

Cathedral Basilica of Our Lady of Peace

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FEBRUARY 22, 2026 FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday - Friday: 6:30 a.m.

& 12:00 p.m.

Saturday: 7:00 a.m.

& 12:00 p.m.

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 p.m.

(Fulfills Sunday Obligation)

Sunday: 8:00 a.m.,

10:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m.

& 5:00 p.m.

(unless noted in the bulletin)

RECONCILIATION

Wednesday by appointment

Saturday at 4:00 p.m. located at

1159 Fort Street Mall

(unless noted in the bulletin)

Devotions

First Friday

Adoration/Benediction

at 10:00 a.m.

First Saturday

Adoration after 7:00 a.m. Mass

(unless noted in the bulletin)

PARISH OFFICE

MONDAY through FRIDAY

8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Closed on holidays

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ONE DOES NOT LIVE
**ON BREAD
ALONE**

Picture ©Diocesan

This week's Readings: 1st Sunday of Lent: Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7; Psalm 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17;
Romans 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19; Alleuia - Matthew 4:4b; Matthew 4:1-11

Next week's Readings - 2nd Sunday of Lent: Genesis 12:1-4a; Psalm 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22;
2 Timothy 1:8b-10; Alleuia - Matthew 17:5; Matthew 17:1-9

"RESISTING TEMPTATION, EMBRACING GRACE: A CALL TO CONVERSION"

Beloved Disciples of Christ,

Greetings of peace, love, joy, and hope!

Ash Wednesday ushered us into the Season of Lent, a sacred time not merely a routine tradition but a necessary moment to pause, reflect, and return to the Lord. In a world overwhelmed by conflict, division, moral confusion, and spiritual fatigue, Lent is God's gentle yet urgent invitation to rediscover His goodness, kindness, and mercy. These gifts, however, were not cheap. They were won for us through the sacrifices Jesus embraced in His Passion, Death, and Resurrection.

This First Sunday of Lent reminds us that even Jesus Himself faced temptation. The devil tried to lure Him with hunger, power, glory, comfort, and security, temptations that still tempt the human heart today. Jesus could have chosen the easier path, but He refused. He knew that giving in would compromise the mission of love entrusted to Him and allow evil to triumph. His "no" to temptation was already a sacrifice, a victory that strengthens us in our own struggles.

The temptations Jesus faced reveal a truth we cannot ignore: we, too, are tempted in countless ways. The world often portrays sin as attractive, convenient, or harmless. It promises happiness without sacrifice, pleasure without responsibility, and fulfillment without God. Whether it is dishonesty, selfishness, infidelity, indifference to the poor, or the pursuit of comfort at others' expense, temptation always disguises itself as the easier path. But does it ever give us lasting peace or true joy? It does not. It leaves us empty, restless, and far from the life God desires for us.

Lent calls us to confront this reality with honesty and courage. It is a season to look deeply into our hearts and acknowledge what needs to change. It is time to turn away from sin and choose the path of grace. Jesus has already shown us that temptation can be resisted and that evil does not have the final word. He is our strength, our refuge, and our victory.

Today, more than ever, the world needs conversion. Our families, communities, and society are longing for light in the darkness. When we allow God to transform our hearts, we become instruments of that light. Our repentance becomes a witness. Our renewed faith becomes a sign of hope. Our return to God becomes an invitation for others to follow.

I invite everyone to make these Lenten days true moments of grace. Let us allow Christ to reshape our hearts so that we may radiate His presence in a world desperately searching for meaning, healing, and salvation.

May this Lenten journey lead us to deeper faith, renewed hope, and the joy of Easter's victory.

Your Friend in the Jesus,

Fr. Pascual Abaya IV

Fr. Pascual Abaya IV



CHURCH'S CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Sunday, Feb. 22, 2026
First Sunday of Lent
Masses at 8:00am/10:00am/12:00pm/5:00pm
located at the Kamiano Center, 1159 Fort Street

Monday, Feb. 23, 2026
Monday of the 1st Week of Lent
Masses at 6:30am & 12:00pm

Tuesday, Feb. 24, 2026
Tuesday of the 1st Week of Lent
Masses at 6:30am & 12:00pm

Wednesday, Feb. 25, 2026
Wednesday of the 1st Week of Lent
Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10:00 - 11:00am
Masses at 6:30am & 12:00pm

Thursday, Feb. 26, 2026
Thursday of the 1st Week of Lent
Masses at 6:30am & 12:00pm

Friday, Feb. 27, 2026
Friday of the 1st Week of Lent
Masses at 6:30am & 12:00pm
Stations of the Cross at 10:00am & 5:00pm

Saturday, Feb. 28, 2026
Saturday of the 1st Week of Lent
Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10:00 - 11:00am
Masses at 7:00am & 12:00pm
Vigil Mass at 5:00pm

Sunday, March 1, 2026
Second Sunday of Lent
Masses at 8:00am/10:00am/12:00pm/5:00pm
located at the Kamiano Center, 1159 Fort Street

SCRIPTURE

Many adults involved in teaching children know the value of giving a consistent message when forming their lives and behaviors. Being invited, for example, to measure how one acts and treats other people with love and respect helps children to examine times when they may fall short of appropriate and respectful deeds. The constant message shows the need for and strength of unwavering commitment to loving action.

Lent offers all of us the opportunity to make the same unwavering examination and commitment. In the Gospel story of Jesus' temptation, we hear him consistently tell the devil that trust and reliance on God are the constant principles one must use when faced with temptation. Jesus does not act blindly, but with confidence and conviction in God's promises. He faces temptation, trusting that God's message of love and justice far exceeds any promises that evil can offer. Jesus shows us that obeying and serving God offers disciples the promise of new life.

SHARING FAITH

What consistent theme or message do you want to reflect upon this Lent?

What or who supports or fortifies you when you feel tempted?

If Lent is to remind us to return to the Lord as we heard on Ash Wednesday, what must you do to practice this gesture of turning to the Lord?

LIVING THE LITURGY

The next two Sundays, the psalms (Psalms 51 and 33) are about God's mercy. Read both psalms quietly or in a small group. What other words are used for God's mercy? Name images that might be helpful as you begin this Lenten journey.

Consider a way in which you might find a few quiet moments for Lenten reflection each day. Perhaps it might be as easy as choosing silence as opposed to listening to the radio on your way to school or work. Where does the quiet reflection to contemplate God's message lead you?

Recognizing sin and temptation is often a way that we understand our own growth in spiritual maturity. Spend some reflection about the meaning of sin in your life. What does that tell you about temptation?

REFLECTION

Then the devil took him up to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in their magnificence, and he said to him, "All these I shall give to you, if you will prostrate yourself and worship me." At this, Jesus said to him, "Getaway, Satan! It is written:/'The Lord, your God, shall you worship/and him alone shall you serve'" (Matthew4:8-10).



ICSC STEWARDSHIP PRAYER (FEB.)

Merciful God,

We embark on our journey of renewal through difficult and uncertain times; times of division and strife, and for many suffering and discouragement.

But our journey is with your son, Jesus, who bore his cross and suffered in ways we cannot imagine.

We journey with Jesus toward the Great Paschal feast of Easter, where we have the grace to experience the true joy of Resurrection.

Teach us to be good stewards of your mercy and forgiveness, so that we may extend these gifts to others.

Give us the strength to bear witness to your son at all times, even during these times of stress and adversity.

And fill our hearts with love that we may be faithful to the Gospel Jesus proclaimed and ready to celebrate our unity with him and each other.

Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

February 9 - 15, 2026

Offertory Collection

Sunday	\$	4,391.00
Weekday	\$	1,161.18
Other Feasts, Solemnities, Holy Day	\$	75.00
Online Giving	\$	1,490.56
Total Offertory	\$	7,117.74

Other Collection

Repairs & Maintenance	\$	282.00
Diocesan Collection	\$	25.00
Special Collection (Intentions, etc.)	\$	701.00
Other Collection (Gallery, etc.)	\$	176.00
Total	\$	8,301.74

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES ANNUAL APPEAL



"Lord, help us to remember to be grateful for your blessings in times of joy and call on you for strength in times of distress. May we find ways to share these blessings and strength with those in need, such as supporting the *Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal*."

If we think the devil is a make-believe "boogie man," a comical cartoon villain who whispers into our left ear while angels whisper into our right, then the Gospel dispels this notion. The devil exists. He is crafty (he quotes Scripture to Jesus). He is persistent (he tries three times to get Jesus to bow to him). He can subtly lead us down seemingly harmless paths with small sins – the white lie here, the flash of anger there. He can also launch aggressive assaults when we are weak and vulnerable.

He tries this with Jesus, who was susceptible after 40 days of isolation, prayer, and fasting. Fully human, Jesus understands our weakness. He was born and baptized as we were born and baptized. He grew up, like all of us do. He learned a trade from Joseph, just as our parents have taught us important lessons. And like us, he is tested by Satan. But he is not tempted. That is the difference. Our Lord never strays from the Father's plan for him, not with the devil in the desert and not with his crucifixion at Calvary.

This Lent, let us remain ever vigilant to the devil's attempts to draw us away from God. Let us explore different ways to pray, perhaps saying the rosary on our evening walk. In addition to observing Friday's abstinence from meat, we can fast from criticizing others. And supporting the *Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal* – almsgiving – is a powerful way to share our blessings with those in need.

SAINT FOR THE WEEK

"Now may the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the eternal high priest himself, the Son of God, Jesus Christ, build you up in faith and truth and in all gentleness and in all freedom from anger and forbearance and steadfastness and patient endurance and purity."

St. Polycarp (75 - 156), Bishop, Martyr, Feast Day February 23