



St Peter's Church, Phibsborough

Parish Newsletter

First Sunday of Lent: 9 March 2025

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, 9th March

Mick Breslin (A)
Thomas Brennan (A)

Monday, 10th March

June Pierce (A)
Juan Pablo Silva (1st A)

Tuesday, 11th March

St Aengus, bishop and abbot
O'Kelly & Healy Family (SI)

Wednesday, 12th March

Paul Healy (RD)

Thursday, 13th March

Michael O'Reilly (A)
Eddie Lawrence (RD)
John Lawrence (D)
Ann, Maria & Ellen Mooney (A)

Friday, 14th March

Kathleen, John & David Cullen (D)

Saturday, 15th March

John Sutton (A)

This Week

- Monday - weekly Mass and Novena in honour of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal takes place at 7.00pm.
- Tuesday - tea & coffee for all in the Chapel of Adoration after the 10.30am Mass.
- Saturday - Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament takes place after 10.30am Mass

The Road Through Lent

Prayer, Temptation, Everyday Life

We Ourselves and Jesus

A fellow student in secondary school asked: 'Should I take on temptation to try out my will-power?'. The priest-teacher wisely replied: 'It would be presumption to rely too much on our will; we need God's grace too'.

Jesus in today's Gospel (Luke 4) after a 40-day desert retreat, is tempted by the devil: 1. towards unlimited pleasure (expressed in bread from stones); 2. towards riches/ possessions (Kingdoms of Earth); 3. towards power, glory (by a celebrity stunt at the Temple). Jesus triumphs, ousting Satan's treachery and lies.

Today's Scripture Teaches Us

Lent has begun. It's a season that calls us to grow spiritually and humanly. At first in the Church, it was quite brief, but from the time of St Athanasius (340) it has been 40 days. Today's Reading 1 is from Deuteronomy 26. It has the call of Moses to give God supreme honour. This book was edited about 550 BC, though the basic event went back to c1250 BC. Reading 2 also points to God's glory (Romans 10), and the invitation to follow Christ, the Saviour of all. The Gospel entices our desire to have a sense of deep purpose along the pilgrims' way to Easter.

Our Lenten resolve and perseverance

We advance with the model of Christ's long desert prayer, His conquest of the temptations, and His readiness for mission. We have daily prayer, self-discipline, regular Confession, doing without extra things to aid some people in need (e.g. through Trócaire, SVP). We could think of daily Mass, in addition to Sunday. We can find more inspiration for a good life by reading stories of the saints, and Catholic papers. St Teresa of Avila speaks of 'A very determined determination'. This mindset is a strong push not to give up, but to stay with Christ in a sound spiritual life of progress.

Fr Eamon Flanagan, CM

Mass times this week:

Monday - 10.30am and 7.00pm
Tuesday / Wednesday / Thursday - 10.30am and 6.30pm
Friday - 10.30am and 6.30pm (Stations of the Cross after 6.30pm Mass)
Saturday - 10.30am and 6.30pm (vigil)



ONLINE - LENTEN TALKS

Lent is a time to reflect on the profound meaning of Christian pilgrimage through the lives of St Vincent de Paul and St Louise de Marillac.

WEEK 1 (9th March) - THE DESERT EXPERIENCE - Fr Mark Noonan, CM

<https://www.vincentianfamily.ie/lenten-talks-the-desert-experience-fr-mark-noonan-cm/>



LITURGICAL READINGS FOR: Sunday, 9 March 2025

FIRST READING

A reading from the Book of Deuteronomy

Moses said to the people:

'The priest shall then take the panner from your hand and lay it before the altar of the Lord your God.

Then, in the sight of the Lord your God, you must make this pronouncement:

"My father was a wandering Aramaean. He went down into Egypt to find refuge there, few in numbers; but there he became a nation, great, mighty, and strong. The Egyptians ill-treated us, they gave us no peace and inflicted harsh slavery on us.

But we called on the Lord the God of our fathers. The Lord heard our voice and saw our misery, our toil and our oppression; and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with mighty hand and outstretched arm, with great terror, and with signs and wonders.

He brought us here and gave us this land, a land where milk and honey flow.

Here then I bring the first-fruits of the produce of the soil that you, the Lord, have given me."

'You must then lay them before the Lord your God, and bow down in the sight of the Lord your God.'

The word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Response: **Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.**

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Scripture says:

The word, that is the faith we proclaim, is very near to you, it is on your lips and in your heart.

If your lips confess that Jesus is Lord and if you believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, then you will be saved. By believing from the heart you are made righteous; by confessing with your lips you are saved.

When scripture says: those who believe in him will have no cause for shame, it makes no distinction between Jew and Greek: all belong to the same Lord who is rich enough, however

many ask his help, for everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory!

Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit through the wilderness, being tempted there by the devil for forty days. During that time he ate nothing and at the end he was hungry. Then the devil said to him, *'If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to turn into a loaf.'*

But Jesus replied, Scripture says: *Man does not live on bread alone.'*

Then leading him to a height, the devil showed him in a moment of time all the kingdoms of the world and said to him, *'I will give you all this power and the glory of these kingdoms, for it has been committed to me and I give it to anyone I choose. Worship me, then, and it shall all be yours.'*

But Jesus answered him,

'Scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.'

Then he led him to Jerusalem and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple.

'If you are the Son of God,' he said to him *'throw yourself down from here, for scripture says:*

"He will put his angels in charge of you to guard you," and again,

"They will hold you up on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone."

But Jesus answered him,

'It has been said: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'

Having exhausted all these ways of tempting him, the devil left him, to return at the appointed time.

The Gospel of the Lord.

COLLECTIONS - Sunday 2nd March

Parish (1st Collection, incl. Online/Payzone) = €1,267.12

Envelopes (incl. Online/Payzone) = € 570.00

Share (2nd Collection) = € 304.69

Thank you for your support to the parish and to the Diocese.

IN LOVING MEMORY

Please remember in your prayers all those who died recently especially Maurice O'Connor (Ulster Street).

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Amen.

DATE FOR DIARY

Child Safeguarding & Best Practice training for all our volunteers & staff will take place on **Tuesday 11 March 2025 at 7.00pm in Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Navan Road.** This training takes place every three years and is for all in any kind of ministry in our parish. All 4 parishes in our Partnership will attend.