



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, February 22 - The Chair
of St. Peter

8:00 Angelo Monaco by Richard
Charles and family

Tuesday, February 23 - St.
Polycarp

8:00 Joseph Hogan by Ed and
Barb Burke

Wednesday, February 24

5:30 Robert Tarantelli -
Birthday Remembrance by
Gary and Ann Lyon

Thursday, February 25

8:00 In Memory of Danny - 40th
Anniversary

Friday, February 26

8:00 Timothy Codd by O'Donnell
Family

Saturday, February 27

9:00 Parishioners of St. Teresa's
4:30 Rose Luchterhand by Viola
Piatek

Sunday, February 28 - 2nd Sunday
of Lent

8:00 Msgr. John Conniff - 3rd
Anniversary

10:15 Sally Shimmel by Anthony
and Linda Brough



Scripture Readings for the Week

Monday - 1 Peter 5:1-4;
Matthew 16:13-19

Tuesday - Isaiah 55:10-11;
Matthew 6:7-15

Wednesday - Jonah 3:1-10; Luke
11:29-32

Thursday - Esther C12, 14-16, 23-
25; Matthew 7:7-12

Friday - Ezekiel 18:21-28;
Matthew 5:20-26

Saturday - Deuteronomy 26:16-
19; Matthew 5:43-48

Next Sunday - Genesis 15:5-12,
17-18; Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke
9:28b-36

Stations of the Cross
Fridays - 7:30 pm,
followed by communion
service



PASTORAL SHARINGS

Today we remember the day when the Lord Jesus suffered temptation in the desert. Why did He submit Himself to such temptations? Perhaps to teach us that temptations are part of the human condition. No matter how good we are, temptations will always be part of our lives. Being good is not a matter of not having any temptations but in not giving in to them.

To be a good person means to always be ready to say "No" to what we now love. That is one of the purposes for the season of Lent: to give us practice in saying "No" to what we love. It is not that our tendency to love is bad. Indeed, it is part of our nature. As St. Augustine remarked long ago, the question for a human being is not "Whether we should love"; we *must* do that. The question is rather *what* should we love and *how* shall we love it. Thus he writes:

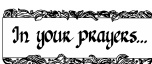
Am I telling you to love nothing at all? Not at all! If you love nothing, you will be lifeless, dead, detestable, miserable. Go ahead and love, but be careful what you love.

Temptation is nothing more than an urge to love in the wrong way: to misuse or misdirect those natural drives that make us human.

Augustine said that the secret to a good life comes down on two things: we must control ourselves and we must endure.

We must *control* ourselves during the happy times when we are in possession of our loves, that we do not become so overcome with the pleasure of having them that we are unwilling to let their lives or our lives move on. But we must also be ready to *endure* those times when we must deny satisfaction of our love because what we love or the way we are loving stands in the way of our eternal salvation. The purpose of Lent is to act like Christ tempted by the devil - to say "No" to any temptation that could separate us from God.

Our Special Prayer Request for the Week: That during these weeks of Lent we as individuals or as a family may offer forgiveness to someone we feel has hurt us; we pray to the Lord...



Please pray for the sick of the parish and their family members particularly; Thomas Brennan, Alexis Bruno, Julie Conschafter, Loretta Varo, Julie Carlo, Pamela Rodgers, Julie Robertson, Rose Cvitanovich, Mark Pearce, Rita Matynka, Scott Tellgren, Josephine Liberti, Bob Fiorello and Kristen Konieczny Sikora and her baby. Please also continue to pray for the troops who are serving our country in Iraq, Afghanistan and around the world.

A Family Perspective: Jesus was led by the Spirit into "the wilderness". What is the wilderness to which the Holy Spirit is leading you this Lent? Are there uncharted areas in your marriage or family you avoid? Lent is not about working on our agenda, but letting God work His agenda on us.



Ask your child(ren): If you won a grocery-store contest in which your prize was to fill up one shopping cart with anything you wanted, what specific items would you put in your cart? A trip to the store can be an occasion for lessons on gratitude and compassion for others. Almost 2/5 of the world lives on less than \$2.00 per day. The next time you are shopping with your child(ren), count your blessings and think about our local food pantry. (Adopted from "The Meal Box", Loyola Press)

Lenten Family Suggestions:

- Do a work of charity
- Hold hands during grace and pray for those living and deceased
- Believe that others are there to help
- Pray for the unborn, the unloved, and the abused (mentally, physically and spiritually)
- Share on this question—how fair are we toward others?
- Take care of your body—voluntarily fast from a food so that your compassion for those forced to go without food can deepen



Catholic Charities is always there, please be there

too! As a subheading to our Appeal 2010 theme, it recognizes that Catholic Charities could not maintain its presence in cities, town and villages throughout Western New York without the support of donors like you, who care enough to help. Of those we serve, children are among the most vulnerable, and Catholic Charities strives to protect the young. From foster care and adoption programs, to high quality child care for the neediest children in our community; from mental health, to workforce development programs that employ youth; individual empowerment and well-being is our focus and our goal. Give selflessly to the 2010 Appeal. Letters with donor cards will be mailed very soon. For more information, go to www.ccnny.org or call (716) 218-1400.

Weary and Grieving? "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28 Every day there are things that remind us of our experiences of loss. Grief never takes a vacation! The new, FREE 2010 packet "Coping with Seasons of Loss" is filled with resources, insights, prayers and scripture support. To get a copy, please contact the Office of Family Life Ministries at 716-847-2210 or e-mail familylife@buffalodiocese.org.

Domestic violence: If you are a victim and in need of access to safety planning, spiritual care, legal assistance, limited medical assistance counseling, law enforcement, the Family Justice Center of Erie County, Inc. "Where Families Come First" is for you! ALL services are free. All conversations are strictly private. For more information, call 558-7233 or visit www.fjcsafe.org.

☺ Afraid of the Dark - One of Tommy's favorite games was to ride his mother's broom around the yard like a horse. When it started to get dark, Tommy went into the house, leaving the broom in the yard. In cleaning up after dinner, Tommy's mother asked the boy to bring in her broom. "But I'm scared to go out in the dark Mama." Mother answered, "The Lord is out there, honey. Don't be afraid." So Tommy opened the back door a crack and called out, "Lord, if you're out there, hand me the broom!"



- * **Sunday, February 21 - Religious Education Classes - 9:00 - 10:00 am and 11:15 am - 12:30 pm**
- * **Monday, February 22 - Scripture Sharings 10-11 am in the Rectory Meeting Room**
- * **Wednesday, February 24 - Religious Education Classes - 4:00 - 5:00 pm**
- * **Friday, February 26 - Stations of the Cross - 7:30 pm followed by Communion service**
- * **Sunday, February 28 - Religious Education Classes - 9:00 - 10:00 am and 11:15 am - 12:30 pm**



A Prayer for Vocations

Lord Jesus Christ help us hear your call to follow you. Open the hearts of your sons and daughters. Give us the gift of understanding to discern your invitation to serve you and your Church. Give us the gift of courage to follow you with generosity and joy. Amen.

Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit into the desert for forty days of prayer and fasting. Are you open to being led by the Holy Spirit into the life commitment God has prepared for you? If God is calling you, call Father Walter Szczesny at 716-847-5535.

BOTTOM LINE:

It's better to have a rich soul than to be rich!