28-30 in Hamden, CT call 203-631-9030. Retreat March 28-30 in RI call 401-421-7833 ext. 118. or www.rachelsvineyard.org

"PROJECT RACHEL" is a Diocesan ministry for anyone seeking healing and forgiveness. **Project Rachel** priests are there for you with God's Grace and Mercy. Call 860-889-8346 ext.283. All inquiries are confidential.

REACHING FOR A LIFELINE FOR YOUR TROUBLED MARRIAGE? Serious marriage building and repair:

Retrouvaille is that lifeline. At a Retrouvaille weekend couples are given tools to re-establish communication, work on their issues, gain new insights and heal. A series of 6 post sessions follows the weekend phase. For information or to sign up for the next weekend on April 25-27 in Hartford area call 413-525-1634. Website www.retrouvaille.org.

ASH WEDNESDAY





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