

Gospel Meditation:

The Spirit leads Jesus into the desert to be tempted by the devil, and we hear this: "He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was hungry." Seems like a questionable battle preparation plan. When I fast, I usually feel grouchy at best, and at worst, like I might pass out from longing for a hamburger. Isn't it better to be well-fed and fully hydrated, especially to face spiritual struggles? Why fast?

This might help. The origin of the word "fast" means to "hold firmly." We still use it that way when we say, "I held fast to my original decision." We human beings are a bundle of desires which vie for our attention: food, drink, comfort, safety, sex, laughter, beauty, and so on. If we can't manage to have firm grip on them, in short order they'll have a firm grip on us. By fasting from our lower desires, we learn to firmly grip on to what is greater. Fasting leads to us to a firmer hold on our body and mind.

Jesus fasts for us. He's showing us that his grace can help us regain this firm hold of our lives, which makes it more difficult for the devil to tempt us. But take it one more step. Fasting also teaches us to finally hold fast to Jesus, the Word of God in flesh. "Man does not live by bread alone," he says, "But by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God." Jesus' fasting reveals his fast hold to the Father in everything. May our fasting help us to grasp ourselves more firmly, and then to hold fast to Jesus alone.

— Father John Muir

Meditación del Evangelio:

El Espíritu lleva a Jesús al desierto para ser tentado por el diablo, y escuchamos esto: "Ayunó durante cuarenta días y cuarenta noches, y después tuvo hambre". Parece un plan de preparación de batalla cuestionable. Cuando ayuno, generalmente me siento malhumorado en el mejor de los casos, y en el peor, como si me desmayara por anhelar una hamburguesa. ¿Qué no es mejor estar bien alimentado y completamente hidratado, especialmente para enfrentar luchas espirituales? ¿Por qué ayuno?

Esto podría ayudar. El origen de la palabra "ayuno," "fast" en ingles, significa "mantenerse firme" En español seria como "aferrarse." Todavía lo usamos de esa manera cuando decimos: "Me aferré a mi decisión original". Los seres humanos somos un manojo de deseos que compiten por nuestra atención: comida, bebida, comodidad, seguridad, sexo, risa, belleza, etc. Si no podemos lograr tener un agarre firme sobre ellos, en poco tiempo tendrán un control firme sobre nosotros. Al ayunar de nuestros deseos inferiores, aprendemos a aferrarnos firmemente a lo que es más grande. El ayuno nos lleva a un control más firme de nuestro cuerpo y mente.

Jesús ayuna por nosotros. Él nos está mostrando que su gracia puede ayudarnos a recuperar este firme control de nuestras vidas, lo que hace que sea más difícil para el diablo tentarnos. Pero da un paso más adelante. El ayunar también nos enseña a aferrarnos finalmente a Jesús, la Palabra de Dios en carne. "No sólo de pan vive el hombre", dice, "sino de toda palabra que sale de la boca de Dios". El ayuno de Jesús revela su firme agarre al Padre en todo. Que nuestro ayuno nos ayude a comprendernos más firmemente, y luego a aferrarnos solo a Jesús.

— Father John Muir

YOUR STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

February 19, 2023

Sunday Collection	\$ 4,159.79
Vigil Candles.....	\$ 101.55
Facilities Improvement.....	\$ 2.00
Donations.....	\$ 514.00
Mass Intentions.....	\$ 20.00
Bulletin Ads.....	\$ 180.00
Catholic Relief Svcs.....	\$ 351.80

Second Collection - March 4 - 5:

Facilities Improvement Fund



PILGRIM CENTER of HOPE INVITES MEN of ALL FAITH JOURNEYS

CMC

CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE
"Master, I want to see." - Mark 10:51

SAT., APR. 29, 2023 1/2 DAY EVENT
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, 8500 Cross Mountain Tr.

Bishop Gary J. Jenkins, M.A., L.P.C.-S
Auxiliary Bishop of San Antonio

Fellow Men Like You

Fr. Ken Geraci, CPM
The Father of Mercy

SET YOUR COMPASS

Taco Music

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE PERFECT TO BEGIN ANEW IN CHRIST.

Parish Lenten Penance Service

Tue, March 14th - Penance Svc: 6:30 pm - Examination of Conscience
 (*Servicio de Penitencia*) 7:00 pm - Individual Confessions

Get closer to the God of the universe... closer to Jesus! Strengthen your relationship with God... Traditionally... we “give – or offer – up” things we tend to love too much... Things that we sometimes place before God... *sports... food... etc. making them our #1...*

When we “give up” something for Lent, we’re supposed to do it so that we can make more room for Jesus, not just make our lives more challenging!

So what’s your focus?

Take a look at your Lenten resolutions... and ask yourself where they are leading you.

If they’re not leading to a more solid relationship with God... you may want to think about readjusting them.



Acércate al Dios del universo... ¡más cerca de Jesús! Fortalece tu relación con Dios...

Tradicionalmente... "Damos u ofrecemos" cosas que tendemos a amar demasiado... Cosas que a veces ponemos delante de Dios... *deportivo... viveres... etc. convirtiéndolos en nuestro #1...*

Cuando "*renunciamos*" a algo para la Cuaresma, se supone que debemos hacerlo para que podamos hacer más espacio para Jesús, ¡no solo para hacer que nuestras vidas sean más desafiantes!

Entonces, ¿cuál es tu enfoque?

Echa un vistazo a tus resoluciones de Cuaresma... y pregúntate a dónde te están llevando.

Si no están conduciendo a una relación más sólida con Dios... Es posible que desee pensar en reajustarlos.

SERVICIO DE PENITENCIA BILINGÜE

Habrá un Servicio de Penitencia Comunal
el Martes, 14 de marzo.

Será precedido por un Examen de Conciencia.

Varios sacerdotes estarán disponibles para escuchar confesiones individuales.

Aprovecha esta oportunidad para prepararte para la Pascua. Trae a la familia... Dile a un amigo...

¡Mantengamos ocupados a nuestros sacerdotes!

6:30 pm - Preparación con Examen de Conciencia

7:00 pm - Confesiones

BI-LINGUAL PENANCE SERVICE

There will be a Communal Penance Service
Tuesday, March 14th.

It will be preceded by an Examination of Conscience.

Several priests will be available to hear Individual Confessions.

Take advantage of this opportunity to prepare for Easter. Bring the family... tell a friend...

Let’s keep our priests busy!!

6:30 pm - Preparation w/Examination of Conscience

7:00 pm - Confessions



Help Us Feed The Hungry

“Because hunger has no season”

40 Cans For Lent is a program designed to help fight hunger in our community. The concept is simple-collect cans of food during the Lenten Season; a small sacrifice to make a BIG difference in the lives of those in need of food in our community. All food donated will help stock our St. Vincent de Paul neighborhood food pantry. Below is a list of needed items for the SVDP Food Pantry. Collected items can be placed in the blue barrels located in the breezeways of the church. Cash donations are always welcome! Thank you for your support.

Needed Items

- Peanut Butter - 18 oz. jars preferred
- Jelly
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Cereal
- Spaghetti
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Canned Tuna
- Canned Green Beans, Corn, and other vegetables
- Canned Peaches, Pears, and other fruit
- 1 lb. Bags of pinto beans
- 1 lb. Bags of white rice
- Soup
- Canned Beans (refried, ranch, pork & beans)
- Toilet Paper

CAN ALSO USE

- Canned Pasta (Ravioli, Spaghetti-O’s, etc.) and Chili
- Canned Spam, Ham, Chicken, Vienna Sausage
- Ramen Noodles
- Soap
- Body Wash
- Deodorant
- Razors
- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste

PLEASE NOTE - We cannot accept expired or raw food.

REMINDER – Unbreakable Containers ONLY.

PRAYER CANDLES

Keep your prayers for your Loved-Ones and other Special Intentions alive!

Our Pastoral Council will be selling Prayer Candles again this year.

The Cost is \$6.00 per candle... and ***must be pre-paid.***

(orders will be taken February 23rd thru March 31st).

Candles will be lit and displayed on the altar during our Holy Thursday Holy Hour... Candles will be available for pick-up after Easter Sunday. Envelopes are available at all of the Church entrances.



VELAS DE ORACION

Mantenga sus oraciones por sus seres queridos y otras Intenciones Especiales vivas!

Nuestra Consejo Pastoral venderá Velas de Oración de nuevo este año.

El costo es de \$6.00 por vela... y ***deben ser pagadas por adelantado.***

(los pedidos se tomarán del 23 de febrero al 31 de marzo)

Las velas se encenderán y se exhibirán en el altar en nuestra Hora Santa del Jueves Santo... y estarán disponibles para recogerlas después de Pascua.

Los sobres estan disponibles en las entradas de la Iglesia.

STICKS, ROCKS, and BROKEN POTS

Often times during the Lenten season the Sanctuary area is decorated with twigs and broken pottery. Several people have already asked about the symbolism of these things. So... I thought I'd get ahead of the curve and put my 2-cents in early. *(my 2-Cents Only)*

Lent is a time of Penance, a time of Purification. It's often compared to a walk through the desert where we are purified along the way. The Rocks, Sticks, and Broken Pottery are symbols of that desert walk.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

**St. Thomas More
Knights of Columbus
Council 7386
BBQ Plate Sale**

When: March 26, 2023 *(Sunday)*
Where: Carolan Hall
Plate: 1/4 chicken, 1 sausage link, beans, rice, jalapeño, pickles, bread, & bottle of water
Cost: \$12/Plate *(curbside pickup only)*
Serving: 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Contact: Noah Carrizales @ (210) 459-9270

PALOS, PIEDRAS y OLLAS ROTAS

Muchas veces durante la temporada de Cuaresma, el área del Santuario está decorada con ramitas y cerámica rota. Varias personas ya han preguntado sobre el simbolismo de estas cosas. Así que... Pensé que me adelantaría a la curva y pondría mis 2 centavos temprano...*(mis 2 centavos solamente)*

La Cuaresma es un tiempo de Penitencia, un tiempo de Purificación. A menudo se compara con un paseo por el desierto donde nos purificamos en el camino. Las rocas, los palos y la cerámica rota son símbolos de ese paseo por el desierto.



WEEKDAY HOLY HOUR

Our Weekday Holy Hour has resumed. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed from Noon until 1 pm weekdays during the Lenten Season until Friday, March 31st.. *(exceptions being funerals, etc).*

HORA SANTA ENTRE SEMANA

Nuestra Hora Santa diaria se ha reanudado. El Santísimo estará expuesto desde el mediodía hasta la 1 pm entre semana durante la temporada de Cuaresma hasta el Viernes, el 31 de marzo. *(las excepciones son los funerales, etc.).*

GUADALUPANOS' LENTEN RETREAT

Friends and Family Members of St. Thomas More: You are invited to our Guadalupanos' Lenten Retreat Join us for this inspiring event! *(Free Admission)*

**Saturday, March 18, 2023
8 am to 12 pm**

We will begin with Mass at 8 am followed by the Retreat in Carolan Hall

Guest Speaker: Deacon Larry Lindsey
Contact: Irene Negrete (210) 219-1130 or Belinda Trevino (210) 275-6529

All are Welcome!



This Week at Our Parish

Sunday, February 26, 2023
 8:00 am KC Breakfast - *Carolan Hall*
 10:00 am CDA Mass - *Church*

Monday, February 27, 2023
 12:00 pm Daily Holy Hour (12 - 1p) - *Church*

Tuesday, February 28, 2023
 12:00 pm Daily Holy Hour (12 - 1p) - *Church*
 5:30 pm Divine Mercy - *Rectory Mtg Room*
 6:30 pm Coro Alegria Choir Practice - *Rectory Mtg Room*
 7:00 pm Grupo de Oracion Choir Practice - *Church*

Wednesday, March 1, 2023
 10:30 am Charismatic Prayer Group Board Mtg - *RMR*
 12:00 pm Daily Holy Hour (12 - 1p) - *Church*

Thursday, March 2, 2023
 12:00 pm Daily Holy Hour (12 - 1p) - *Cancelled /Funeral*
 Holy Hour - *Church*
 6:00 pm Lenten Faith Sharing - *Carolan Hall*
 6:30 pm RCIA - *Rectory Mtg Room*
 7:00 pm Grupo de Oracion (Via Crucis Practice) - *Outside*

Friday, March 3, 2023
 12:00 pm Daily Holy Hour (12 - 1p) - *Church*
 6:00 pm Stations of the Cross - *Church*
 6:30 pm Guitar / Choir Practice - *Rectory Mtg Room*
 6:45 pm Via Crucis - *Church*
 7:15 pm Grupo de Oracion (40 Dias de Cuaresma) - *Church*

Saturday, March 4, 2023
 4:00 pm Reconciliation - *Church*
 Cenaculo de la Divina Misericordia - *RMR*

Sunday, March 5, 2023
 10:00 am KC Mass - *Church*



Sanctuary Light Intention:

Baby Dawn, Misty Dawn, Jeremy, and Roxanne Espinoza

Lecturas de la Semana del 27 febrero - 5 marzo

Lunes: Lv 19:1-2,11-18; Sal 18:8-10,15; Mt 25:31-46
Martes: Is 55:10-11; Sal 33:4-7,16-19; Mt 6:7-15
Miércoles: Jon 3:1-10; Sal 50:3-4,12-13,18-19;
 Lc 11:29-32
Jueves: Est C:12,14-16,23-25; Sal 137:1-3,7-8;
 Mt 7:7-12
Viernes: Ez 18:21-28; Sal 129:1-8; Mt 5:20-26
Sábado: Dt 26:16-19; Sal 118:1-2,4-5,7-8; Mt 5:43-48
Domingo: Gn 12:1-4; Sal 32:4-5,18-20,22; 2Tim 1:8-10;
 Mt 17:1-9

Readings for the week of Feb 27 - Mar 5

Monday: Lv 19:1-2,11-18; Ps 19:8-10,15; Mt 25:31-46
Tuesday: Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7,16-19; Mt 6:7-15
Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4,12-13,18-19;
 Lk 11:29-32
Thursday: Est C:12,14-16,23-25; Ps 138:1-3,7c-8;
 Mt 7:7-12
Friday: Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-5,7-8; Mt 5:20-26
Saturday: Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2,4-5,7-8; Mt 5:43-48
Sunday: Gn 12:1-4a; Ps 33:4-5,18-22; 2Tm 1:8b-10;
 Mt 17:1-9

Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 25, 2023
 8:00 am **STM Parishioners - Living and Deceased**
 †Theresa Hoi by Kim Nguyen
 †Sonia Hernandez by Hernandez Family
 †Joe Canales by Canales Family

Sunday, February 26, 2023
 8:00 am †Genevieve Oswald by Oswald Family
 †Carl & Amy Oswald by Oswald Family
 10:00 am †Roxanne, Jeremy & Misty Dawn Espinoza by Pablo & Irene Negrete
 †Verena Frerich by Volpenhein Family
 12:00 pm †Ralph Carcia by T.S.Garza
 †Rafael Garza by T.S.Garza

Monday, February 27 2023
 8:00 am †Dean Lansing by T.S.Garza

Tuesday, February 28, 2023
 8:00 am †Maria Garza Bustamante by T.S.Garza

Wednesday, March 1, 2023 (Communion Service)
 8:00 am †John Duong by Nguyen Family
 †Rafael Garza by T.S.Garza

Thursday, March 2, 2023 (Mass)
 8:00 am **All Ordained Clergy and Religious**

Friday, March 3, 2023
 8:00 am †Marguerite McCoy by Jose & Stella Lopez
 †Olivia Lopez

Saturday, March 4, 2023
 8:00 am †Al Weinheimer by Carolyn Weinheimer
 †Jose V. Arispe by His Children
 5:00 pm †Christina C. Dominguez by Dominguez Family
 †Matthew St.Laurent by Volpenhein Family

Sunday, March 5, 2023
 8:00 am **STM Parishioners - Living and Deceased**
 †Anthony Sanchez by Alfredo & Irma Sanchez
 10:00 am †Medardo E. Morales & Evangelina G. Morales by Morales & Briseno Family
 †Estella Esquivel by Hector & Deana Herrera
 12:00 pm †Kathryn Marie Sweet by Maria T. Sweet
 †Servando Castillo by Wife & Children

Liturgical Roles

Saturday, March 4, 2023
 5 pm Altar Servers - (None)
 Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Ed, T.S.Garza, T.Guerrero, M.Fisher, E.Guerrero
 Lector - M.Fisher

Sunday, March 5, 2023
 8 am Altar Servers - (None)
 Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Tim, P.Klar, R.Saldiva, M.Nguyen, R.Davila
 Lector - S.McCarthy

10 am Altar Servers - Z.Ramirez, J.Cantu, Volunteer
 Eucharistic Ministers – Dcn Rolando, H.Rdriguez, N.Rodriguez, R.Davis, M.Briseno, M+W.Torres
 Lector - Abi.Perez

12 pm Altar Servers - A.Gomez, S.Obregon, Volunteer
 Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Ed, DC John, L.Lopez, M.Pina, E.Obregon, T.Sweet, (+2 Vol)
 Lector - E.Licon / L.Lopez