

February 25th., 2007
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
(C-1)



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:

Dear Parishioners:

Lk. 4,1-13 "... You shall not put the Lord your God to the test..."

Jesus is confronted with the force of evil in the desert on three occasions. He is subjected to severe temptations to the depth of his soul. The devil meets Him face to face and in an effort to turn him away from God's plan of redemption, offers him false happiness with enticements of security, power and fame. None of these temptations got the better of him and he emerges victorious, but only after a prolonged struggle.

When tired and hungry, it would have been easy for Jesus to turn stones into bread but he refused to use his power for his own comfort, and allow his feelings to influence his actions. " You don't test the Lord, your God, Satan..." Jesus said to the devil, rejecting all his offer. Temptation is real test and the worst thing about it is that it is always an attraction.

Temptations of Christ are those faced by Christians of all ages, They are the testing of our faith and they force us to make decisions for or against God. Because Jesus experienced temptations himself he understands us in our weaknesses, and is there to give us hope and encouragement.

To help us to overcome temptations in our Christian lives, we must be aware of and nurture the growth of our spiritual life, spending this season of Lent fruitfully. Because lent is a precious time for our spiritual life.

Lent from an old English word for Springtime – a season of revival and renewal- a springtime of the spirit. Three things we should practice for a more productive lent namely: **PRAYER, FASTING AND ALMSGIVING.**

PRAYER: Lent is a great time for prayer – It is not necessary we pray more as much as we pray better. We pray in such a way that brings us new vitality and repose to our communion with God. We begin to experience how to pray to God as easily and spontaneously as Jesus did.

FASTING: Fasting is much more than dieting. It means we eat and drink less, by taking control over our appetites, something that is very difficult to do in a consumer-oriented society. When we make an effort to fast we then realize how closely we are tied to our bodily gratification. We all know that fasting is vital for spiritual self-mastery. It is recognized as a part of universal wisdom east and west. A careful and methodical observance of Lent enables us to learn something about ourselves about others and about God.

ALMSGIVING: Almsgiving is basically sharing. It is more than the sharing of money. It can involve an extension of our time, our life experiences or our spirituality to others. Almsgiving reminds us of a broader world and lifts us from the narrow compass of our problems to the wider world of wrenching needs around us.



LENTEN RETREAT FOR ALL
ALTAR SERVERS

All altars servers are requested to attend This Lenten Retreat on Saturday March 24th, 2007 from 1:00 pm. in St. Francis of Assisi Church. All other children, who wish to join Altar Servers Club of St. Francis, are also warmly welcomed.



This is a very important gathering for the Altar Servers. It will be time of education, reflection and prayer on the season of Lent. The Retreat lasts about 2 hours and will be followed by a light reception.

LENTEN MEDITATIONS

During the Lenten Season, we will celebrate the Way Of the Cross on Tuesdays and Fridays right after the Mass.

Calgary Catholic Immigration Society

urgently needs many volunteers. Those compassionate individuals will help the newcomers a couple of hours each weeks to adjust their new homes in Calgary. Tel. Beata 290-5752. Vicky or Chantal at 262-2006.

LENTEN MISSION

St. Bernard's Parish will have Its Lenten Mission from March 4,5th. 6th 7th. 2007 at 7:00. Fr. Jack Hunthausen Guest Speaker Tel 283- 3746.

RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT

Calgary, May 18- 20, 2007. A psychological and Spiritual Journey for Healing after Abortion. For more information and registration please contact the following confidential phone numbers, email, or mailing address:
•Calgary: 218-5506.
•Outside Calgary, toll free 1-877-597-3223
•E-mail: projectrachel@rcdiocese-calgary.ab.ca
•Project Rachel
•120-17 Ave. T2S 2T2

HEALING MASS

On Friday, March 9th., 2007 at 7:00 pm There will be a Healing Mass at St. Anthony's Church 5340- 4th. Street SW With Fr. Fernando Suarez CC.

HOLY WEEK 2007

(April 1st –April 8th. 2007)

PALM SUNDAY Masses

Saturday March 31 : 5:30pm

Sunday April 1st : 9:00 am , 11:00am, 4:30 pm

Monday April 2nd Chrim Mass: 7:00 pm at St. Mary Cathedral. All are invited.

Tuesday April 3rd : 12 pm

Wednesday April 4th : 12 pm

Thursday April 5th. 2007 The feast of the last Supper will be CELEBRATED at...12 noon

Good Friday April 6th at 3:00 pm Liturgical Services with Holy Communion.

Holy Saturday April 7th Celebration begins at 5:30 pm

EASTER SUNDAY April 8th. 2007 Masses: 9:00 am 11:00 am and 4:30 pm.

THE OFFERING ENVELOPES YEAR 2007 are still available in the Sacristy. Please look for your name or number ? Or take a number with no any name, and begin to use those unnamed envelopes 2007. St. Francis Church needs very much your contributions. Thanks.

MARRIED COUPLE'S Weekend Retreat: March 02-04 at Mount St.Francis Retreat Centre. Call Jerry or Ann at 286-8445 to register or for information.

First Reconciliation and Holy Communion

Catechism for children grade 2 and up began on Sept 9. Classes are held every Saturday from 3:00 pm and 4:00 pm at the Parish Office, located at 64 - 1st Street S.E. A copy of your child's baptismal certificate is required. To register, please call Rico at 263-0491 or 693-6125.

Confirmation and RCIA

Classes began on Saturday Oct 7. Classes are held every Saturday from 7:00 pm and 8:00 pm at the Parish Office, located at 64 - 1st Street S.E. For more information, please call Rico at 263-0491 or 693-6125.

TAX RECEIPT 2007 is now ready for pickup. They will be available in the Reconciliation Room after every mass.

MASS OF THE WEEK

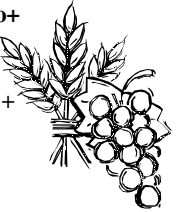
FROM Feb.,24th.to March 2nd., 2007

Saturday: 5:30 pm Filomena Sabeniano+

Sunday: 9:00 am

11:00 am

4:30 pm for Claudio Domingo +



Monday:

Tuesday:

Wednesday: Thanksgiving Mass

Thursday:

Friday: FIRST FRIDAY.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS WHO ARE SICK

Andrew&Cecilia Schneider, Jacinta Datoc, Sandra Slaney, Concepcion Boquiran, Paula Borrero, Irma Ponce, Douglas Keller, Milagros Velasco, Joseph Cortez, Marlisa Wolfe, John&Rose Lafferty, Stephen Hungerford, Nora Li, Mark Cavelo, Katherine Haynes, Oli Figel, Micheal Schneider, Julialita Hermano, Don Skilling, Vic Spiegelman, Leslie Tibor, Lali Anika, Serena D.Blances, David, Dona, Richard, Julia Almeida, Maria Pachecos, Laurence Smolinski, Debbie Nizrik, Debbie Galligler, Cirilo salvador, Giralaine Whale, Mrs Pe Benito, Lea Comeau, William Rudd, John Puchniak, Barry Hamleley, Louis Roy, Mrs C.Blue, Aurea Eusebio, Karol Kramer, Jean Kramer, Johanna Brianti and James, Linda, Anthony & Mireya & the Kelly Family, Irene Arthurs, Bruce Mitchell, John McCarthy, Margie Lowe,

Anyone requesting for prayers, please call Tel 266-2512

SUNDAY MISSALLETS for 2007 are still available.

Please get one copy or two for your friends. You just pay \$ 5:00 for each.

INCOME TAX

Canada Revenue Agency is again offering The Community Volunteer Income Tax Program. Volunteers prepare Tax Returns for qualifying low income Seniors, Families & Students

When? Saturday mornings from Mar. 3/07-April 28/07 (Excluding Easter Saturday) 8:30 AM-1:30 PM Where? Harry Building (220-4th. Ave. SE)

Shut-in individuals may also request a volunteer to come out to their residence.

Questions:? Call 691-6996 (Calgary).

**Visit us at our new website
stfranciscalgary.org**