



SAINT DOMINIC PARISH

March 09, 2025

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Issue 10 | Volume 6

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Temptation

Deacon Terry Murphy

“Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, was led by the Spirit in the wilderness where for forty days he was tempted by the devil.”

These are the opening words of today’s Gospel. Jesus is driven, compelled by the Holy Spirit to face the fundamental dilemma of every human being: either to choose obedience to what is true and good as established by God, or to choose disobedience to God and surrender to the plan of Satan.

Every Lent begins with this story. Jesus is in the wilderness fasting for 40 days, struggling against the wiles of Satan. This event comes after a high point in Jesus’ life. At his Baptism in the Jordan, Jesus heard a voice saying: “You are my Son, the beloved with whom I am well pleased.” But it seems that this extraordinary blessing is not enough to equip Jesus for ministry. It seems that it is necessary for his own will and understanding to be engaged so that he will be strong and not stumble. And indeed, it is the Holy Spirit that leads him to struggle with the enemy. Jesus needs to get clear what it means to be God’s son and how he is to achieve his mission – And Satan basically tries to confuse him and lead him away from his mission.

And so here we are – the First Sunday of Lent once again. Lent seems to me to be a time for second chances. We have six weeks to mindfully repent, turn around, turn toward or maybe just stop in our tracks and

take an accounting of your lives. In a way during lent each of us is being driven into the desert. We are all called to repent – to turn towards justice for the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked, the sick and the prisoner.

Finding a quiet spot in our desert will allow us each to examine our consciences – both as individuals and a community. Only when we are aware of the subtle corruption that power and privilege bring to our spirits and our lives can we make choices that allow us to follow the example of Jesus.

We live in a society that is given a great deal of power and privilege – and Lent is a time when we are urged to examine how we use that power and privilege. Power can be used to exploit others – sadly as Canadians are now very aware. The way of Jesus is to use power for the good of all who will be affected.

Jesus not only battled temptation in the desert, in fact, he battled temptation until he gave up his spirit on the cross. He was able to choose faithful obedience to the father and that is the example that must be reproduced in each of us.

Temptation is something we each face every day in our lives. It is a battle between the Holy Spirit, driving us to choose Christ as our strength, our companion, and our Lord – and the person of Satan with the aim of rejecting Christ.

(... read the rest on our parish website)

PARISH LITURGIES

—FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT—

Tuesday, March 11 - St. Eulogius

8:30 am + Manuel & Anna Paikeday

Wednesday, March 12 - St. Fina

8:30 am + Charlie & Rita McAlinden

Thursday, March 13 - Bl. Agnello of Pisa

8:30 am + Clare Harvey

Friday, March 14 - Bl. Giacomo Cusmano

8:30 am + Gerald McGraw

9:00 – 10:00 am **Adoration**

7:00 pm Stations of the Cross

—SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT—

Saturday, March 15 - St. Louise de Marillac

4:00 – 4:30 pm **Reconciliation**

5:00 pm For:

+ Denise Snowdon, + Jose Andrade, + Rita Merrick, + Alice Ann Lemay, + Mary Ann Gilbert, + Sievers & O’Connor Families

Sunday, February 16

9:00 am For our

11:00 am Parishioners



Please pray for the health of Pope Francis!

All Catholics have a duty to pray for him, his health and his mission. He has been in hospital due to a respiratory infection and pneumonia.

For updates on his health, please visit vaticannews.va

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

We will be having Stations of the Cross to prepare ourselves adequately for the celebration of Easter. Please come and join us every Friday evening during Lent at 7:00 pm to celebrate the Way of the Cross.



Sometimes, it feels like Lent is just about giving up chocolate. But deep down, we all deserve to do something more for Lent – we just don't know how to do it. Join us for the next four Fridays after Stations of the Cross throughout Lent for a brief video reflection

THE INFANT JESUS OF PRAGUE



Blessed under the main sanctuary at the Monastery of Infant Jesus of Prague in Bohemia, a distinctive statue has traveled great distances to be installed in the chapel at Saint Dominic parish. This replica was a donation for our pastor Fr. Ranjan D'Sa. Devotions to the Infant of Prague are central to Carmelites, with models of the small statue honored in every part of the world. Unlike most religious models and figures, those of the Infant Jesus of Prague wear a crown and are clothed in ornate royal robes. Our replica holds a "globus cruciger", which symbolizes Christ's cross and dominion over the world (the orb). In conjunction with the installation of this replica at Saint Dominic, a novena to the Infant Jesus has been initiated. The novena is prayed every Tuesday following the 8:30 am morning Mass in the chapel.

History

Devotions to the Divine Child originated in the 17th century with the Carmel-

SANCTUARY LAMP



Our Sanctuary Lamp will be lit this week: Intentions of the Habash Family and in Thanksgiving

YOUNG VINCENTIANS

An important part of our Lenten practice is almsgiving. If you have any spare change, there will be a glass jar on the sanctuary for anyone who would like to donate to it for Lent. The change collected will be donated to our Young Vincentians Youth Group. Thank you for your generosity!

SACRAMENT OF FIRST RECONCILIATION

The Sacrament of First Reconciliation will be held on Thursday, March 20th at 6:30 pm for the children of St. Dominic and St. Nicholas Schools, who will be receiving the Sacrament of First Holy Communion in the Spring of 2025.

ites in the city of Prague. Early in that century, Princess Polyxenia of Lobkowitz received from her mother, a small Spanish-made statue of the Divine Child. Just 19-inches tall it was made of wood, wax and cloth. Following the death of her husband, the princess devoted herself to works of charity and became closely aligned with Prague's Carmelites.

At that time, the area was suffering from devastating wars, so the princess gave her precious statue to the Carmelites, telling them "to honor and respect the Child Jesus and you shall never be in want". Everything prospered with them as long as they kept up their devotion to the Divine Infant of Prague. However, when the ravages of war forced them to flee the city the miraculous statue was abandoned in the confusion. Peace came in 1635; the Carmelites returned.

Having received great spiritual help through his devotions, the Carmelite Father Cyril searched the area and found the statue amidst the rubbish. Overjoyed, he returned the statue to the Oratory. Gazing upon the simple figure, Fr Cyril contemplated the most marvelous event in history – the Incarnation, the God who became a child because of His love for us. Then a stunned Fr. Cyril, heard these words of promise:

"Have Mercy on Me and I will have mercy on you. Give me hands and I will give you peace. The more you honor me, the more I will bless you."

Indeed, the statue's hands were missing but were later restored.

Today, models of the small statue are honored in every part of the world and the list of blessings attributed by devotees of the Infant Jesus is endless.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR CHILDREN PREPARING
FOR THE SACRAMENT OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION
AND CONFIRMATION**

**HIGHLIGHTS FROM SHROVE TUESDAY
PANCAKE SUPPER**



You were missed... if you didn't attend our Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. It was another amazing evening, created by your local Social Committee along with a dedicated group of volunteers. We love serving our fellow parishioners and growing the sense

of community at St. Dominic. Our Mardi Gras-themed event featured the usual delicious pancakes and sausages, with a selection of home-made toppings, real maple syrup, a chocolate fountain and a very special King Cake prepared by one of our talented baker parishioners. And, the surprise highlight of this year's supper was a Mardi Gras parade featuring all of the children who attended. They came in riding an electric float, handing out beads, doubloons and other Mardi Gras trinkets.

Thank you to Father Ranjan for supporting our 'creative ideas' and to all of the volunteers, decorators, cooks, bakers and servers who made it such a fun, memorable evening. Our next event is our Annual Trivia Night on Saturday, April 26. Watch the weekly parish Newsletter for further details.



PARISH PENANCE CELEBRATION IN LENT

Mark your calendars

Thursday, April 3rd from 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE UPCOMING EVENTS

Tickets for our "Soups On" fundraiser to sponsor a DeMazenod Door BBQ will be available in the Narthex after all Masses on the weekends of March 8/9 and March 15/16. Please join us, only \$10 per person!

And our Annual Lenten Food Drive in support of Fare Share Food Bank begins the weekend of March 15/16 and continues until April 12/13. A list of requested items can be found in the March 2nd Parish Newsletter and will be posted at each entrance to the Church. Your support is very much appreciated!

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT - MARCH 9, 2025

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, to be a priest, religious, or deacon, contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988 Email: vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

*"When he calls on me, I will answer him;
I will deliver and give him glory.
I will grant him length of days."*

SAINT DOMINIC PARISH

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Deacon: Reverend Mr. Terry Murphy
Parish Accountant: Brian Thornton
Secretary: Mary Evans
Sacristan: Judi Kingry
Custodian: Peter Coffey

Parish Hours: Tuesday to Friday – 9:00 am to 4:00 pm (Closed from noon to 1:00 pm).

Follow us on social media!

Facebook: @saintdominicoakville & @saintdominicym
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HAMILTON DIOCESE PRAYER CALENDAR

Monday, March 10	Rev. Adam Voisin
Tuesday, March 11	Rev. Robert Bulbrook
Wednesday, March 12	Permanent Diaconate Candidates
Thursday, March 13	Rev. Jeffery Oering
Friday, March 14	Rev. Francesco Cucchi
Saturday, March 15	Rev. Mark Gatto

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