



# faith FORMATION

ST. JUDE CATHOLIC CHURCH // VOLUME 3 // ISSUE 26 // MARCH 9, 2025

1st  
Sunday  
of Lent

## *In the Beginning...*

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Lent has begun! We have lots going on at St. Jude to help you make this the best Lent ever. Please prayerfully consider trying something new this Lent. We'd love to see some new faces join us in the life of the parish community outside of Mass as we journey together to grow closer to Christ.

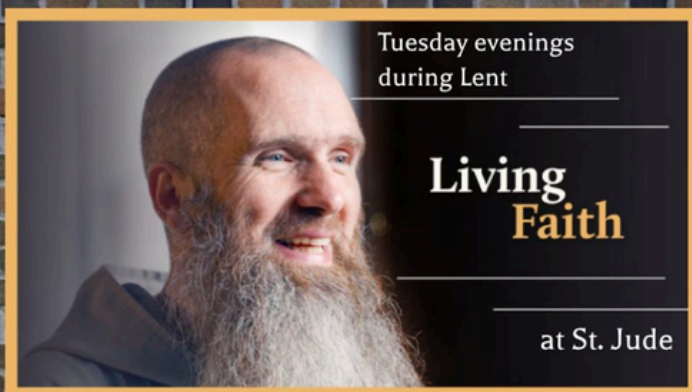
Our 2025 Lent Guide can be downloaded from our website. it includes information about our Fish Dinners, Lent Series, Stations of the Cross, opportunities for Confession and more.

<https://stjudes.net/lent/>

I'd especially like to invite you to join our 5 part Lent series: Living Faith. It begins on March 11 at 6:30pm. It's only 1 hour per week, but it could make a big difference in your life. More information here:

<https://stjudes.net/coming-events/lent-series/>

Have a blessed week and a wonderful start to Lent!



Each week focuses on an essential aspect of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus — prayer, the sacraments, ongoing formation, Catholic community and personal apostolate.

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Also, by appointment

### Daily Mass

Tuesday: 8:30AM  
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Saturday: 4:00PM  
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# SUNDAY BIBLE REFLECTION

By Scott Hahn

Readings:

Deuteronomy 26:4–10

Psalm 91:1–2, 10–15

Romans 10:8–13

Luke 4:1–13

[LISTEN HERE](#)



In today's epic Gospel scene, Jesus relives in His flesh the history of Israel. We've already seen that, like Israel, Jesus has passed through water and been called God's beloved Son (see Luke 3:22; Exodus 4:22). Now, as Israel was tested for forty years in the wilderness, Jesus is led into the desert to be tested for forty days and nights (see Exodus 15:25).

He faces the temptations put to Israel: Hungry, He's tempted to grumble against God for food (see Exodus 16:1–13). As Israel quarreled at Massah, He's tempted to doubt God's care (see Exodus 17:1–6). When the Devil asks for His homage, He's tempted to do what Israel did in creating the golden calf (see Exodus 32).

Jesus fights the Devil with the Word of God, three times quoting from Moses' lecture about the lessons Israel was supposed to learn from its wilderness wanderings (see Deuteronomy 8:3; 6:16, 12–15).

Why do we read this story on the first Sunday of Lent? Because like the biblical sign of forty (see Genesis 7:12; Exodus 24:18; 34:28; 1 Kings 19:8; Jonah 3:4), the forty days of Lent are a time of trial and purification.

Lent is to teach us what we hear over and over in today's readings. "Call upon me, and I will answer," the Lord promises in today's Psalm. Paul promises the same thing in today's Epistle (quoting Deuteronomy 30:14; Isaiah 28:16; Joel 2:32). This was Israel's experience, as Moses reminds his people in today's First Reading: "We cried to the Lord . . . and He heard." But each of us is tempted, as Israel was, to forget the great deeds He works in our lives, to neglect our birthright as His beloved sons and daughters.

Like the litany of remembrance Moses prescribes for Israel, we should see in the Mass a memorial of our salvation, and "bow down in His presence," offering ourselves in thanksgiving for all He has given us.

*1 And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan, and was led by the Spirit 2 for forty days in the wilderness, tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing in those days; and when they were ended, he was hungry. 3 The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread." 4 And Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone.' " 5 And the devil took him up, and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, 6 and said to him, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory; for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. 7 If you, then, will worship me, it shall all be yours."*

LUKE 4:1-7

Source: [St. Paul Center](#)

# The Gospel at Home

## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

### Gospel Reading

Luke 4:1-13

In the desert, Jesus is tempted by the devil.

### Family Connection

In Luke's Gospel, the story of Jesus' temptation in the desert appears just after Jesus' baptism and before Jesus begins his public ministry. We can imagine this as a time of transition, a turning point in Jesus' life. Perhaps we can liken it to one of the important turning points in our own lives: the decision to marry, the birth of a child, the acceptance of a new job, or the decision to move to a new home. After the moment of decision, having reached the point of no return, we sometimes begin to wonder if we are prepared and ready for the task before us. Turning points can be times of doubt and insecurity. Jesus' response to the temptations of the devil offers an example for responding in faith when our doubts and insecurities tempt us to distrust God's sufficiency. Jesus rebukes the devil by quoting Scripture. Each citation is an affirmation of trust in God. We learn to trust in big things by practicing trust in little things. Our Lenten practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving invite us to trust God in these small ways. They remind us that God will suffice for us. They prepare us to trust in God in all things, especially in moments of doubt and uncertainty.

As a family, talk about ways in which trust has been built among members of the family. Observe how being trustworthy in small matters enables us to trust one another in more important matters. Offer specific examples if possible (e.g., children who establish their responsibility in household tasks can be granted greater independence and freedom to choose how they perform these tasks). Today's Gospel shows us how Jesus trusted God in all things. Read aloud today's Gospel, Luke 4:1-13. Discuss how Jesus showed his trust in God when he resisted the devil's temptations. Invite family members to name times when they have trusted God in matters small or large. Write a family prayer together. You might write the prayer so that each line begins with a letter in the word "trust." Pray this prayer together.

*8 And Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.' " 9 And he took him to Jerusalem, and set him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here; 10 for it is written, 'He will give his angels charge of you, to guard you,' 11 and 'On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.' " 12 And Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'You shall not tempt the Lord your God.' " 13 And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.*

LUKE 4:8-13



# Did You Know?

We're supposed to abstain from meat on Fridays... all year!

We've just begun Lent and you probably heard the refreshers about fasting and abstaining from meat. If not, the [USCCB reminds us](#) that "Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence. For members of the Latin Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards."

But did you know... Contrary to common misconception, abstinence from meat on Fridays throughout the year has never been abolished from Roman law. It was not abolished by Vatican II. It was not abolished by Pope Paul VI or Pope St. John Paul II. It was not abolished by the 1983 Code of Canon Law. It remains the universal law of the Latin Church (that's us).

Although Friday abstinence remains the law of the Latin Church, many national bishops' conferences — including the U.S. bishops — make exceptions in their jurisdictions, permitting Catholics to choose another form of penance instead.

So, if we're not abstaining from meat on Fridays throughout the year, we should be doing some other form of penance.

Most American Catholics have heard for decades: "No more no meat on Fridays." Many never got the message that Friday is still a day of penance that they're still meant to observe in some meaningful way.

Perhaps this Lent, maybe we can pick up a new spiritual habit and carry our meatless Fridays through the rest of the year. Or we can do some other form of penance. Why? Friday has always been a day of penance for Christians because Jesus died on a Friday, just as Sunday is the Lord's Day because Jesus rose on a Sunday.

Every Sunday is like a mini-Easter season, and every Friday is like a mini-Lent in preparation for Sunday. That describes how it's been throughout Church history, and that's the way it still is in the universal law of the Latin Church.

According to Canon Law:

Can. 1249 The divine law binds all the Christian faithful to do penance each in his or her own way. In order for all to be united among themselves by some common observance of penance, however, penitential days are prescribed on which the Christian faithful devote themselves in a special way to prayer, perform works of piety and charity, and deny themselves by fulfilling their own obligations more faithfully and especially by observing fast and abstinence, according to the norm of the following canons.

Can. 1250 The penitential days and times in the universal Church are every Friday of the whole year and the season of Lent.

Can. 1251 Abstinence from meat, or from some other food as determined by the Episcopal Conference, is to be observed on all Fridays, unless a solemnity should fall on a Friday. Abstinence and fasting are to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Source:

[National Catholic Register](#)

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Opportunities to Grow in Faith

### **Saturday, March 8:**

2:00pm - Reconciliation until 3:30pm

4:00pm - Mass (Sunday vigil Mass)

### **Sunday, March 9:**

8:30am - Mass

10:30am - Mass; Children's Liturgy of the Word during this Mass.

11:30am - OCIA in the Kelly Conference Room.

5:30pm - Faith Formation classes until 7:00pm.

### **Monday, March 10:**

7:00pm - Women's Bible Study in the Thaddeus Center.

### **Tuesday, March 11:**

8:30am - Mass

9:30am - Catholic Grandparents in the Brophy Center.

6:30pm - Lent Series: Living Faith in the Brophy Center.

7:00pm - Men of Emmaus in the Millennium Conference Room.

### **Wednesday, March 12:**

8:30am - Senior Men's Group in the Thaddeus Center.

1:00pm - Grief Support Group in the Kelly Conference Room.

7:00pm - AA Support Group in the Thaddeus Center.

7:00pm - Book Club in the Kelly Conference Room.

### **Thursday, March 13:**

8:30am - Mass (School Mass).

### **Friday, March 14:**

8:30am - Mass

5:00pm - Fish Dinner in the Brophy Center until 6:30pm.

7:00pm - Stations of the Cross in the church.

"Jesus replied,  
'The first is  
this: 'Hear, O  
Israel! The Lord  
our God is Lord  
alone! You shall  
love the Lord  
your God with  
all your heart,  
with all your  
soul, with all  
your mind, and  
with all your  
strength.'"

MARK 12:29-30

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[Click here!](#)



# This Week on Formed

Week of March 09, 2025



## Week One | Restore

In the Week One video for the Restore Lent series, Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT, reflects on the theme of the week—the desert. She explains that Jesus is inviting you to move beyond your comfort zone and into the deepest places of your heart with him. It is Jesus who helps you root out the sin, sickness, and self-hatred in your life. Sr. Miriam assures us that we can look to him for comfort, love, and healing.



## St. Frances

Join the Tierney family as they celebrate the feast of Saint Frances of Rome, patroness of homemaking! Learn about practicing the corporal works of mercy in the home, the very Catholic Lenten history of pretzels and beer, and watch Kendra and three-year-old Barbara make something they like to call “trash can soup.” Find this episode’s feature recipes and more about liturgical living in the home at Catholic All Year. <https://catholicallyear.com/at-home/>.



## Living Lent as a Family

Dr. Ben Akers sits down with Augustine Institute Graduate School Professor Dr. Sehorn and his wife, Sarah Sehorn, to discuss liturgical living during Lent.

Our parish has a Formed subscription.  
Visit [signup.formed.org](https://signup.formed.org) and select our parish name.



# Lent:

Getting ready for Jesus' death and resurrection

Lent is the special time when we prepare for the celebration of Jesus' passion, death and resurrection. We get our souls ready by doing prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.



Prayer is talking with God. We need to talk with God even more than we need to talk to our family and friends. Lent is a good time to get into a habit of talking with God every day.

Fasting is eating less than you normally would. It's a good idea to give up a little something you like for Lent. Giving things up helps us remember we need God, not just food.



Almsgiving means giving to those who are in need. It helps us to be generous like God. Maybe you have a bit of money you can give to the poor or to the Church.



Answers to True or False: 1. true, 2. false, 3. false, 4. true, 5. false, 6. true, 7. false.

# The Kids' Bulletin

First Sunday of Lent  
March 9th, 2025



Luke 4:1-13

Jesus spent 40 days in the desert preparing for His work. During Lent we spend 40 days getting ready to celebrate Jesus' death and resurrection.

*Can you find your way into the desert to be with Jesus?*



# Saint John Ogilvie

March 10

JOHN OGILVIE WAS BORN IN SCOTLAND IN 1579. HIS FATHER RAISED HIM AS A CALVINIST. (CALVINISTS DON'T BELIEVE IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.)

God has already decided if we're going to Heaven or Hell.



Hm... The Catholics must be right!

JOHN WENT TO SCHOOL IN EUROPE. THERE HE LEARNED ABOUT THE CHURCH AND BECAME CATHOLIC AT AGE 17.



HE BECAME A JESUIT PRIEST AND WAS SENT BACK TO SCOTLAND.

I can only send you if you really want to go.



The name's Watson.



HE HELPED THE HIDDEN CATHOLICS, BUT WAS FOUND BY A SPY.



JOHN WAS TORTURED BUT WOULDN'T GIVE AWAY THE NAMES OF THE OTHER CATHOLICS.



I am loyal to the King, but to God first.



FATHER JOHN WAS PUT ON TRIAL THREE TIMES AND ACCUSED OF BEING DISLOYAL TO THE KING. HE WAS CONDEMNED AS A TRAITOR AND KILLED.

SAINTE JOHN OGILVIE SPENT MUCH OF HIS LIFE STUDYING TO LEARN THE TRUTH ABOUT GOD. ONCE HE KNEW WHAT WAS RIGHT HE KNEW HE HAD TO SHARE IT WITH OTHERS, SO HE BECAME A MISSIONARY IN HIS OWN COUNTRY. CAN YOU BE DARING ENOUGH TO TELL THE TRUTH NO MATTER WHAT?

# Jesus Was Tempted by the Devil: True or False?

How well do you know the story from today's Gospel reading?

1. Jesus went to the desert and didn't eat anything for 40 days. True or False?
2. Jesus was never tempted by the devil. True or False?
3. Jesus wasn't hungry, even after 40 days with no food. True or False?
4. The devil said that all the kingdoms of the world belonged to him. True or False?
5. Jesus said that He would only worship the devil if he gave Him all the power first. True or False?
6. Jesus wouldn't throw Himself off the Temple because He said it was "putting God to the test." True or False?
7. The devil kept bothering Jesus, even when he ran out of things to tempt him about. True or False?

