

On the first Sunday of Lent, the Gospel reading in each Lectionary cycle is about Jesus' temptation in the desert. This event in the life of Jesus is reported in each of the Synoptic Gospels—Matthew, Mark, and Luke—but it is not found in John's Gospel. This year we read Mark's account of this event.

Compared to the Gospels of Matthew and Luke, the details throughout Mark's narrative are sparse. This is evident in Mark's account of Jesus' temptation in the desert. Mark tells us only that Jesus was led into the desert by the Spirit and that for 40 days he was tempted by Satan. The Gospels of Matthew and Luke explain that Jesus fasted while in the desert, that Satan presented him with three temptations, and that Jesus refused each one, quoting Scripture. Only the Gospels of Matthew and Mark report that angels ministered to Jesus at the end of his time in the desert.

In each of the Synoptic Gospels, the temptation of Jesus follows his baptism by John the Baptist. In Mark's Gospel, we are told that Jesus went into the desert immediately after his baptism, led by the Spirit. Jesus' public ministry in Galilee begins after his temptation in the desert. Mark's Gospel makes a connection between the arrest of John the Baptist and the beginning of Jesus' ministry. Jesus' preaching about the Kingdom of God is in continuity with the preaching of John the Baptist, but it is also something new. As Jesus announces it, the Kingdom of God is beginning; the time of the fulfilment of God's promises is here.

The fact that Jesus spent 40 days in the desert is significant. This recalls the 40 years that the Israelites wandered in the desert after being led from slavery in Egypt. The prophet Elijah also journeyed in the desert for 40 days and nights, making his way to Horeb, the mountain of God, where he was also attended to by an angel of the Lord. Remembering the significance of these events, we also set aside 40 days for the season of Lent.

In Mark's Gospel, the desert marks beginning of Jesus' battle with Satan; the ultimate test will be in Jesus' final hours on the cross. In a similar way, our Lenten observances are only a beginning, a preparation for and a reinforcement of our ongoing struggle to resist the temptations we face in our lives. During Lent, we are led by the Holy Spirit to remember the vows of Baptism in which we promised to reject sin and to follow Jesus. Just as Jesus was ministered to by the angels, God also supports us in our struggle against sin and temptation. We succeed because Jesus conquered sin once and for all in his saving death on the cross.

An Afternoon for Life

Bishop Stephen Robson invites you to join him in the fourth annual Afternoon For Life at the Pastoral Centre in Lawside Road on **Saturday 24th February at 12.45pm**. There will be informative talks from expert speakers who will address the abortion issue in light of moves towards decriminalisation – which means abortion up to birth for any reason. With legal change on the horizon it is imperative to be up to date with the latest debates. Tea and coffee will be provided during the afternoon and there are crèche places available. The Afternoon finishes around 4.30pm. To book a place please email mcgraw.clare@gmail.com

40 Days for Life

40 Days for Life will take place this Lent in Dundee at the East side pavement of the roundabout on Ninewells Avenue outside the entrance to the hospital. This is a peaceful prayer vigil praying for an end to abortion. The hours for the vigil are **Monday to Sunday 12-2; and Monday to Friday 5-7pm**. If you would like to sign up for a regular hour or just to let the organisers know you're coming please email: 40daysdundee@gmail.com

First Sunday of Lent

18th February 2018

Next Sunday: Second Sunday of Lent

Year B

Welcome to the Coastal Parishes of

St. Thomas', Arbroath;

St. Anne's, Carnoustie

and St. Bride's, Monifieth

Diocese of Dunkeld Charity Number SC001810

Parish Clergy

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☎ 01382 539476

Father Joseph James OFM Cap

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☎ 01241 873013

Website: www.stannescarnoustie.co.uk

Facebook Page: @coastalparishes

Sunday Masses

Vigil Mass on Saturday at 5 p.m. in St. Bride's

Mass at 10 a.m. in St. Anne's

Mass at 10.45 a.m. in St. Thomas'

Mass at 11.30 a.m. in St. Bride's

Sacrament of Reconciliation—this week

St. Thomas': Monday 6 to 6.30p.m.

St. Anne's: on request

St. Bride's: Saturday 4 to 4.30 p.m.

MASSES THIS WEEK

Monday 19th February

St. Anne's: 9.30 a.m.; St. Bride's: 10.30 a.m.; St. Thomas': 7 p.m.

Tuesday 20th February

St. Anne's: 9.30 a.m.; St. Thomas': 10 a.m.;
St. Bride's: 10 a.m. Funeral Mass for Jo Hoey RIP

Wednesday 21st February

St. Anne's: 9.30 a.m.; St. Thomas': 10 a.m.; St. Mary's Home: 6.30 p.m.

Thursday 22nd February *Feast of the Chair of St. Peter*

St. Anne's: 9.30 a.m.; St. Thomas': 10 a.m.; St. Bride's: 10.30 a.m.

Friday 23rd February

St. Anne's: 9.30 a.m.; St. Thomas': 10 a.m.; St. Bride's: 10.30 a.m.

Saturday 24th February

St. Bride's: 9.30 a.m.; St. Thomas': 10 a.m.

Stations of the Cross

St. Bride: Friday at 6 p.m.; St. Anne's on Sunday at 4 p.m.; St. Thomas': 30 mins before each weekday Mass.

Please pray for those who are sick: Bishop Vincent Logan, Jane Higgins, George Hill, Eddie Lebida, Jessie Low, Susan Chalmers, Alison Oakes, Debbie McArthur, Baby Isobel McCaskey, George Kelbie, Cathie McLean, Ailsa McIntosh, James McDonald, John McKee, Laura Bennett, Robert Meikle, Cathie Walls, Duane Joseph, Father Luke Fong, Frank Osborne, Annie McCormack, Marie Fenton, William Docherty, Annie McKenzie, Helen Lukas, Joan and Mick Gartland, Janet Howie, Helen Blyth, Moira Fallone, Irene Burton, Rea Beattie, Norma McAra, Riley Johnston, Marion Jones, David Allardice, Adam Rennie, Margaret Spink, Tom Tait, Ina Stuart, Teresa Ritchie, Kim Scott, Gerard Lukas, Frances Toshney, Isabel Carroll, Peggy McGhee, Wendy Wilcox, Marjorie Robson (Bishop Stephen's mother), Vera Swifte, Craig and Kerry McFadyen, Father Jim McCruden, Father Andrew Clark, Carine Hill, Bernard Colvin, Sister Marie Claver LSP, Brian Duncan.

those who have died recently: Margaret (Peggy) Sandeman, Kathleen Taylor.

and those whose anniversaries fall at this time: Mary Whitton, Margaret McFarlane, Eleonora Francesca Ireland, Joan Nichol, Frederick Richards, Mary McNally, Hilary Hawksford, Elizabeth Rennie, William Bowie, Rose Anne Forsyth, Ellen Kilcullen, Margaret McManus, Mabel Bubalo, Ian Longmuir, Barbara McKay, George Esplin, Betty McCormack, Eddie Byrne.

Misia Paul writes: *It is my intention to have a few new hymns for Holy Thursday and Easter Vigil. It would be wonderful to have an energetic choir and group of musicians made up of past and new members to help lead the music and promote reflection. Depending on numbers I would have us singing in 2 or 3 parts.*

If you wish to take part please email me misiapaul@sky.com or call 01382 736616

For those who sang psalms last year, please email me to let me know which ones and if you are happy to sing this year.

I propose having rehearsals on Mondays and Wednesdays.

DIOCESAN LENTEN RETREAT DAY—Saturday 3rd March: Preparing for the Easter Triduum: a day conference and celebration as Holy Week approaches, to be held at the Diocesan Centre, Lawside Road, from 10.15am until 3.30pm. Keynote address on The Spirituality of the Easter Triduum by Fr. Steven Mulholland. This day will be of particular benefit to readers, cantors, musicians, servers and all involved in the liturgies of the Easter Triduum. Participants are asked to bring a packed lunch. To register please call 01382 225453 or email kevinjamesgolden@hotmail.com

“We adore you O Christ and we praise You!” A parish Lenten Retreat Day for those who were unable to attend the Lenten Retreat Day in Lawside, will take place on **Saturday 10th March in St. Anne's**. The day will begin at 10.15 a.m. and will include Mass. If you are interested in attending please sign up on the sheets in the church.

St. Bride's Fairtrade Pancake Breakfast Will take place on Sunday 4th March after 11.30am Mass in the hall. *COME ON IN* is the theme for this year's Fairtrade fortnight. This year we are supporting the farmers and workers who grow our food, and all proceeds will go to SCIAF. Fairtrade has the power to change the world every day. It opens doors and helps people grow too. If anyone is willing to make pancakes for the event, please let Gillian Coyle, Eleanor Grieg or Mary Holligan know. Tickets will be available nearer the time.

SCIAF Hunger Lunch in St. Thomas' on Sunday 25th February. Join us for soup and bread in the hall after Mass. There is no set price; please give what you can as a donation.

Lenten Soup and Rolls in St. Anne's on the Sundays of Lent after 10 a.m. Monies raised will be donated the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

Lent Extra which is published by the Redemptorist Fathers is on sale in the three churches. Cost £1.50

Safeguarding Training: Any parishioner whose ministry involves working with children and vulnerable adults, and who has yet to complete the Level 1 Safeguarding Training, must do so as soon as possible, to enable them to continue performing their ministry. There are two possible sessions in Diocesan Centre on Thursday 22nd February or Monday 26th February, both starting at 7pm. For those who have completed Level 1 training, there will be sessions for Level 2, later in the year.

St. Thomas' PPC meets this Monday evening (19th February) at 7.30 p.m. in the conservatory.

Bulletin Distribution at St Thomas' Parishioners at St Thomas' continue to deliver the weekly newsletter to every address known to us in order to maintain communications and offer outreach to those with a connection to the Parish community. We could really do with some additional volunteers – two or three who could deliver bulletins each week and two or three available to cover rounds when the regular distributors are on holiday. If you're able to assist, please speak with Father Michael or contact Chris Boyle by email at chrisboyle1965@gmail.com.

Many thanks for your continued generosity in the parishes. The offertory collections last Sunday were: £757 in Monifieth, £330 in Carnoustie and £455 in Arbroath.

There will be a special collection of Catholic Education this weekend. Next weekend there will be a special collection for the Sick and Retired Priests Fund.

Children's Liturgy at St Thomas' Our Children's Liturgy at St Thomas' is positively thriving! Thanks to all parents, relatives and carers whose children attend each week. However, we really do now need extra help – many of our Leaders have been delivering and assisting in Children's Liturgy for nearly 12 years!

If you could spare one or two Sundays per month to assist our Leaders then this would really help. There would be no requirement to prepare the Liturgy or deliver it (unless you were wanting to), only to accompany the children each week and help look after them. Volunteers would join the Leaders on their rota so that adequate cover was available each week. If you're interested, please speak with Father Michael or any of our Liturgy Leaders after Mass.

St Patrick's Night—Saturday 17th March Tickets are now on sale for this exciting social evening. Entertainment from the St. Bride's Folk Group. Tickets cost £7 (including buffet) and are available from Eddie Mahoney 01382 532007 or any member of the St. Bride's Social Group.

An Evening with the Swizzle Sisters Advance notice of the return of the always popular 'Evening with the Swizzle Sisters' at St Thomas' Hall on **Saturday 21 April**. Last year's special guest Kenny Martin will be returning too. Ticket sales to follow, but meantime please save the date!