



THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2026



Dear Friends in Christ,

On Ash Wednesday we received ashes on our foreheads. We have begun our Lent. We call this: the Holy Lenten season for this is the time of salvation and the time that the Church calls all of her children to become holy and holier by fasting, praying, and practicing self-sacrifice and charity.

This is also the time given to us to seriously look deeper into our heart and mind and find out what prevents us from coming closer to God. What sins, particularly *the seven deadly sins*, or what bad habits have been keeping us away from God (not going to Church on Sunday and Holy Days of obligation, not receiving God's Divine Grace frequently in the Sacraments, especially Penance and the Eucharist, not practicing God's Commandments and His Church's teaching on faith and morals.)

The temptation is, once again, so sweet, so attractive, so persuading and convincing, and so often it does "make sense" to human wisdom! The first Adam was so weak; he fell into the temptation so easily and quickly (based on the narrative of the Book of Genesis). On the contrary, Jesus, the New Adam, is so strong. He defeated Satan by using the POWER of the WORD of GOD!

We are all tempted; we are weak too. However, we do receive the HELP from our Savior Jesus Christ through the Sacraments of the Holy Eucharist and Penance. By the way, when was the last time you have reconciled with God? How many times have you received Jesus in the Holy Eucharist without confessing the mortal sins on your soul and thought that it was OK?

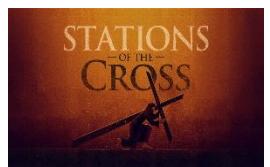
Friends, the call to conversion is not only reserved for Lent (forty days), but for our whole life. Nevertheless, the Church wants to reserve these Forty Days of Lent first, to follow the example of Jesus preparing Himself in the desert by fasting and praying for forty days before He went into His public ministry - doing His Father's will - that led Him to Calvary to be crucified for the sins of the whole world. Secondly, the Church wants to prepare us more effectively to celebrate the most powerful and joyful event of our Christian faith: The Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Without dying with Jesus and for Jesus, we will not share in His glory; we will not be raised with Him on the last day to join our Savior in Heaven. The secular world wants us to die for material things, in pleasures of the flesh, in hatred and resentments, in unfaithfulness and deceiving, in "grey" morality (no right and no wrong; everything is just OK) . . . which will lead us to damnation (by our OWN CHOICE).

May this Gracious Lenten Season open the holy way and lead us back to God and His Church with our humility and sincerity. Amen.

Pax, Fr. Tien

The Women's Guild will pray
The Stations of the Cross on
Friday, February 27th, at 12:00
noon following Adoration and
Benediction. All are invited to attend.



OCLA-Adult Education on Monday night February 23rd at 7 PM is **Prayer**. What in its very basic form is prayer? What types of prayer does the Catechism teach about? Why is the Liturgy of the Hours called the second prayer of the Church? What is the first? Come join your fellow parishioners in the spirit of fellowship. Snacks provided. Deacon David and the Education Team



Volunteers needed: Please come to the planning meeting on Thursday, February 26th, at 6:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center for Fr. Tien's Jubilee. Help is needed for location and shelter, food and supplies, servers, decorations, gifts, program, clean up and fund raising.

Presentation of the Gifts: There is a listing of the presenters on the bulletin board on the left as you come into Church. Please keep your assigned day or call Charlene Galbrecht at 954-263-8157 to find a replacement.



Pray for healing: Shirley Allegretti, Donna Barbaro, Dolores Botti, Chad Cook, William Crunkleton, Susan Darby, Lillianne Duong Davis, Tony Frede, Sarah Fricks, Dariel Hellerer, Wayne Hirsch, Sarah Holloran, Bill Holten, Guyla Ivers, Anette ML Jiglau, Sandra Kanter, Georgette Lee, Terry McConnell, Michelle Mercer, Dee Moffitt, Delphine Moss, Monica Moya, Benjamin Nemeth, John Ontiveros, Freeman Robinson, Josette Roisin, Kathleen Rogers, Mike Scarborough, Bill Shaw, Roxanne Lumia Smith, Wanda Stamey, Irene Tisdale, Art Todesco, Alan Tucker, Ruby Christina Tucker, Joe and Charlene Youdell, Rosalie Perreault, David Ramsey, Susie Lopez Pineda, Kamri Peck, Kathy Tallent, Denise Burkart, Steve Keener, Connie Blackburn



Please pray for our parishioners and all men and women in the armed forces:
Angel Avila, Stephen Fox, Lauren Richard, Christopher Richards, Jesus Rodriguez and Elizabeth Scoon



Rosary is prayed ½ hour before every Mass.
Adoration every Friday after our 9:00 a.m. Mass with the Chaplet of Divine Mercy at 11:30 a.m. and benediction till noon.
Reconciliation ½ hour before Vigil Mass and Wednesday at 6:15 p.m.

Donations made easy!
Here is our QR Code that you can scan with your phone.



Please remember to keep Saint Francis Parish in your will.

Mass Schedule and Intentions

Saturday, February 21

Saint Peter Damian
Bishop and Doctor of the Church
4:00 P.M. **†** Holy Souls in Purgatory

Sunday, February 22

First Sunday of Lent
9:00 A.M. Art & Nell Keener by Steve & Debbie Keener
† Mario Suniga by Debbie Keener
11:30 A.M. **†** Holy Souls, **†** Sergio Montero
† Jose Juan Montero Luna

Monday, February 23

Saint Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr
9:00 A.M. **†** Holy Souls in Purgatory, **†** Sam Long
Christopher, Carol Carter

Tuesday, February 24

NO MASS

Wednesday, February 25

5:30 P.M. **†** David Ruiz Ordaz
† Holy Souls in Purgatory
† John Long

Thursday, February 26

9:00 A.M. **†** Holy Souls in Purgatory

Friday, February 27

Saint Gregory of Narek, Abbot and Doctor of the Church
9:00 A.M. Matthew Ramsey
† Ismael Trujillo, **†** Luis Muniz
† Holy Souls, **†** Sergio Montero
† Jose Juan Montero Luna

Saturday, February 28

4:00 P.M. **†** Holy Souls in Purgatory
Special Intention by Jim Holloran

Sunday, March 1

Second Sunday of Lent
9:00 A.M. **†** Caleb Watson by Dee Moffitt
† Gonzalo Barriga, **†** Betty Green Ivy
11:30 A.M. **†** Holy Souls, **†** Xochitl Mendoza
† Marciano Diaz Ordaz
† Antonina Arango Diaz
† Marciano Diaz Acevedo