



## ST. DENIS Parish

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**LOVE GOD    LOVE OTHERS    TRAIN DISCIPLES**

### Eucharistic Celebrations :

Sunday, **March 1<sup>st</sup> - 9:00am** – Ron Lapointe (*Louis & Norma Ouellette*)

Friday, **March 6<sup>th</sup> - 9:00am** – Adoration and reconciliation

**Mass - 10:00am** – Lauraine Picton (*funeral collection*)

**Way of the Cross - 7:00 pm in St-Denis**

Sunday, **March 8<sup>th</sup> - 9:00am** – Lucille Middleton (*funeral collection*)

Sanctuary Lamp – this week: **Ernest & Anna Antoine**

God's Share : Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup> - **\$288.00** (22) + **\$10.50** loose + **\$160.00** (dd) = **\$458.50**

Church cleaning : Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup> – Margaret & Denise deRocquigny

<u>Ministries :</u>	<u>March 1<sup>st</sup></u>	<u>March 8<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>March 15<sup>th</sup></u>
<b>Greeters :</b>	<b>Yvonne C./Eugene</b>	<b>Yvonne B./André</b>	<b>Margaret / Gérald</b>
Readers:	Lucille Dheilley	Marcel Dufault	Judith Robidoux
Offerings & Collection	Gérald Poirier & Guy Dedieu	Marcel Dheilley family	Raymond Massinon family
Communion:	Lucille Dheilley	Marcel Dufault	Judith Robidoux
Counters:	Dorothee & prtnr.	Maurice & prtnr.	Annette & prtnr.

**Spring Bazaar :** Bazar preparations are on the way so reserve the date of **April 19<sup>th</sup>** for the occasion. Raffle tickets should be out soon.

*First Sunday of Lent (A)*

*March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020*

### Prayer Intention for March, 2020

**Catholics in China** – We pray that the Church in China may persevere in its faithfulness to the Gospel and grow in unity.

- For our pastor, Fr. Peter, in his ministry among us.
- For the conversion of Christians, especially those of our parishes.
- For vocations within our parishes.



### 7<sup>th</sup> Catechesis: Readings of the Gospel according to the Liturgical Year

We continue the short catechesis which explains the course of our liturgical celebrations. Today we present the Gospels according to the liturgical years A, B and C.

After Vatican Council II, the Church presents to the faithful the table of the Word of God with more richness by opening more widely the biblical treasures so that, in a determined number of years, we will read important parts of the Holy Scriptures. Since 1969, the liturgy has offered Sunday readings spread over a three-year cycle A, B and C.

(cf. Pope Paul VI. Sacrosanctum Concilium. Constitution on the Holy Liturgy, art. 51, 1963.)

- **In Year A**, the Church meditates on the Gospel according to **Saint Matthew**. This evangelist was speaking to Christians of Jewish origin. For Christians of all times, the purpose of Matthew is to show that Jesus is the fulfillment of the promise of salvation that God had announced to his people through the mouths of the prophets.
- **For Year B**, we read the Gospel according to **Saint Mark**. The recipients of Mark's gospel were Christians in missionary communities, most of whom were non-Jews converted to Christianity. Mark presents to us the Jesus who cares about bringing the Good News beyond the Jewish world.
- **As for Year C**, we meditate on the Gospel according to **Saint Luke** whose objective is to announce the Good News to **all**. The Pharisees and Sadducees, who should have received the Good News of Christ first, mysteriously refused to receive it. On the other hand, it was the excluded such as the poor, the sick, women, children and sinners who were among the first to accept the message of Jesus.
- As for the Gospel according to **Saint John**, it is distributed over the three years during **Christmas, Lent and Easter season**. This gospel is addressed to all believers in order to make them recognize that Jesus is the Messiah. The message of Saint John is summarized in the following quote: **"... so that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by your faith you may have life in his name."**(Jn 20, 31)

**Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) Meeting:** Tuesday, March 4, 2020 at 2:00 pm in the sacristy.



Genesis 12.1-4;  
2 Timothy 1.8b-10;

### Readings for Sunday: March 8, 2020

Ps 33.4-5, 18-19, 20+22 (R. 22)  
Matthew 17.1-9

**Ministry of Hospitality:** We need greeters to welcome our parishioners and visitors and to distribute the bulletins as they enter the Church. If you want to be volunteers for this ministry, please give your name to Fr. Peter or André Lambert (secretary) to be added to the list of cheerful greeters.

**Words from Fr. Peter:**

Lent: a time for sharing! In our parishes, we will have a small campaign called: **“LOVE IN A LOONIE”**. Every Sunday Mass during this Lent, we will have a second collection before the final blessing. Therefore, I invite everyone to prepare a loonie when you come to Church. All loonies collected from this Lent campaign will be shared with the less fortunate in our parishes. “You always have the poor among you” (John 12:8).

During Lent, we will alternate the **Way of the Cross** on Friday evenings in St. Claude and St. Denis beginning at 7 pm. The second meditation of the Way of the Cross will be in **Haywood** at 7 pm, March 6, 2020.

**Movie Night:** There will be two nights for the viewing of Catholic movies following the Way of the Cross: - St. Claude: 7:30 pm, Friday March 13, 2020 “Paul, Apostle of Christ”. - St. Denis- Haywood: 7:30 pm, Friday April 3, 2020 “A Man for All Seasons”

**Adult Lenten Retreat – Saturday, March 7, 2020**

**Touching the Hem of His Garment** – a day of refection for adults at St. Patrick’s Catholic Church, Manitou, MB from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm on Saturday, March 7, 2020. Guest speakers: Fr. Ramon Oncog, Fr. Paulin Akpapupu, Jacinta Ellis & more... Cost: \$30 / person with dinner included. Please register at [belro@mymts.net](mailto:belro@mymts.net) or call 204-242-3107.

**Lenten Youth Retreat – Change of Date to Saturday, March 14, 2020**

**Leap of Faith**, a retreat for ages 14-28 at the St. Patrick’s Roman Catholic Church, 532 Fuller Ave., Manitou, MB from 9 am to 7 pm. Spiritual director: Fr. Ramon Oncog with Seminarian Paul Nguyen. Suggested donation - \$15 / person, includes dinner and lunch. Please register ahead with Roger or Belita at 204-242-3107.

**St. Claude Knights of Columbus BREAKFAST BRUNCH - Sunday, March 15, 2020**

from 10:30 am to 1 pm at the St-Claude Recreation Centre. Pancakes, hash browns, sausages, ham, eggs, beverages. Adults: \$10.00 5 – 12: \$5.00  
Fundraiser for Knights of Columbus charities.

**Confession Schedule in Lenten Season for Mountain Deanery**

Manitou:	Monday, March 16, 2020	7:00 pm
Carman:	Wednesday, March 18, 2020	7:00 pm
Morden:	Saturday, March 21, 2020	7:00 pm
<b>St. Claude and St. Denis:</b>	<b>Monday, March 23, 2020</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>
Somerset:	Tuesday, March 31, 2020	7:30 pm
St. Leon:	Wednesday, April 1, 2020	7:30 pm
Swan Lake:	Saturday, April 4, 2020	3:00 pm



# Overcoming Temptation ...

The fruit on the tree was extremely tempting. Though warned, Adam and Eve succumbed to temptation, ate the forbidden fruit and discovered that they were naked. The Serpent had lied and tempted them saying that eating the forbidden fruit would make them: *like God, knowing good and evil*. Adam and Eve fell for this lie and believed the Serpent who promised them *more* than what God had already provided for them.

The story of creation can be interpreted in light of important life questions concerning death, work, and the fragility of life. The text is significant and encourages us to reflect on our own lives as we prepare to celebrate the great feast of the Resurrection. This time of questioning also provides us, one again, another opportunity to believe in the Gospel and adjust our lives accordingly.

Let’s return to this strange passage about our origins and remembering that *serpents* don’t speak. In the Bible passage, the serpent’s words spewed poison in the hearts of Adam and Eve since God had previously warned them: *but of the tree of knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat...* Yet, they made their choice.

Long after this scenario and just before he began his mission, Christ was tempted after spending forty days fasting in the desert. According to the Tempter, it would have been so simple for Christ to accept his proposals and change stones into bread, fly through the air, and become the most powerful ruler on earth. St. Matthew noted that Christ was confronted by the *Tempter* whom he called the *Devil*. This detail is important. The word originates from the Greek word *diabolos*. The French translation means: *one who divides / separates*, in this case, people are separated from the truth.

Just like the Serpent described in Genesis, it is clear that Christ’s temptations were the work of the Devil who tried to interfere with Christ’s mission by proposing temptations. Yet Christ, God’s Son, confronted the Devil, [Satan] at every turn. *Away with you, Satan! For it is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’* A significant victory over evil!

What can we learn from this passage? Can we sense a connection between these Gospel passages and our lives? Can we relate to these temptations? On one hand we can read inspiring words from the Gospels, but at the same time, we realize much is required in order to put these good intentions into practice. Just like poison, doubt can affect and disrupt our lives making us hesitate and look for exit doors.

Instead, why not focus on our Easter enlightenment and chalk up another victorious event. We reflect on the readings concerning the first hours of Christ’s mission which, as St. Paul proclaims in the Letter to the Romans: *The grace of God and the free gift in the grace of one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many.*

**Father Jacques Houle, c.s.v.**  
Translated by Honore Kerwin Borrelli