

**CATHOLIC FAITH COMMUNITY
JOINT BASE MYER-HENDERSON HALL
FORT MYER, VIRGINIA 22211**
Website: www.jbmhatholicparish.com
Archdiocese Website: www.milarch.org

**First Sunday of
Lent**
21-22 February 2015

Dear Catholic Community:

I thought this was an excellent reflection on this Sunday's gospel for the First Sunday of Lent. It was written by Fr. Joseph Krastel, C. Ss.R, a Redemptorist priest. From *The Spirit of Lent: Seven Lenten Meditations on the Work of the Holy Spirit*:

“At once the Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert. He remained in the desert for forty days, tempted by Satan. He was among the wild beasts, and the angels ministered to him.” (Mk 1:12-13)

The Church imagines the forty days of Lent as our annual forty days with Christ, a time of thought about our futures, a time of penance, a time of prayer. These meditations are offered with emphasis on the work of the Holy Spirit in the divine plan of our redemption. When a startled Mary wondered how she could have a divine child, the angel answered: “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you.” (Lk 1:35) In the quiet ways of God, the power of the Holy Spirit has engineered the drama of human redemption down through the centuries. And so, after the voice from heaven acknowledged his origins and mission, Jesus was rushed into the desert for forty days of prayer, austerity and temptation.

Does this voice from heaven ring in our ears? Is the Spirit hustling us into forty days of austerity with Christ? Or will this Lent slip by us as the stock market and Spring Training and the last days of winter chill our souls? Every year, the Holy Spirit, in the quiet ways of God, invites us to join Christ in the desert. Without fanfare, the Spirit urges us to make these forty days special. The Spirit hopes that Easter will find us gaunt and reflective because of the austerity and meditation of Lent. The Spirit wants to breathe into us a new peace, a new dedication to God, a renewed love of our families and authentic self-development in our careers. The Spirit hopes to help us to triumph over the usual temptations by which Satan ensnares us.

Most of all, the Spirit of Peace, Christ's great gift of forgiveness to the Church, hopes that we will feel the special healing and peace that will come in our Lenten Confession. This year, tens of millions of Catholics in Lithuania and Las Vegas and Laos will experience the special love of Jesus, as the Holy Spirit breathes away their sordid past and makes way for Christ's peace. “Lord send forth your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.” (cf. Ps 104:30) Let the Spirit renew you through the penance and peace of Lent 2015.

Thanks Father Krastel.

Fr. Fred

Moral Leadership Luncheon, Tuesday, **3 March 2015**, 1130 to 1300 Fellowship Hall. Guest speaker: SgtMaj Bryan Battaglia, USMC, Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff. This is an opportunity to listen, learn, ask and reflect on leadership; lunch is complementary. Please RSVP by **2 March** to Fr Fred. Open to all Active Duty Servicemembers and DoD Civilians/Contractors.

Lenten Penance Service is Thursday, **12 March 2015**. The service begins at 1900, Memorial Chapel. As several priests are participating, there is an opportunity for individual confession.

Offering for 14-15 February

1700 Vigil Mass:	\$1,317.00
0900 Sunday Mass:	\$1,671.00
Total:	\$2,988.00

ATTENDANCE: 284

Please make checks payable to “CTOF”

LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER--for Vocations to the Priesthood and the Military Chaplaincy; for our deployed troops and their families; for our parishioners who are ill; and for our deceased:

Deployed: FC2 Joseph Reed, USN; Carol Yannarella, USAF; CPT Mike Mobbs, USA; Ginny Ortiz, Peace Corps; Kevin Voelker, USA

Deceased: Joseph E. Nestro, Charles Daknis (brother of Bill Daknis)

Healing: Buddy Craven, Bob Daknis, Jimmy Daknis, Joseph Toth, Jeanmarie Jonston, Jim Campbell, Betsy Hendrix, Alfred Prados, Jim Egan, Len Trahan, Bob Bowen, Kevin Tighe, Bob Schaaf, Alexis Coffey, Frank Bernardo, Bonnie Benne, Richard Wicks, Margaret Asten, Morris McGregor, John Bikus, Suzie Kumashiro, Bill Hubbard

~Please contact Pam to remove names from the prayer lists. ~

Planning is underway for the 2015 Ecumenical **Vacation Bible School** at Memorial Chapel. This year's VBS will be held during the week of **13 – 17 July 2015**. Adult and teen volunteers are needed. Please call Kathy Pardue at (703) 455-1763 or (703) 501-5320 or email her at Pardue75@verizon.net.

Lenten Day of Recollection: Saturday, **21 March 2015** from 0900 to 1500, Franciscan Monastery, Washington DC. This is open to adult only; limited number of seats are available. For more information or to reserve your space, please contact Pam at (805) 236-2771 or by email pamortiz85@gmail.com.

What do you think? Families with young children, would you like to have childcare available during the 1700 and 0900 Masses? This would be for children between the ages of six months and 5 years. If interested, please email Fr. Fred.

~~~~~  
**Introduction to Today's Readings**

**First Reading:** Genesis 9:8-15

Today's reading from the book of Genesis takes place after the story of Noah and the great flood. Israelite people of long ago saw the rainbow as a symbol of a Warrior-God hanging up his hunting bow as a peaceful gesture. The rainbow symbolizes the solemn promise that God makes to Noah.

**Second Reading:** 1 Peter 3:18-22

This reading reminds us that just as Noah was saved through the ark, we are saved through baptism. Early Christians believed that those who died before the coming of Jesus awaited redemption in a shadowy existence described here as a prison. When we say in the Apostles' Creed that Jesus “descended into hell,” we are saying that Jesus went to announce those waiting in that “prison” that they had been saved.

~~~~~  
“This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.” Allow God to work and move in your marriage relationship. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends are **17-19 April 2015** in Fredericksburg or **18-20 September** in Herndon. For more information or to apply, visit our website at renewmarriage-vanorth.org or contact us at applications@renewmarriage-vanorth.org or (703) 378-4150.

Catholic Community Contact Information

Pastor: Fr. Fred Wendel 703-696-5688 or alfred.w.wendel2@mail.mil

Mass: 5PM Saturday Vigil, 9AM Sunday, Noon M-F. All at Memorial Chapel

Reconciliation: 11:30-11:45AM Tuesday-Friday in Room 112 of Memorial Chapel

Emergency Contact: Marshall Desk SGT 703-696-3525

Catholic Coordinator: Pam Ortiz pamortiz85@gmail.com

Parish Registration: See usher for form.

Advance E-bulletin: Available on website; e-mailed each Thursday

Sacraments and Sponsor Letters: Requires registration. Fr. Fred has pastoral jurisdiction only for active duty military and their family members.

Registration Card/Contact Information Updates: Notify Pam of any changes to contact information or if moving from the area.