



**MARCH 9, 2025**

**1<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY  
OF LENT**

The devil said to him, "All this will be yours, if you worship me." Jesus said to him in reply, "It is written: You shall worship the Lord, your God, and him alone shall you serve." - Lk 4:6a, 7-8

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

**St. Paul's Newman Center**

**1800 E Grand Ave**

[www.newmancenter.org](http://www.newmancenter.org)



*Heart Speaks to Heart*

**Liturgy Schedule**

Saturday 5:00 pm  
Sunday 8:30 & 11:00 am  
Monday-Thursday 5:00 pm

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Wed & Sat 4:00 pm

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**March 8 - 16**

**First Sunday of Lent**

Sat	5:00 pm	No Intention
Sun	8:30 am	Poncillano Villaseñor
	11:00 am	Gloria Slevin
	5:00 pm	Parishioners of St. Paul's
Mon	5:00 pm	Nathan Peiper
Tues	5:00 pm	Fr Miguel Zauala
Wed	5:00 pm	Margaret Clennan
Thurs	5:00 pm	Catholic Extension Society
Friday	5:30 pm	Station of the Cross & Simple Meal at St. Laurence

**Second Sunday of Lent**

Sat	5:00 pm	Helen Dunnebecke
Sun	8:30 am	Veronica Trujillo
	11:00 am	Parishioners of St. Paul's
No 5:00 pm due to Spring Break		

*Live the Liturgy-Inspiration for the Week*

*Jesus is desperately hungry when the devil tells him to turn stone into bread. But his divine will is stronger than the weakness of his human body, and he resists the devil. In this season of fasting and self-denial, let's remember Jesus' strength. ©LPi*

**Thank You!**

**Sunday Gift Offering:**

March 2 donations: **\$9166.76** Our 10% tithe for charitable outreach: **\$916.67**



**Saint Joseph's  
CHILDREN'S HOME**

This year's Lenten Project will support Saint Joseph's Children's Home, a private, non-profit psychiatric residential treatment facility serving youth ages six through seventeen. Since 1930, they have been providing quality services to youth and families.

Located in Torrington, Wyoming, the campus offers a comprehensive Psychiatric Residential Treatment Program for up to 62 youth. They provide both secured and open living units with 24-hour supervision. Services include social skills training, psychotherapy, educational services, and chemical dependency services.

***"Saint Joseph's is one place for sure, where a person is somebody. Where people care. Not just about themselves, but about others."***

**- Father Carl Beavers**

## Upcoming Events

### Stations of the Cross & Simple Meal

begins Friday, March 7, 5:30 at St. Laurence

### Taizé Prayer

Wednesday, March 12 at 7:00 pm

### Faculty & Staff Evening of Reflection and Reception

Thursday, March 13 at 6:00 pm

### First Communion/Eucharist Preparation

Tuesdays at 5:30 pm  
March 27, April 3 & 10



### Faculty/Staff Evening Prayer and Reception

Current and retired Catholic UW Faculty, Staff and spouses are cordially invited to Evening Prayer followed by a catered reception on Thursday, March 13 at 6:00 pm. We welcome you to extend this invitation to a colleague. Click [here](#) to sign up by March 10.



### Stations of the Cross & Simple Meal

On Fridays during Lent, plan on praying Stations of the Cross beginning at 5:30 pm followed by a simple meal. St. Laurence will host the first three Fridays on March 7, 14, and 21. The Newman Center will host the last three Fridays on March 28, April 4, and 11. Make this evening a part of your Lenten prayer.

### First Communion/Eucharist Preparation

Children who have completed and celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation are ready to be prepared for an encounter with God's love in the Eucharist. Sessions are Tuesdays at 5:30 pm beginning March 27. Those who have not completed formation for reconciliation...not to worry! Email: [lillie@newmancenter.org](mailto:lillie@newmancenter.org).



### Daily Lenten Reflection Booklets

*Living with Passion* by Fr. Joe Sica

Booklets are available for you to use during the Lenten Season. They are a great way to include prayer as a Lenten discipline. Resources for families, teens and children are also available in the entryway.



### An Evening of Taizé Prayer

Taizé is a type of meditative prayer experienced through singing simple chants alternated with silent reflection.

Come take time to rest in the peace of Christ as you experience Taizé Prayer on Wednesday, March 12 at 7:00 pm in the Worship Space.

### And Who is my Neighbor?

Who are my neighbors deserving love and care? Lillie Rodgers will be leading an evening discussion on immigration reform on Wednesday, April 2. More details to follow.



### World wide Marriage Encounter

Be transformed by Jesus' love. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience is April 25-27, 2025, in Elk Mountain, WY. To sign up, visit the website: [wwme.org](http://wwme.org) OR apply today by calling 307-689-2820.

### Communal Reconciliation

Our Community celebration of reconciliation is scheduled for Sunday, April 13 at 7:00 pm in our worship space. Communally, we pray and support each other as we recognize our weaknesses and our need for God's love. Join us for this time as we celebrate God's forgiveness and compassion in preparation for Easter.



# Bringing Home the Word

**First Sunday of Lent (C)**

**March 9, 2025**

## It's All Gift

*Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA*

**T**here is one word that could almost be erased from our religious vocabulary. That word is “earn.” So many of us take on a Lenten program of penance to earn God’s forgiveness. Or we engage in prayer to earn indulgences that will lessen our time in purgatory. Somewhere along the line, we missed the class in which the primacy of God’s free gift of grace was taught. Consequently, we still might use language that emphasizes our own hard-won merit apart from God rather than freely given love as the basis of all

that follows. Today’s first reading refutes such thinking.

The passage from Deuteronomy contains an important creedal statement, describing the heart of ancient Israel’s faith. The people were instructed by Moses to commemorate the event of their founding as the special people of God. The creedal statement was probably recited during that commemoration. The statement itself describes how God called their ancestor and, from that ancestor, called forth a great people, delivered those people out of slavery, and then settled them in a land that became their own. Every event was God’s work. The people did nothing to deserve it. It was all gift. Why did God choose these people, make them great, free them, settle them, and provide them with abundant harvests? Because they were good? No! Because God is good. They earned nothing, deserved nothing. It was all gift.

Why is it so difficult for us to realize that we really do not give gifts to God? It’s just the opposite. When it comes to God’s grace, it’s all gift. †



**Every event was God’s work. The people did nothing to deserve it. It was all gift.**

## Sunday Readings

### **Deuteronomy 26:4–10**

Then the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a strong hand and outstretched arm, with terrifying power, with signs and wonders.

### **Romans 10:8–13**

There is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all, enriching all who call upon him.

### **Luke 4:1–13**

Filled with the holy Spirit, Jesus... was led by the Spirit into the desert for forty days, to be tempted by the devil.

## A Word from Pope Francis

May this time of Lent also be a *time of the desert* for us. Let us take time for silence and prayer—just a little, it will do us good—in these spaces, let us stop and look at what is stirring in our hearts.... Let us find inner clarity, placing ourselves before the Word of God in prayer.

ANGELUS, ROME, MARCH 6, 2022



## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

### QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

- What am I doing for Lent that reflects God’s generosity?
- How can I be generous to others?



# The Temptations in the Desert

Paige Byrne Shortal

## The First Temptation

One of my teenaged sons, upon hearing that Jesus was offered the power to turn stones into bread, mumbled under his breath that Jesus should have taken the deal. I asked,

“What do you mean?” “There are a lot of hungry people in the world, Mom.” Point well taken. What would be so wrong with taking the deal? If you could turn stones into bread, you would be able to feed the whole world! No more hungry little children with sad eyes and empty bellies. But it doesn’t seem to be God’s way to do things big. We are encouraged to feed the person on our path, not the whole world. Who is on our path? Maybe a neighbor or someone who comes to our parish food pantry. Maybe a child we meet through an appeal in the mail or at church.

## The Second Temptation

The second temptation is kind of strange. The devil takes Jesus to the highest roof of the temple in Jerusalem and invites him to throw himself down, because God would take care of him. What is this about? The devil is suggesting that Jesus rewrite

the rules— both the religious rules about testing God and the rules of nature. Jesus is being offered power over death. “You don’t have to suffer,” Satan is telling Jesus. “You don’t have to die.” Who wouldn’t be tempted to take this deal? But death, and sometimes suffering, is the way it works; it’s part of the plan. We do what we can to avoid it, but, in the end, we accept God’s invitation to make our suffering into prayer and, eventually, to come home to God.

## The Third Temptation

The devil’s third temptation is to offer Jesus political power over all the kingdoms of the world. This is the kind of power we long for when we say, “If I were the president....” or “If I were the pope....” or “If I were the pastor, or the principal, or the boss....” Or maybe, “If I win the lottery....” Think of how much good you could do! Jesus’ response to each temptation is the same: *God is my only God*. Jesus does things God’s way. And God’s will for us is that we do what it is in our power to do with our resources and talents, not to long for the power, resources, or talents of someone else. †

From *Live Lent at Home: Daily Prayers and Activities for Families* by Paige Byrne Shortal, Liguori Publications (818691). Available from Liguori Publications. To order, call 800-325-9521 or visit [Liguori.org](http://Liguori.org).

## Wisdom from Catholic Update

From “Lent Day by Day: A Call to Love and Forgiveness”  
by Fr. Ron Rolheiser, OMI

The Israelites, led by God, wandered in the desert for forty years, undergoing many trials before entering the Promised Land. The desert came to be seen as the place that correctly shapes the heart. As the Scriptures developed, the desert came to mean more of a mystical place in the heart than a place on a map. Lent is time in the desert to courageously face the chaos and the demons within us, so the intoxicating joy of Easter might serve to bind us more closely to God.

*Catholic Update*—a subscription newsletter published eleven times a year—explores Church tradition and teaching on contemporary topics. For more information, call 800-325-9521 or visit [Liguori.org](http://Liguori.org).



Lord Jesus, so that during this Lenten season we may be calmer, kinder, and more attentive to the needs of others, we pray—Lord, let us be like you. Amen.

The Redemptorists

## WEEKDAY READINGS

March 10–15

**Monday**, Lenten Weekday: Lv 19:1–2,  
11–18 / Mt 25:31–46

**Tuesday**, Lenten Weekday: Is 55:10–11 /  
Mt 6:7–15

**Wednesday**, Lenten Weekday: Jon 3:1–10 /  
Lk 11:29–32

**Thursday**, Lenten Weekday: Est C:12, 14–16,  
23–25 / Mt 7:7–12

**Friday**, Lenten Weekday: Ez 18:21–28 /  
Mt 5:20–26

**Saturday**, Lenten Weekday: Dt 26:16–19 /  
Mt 5:43–48