

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR B

Readings: *Gen 9, 8-15 (God's covenant with Noah)*

1Pt 3, 18-22 (We are saved through the covenant with the water of baptism)

Mk 1, 12-15 (Jesus was tempted by the devil in the desert but his covenant with the Father saw him through).

REFLECTION: We are in Covenant with God.

Today is the first Sunday of Lent. Lent is the period of 40 days which comes before Easter in the Christian Calendar. It begins with Ash Wednesday. It is a season of reflection and preparation before the celebration of Easter. Christians replicate Jesus Christ's sacrifice and withdrawal into the desert for 40 days. During Lent, fasting, prayer, and almsgiving are greatly encouraged. The Holy mass is always solemn; no Gloria, no Alleluia, no decorations, and no big musical instrument are allowed; minor musical instruments are allowed only to accompany the songs. Et Cetera.

Our first reading recounts the unconditional covenant between God and Noah who represents humanity. This is a covenant of renewal, recreation and restoration. This covenant was sealed with a rainbow as a sign of God's faithfulness. It was also a reminder that God can, and will judge sin (Gen 9, 8- 15, 2 Pt 2, 5). One interesting thing about this covenant is that we share in it. Another interesting thing about it, is that even in our own time, we still experience the rainbow which is a visible sign of this covenant. Each time we see this sign, it should remind us of God's promise: *"When I gather the clouds over the earth and the bows appear, I will recall the covenant between myself and you..."* This means that, in his justice, God has been faithful to this covenant, to the extent of offering his own son Jesus Christ in order to renew it. Unfortunately, humanity has been unfaithful to God and his covenant. Therefore, this season, God offers us another opportunity to renew our covenant with him through Christ.

There are traces of covenant in the sacraments; baptism (Matt.28:19, Gal.3:27), Eucharist (body and Blood), Marriage, Vows (especially for religious men and women). Covenant is a serious commitment or promise made by two people (to each other) or between the two people. It defines the relationship and expectations they have for each other. Therefore, the Church reminds us today that; just as we read about the covenant of God with Noah and his family, we have ours prefigured in baptism where God promised us salvation and eternal life. We must make sure that we try as much as possible to obey the rules of the covenant by reflecting on our lives, especially at this solemn season of Lent.

God loves you, and so do I.

Rev. Marcel Okonkwo.

ST. FRANCIS DE PAULA PARISH

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First Sunday in Lent >> February 21st 2021

Mission Santo Niño de Atocha, Three Rivers

Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday 10:00 – 12:00 AM & 1:00-3:00 PM (Closed Friday)

Office Closures: TBA

St. Francis de Paula Masses:

Weekdays: 7:30 am Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. [1st Friday of the Month Anointing]

Holy Days: 7:30 am Mass and 6:00 pm Mass

Saturday: Vigil Mass 5:30 pm [1st Sat. of the Month Mass 8:00 am]

Sunday: 7:30 am,

Sunday: 11:00 am

CONFESSIONS: Fri. 4:30 - 5:30 pm

PRE-BAPTISM: - For Appt. Call- Liz and Steve Chavez 575-585-6340

BAPTISM CELEBRATION: --LAST Saturday of the month 10:00 am

MARRIAGE: -There is a (6) month preparation period.

COMMUNION TO THE SICK: -> The first and third Fridays of each month.

If you have information to be posted in bulletin, put it in writing and turn it in by Wed morning.

Or email: StFrancisdepaula@gmail.com

***** Try our new Website: stfrancisdepaulachurch.org *****

A great prophet has arisen in our midst, God has visited his people.

(MT. 4:4B)

First Sunday in Lent >> February 21st 2021

Sat. Feb. 20 th	5:30 pm † Maria Maez (B.D.)
Sun. Feb. 21 st	7:30 am †
Sun. Feb. 21 st	11:00 am † Diana Brusuelas Guilez & Gerald Sinclair
Mon. Feb. 22 nd	7:30 am † -----
Tues. Feb. 23 rd	7:30 am † Blanca Velazquez
Wed. Feb. 24 th	6:00 pm † Adela Pino (Anniversary)
Thur. Feb. 25 th	7:30 am † -----
Fri. Feb. 26 th	7:30 am † Juanita Diaz (B.D.)
Sat. Feb. 27 th	5:30 pm † Grey Davalos (B.D.)



Let us pray for our troops in military services:

Paulita Rocha
Dyanna Ortega
Isaiah Diaz

Let us Pray for the Sick

Jenni(BB)	Alexander	Frank	Guerrero
Bobby	Baroz	Henry	Herrera
Robert	Capuchin	Armado	Lopez
Bobby	Baroz	Jesus	Lopez
Brenda	Barreras	Martha	Luna
Helen	Guerra	Ray	Manley
Carlos	Hangarter	Clara	Marrujo
Anthony	Mendez	Leah	Matinzo
Natalia	Walters	Ramona	Monje
Judy Aguirre	Andozola	Ysidro S	Monje
Rosa Maria	Camarena	Cuca	Montoya
Jeff	Aragon	Luna Bella	Nevarez
Soncera	Briever	Monica	Nik
Hope	Carrion	Joe	Padilla
Danny	Cordova	Jack	Palladino
Raleigha	Cordova	Maria Elena	Perez Lope
Rosemary	Cordova	Antonio	Romero
Christina	Chavez	Celina	Romero
Manny	Diaz	Rosie	Romero
Chano	Flores	Rose	Salazar
Ramona	Flores	Josephine	Salcido
Gloria	Gonzales	Margeret B	Sanchez
Dolores	Sainz	Rachelle	Simons
Bob & Rita	Jarvis	Landon	Wright
Rick	Luna	John	Dixon
		Annie	Brady
		Billy	Brady

& FOR ALL COVID VICTIMS

2nd Collection

The week ending of Feb. 27th & 28th
For Black & Indian Missions

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT

AT 6:00 PM
BEGINNIG FEB. 19TH 2021



Baby Bottle Fundraiser



The Pregnancy Help Center of Alamogordo has been assisting women with unplanned pregnancies since 1987. Free services include: pregnancy testing, limited ultrasounds, counseling, education, clothing, and referrals for medical, legal and social services. **Fund-raiser Purpose:** This fund-raiser is to help facilitate on going services offered by the Pregnancy Help Center. **Make checks to:** Southern New Mexico Outreach, Inc (SNMO). All donations are tax-deductible. Please fill these bottles with change, spare cash or a donation of your choice, so we can invest in tomorrows families, today. The Baby Bottle Fundraiser, will run from **Sunday, January 17 through Sunday, February 21**. Just bring your bottles back to your Church on that day and they will be collected by a Pregnancy Help Center Liaison from your Church. **Donations can also be mailed any time to: Southern New Mexico Outreach P.O. Box 757 • Alamogordo, NM 88311 Pregnancy Help Center â€ PO Box 757 Alamogordo. NM 8831 / 575.437.9800 www.phcalamo.org**

Ushers For the month of

February 2021

Sat. 5:30 >> *Abraham Pino*
Sun. 7:30 > *Alfonso Voorbach*
Sun. 11:00>> *Tim Brooks & Gilbert Gaston*

Sacristans for the Month of

February 2021

Sat. 5:30 *Rosario Aragon*
Sun. 7:30 *Louise & Manny*
Sun. 11:00 *Tillie & Corina*



If you would like your child to run for Queen or King for this year's fiesta, please call Jennifer Gaston at (575)430-8930



Eucharistic Adoration Chapel

will be open Monday thru Friday 8am to 9pm.....

Visits to the Blessed Sacrament "are the most efficacious way of growing in holiness". (Pope Paul VI, Mysterium Fidei) Mystery Faith

Readers

Saturday Feb. 20th 5:30 Mass
Reader 1 Demetrius Armijo-Vigil
Reader 2 Andrea Carrillo

Sunday Feb. 21st 7:30 Mass
Reader 1 Louis Dominguez
Reader 2 -----

Sunday Feb. 21st 11:00 Mass
Reader 1 Irma Melendrez
Reader 2 -----

Altar Servers

Saturday Feb. 20th 5:30 Mass
Demetrius Armijo-Vigil

Sunday Feb. 21st 7:30 Mass
Angel Kowatch & Archie Coney
Sunday Feb. 21st 11:00 Mass
Myles Gaston

The Food Pantry

is in need of donations for distribution to the individuals in need of our services, we are in most need of canned meats, and canned fruit. All and any donations are greatly appreciated. Thank you to everyone that has donated and continues to donate to our Food Pantry.

THRIFT SHOP
in need of Volunteers Tuesday 9am – 2pm Only 5 Hours Now Opened on Tuesdays

CONFIRMATION 1 & 2 CLASSES WILL RESUME

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 21, 2021 AT 10AM IN THE SCHOOL OF RELIGION.....



A Prayer During Coronavirus Pandemic

O clement, O loving, O sweet Mother Mary, We, your children of every nation, Turn to you in this pandemic. Our troubles are numerous; our fears are great. Grant that we might deposit them at your feet, Take refuge in your Immaculate Heart, And obtain peace, healing, rescue, And timely help in all our needs. You are our Mother. Pray for us to your Son. — Amen