

THE KEYS



Church of St. Peter the Apostle
Anglican Catholic Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic States
www.dmas-acc.org

The Rev. Canon Peter Geromel, OHI, DMin - Rector
March 2024
<https://stpetersacc.org>

Fr. Seeley's Corner

Temptation & Salvation

The season of Lent is a season of temptations. We need to fast and abstain and we're tempted to break that fast or indulge in something that we shouldn't. We do this to more effectively understand and appreciate what our salvation means.

Temptation comes in three forms: The physical temptations of the world, the flesh, and the devil; The internal temptations of despair, foreboding, and mauvais souvenir or bad memory; And overall in our need to realize that we are a kingdom divided against ourselves, and that we must work with God for our prayers to be answered.

In the first three, the physical temptations we have:

The **World** by our desire for success, money and praise.

The **Flesh** in our desire for sex, food, drink, and other pleasures.

The **Devil** in our hatred of humiliations, our need to be right, and our struggles with apologizing and admitting our faults and weaknesses.

In the next three we have:

Despair in letting ourselves think that we're never going to get better, that whatever is afflicting us will go on forever and that God will not come to our aid.

Foreboding in worrying that what we want to do won't succeed, or that something bad will happen and thus not doing what we should do out of fear, worry, or concern.

Mauvais souvenir is thinking of that one time when something happened, when you said or did something bad and that you will never live it down, that someone remembers it and will hold it against you, it will come back to haunt you.

And finally there is the understanding of where temptation comes from:

There is the fact that we are a **kingdom divided against itself**. Our nature is damaged by Original Sin and we have a law in our body which does not obey the law in our mind: like St. Paul explains in his epistle to the Romans.

There is our obligation **to do our part when we pray**. God is not Amazon who will deliver what we need to our doorstep. We have an obligation to do what we need to do when we pray. If we don't do our part, God cannot, and often will not do His.

There is also the humility **to realize that God knows better than we do**, and when we pray we need to remember the phrase "thy will be done". God will not give us something that will not be beneficial to our salvation, so if God does not answer our prayer, we need to stop and look at what we're praying for.

These temptations are combated with three divine truths.

First that **Jesus died for our sins on the cross**, and we have only to believe in Him and have faith in His promises to receive His healing grace.

To eat Jesus in the Holy Eucharist. The bread of heaven which is broken for us and is prefigured in the multiplication of the loaves and fishes.

Finally, to recognize **Jesus as the messiah**, he **who IS before Abraham was**, and **welcome Him into our hearts the way the children of Israel welcomed Him on Palm Sunday**.

These six steps are also the six gospel readings during Lent which the Church gives us for our consideration.

The first Sunday: the temptation in the desert (are we aware of the devil's influence in our lives?)

The Second Sunday: the Canaanite woman, who must argue with Jesus to get her prayer answered. (do we do our part to get our prayers answered?)

The Third Sunday: the kingdom divided against itself (do we recognize our own weaknesses)

The Fourth Sunday; the multiplication of loaves and fishes (do we have recourse to the means of healing that God provides?)

The Fifth Sunday; The triumphant entry into Jerusalem (Do we have hope in Christ's victory and not get overwhelmed by our own struggles?)

The Sixth Sunday; Holy Week and Easter ~ Jesus dies and then rises again for our salvation. Despite all our weaknesses and failings, Jesus comes to our rescue. God visits His people (God is the savior, we cannot please Him or approach Him without Him).

News and Information

Wednesday, Mar. 20: Poem Study at 6 pm; Mass at 7 pm; Vestry at 7:30 PM.

Wednesdays in Lent (Except Feb. 24 & until Holy Week): Soup & Poem Study, 6 pm. Poem Study will be on some of the Icelandic Passion Hymns of Hallgrímur Pétursson (1614 - 27 October 1674).

Holy Week: Something every day of the week! TBD.

MARCH, 2024						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
[31] 8:00 a.m. MP & HC 10:00 a.m. FHE, SS EASTER	LEGEND: HC - Holy Communion; FHE – Festal Holy Eucharist; HE - Holy Eucharist; SS – Sunday School; PG - Prayer Group; EP – Evening Prayer; MP – Morning Prayer; P&HU – Prayers and Holy Unction				[1]	[2] 5:00 p.m. HC
[3] 8:00 a.m. MP & HC 10:00 a.m. HE, SS LENT III	[4]	[5]	[6] 6:00 p.m. Soup and poem study	[7] 12 noon HC	[8]	[9] 5:00 p.m. HC
[10] 8:00 a.m. MP & HC 10:00 a.m. HE, SS LENT IV	[11]	[12]	[13] 6:00 p.m. Soup and poem study	[14] 12 noon HC	[15]	[16] 5:00 p.m. HC
[17] 8:00 a.m. MP & HC 10:00 a.m. HE, SS PASSION SUNDAY	[18]	[19]	[20] 6:00 p.m. Poem study 7:00 p.m. HC 7:30 p.m. Vestry	[21] 12 noon HC	[22]	[23] 5:00 p.m. HC
[24] 8:00 a.m. MP & HC 10:00 a.m. HE, SS PALM SUNDAY	[25] MONDAY IN HOLY WEEK	[26] TUESDAY IN HOLY WEEK	[27] WEDNESDAY IN HOLY WEEK	[28] MAUNDY THURSDAY	[29] GOOD FRIDAY	[30] HOLY SATURDAY

IN THE LORD'S SERVICE

If you cannot fulfill your assigned duty because of an urgent reason, PLEASE SECURE A REPLACEMENT.

	March 3	March 10	March 17	March 24	March 31
Coffee Hour	M. Slayton	E. Paisley	C. Pappas	G. Terrell	S. Darby
Epistoler 8 a.m.	D. Drysdale	C. Von Claparede	D. Drysdale	C. Von Claparede	G. Mauney
Epistoler 10 a.m.	P. Williams	T. Paisley	G. Terrell	P. Williams	T. Paisley

Altar servers and ushers will be assigned as available before each service.

2024 Vestry (term end): George Mauney (‘25), Lisa Olver (‘24), Ted Paisley (‘24),
Mike Slayton (‘25), George Terrell (‘26), Vicki Williams (‘26)