



[Jesus] remained in the desert
for forty days, tempted by
Satan.

MARK 1:13



A Trek in the Desert

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Deserts come in all shapes and sizes. For Noah, it turned out to be a desert of water, an endless, dreary expanse. For Jesus, it was also without end, one of rocks and sand; it was a harsh existence. In our lives, deserts might be a debilitating illness, a dried-up marriage, grief over lost love, a job that seems to tax our sanity, or a childhood scarred by abuse. Not long ago, the world found itself in a pandemic desert. For many, it was one of cabin fever that isolated us from family and friends. Deserts are not alluring places. They are places from which we tend to run.

Some people deal with the inevitable deserts of life by becoming angry; others grow bitter and turn inward; others blame God and walk away from faith. Yet deserts can also be the very forces that reshape lives. With nothing else to distract us, in the desert we come face to face with ourselves, with who we really are and whose voice it is that we follow. There we take a stand on life, as Jesus did. It was the Spirit that drove Jesus into the desert, and it was there that he realized the future to which he was being called. So also with us. Deserts become places where we discover what God is asking of us and where we need to go, all discoveries that may otherwise never have occurred. In some strange and curious way, then, deserts may be blessings in our lives. ●

Reflect

Have you had a desert experience? How did it reshape your life?

**St. Mary's & St. John's
Brush CO & Stoneham CO**

Pastor: Rev. Marek Ciesla, S. Chr.
Parochial Vicar: Rev. Maurice Okeke

Masses:

Brush: Sat. - 5:00 PM, Sun. - 10:00 AM
Thurs. - 5:30 PM, Fri. - 8:00 AM
Stoneham: Sun. - 12:00 PM

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Brush: Sat. - 3:00 PM
1/2 hr. before weekday Masses
or by appointment
Stoneham: Sun. - 1:00 PM

Adoration & Benediction: 1st Friday of the
month immediately after Mass (till 9:00 a.m.)

Anointing of the Sick: - call the Office

Office: Thursday & Friday
Leave a message **970-842-2216**

Website: www.stmarybrush.org

Sign up for Flocknote

www.flocknote.com/stmarybrush

or text **Brush** to **84576**

Facebook: www.facebook.com/STMBrush

Donate Online: Visit www.stmarybrush.org
Click "Donate" and select your church.
Thank you for your ongoing support!

Visit Formed.org & watch for free!

Sign Up & Select "I belong to a Parish"

Enter 80723 / select St. Mary's

Enter your e-mail - and you are in!

Mass Intentions

Sat. Feb. 17 Vigil

5:00 p.m. †Robert Guzman 0Sr.

Sun Feb. 18 Mass/1st Sunday of Lent

10:00 a.m. †Pete Anderson - Knights

12:00 p.m. Graces for Margaret Lock-JD

Thurs Feb 22 Mass/the Chair of St. Peter

5:30 p.m. †Michelle - KE

Fri. Feb. 23 Mass

8:00 a.m. †Michelle - KE

Sat. Feb. 24 Vigil

5:00 p.m. †Beba Romero

Sun Feb. 25 Mass/2nd Sunday of Lent

10:00 a.m. †Tony & †Mark Perez - AF

12:00 p.m. Graces for Jenny Spiker - MK

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Our Sick: Joseph Wilson, Tom Flores, Rosa Maria Santos, Gia Marquez, Jan Yokum, Kane Schrock, Deja Adam, Bernice Padilla, Rosemary Garcia, Sean Gleason, Marj Blatt, Ben Mettlen, Arabella Macias, Brianna Hill, Gina Mortenson, Margaret Mann, Paula & Delbert Meier, Sheryl Garvik, Izaac Morales, Kayla Albrant, Stan Prather, Ron Uhrig, Christy Chapman, Anthony Steven Villarreal, Shelby Daughenbaugh, Caiden Lee, Frank Laso, Fritz & Irene Ramirez, Norma Wolfe, Rodney Hergenreter, Stella, Amanda Weisensee, Daniel Hoffman, Alvin Vigil, Jessica Penner, Eloy Padilla, Nadine Odell, Jennifer Romero, Pennie Haller, Armando Saucedo, Jeffery Pieper, Carmona Family, Leo Millburg, Neil Wahlert

For the Soul:

Alberto Salvador, Rita Marie Flores

Sundays thru Lent at St. John's
12:00 p.m. (noon) Mass
After Mass confessions, luncheon and Eucharistic video

LENT 2024
Fridays of Lent at St. Mary:
A Day of Abstinence
5:30 p.m. - STATIONS OF THE CROSS
6:00 p.m. - Lenten video
after video - Knights dinner
Parish Hall (basement) /good-will offering
Feb. 23 - Breakfast / Mar. 1 - Italian
Mar. 8 - Mexican / Mar. 15 - Soup
Mar. 22 - Chef's Choice

Wednesdays of Lent at St. John's:
6:00 p.m. - STATIONS OF THE CROSS
Lenten Soup to follow
Dates: February 21, 28, March 6, 13, 20, 27

Offering a Mass for someone?
While you can personally offer your prayers, requesting that a priest say a Mass for your intention can be even more powerful because the priest himself has offered it.

It is customary to give a very small monetary gift when you request the Mass. It helps support the priest, parish facilities, or missions. In previous eras, for example, candles were expensive.

You can offer a Mass for anyone or any special intention, but Masses offered for the dead are very powerful. Many souls have appeared to loved ones to ask for Masses to be said for them so that they will be released from Purgatory. These souls are no longer able to pray for themselves, they rely on the prayers and good works of those on earth to help them enter heaven sooner. Jesus will often release a soul sooner when such prayers as the Mass are offered.



**NATIONAL
Eucharistic
Revival**

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Exposition / Adoration / Benediction
St. Mary's: March 2nd/3rd
First weekend of the month
Saturday 4:30 p.m. - 4:50 p.m.
Sunday 9:30 a.m. - 9:50 a.m.
St. John's: March 10th
Second Sunday of the month
11:30 a.m. - 11:57 a.m.



Anointing of the Sick
Feb. 24th/25th after each Mass

FINANCIAL UPDATE 1-31-24

ST. MARY
2023-24 BUDGET: \$ 176,475
Offertory to date: \$ 82,687
Bldg Fund: \$ 10,827
Ordinary Expenses to date: \$ 95,242
Capital Expenses: \$ 20,938
(basement repair, refrigerator, asbestos)

ST. JOHN
2023-24 BUDGET: \$ 34,678
Offertory to date: \$ 22,133
Ordinary Expenses to date: \$ 15,902
Capital Expenses: \$ 47,747

Lenten Penance Services at 6:00 p.m.
March 12, Tuesday / St. Joseph, Akron
March 14, Thursday / St. Anthony, Sterling
March 21, Thursday / St. Mary, Brush



Food Drive - Help feed families
Consider canned goods & items for the Brush Food pantry.
Monetary donations welcomed.
Drop off at St. Mary's
Thank you for your support!

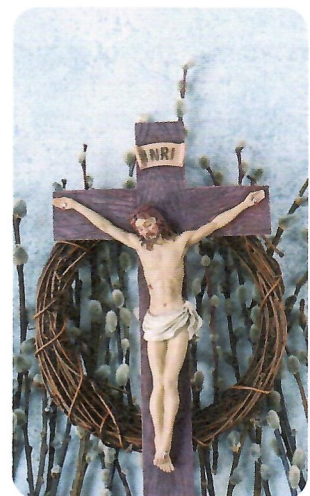
Dear Padre,

We're in the middle of home renovations, and the season of Lent is beginning. Everything is in total disarray. Any ideas to help me "keep my religion" at this time?

"There is...a time to tear down, and a time to build" (Ecclesiastes 3:1, 3). During the season of Lent—a word meaning "spring"—we are called to put away the "dead" deeds of winter. It's a time of spiritual "spring cleaning" for the individual and for the faith community. As nature renews herself every spring, so do we. The change of season may even prompt a renovation project—the kind you are now undertaking. The structural changes to a home afford many spiritual parallels—the redoing of your physical home can be a challenge to realign your spiritual home during Lent.

In the Genesis story, God is pleased with the handiwork of his creation. Likewise, our stamina, perseverance, and patience to see a work through to its completion are cause for great satisfaction and celebration. This would remind us that we are made in the same image of God, who took delight in his own work. Lent also can become a time of delighting in ourselves as God's special and ongoing creation.

When your home improvement project is completed, arrange for a blessing of your home. Enthroned a special cross or icon to venerate, light a devotional candle, and use holy water in the area of the home that was improved. At that time, remind yourself again that you and your home belong to the Lord—renewed during the spring cleaning of Lent!



Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
February 19	February 20	February 21	February 22	February 23	February 24	February 25
Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Chair of St. Peter	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Second Sunday
Lv 19:1–2, 11–18	Is 55:10–11	Jon 3:1–10	the Apostle	Ez 18:21–28	Dt 26:16–19	of Lent
Mt 25:31–46	Mt 6:7–15	Lk 11:29–32	1 Pt 5:1–4	Mt 5:20–26	Mt 5:43–48	Gn 22:1–2, 9a, 10–13, 15–18
			Mt 16:13–19			Rom 8:31b–34 Mk 9:2–10



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

How do we hear the voice of God? We hear it in his Word. For this reason, it is important to know Scripture, because otherwise we do not know how to react to the snares of the Evil One. And here I would like to return to my advice of reading the Gospel every day....

ANGELUS, ROME, FEBRUARY 22, 2015