First Sunday of Lent

In each of the three Synoptic Gospels (Mark, Matthew, and Luke), after Jesus' baptism by John, Jesus is reported to have gone to the desert to fast and pray for 40 days. In each case, while in the desert, Jesus is tempted by the devil.

Matthew and Luke give more detail than Mark does, but each one tells how the devil tempts Jesus in the desert. In Matthew, as in Luke, the devil presents three temptations



to Jesus. The devil tempts Jesus to use his power to appease his hunger; he tempts Jesus to put God's promise of protection to the test; and he offers Jesus all of the kingdoms of the world if Jesus will worship the devil. In each case, Jesus resists the temptation, rebuking the devil with words from Scripture.

The account of Jesus' temptation in the desert is filled with allusions and parallels to the Old Testament, including the story of the people of Israel. The Israelites spent 40 years wandering in the desert in Exodus, for example, and Jesus spends 40 days in the desert. As the Israelites were tempted during the Exodus, so too is Jesus tempted.

Each temptation offers insight into both God and the human condition. Jesus' rejection of the temptations shows that he will not put God to the test. Grounding himself on the word and authority of Scripture, Jesus rebukes the devil, confident in God's protection and faithfulness.

As we start our journey through Lent, our Sunday readings call us to adopt the same confidence that Jesus had in the face of temptation: God's word alone will suffice; God's promise of protection can be trusted; God alone is God.

Family Connection

When Jesus resists the temptations presented to him by the devil, he draws on his religious upbringing and tradition. Jesus is able to quote from Scripture because he is the Son of God and because he was a human person who lived his Jewish beliefs fully. We who are responsible for raising children are also called upon to immerse them fully in our Catholic Christian tradition so that they too will be able to draw upon this tradition to resist the temptations they will face in their lives.

Use this Sunday as an opportunity to call your family's attention to the importance of Scripture in our lives. Gather your family around the family Bible and read today's Gospel, Matthew 4:1-11. Recall that Jesus rebuked the devil's temptations by quoting Scripture. Take some time as a family to talk about the words that are found in the Bible and the importance of Scripture to our faith. Perhaps the older members of the family can share a favorite Scripture passage with everyone. Younger family members can tell their favorite story from the Bible and be shown where that story can be found. In each case, encourage a deeper sharing of faith by asking each person to tell why the Scripture passage shared is important to him or her. Conclude your time together by again reading Jesus' reply to the devil found in Matthew 4:4 ("One does not live by bread alone . . .") and praying the Lord's Prayer.



No Baptisms During Lent (2/22-4/8)

Stations of the Cross during Lent:

Thursdays, 5:45 PM @ Saint Dennis, followed by Mass Fridays, 5:45 PM @ Our Lady of Loretto, followed by Mass

Help needed giving rides for parenting classes...

Crow Tribal Housing is requesting volunteer help in finding drivers to give rides to their location across from Song Bird Daycare on Tuesdays for students attending a parenting class from 1-2:30pm.

If you are interested, please contact Heather Bear Cloud at 406-679-4006.

Opening Song:



Closing:



The Bulletin

76 Highway 1–Box 57 Crow Agency, MT 59022
Parish Phone (406) 620-7500
Youth Ministry (406) 953-8931
crowcatholicparishes.com
facebook.com/crowcatholicparishes

Bro. Mike Dorn, OFM Cap. Administrator/Pastor Bro. Thomas Skowron, OFM Cap. Assoc. Pastor Bro. Jerry Cornish, OFM Cap. Youth Ministry

CONFESSIONS before mass and on request.

Sunday Mass Schedule:

9:30am – Saint Dennis

10:30am – Saint Charles Borromeo

12:00pm – Our Lady of Loretto

4:00 pm - Saint Francis Xavier

Daily Mass Schedule:

6 PM @ Saint Dennis – Tues/Wed/Thurs

6 PM @ Our Lady of Loretto – Fridays

The Roman Catholic Parishes of

Our Lady of Loretto Lodge Grass

St. Charles Borromeo

St. Dennis

Crow Agency

St. Francis Xavier

St. Kateri Tekakwitha

Stations of the Cross during Lent:

5:45 PM @ Saint Dennis – Thursdays 5:45 PM @ Our Lady of Loretto – Fridays

<u>Parish Hall:</u>

Tuesdays: Sewing Group @ 6pm, Meeting Room in Small Hall

Wednesdays: St. Dennis Cash Bingo @ 6:45pm, Main Hall

First Sunday of Lent

February 26, 2023

OPENING SONG – Báakukkoolak Jesus

SCRIPTURE READINGS begin on page 73
CREED-Apostles' page 10
MASS PARTS – Mass of Creation #884-888

CLOSING SONG – Akbaatatdía Iláaxbaaxpeesh alákaassaalahtaa