

SAINT MARY of the Assumption



Roman Catholic Church
Manchester, Michigan



REVEREND FR. BOSCO PADAMATTUMMAL
Administrator

DEACON DENNIS WALTERS
210 West Main Street • PO Box 249
Manchester, Michigan
Phone: (734) 428-8811
stmarymanchester@gmail.com
www.stmarymanchester.org

WEEKEND MASSES:
Sunday 8:30 am and 10:30 am
Vigil Mass Saturday at 5:00 pm

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT ♦ FEBRUARY 21, 2021

Rev. Fr. Charles E. Irvin
1933-2021



"Fr. Charlie"

Pastor at St. Mary, Manchester, 1997-2002



Requiescat in Pace, Fr. Charlie

FR. CHARLIE'S CHOSEN QUOTE ON THE PRIESTLY LIFE
(from his ordination holy card)

Every Christian, especially the Christian priest, must be a witness.

To be a witness consists in being a living mystery.

It means to live in such a way that
one's life would not make sense
if God did not exist.

(CARDINAL SUHARD)

View a heartwarming video of Fr. Charlie at:
[youtube.com/watch?v=F4_Cjbqqu6Q](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F4_Cjbqqu6Q)



IN OUR STRUGGLE...

— Fr. Bosco Padamattummal —

We have just begun the Season of Lent. There are no flowers decorating our altar. The color of vestments is no longer green. Today's gospel reading (Mark 1:12-15) gives us the rather disturbing image of Jesus in the wilderness being tempted by Satan.

Satan recognizes Jesus' identity as Son of God, as proclaimed by God at the time of Jesus' baptism: "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." **Satan puts that identity to the test** by suggesting that Jesus use his power as the Son of God to work extravagant miracles. His very identity and the character of his life's work were put to the test.

The gospel reading suggests that **what allowed Jesus to come through this time of temptation** was the word of God. Jesus resisted each temptation, by quoting from the Scriptures:

- "We do not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God."
- "You must not put the Lord your God to the test."
- "You must worship the Lord your God and serve him alone."

The word of God guided and empowered him in this time of great vulnerability.

— continued on p. 2



Happy Birthday, Tom Burch!

On Thurs., Feb. 4 our fellow parishioner Tom Burch celebrated his 80th birthday, and the following Saturday Tom's family invited us all to wish him the best by driving past Tom's front window and waving to him and honking. *(Note: Please keep Tom in your prayers as he is struggling with serious health issues.)* Among the 30+ cars were 3rd and 4th degree Knights of Columbus members, pictured here standing outside Tom's window to honor him on this day. May our dear Lord bless you, Tom!

St. Mary's Parish Weekly Calendar ♦ Feb. 20-28, 2021
Mass Intention [requested by], & parish activities

SAT. FEB. 20 *Saturday after Ash Wednesday*

Is 58:9b-14 • Lk 5:27-32



3:30-4:30pm Confessions
† Stations of the Cross prayed 20 min. before Mass
➤ 5:00pm VIGIL MASS for the First Sunday of
Lent: † Mitch Zink [Betty Cummings]

SUN. FEB. 21 *First Sunday of Lent*

Gn 9:8-15
1 Pt 3:18-22
Mk 1:12-15



8-8:15 and 10-10:15am Confession
† Stations of the Cross prayed 20 min. before Masses
➤ 8:30am MASS: † Rev. Fr. Charles E. Irvin
[The people of St. Mary's parish]
➤ 10:30am MASS: For the people

MON. FEB. 22 *Feast: The Chair of Saint Peter the Apostle*

1 Pt 5:1-4
Mt 16:13-19

➤ 12:10pm MASS: INT. Sara Tervo (health)
[Sue & Wayne Tervo]
12:45pm Lenten Bible Study / FFH
3:30-4:45pm Rel Ed classes / PC

TUES. FEB. 23 *Lenten Weekday (opt. mem. St. Polycarp, Bishop & Martyr)*

Is 55:10-11
Mt 6:7-15

➤ 8:30am MASS: † Paul O'Sullivan
[Ellen O'Sullivan and family]
7:00pm Lenten Bible Study / FFH

WED. FEB. 24 *Lenten Weekday*

Jon 3:1-10
Lk 11:29-32

➤ 8:30am MASS: † Colleen Curley
[Jeff & Connie Schaffer]

THUR. FEB. 25 *Lenten Weekday*

Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25
Mt 7:7-12

➤ 8:30am Mass: † Tom Kladzyk
[Bill & Astrida Panches and family]

FRI. FEB. 26 **MEATLESS FRIDAY** *Lenten Weekday*

Ez 18:21-28
Mt 5:20-26



➤ 8:30am MASS: † Dick Krzyzaniak
[His loving wife Shirley Krzyzaniak]
3:30-7:00pm FISH FRY DINNER
(DRIVE THRU-TAKE OUT / PC)
† 7:30 pm Stations of the Cross
8:00-9:00pm Confessions



SAT. FEB. 27 *Lenten Weekday*

Dt 26:16-19 • Mt 5:43-48



3:30-4:30pm Confessions
† Stations of the Cross prayed 20 min. before Mass
➤ 5:00pm VIGIL MASS for the Second Sunday of
Lent: For the people

SUN. FEB. 28 *Second Sunday of Lent*

Gn 22:1-2, 9a,
10-13, 15-18
Rom 8:31b-34
Mk 9:2-10



8-8:15 and 10-10:15am Confession
† Stations of the Cross prayed 20 min. before Masses
➤ 8:30am MASS: † Eddie Walz [Norman & Laura
Childs]
➤ 10:30am MASS: † Jeannie Lynn Davis
[Alice Kidd]

FR. BOSCO'S ARTICLE FROM PAGE 1, continued:
In our Struggle...

When Jesus gave his disciples – and all of us – the prayer that has become known as the Lord's Prayer, it included the petition: **“Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.”** Jesus seems to have been aware that, just as he was tempted in a very fundamental way, so too would his followers be tempted. Just as his identity as Son of God was put to the test, so too would our own baptismal identity be tested. This gospel reading is placed at the very beginning of Lent because **Lent is a season when we are invited to become more aware of the reality of our baptismal identity.**

What does our baptismal identity look like and mean in the wilderness? **The wilderness temptation isn't so much about choosing what we will do or not do, but rather choosing who we will be or not be.** The identity we choose will determine what we do or don't do. Jesus didn't go to the wilderness to prove something to his Father but to learn for himself who he is, what it means to be a beloved child of God, and the cost that carries. That's true for us as well.

That's **our wilderness journey** – whether in the wilderness of social problems, the wilderness of a broken marriage or friendship, the wilderness of chronic illness, the wilderness of sorrow and loss, or the wilderness of a shattered dream. **The wilderness tempts us to forget** who we are or to believe we are less than who God has declared us to be.

The temptations we face come from within, not from outside of us. The deceiver and adversary that tempts is a voice from within us. See if any of this sounds familiar:

- Have you ever** acted a particular way and presented a particular persona in one situation or with one group of people but in a different situation or with a different group changed how you acted or the persona you presented?
- Haven't there been times when** you were conflicted, when one part of you said this and another part said that? I know it has happened to me. When my parishioners in United States belong to two different political parties, and the parties hold different moral values and political values, I always thought I needed to keep a balance between them for the good of the parish.
- Have you ever** claimed a particular value or belief for yourself, but then said or did the exact opposite, contradicted your own values and beliefs?
- Have you ever** kept quiet and been afraid to speak the truth because it was unpopular or costly? Do you ever go along just to get along?

Ultimately, those conflicts and contradictions are about our identity.

If we are baptized into the life of Christ, declared to be beloved children of God, if that is our given identity, **then shouldn't it also be the identity** that governs who we are, the words we speak, and the actions we take? **Shouldn't that be the thread that runs through**

our life with all people and in all situations? It's where we discover for ourselves who we are and to whom and to what we give our loyalty. It's where we see the values that govern our lives.

We happily wear Christ's cross around our necks, but are we willing take up our own and follow him? At what point do we risk betraying our baptismal identity? Dear brothers and sisters, St. Paul puts it very clearly: **“Where sin abounds, grace abounds all the more.”** **In our struggle with temptation, we have wonderful resources at our disposal:** *the Holy Spirit, the word of God, the sacraments, the inspiration of faithful followers of the Lord.* We enter Lent in the knowledge that the Lord was tempted, and he answered every temptation with the Scriptures. Let this Year of the Bible help us to overcome temptations by the grace that we receive from the word of God. †

N.B. In consideration of the continuing concerns for health with covid, BISHOP BOYEVA ANNOUNCED the following:

“I decree that the faithful of the Diocese of Lansing are dispensed from the obligation to attend Holy Mass on Sundays and other Holy Days of Obligation until Sunday, May 16, 2021, inclusive.” He reminds us **all that we are still obliged to keep the Lord's Day holy.** [See: dioceseoflansing.org/sites/default/files/2021-02/Decree-to-extend-dispensation-from-sunday-mass-to-may.pdf]

Pray the Stations of the Cross



Fridays at 7:30 pm and 20 minutes before each weekend Mass

Fish Fry



Fridays during Lent Come by this Friday

February 26 3:30-7:00pm

AT ST. MARY'S PARISH CENTER 108 E. MADISON ST.

FAST DRIVE-THRU TAKE-OUT!

\$12

Our Shared Parish Almsgiving Project: EASTER FOOD BAGS

Again this year, St. Mary will be collecting specific food items to create 10 Easter Food Bags that will be distributed by Manchester Family Services. There will be sign-up sheets in the vestibule soon. Please take a minute to look them over, and then sign-up for whichever item or items you wish to donate. The items requested are: • 6-8 lbs. hams; • canned baked beans; • 5 lb bags of potatoes; • black olives; • green olives; • canned green beans; • mushroom soup; • French's French Fried Onions; • Pillsbury crescent rolls; • applesauce; and • frozen apple pies. More information to come.

"Heaven, Hell, Angels, and Demons"

Perhaps you can make Lent even more fruitful by delving deeper into the Church's teachings on these four powerful realities. Sessions meet each week, now through March 22/23 in Fr. Fisher Hall. Choose either Mondays at 12:45pm or Tuesdays at 7:00pm. Join with friends for 90 minutes of video and conversation.

Talks on Saint Joseph at the Pious Union

During this "Year of St. Joseph," the Pious Union of St. Joseph in Grass Lake has scheduled talks on St. Joseph every 3rd Sunday of the month. This month the talk is today, Sun., Feb. 21 at 6:00pm. Come in-person or watch live on Facebook (Piousunion/Shrineofstjoseph) or the Shrine website (www.piousunionofstjoseph.org). For more info, call 517-522-8017. O most blessed Patriarch, glorious St. Joseph, who was chosen to be the foster father of the Word made flesh and the chaste spouse of Mary, pray for us.

Home Services Tech Sought

Catholic Social Services of Washtenaw County is seeking someone experienced with general repairs and maintenance. Ideal opportunity for handy college students or retirees looking for steady work helping those in need! A part-time position, open to flexible weekly schedule. Position provides in-home chore and minor repair services to seniors in need. Minimum of two (2) years' experience with general repairs and maintenance, carpentry, weatherization, and plumbing; also performs seasonal chores work such as lawn mowing, gutter cleaning, and snow removal. Professional, courteous demeanor and excellent customer service skills required. Great pay with benefits. For more info, email: mullins@csswashtenaw.org



The SANCTUARY LAMPS are burning this week for the following intentions:

PLEASE PRAY THIS WEEK...

- 1)+Martin Brogley, Sr., Martin Brogley's Dad (Bill & Astrida Punches & family)
- 2)+Mitchell Zink, father of Eric Zink (Jim & Marja Warner)

Birthday Blessings!

- Feb. 21 Tyler Ball
- Claudia Damian
- Feb. 22 Loretta Widmayer
- Feb. 23 Anthony Bargardi
- Astrida Punches
- Feb. 24 Anna Cocco
- Francis Cousino
- Ellen O'Sullivan
- Feb. 25 Ethan Villarreal
- Feb. 26 Kimberly Bargardi

Please Pray for...

- Sara Tervo
- Roxanne Rickert Bush
- Melody Binkerd & family
- Joe Novak
- Luise Kienzle
- James Strong
- Christy Woody
- Annie (sister of Lynn Waldecker)
- Jerry Kripas
- Tom Burch
- Paula Saft
- Leon Ball
- Bruce Sommers
- Patrick Muldoon

...and for the repose of the soul of Fr. Charles Irvin



St. Mary Roman Catholic Church Stewardship

WEEKLY COLLECTION: Sunday, Feb. 7, 2021

Sunday Env (63)	..... \$ 6,829.02
Welcome & Loose	..... 25.16
Christmas (1)	..... 5.00
Solemnity of Mary (1)	..... 10.00
Utilities/Fuel (2)	..... 150.00
E-giving (8)	..... 682.25
Combined toward budget:	\$ 7,701.43
Budget goal:	..... 5,300.00
Amt ABOVE goal:	..... + \$ 2,401.43
OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS:	
Bldg & Maint (9)	..... \$ 360.00
E-giving Bldg & Maint (1)	..... 20.00
Worldwide Evang (1)	..... 40.00
E-giving World Evang (1)	..... 20.00
Poor Box	..... 6.00
Votive candles	..... 5.00



KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Heavenly Father, we give You thanks and praise for Your Son, Jesus Christ. Send Your Holy Spirit to inspire holy, faithful men to minister as priests. Lord, we pray for Your grace to encourage and support our seminarians as they endeavor to become priests. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Diocese of Lansing Seminarian Jon Bokuniewicz, St. Augustine, Howell



Heavenly Father, we give You thanks and praise for Your Son, Jesus Christ. Send your Holy Spirit to inspire holy, faithful women to become Brides of Christ and serve Your people. Lord, we pray that Your grace and love be enough for this woman in discernment of consecrated life. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Discerner of Religious Life Laura Schramm

NEED HELP? ALTERNATIVES TO ABORTION: Call (800) 57WOMAN (800-579-6626) - OR - Text for Help: "HELPLINE" to 313131

Need Help? PROJECT RACHEL (post-abortion reconciliation and healing) Call the confidential phone line: 517-993-0291, or email nlc@resurrectionlansing.org

NEED HELP? "COURAGE" is a Catholic spiritual support group for those struggling with same sex attraction. "ENCOURAGE" is a separate support group for families & friends. For info in the Diocese of Lansing, call 517-342-2596 or email caverart@comcast.net

NEED HELP? An "AA" group meets Fridays at 7:00pm at Emanuel Church, 324 W Main St. (next door to St Mary's)



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