

## First Sunday of Lent – March 10, 2019

### 40 Days of Lent and the Root Sins

**Readings:** Deuteronomy 26:4-10; Psalms 91:1-2, 10-11, 12-13, 14-; Romans; 10:8-13; Luke 4:1-13

Let's ask ourselves a **tough question** today: am I a better Christian now than I was a year ago? Am I holier? Am I more like Christ? Am I really becoming the saint that God created me to be?

It's **uncomfortable** to ask questions like that. That's good. Lent is a time for us to feel uncomfortable. Jesus loves us too much to let us be **lazy**. He is like a good coach, always encouraging us to grow, to improve.

Unfortunately, many of us aren't growing as quickly or as constantly as we **should**. Professionally we are moving up, maybe. Academically, athletically we are making progress, but as **Christians**? Not really. We're still stuck where we have always been. On a plateau. The same temptations, the same falls, the same sins. We're still **mediocre** Christians.

**One of the reasons** for this is that we don't go to the **real roots** of our selfishness. We try to follow Christ more **faithfully**, but we don't do so **intelligently**. We keep trying to cut off the **branches** of impatience, or greed, or lust, or dishonesty, but the **roots** are still intact, so the branches **just keep growing back**.

In Jesus' temptation in the desert, the devil makes the mistake of **exposing the three roots** of all our sins. In each one of us, **one** of these roots is bigger and stronger than the others (though we all have all three).

If we can identify which is our main root sin, we can direct our spiritual work more intelligently, and **really start making progress** as Christians.

**Father Blake Evans, Pastor**



**Reminder:** NO flowers in the Church or Chapel during 40 days of Lent

**Stations of the Cross** - Fridays after the daily mass in Chapel. Friday at 6 pm during Holy Hour/Adoration in the Great Upper Church



**Nativity - Where Saints Have Walked.** St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta regularly prayed and worshiped here at Nativity. Her spiritual director was our former Priest of ADW and Pastor: Bishop William Curlin (who eventually lead the Charlotte, NC diocese). Please regularly invoke Mother Teresa's intercession for our needs and pray for the repose of our former Pastor Bishop Curlin. Curlin died in 2017 at the age of 90. He is buried at Belmont Abbey. Starting this month, we will have one mass per month for Bishop Curlin. We will also invoke Mother Teresa in our prayers of the faithful. Missionaries of Charity which she founded is among the largest Religious Orders actively working in the ADW. Fr. Evans worked with the MOC Gift of Peace AIDS hospice for one year during seminary 2003-2004.



**Rest in peace.**

**Mr. Lukas Pastier**, died on March 6<sup>th</sup>, father of our parishioner Andrea Cammack.

**Mr. John Haynes**. Funeral at Nativity on Tuesday, March 12 at 11:00 am

**"Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them Oh Lord"**



**BAKE SALE**

**The Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court 2344** are having a "Homemade Bake Sale" on Sunday March 10<sup>th</sup>. Join them in the Lounge after the 8am and 10am masses! All proceeds will help support Nativity Church.

**March 9 - 16, 2019**

Sat. 3/9	8:00 am	+David Booth
	4:30pm	+Jonathan C. Mitchel & Deceased family members
Sun. 3/10	8:00am	+Jonathan C. Mitchel & Deceased family members
	10:00am	+Martha Soto de Alosilla, Anibal Alosilla Lanaul & Isabel Soto Espinoza
	1:00 pm	People of the Parish
Mon. 3/11	12:00	Bob Myers (81 <sup>st</sup> birthday)
Tue. 3/12	<b>11:00am</b>	+John Haynes. <b>Funeral</b>
Wed. 3/13	12:00	+Leonard Gilchrist
Thu. 3/14	12:00	Makaila Head Myers (healing)
Fri. 3/15	12:00	Mr. & Mrs. Dan Tan
Sat. 3/16	8:00 am	Jose Guadalupe Bonilla (healing)
	5:30pm	Souls in Purgatory

**Please pray for the sick of our Parish:**

\*Alice R. Allen, \*Amina Anderson-Pringle, \*Theresa Arteaga, \*Ann Butler, \*William Cammack, \*Carmen Dolores Campos, \*Eileen Carroll-Doshier, \*Carla Andrea Catacora, \*Shawn Coleman, \*William Corbel, \*Maria Cruz, \*Maurice & Flora Detiege \*Kevin Fagan, \*Isel Fitzgerald, \*Linda Foster, \*Charlie Gick, \*Fr. Paul Grauls, SDB, \*John Green, Sr., \*Janet Henery, \*Blanca Hernandez, \*Lawrence C. Hill, \*Lee Hobbs, \* Sydney Horge, \*Francis Howard, \*James Humphries, \*Elaine Hunt, \*Helen Hurd, \*Larry Ivy, \*Irene Jimenez, \*Geraldine Jones, \*Charles Johnson, \*Odile Kalla, \*Michael Kelly, \*Busara Kennedy, \*Claude Kolthoff, \*Betty Lawton, \*Yavonna Lewis, \*Sandra Lucas, \*Eric Malcolm, \*Edwin & Regina Mbanude, \*Theresa McNair, \*Edith Mebane, \*Maria Magdalena Medrano, \*Agnes Moore, \*Clarence Morris, \*Gina Myers, \*Iris Newman, \*Amelie Ongbehalal, \*Father Everett Pearson, \*D. Cynhia Peters, \*James Pope, \*Dorothy Richburg, \*Auristela Roman, \*Rosa Maria Santos, \*Andre Sims, \*Bonafacio Selayo \*Delores Sloan, \*Adrian Smith, \*Bernadette Smith, \*Theresa Smith, \*Louise Sweatt, \*Suzie Thompson, \*Emily Towles, \*Dominic Valentine, \*Dorothy Waring, \*Paul Williams, \*Florentina Zoretta.

**Dollars and Diapers outreach Ministry 2019.** Please place all monetary donations into provided envelopes (also next to the altar) and be sure to only place the donation into the Sunday collection. Diapers may be dropped off at the front vestibule of the church in the labeled collection containers.

Recommended reading. **Overcoming Sinful Anger by Rev. T.G. Morrow.** Fr. Morrow is a priest of ADW and a Mount grad.

**ATTENDANCE REPORT**

**3/3/19**

Attendance: 411 souls  
Offerings & Tithes: \$7,995  
Spanish Mass: \$955  
Utility fund: \$238

**Question of the week:** Where do I encounter temptation? When do I give in? How do I withstand it?

**Bible Study is back!** - We return to Corinth and St. Paul's famous 1st/2nd Letter to the Corinthians. 5:45pm - 7pm Mondays with Fr. Evans in The Lounge (note change of Room!)



**Lenten Fish Fry.** Every Friday at 6 pm in the Lounge. This event will occur every Friday during Lent except Good Friday. Dinners are

\$10, sandwiches \$5. Proceeds provide grants, scholarships, and awards for parish activities. More information call Stephen Hawkins 202.285.6356 or Peter Gervais 202.494.7347

**Catholic Appeal.** The theme of the 2019 Appeal is "Our Faith. Our Hope. Our Mission." and is much different from a one-time special collection. It is a pledge campaign where you can make a gift, today, payable over ten months that will help support the ministries and mission of all our faith communities of the Church of Washington. Please find the Annual Appeal brochure and Frequently Asked Questions in your pew for your review. A gift to the Annual Appeal will touch the lives of thousands of people in a very positive way. Thank you for your prayerful consideration and generous response.

**YOUTH FAITH AND FUN DAY. MARCH 16, 2019**

For young people starting at 3<sup>rd</sup> grade to Senior in High School

- ✓ fun, games, lessons, lunch, daily mass, mentor help from young peers

At Nativity Church with volunteers from Our Lady of Bethesda Center. 1 Priest, 1 Brother, 1 Lay Youth Missionary; and 6 High School volunteers. Chaperones and other helpers are welcome. Cost \$5.00 per person (for food/drinks and material expenses). Donations are welcome! -

**The Divine Mercy Novena** will be prayed from Good Friday until Divine Mercy Sunday. The Divine Mercy chaplet on Monday is on hold during Lent. We will pray a Novena to St. Anthony of Padua for fallen away/lost Catholics.