



CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

March 5, 2017
First Sunday of Lent

MASSES

Monday-Friday 6:30 & 8:00 a.m.
Saturday 8:00 a.m.
Saturday Vigil 5:30 p.m.
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, & 11:00 a.m.
12:30* & 6:00 p.m. (*Spanish)

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday-Friday 7:00-8:00 a.m. &
8:30-9:30 a.m.
Thursdays 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

ROSARY

Daily 7:40 a.m.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays at 4:30 p.m.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Call the Parish Office two months in advance.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Call the Parish Office one year in advance.

Monsignor Jude O'Doherty, Pastor
Father Lazarus Govin, Associate Pastor
Father Ireneusz Ekiert, in Residence
Deacon Don Livingstone
Deacon Norman Ruíz-Castañeda
Deacon Thomas V. Eagan
Deacon Marcos Pérez
Deacon Eduardo Smith

CHURCH ADDRESS

8235 S.W. 57 Avenue
Miami, Florida 33143

RECTORY/MAILING ADDRESS

8081 S.W. 54 Court
Miami, Florida 33143
Telephone: 305.667.4911
Fax: 305.667.8067
info@epiphanycatholicchurch.com
epiphanycatholicchurch.com

MINISTRY OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & PASTORAL SERVICES

Mrs. Isabel Prellezo, Director
Telephone: 305.665.0037

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Mr. Thomas Schuster, Organist
Mr. Georgi Danchev, Choirmaster
Mr. Eddie Valdéz, Cantor
Telephone: 305.667.4911

SCHOOL

Sister Margaret Fagan, IHM, Principal
Ms. Ana Oliva, Vice Principal
5557 S.W. 84 Street
Miami, Florida 33143
Telephone: 305.667.5251
Fax: 305.667.6828
epiphanycatholicsschool.com

CONVENT

Sister Carmen Teresa, IHM, Superior
Telephone: 305.667.2144

PASTOR'S PEN

Concerning the temptation of Jesus, the New Testament makes two things clear. The first is that His temptation was real. He wasn't pretending to be a man; He was a man. His struggles with temptation were not a religious performance; they were a real part of the most real life ever lived. The second thing the New Testament makes clear is that His temptations were like ours. They were not something separate and apart, written into the script just for Him. They were the same kind you find on the main street and the backstreets of every town and village in the world.

The first temptation was to turn stones into bread. Satan was saying to Jesus that the way to win the hearts of the people was to give them bread. And it's easy to understand why Jesus was tempted by this idea. He knew the importance of food. His own hunger served to remind Him of the world's desperate need for food. So here at the beginning of His public ministry, He was faced with the temptation to elevate the material above the spiritual.

We are faced with the same temptation every day that we live. It is on a different plane, but it's the identical problem with which Jesus struggled centuries ago. We have certain material needs that must be met. Food, clothing and shelter are a bare minimum. In our modern world, the list of necessities has grown much longer. Now it includes transportation, education, medical care and entertainment. All of these needs are legitimate and should be met. The question is: What place will they occupy in our lives? Will they be the purpose for living or the means of living? Will they be servant or master? That is what we have got to decide, and that is what Jesus had to decide. Where will we place the emphasis--material necessities such as bread, or spiritual values such as integrity, courage and love? We've got to choose. It can't be both.

The second temptation is perhaps the most difficult to understand. The circumstances seem bizarre, and the meaning is somewhat obscure. Satan took Jesus to the top of the temple and suggested that He jump down. His suggestion was

based on a promise of God that He would send protecting angels to keep Him from harm. It seems to be a subtle attempt to pervert the principle of faith in God. Perhaps Jesus could have leaped from the top of the temple without bodily harm, but He refused because He knew that would say nothing meaningful about life. The true evidence of faith is not dramatic deliverance from the dangers of life, but steady performance in the midst of them.

Jesus kept His faith in touch with life. It was never just a slogan or a performance or means of escape. He was not so much religious as He was real, and His faith in God was just as real as He was. He could enjoy the flowers of the fields. He could weep with broken-hearted friends. He could see eternal truth in the face of a child. He could accept the hospitality of despised people and handle the rejection of respected people. He could love without being loved. He could be hated without hating. No other man achieved the strength of character that was His, and it all had to do with His faith in God. That's what we need, not dramatic religion, but a real faith that enables us to be real people in the real world.

The last temptation was to do the easy thing instead of the right thing. The devil took Him to a high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world, and said: "All these can be yours, if you fall down and worship me." Jesus had come to conquer the world. Here He is faced with two roads towards that goal. One is the way of political and military power; the other, is the way of God. One is the easy way; the other, the right way.

He has to choose between those two, and so do we. I don't know why it is, but so much of life seems to work that way. The wrong choice is easy. The right choice is hard. Maybe you've noticed that the good habits are hard to form and easy to break, while the bad habits are easy to form and hard to break. For some reason, the right choices always seem to be the hard choices. We are going to have to wrestle with that all of our lives. We have to make constant choices between the easy thing and the right thing.

Sometimes we get to thinking that our needs and problems are unique to us, that no one else in all the world has ever felt this way or faced this kind of situation. Perhaps it was this kind of feeling on the part of His disciples that prompted Jesus to tell of the experience recorded in our Gospel reading for today. Surely, He must have reported it, or how else could it have been known? He alone was there, far from the crowds, when the tempter came.

Some have real difficulty grasping the thought that Our Lord was truly tempted. Perhaps the disciples had wondered about it themselves. Maybe they thought of Him as being beyond temptation, above the struggles of ordinary people. The mystery that He is both genuinely human and genuinely divine remains and, in this life, will never be resolved. But the fact that He had to win over temptation in order to live as He lived, furnishes great encouragement to us in our own daily struggles.

Everyone must face and deal with temptation. We seem to think that true greatness exempts one from the problems of plain people such as ourselves. But the fact is that the exact opposite is true. Great strength, great power, great ability, and great character always carry with them a greater burden of temptation. Listen to what the tempter whispered in the ear of Jesus: *"Bow before me, and all the kingdoms of this world can be yours."* None of us has ever had to wrestle with that kind of proposition. The shoplifter is tempted to steal a wristwatch or a piece of jewelry, while the shrewd executive may be tempted to steal the entire store. But each in his own way, on his own level is tempted, and so are we. If Our Lord can struggle with temptation, we can be certain that no one is exempt.

We are assured that temptation, in and of itself, is not a sin. Sometimes we hear it said that, *"thinking it is just as bad as doing it."* But don't you ever believe that. Such a theory is at best a misinterpretation of Scripture and at worse, an excuse for going ahead and doing what we want to do, even though we know it is wrong. Remember that the New Testament says of Our

Lord, *"He was tempted in all points as we are, yet without sin."* Temptation in all its varied forms is the common experience, but it does not become sin until we give in to it and go along with it.

The temptation of Jesus was desperately real. On the surface, it may seem that Our Lord won His battle with little or no effort. Surely, it must have come easy for Him to move toward the good and away from the bad. But all the Gospels depict Him as locked in a life-and-death struggle with evil. That His victory was no sham means that He is all the more capable of helping us overcome the temptations that we must face in our daily life.

We can also be strengthened by recognizing that temptation is often deceptively subtle. This is the diabolical thing about evil. It can seem so reasonable, so necessary, even so beautiful. Wrong has a way of always appearing right to those who want to do it. Temptation will come to us in forms that are just that subtle. Dishonesty will disguise itself as shrewd business dealings. Sexual infidelity will call itself free love. Gossip can be passed along under the pretense of prayerful concern for a friend. And a nasty temper can always be excused as hereditary weakness, or better yet, be camouflaged as righteous indignation. We can never deal with temptation until we come to terms with the subtlety of its nature. Don't look for a serpent slithering on the ground or a devil with horns on its head. Evil will always come to us with an explanation that is so reasonable that we can do wrong and find a way to make it seem right.



MASS INTENTIONS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Mass Intentions</u>	<u>Requested by</u>
Saturday Mar. 04	5:30 PM	+ Jorge Mirabal + Lila Abdou	Ervesun Family Shahin Family
Sunday Mar. 05	8:00 AM	Soldiers in Harm's Way + Alicia Aixala	Shahin Family Pistorino Family
	9:30 AM	+ Sante de Leo + Roberto Suero + Leonor Elmudesi	Family Beatriz Suero Carlos Asilis
	11:00 AM	PEOPLE OF EPIPHANY	
	12:30 PM	+ Rev. Madre San Luis Luisa Antonia Rendiles + Max Kelly, Sr.	Cisneros Family Llaneza Family
	6:00 PM	+ Johnathon Perez Carolina Pinero Erdman	Family Parents
Monday Mar. 06	6:30 AM	+ Holy Souls in Purgatory + Mary Pannell	Marianela Perez Bouchard Family
	8:00 AM	+ Delia Perez Delgado Family	Sotolongo Family Pre-K A
Tuesday Mar. 07	6:30 AM	+ Ana H. del Vecchio Special Intentions	De Vivero Family Pistorino Family
	8:00 AM	+ Jesus Ruiz Cardenas + Jose M. Alonso	Maria Leonor Ruiz Tere Molins
Wednesday Mar. 08	6:30 AM	+ Holy Souls in Purgatory + Andrzej Findeisen	Marianela Perez Family
	8:00 AM	+ John Moorman + Silvia Tolon	Kathy Moorman Tolon-Gallinal Family
Thursday Mar. 09	6:30 AM	+ Servant of God Luisa Picarreta Ana Alicia Fernandez & Maria H. Pistorino	Marianela Perez Pistorino Family
	8:00 AM	+ Marina Iglesias + Nancy Nasimos	Ruiz Family Family
Friday Mar. 10	6:30 AM	+ Harry & Edward Tiernan + Victoria Cordora	Family Marianela Perez
	8:00 AM	+ Natalia Yidi + Serge Betancourt	Yidi Family Family
Saturday Mar. 11	8:00 AM	+ Brendan Tiernan Special Intentions	Family Family
Saturday Mar. 11 <i>(Sunday Vigil)</i>	5:30 PM	+ Albert Llamas + Mary D. Valdes Estefani	Martinez Family Ervesun Family
Sunday Mar. 12	8:00 AM	+ Luis del Valle + Aida E. Garcia-Montes	Family Lita V. Pino
	9:30 AM	+ Frank Rothwell Mrs. Hernandez	Bunny Bastian Penin Family
	11:00 AM	PEOPLE OF EPIPHANY	
	12:30 PM	+ Andres & Erika Zambrano + Ines Arias de Osorio	Andreina Zambrano Evans-Osorio Family
	6:00 PM	+ Barry Hanna + Esther Fernandez	Family Fernandez Family

MASS SCHEDULES

March 11/12

Lectors

Altar Servers

**Extraordinary Ministers
Of Holy Communion**

Sat 5:30 PM
Msgr. O'Doherty

Allie Pennie
Karen Murphy

I Speziani
C Tsaoussis
A Valdes-Sueiras
P Valdes-Sueiras
R Etten
G Etten
A Bardisa
I Delgado

C Gloria Gonzalez
1 Gloria Gonzalez
2 Luis Gonzalez
3 Shari Ferrer
4 Rosi Maza-Saez
5 Gloria Garity
6 Rolando Montoya
7 Marivi Montoya

Sun 8:00 AM
Fr. Ekiert

Lourdes Boue
Calene Candela

A Jimenez
I Lista

C Maria Eisenhart
1 Maria Eisenhart
2 Paul Eisenhart
3 Juan Farach
4 Chuck Broyard
5 Martha Osorio

Sun 9:30 AM
Fr. Govin

Mike Herold
Pat Parker

R Guerra
M Macia
S Ortiz
M Quintana

C Lourdes Gonzalez
1 Lourdes Gonzalez
2 Al Gonzalez
3 Mari Pinero
4 Suzanne Renfrow
5 Michael Renfrow
6 Annamaria Sacher
7 Richard Sacher

Sun 11:00 AM
Msgr. O'Doherty

Peter Avenarius
Gloria De La Osa

E Paredes
C Prieto
D Ramos
M Recuset
R Rodriguez
A Rodriguez
C Ros
D Baboun

C Louise Villalba
1 Louise Villalba
2 Al Salas
3 Marisa Salas
4 Gonzalo Santana
5 Leticia Santana
6 Maria Cristina Sousa
7 Eileen Velikopoljski
8 Ben Villalba

Sun 12:30 PM
Fr. Govin

Jorge I. Torres
Marcela Torres

E Heinert
A Hernandez

C Carmen von Reitzenstein
1 Carmen von Reitzenstein
2 Bernd von Reitzenstein
3 Carmen Ruiz-Castaneda
4 Claudia Viso
5 Gabriel Gurdian
6 Raul Zabala
7 Liliana Acosta

Sun 6:00 PM
Fr. Ekiert

Cecilia M. Altonaga
Bob Dickinson

A Zurfluh
C Zurfluh
M Alexander
C Candela
I Cardenal
F Castro
S Cicarelli
A Clavijo

C Georgina Angones
1 Georgina Angones
2 Frank Angones
3 Annie Cooper-Hernandez
4 Diana Yidi
5 William Yidi
6 Mercedes Cardenal
7 Juan Cardenal

ANNOUNCEMENTS



I'M SORRY

How many times have you said, "I'm sorry?" Probably hundreds of times in your lifetime; for example, when you accidentally bumped into, interrupted, or walked in front of someone, or for mistakes, poor judgment and a host of other misdeeds. You just can't count the number of times you have said, "I'm sorry."

During the season of Lent, we may all want to examine our conscience to see if we have bumped into God through serious sin and still haven't said "I'm sorry." There were many times we thought of going to confession, and then we talked ourselves out of it... "I'm embarrassed...I don't know if I can stop committing that sin...the priest will not understand me...I'll just wait till I really feel prepared"...and a bunch of other excuses.

When you are separated from God, there is an emptiness in your life. You know you have done something wrong. It hurts! Every time you look around at others, you feel left out and alone. That's the scourge of serious sin---you are separated from God.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is the most healing sacrament Our Lord instituted. He knew us very well, and was aware of our frailties and weaknesses. If you are living with a terrible, sinful burden, Christ awaits you in the confessional. Within minutes, the burden you have carried for months or years will be lifted. All you have to do is amend your life and say, "I'm sorry."

Remember, the priest takes the place of Our Lord...he is there to help, counsel and above all to forgive. He wants nothing more than to make you happy. When you hear the words, "I absolve you from your sins in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit," you will feel so peaceful, the emptiness leaves you, the hurt is gone and you are truly free once again. This can all happen if you amend your life, and prayerfully say "I'm sorry."



Guidelines for Abstaining & Fasting

Abstinence from meat is observed on Ash Wednesday, all the Fridays of Lent and on Good Friday, by Catholics 14 years and older.

Fasting is observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday by all Catholics who are 18 years of age but not yet 59. Those bound by this rule may take only one full meal a day. Two smaller meals are permitted as necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.

Thoughts on Repentance

There is no thirst of the soul so consuming as the desire for pardon. The sense of its bestowal is the starting point of all goodness. It comes bringing with it, if not the freshness of innocence, a glow of inspiration that nerve feeble hands for hard tasks, a fire of hope that lights anew the old high ideal, so that it stands before the eye in clear relief, beckoning us to make it our own.

To be able to look into God's face and know with the knowledge of faith that there is nothing between the soul and Him is to experience the fullest peace the soul can know. Whatever else pardon may be, it is above all things admission into full fellowship with God.



Contemplative Cenacle of the Divine Mercy

Monday, March 6,
at 7:30 p.m. in the church



JOIN US! SATURDAY SOFTBALL FOR MEN OF EPIPHANY

The next game will be on
March 11 at 9:30 a.m.

For more information, please contact Carl Lowell at 305-546-4347 (cell), 305-666-9843 (home), or by email at carlvlowell@aol.com.

Baptisms

Congratulations to the families whose children were baptized during the month of February:

- Athena Sophia Gutierrez**
child of Jose & Sophia Gutierrez
- Camila Lucia Del Valle**
child of Carlos & Maria Cristina Del Valle
- Zoe Gabriella Moniot**
child of Robert & Stephanie Moniot
- Evie Elise Barbara**
child of Richard & Cindy Barbara
- Lola Lucia Arellano**
child of Oscar & Isabelle Arellano
- Nicolas Anthony Armenteros**
child of Miguel & Sabrina Armenteros
- Isabella Sobalvarro**
child of Alejandro & Jeannie Sobalvarro
- Sofia Marie Martinez**
child of Ricardo & Madelyn Martinez
- Julia Ines Chagui**
child of Andres & Nicole Chagui
- Yen Thomas Bueter**
child of Clinton & Bamby Bueter
- Harley Jayden Cortes**
child of Jesus & Victoria Cortes

Weddings

Congratulations to those who were married during the month of February:

- Christopher Martinez & Yazmin Navarro**
- Kyle Pascioni & Alexa Buchanan**
- Andrew Dominguez & Maria Sobrado**
- Dustin Gorenc & Jennifer Acosta**
- Joseph Briggie, II & Deidre Portela**

CHAPLET OF THE DIVINE MERCY

Everyone is invited to come and pray the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy **every Saturday after the 8:00 a.m. Mass**, followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 9:00 a.m. Join us!



1. We have **Mass** every day at 6:30 and 8:00 a.m. There is no better way of turning towards God than attending daily Mass.
2. The **Blessed Sacrament** will be exposed every day here in the church, Monday through Friday, from 7:00 to 8:00 a.m. and again from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.
3. The **Blessed Sacrament** will be exposed in the Adoration Chapel every Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
4. The **Sacrament of Reconciliation** is available every Saturday from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.
5. Making the **Stations of the Cross** is a spectacular way of meditating on this part of Christ's life in preparation for Easter.

Parish Pilgrim Virgin Ministry

During the week of **March 5** the Parish Pilgrim Virgin will be in the home of:

Nora Zyne 305.804.5360
Zulily Garcia 305.803.0993

To schedule your visit, please call
Luis & Patricia Siman at 305.238.4555



PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL:

Rosa Maria Alvarez; Daniel Beltran; Pepin Casal;
Pat Clarke; Ana Alicia Fernandez;
Stephen Hohaus; Fernando Hubert;
Patsy Kamerica; Daniel Manichello;
Meg Mouzavires; Ana Pinedo; Richard Roth;
Sandra Albornoz Scharzkopf; Esther Suarez;
Paulina Tawil; Margie Vail; Virginia Walden;
Teodula Wong.

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED:

Eduardo Cutillas, Sr.; Raymond Domit;
Andrzej Findeisen; Teresa Kilmer;
Robert Keith McDaniel; Rosalina Sackstein;
Jorge Salazar; Sebastian Tamindzija.



SEASON OF LENT

Lent is the season that prepares us to celebrate Easter. The main reason Lent is important is that Easter is our most important feast. On Easter, we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, whose passage beyond death into life offers redemption to believers. The resurrection is the cornerstone of Christian faith. The mystery of Christ's rising from the dead is so deep that the Church invites us to six weeks of preparation before we fully celebrate it. We call that period...Lent.

For the faithful, Lent is a time of penitential practices and spiritual discipline. During this time, we acknowledge our sins and seek God's help to overcome them. Traditionally, we engage in acts of prayers, fasting and almsgiving. Together these actions show our dependence on God, our renunciation of the fascinations of this world, and our desire to better the lives of others.

For the elect, those preparing for baptism, Lent is a time of intense spiritual preparation. They will celebrate baptism at Easter because in this sacrament they enter the mystery of Christ's dying and rising. They die to their former way of life and open their hearts fully to discipleship in Jesus. For the elect, this is a season of purification and enlightenment. The prayers of this season help scrutinize and purify their intentions, removing whatever might block their commitment and strengthening their resolve. They will become fully illumined with the Light of Christ when they celebrate initiation at the Easter Vigil.

Lent began on Ash Wednesday and ends before the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday. Let us use these days of Lent to grow closer to God.

POWER OF PRAYER

All of us pray once in a while. Many of us pray some of the time. Some of us pray most or all of the time, and few of us do not pray at all. In wondering what category you belong in, you may come to realize that in your lifetime, you belonged to all four categories. That should not shock or amaze you because you are human. Our humanity has a way of directing our prayer life, and for that reason we must make prayer an integral part of our lives regardless of the direction of our humanity.

In other words, our prayer life must exist in good and in bad times, in good health and in bad health, in riches and in poverty, in joy and sorrow, in success and in failure, in life and in death.

Why is prayer important? Suppose a husband and a wife never talked to one another; suppose your children never talked to you as parents, what would become of these relationships? They would fail. Communication...talking to one another is the only way we have to show our love and commitment. Prayer is talking to God... from the heart. Tell Him how much you love Him, ask him for the graces you need in your daily life, and above all how sorry you are for having offended Him. Prayer brings you closer to God, and it brings your family together in a way that all the riches in the world cannot. Talking to God brings peace, happiness and love.

During Lent talk to God. Pray with Him during Mass. The more you pray the more your true stewardship to the Lord will be manifested. Above all, when you get home tonight, talk with your family and before you go to sleep, ask God to bless your family. Remember, if God is with you, no one can be against you.