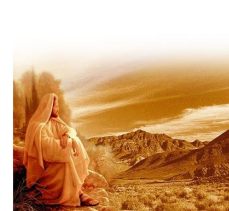


**GOSPEL SUMMARY: Mark 1:12-15**



Can you imagine a movie scene illustrating the first part of today's gospel story? Jesus is out in the desert where he is put to the test or tempted by Satan. But he is also surrounded by wild beasts and angel attendants. It must have been an interesting forty days Jesus spent preparing to proclaim the good news. "The reign of God is at hand," he announced in Galilee, and he called people to get ready for God's reign by reforming their lives. Lent can be for us like a new day dawning—just like the one Noah and his family experienced when the flood was over. It is a time for a fresh beginning and a renewal of our covenant to live as God's people.

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR THE GOSPEL:** In what ways do you want Lent to be a new beginning in your life as a Christian? What will you do to work towards these goals? Who or what might help you to experience Lent as "a new day dawning"? Jesus stayed in the desert for forty days, praying and preparing himself for his mission. God has a mission for each of us. What can you do to learn what that mission might be? What might help you prepare yourself for that mission? What kind of "fitness training" might you do during Lent to grow stronger in resisting temptation as Jesus did in the desert?

**QUESTION OF THE WEEK:** What does conversion mean to you?

**TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION:** Fasting may be a priority in your Lenten spring-cleaning regimen. Almost every religious tradition recognizes that fasting is a key to heightened spiritual awareness. You know this from your own experience. When you are engaged in a hobby, painting a room, keeping vigil near a delivery room, or standing watch at a sickbed, you may simply forget to eat. What you are doing so fills you that the intensity of the action is itself nourishing. In fasting from food, or drink, or habitual behaviors, you make room for what is truly important. Even though Lenten Sundays stand apart from the Lenten fast, you will notice traces of fasting in our liturgy. We fast from singing the Gloria and Alleluia, we fast from flowers bedecking the altar, and there may be a noticeable drop in the number of infant baptisms as parents elect to wait until Easter. This hints that fasting is a prelude to feasting, and the vigor of our Easter alleluias is rich fare after a long silence. In the same way, even a small fast—no cream in the coffee, no pepper in the soup, no radio in the car—can not only point to deeper hungers, but help us rejoice more fully in the feast when we break our fast together.—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

- Mon: Gn 4:1-15, 25; Ps 50:1, 8, 16bc-17, 20-21; Mk 8:11-13
- Tues: Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10; Ps 29:1a, 2, 3ac-4, 3b, 9c-10; Mk 8:14-21
- Wed: Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-6ab, 12-14, 17; 2 Cor 5:20 — 6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
- Thurs: Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 9:22-25
- Fri: Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-6ab, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15
- Sat: Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-6; Lk 5:27-32
- Sun: Gn 9:8-15; Ps 25:4-9; 1 Pt 3:18-22; Mk 1:12-15



“Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.” — MATTHEW 5:7

St. Pius X Parish is pleased to participate in the 2015 “Called to be Merciful” Annual Catholic Appeal. This appeal supports charitable needs throughout the Diocese of San Diego. Your gifts make possible the work that impacts so many in our diocese: service to the poor and imprisoned, education for children in Catholic schools and training of catechists, formation of candidates for the priesthood, ministry to our youth and to young people on university campuses, preparation of couples for marriage, and support for parish development in Imperial Valley. Please make your intention to Annual Catholic Appeal. You can make your contribution online at [www.diocesediago.org](http://www.diocesediago.org), or by picking up a brochure and response card here at the parish. Cards and brochures are available at all the Masses.

**Called to be Merciful Prayer**

Loving God, we thank you for calling us together. In you we are one. Help us to remember that united, we are called to be merciful and love one another through the generous sharing of our time, gifts, and resources. Please bless our efforts and help us to grow as a unified and vibrant community of faith. Give us the grace to generously support the Annual Catholic Appeal so that we may faithfully do the work of Your Church. Amen.



**Each of Us.** The Annual Catholic Appeal is an opportunity for each of us to be good stewards and to put our Catholic faith into action. Thank you to those listed below who have responded so quickly:

- |                            |                            |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Anonymous                  | Raphael and Bedria Ablahad |
| Walt and Tina Jellison     | Annika Mawn                |
| Len and Cyndie Dasho       | Dr. Carmen de Llano        |
| Rodney Snow                | David and Heather Belus    |
| The Gerhardstein Family    | Joseph A. Coppola          |
| Joyce Elliott              | Anonymous                  |
| Ricardo and Olga Rodriguez | L. Guadalupe Wendell       |

In your mercy, please pray for the repose of the soul of long time parishioner **James Kurupas** who died peacefully this week. Funeral plans are forthcoming. ~ Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. ~

**Hispanic Group Breakfast/Lunch in Keenan Hall Sunday**



Sat	Feb 21	Sunday Vigil/First Sunday of Lent	5:00PM	+Louis Barletta
Sun	Feb 22	First Sunday of Lent	8:30AM	(SI) Bedria Ablahad
Sun	Feb 22	First Sunday of Lent	11:00AM	+Greg Barker
Sun	Feb 22	First Sunday of Lent	12:30PM	For the Parishioners
Mon	Feb 23	St. Polycarp/Lenten Weekday		NO MASS
Tues	Feb 24	Lenten Weekday	7:30AM	For the Parishioners
Wed	Feb 25	Lenten Weekday	7:30AM	For the Parishioners
Thurs	Feb 26	Lenten Weekday	7:30PM	For the Parishioners
Fri	Feb 27	Lenten Weekday	7:30AM	For the Parishioners

**Announcements**

- OFFERING REPORT:** Our weekly offering from Feb 15, 2015 was **\$4468.07**. Thank you for your love and support.
- LENTE BIBLE STUDY:** Come study with Deacon John in Keenan Hall on Wednesday evenings at 6:00PM.
- STATIONS OF THE CROSS.** Our Lenten journey continues with Stations of the Cross every Friday at 5:30PM.
- LENTE FISH DINNER.** The Knights of Columbus are serving their famous fish dinners in Keenan Hall every Friday during lent. Dinner service starts at 6:00PM.
- MMLG Tea.** Ladies, after the Mass today, members from the Mother Mary's Ladies Guild will be giving out a handy reminder of their upcoming April 25th tea. Be sure to obtain this special item!
- TAX PREPARATION:** By Paul Agpaoa; 45 Years Tax Preparation Experience. Bring all your documents and last year's tax return to Paul in the church office on Sundays between 7:30AM and 12:00PM and have your taxes prepared. Most returns take 15-30 minutes. Fellow parishioner, **Paul Agpaoa, will prepare your taxes and will donate 100% of his fee to St. Pius X Catholic Church of Jamul.** Agpaoa Tax Services, 1442 Highland, National City, CA 91950 619-474-1547.
- G.O.L.F.:** The next session of G.O.L.F. is Sun, **March 1**. Parents, please remember the meeting ends at 11:30AM. We require that you do not leave early. Attendance will be taken at 11:15AM and anyone not present at that time will be marked absent for the entire meeting. Please attend Mass on Sat, **Feb 28 @ 5PM** or Sun, **Mar 1 @ 8:30AM**.
- LOCAL BUSINESSES:** When the need arises, please remember the advertisers on the back of the bulletin. Their continued support makes our bulletin possible.



**ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY 2015.** The St Pius X Knights of Columbus will be hosting the 2015 Adults-Only St Pat's Party on Saturday 21 March. The party starts at 6PM with a social hour and dinner at 7PM. The St Pius X Youth Group will furnish babysitting for those that want to attend and have children. Tickets go on sale 21-22 February after each Mass. Tickets are \$35 per couple and \$20 per single. Please note, tickets will be only be sold when paid in full so please bring cash or a check. Get your tickets early to help us plan properly and also to save some \$\$ - tickets at the door will be \$20 each. Dinner will feature corned beef and cabbage, vegetables and roasted chicken. The Knights will be operating a no-host bar. There will be a 50/50 raffle and silent auction. We will have a DJ again with dancing at the completion of dinner and the auction. Please come out and support your parish while having a GREAT TIME!



**LIFE AFTER LOSS**

Another series of our bereavement program will begin on April 6. If you or anyone you know has lost a loved one, you are welcome to attend. We meet on seven consecutive Mondays from 7:00PM to 8:00 PM. Contact Sister Margaret Eilerman for further details. 619-670-9663 or [Eilerman@cox.net](mailto:Eilerman@cox.net).



**LENTE REGULATIONS**

**Abstinence.** All who have reached their 14th birthday are to abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday and on all Fridays during Lent.

**Fasting.** All those who are 18 and older, until their 59th birthday, are to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Only one full meal is allowed on days of fast. Two other meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to one's needs. But together, they should not equal a full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids are allowed. The obligation does not apply to those whose health or ability to work would be seriously affected. People in doubt about fast or abstinence should consult a parish priest.