**BULLETIN 02-18-2024**

***FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT***

 ***Pastor’s Message***

**Brothers and Sisters in Christ,**

We begin our Lenten season with ashes as a symbol of penance, of dying to our sins and we end our Lenten season with the water of Baptism at Easter Vigil, as a symbol of rebirth, of a new life in the resurrection of Jesus.  So Lent is a journey with Jesus, a journey from death to life, a journey from dying to our sins to a new life in Jesus.

This Sunday, the First Sunday of Lent, Jesus invites us to enter the desert with him as the gospel of this Sunday says: “And Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was hungry. The tempter approached and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command that these stones become loaves of bread.” Jesus replied: “It is written: One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God” (Mt. 4:1-4).

We, Christians, possess the most valuable treasure in the world: Jesus Christ is among us and within us.  Sometimes we are out of touch with the treasure that we are possessing, and out of touch with the riches that we already have.  Why? Perhaps, we focus much on some of the external dimensions of life, and we are tempted to identify ourselves with material possessions, with earthly riches, with social positions and fame.  But we are indeed missing something, we are missing the treasure which we have and possess in our life; that is the Lord, the Lord of life and of our being.

The journey with the Jesus during Lent is a journey of spiritual discovery, to discover the Life of Christ within us.  It is also a journey to discover ourselves, to recognize who and what we are. Even though we are sinners and unworthy to be with the Lord, the Lord has granted us grace to possess the Lord in our life.

Let us joyfully journey with the Lord during this holy season.

— Fr. Joe

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***1.*****We would like to extend our utmost thanks to your commitment and generosity to support our parish’s DSA campaign. Please continue to help our parish meet the DSA goal this year. Thank you!**

***2.******Please take home the Lenten rice bowls and put coins or cash into them and bring them back to church at Easter to support the Catholic Relief Services to feed the hungry throughout the world.***

***3.*****Our parish Lenten penance service will be on Thursday March 07 at 7:00pm. Please come to be reconciled with God and with others.**

***4.******Every Friday during Lent, there are the Stations of the Cross at 6:00pm in the church, followed by fish fry in the parish center. Please come to meditate on the way of the cross and support our parish fundraising.***

***5.*****The Knights of Columbus are doing a fundraising raffle to help the poor. The tickets are $5.00 each. The top prize will be $5,000.00.  The drawing will be May 4th, 2024.  Please see a Knight for tickets.**

***6.******If you need a financial statement of your financial contributions to our church last year for your tax purposes, please call the church office. We are happy to do it for you.***

**MASS INTENTIONS**

02/17 Saturday 4:00 pm + Eugene Rosensky

02/18 Sunday 7:00 am + Bob & Marian Dilloway

 9:30 am + Lloyd & Geneva Warren

 12:00 pm + Andres Moreno Venegas

02/19 Monday NO MASS

02/20 Tuesday 7:00 am + Giuse Toan Nguyen

02/21 Wednesday 7:00 am + Maria Tuget Nguyen

02/22 Thursday 7:00 am + Paul Farrar

02/23 Friday 7:00 am + Phanxico Xavie Tai Nguyen

**NEXT WEEKEND**

02/24 Saturday 4:00 pm + Emmery Evans Jr. & Terrence Richardson

02/25 Sunday 7:00 am + Bob & Jeanne Rathburn

 9:30 am + Linda Styron

 12:00 pm + Salvador Perez Galindo

 **(+) Deceased (SI) Special Intention**

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*All are welcome*

**Fridays in Lent**

**Stations**

**of the Cross**

**6:00pm**

**Followed by Fish Fry**

**In the parish center**

(Eat-in or take-out)

***VIRTUS*** is changing to **CMG Connect**

The Diocese of Charlotte is enhancing its Safe

Environment program. Details forthcoming!

**Let Us Pray For Our Parishioners...**

Johnny Apodaca

Tracy Barber

Joseph Carter

Angel M. Cuellas

Marie Forbert

Theresa French-R.

Amanda Garcia

Mario Garcia

Willa Graham

Myles Harris

Maria Hdz.

Aber Johnson

Jorge Lagueruel

Deacon Larry Lisk

Daysi Martinez

Linda McKinney

Felicia Murphy

Nancy Nkwokolo

Gladys Ozor

Hector Sanchez

Maria G.Sanchez A.

Mariane Smith

Paula Rodriguez

Andrew Royster

***DePaul Academy*** *at Christ the King*

\* NC Pre-K Program

\* Children must be 4yrs old by Aug 31 2024

\* Program starts September 2024

\* Free to all who qualify

\* Pick up Application at the school

\* For more info contact the school

**(336) 781-0064 or (336) 875-1449**

 **LAST WEEK’S COLLECTION**

 Offertory: $ 3,395.00

 DSA: $ 8,215.00

 Total: $ 11,610.00

***THANK YOU!***

**DSA - ONE BODY IN CHRIST**

God blesses us in many ways every day. Let us be grateful by giving a gift to the DSA. You may drop your completed pledge card into the collection basket. Our parish assessment for 2024 is $23,396.00. Please be generous to the Diocesan Support Appeal.

**Kellin Foundation**—For professional help with prevention, treatment and healing of trauma/ mental health/substance use challenges: **336-429-5600**

**Interactive Resource Center—** Day resource center for those facing homelessness: 336-332-0824. InteractiveResourceCenter.org.

**CURSILLO**

Would you like to connect with a group of joyful

Catholic friends who are thriving in a disconnected secular world?

If so, Cursillo may be just the thing you are looking for.

 **FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:**

**DR. JOHN MCKINNEY**

**336-886-3086**

**DOCLUV2RUN@HOTMAIL.COM**

**Raffle**

Charity Fundraiser—Sponsored by Knights

Tickets are $5.00 each \*\* Top prize $5,000.00

**Sales end on April 13th, 2024**

**Please see a Knight for tickets**

— Curtis White — Dan Shea — Oscar moreno

 — John McKinney — Brian Moser

**PANTRY DONATIONS NEEDED!**

- Peanut Butter - Box Cereal

 - Cookies - Canned Beans

- Box/Pouch/Canned Potatoes

- Box Pasta - Pasta Sauce

 (NO GLASS PLEASE)

*Please be Sure All items are in Date & Unused*

***THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT***

***OF OUR PARISH FOOD PANTRY!***

**Courage International**

A Catholic apostolate for men and women who experience same-sex attractions (COURAGE) and for the family members and loved ones of those who identify as LGBTQ+.
(EnCourage). Discover confidential support for living

chastity, growing in holiness, and keeping family bonds intact.  courage@rcdoc.org & encourage@rcdoc.org.