

**COVER SHEET**

**CHURCH NAME:** MATER DOLOROSA

**BULLETIN#:** 606500

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**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

**MATER DOLOROSA CHURCH  
71 MAPLE STREET  
HOLYOKE, MA 01040**

**Served by the  
Conventual Franciscan Friars  
Franciscan Missionary Sisters of Assisi  
Franciscan Sisters of St. Joseph**

**Mater Dolorosa School  
25 Maple Street  
Holyoke, MA 01040**

**Mater Dolorosa Cemetery  
Pittroff Avenue  
South Hadley, MA**

**Mass Schedule**

Daily - 8:00 am  
Saturday Vigil: 4:00 pm  
Sundays: 7:30 am, 9:00 am (Polish),  
10:30 am, and 5:00 pm  
Holydays: Vigil, 7:00 pm (Polish); 8:00 am  
and 7:00 pm

**Confession:** Weekday mornings 7:20 to 7:40 am;  
Saturday: 3:15 to 3:45 pm

**Sacrament of Baptism:** First Sunday of each month  
(except during Lent) at 12 Noon. Contact Parish Office  
to schedule Baptism and instruction.

**Sacrament of Anointing:** At the request of patient or  
family. Communal Anointing on the First Saturday of  
each month after Vigil Mass.

**Visits to the Sick:** At the request of the patient or the  
family.

**Sacrament of Marriage:** Contact Parish Office one  
year in advance for requirements for Sacramental Mar-  
riage. Pre-Cana attendance is required.

**Religious Education Program:** Elementary grades on  
Saturday mornings; High School on Monday evenings.

**RCIA:** Parish-based program for adults who wish to  
prepare for Baptism and/or Confirmation. Call Parish  
Office for information.



**Parish Pastoral Staff**

Fr. Alex B. Cymerman, OFM Conv., Pastor  
Fr. Stanley Sobiech, OFM Conv., Parochial Vicar  
Br. Steve Murphy, OFM Conv., Pastoral Assistant  
Sr. Corinne Gurka, FSSJ, Principal

**Office Staff**

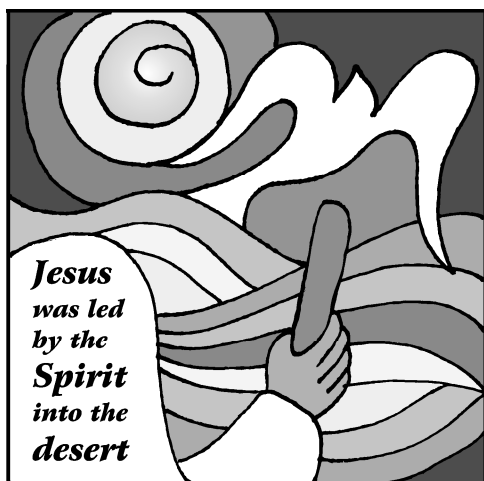
Mrs. Theresa Szumski, Parish Secretary  
Mrs. Martha Jendrysik, Parish Secretary  
Mrs. Diane Zakrzewski, School Secretary

**Lay Leadership**

Mr. Mitchell Koziol, Finance Council Chair  
Mrs. Dorothy Skibel, Pastoral Council Chair  
Ms. Joann Wauczinski, Director of  
Religious Education  
Mrs. Bethany Healy, RCIA  
Mr. Mitchell Koziol, School Board Chair  
Mrs. Angie Mercado, CYO Director  
Mrs. Shirley Anop, Child Advocate

**Telephone Numbers**

Parish Office: 413-532-7889  
Parish Fax: 413-538-6754  
School Office: 413-532-2831  
School Cafeteria: 413-534-0191  
Parish Cemetery: 413-532-7889  
Religious Education: 413-532-7889  
Friary: 413-532-8272  
Jeff Chirgwin, Choir Director: 413-374-8434



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### This Week's Feasts and Celebrations

**Monday, March 14. Lenten Weekday.** The command of the Lord (Ps) is clear; love one another (1), for "whatever you do to these least ones, you do it to me" (2).

**Tuesday, March 15. Lenten Weekday.** May God's Spirit always inspire us how to pray (2) and be open to the Word (1) that the Father may be glorified (Ps).

**Wednesday, March 16. Lenten Weekday.** Nineveh heard the preaching of Jonah (1) and repented (Ps). The Word calls us to repentance as well (2).

**Thursday, March 17. Lenten Weekday, Memorial of St. Patrick, bishop.** If we petition in faith (Ps), we shall be heard (2), as was Esther (1). **Patrick**, d. 461; born c. 389 of Romano-British origin, perhaps in Wales. Founded the metropolitan See of Armagh; authored the *Confessio*, and the famous "*Breastplate*," a work praising Christ. Patron of Nigeria; patron and apostle to Ireland.

**Friday, March 18. Lenten Weekday, Memorial of St. Cyril of Jerusalem.** The Lord forgives us (Ps) in the conversion of our hearts (1), and rejoices in the reconciliation of one to another (2). **Cyril**, d. 386; great pastor and teacher, bishop of Jerusalem; authored eighteen "*Catecheses*" devoted to the liturgy and the sacraments; exiled three times by the Arian heretics.

**Saturday, March 19. ST. JOSEPH, HUSBAND OF THE VIRGIN MARY.** As heir of David (1,Ps) and son of Joseph and Mary (3), Jesus brings forgiveness through the gift of faith (2).

St. Joseph



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St. Patrick

## The First Sunday of Lent

March 13, 2011

The Lord your God, shall you worship  
and Him alone shall you serve.

Matthew 4:10



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### Scripture Readings for the 1st Sunday of Lent

**1st Reading:** The man and the woman ate the fruit of the one tree that God had told them to avoid, and their shame overtook them (Genesis 2: 7-9; 3: 1-7).

**Responsorial Psalm:** Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned (Psalm 51).

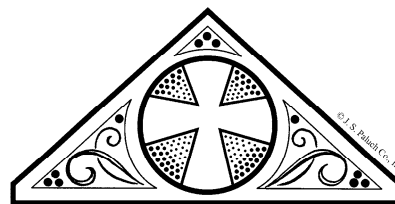
**2nd Reading:** Death reigned from Adam to Moses, but now grace and life abound in Christ Jesus (Romans 5: 12-19).

**Gospel:** Jesus was led into the desert by the Spirit and there he fasted for forty days and forty nights (Matthew 4: 1-11).

### STRENGTH AGAINST TEMPTATION

**T**he first Sunday of the season of Lent always includes a Gospel account of the temptation of the Lord Jesus in the desert by the devil. This year, the story is set against the backdrop of the first reading from Genesis, which recounts the very first temptation by the devil. That story is set in a garden of delight. The Gospel story is set in the desert. As believers, we know that temptation comes our way in our own gardens of delight as well as the deserts of our lives. As Lent begins, our attention is drawn to that temptation within each of us to become like God—we want control, power, and answers to all of life's difficult questions. As communities of faith, we are given this season of repentance so that we can join our hearts with others on the difficult journey of conversion. We look to God and to one another for strength against temptation.

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**Mass Intentions**



**Saturday, March 12**

4:00 Intentions of All Parishioners

**Sunday, March 13**

7:30 +Helen Sidur—Ann Marie & Julie  
 9:00 +Wladyslawa Szymala—daughter  
 10:30 +Wanda and son Edwin Pruchnik—family  
 5:00 +Howard Bernier—wife, Irene

**Monday, March 14**

8:00 +Stanislaw Orzol—daughter  
 12:00 +Stefanie Lukomski—Mom, Dad, & Johnny

**Tuesday, March 15**

8:00 +Maria Zieja—Ester Kokoszka  
 12:00 Blessings for Grandchildren—Babcia

**Wednesday, March 16**

8:00 +Edward & Stella Prych—family  
 12:00 +Mary & Stanley Borowiecki—daughter

**Thursday, March 17**

8:00 +Walter Prawlucky—wife, Marie  
 12:00 +Walenty & Katarzyna Kotula & dec'd children

**Friday, March 18**

8:00 +Danuta Sulikowski—husband  
 12:00 Blessings for Children—mother

**Saturday, March 19**

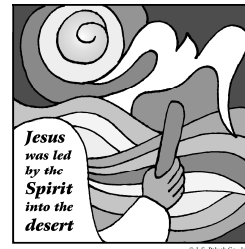
8:00 Happy B'day Francis Skrzyniarz—grandparents  
 4:00 +Zbislav & Nelli Weinert—daughter & family

**Sunday, March 20**

7:30 Intentions of All Parishioners  
 9:00 Intentions of Rosary Society  
 10:30 +Agnes & Stanley Sulenski—daughter & family  
 5:00 +Enriqueta Trujillo—Mary Cymerman



We are grateful to parishioners who supply us with Mass Intentions through which your loved ones can be remembered at Masses offered daily at our parish. Church law and tradition allow an offering to be taken for “*one* intention” per Mass. We notice people gathering several names into one Mass intention. A husband and wife or all members of ONE family, that is fine, but we should not take one intention for several people. Also, some intentions read like a greeting card. YOU and GOD know what you want blessed in that intention. In the Bulletin we try to honor that, **as long as it fits on ONE line.**



**From the Pastor's Desk, March 13, 2011**

When my generation was studying the Sacred Scriptures in the seminary, we had good teachers, but the emphasis at the time was on *catechesis*. In educating students for priesthood *and preaching*, it was important to clearly distinguish what we, *as Catholics*, derived from the reading of the Scriptures, compared to—or as opposed to—what *our “adversaries”* thought and taught. Our adversaries, would you believe, were not pagans or non-believers, but Protestants. WASPS! White Anglo-Saxon Protestants! Nobody wanted to be bitten by a WASP.

In one way, it had a focus. Looking back at it now, it was the wrong focus. It prevented us from seeking the message of God in the Word of God. We are indebted to Pope Pius XII who recognized the poverty of this focus, and directed that the same tools used to study ancient literature be applied to the study of the Sacred Scriptures. The Scriptures are the most eminent of ancient writings. Protestants bible scholars were doing this for years!

Thus began a whole new way of reading the Sacred Scriptures. Rather than using scripture as a fly swatter to swat those dirty wasps, we began to see the bible not as a book to be read but *a Voice to respond to*. The generation after ours were fortunate to study the Scriptures in a way that leads to prayer, to conversation with God.

I've said many times, were I to live my life over again, I believe that I would seek the priesthood, most certainly the Franciscan way, but I would ask my superiors to allow me to study Scripture in a more formal way.

How much more is there to learn? Well, how big is God! That's the yardstick; that's the scale. St. Jerome said it so well: “Whoever is ignorant of the Scriptures is ignorant of Christ.” WASPS are not the stuff of the Bible. Jesus is!

Most of us, including me at this point in my life, don't have the time or opportunity to take graduate courses in Scripture. But we need to learn more. I try to make this weekly Bulletin a teaching instrument of God's Word. Notice the previous page where we include a thumbnail sketch of the daily Mass texts, as well as “This Sunday's Mass Readings.” Those features are designed *to remind you* of the Readings you heard in Church, and if you are able to attend daily Mass, you can read those

[Pastor's Desk continued on next page]

*[Pastor's Desk, continued]*

reflections before you come to church and prepare to listen to the Lord when He speaks.

The New American Bible with its footnotes, when read carefully and slowly, is **the equivalent of a college graduate course** in the Scriptures. Periodicals such as "The Word Among Us," (we have them available for Lent) present daily meditations on the Mass Readings.

My very favorite book of Scripture reflections is "What Think You of Christ," by the late John Marshall (former Bishop of Springfield). It gives deep (but simple) spiritual insights into the weekly Mass readings. I always recommend this book for the spiritual direction of religious Sisters. (You can order it on-line.)

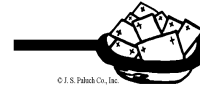
For example: as often as I have read today's Gospel on every first Sunday of Lent, I wondered about that line: "Jesus was led *by the Spirit* into the desert *where He was tempted by the devil*." How in the world could Jesus fall for that? Why would the *Holy Spirit* (what other Spirit is there?) lead Jesus into the desert where, weakened by fasting, He would *be tempted by the devil*. On the surface, it seemed like a dirty trick! But after years of reading, studying and reflecting, I developed an insight into this. You will notice that the temptations Jesus confronted (from the devil) were direct threats to His divine mission. Remember, Jesus went into the desert immediately after His baptism, where He heard God say, "You are my Beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased." Jesus went into the desert with that knowledge, and now He would begin to prove it and live it.

The devil's temptations were a face-to-face challenge to who Jesus was as the Beloved Son in Whom the Father was well-pleased. These temptations were not the pesky things that we kid about when we talk about our "pokusy." The devil suspected that Jesus was a Son of God. If he could knock Jesus off His perch, well, Jesus' self-confidence might diminish, and He might not be able to be what the Father sent Him to be. Each temptation Jesus encountered was a battle between God and the devil. Jesus responds to each temptation with a proclamation of God's word! So, being God's Word, He dispatched the devil, told the devil to go to hell, and gave us the perfect words to say when the devil tempts us.

Many of our temptations challenge who we are: persons created in the image and likeness of God, restored to innocence by the death and resurrection of Jesus, and destined to live with God forever in Heaven. The devil—*yes, the devil is real*—would like nothing more than to knock us of our perches. Do what Jesus did: Tell the devil to go to hell where he belongs. We have better things to do! We have to build the Kingdom of God!

**God bless....**

**SUNDAY OFFERING**



March 6th Offertory Collection: \$5,544.00  
Building Fund: \$276.00  
Fuel & Utilities: \$503.00  
Mission Collection: \$63.00

*Thank you* to all those who faithfully support our parish and its ministries. **283** parishioners used their weekly church support envelopes on Sunday, February 26/27.



**2011-2012 Tuition Set**

Parents of our School Children were notified last week that there will be a \$75. per child increase in our school tuition for next year. Tuitions have been the same for the 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 school years. This increase, though slight, is needed due to increasing expenses.



**Sharin' of the Green**

**St. Patrick's Day** is this week, and for Holyoke, that means a race and big parade. The race begins outside our rectory door on Saturday morning, March 19th, and our P.T.O. Dads will once again be seeking parking donations from the runners and party-goers. This has become a good fund-raiser for our School, and we hope the residents of Pulaski Heights and Prospect Heights will cooperate by observing our No-Nighttime-Parking the night before and making donations on the day of....

**Saturday Mass Vigil people, remember that parking may be limited or non-existent around Mass time on Saturday afternoon. Give that some thought, esp. if you depend on close-to-the-church parking.**

**Our Family Life Committee** will be selling red and green carnations on Saturday and Sunday. All proceeds go to the Pro-Life ministries.

**Mater Dolorosa School will once again be marching in the Parade on Sunday.** One great thing about the Irish: they welcome EVERYONE to be Irish-for-a-day on St. Patrick's Day. That's why this parade is such a happy day for the whole city. Hope to see you at the Parade!



**Lenten Devotions: The Stations of the Cross**

The Stations of the Cross is a pious devotion honoring the passion and death of Christ which consists in prayer and meditation successively before 14 stations, each representing an event which occurred on Jesus' journey to Golgotha. The devotion originated in imitation of the early Christian practice of visiting the scenes of Christ's passion in the Holy Land. **Encouraged by the Franciscans**, it became common in the 15th century.

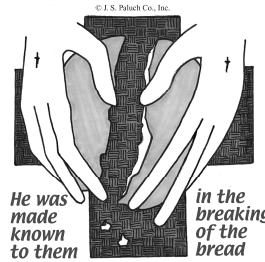
While the number and types of stations have varied, the following are accepted in modern times: +1. Jesus is condemned to death. +2. Jesus carries his cross. +3. Jesus falls the first time. +4. Jesus meets his Mother. +5. Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus carry his cross. +6. Veronica wipes the face of Jesus. +7. Jesus falls the second time. +8. Jesus speaks to the women of Jerusalem. +9. Jesus falls the third time. +10. Jesus is stripped of his garments. +11. Jesus is nailed to the cross. +12. Jesus dies on the cross. +13. Jesus is taken down from the cross. +14. Jesus is buried in the sepulcher. The stations are essentially a series of crosses, but often accompanied by artistic representations. Commonly found on the walls of churches, they may also be placed out of doors.

There is a beautiful outdoor set of Stations at St. Stanislaus Cemetery in Chicopee. The Stations, gifts of benefactors to St. Hyacinth College and Seminary, were moved to the cemetery when the seminary closed. It is a special pleasure to visit those Stations when the forsythia and spring branches spring to new life.

Catholic churches used to be filled for this Lenten devotion, but like so many other things, it is not as popular as it used to be. **At Mater Dolorosa, we celebrate the Stations of the Cross on Lenten Friday evenings at 6 pm (in Polish) and at 7 pm (in English).**

After the 9/11 terrorist attacks, churches in New York and New Jersey found that people took solace from the traditional Stations of the Cross devotion. There was so much in the Stations of the Cross that reflected the terrorist attack: violence against the innocent by religious fanatics; the cross hurt Jesus and those He loved; many people helped in Jesus' hour of need; Jesus prayed for the forgiveness of those who killed him; and most important of all, the burial of Jesus is NOT the end of the story. A new day dawns and there is Resurrection.

Maybe there is something in this very ancient devotion that speaks to us TODAY?



**In preparation for the Introduction of the Roman Missal in November 2011, we offer a weekly summary of what the NEW MASS RITES will be**

*(the words in bold print and underlined are the proposed new text for the Mass prayers.)*

**Introduction to the Liturgy:**

Preparing ourselves to experience Jesus in Word and Sacrament begins even before we arrive at church. Those who will receive the Eucharist are expected to fast one hour in advance. Arriving at church it is important that we greet others, helping everyone who comes to celebrate the Eucharist to feel at home. In the sacristy and in the church, there should be a spirit of recollected silence to prepare ourselves for the Mass.

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**Order of the Mass: Introductory Rites**

Now we are no longer getting ready as individuals, we are getting ready as a community. We are gathering as one body. Singing is a great way for people to be united. When we raise our voices in song, we are one. We are becoming a worshipping community.

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**The Greeting and Sign of the Cross**

The **present text** for people:

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

**New Text for people:**

**Priest: The Lord be with you.**

**People: And with your Spirit.**

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**New text for I Confess....**

... to Almighty God, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have **greatly sinned** in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, **through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore** I ask blessed Mary ever-virgin, all the angels and saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

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