GREETINGS FROM FR. SCOTT

Numbers in the Bible are never randomly used. Three is for the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Seven is for the seven tribes of Israel. Twelve is for the twelve apostles. It rained for 40 days and 40 nights after Noah's Ark was built. Moses went up on Mount Sinai for 40 days and 40 nights. In today's Gospel Jesus was tempted for 40 days and 40 nights.

Living in our society our minds tend to be formed from our surroundings, how we grew up, our culture, and people we work with. To some extent our formation dictates how we think, how we act, and how we make choices.

Much of our Christian formation comes from the way in which we deal with temptation. Jesus is being faced head-on with temptation in the desert and he is dealing with it well. He is resisting it.

One of our Great Saints, Saint Augustine, tells us that we are never tempted beyond our power to resist. In other words, everything we are tempted with can be resisted.

Saint Augustine tells us that we only really get to know ourselves when we struggle and strive against temptation.

The story of Christ in the desert is also about victory. Try this: Visualize yourself standing there being tempted with Christ. Put yourself in the desert, facing off with the devil. Then feel the goodness that comes from resisting that evil. Envision yourself as victorious.

The three worst temptations we have as humans are greed, pride, and riches. The three temptations Jesus faced in the desert attacked his poverty. They tempted him to be greedy, rich, and full of pride.

Lent enables us to take some extra time in our busy lives and take stock of our temptations, like lying, swearing, being impatient, manipulating others, being hateful, and putting ourselves first instead of God.

Lent is a time to reconcile those capital sins that seem to be getting in the way of living a holier life. The capital sins are pride, materialism, envy, anger, gluttony, lust, and sloth.

This Lent remember Jesus has gone down every path of temptation that you have. Every single time he made the right choice. He chose right over wrong. He chose good over bad. Jesus chose life over death.

This Lent prepare for the largest event ever in the world, the resurrection of our Savior. As humans we all have sin in common, we all sin. What determines how holy we are is how we deal with our sin. Here is how we, as Christians, deal with our sin well so that we grow in holiness: We struggle with sin and try to resist temptation; we go to Communion every week; we seek out the sacrament of reconciliation regularly; we commit to abstaining from meat on Fridays during Lent; we fast during Lent; and we call on the Holy Spirit for guidance.

STEWARDSHIP

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Daily Mass Readings

Monday Feb.18

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

Tuesday Feb.19

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

Wednesday Feb.20

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

Thursday Feb.21

Est C 12,14-16,23-25 Ps 138:1-3,7c-8 Mt 7:7-12

Friday Feb.22

1 Pt 5:1-4 Ps 23:1-6 My 16:13-19

ı	MASS INTENTIONS		
	Saturday	Feb. 16	
	5:00pm	+ Michael & Margaret Lajcsak	
	Sunday	Feb. 17	
ŀ	9:00am	+ Donald William Henn	
	11:30am	For the People of the Parish	
	Monday	Feb. 18	
	9:00am		
	Tuesday	Feb. 19	
	9:00am		
	Wednesday	Feb. 20	
	9:00am		
	Thursday	Feb. 21	
	9:00am		
	Friday	Feb. 22	
	9:00am	<u> </u>	

FAITH FORMATION

Grades 1-8 meet from 10-11:15 am. Pre-school and K meet at 11:30am

MIDDLE SCHOOL GOOGLE QUESTION

What is the definition of a catechumen?

CONFIRMATION—1-2:30pm

Students in the second year (2013) program meet at 1pm in the Old Church; students in the first year (2014) program meet in the St. Jude Center.

ADULT CONFIRMATION

February 17, 24, and March 3

Baptized Catholic adults who have not had an opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation are invited to join preparation classes taught by Fr. Scott. Classes will meet from 10:15-11:15 in the chapel. Candidates will be confirmed at the Easter Vigil. Please bring a copy of your baptismal certificate.

WHY CATHOLIC? Lenten Longings

During this Year of Faith we are called to live our Catholic faith every day. The Archdiocese is encouraging all to participate in Lenten Longings, a program of small parish groups who meet for 6 weeks to discuss Lenten Longings, a sixweek lectionary-based, faithsharing resource.

Groups and hosts have formed. We have several slots available at different times. Please check in the social hall after mass if you are interested in joining or hosting a small faith group. You will be richer for the experience.



OUR LADY OF THE VALLEY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

The Vendor Fair will be in the Social Hall on Saturday, February 23 from 9am-3pm. Please contact Donna Green (373-1310 or 232-2634) or Sarah Soule (232-0520) for more information.

OLV's 6th Annual Gala Auction is April 13, 2013 at the Sports Complex. Tickets are on sale now for \$50 per person 21 and older. Corporate tables are available: Gold-\$750 & Silver—\$600. Please call for details.

Donations are being accepted for the auction. Items may be dropped at the school office or arrangements can be made. We are seeking adults to assist with this event. Please call Karen (376-0883) if you can provide time and talent.

COMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY

- Rite of Sending RCIA
 - Adult Confirmation 10:15—11:15am Chapel
- 18 Contemplative Prayer 6:30pm
- 21 Rosary 7pm
- Soup & Stations 7pm Lectors/Hospitality 22
- 23 OLV Vendor Fair 9am-3pm Social Hall
- 24 Middle School Ice Fishing—Finger Lake 1st Eucharist Parent Meeting 12:45 pm

MARCH

- Soup & Stations 7pm ACTS hosting
- 2 1st Eucharist Class 3-4:30pm Old Church
 - Sandwich Making Middle School 10am
- 4 Contemplative Prayer 6:30pm
- 8 Soup & Stations 7pm E. Ministers/RCIA
- 9 1st Eucharist Class 3-4:30pm Old Church
- 10 No Faith Formation Classes—Spring Break
- Our Lady of the Lake Reconciliation 7pm 11
- St. Michael's Reconciliation 7pm 12
- Sacred Heart Reconciliation Service 5:30pm 13

BLACK & INDIAN MISSIONS Feb 16/17

Today we invite you to participate in the national collection for Black and Indian Missions. Your gifts make possible grants to our Archdiocese each year to support missions in remote communities, Alaska Native Ministry, and scholarships for African American and Alaska Native students in our Catholic schools. Thank you for your generosity.

DILLINGHAM YOUTH MISSION TRIP

Please sign up for this mission trip by February 28th. This will be a wonderful, life changing experience. Teens entering 9th grade and older are invited.

YOUTH MASS

Beginning on April 27th, the parish will sponsor a youth mass on Saturdays at 5pm once a month. Youth will be hospitality, lectors, Eucharistic ministers, and music. All youth and their families and friends are encouraged to join this spirit filled mass.

Items needed at the pantry: toilet paper, flour, sugar, cereal, oatmeal all kinds of baby food 357-3769

Please consider us as a volunteer opportunity this Lenten season.

FOOD PANTRY

The men's retreat is Mar. 7-10. Space is still available. Please contact one of the men for information about this amazing weekend.

ACTS RETREATS

BISHOP'S ATTIC

The Attic needs more donations including furniture. Please no large appliances. Free pick-up is available for large donations—745-4215

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS RAFFLE

The Knights will be selling their buffalo raffle tickets this weekend after all masses.