

**3rd SUNDAY OF LENT**  
**March 23, 2025**

**Very Rev. Robert Glasgow, V.F.**  
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**MASS SCHEDULE**

Saturday (Anticipatory) ..... 5:30 PM  
Sunday ..... 8:00 AM  
Sunday ..... 10:00 AM  
Sunday ..... 6:00 PM  
Daily (Mon, Wed-Fri) ..... 12:15 PM

**CONFESSION**

Saturday ..... 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM  
And before/after daily Mass, or by appointment.

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**BAPTISM**

Parents must attend a Parent Baptism Class before the baptism of their child. The class is offered the first Sunday of each month following the 10:00 AM Mass.

**MARRIAGE**

Please contact the office at least six months prior to the wedding date. The diocese requires Marriage Prep.

**VISITS TO THE HOMEBOUND AND SICK,  
ANOINTING OF THE SICK**

Please call the office to request home or hospital visitation.

**ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION**

OCIA is the process of formation offered to those who seek to become Catholic. For information, please call the office.

**ON TEMPTATION**

No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it. —1 Cor 10:13

The following excerpt is from St Thomas Aquinas' (d. 1274) Catechetical Instructions.



THE TEMPTATION OF CHRIST [detail]  
by Ary Scheffer (d. 1858)

THERE are those who have sinned and desire forgiveness for their sins. They confess their sins and repent. Yet, they do not strive as much as they should in order that they may not fall into sin again. In this indeed they are not consistent. For, on the one hand, they deplore their sins by being sorry for them; and, on the other hand, they sin again and again and have them again to deplore. Thus it is written: "Wash yourselves clean! Put away your misdeeds from before my eyes; cease doing evil" (Isa 1:16).

We have seen in the petition above that Christ taught us to seek forgiveness for our sins. In this petition, He teaches us to pray that we might avoid sin—that is, that we may not be led into temptation, and thus fall into sin. "And lead us not into temptation" (Roman Catechism, Part IV: The Lord's Prayer). Two questions are now considered:

1. What is temptation?
2. In what ways is one tempted and by whom?

**WHAT IS TEMPTATION?** Regarding the first, it must be known that to tempt is nothing other than to test or to prove. To tempt a man is to test or try his virtue. This is done in two ways just as a man's virtue requires two things. One requirement is to do good, the other is to avoid evil: "Turn away from evil and do good" (Ps 33:15). Sometimes a man's virtue is tried in doing good, and sometimes it is tested in avoiding evil.

First, a person is tried in his readiness to do good, for example, to fast and such like. Then is thy virtue great when thou art quick



to do good. In this way does God sometimes try one's virtue, not, however, because such virtue is hidden from Him, but in order that all might know it and it would be an example to all. God tempted Abraham in this way, and Job also. For this reason God frequently sends trials to the just, who in sustaining them with all patience make manifest their virtue and themselves increase in virtue: "He therefore let you be afflicted with hunger, and then fed you with manna, a food unknown to you and your ancestors, so you might know that it is not by bread alone that people live, but by all that comes forth from the mouth of the Lord" (Deut 8:3). Thus does God tempt man by inciting him to good deeds.

Second, the virtue of man is tried by solicitation to evil. If he truly resists and does not give his consent, then his virtue is great. If, however, he falls before the temptation, he is devoid of virtue. God tempts no man in this way, for it is written: "No one experiencing temptation should say, 'I am being tempted by God'; for God is not subject to temptation to evil, and he himself tempts no one" (Jas 1:13).

**HOW IS ONE TEMPTED?** Man is tempted by his own flesh, by the devil and by the world.

**The Temptations of the Flesh.** He is tempted by the flesh in two ways:

First, the flesh incites one to evil. It always seeks its own pleasures, namely, carnal pleasures, in which often is sin. He who indulges in carnal pleasures neglects spiritual things: "Each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire (that is, by concupiscence; Jas 1:14).

Secondly, the flesh tempts man by enticing him away from good. For the spirit on its part would delight always in spiritual things, but the flesh asserting itself puts obstacles in the way of the spirit: "For the corruptible body burdens the soul and the earthly tent weighs down the mind with its many concerns" (Wis 9:15). "For I take delight in the law of God, in my inner self, but I see in my members another principle at war with the law of my mind, taking me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members" (Rom 7:22-23). This temptation which comes from the flesh is most severe, because our enemy, the flesh, is united to us; and as Boethius says: "There is no plague more dangerous than an enemy in the family circle." We must, therefore, be ever on our guard against this enemy: "Watch and pray that you may not undergo the test. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak" (Matt 26:41).

**The Temptations of the Devil.** The devil tempts us with extreme force. Even when the flesh is subdued, another tempter arises, namely, the devil against whom we have a heavy struggle. Of this the Apostle says: "Our wrestling is not against flesh and blood, but against principalities and powers, against the rulers of the world of this darkness, against the spirits of wickedness in high places" (Eph 6:12). For this reason he is very aptly called the tempter: "Lest perhaps he that tempteth should have tempted you" (1

Thess 3:5). The devil proceeds most cunningly in tempting us. He operates like a skillful general when about to attack a fortified city. He looks for the weak places in the object of his assault, and in that part where a man is most weak, he tempts him. He tempts man in those sins to which, after subduing his flesh, he is most inclined. Such, for instance, are anger, pride and the other spiritual sins. "Be sober and vigilant. Your opponent the devil is prowling around like a roaring lion looking for (someone) to devour" (1 Pet 5:8).

**How the Devil Tempts Us.** The devil does two things when he tempts us. Thus, he does not at once suggest something that appears to us as evil, but something that has a semblance of good. Thereby he would, at least in the beginning, turn a man from his chief purpose, and then afterwards it will be easier to induce him to sin, once he has been turned away ever so little. "Satan himself transformeth himself into an angel of light" (Cor 11:14). Then when he has once led man into sin, he so enchains him as to prevent his rising up out of his sin. The devil, therefore, does two things: he deceives a man first, and then after betraying him, enthralls him in his sin.

**Temptations of the World.** The world has two ways of tempting man:

The first is excessive and intemperate desire for the goods of this life: "For the love of money is the root of all evils, and some people in their desire for it have strayed from the faith and have pierced themselves with many pains" (1 Tim 6:10.)

The second way is the fears engendered by persecutors and tyrants: "We are wrapped up in darkness" (Job 37:19). "In fact, all who want to live religiously in Christ Jesus will be persecuted" (2 Tim 3:12). And again: "And do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, be afraid of the one who can destroy both soul and body in Gehenna" (Matt 10:28).

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### WEEKLY CALENDAR

- Mar 23, SUNDAY — 3rd Week of Lent  
8:00 AM | Sunday Mass  
10:00 AM | Sunday Mass  
11:00 AM | Seven Deadly Sins, Seven Lively Virtues  
11:30 AM | Order of Christian Initiation of Adults  
2:00 PM | \*Deanery Penance Service (see below)  
6:00 PM | Sunday Mass  
7:00 PM | Eucharistic Adoration
- Mar 24, MONDAY  
12:15 AM | Daily Mass
- Mar 25, TUESDAY  
7:00 PM | Scouts
- Mar 26, WEDNESDAY  
12:15 AM | Daily Mass  
10:30 AM | Luke: The Story of Salvation Fulfilled  
6:30 PM | Luke: The Story of Salvation Fulfilled  
6:30 PM | Grief Share
- Mar 27, THURSDAY  
9:00 AM | Day Away

12:15 AM | Daily Mass

Mar 28, FRIDAY

10:00 AM | Food Pantry

12:15 PM | Daily Mass (w/ Stations [Short Form]  
followed by Adoration)

6:00 PM | Confession (until 8:00 PM)

6:00 PM | Stations [Long Form] (followed by Soup  
Supper)

Mar 29, SATURDAY

8:30 AM | Men's Group

9:30 AM | Widow's Group (2nd Sat of month)

4:00 PM | Confession (until 5:00 PM)

5:30 PM | Anticipatory Sunday Mass

### OFFERING

16 Mar '25 (2nd Sunday Lent): \$5,999.00

THANK YOU for your generosity!

### MASS INTENTIONS

Mar 22 (Sat), 5:30 PM	George Tietjen (req. by Rita Geringer)
Mar 23 (Sun), 8:00 AM	Vinelda Schmidt (req. by Alverta, Willy & family)
Mar 23, 10:00 AM	Luisa Mateos (req. by Ronan O'Sullivan)
Mar 24 (Mon), 12:15 PM	Personal Intention for a 5th Grade Class
Mar 26 (Wed), 12:15 PM	Joseph & Agatha Oeretel (req. by Connelly Family)
Mar 27 (Thu), 12:15 PM	Margery Hughes (req. by Jerry & Sheila Burnett)
Mar 29 (Sat), 5:30 PM	Leslie Sheehan (req. by Robert Sheehan)
Mar 30 (Sun), 10:00 AM	Alfred Dion & Family (req. by Louise Hickey)
Mar 30, 6:00 PM	Marie Duda (req. by Teresa Cushing)

The Code of Canon Law confirms the practice of offering Mass(es) for particular intentions is ancient: "The Christian faithful who give an offering to apply the Mass for their intention contribute to the good of the Church and by that offering share its concern to support its ministers and works" (945 §2).

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



The annual 40 DAYS FOR LIFE campaign to end abortion runs from Mar 5-Apr 13. The theme of the campaign is "LOVE THEM BOTH"—both the

parents considering abortion and their fragile unborn children.

Please consider praying peacefully with other NH Catholics, Christians, and people of good will on the public sidewalk outside PLANNED PARENTHOOD (24 Pennacook St, Manchester). The Prayer Volunteers offer an hour of prayer between the hours of 7:00 AM-7:00 PM weekdays or weekends as a witness to the beauty and sacredness of life, particularly the life of our tiniest neighbors—the unborn.

## LENTEN SCHEDULE

### CONFESSION

Fridays of Lent:

Mar 28, Apr 4, 11: 6:00-8:00 PM

5th Week of Lent:

Apr 7, 9, 11: 6:00-8:00 PM

Monday of Holy Week:

Apr 14: 10-12, 1-3 PM and 6-8 PM

### \*DEANERY PENANCE SERVICE

Immaculate Conception Church  
(216 E Dunstable Rd, Nashua)  
23 Mar (Sun) at 2:00 PM

## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

### HOLY THURSDAY

Mass of the Lord's Supper  
17 Apr, 7:00 PM



### GOOD FRIDAY

Stations of the Cross  
18 Apr, 3:00 PM

—and—

Commemoration of the Lord's Passion  
18 Apr, 7:00 PM



### HOLY SATURDAY

Easter Vigil  
19 Apr, 7:45 PM



### EASTER SUNDAY

20 Apr

8:00 AM, \*10:00 AM and 6:00 PM

\*Children's EASTER EGG HUNT  
follows the 10:00 AM Mass

### LUKE: THE STORY OF SALVATION

Join us as we see the story of salvation fulfilled studying the Gospel of Luke in Ascension Press' GREAT ADVENTURE STUDY, LUKE: THE STORY OF SALVATION FULFILLED. The course will be offered on Wednesdays, 10:30 AM — and — 6:30 PM, from March 12 thru May 14. If you choose, the participant books are \$20.00.

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### SEVEN DEADLY SINS, SEVEN LIVELY VIRTUES

Starting March 9, we will stream Bp. Barron's "SEVEN DEADLY SINS, SEVEN LIVELY VIRTUES" videos during Coffee & Donuts in the hall (Room 3) after the 10:00 AM Sunday Mass. The videos are approximately 15 minutes in length. The first video has a 10-minute introduction, then the first of the seven deadly sins.

### MEMORIAL EASTER FLOWERS

To donate towards the Easter Flowers in memory of a family member or friend, please print their name(s) on the envelope. They will be remembered at all Masses throughout the 7-week Easter Season.

### PRAYER LINE

To add someone to the Parish Prayer Line, contact Teri at the parish office: (603) 880-4689, [tschmitt@sjnnh.org](mailto:tschmitt@sjnnh.org).

PLEASE PRAY FOR: Youth volunteers and students (past, present, & future). Michael. Kathy. Andrew. Amy. Sue. Clara. Millisa. Mikala. Baby Gallagher. Baby S. (Due March). Baby S. (Due April). Dick. Laura. Peg. Dale. Christine. Lisa. Kimberly. Hazel. Soul of Rosemary. Caitlin. Susan. Mark. Helena. Mike. Keagan. Sheila. Roma. Pope Francis. Bernie. Special Intention. Abdul. Tricia. Marie. Jay. Leon. Ron. Russ. Sue & her surgical team. Ginny. Sofia. Margaret. For those who have fallen away from the faith. For those most in need of God's mercy.

### CREATION CARE MINISTRY

"The whole earth is a living icon of the face of God." —St John of Damascus (d. 749)

### INDOOR YARD SALE

The Sisters of the Holy Cross are holding an INDOOR YARD SALE on Saturday, April 12 at the Holy Cross Center (357 Island Pond Rd, Manchester) from 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM. Sofas, chairs, desks, etc.

### PARISH *online*

For monthly parish updates, subscribe via FLOCKNOTES by going to:

<https://SJNMERRIMACK.flocknote.com>  
Or, by texting "SJNMERRIMACK" to 84576  
(message/data rates may apply)

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### SJN Staff

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KATHY HOPKINS — Day Away (Thursday)  
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PARISH COUNCIL  
[parishcouncil@sjnnh.org](mailto:parishcouncil@sjnnh.org)

FINANCE COMMITTEE  
Bob Fregault (Chairman)

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
Arvid Skogsholm (Grand Knight)  
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