

Pulpit Announcements – February 26, 2023 1st Sunday of Lent

Welcome to all who are here on this 1st Sunday of Lent. Whoever you are, or wherever you find yourself on the journey, know that here at St. Matthias, All Are Welcome.

- The last module of the Faith and Racial Justice series just began. This is in a retreat format and will continue for eight Saturdays. If interested to join, see our parish website.
- Calling all the Youth of our parish to participate in the Diocesan Youth Day on Sunday, March 12, 2023, from 11:30 to 5 pm. Youth from all over our diocese will gather, have fun and fellowship with live music and good food, hear a keynote speaker, and celebrate Mass with Bishop Checchio.
- We have Stations of the Cross every Friday of Lent at 7 pm. It is a beautiful devotion with excellent reflections. Why not attend and make Lent more meaningful?
- This Friday, March 3rd, is First Friday. We will have Holy Hour, Sacred Heart devotion and Benediction soon after the 8 am Mass.
- **(For 5 pm Mass only):** Today, we are glad to welcome Rev. Fr. Cyril Offiong to this Mass celebrating Black History Month. After the Mass, all are welcome to the John XXIII Room for a video narration of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King's Letter from a Birmingham jail."

It is easy for us to advise others about overcoming temptation. But how successful are we in dealing with our own temptations....? Jesus shows us the way by using God's Word as a weapon against the Tempter.

Let us welcome Jesus into our hearts at this Eucharistic celebration...

Music for Our Assembly

February 26, 2023

1st Sunday of Lent – Cycle A

*When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory,
I will grant him length of days... Psalm 13*

Gathering Song – Led By the Spirit

1. Led by the Spirit of our God, we go to fast and pray
With Christ into the wilderness; we join his paschal way.

“Rend not your garments, rend your hearts. Turn back your
lives to me.”

Thus says our kind and gracious God, whose reign is liberty.

2. Led by the Spirit, we confront temptation face to face,
And know full well we must rely on God’s redeeming grace.
On bread alone we cannot live, but nourished by the Word
We seek the will of God to do: this is our drink and food.

3. Led by the Spirit, now draw near the waters of rebirth
With hearts that long to worship God in spirit and in truth.

“Whoever drinks the drink I give shall never thirst again.”

Thus says the Lord who died for us, our Savior, kin and friend.

4. Led by the Spirit, now sing praise to God the Trinity:
The Source of Life, the living Word made flesh to set us free,
The Spirit blowing where it will to make us friends of God:

This myst'ry far beyond our reach, yet near in healing love.

Text: CMD; based on Joel 2:12–13; Matthew 4:1–4; Mark 1:12–15; John 4:5–42; Bob Hurd, © 1996, Bob Hurd. Published by OCP. All rights reserved. Music: trad. English melody; English Country Songs, 1893; adapt. by Ralph Vaughan Williams

Prayer of the Faithful 1st Sunday of Lent – Cycle A February 26, 2023

Our response is: “In Your name, O God, we pray...”

1. For Pope Francis and all our holy shepherds, that they will continue their efforts to transform our society by building bridges of love and peace and thus bring about God’s kingdom of justice and equality for all, we pray...
2. That the Lord who loves justice and righteousness may be the strength and guiding light of world leaders, that they will work to end the violence perpetrated by verbal attacks, deadly weapons, and cold indifference, we pray ...
3. For this faith community of St Matthias...that we may live this holy season of repentance and grace by renewing our life especially through the Sacrament of penance and reconciliation, we pray to the Lord...
4. For those who have asked for our prayers in a time of sickness or any kind of suffering, that the Lord’s mercy may be upon them as we place all our trust in Him on their behalf, we pray...
5. For all who have died, (especially name and name) _____
That after their time of testing and trial in the body they may know the ministry of the angels in heaven, we pray to the Lord...
6. For the intentions in the hearts of all those in this assembly, (LONG PAUSE), we pray ...

Presider announces the Mass intention and concludes with the 60th Anniversary Prayer.

Preparation Hymn - Take O Take Me as I Am

Take O take me as I am
Summon out what I shall be
Set your seal upon my heart and live in me.

Text- John Bell@1995, Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc.

Communion Hymn – On Eagles Wings

1. You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, who abide in his shadow for life, say to the Lord: 'My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!'

And he will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.

2. The snare of the fowler will never capture you, and famine will bring you no fear:
under his wings your refuge, his faithfulness your shield
3. You need not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day; though thousands fall about you, near you it shall not come.
4. For to his angels he's given a command to guard you in all of your ways; upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.

Coda : And hold you, hold you in the palm of his hand.

Text: Psalm 91; Michael Joncas, b.1951, © 1979, New Dawn Music. Published by OCP Publications.

Closing Hymn - In These Days of Lenten Journey

**In these days of Lenten journey
we have seen and we have heard
the call to sow justice
in the lives of those we serve.**

1. We reach out to those who are homeless,
to those who live without warmth.
In the coolness of evening we'll shelter their dreams;
we will clothe them in mercy and peace.

2. We open our eyes to the hungry,
and see the faces of Christ.
As we nourish all people who hunger for food,
may their faith in our God be renewed.

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Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 and 17

Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Have mercy on me, O God, in your goodness;
in the greatness of your compassion wipe out my
offense.

Thoroughly wash me from my guilt
and of my sin cleanse me.

For I acknowledge my offense,
and my sin is before me always:
"Against you only have I sinned,
and done what is evil in your sight."

A clean heart create for me, O God,
and a steadfast spirit renew within me.
Cast me not out from your presence,
and your Holy Spirit take not from me.

Give me back the joy of your salvation,
and a willing spirit sustain in me.
O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.