

**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**  
March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022

All three readings are concerned with faithfulness to God. The First Reading describes the ceremony of the offering to God of the first fruits of the harvest. It was an occasion for the people to thank God, not only for the blessings of the harvest, but for all He had done for them in the past, and especially in the Exodus. The creed that the offerer recited is a summary of Israel's early history and humble origins. The readings of the following Sundays will focus on significant moments of that history. The Second Reading contains in its simplest form the Christian credo: Jesus is Lord! He died for our sins and was raised up for our justification. Obviously for this faith to be genuine, it must be professed not just with one's lips but also with one's life. St. Luke's account of the temptation follows closely that of St. Matthew, except that he deliberately changes the order of the last two temptations so that series ends in Jerusalem. This is in keeping with his theological interest in the Holy City. The three scenes serve to correct a false understanding of Jesus' mission. Jesus repels the tempter by quoting from the Book of Deuteronomy, which stresses God's will for Israel.

**MASS SCHEDULE**

Sunday, March 6 <sup>th</sup> <i>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent</i>	9 am 11 am	<i>Missa Pro Populo</i> <i>Missa Pro Populo (Linwood)</i>	
Monday, March 7 <sup>st</sup> <i>St. Perpetua &amp; St. Felicity</i>	-	-	-
Tuesday, March 8 <sup>th</sup> <i>St. John of God</i>	12 pm	+ <i>John Black</i>	By John & Christine Dixon
Wednesday, March 9 <sup>th</sup> <i>St. Frances of Rome</i>	12 pm 4 pm	+ <i>Michael Grubb</i> <i>Intentions of Ben &amp; Sarah</i> <i>Small &amp; family</i>	By John & Janet Pfaffinger By Chris & Barb Runstedler
Thursday, March 10 <sup>th</sup> <i>Lent</i>	8 am	<i>Intention of Gloria Ventra</i>	
Friday, March 11 <sup>th</sup> <i>Lent</i>	8 am 7 pm	+ <i>Clarence Comfort</i> <i>Stations of the Cross</i>	By Bob & Linda Myers
Saturday, March 12 <sup>th</sup> <i>Lent</i>	5 pm	+ <i>Rick Gaudet (3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary)</i>  + <i>Rita Runstedler</i>	By Stephen & Bonnie Gaudet, Val & Henry Dietrich & families By Gilbert & family
Sunday, March 13 <sup>th</sup> <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent</i>	9 am 11 am	<i>Missa Pro Populo</i> <i>Missa Pro Populo (Linwood)</i>	

**Our Saint of the Week: St. Frances of Rome (1384– 1440)** – Frances' life combines aspects of secular and religious life. A devoted and loving wife, she longed for a lifestyle of prayer and service, so she organized a group of women to minister to the needs of Rome's poor. Born of wealthy parents, Frances found herself attracted to the religious life during her youth. But her parents objected and a young nobleman was selected to be her husband. As she became acquainted with her new relatives, Frances soon discovered that the wife of her husband's brother also wished to live a life of service and prayer. So the two, Frances and Vannoza, set out together—with their husbands' blessings—to help the poor.

Frances fell ill for a time, but this apparently only deepened her commitment to the suffering people she met. The years passed, and Frances gave birth to two sons and a daughter. With the new responsibilities of family life, the young mother turned her attention more to the needs of her own household. The family flourished under Frances' care, but within a few years a great plague began to sweep across Italy. It struck Rome with devastating cruelty and left Frances' second son dead. In an effort to help alleviate some of the suffering, Frances used all her money and sold her possessions to buy whatever the sick might possibly need. When all the resources had been exhausted, Frances and Vannoza went door to door begging. Later, Frances' daughter died, and the saint opened a section of her house as a hospital. Frances became more and more convinced that this way of life was so necessary for the world, and it was not long before she requested and was given permission to found a society of women bound by no vows. They simply offered themselves to God and to the service of the poor. Once the society was established, Frances chose not to live at the community residence, but rather at home with her husband. She did this for seven years, until her husband passed away, and then came to live the remainder of her life with the society—serving the poorest of the poor. Looking at the exemplary life of fidelity to God and devotion to her fellow human beings which Frances of Rome was blessed to lead, one cannot help but be reminded of Saint Teresa of Calcutta, who loved Jesus Christ in prayer and also in the poor. The life of Frances of Rome calls each of us not only to look deeply for God in prayer, but also to carry our devotion to Jesus living in the suffering of our world. Frances shows us that this life need not be restricted to those bound by vows. St. Frances of Rome pray for us!

**PENITENTIAL SERVICE & STATIONS OF THE CROSS** – Please mark your calendar for the Lenten penitential service on Tuesday, April 12th at 7pm and join your fellow parishioners for Stations of the Cross at 7pm on Fridays during Lent.

**UKRAINE HUMANITARIAN CRISIS** - Parishioners wishing to make a donation to the Ukraine Humanitarian Crisis can do online through Development & Peace at [https://www.devp.org/en/wp\\_press\\_release/solidarity-prayers-and-support-for-ukraine-development-and-peace-joins-relief-efforts/](https://www.devp.org/en/wp_press_release/solidarity-prayers-and-support-for-ukraine-development-and-peace-joins-relief-efforts/) or by calling 1-888-664-3387.

**SYNOD QUESTIONNAIRE** – In preparation for the Synod of Bishops in Rome 2023, “let your voice be heard” by completing the questionnaire, either online at <http://hamiltondiocese.com/synod/> or by filling out the leaflet included in the bulletin and returning it to the parish by March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

**VOCATION SEEDS** – Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit into the desert for forty days of prayer and fasting. Are you open to being led by the Holy Spirit into the life-commitment God has prepared for you? If God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, contact Bishop Wayne Lobsinger, Director of Vocations and Priestly Formation, Diocese of Hamilton (905-528-7988).  
Email: [vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com) Website: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/>

**DIOCESE OF HAMILTON PRAYER CALENDAR** – Please remember the following in your prayers: Rev. Patrick Ohl, Rev. Jerzy Tomon, Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny (S.J.C.), Rev. Francisco Sordo, Rev. David Perrin, & Very Rev. Wojciech Kuzma.

**LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION** – St. Clements \$2,510.00. Thank you for your generosity!