

*Saint John XXIII Parish*

# Lent

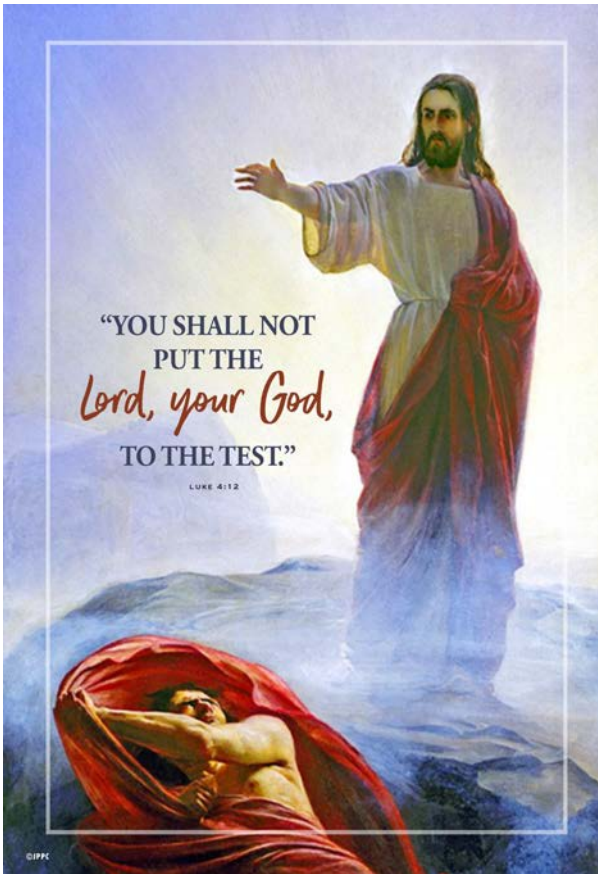
Preparation

REFLECTION

*Sacrifice*

Temptation

Fastings



Mass Intentions

Saturday

**SJE** 4:00 PM

**IJ** 6:00 PM

**IJ** 7:30 PM

Sunday

**SJE** 8:00 AM

**IJ** 10:30 AM

Tuesday

**IJ** 8:30 AM

Wednesday

**SJE** 8:30 AM

Thursday

**IJ** 8:30 AM

Friday

**SJE** 8:30 AM

Saturday

**SJE** 4:00 PM

**IJ** 6:00 PM

**IJ** 7:30 PM

Sunday

**SJE** 8:00 AM

**IJ** 10:30 AM

March 5 Anticipated Weekend Mass

Thomas Peter 4th Ann.

by his wife and family

Robert & Irene Houle by Joanne Charron

Mass in Portuguese

March 6 First Sunday of Lent

Rosario Grenier by the Dubord Family

Barbara Massey by Jenn Pizzi

March 8

Intentions of the Parishioners

March 9

Intentions of the Parishioners

March 10

Intentions of the Parishioners

March 11

Intentions of the Parishioners

March 12 Anticipated Weekend Mass

Raymond Chamberlain by Doris Foley

Paul Charron 8th Ann. by his family

Mass in Portuguese

March 13 Second Sunday of Lent

Timothy Coulter by his family

Theresa Duchesne by her family

**JOURNEYSONGS HYMNALS**

Journeysongs hymnals are still available. . Scripture readings for all three cycle years, hymns, mass settings and rituals are all included in this one book - which means we no longer have to change them every year. . The cost of the hymnal is \$20. See Fr. George to purchase your copy

**DEANERY LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE**

You are invited to a deanery-wide Lenten Penance Service on Sunday, March 27, 2002 at 2 PM. The service will take place at Immaculate Conception Church, 216 East Dunstable Road, Nashua. As we prepare for Lent and Easter, come to the Lord and experience the extraordinary grace of His forgiveness. Many priests will be available.

**Lenten Disciplines of Fasting & Abstinence**

Catholics in good health ages 18 to 59 are required to fast and to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Fasting consists of eating only one meal, with the possibility of two smaller snacks that do not add up to a single full meal.

Catholics age 14 and older are to abstain from meat on all Fridays in Lent.

**STEWARDSHIP REPORT**

Week Ending ~ February 26 & 27, 2022

<b>Adult Envelopes</b> (47)	<b>\$1,699.00</b>
<b>WeShare</b> (Online Giving) (53)	<b>\$905.00</b>
<b>Loose Cash</b>	<b>\$295.00</b>
<b>Offertory Total:</b>	<b>\$2,899.00</b>
<b>Snow Removal</b>	<b>\$260.00</b>

*May our loving God bless you for your continued generosity!*

**Weekly Readings - Mar. 7 – Mar. 13, 2022**

**Mon.:** Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15; Mt 25:31-46

**Tuesday:** Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19; Mt 6:7-15

**Wednesday:** Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19; Lk 11:29-32

**Thursday:** Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8; Mt 7:7-12

**Friday:** Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8; Mt 5:20-26

**Saturday:** Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8; Mt 5:43-48

**Sunday:** Gn 15:5-12, 17-18; Ps 27:1, 7-8, 8-9, 13-14; Phil 3:17—4:1 or 3:20—4:1; Lk 9:28b-36

## *Saint John XXIII Parish*

### **REFLECTION FOR FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

In any human endeavor, strategy is all. We could be talking about an army platoon about to attack behind enemy lines; or a restaurant worker crew seeking a pay raise; or dutiful sons and daughters needing their aging father to surrender his car keys. Here at Lent's outset, the same holds true for our choosing of a sustainable voluntary penance of some kind that will last the full six weeks of the season.

God Himself had a strategy behind His grand plan to redeem humankind from its entrapment by sin. Motivated by love, this plan evolved into what we now call "Salvation History." It is on full display and open for study in both the Old and New Testaments. Somehow it is our story also, one about failure and triumph in this ultimate matter of sin versus holiness. Devil versus the Divine.

The story opens with God's people in bondage to the Egyptian slave masters for long years of backbreaking labor, always subject to the whims of nervous, tyrant pharaohs, fearful of losing control. The seemingly endless drudgery perdures for centuries, along with Israel's persistent prayer for relief until the time arrives for God to send a Deliverer. His name was Moses, one of their own adopted temporarily by an Egyptian princess. Moses ultimately confronts the pharaoh and his cohorts. He demands his people's freedom. God Himself "seals the deal," if you will, not only by leading His people in freedom but also by making a covenant between Himself and them.

There are inevitable lapses on Israel's part, even featuring a dalliance by the people into pagan ways of life. But finally matters turn back to a somewhat shaky re-commitment on the people's part, fraught with failures needing prophets to fix. Finally, in due course, the Holy Redeemer Himself arrives in person to make all the corrections needed by His doing right what Israel had done wrong, even to the point of His experiencing the three great temptations in life – power, wealth and fame – and fully resisting satan, which the Chosen People had not.

We are privileged to observe God's strategy with the help of history, both oral and written. We know it works to promote a healthy spirituality within us; that it is both tried and true as the way to holiness of life and our personal triumph over the trials of life. We just watch Jesus, in all that He says and does.

So right now is the time for us to strategize, in order to make Lent 2022 spiritually profitable, by choosing at least one element of personal reform if not more. This is how we reach the promised land of heaven. We know in our depths that satan has won over us in the way we have lived since last Easter. We know the weak spots in our defense. We know what needs to be done. With confidence in the outcome, gleaned from Christ's resurrection, we begin our personal march to Calvary knowing that He is no "fool on the hill" of Calvary. He is Love incarnate, and "most sure on all His ways." I meanwhile happened upon this one simple strategy among many that makes perfect sense, along with a dash of good humor: "When you flee your temptation, leave no forwarding address."

*Rev. Leonard N. Peterson*

### **SHROUD OF TURIN PRESENTATION**

Saint Kathryn Parish at 4 Dracut Road in Hudson, NH will be hosting a presentation on the Shroud of Turin on the evening of Friday, March 25th at 6:30 pm in the church. Come and discover the historical and miraculous elements of the ancient shroud that has captivated scientists and biblical scholars for centuries. No registration necessary. All are invited.

### **LENTEN BAGGAGE**

Join the NH Diocesan Council of Catholic Women on March 24th to hear Sr. Helene Higgins, CSJ talk about her ministry and efforts to end human trafficking. She will also explain the "Bags of Love" project for women being rescued from human trafficking. There will be time for questions and answers with Sr. Helene. Registration is free, but required to receive the Zoom link. Register at <https://lentenbaggage.eventbrite.com>.

### **WALK WITH JESUS**

The diocesan theme for Lent 2022 is Walk with Jesus. The Psalms of each Lenten Sunday will serve as the signposts that guide us on our Lenten walk. The Psalms will be prayed in English and Spanish by a different person each week and posted on the diocesan website. The visuals and music will be suited to the images and mood of each psalm. The psalm will also be available in an audio format only. Both formats will be available for daily prayer and reflection throughout Lent. Reflection questions and suggested Acts of Mercy will accompany each Psalm. We know that as we Walk with Jesus our prayer and fasting in His company will transform us and recreate us in His image. Visit [www.catholicnh.org/walk-with-jesus](http://www.catholicnh.org/walk-with-jesus)

### **CORPUS CHRISTI NOTES**

Corpus Christi Food Pantry and Assistance can bring a ray of sunshine to a family when they may be at a low point in their life. Recently, a family came to the pantry for groceries. They were overwhelmed to find out that they were able to select a birthday present for their young child that would be celebrating her birthday in a few days. Additionally, they received a birthday bag that contained a cake mix, frosting, candles, birthday plates and napkins. With your support we are able to offer these items. Thank you very much

### **HANNAFORD FIGHT HUNGER BAG PROGRAM**

During the month of March 2022, the Hudson Community Food Pantry at St. Johns will receive a \$1 donation from the purchase of the \$2.50 reusable "Fight Hunger Bag" at the Hannaford store located at 77 Derry Road, Hudson, NH.

### **ALZHEIMER'S CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP**

The Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group meets every Monday 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM at Millette Manor, 72 Vine Street, Nashua. This is an open group there is no fee and no registration required. For more information please call Pam Deres at (603) 598-2424.

### **STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

Friday evenings at 6:00 PM alternating between Hudson and Nashua Churches.

March 11 - IJ Nashua.

March 18 - SJE Hudson

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For further information, please call the Parish Office.

Thank you.

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**Child Safety Reporting**

If you know of or suspect abuse or neglect of a minor (under 18 yrs.), you must report it to the NH Division for Children, Youth and Families: 1-800-894-5533 or 603-271-6566.

If you have experienced abuse by someone representing the Catholic Church, you may contact the Office for Healing and Pastoral Care of the Diocese of Manchester: 603-668-0014 or 800-475-5585 x233.

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