

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

FEBRUARY 18, 2024

Your ways, O LORD, make known to me; teach me your paths.

— *Psalm 25:4*

REPENT AND BELIEVE IN THE GOSPEL

Lent is the time of year we devote to scrutinizing our lives in the light of our baptism into the death and resurrection of Jesus. Today's readings are a nice shorthand catechism of what our baptized lives mean. As Noah passed through the waters of the flood to a covenant with God, so did we enter into a covenant, a promised relationship with God through our baptism.

Peter's letter gives an explicit explanation of what our baptism means: it is an appeal we make to God for a clear conscience. How do we obtain this clear conscience? The words proclaimed by Jesus immediately following his temptation show us the way: "Repent, and believe in the gospel" (Mark 1:15). It might be a good spiritual exercise to keep these readings before us throughout the entire season of Lent, a means to help us return to a life lived by our baptismal promises.

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — I will set my bow in the clouds to serve as a sign of the covenant between me and the earth (Genesis 9:8-15).

Psalm — Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant (Psalm 25).

Second Reading — The water of the flood prefigured baptism, which saves you now (1 Peter 3:18-22).

Gospel — Jesus was tempted by Satan, and the angels ministered to him (Mark 1:12-15).

DIFFERENT TYPES OF SERMONS

- **Rocking horse sermon** — *_back and forth, back and forth, but going nowhere.*
- **Mockingbird sermon** — *_repetition, nothing new.*
- **Smorgasbord sermon** — *a little bit of everything, but nothing solid.*
- **Jericho sermon** — *march around the subject seven times.*
- **Christmas tree sermon** — *something offered for nothing.*

~~~~~PRAYER CORNER~~~~~

A LENTEN PRAYER

Lord Jesus, give me a lively faith, a firm hope, a fervent charity, and a great love of You. Take from me all lukewarmness in the meditation of Your word, and dullness in prayer. Give me fervor and delight in thinking of You and Your grace, and fill me with compassion for others, especially those in need, that I may respond with generosity. Amen.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Wednesday: St. Peter Damian

Thursday: The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle

Friday: St. Polycarp; **Abstinence**

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday: Mike Riley †

Mary Ann†

Tuesday: Bessie Riley Birthday †

Wednesday: In honor Infant Jesus of Prague and St. Joseph for all the sick and for all the holy souls in purgatory.

High

Jimmy Gorman

Bryan Jude Carroll

Mary Carroll Sherlock 26th Anniversary †

Big Joe †

Thursday: Pete Suedle

Mary Louise †

Friday: Tommy Jude 30th Birthday †

CATHOLIC APPEAL OF SOUTH CAROLINA

The Catholic Appeal of South Carolina (CASC) is the primary source of funding for many critical ministries. We are impacting the lives of our brothers and sisters both spiritually and physically – but there is still much to do. We must continue to fund programs focused on charitable works, outreach, education, and evangelization. Every gift to the CASC allows us to continue to fulfill the mission that has been entrusted to us. Your participation is highly appreciated and let us reach our goal by fulfilling the pledge and generous contribution. Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

JOKE OF THE WEEK The man walked into the house panting and almost completely exhausted. "What happened, Honey?" inquired his wife.

"It's a great new idea I have," he gasped. "I ran all the way home behind the bus and saved \$2.00."

"That wasn't very bright," replied his wife. "Why didn't you run behind a taxi and save \$10.00."

DIOCESAN EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS Join us for our first ever Diocesan Eucharistic Congress on April 6, 2024. This is an opportunity for the entire diocese to gather around our Lord in the Eucharist. The event will include Mass with Most Rev. Jacques Fabre-Jeune, CS, Bishop of Charleston, and opportunities for adoration and confession. Due to limited capacity, this will be a ticketed event. Please contact the Parish Office or visit: charlestondiocese.org/eucharisticrevival.

OUR GIFTS RECORD

	Offertory	Development
Last Week's Collection	\$3,766.00	\$2,822.00
Number of Families contributing	124	99
Total Pledge for 2024	\$157,619.00	\$159,756.00
Pledged to Date (6 Weeks)	\$19,343.00	\$19,502.00
Received to Date	\$15,693.00	\$12,217.00
Envelopes Outstanding	\$3,650.00	\$7,285.00

LADIES OFFERTORY RECORD

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2024
\$438.00	\$1,974.00

39 ladies contributed last week.

PARISH LIFE CENTER HALL FUND WEEKLY REPORT

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2024
\$50.00	\$380.00

One person made a P.L.C. contribution last week.

CATHOLIC APPEAL OF SOUTH CAROLINA (BAA)

Amount given to date	2024 GOAL
\$395.00	\$17,862.00

POOR BOX totaled \$101.00.

8 CHILDREN contributed \$40.00.

FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH ARE OFFERED BY:

1. Jimmy Jay and Mary Melissa in loving memory of Rev. Peter Clarke on the 4th Anniversary of his death;
2. the Family of Bessie Riley in loving memory of her on her Birthday;
3. and a Parish Family Member in thanks to St. Expedite.

MASS ON FRIDAYS during Lent will be at 7 P.M.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS during Lent, will be held every Friday after 7:00 p.m. Mass. The Stations of the Cross will be led on Friday:

Feb. 23: Legion – O.L. of Epiphany
Mar. 1: Religious Education Teachers
Mar. 8: Lectors
Mar. 15: Youth Group & Young Girls Org.
Mar. 22: Society of Mary Immaculate
Mar. 29: Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

MORNING AND EVENING PRAYER Thanks to the Legion of Mary, we will have Morning and Evening Prayer in the Church during Lent. All are requested to make use of this golden opportunity to join in the world-wide praise of God at the beginning and the close of each day. Morning and Evening Prayer will begin this Monday, February 19th.

MORNING PRAYER Monday thru Thursday 10:00 A.M.
Friday 9:30 A.M.

EVENING PRAYER Monday thru Thursday 3:30 P.M.
Friday 6:30 P.M.

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED The Church Office will be closed this Monday, February 19th in observance of President's Day.

2024 CHURCH ENVELOPES are in the Atrium of the Church. If you don't find your envelopes, please contact the Church office immediately.

ENJOY THE LENTEN SEASON

Give up complaining...and focus on gratitude.
Give up harsh judgments...think kind thoughts.
Give up bitterness...turn to forgiveness.
Give up hatred...return good for evil.
Give up anger...practice patience.
Give up gossiping...control your tongue.
Give up sin...turn to virtue.
You can't direct the wind,
But you can adjust your sail.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS The second collection this weekend will be for *Black & Indian Missions*. Please be generous in this collection.

THANK YOU to a parish member for a \$100 donation in thanks to St. Expedite; a member for a donation in thanks to God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and to the Blessed Mother; and to a member for a donation in thanks to St. Expedite.

READERS

Sat. Feb. 17th, 4:00 P.M. **Sun. Feb. 18th, 10:00 A.M.**
Leah & Dayna Lauren Ashley & Jimmy

Sat. Feb. 24th, 4:00 P.M. **Sun. Feb. 25th, 10:00 A.M.**
Cathy Lisa & Reed Lauren Ashley & Jimmy

READERS – WEEKDAYS

Monday - Reed
Tuesday - Mary Martha
Wednesday - Katsyn
Thursday - Willie's Rita
Friday - Josie

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS - WEEKDAYS

Monday - Theresa Hun
Tuesday - Jack's Mary Rita
Wednesday - Julie Ann
Thursday - Cathy Carroll
Friday - Rosie Cat

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS – WEEKEND

Saturday 4:00 P.M. February 17th
Right Theresa Hun
Left Cathy Carroll

Sunday 10:00 A.M

February 18th February 25th
Ned's Rose Marie Ned's Rose Marie