



YEAR OF FAITH 2012-2013

**17 February 2013 – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent**

*People of God, you who are tempted to let consumers' goods make you their slave and prisoner, Jesus refused to be fascinated by them and he wants us to hunger for people, for prayer and for God.*

*People of God, you who are tempted to impress people and to control them, Jesus came to bring the power of love and he tells you*

*to serve God in people. People of God, you who are tempted to create your own idols and to make yourself the center of the world, Jesus wants us with him to worship only God.*

*With him who overcame our temptations let us confidently enter this Lent.*



**THE DEVIL'S TRAPS**

*Search for pictures of the devil or Satan and you will see images of a snarling face, long gnarled horns, hooves dripping with blood, red skin, and a tail. But those*

*who tempt us to do evil are not at all like these pictures; many of them smile sweetly and have excellent social skills.*

*The snake in the Garden of Eden was not frightening or threatening; he just talked very persuasively, and once Adam and Eve listened to him and ate the forbidden fruit they knew their world was turned upside down. After Jesus' baptism in the Jordan, the same smooth talker who brought catastrophe on Adam and Eve tried his wiles on Jesus. He tried three powerful tests. Jesus rejected them all and the Tempter left, unable to turn Jesus' heart away from God. The invitation to do evil is perpetually present, so that all of us face versions of each temptation faced by Jesus. And it's never a matter of simply breaking the rules. Where the Evil One gets a real foothold is when something becomes a sinful habit, a persistent thread in our lives, especially if we fail to recognize the harm it is doing to us and others. The harsh words shouted once in anger and regretted are less damaging than a persistent habit of belittling people.*

*Breaking one's marriage vow and being deeply repentant is not like a pattern of cheating over many years. The Church, with the wisdom of generations of experience, provides Lent, this annual season of spiritual "spring cleaning." If it has been a while since you went to confession, consider it now. If you go to the sacrament and confess the same sins over and over, ask yourself why. God forgives not just once, but for always.*

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**ADULT CONFIRMATION** – Our DRE, Sr. Celia Piala , will hold Sessions for **ADULTS** who would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

**DATE: SATURDAYS OF APRIL**

To register and for more information, come to the FCMM Office.



**RENEWAL OF MARRIAGE VOWS** -The Family Life Ministry of the Filipino Mission will host on **Saturday, June 22, 2013** a special celebration for couples marking their 25<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 35<sup>th</sup> and above years of being consecrated Ministers of Matrimony.

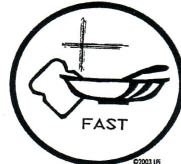
**FOR MORE INFORMATION : CONTACT ANY MEMBER OF THE FAMILY LIFE MINISTRY or COME TO THE FCMM OFFICE !**

FAST + PRAY + SHARE + FAST + PRAY + SHARE

**Lenten Discipline**



Lent is about penance and baptism. **The first half of Lent** calls the Christian community to penance for personal sin and for the sins of the community. **We are invited to a deeper sense of PRAYER** – reflecting on the direction of our lives, connecting with the Lord Jesus; changing our lives.



**We are invited to FAST** – to fast is to empty ourselves making room for the Lord and for hospitality to others, especially the poor.

**And we are invited to give ALMS: Our Share Lent collection** takes place Palm Sunday. Donor fatigue is never an option for the believer who takes discipleship seriously. Penance remains an important theme through **the second half of Lent** but now we reflect on **the power of baptism and renewing our**



**baptismal commitment** at Easter.

**Lenten Thoughts**

**WHERE HAVE ALL THE FLOWERS GONE?**

Why is the church so barren during the Lenten Season? During Lent the altar should not be decorated with flowers. Flowers are usually signs of festivity. But when you think about it, flowers are emblems of many different things. They are signs of festivity, consolation, of life and the shortness of life. The flowers of early spring are harbingers--they point to something even more wonderful to come. The absence of flowers during Lent helps to emphasize the importance of Easter and makes the anticipation of Easter more meaningful...we are on a journey to the Cross and beyond. Jesus is with us as each daybreaks!

**EMPTY HOLY WATER FONTS**

Why are the holy water fonts empty during Lent? The absence of water can serve to remind us of the desert where Jesus spent 40 days. It also reminds us that during Lent we anticipate and prepare for the "new waters" of Baptism that constitute the celebration of Easter. We call to mind the need we have to renew our baptismal promises in the new water at Easter. May the empty fonts remind us of the importance of our own baptism and the need that we all have for renewal in body, mind and spirit as we journey through Lent.



**PRAYING THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS** is a popular devotion in both the Eastern and Western Churches. It was developed during the Crusades when the knights and pilgrims began to follow the route of Christ's way to Calvary. This devotion spread throughout Europe and was promulgated by the Franciscan friars in the 14th and 15th centuries. Eventually, the Stations of the Cross became an important catechetical tool, and the popularity of this devotion inspired some of the greatest

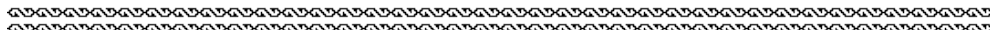
examples of medieval Christian art. Some scholars believe that medieval miracle plays, which were essentially tableaux of Christ's life, developed from the sculptured representations of the Stations of the Cross in the great Churches. These scenes from the Way of the Cross have provided inspiration for many of the world's greatest works of visual art.

During Lent or Holy Week most parishes have a service of Stations at least once. It is worth taking children to this so that they can participate with other Catholics in this timeless and very moving devotion. Why don't you bring your children to Church and visit the beautiful Stations so that they can look closely at the depictions of Christ's way to Calvary. The visual representations, combined with the prayers and meditations, help to deepen our understanding of the Way of the Cross, which will be of great spiritual benefit for all Catholics of all ages.

Excerpt from the [Directory on Popular Piety](#), approved by Pope John Paul II, issued December 2001



**COME, JOIN US each FRIDAY during LENT at 6:00 p.m. to pray the Stations of the Cross, recalling and meditating on Jesus' journey from His condemnation to his burial in the tomb. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will follow after the devotion.**



**"I have now brought you the first fruits of the products of the soil which you, O Lord, have given to me."** -

Deuteronomy 26:10

This simple line from the Old Testament presents us with two challenges. First, do we bring God our first fruits – the best that we have to offer? Second, do we remember that everything we have has been given to us by God? We brought nothing into this world and we can take nothing from it. So why not share what we have while we are here?

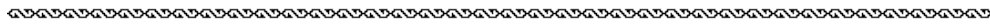


**Your Offerings for the week ending February 10, 2013 totaled \$ 1,765. 50**

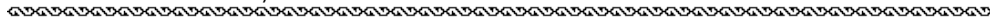
**Thank you for your continuing generosity !  
God bless you always !!!**

**WHAT IS A REASONABLE WEEKLY DONATION TO MY PARISH?**

One suggestion that we make is to consider donating the equivalent of your **"First Hour of Work"** each week to the Lord.



The SANCTUARY LAMP this week is burning for the **GLORY OF GOD** and **FOR THE REPOSE THE SOULS OF ALL DEPARTED RELATIVES AND FRIENDS** offered by **TONY and NORMA FOZ**.



- ❖ To the **new arrivals** from the Philippines;
- ❖ To the **visitors** from other places;
- ❖ To those who have **been away and are back**;
- ❖ We join in the **Thanksgiving Intentions** of:



**DOLORES PURAY, CARING, BUTCH BABY LYNN & LAIZA, NORMA FOZ, CARING BACOSA, ALEX & JOESPHINE TABORADA, CRISTITA ALLANA, DAPHNE ALLANA, THE CATECHETICAL MINISTRY, SHEENA VISARIO, ESCOLASTICA JIMENEZ, ARIES PAVICO, LEIDA TADEO, MINERVA APELO, JASMINE APELO.**

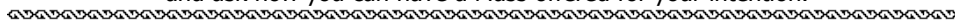


❖ Your prayers are humbly requested for all the sick and suffering members of our Mission community and their loved ones especially: **FR. ROGER BEGIN pme, SR. ELIZABETH RELACION mic, SR. LUZ PADERANGA op, ALFREDO PADERANGA SR., FE PADERANGA, ANNIE MOJADO, ELECITA ARACENA, BALDOMERA AMBAYEC, JULIA PERLAS-TAN, JOSEFINA BANGALAN, DAWN DELA PAZ, JOSIE LIMLENGCO, CARMENCITA TRIVINIO, BERNARDINO FERNANDO, IKE OSDON, TERESITA JALEA, WILFREDO DARIO, JOHN NICHOLAS MEJIA, TERESITA PLAMENCO, OLIVER MARTINEZ, PATRIA FEDERIZO, ANTONIO FOZ, ALICIA GINES.** May God bring them healing and peace.

❖ Remember also all of our **deceased relatives and friends**, especially **CLAUDIO SAN JUAN JR. III, ROSAVILLA TABORADA, NELSON TABORADA, UZZI TABORADA, CARMEN WILWAYCO FERNANDO, RANDY TOLENTINO, SANTOS GONZALES, JUVILIE TANGOG, JUANITO MAGNO, EVELYN RAY, ALL SOULS IN PURGATORY** and those dying everyday in battles and calamities around the world. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

## MASS INTENTIONS

Do you have a deceased relative for whom you wish all the Grace of God; or perhaps a dear friend who could use a bit of divine assistance in their lives, or simply if you have reason to offer thanksgiving for a new-born son, daughter, God-child, niece, nephew or the like? Well the Sacrifice of the Mass contains within it all of the graces of God and all that man can do to worship Him. Stop by or call the FCMM office (514 – 387 5292) during normal business hours and ask how you can have a Mass offered for your intention.





**Everywhere, wherever you may find yourself, you can set up an altar to God in your mind by means of prayer.**

*—The Way of a Pilgrim*