



**HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH**

National Catholic Church

15 THAYER STREET

SOUTH DEERFIELD, MA 01373

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FB: Holy Name of Jesus, South Deerfield

**TODAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2026**

**1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT**

8:45 am – General Confession for adults

9:00 am – Holy Mass of the Eucharist to be  
celebrated in the Contemporary rite.

10:00 am - Monthly meeting of the Parish  
Committee

**OPENING HYMN**

**“To Thee, We Come, O Lord”**

To Thee we come, O Lord, our God,  
Before Thine altar, Father  
Thou knowest best our yearning hearts;  
This supplication answer.

Lift up from want Thy people, Lord,  
Bless us, O God; O Father, bless our toil.

Under Thy cross we stand prepared,  
To serve Thee with devotion;

Be it with sweat of blood or tears,  
Or humble resignation.

For we Thy people are, O Lord,  
Save us, O God; O Father, bless our toil.

**ENTRANCE HYMN**

(Psalm 91:1-2; Psalm 17:8)

V. You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High,  
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty, say to  
the Lord, “My refuge and fortress, my God in  
Whom I trust.”

R. Keep me as the apple of Your eye: hide me in the  
shadow of Your wings.

V. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the  
Holy Spirit.

R. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall  
be, world without end. Amen.

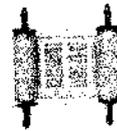
**OPENING PRAYER**

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And also with you.

V. Let us pray: Almighty Father, You are the  
sanctuary in times of distress. Strengthen us with  
Your heavenly aid and keep us under Your  
watchful eye so that after our testing we may gain  
the crown of life. We ask this in the name of Your  
Son, Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You  
and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

R. Amen.



**LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD**

**A READING FROM THE BOOK OF GENESIS**

(Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7)

The LORD God formed man out of the clay of the  
ground and blew into his nostrils the breath of life,  
and so man became a living being. Then the LORD  
God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and placed  
there the man whom He had formed. Out of the  
ground the LORD God made various trees grow that  
were delightful to look at and good for food, with the  
tree of life in the middle of the garden and the tree of  
the knowledge of good and evil. Now the serpent was  
the most cunning of all the animals that the LORD  
God had made. The serpent asked the woman, "Did  
God really tell you not to eat from any of the trees in  
the garden?" The woman answered the serpent:  
"We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden;  
it is only about the fruit of the tree in the middle of  
the garden that God said, 'You shall not eat it or even  
touch it, lest you die.'" But the serpent said to the  
woman: "You certainly will not die! No, God knows  
well that the moment you eat of it your eyes will be  
opened and you will be like gods who know what is  
good and what is evil." The woman saw that the tree  
was good for food, pleasing to the eyes, and desirable  
for gaining wisdom. So, she took some of its fruit and

ate it; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized that they were naked; so, they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

V. The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

(Psalm 51: 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 & 17)

R. **Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.**

V. Have mercy on me, O God, in your goodness, in the greatness of your compassion wipe out my offense Thoroughly wash me from my guilt and of my sin cleanse me.

R. **Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.**

V. For I acknowledge my offense, and my sin is before me always:" Against you only have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight."

R. **Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.**

V. A clean heart create for me, O God, and a steadfast spirit renews within me. Cast me not out from your presence, and your Holy Spirit take not from me.

R. **Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.**

V. Give me back the joy of your salvation, and a willing spirit sustain in me. O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

R. **Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.**



### **A READING FROM FIRST LETTER OF PAUL TO THE ROMANS**

(Romans 5:12-29)

**Brothers and sisters:** Through one man sin entered the world, and through sin, death, and thus death came to all men, in as much as all sinned— for up to the time of the law, sin was in the world, though sin is not accounted when there is no law. But death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who did not sin after the pattern of the trespass of Adam, who is the type of the one who was to come. But the gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one, the many died, how much

more did the grace of God and the gracious gift of the one man Jesus Christ overflow for the many. And the gift is not like the result of the one who sinned. For after one sin there was the judgment that brought condemnation; but the gift, after many transgressions, brought acquittal. For if, by the transgression of the one, death came to reign through that one, how much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of justification come to reign in life through the one Jesus Christ. In conclusion, just as through one transgression condemnation came upon all, so, through one righteous act, acquittal and life came to all. For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so, through the obedience of the one, the many will be made righteous.

V. The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

### **TRACT**

(1 Corinthians 10:13b; Matthew 6:13)

V. God is faithful and will not let you be tried beyond your strength; but with the trial He will also provide a way out, so that you may be able to bear it.

R. Do not subject us to the final test, but deliver us from the evil one.



### **THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW**

(Matthew 4:1-11)

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And also with you.

V. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

R. Glory be to You, O Lord.

At that time Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards He was hungry. The tempter approached and said to Him, "If you are the Son of God, command that these stones become loaves of bread." He said in reply, "It is written: One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of

God." Then the devil took Him to the holy city and made Him stand on the parapet of the temple, and said to Him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down. For it is written: He will command His angels concerning You and with their hands they will support You, lest you dash Your foot against a stone." Jesus answered him, "Again it is written, You shall not put the Lord, Your God, to the test." 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, "Get away, Satan! It is written: The Lord, Your God, shall you worship and Him alone shall you serve." Then the devil left Him and behold, angels came and ministered to Him.

V. The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise be to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

### THE NICENE CREED

I believe in One God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth  
Of all that is seen and unseen.  
I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
The only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father.  
God from God, Light from Light,  
True God from true God,  
begotten not made  
of one being with the Father.  
Through Him all things were made  
For us and for our salvation.  
He came down from heaven:  
By the power of the Holy Spirit  
He was born of the Virgin Mary  
AND BECAME MAN.  
For our sake, He was crucified  
under Pontius Pilate  
He suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day He rose again  
In fulfillment of the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand  
of the Father.  
He will come again in glory  
To judge the living and the dead

and His kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
The Lord and Giver of Life  
Who proceeds from the Father,  
With the Father and the Son  
He is worshipped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the prophets.  
I believe in One, Holy, Catholic  
and Apostolic Church  
I acknowledge one baptism  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
I look for the resurrection of the dead  
And the + life of the world to come.

Amen.



### OFFERTORY VERSE

(Psalm 17:3)

V. You have tested my heart, searched it in the night.  
You have tried me by fire, but find not malice in me.

### PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Lord our God, grant us, who offer this sacrifice, the grace of obedience, that we may strengthen those who are tempted, and may ourselves have victory in all trials. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

### ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Let us Pray: Most loving Jesus, I adore You in the Most Blessed Sacrament, in which You are truly present. I love You above all things and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot receive You sacramentally, I ask You to come spiritually into my heart and heal my soul. I embrace You and unite myself with You; may I never be separated from You. In flame my heart with the fire of Your love, my Lord and Savior. Amen.

### COMMUNION VERSE

(Hebrews 2:18)

V. Because He Himself was tested through what He suffered, He is able to help those who are being teste.

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And also with you.

V. Let us pray. Eternal Son of the Father, You know our humility. Have mercy on us because of our frailty. From our trials grant us strength, from our fear, reverence and from our danger, courage. Strengthen by the Holy Eucharist may we remain ever faithful. For you live and reign with the father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever

R. Amen.



### **THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS**

In the life and times of Jesus the Christ, there are certain milestones that shaped the Lord's ministry. One of the most important is that of His temptation in the wilderness, following His Baptism by John.

It has been said that when man goes into the mountains, he finds God, but when one goes into the desert, they find themselves. Both demands solitude, personal prayer and reflection; abstinence, fortitude and silence."

We read in today's Gospel according to Matthew, that Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards He was hungry.

We first read in Luke 2:41-50, that when Jesus was, age 12, He was found in the temple in Jerusalem, the center of Jewish worship, who was found sitting among the teachers, listening and asking questions.

We read, that when asked by His mother Mary, why He became separated from them, Jesus asked: "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in My Father's house?" Already at this time, He called God as His "Father", or "Abba."

When Jesus, was thirty years of age, He came to John to be baptized in the River Jordan, I have read that at the age of 30, a man was John

witnessed the descent of the Holy Spirit, in the bodily form of a dove, descending upon Jesus.

At His baptism, His relationship was confirmed when the Father c with the voice that John witnessed: "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

And so, to fully understand what had taken place in the River Jordan, Jesus then needed solitude to understand and define His mission.

William Barclay wrote in his commentary on the Gospel of Matthew, that the story of His temptations in the wilderness came from within,

In each of His three temptations, Jesus quotes Holy Scripture, which countered each of the temptation that came to Him from the devil: hunger, Divine protection and power.

Jesus was to give us an example of not only how to more clearly know God, but also how to overcome any temptations that may come in ones way in life.

During this season of Lent, the Church calls upon all Christians to fast, read, learn and meditate on the Word of God and exercise daily prayer that comes not from the mind, but rather from the heart, to truly know the will of God in our lives. Lent is a time for all to discern between the "perishable and the imperishable," and to deny oneself of all those things that prevent us from better knowing God.



### **THE DEVIL**

"How you are fallen from heaven, O Day Star, son of Dawn! How you are cut down to the ground, you who laid the nations low!"  
- Isaiah 14:12

"Discipline yourselves, keep alert, like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour."  
-1 Peter 5:8

"Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished."  
- Matthew 4:1-2

The "Devil" has been called by many different names in various cultures: Beelzebub, Lucifer, Satan and Mephistopheles, as well as the Antichrist to name but a few. He has been described as a "rebellious angel." and in the Judeo-Christian faith, he is considered the enemy of God and for his personification of evil and a tempter of all people.

Though we find the "fall of mankind," in the book of Genesis, the first book of the Holy Bible, we find in the OT Book of Job, the story of a conversation between God and Satan over the question of faithfulness

s between God and Satan, over the losses of a righteous man, named Job, which we should read.

In the Holy Bible, he [the devil] appears in both the Old and New Testaments. He not only makes his first appearance in the book of Genesis, but it is said by some that the Book of Job predates even Genesis.

In Genesis, the Devil, who in the form of a serpent, tempts Eve, who in turn tempts Adam, to allegorically, eat of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil which God forbade. Read Genesis 1

We find the personification of tempting evil in all religions:

In Hinduism, since there are many gods, there is not one who is the direct adversary of God, although there is "asura" or evil spirit.

In Buddhism, the devil is known as "Maara," a demon, who tempted Buddha away from his path of enlightenment. Like Jesus, who resisted and defeated the Devil, Buddha also resisted temptation and defeated Maara.

In the Judeo-Christian tradition, the devil is considered the "adversary" of God, leading the righteous through temptation to commit evil and deny the existence of God. Throughout the Holy Bible, he is either mentioned by name or described as the "prince of the world."

In Islam, he is known as "Iblis" or Satan "Shaytan" and, like the devil in Christianity,

he refused to obey God, out of evil and arrogance.

"The devil made me do it," was a catch phrase of the comedian Flip Wilson in the 70's. Some consider the devil, comically, as a being in a red suit with horns, a tail and carrying a pitchfork and many others consider that he does not exist, although many have used the defense that the "devil made me do it" in trying to justify their actions and crimes.

The Devil is also known as the "great deceiver" St. Paul makes reference to this in 2 Corinthians 4:4: "In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God." and in 11:14, we read: "And no wonder! Even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light."

We continue to read in the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians 11:15: "So it is not strange if his [the Devil] ministers, also disguise themselves as ministers of righteousness. Their end will match their deeds."

## **REFLECTIONS**

I remember years ago, hearing the phrase: "The devil is alive and well and living in Hoboken." Why Hoboken? I didn't know, but now I know.

**The Phrase "The Devil Is Alive and Well and Living in Hoboken"**

Source: [www.wholesomewords.org](http://www.wholesomewords.org)

The phrase "**the Devil is alive and well and living in Hoboken**" is a humorous twist on the long-used idiom "alive and well and living in [place]", which dates back to at least the 19th century."

"This expression was originally used to convey that someone or something was not only surviving but thriving in a particular location, often with a tone of irony or exaggeration."

"The "Devil" in the phrase is not meant literally but as a satirical or dramatic figure, much like how "Satan is alive and well" has been used in religious and apocalyptic contexts."

I personally believe, that the devil is alive and well and living not only in Hoboken, (apologizes to Hoboken), but also in many cities in America. and in our world, through the enticement of evil found in the minds and hearts of men.

Did not Jesus give us the standards of knowing others, both good and evil, as found in the Gospel Matthew 7:17-18:

"In the same way, every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. In man, he has the choice of bearing good as well as bad fruit.

Throughout history, we have read about evil committed; "man's inhumanity to man." Think of the Holocaust of WWII, committed by Adolph Hitler; and most recently the "crimes against humanity," being perpetrated by the Russian President, Wladimir Putin, against the people of Ukraine. The indiscriminate bombing of schools, churches, hospitals and residential buildings, which the world witnessed through media; the use of "cluster" and "vacuum bombs", also known as thermal hyperbaric bombs, which have both been outlawed by the Geneva Convention. All these things Putin has denied along with others.

I remember hearing Emmanuel Macron, the president of France, who following a 90-minute conversation with Putin, years ago, afterward stated that "the worst is yet to come" to the people of Ukraine. On the four-year anniversary of Russia invading Ukraine, Putin has increased his crimes against humanity. He spoke, justifying the sending troops into Ukraine:

"There are no bad intentions towards our neighbors. And I would also advise them not to escalate the situation, and not to introduce any restrictions. We will fulfil all our obligations and will continue to fulfil them." At that time, Putin gave his "State of the Union" address, if you could call it, to gather support for his actions against the people of Ukraine. At that time, he again spoken of the "nuclear option." The Ukrainian President, Volodymyr Zelensky in 2023 stated: "The end of the world has arrived," stated that Ukraine will be victorious in their battle against Russia. Is evil found in our world and in the hearts of men? You decide.

**A sermon on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent  
by the Organizer and the  
First Bishop of the PNCC  
Francis Hodur in 1920**

"Now is the acceptable time, now is the day of salvation." – 2 Corinthians 6:2

"Is it possible for this time, which has come upon us, the time of Great Lent, to be called pleasant, a time of salvation? It depends how we understand pleasant life. If we understand life desires of the body, the time of Lent will not be pleasant. But if we understand in the spirit of Christian teaching, as the perfection time of Lent and those lessons which Lent brings with itself.... prayer, the reading of pious works, work dictated by charity.... all these characteristics of Lent provide a person with spiritual satisfaction. But above all this is a time to straighten out one's affairs with God, the Creator, the Judge and Destiny."

"In the course of the year, more than one of us in the struggle for existence, in work, in worries swept by fear, passion of inadequate guarding against the drives of the body, has committed a morally wrong act, one unworthy of the being of God. Through this he severed the bond with his creator. This is the time for us to reflect on our relationship with God in this our sinful state."

"Remember that sin is: forgetting about God and gratitude in regard to Him. We live from His goodness and love, surrounded by the miracles of His omnipotence. We look upon this beautiful earth, at the stars, and all this does not move us."

"Worse yet, however, not only are we not moved to love and gratitude, but we also offend and insult God. If we met a person offend his father, his mother, we would feel revulsion toward him."

"But are we any better? Let us remind ourselves at least what God has accomplished through Jesus Christ. The Heavenly Father commands Him to seek a person. And He says: "If your sins be as scarlet, they shall be made as white as snow." -Isaiah 1:18"

"And if a person captured by His voice turns to Him, He is as happy as a shepherd who has found a lost sheep.

## OTHER CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS



**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2026**  
**FEAST - MATHIAS, APOSTLE**

9:00 am - Holy Mass of the Eucharist

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2026**

9:00 am- Mass of Healing

12:00 pm- Bitter Lamentations

A meditation on the Passion of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2026**

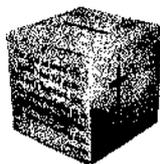
9:00 am - Mass of the Martyrs and Saints

12:00 pm - "Stations of the Cross."



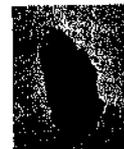
### **HNJ - ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

Due to a need to change our schedule, the **Holy Name of Jesus Annual Parish Meeting** will be held on **Sunday, March 15, 2026** following Holy Mass. I ask that all reports be submitted by **March 8<sup>th</sup>**, so that we can properly copy and provide information to all our parishioners. Thank you.



### **ED MISSION & EVANGELISM COMMISSION** **LENTEN COLLECTION BOXES**

Years ago, the Eastern Diocesan Mission & Evangelism Commission decided that beginning with Septuagesima Sunday, all parishes in our Diocese will be asked to help contribute donations during this Lenten season. It should be noted, that as in the past, each parish will determine what charitable organization(s) they wish to donate all monies collected at the end of the Lenten season. Thank you.



### **PRAYERS FOR HEALTH AND HEALING**

**"And He sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the sick." - Luke 2:9**

May we pray for the health and healing for all those, who we remember in our prayers; whether they be home-found or in medical facilities, So, for: George Sadowski, Wayne Shaw, Richard Foster, Carolyn and Michael Rapalye, Karen Herzig, Paula Winn, Stefanik Gadecki, Marge Sanderson, Brandon Poe, baby James, Liam & Evelyn Spatcher, Jennie Harrington, Eric Rose, Lori Lukomski, Mick Szumski, Toka Bara, Laurie Lis, Todd Odell, David Moskin, Laurie Lis, Renata Wos, Jan Clark, Zoe Kinnunen and for others.

We also remember in prayer, those who are homebound and in Nursing facilities.

**Let us Pray:** O Lord, God of mercies, in Your kindness, stretch out Your hand and heal all our brothers and sisters who are in any way are ailing. Deliver them, according to Your will, from all their present sicknesses and illnessness, and grant them recovery in Jesus' holy name. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, and are One God. Amen.



### **OUR PARISH OUTREACH PROGRAMS**

**"Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others."**

**- Philippians 2:4**

### **OUR FOOD MINISTRY**

**"I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat."**

**- Matthew 25:35**

Our ministry to help feed the hungry will be held on **Saturday, March 21, 2026** from 10:00 am until supplies last.

I wish to thank Cheryl Major, Sue and Eric Dibrindisi for helping to distribute groceries bags this month.

We wish to thank all those who have donated to our food ministry. Donations of items needed as well as monetary gifts will be greatly appreciated.

**We are still in need of the following:**

- Cereals and instant oatmeal.
- Fruit juices, - V8, Apple and Cranberry juices.
- Powder milk / condensed milk.
- Hot chocolate and tea bags.
- Pasta and spaghetti sauce.
- Boxes of Mac-n-cheese.
- Canned tuna in water.
- Canned meats- chicken, salmon,
- Ramen noodles.
- Soups- all varieties.
- Canned veggies and fruits.
- Children's snack packs

**Please note:** Also, through our Parish ministries, we are continuing to collect "full sized" containers of **personal care items and cleaning items** to aid others in need.

**PERSONAL BAGS OF NEEDED ITEMS**

We are currently collecting the following items which will be placed in gallon size Zip-lock bags which will be handed out to people in need.

- Toothpaste- travel size
- Toothbrushes
- Socks
- Mittens/gloves
- Hand warmers
- Band aids – travel size
- Baby wipes – travel size
- Protein bar



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**PIEROGI MAKING**

In preparation for our **Palm Sunday Food and Bake Sale** which will be held on **Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup>**, we will be making pierogi on the following dates:

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28<sup>th</sup> - CHEESE and P&C**  
**SATURDAY, MARCH 14<sup>TH</sup> - CABBAGE**



**ED MISSION & EVANGELISM COMMISSION**

**CALL TO PRAYER**

In the month of February, our Eastern Diocese of the PNCC. has called upon all its members and friends, to offer prayers for our parish families at 12:00 noon each Wednesday, so, let us pray:

**My Lord and my God,** hear my prayers for the well-being of my parish family. Grant us Your grace and all that is necessary for the spiritual growth and welfare of our congregation. Enlighten and guide my pastor and all who minister to the needs of Your people. Strengthen and awaken in us a living faith; comfort and heal the sick, lonely, and brokenhearted; soften those who are contentious or stubborn; awaken the indifferent and rescue the fallen. Lord, help us to continue to proclaim Your truth. Unite us with Christ in like-mindedness of purpose. I ask this through Jesus Christ. Amen.

**Our Father,** Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name; Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. Amen.