

# The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert



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**February 18, 2018 • First Sunday of Lent**

Today we begin the season of Lent. Like Advent, it is a season of preparation. During Advent, we prepared for a joyous celebration of the birth of Jesus. During Lent we prepare for our celebration of renewal in Holy Week when we recall Jesus' agonizing, lonely death and unexpected (to his disciples) resurrection. The reading from Genesis today reminds us of what it is like to lose almost everything and then to have it restored to us. Peter takes the flood that destroyed the

earth and its creatures and transforms it into the baptism by water that saves each one of us. Mark tells us that even Jesus was given forty days to prepare, not in a flood but in a desert, for what was to be asked of him. So we begin this Sunday by being reminded of the importance of preparation and that it takes many forms. Whatever form our preparation takes, we must begin.

SAINT PATRICK  
CHURCH  
14936 W. PEOTONE RD.  
MANHATTAN, ILLINOIS 60442



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT  
FEBRUARY 18, 2018

FR. SEBASTIAN GARGOL PASTOR  
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**MASS INTENTIONS**

<b>Saturday,</b> 5:00 pm	February 17, 2018 †Rita Robbins req. by Baskerville Family / also †Al Robbins req. by Bruce & Mary Boyle
<b>Sunday,</b> 9:00 am	February 18, 2018 †Rose Smith req. by Mary & Craig Bisping / also Parish Family of St. Patrick
<b>Monday,</b> 9:00 am	February 19, 2018 † Rita Robbins req. by Mary Lee / also †Rose Smith req. by Ronny & Ed Ziebart
<b>Tuesday,</b> 6:00 pm	February 20, 2018—NO MASS ADORATION until 9pm
<b>Wednesday,</b>	February 21, 2018—NO MASS
<b>Thursday,</b> 9:00 am	February 22, 2018 † Alice Galvez req. by M/M John Curl /also †Rose Smith req. by Mary & Craig Bisping
<b>Friday,</b> 9:00 am 7:00 pm	February 23, 2018— NO MASS— ABSTINENCE Adoration until 11:00 am STATIONS OF THE CROSS
<b>Saturday,</b> 5:00 pm	February 24, 2018 †Al Robbins req. by Pat & Mike Quigley / also †Rita Robbins req. by Barb & Matt Hicky
<b>Sunday,</b> 9:00 am	February 25, 2018 †Rose Smith req. by Mary & Craig Bisping / also Parish Family of St Patrick

**Altar Servers:**

Saturday, February 24 - 5:00 pm  
Ella Phelps, Sara Hoehn  
Sunday, February 25 - 9:00 am  
Kylee Knowles, Ian Kreske

**Extraordinary Minister:**

Saturday, February 24 - 5:00 pm  
Steve Hoehn, Kelly Hoehn  
Sunday, February 25 - 9:00 am  
Paul Engler

**Lector**

Saturday, February 24- 5:00 pm  
Kelly Hoehn  
Sunday, February 25 - 9:00 am  
Josh Kreske

**Usher:**

Saturday, February 24 - 5:00 pm  
Howard Bieschke, Mark Tillotson  
Sunday, February 25 - 9:00 am  
Bruce Boyle, Eddie Horath

**Music:** Cathy Engler

**Collection Counters :** Bell, Mooi, Musson

### STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

For the new fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017, the weekly Sunday collection goal is \$2,463.93

**Sunday, February 11 ..... \$1,711.00**

**Thank you for your support of our Parish**

### 1ST COMMUNION RETREAT

SATURDAY,  
FEBRUARY 24  
AT 9:00 AM



Our Online Giving system provides you the opportunity to give to our special collections in addition to regular offerings. You can choose to do a One Time Gift or a special remembrance, or you can set up regularly scheduled contributions that are withdrawn on the date you specify in the system. Even if you typically use your offering envelopes, you may wish to contribute online to a particular collection. It's easy and it's convenient! Go to our parish website at [stpatrickwilton-center.org](http://stpatrickwilton-center.org). to sign up.

Join Father Sebastian on a pilgrimage to Poland - August 4-13, 2018. For more information and sign-up please contact Fr. Sebastian Gargol at [fr.sebastiangargol@gmail.com](mailto:fr.sebastiangargol@gmail.com) or 630-639-0563.



**STRENGTHEN YOUR FREE WILL-FAST ON FRIDAY**

**QUOTE FROM FR. SEBASTIAN**



**Our Two Week Candle is burning for Lisa Bernhard Req. by Sharon & Elroy Hoger**

## Lenten Regulations

1. Everyone 14 years of age or over is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays of Lent.
2. All from the age of 18 years up to the beginning of their 60th year are bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
3. On these two days of fast and abstinence, only one full meatless meal is allowed. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted on these two days, but liquids, including milk and fruit juices are allowed. When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige.
4. To disregard completely the law of fast and abstinence is seriously sinful.
5. Lent is the principal season of penance in the Church year. All of the faithful are strongly urged to develop and follow a program of voluntary self-denial (in addition to following the Lenten regulations), serious prayer, and a performance of works of charity and mercy.

***Please Participate!***

***Your Gift Makes a Difference!***



Last weekend you were asked to participate in our diocesan-wide Commitment/In-Pew Weekend for the 2018 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA). The CMAA is much different than a one-time special collection. It is a pledge campaign where you can make a one-time gift or pledge your gift over ten (10) months to support the good works of the Diocese.

A gift to the CMAA will touch the lives of many in our Diocese in a positive way. Each gift makes a difference! Together, the gifts of many enable our Diocese to deliver needed education, ministry and service to those who need it most. As you listen to Bishop Conlon's homily today, please reflect on God's gifts to you. We are all "Held in God's Hands" and he has given you all that you have. We can give thanks to Him for our blessings through a gift to the CMAA

For those of you who were unable to make a decision about your commitment last weekend, pledge envelopes are in each pew. Please prayerfully consider filling out a pledge envelope and just dropping it in with your regular offertory or go on line at [jolietdioceseappeal.org](http://jolietdioceseappeal.org) . If you received a pledge form in the mail, you may return it via mail.

After our parish exceeds its CMAA goal of \$10,600.00 in paid pledge, 70% of any additional funds are returned for use in our parish.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration and generous response.

## PEOPLE OF THE COVENANT

If there is one word that stands out in today's readings, it is "covenant." God's faithfulness and goodness serve as examples to us of how to live. Genesis tells the story of Noah and of God's covenant not only with all people, but with all of nature. Never will the cleansing waters of the flood bring their destructive power to all the earth again. The sign, the reminder to both God and nature, is the rainbow in the heavens. The psalm reminds us of this compassion of God, and begs God to remember us, not because of our goodness, but because of God's goodness and fidelity to the promise. God shows us how to be good, not by decree, but by example.

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**MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR  
SUNDAY, MARCH 11, 2018  
FOR OUR ANNUAL ST. PATRICK DINNER  
TO BE HELD AT WILTON CENTER  
COMMUNITY BUILDING  
AT NOON**

**SIGN UP SHEET IS IN THE VESTIBULE  
\$10 SUGGESTED GOOD-WILL OFFERING  
TO OFFSET THE COST OF THE MEAL  
PLEASE SIGN UP TO BRING EITHER 1 DOZEN  
BROWNIES, COOKIES OR CUPCAKES**

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Friday, February 23	7:00pm
Friday, March 2	7:00pm
Friday, March 9	7:00pm
Friday, March 16	7:00pm
Friday, March 23	7:00pm





# 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Step Up Day at Joliet Catholic Academy

*Experience an excellent Catholic education firsthand.  
Meet JCA students and teachers to get a taste of the high school life.*

**Thursday, March 8, 2018  
9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**

### ***WHO should attend?***

All 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Students!

### ***WHY should you attend?***

Seventh grade students will be assigned to a JCA homeroom and move through the day by attending mini classes that will offer fun demonstrations, games or performances in such areas as Fine Arts and Science. The students will have an opportunity to experience the state-of-the-art JCA Computer Lab and receive a free lunch served by Quest Food Management in our recently renovated cafeteria.

The day's agenda will also allow 7<sup>th</sup> grade students to meet up with almost 60 clubs, organizations, honor societies and sports teams to ask questions of the moderators, coaches and JCA students. Their day will end with an official High School Pep Assembly!

### ***HOW do I sign up?***

Students attending JCA Step Up Day with their 7<sup>th</sup> grade class will register through their own school's permission slip. Individuals will register online at [www.jca-online.org/stepupday](http://www.jca-online.org/stepupday) by **Friday, March 2, 2018**. Individuals: after you complete the registration process, you will receive a permission slip, which must be completed and signed by a parent.

### ***WHERE do I go?***

Buses will drop off at a designated JCA entrance. Individuals registering will be dropped off and picked up at JCA's main entrance facing Larkin Ave. Schools: please contact us by **February 16, 2018** if you need a JCA bus. JCA will contact you by **March 1** with the specific pick up time for your school.

JCA Admissions Office  
Ryan Quigley, Mary Ragusa, and Joe Gura  
1200 N. Larkin Avenue, Joliet, IL 60435  
815-741-0500  
[admissions@jca-online.org](mailto:admissions@jca-online.org)

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**JCA Summer Camps: [www.jca-online.org/summercamps](http://www.jca-online.org/summercamps)**  
**JCA offers 24 different Academic, Athletic, & Fine Arts Camps**  
**Register Online Today!**

[www.jca-online.org](http://www.jca-online.org)





### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Marge Flint; Grace Niemiec; Cathy Engler, Loretta Long, Barb Flatt, Nancee Long, Shay Phelan, Jeanne Kuzmicz, Bonnie Hack; Ron Bzdil; Adrian Wilkerson, Michelle Schneider; Joyce Heffern, Lisa Bernhard

**Anyone wishing to be on the prayer list should contact the office.**

### Intention of the Holy Father MONTH OF FEBRUARY

- That those who have material, political or spiritual power may resist any lure of corruption.

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK February 18, 2018



Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7, 16-19; Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19; Lk 11:29-32

Thursday: 1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-3a, 4-6; Mt 16:13-19

Friday: Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-8; Mt 5:20-26

Saturday: Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8; Mt 5:43-48

Sunday: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Ps 116:10, 15-19; Rom 8:31b-34; Mk 9:2-10

### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCE

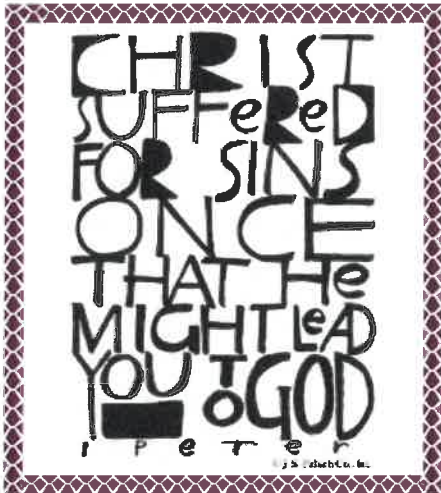
Sunday: First Sunday of Lent; Rite of Election; Rite of Calling the Candidates to Continuing Conversion; Rite of Sending

Monday: Presidents' Day; Julian Calendar Lent

Wednesday: St. Peter Damian

Thursday: Chair of St. Peter the Apostle; Washington's Birthday

Friday: St. Polycarp; Abstinence



**Remember to make your Amazon purchases** By first going to our parish website at [www.stpatrickwiltoncenter.org](http://www.stpatrickwiltoncenter.org) and log into your amazon account from the link on our site. "We are a participant in the Amazon Services LLC Associates Program, an affiliate advertising program designed to provide a means for us to earn fees by linking to Amazon.com and affiliated sites."

# DRIVEN BY THE FLOOD INTO THE DESERT



The readings today begin with God's promise to Noah after the destruction of everything by rushing, flooding waters. That water is transformed into the life-giving water of our baptism. We expect, as we start this season of Lent, to be reminded of being stripped by the flood of everything; of being in the desert, with nothing, and tempted. What we may not expect is to be reminded of the abundance and extravagance of God's love and kindness, God's compassion and guidance. After the flood, the earth and its creatures are restored. After the desert, Jesus is ministered to and restored to life with a new understanding of what is essential. Jesus preaches that this is the time and the kingdom of God is at hand.

## WE ARE NOT ALONE

We begin Lent with stark contrasts between life and death, good and evil, water and desert. God's response is equally strong. God's covenant is with everyone and everything. Nothing is outside the reach of God's love. God's covenant is limitless. We set out on our own journey of preparation today but we are not alone. However we choose to use this time to prepare ourselves for the death and resurrection that is to come, we are accompanied by the same Spirit that compelled Noah to build the Ark to preserve life on earth. We are accompanied by the same Spirit that drove Jesus into the desert to face temptation. It is that Spirit that makes our journey through Lent possible. Who could face such floods of temptation alone? No one, not even Jesus, as we will hear during Holy Week, faces death alone.

Today's Readings: Gn 9:8–15; Ps 25:4–5, 6–7, 8–9; 1 Pt 3:18–22; Mk 1:12–15

2/18/2018