

## Mass Intentions for the Week

**Sunday, February 22**

**8:00am - Billie Jean Harper by Michael Harper**

**9:30am - Dcn. Ronald Walker by Margret and Aaron**

**Sunday, March 1**

**8:00am - Dennis Riley by Yvonne Stewart**

**9:30am - Dcn. Ronald Walker by Margret and Aaron**

**Mass requests for 2026 are now available. Mass is the highest and greatest form of prayer. Contact the office. The offering is \$15.**

### March Lectors

**8:00am Sunday Mass**

**March 1 - Barbara Smith**

**March 8 - Pat Dyer**

**March 15 - Pat Howling**

**March 22 - Stephen Williams**

**March 29 - Luke Dyer**

**9:30am Sunday Mass**

**March 1 - Cynthia Davis**

**March 8 - Youth**

**March 15 - Lurita Boyd**

**March 22 - Paulette Lindsay**

**March 29 - Ndidi Nwabugwu**

### Readings for the week of February 22, 2026

Sunday: Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17/Rom 5:12-19

Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19/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 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8  
/Mt 7:7-12

Friday: Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8/Mt 5:20-26

Saturday: Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8/Mt 5:43-48

Next Sunday: Gn 12:1-4a/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22/2 Tm 1:8b-10  
/Mt 17:1-9

Observances for the week of February 22, 2026

Sunday: 1st Sunday of Lent

Monday: St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr

Friday: St. Gregory of Narek, Abbot and Doctor of the Church

Next Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Lent

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### Special Intentions Prayer for Our Parish

- ◆ Our Deceased Members
- ◆ Our 1st Responders,
- ◆ Health Care Workers
- ◆ Our Military Personnel
- ◆ All those in need of our prayers

especially our sick & shut-ins :

Jessica Allen, Alice Bragg, Diane Brown, Joyce Davis, Shirley Hargro, Christal John-Millin, Margie Lewis, Karl Magby, Jewel Marshall, Louise Nolley, Josephine Williams & Elise Wilson.

*The  
Season  
of  
Lent*



### First Sunday of Lent

The Season of Lent~ The forty days of Lent run from Ash Wednesday up to but excluding the Mass of the Lord's Supper. From the beginning of Lent until the Paschal Vigil, the Alleluia is not said nor sung. Lent... A Season to "Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel."

"In the Church, we keep... special days through seasons, feasts, solemnities, Sabbath, and so on. Keeping the days through ritual actions within liturgical prayer helps us to remember our story as individuals and in the context of a community. They help us to remember who we are and what it means to be church. The 40 days of Lent are symbolically rooted in Scripture through the 40 years the Israelites wandered through the desert and the 40 days of Jesus' fast in the wilderness. As Christians, we ritually mark the beginning of this time with a sign of repentance and renewal on our foreheads. The ashes we are marked with on Ash Wednesday are a symbol of our humility and mortality. Through the season of Lent, we journey toward the renewal of our own baptism, which is penitential in nature. Lent is marked by the preparation for the celebration of the paschal mystery, both by catechumens [individuals, beyond the age of 7, who prepare to receive full initiation in the Catholic Church through the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, & Eucharist] and the faithful who recall their own baptism and do penance.

The entire community is called to enter into a season of purification and enlightenment. The liturgical time-keeping of this season moves people away from reflecting on what they reject toward what they believe and receive. This is why on Ash Wednesday we hear, "Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel." [2026 Sourcebook for Sundays, Seasons, and Weekdays. ©2025, LTP, Chicago, IL 60609, pp.97& 98]

In the Gospel this weekend (Matthew 4), Jesus turns away from the temptations of the devil with the strong words, "Get away, Satan!". May we be strengthened by Jesus' conviction in our own fight against temptation and become living witnesses to gospel words, "The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve."

~ Fr. Bob

### #Onebody-Racial Healing One Heart, One Mind at a Time.

Tues., March 3rd @ Ss. Columba-Brigid from 6:30pm to 8:00pm.

Join us for a Holy Conversation about Race.

Light refreshments will be served.

Parish Financial Information *Weekly Totals Include E-Giving			
February Collections			
	Regular Collection	Martin's Future	Diocese Collection
February 1	\$2891.00	\$1337.00	\$105.00
February 8	\$1787.00	\$730.00	\$25.00
February 15	\$2417.00	\$645.00	\$255.00
February 22			
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7095.00</b>	<b>\$2712.00</b>	<b>\$385.00</b>

**Are you unable to get to Mass?** Do you know someone who cannot join us on the weekend? Or would like home visits and Holy Communion? Are you aware of someone who would like a visit? Please let the office know or complete the survey form found on the information table at the ramp entrance. Though this is an ongoing effort to identify individuals who would like a visit from someone in the parish family, you are encouraged to let us know as soon as possible so that we can plan. Please place the completed forms in the collection basket.

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**Wanted - volunteer assistants (2)** for First Reconciliation. This position requires five or six classes, a Penance Service, and one other activity. You will receive training and work with an experienced teacher. Classes begin in late February and will be on Thursday evenings at 6 PM at Blessed Trinity. Contact Lanette Jennings, Paula Hunt, Fr. Bob, or Pat Dyer if interested.

Do you love to work with teens and young adults? Do you want to help them become Christian leaders? Can you combine fun with service learning? Do you have a few hours a week that you can volunteer? If you can answer "yes" to these questions, we want to talk to you about Youth Ministry. Training and mentors are available. Volunteers need to be Confirmed and members of our parishes are preferred.

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In March, pray with the Pope for disarmament and peace in March. And join us for a Holy Hour of Adoration for Peace on Tuesday, March 24, at 5:30pm. "Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence."

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**Gospel Meditation-Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture**

February 22, 2026—1st Sunday of Lent - Matthew 4:1-11

In my second-to-last year of seminary, I woke up one September morning to devastating news: two beloved classmates had died in a car crash. I was overwhelmed with grief and anger like I had never known. I entered therapy for the first time and had intense conversations with my spiritual director. For months I felt lost in a spiritual wilderness. But something unexpected happened: I encountered Christ there. The fear and sorrow didn't destroy me. In fact, that spiritual desert was a time of intense growth in faith.

Today's Gospel begins: "Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil" (Matthew 4:1). The word "led" denotes a gentle, humble submission to the Spirit. Jesus does not send himself into this desolate place where wild beasts roam and Satan tempts. Who wants to be around roaming, wild beasts? The Church Fathers saw them as symbols of our inner chaos: fears, temptations, wounds. The Spirit leads us there, sometimes against our wishes. But those same Fathers also saw that this deserted place is also where angels ministered to Jesus, amidst his great trial and temptation.

Lenten Challenge: This Lent and throughout life's struggles, the Spirit leads you and me into the wilderness. Name one "desert" into which the Spirit has led you: perhaps grief, fear, silence, change, disappointment. Ask for the grace to go there willingly. The beasts may be real, but they will not harm you. There, the angels are waiting to minister to the Christ living in you, who always goes where the Spirit leads.  
— Father John Muir

**"At A Glance"**



- Fri., Feb. 20 - Stations of the Cross-SS. Columba-Brigid –6:30pm
- Sun., Feb. 22-Lent-Regular Mass Schedules  
Rite of Sending @ Blessed Trinity  
Rite of Enrollment @ Cathedral
- Fri., Feb. 27 - Stations of the Cross-St. Martin de Porres-6:30pm.
- Tues., Mar. 3 - "#One Body" meeting Ss.Columba-Brigid-6:30pm
- Fri., Mar. 6-Stations of the Cross-Blessed Trinity-6:30pm
- Mon., Mar. 9-Life in the Spirit Retreat @ Blessed Trinity@6:30pm
- Fri., Mar. 13-Living Stations of the Cross-Ss. Columba-Brigid@6:30pm
- Mon., Mar. 16-Life in the Spirit Retreat @ Blessed Trinity @6:30pm
- Fri., Mar. 20-Blessed Trinity-Soup Supper 5:30pm  
Stations of the Cross/Penance Service-6:30pm
- Mon., Mar. 23-Life in the Spirit Retreat @ Blessed Trinity@6:30pm
- Fri., Mar. 27-Tenebrae Service-Blessed Trinity-7pm
- Sun., Mar. 29-Palm Sunday-St. Martin de Porres-8am & 9:30am
- Tues., Mar. 31-Christ Mass-St. Joseph Cathedral-7pm
- Thurs., April 2-Holy Thursday-Ss. Columba-Brigid-Mass @ 7pm
- Fri., April 3-Good Friday-St. Martin de Porres-3pm
- Sat., April 4-Holy Saturday-Blessed Trinity-Morning Prayer 9am  
Easter Vigil-8pm
- Sun., April 5-Easter Sunday - Masses at regular times.
- Sun., April 12- Divine Mercy Sunday

Heart of Buffalo Catholic Community at Blessed Trinity will host **Life in the Spirit for the Lent** and Easter Season. Registration is required. Flyers are available. Don't miss this Spirit-filled experience. Please take home a registration flyer which is in the Gathering Space.

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**SMDP Parish Pastoral Council Meeting** is the 3rd Saturday of every month—10am - 12n..  
All are invited to attend.

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Women's Respite Program

The Women's Respite Program will host a weekend for you from April 10 to April 12 at the Center for Renewal on the campus of Stella Niagara near Lewiston, NY. See the information in the Gathering Space.