

The beginning words of the second reading this weekend sets the tone for our Lenten journey this year...

“Christ suffered for sins once, the righteous for the sake of the unrighteous, that he might lead you to God.” - I Peter 3

This years Lenten journey begins quite early for us and just as Advent can sometimes do, we may find ourselves caught by surprise that our yearly journey through the desert has arrived so quickly.

Our time each year in the desert helps us to remember first and foremost the journey that Jesus Himself makes through the desert. In the gospel today we hear a very short selection from Mark’s gospel in which Jesus goes out into the desert to be tempted by the devil.

We too go out in the desert, or maybe it feels as though we are always out in the desert, to be tempted by Satan as well. We are drawn by Jesus’ example and strength to overcome whatever we are faced with in our desert.

During this journey, we have a number of opportunities here at St. Francis to help make this journey productive. Each day during the season of Lent and continuing on to Pentecost we will have Mass every day, including Mondays. Please come and join us each day as we celebrate this great liturgy, so that we can be nourished by the Word and Eucharist.

On Fridays during Lent I would invite you to join us for Soup Supper and Stations of the Cross. This is a wonderful devotion and tradition in our Church for Fridays of Lent that helps us draw closer to Jesus as we walk with Him to His crucifixion at Golgatha.

Finally, I would encourage you to take advantage of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. I am available most every Wednesday from 5:00 pm – 5:45 pm and Saturdays from 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm. We will also have our parish Reconciliation service on Thursday, March 15 at 7:00 pm.

I pray that you all have a very holy and sacred journey through Lent!

In Christ’s Love,

Fr. James