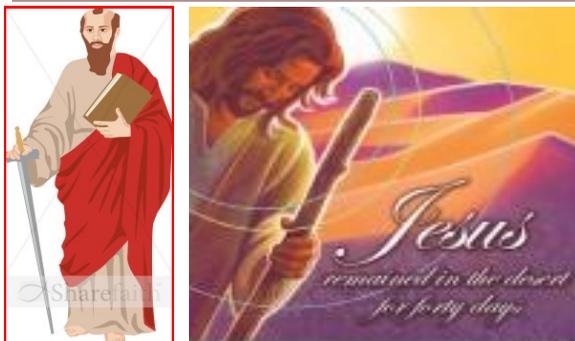


**St Paul the Apostle Catholic Church**  
**Eufaula, Oklahoma**  
**February 21st 2021**



**WEEKLY COLLECTION**  
**February 14th:**  
**Week 33**

<b>Envelopes:</b>	\$	
<b>Loose Checks:</b>	\$	
<b>Loose Cash:</b>	\$	
<b>Total:</b>	\$	
<b>YTD Budget:</b>	\$	<b>43,890.00</b>
<b>YTD Actual:</b>	\$	<b>33,075.68</b>

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT**

We are pleased to announce the first of our spring "Days of Reflection" at St. Gregory's Abbey.

With a Father's Heart – Reflections for the Year of St. Joseph will be presented by Abbot Lawrence Stasyszen, O.S.B. on Saturday, March 13, 2021 from 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Due to Covid-19, registration will be limited to 32 attendees. Facial coverings and social distancing are required. So that we have adequate seating, attendees must pre-register by e-mailing [retreats@monksok.org](mailto:retreats@monksok.org) or call (405) 878-5656. Cost is \$30 for early bird registration or \$35 if you pay at the door. Lunch is included.

**BIRTHDAYS**

**FEBRUARY 22nd:** Joe Thoendel  
**FEBRUARY 25th:** J L Bezdek  
**FEBRUARY 27th:** Tim Bracken

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Monday: 1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-3a, 4-6; Mt 16:13-19  
 Tuesday: Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7, 16-19; Mt 6:7-15  
 Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19; Lk 11:29-32  
 Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8; Mt 7:7-12  
 Friday: Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-8; Mt 5:20-26  
 Saturday: Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8; Mt 5:43-48  
 Sunday: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Ps 116:10, 15-19; Rom 8:31b-34; Mk 9:2-10

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

Sunday: First Sunday of Lent; Rite of Election; Rite of Calling the Candidates to Continuing Conversion; Rite of Sending  
 Monday: Washington's Birthday; Julian Calendar Lent begins  
 Tuesday: St. Polycarp  
 Thursday: Purim (Jewish observance) begins at sunset  
 Friday: Abstinence  
 Saturday: St. Gregory of Narek

**TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION**

By the First Sunday of Lent, many people have given up on "giving up." Yet experiencing hunger for favorite things is a sign of a desire to face our deepest hungers. We do not embrace fasting as individuals, but rather as the community's way of life in this season. Sometimes it helps to see Sunday as an oasis in the Lenten desert, a place where fasting is not as strictly observed. If we count the days of the Lenten calendar, starting backward from the end of Lent on Holy Thursday, it is difficult to measure the forty days. Many are surprised to learn that the Sundays are counted as part of Lent, but are not counted in tallying the forty days of the Lenten fast. For that, we count the fast backward into last week, beginning on Ash Wednesday. So, until today we have been in the Lenten fast, days that function as a kind of overture to a symphony of conversion.

Today Lent solemnly begins, marked in many places by the sending of catechumens and candidates to the bishop for the call to the Easter sacraments. Tomorrow with them, we embrace the Lenten fast again. Today we are exactly forty days from the opening of the Paschal Triduum on Holy Thursday.

—James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

**Abortion and Poverty/Crime**

Abortion advocates often argue that the unborn babies of poor mothers are better off aborted and abortion reduces the crime rate. However, the truth is that the violence of abortion has begot more violence and crime, not less. The pro-choice people have had more than 47 years to weed out all the "unwanted children" yet, we have more child abuse, more spousal abuse, more deadbeat dads, more gangs, more drugs, more homelessness and more crime. The list goes on and on. By stating that the children of poor people are less entitled to have their lives protected than those of the rich, the writer is plainly of the view that the economic status of a family should be what determines whether children are worthy to be born or not. Laws against robbery and drug-dealing might impact the poor more than the rich, but that does not prevent us from passing and enforcing them. The reason is simple: Robbery and drug dealing, like abortion, is wrong, regardless of the socio-economic class of hypothetical people who might commit these activities. The solution to poverty is not found in killing the children of the poor. We have been doing that since 1973. Our experience proves that it clearly does not work. Killing poor children is only the solution of "choice" for wealthy elitists. Perhaps a hidden agenda is at work here.

*Pro-Life Articles*

**The Sick:**

Jean Scott, Joey Creekmore, Mona Hatfield, Jana Gerhart, Terri Morgan, Edward Dinkel (brother of Virginia Weigel), Carlee Eaton, Rita Brown (sister of Charles Weigel), Norma Determan, Charlotte Gibson, Keaton Petrone, Dan Hudson, Elizabeth Hudson Teer, Stan Shade, Jess Phelps, Brady Thornton, Brittany Cagle, Hilda Sorenson, C.R. Ramsey, Marianne Determan, Mason & Gunner Anthamatten, Dan Remington, Wyatt Alexander, Alicia Pope, Keirla and Raiden Bennett, Cody Simon, Sonny Fulton, Betty Kelsoe



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 Larry Boyer...918.617.0988  
**RCIA:**  
 Mona Hatfield 918.490.1066  
 tbcranch@hotmail.com  
**Flowers & Cards:**  
 Norma Determan...405.312.1449  
**Infant Interment Gown Ministry:**  
 Karen Ketchum...918.689.0002  
 kketchum60@yahoo.com

**FOOD FOR THE HUNGRY PROJECT  
WEEKLY COLLECTION**

God bless you for your generosity. You have made a positive difference in the lives of hungry families. The requested food item for this week's collection is **CAN GOODS AND ANY NON-PARISHABLE ITEMS ONLY.**

**PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS**

- Jana Gerhart
- Beverly Stokes
- Billy Haltom
- Mark Kringlen
- Karen Willoby

**FEAST OF FAITH**

**Seasonal Changes for the Liturgies of Lent**

Today is the First Sunday of Lent. During this season of preparation for Easter, our churches look stark and simple—no flowers at the altar, no festive banners or decorations. And our liturgies feel different, too. The organ is quiet except to accompany the singing of the assembly. The Gloria, our Sunday song of rejoicing, is not heard except on solemnities, and we will not sing the Alleluia, our joyful acclamation of praise, until the Easter Vigil. "Alleluia cannot always / Be our song while here below," says an eleventh-century hymn. "Alleluia our transgressions / Make us for a while forego; / For the solemn time is coming / When our tears for sins must flow" (*Alleluia dulce carmen*, J. M. Neale, trans.).

These changes in the liturgy will catch our attention, and make us eager for the festive outpouring of joy that will return with Easter. This year, may the stripped-away liturgies of Lent remind us to strip away what is not essential in our lives to make space for the crucified and risen One, and thus to be ready to sing "Alleluia" once again when Easter returns.

—Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

**REPENT AND BELIEVE IN THE GOSPEL**

Lent is the time of year we devote to scrutinizing our lives in the light of our baptism into the death and resurrection of Jesus. Today's readings are a nice shorthand catechism of what our baptized lives mean. As Noah passed through the waters of the flood to a covenant with God, so did we enter into a covenant, a promised relationship with God through our baptism.

Peter's letter gives an explicit explanation of what our baptism means: it is an appeal we make to God for a clear conscience. How do we obtain this clear conscience? The words proclaimed by Jesus immediately following his temptation show us the way: "Repent, and believe in the gospel" (Mark 1:15). It might be a good spiritual exercise to keep these readings before us throughout the entire season of Lent, a means to help us return to a life lived by our baptismal promises.

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**First Sunday of Lent  
February 21, 2021**

Your ways, O LORD, make known to me; teach me your paths.  
— Psalm 25:4



Website: [www.stpaul-eufaula.org](http://www.stpaul-eufaula.org)

Remind.com Text: [@stpaul-eufaula](https://www.instagram.com/stpaul-eufaula) To: 81010

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Rectory: 918.426.4919

Mass Schedule:  
Wednesday at 9:00 AM  
Sunday at 8:30 AM  
Holy Days at 5:30 PM  
Confession before Mass or by Appointment

**February 2021 ~ March 2021**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
14 8:30 am Mass 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time	15	16	17 5:00 pm Mass Ash Wednesday	18	19	20
21 8:30 am Mass 1st Sunday of Lent	22	23	24 5:30 pm Mass 6:00 pm Stations of the Cross	25	26	27
28 8:30 am Mass 2nd Sunday of Lent	1	2	3 5:30 pm Mass 6:00 pm Stations of the Cross	4	5	6
7 8:30 am Mass 3rd Sunday of Lent	8	9	10 5:30 pm Mass 6:00 pm Stations of the Cross	11	12	13
14 8:30 am Mass 4th Sunday of Lent	15	16	17 5:30 pm Mass 6:00 pm Stations of the Cross	18	19	20