

Dear Padre,

I was taught that it is a requirement to fast at least one hour before receiving Communion. However, I've seen donuts out before Mass begins and hear candy wrappers being crumpled around me. This seems disrespectful to me.



It is important to use the correct words when describing a particular action. In this case, "requirement" does not really capture the full meaning and understanding of what the Church teaches. A better understanding is that it is a discipline and a practice of the Church to ordinarily observe the eucharistic fast for one hour before receiving holy Communion. If you are of a certain age, you may remember that there have been changes regarding the eucharistic fast. A "requirement" might suggest that the fast is integral to the sacrament itself. It is not.

The second part of your question seems to be a matter of perception. Based on your perception, you judge something to be not quite right. But, consider that there are many reasons why hospitality may be set up before Mass. The crumpling of wrappers could be something other than what you identify. Regardless, you are not required to assume the burden of policing what is taking place at Mass. It is much better to participate, celebrate, and be grateful for the sacrament that we gather to experience as a community of faith. ●

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
February 23	February 24	February 25	February 26	February 27	February 28	March 1
Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Second Sunday of Lent
Lv 19:1-2, 11-18	Is 55:10-11	Jon 3:1-10	Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25	Ez 18:21-28	Dt 26:16-19	Gn 2:1-4a
Mt 25:31-46	Mt 6:7-15	Lk 11:29-32	Mt 7:7-12	Mt 5:20-26	Mt 5:43-48	2 Tm 1:8b-10 Mt 17:1-9

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.



A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

Today, signs of hope are increasingly found in care homes, communities for minors, centers for listening and acceptance, soup kitchens, homeless shelters, and low-income schools. How many of these quiet signs of hope often go unnoticed and yet are so important for setting aside our indifference and inspiring others to become involved in various forms of volunteer work!

MESSAGE FOR WORLD DAY OF THE POOR, ROME, JUNE 13, 2025

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Our Parish COMMUNITY

February 22, 2026

First Sunday of Lent (A)

Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7 / Romans 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19 / Matthew 4:1-11



"Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil."

MATTHEW 4:1



Jesus for the Win

MIGUEL DULICK

The account of the temptations could be presented as a comical play. Pope Francis insisted, "Don't talk to the devil!" Indeed, Jesus does not engage in dialogue with Satan, much less any negotiation or any business. Stones become bread? Jesus may have fasted for forty days, but he's had plenty to eat—"every word that comes forth from the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4). Nor will Jesus "test" his Father by jumping off the "parapet of the temple" (like the bell tower of a gothic church). (See Matthew 5-7.) You don't play God, and you don't play with God. Satan really beclowns himself with the last temptation—promising the whole world if Jesus would just take a knee? No one would fall for that, would they?

Except—most of us. We'd do the bread; we'd do the jump; we'd definitely do the world! Look at the first reading, from Genesis. Adam and Eve give up paradise for a piece of fruit! It's a sad story because Eve does chat with the serpent, answering questions, allowing for a different point of view. But, as they say on Facebook, Satan "destroys" her! And Adam, too. If they didn't sew fig leaves for each other, the whole story would be unbearable. Even as they realize their sin, there is a little tenderness.

Saint Paul explains it clearly. Sin entered the world, but with Jesus Christ, there is an "overflow" of grace for the many. (See Romans 5:15.) And that's what Lent is about—a flood of grace. ●



LEARN ABOUT THE AUTHORS OF OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

Reflect

What grace do I pray for this Lent—for myself and for someone who is struggling?

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RECONCILIATION: (Confession) available, following Mass, on
 Sunday and Wednesday – please contact Fr. Pedro, before mass, to confirm
 availability. Also by appointment **and March 19 at 5 pm with extra priests.**
BAPTISM: Please contact the Deacon or Pastor, at least one month prior to
 desired date.
SACRAMENT of MARRIAGE: Please contact the Deacon or Pastor
at least six months prior to desired date.

Please remember St. Genevieve Parish in your Will

THANK YOU for your donations!

Weekly Budget: \$1,255.00

02/01/26: \$1,126.00

02/08/26: \$1,139.00

Building Fund Donations: \$64 (Thank you Knights of Columbus)

Signup for On-line Giving at methowcatholic.org.

Fridays in Lent
@ 5 pm Stations of the Cross
With Soup/Bread Simple Supper following



Thank you to all who volunteer and share!



CAFFEINE & CALORIES: The weekly social hour continues, after Mass.
 Please consider *hostina C & C*. Contact Alicia Brown for info. 509-429-1621.



BUILDING COMMITTEE

People with ideas about the new parish hall, especially those with building
 skills, are welcome to Contact the Building Committee.

PARENTS: Please do not allow your children to play on/around the new block
 retaining wall. Thank you!



The Cove is always in need of toilet paper. Pet
 food is especially needed in the winter.
 Donations can be left in the basket at the side
 door.

**WELCOME! NO MATTER WHAT YOUR PRESENT OR PAST STATUS IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH, NO MATTER YOUR
 PERSONAL HISTORY, AGE, RACE OR BACKGROUND, YOU ARE INVITED, WELCOMED, ACCEPTED, AND LOVED AT ST.
 GENEVIEVE CATHOLIC PARISH.**

Mass Schedule:
Sunday, Feb 22 @ 11:00 am, First Sunday in Lent,
Rosary @ 10:20 am

Wednesday, Feb 25 @ 9:30 am, Rosary at 9:00 am

Sunday, Feb 29 @ 11:00 am, Second Sunday in Lent
Rosary @ 10:20 am



Liturgy of the Word

Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7 “The Lord God planted a garden in Eden.”

Psalms 51 “Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.”

Romans 5:12-19 In Adam all die. In Christ all live.

Matthew 4:1-11 Jesus fasted forty days and forty nights.

On the first Sunday of Lent, we are reminded how easy it is to succumb to
 temptation. We are faced with it every day and it seems magnified during Lent. Today,
 we hear how Adam and Eve gave in to temptation while Jesus resisted it. Jesus found
 strength in the word of God, which he used effectively to outduel the devil in the desert.
 Let us listen now to God’s powerful word, aware that Jesus’ use of it to resist
 temptation enables us to share in his righteousness.

Question of the Week: How do I resist temptation? Can I remember to look ahead to the
 long-term consequences before I choose what to do?



ANNOUNCEMENTS



PRAYER

THIS WEEK.



Rice Bowls are at the entrances to the church, a good way to practice
 almsgiving. The Diocese of Spokane receives 25% of this collection
 for the poor in our own Diocese.



**Christ in the
 Wilderness for 40
 days of Fasting and
 prayer**



Temptation of Christ



*Please
 Remember
 in Your
 Prayers*

- Judy Dayharsh
- Dayharsh Family
- Cor Bader
- Wannita Knox
- Malachi Knox
- Jeff Springer
- Hal Groat
- Anna Cotner
- John Spannuth
- Joseph Carbajal
- Mark Crum
- Roland Cruz
- Jim Perra
- Brooke Stendera
- Lupe Garcia
- Sheila Kerr
- Jonathan Kessler
- Fr. Sean Thomson
- Thomson Family
- Evangeline Grace Knox
- Melissa Larson
- Howard Burcham
- Terry & Barb Anderson
- Bernice Morgan
- Fred Nowicki
- Bode Maxwell



Rest of the Soul of

- Bill Wilburn
- Robert Springer
- Mary Cucci