

Dear Padre,

As long as I can remember, our parish has offered the Stations of the Cross as a special devotion during the Lenten season. How ancient is this practice?

Over the centuries, many pilgrims would visit the Holy Land to retrace the steps of Jesus. When they returned to their home churches, many of these pilgrims paid for shrines to be built that represented the holy places they visited. In 1342, the Franciscans became the official guardians of the holy places, and they would guide pilgrims along the Way of the Cross. In 1668, Pope Innocent XI gave permission to the Franciscans to place Stations of the Cross in all of their churches. The number of these early stations varied, from as few as seven to as many as thirty-seven. Finally, in 1731, Pope Clement XII defined fourteen stations as the official devotion.

In recent years, two modifications of the Stations of the Cross have become fairly common. Some churches have a fifteenth station representing Jesus' Resurrection. Other churches have scriptural accounts that are not in the traditional station devotion. In more recent years, a popular Lenten devotion is the "Living Stations of the Cross." This is a play with music, singing, and dramatic speaking parts.

Regardless of their format or the liturgical season of the year during which they are celebrated, the Stations of the Cross are a gentle reminder that we journey with Jesus on his way to Calvary.

From Dear Padre: Questions Catholics Ask © 2003 Liguori Publications
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Calendar

Monday
FEBRUARY 22
The Chair of
St. Peter the Apostle
1 Pt 5:1-4
Mt 16:13-19

Tuesday
FEBRUARY 23
Lenten Weekday
Is 55:10-11
Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday
FEBRUARY 24
Lenten Weekday
Jon 3:1-10
Lk 11:29-32

Thursday
FEBRUARY 25
Lenten Weekday
Est C:12, 14-16,
23-25
Mt 7:7-12

Friday
FEBRUARY 26
Lenten Weekday
Ez 18:21-28
Mt 5:20-26

Saturday
FEBRUARY 27
Lenten Weekday
Dt 26:16-19
Mt 5:43-48

Sunday
FEBRUARY 28
Second Sunday of Lent
Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13,
15-18
Rom 8:31b-34
Mk 9:2-10

Our Parish COMMUNITY

February 21, 2021
First Sunday of Lent (B)
Gn 9:8-15
1 Pt 3:18-22
Mk 1:12-15



God said...I set my bow in the clouds to serve as a sign of the covenant between me and the earth.
GENESIS 9:12-13

Lost at Sea

We often think that Lent is a time to concentrate on the sufferings of Jesus. Actually that is the theme of Holy Week. The other readings of Lent suggest another theme—covenant-making. God initiates an intimate relationship with us and calls us to be faithful. This is the good news. Moreover, when we are unfaithful, God gives us another chance.

The first reading recounts God's graciousness in saving humankind from destruction. Noah and his family must have felt that they really were lost at sea. However, God's protection was always there. In fact, the waters they so feared were destructive only to what was evil. They had been saved and now, through the covenant, all of creation was given a second chance.

One might think that Jesus wouldn't have struggled with temptation. After all, he was God. However, today's Gospel says that he was tempted. He was in the wilderness, a place long known to be a place of

temptation because there the supports of normal life are gone. After forty days of fasting, one's defenses would be significantly weakened, if not broken down. In such a situation, the primary thought is survival. This Gospel does not describe the temptation itself, but it does present Jesus as someone like us—weakened, tempted, and perhaps even "lost at sea." However, God's protection was with him, in the guise of angels.

Both stories assure us that God's covenantal care is there supporting us, regardless of the difficulty or our apparent weakness.

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

- ★ When you feel "lost at sea," recall that through baptism you have a close covenant relationship with God who is always there for you.
- ★ How do you strengthen yourself when you face temptation?



A WORD FROM Pope Francis

Let us invite Jesus into the boats of our lives. Let us hand over our fears to him so that he can conquer them. Like the disciples, we will experience that with him on board there will be no shipwreck. Because this is God's strength... He brings serenity into our storms, because with God life never dies.

EXTRAORDINARY MOMENT OF PRAYER
FOR THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, MARCH 27, 2020





St. Joseph Neier

Rev. Thomas J. Wissler, Pastor

February
20 & 21
2021

Weekday: 6:30am
Saturday: 5:00pm
Sunday: 8:00am & 10:00am

Office: 636.583.2806

Website: stjosephneier.com

Email: parishoffice@stjosephneier.com

Confessions – Saturday

4:00pm – 4:40pm

Father Tom's Cell: 636.744.5587

Sarah's Cell: 314.808.0337



From Fr. Tom,

The word “covenant” is used several times in our first reading and the responsorial psalm today. It means a deal between God and man. Quite simply God says, “I will be your God and you will be my people.” It doesn't sound like much, but, if you think about it, God's promise to take care of us is real and all we have to do is show Him we love Him. The story of Noah and the ark is probably the best known in the bible and so it should be because is it the first reconciliation story between God and man with God vowing never to destroy the earth again. Jesus' temptation in the desert and His resistance to it should help us resist temptation also. Don't underestimate the power of the devil, but don't underestimate the power of God either! Our choice.



Please pray for those who are sick in our parish:

- Anna Marie Brueggemann
- Olivia Jasper
- Zachery Goosage
- Henry Tobben
- Bill Greife
- Brandon Huels
- Betty Bean
- Marisa Shollenberger
- Ryan Elbert
- Cynthia Faust
- Sheri Zambruski
- Chris Elbert
- Glen Gettemeyer
- Alisha Koelling
- Special Intention 2
- Jean Oldani
- Shirley Beckman
- Karen Waters
- Jacob McMullin
- Andrew Hellebusch
- Ashley Shelton
- KJ Frost
- Eugene Salvino
- Kelly Arrington
- Joyce Stuesse
- Theresa Briggs
- Jason Pellin
- Special Intention 1
- Lauren Pieske
- Norma Jean Salvino

Please also pray for those Serving our Country:

- Matthew Blankenship
- Taylor Donner
- Jamie Brueggemann Murphy
- Luke Stuesse
- Michael Murphy
- Andy Davis
- Sam Smith
- Adam Amato

BIBLE PROMISES ~ TEMPTATION

“No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and He will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation He will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.”

1 Corinthians 10:13

Thank you for your generosity!

Donations for General Fund
February 14, 2021

Regular Offering Envelopes:	\$ 1,520.00
Regular Offering Loose:	\$ 15.00
Online Giving:	\$ 474.72*
Total:	THANK YOU!! \$ 2,009.72

* With Transaction Fees Removed.

Tithes & Offerings
Giving Back to God

January "General Fund" Collections

February 7, 2021	\$3,971.01	February 14, 2021	\$2,009.72
February 21, 2021	\$ TBD	February 28, 2021	\$ TBD

Average Monthly Expenses	\$ 30,115.36
Total Collected for February as of 2/18	\$ 5,980.73
Difference	\$(24,134.63)



Thank you for your generosity!

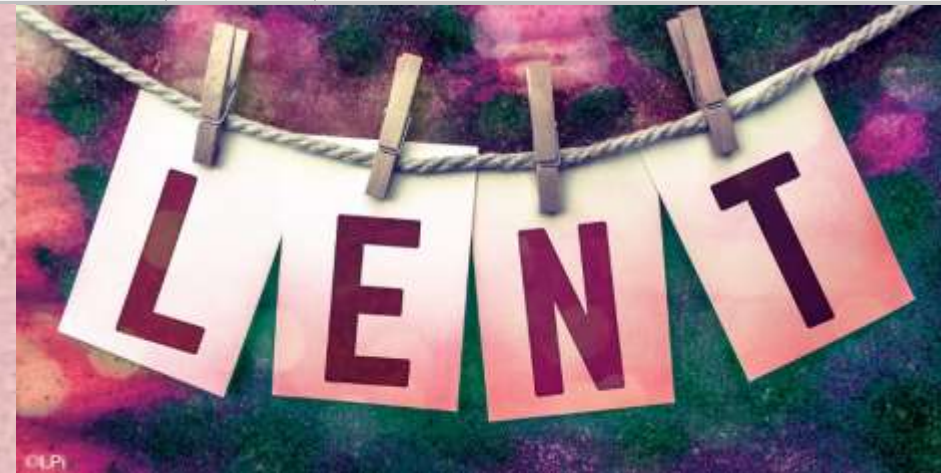
Donations for Restricted Funds
February 14, 2021

Cemetery:	\$10.00
St. Louis Review:	\$35.00

Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 20	5:00pm	Paul Brueggemann
Sunday, February 21	8:00am	Parish Family of St. Joseph
	10:00am	Thomas Adams, Sr.
Monday, February 22	6:30am	No Mass
Tuesday, February 23	6:30am	Joe Helmig
Wednesday, February 24	6:30am	Mary Catherine Fink
Thursday, February 25	6:30am	Kathy Mueller
Friday, February 26	6:30am	Eugene Brueggemann
Saturday, February 27	5:00pm	Ervin Hellmann
Sunday, February 28	8:00am	Rose & Louis Schmuke
	10:00am	Parish Family of St. Joseph

The First Sunday of



Commentators and Lectors:		February 20 & 21	February 27 & 28
Saturday	5:00pm	Amber Gerlemann	Theresa Straatmann
Sunday	8:00am	Jennifer Kissinger	Michelle Young
	10:00am	Lisa Bocklage	Patti Greife

Responsorial Psalm:

Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep Your covenant.

Starting February 18th for Lent

† Eucharistic Adoration †

Every Thursday beginning at 7am and ending with Benediction at 5:50pm.

Please contact Betty Fink @ 636.583.5510 to sign up.

† Confession Times †

Every Thursday after Benediction until 7:30pm and every Saturday from 4pm – 4:40pm, like normal.

† Stations of the Cross †

Every Friday at 7pm.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

FISH FRY

MENU

DELICIOUS FRIED FISH CORN
HOME FRIED POTATO CHIPS GREEN BEANS
STEWED TOMATOES COLE SLAW

2021 LENTEN SCHEDULE

- ~~FRIDAY, FEB. 19TH @ UNION HALL~~
- FRIDAY, FEB. 26TH @ ST. JOSEPH'S NEIER HALL
- FRIDAY, MARCH 5TH @ UNION KC HALL
- FRIDAY, MARCH 19TH @ UNION KC HALL
- FRIDAY, APRIL 2ND @ UNION KC HALL
- FRIDAY, APRIL 9TH @ UNION KC HALL

THIS LENTEN SEASON THE FISH FRY WILL BE

***DRIVE THRU ONLY!**

SERVING 4:00PM - 7:00PM

COST: **\$10.00** PER PACKAGED MEAL

 **Union Knights of Columbus Hall**
700 Clearview Drive, Union, MO 63084

Please keep the following families in your thoughts and prayers



In Memoriam

Robert Wildhaber

*Passed away on Saturday, February 13th.
Please pray for the repose of his soul.*

Robert was the husband of Dianne Wildhaber and father of Todd & Troy Wildhaber.



BREAK THE CABIN FEVER

BBQ DRIVE-THRU

EVERY SUNDAY in FEBRUARY • 11 a.m. till 6 p.m.

ST. GERTRUDE BBQ STAND At the intersection of Hwy. A & YY, Krakow, Mo.

BBQ CHICKEN – With red sauce or our famous white sauce
BBQ PORK STEAKS OR FRIED CHICKEN

Plus Sides • Family Meals – Great for Carryouts • Questions? Call 636-667-3706



WE ARE CALLED

Join our faith community – and more than 12,000 Catholic communities across the United States – in a life-changing Lenten Journey with CRS Rice Bowl. Pick up your family's CRS Rice Bowl from the shelf in the back of church today!

Visit crsricebowl.org to learn more.

St. Joseph Neier

Drive Thru Fish Fry

Friday, February 26th

4pm - 7pm \$12 per dinner

Menu

Deep Fried (farmed) Catfish, "Cheesy" Potatoes, Stewed Tomatoes, Green Beans, Cole Slaw, and Cupcakes

Sponsored by:

Western Catholic Union