

ST. JOHN APOSTLE & EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

95-370 Kuahelani Ave. Mililani, Hawaii 96789 • Office: (808) 623-3332 • Fax: (808) 623-3286

Email: sjaeinfo@rcchawaii.org Website: www.stjohnmililani.org



NEW PARISHIONERS & VISITORS, WELCOME TO OUR PARISH!

SUNDAY GOSPEL REFLECTION

BY: FR. NORLITO CONCEPCION

After the baptism of our Lord Jesus on the river Jordan by Saint John the Baptist, Jesus went into the desert and there he was tempted three times by the devil. Instead of celebrating the event of His baptism and proclamation as a "Son of God" by the father himself, he chose to undertake the 40 days of fasting and penance. The God who took humanity to himself, except sin, went on fasting and penance not just to make fasting and penance holy, but to make man's nature at peace with the divine. Therefore gaining mastery of humanity, a mastery that no one will ever accomplish in this mundane world. Many have claimed enlightenment, but no one has ever come face to face with the prince of darkness, been tempted by himself, and emerged victorious. Holy wisdom triumphs over falsehood and humanity was given a chance to resist evil by using human faculties itself (*human senses and reason*) because the God, who assumes humanity, did it.

As people, who died in sin and reborn in baptism following Christ, we are expected to also master our humanity by fasting and penance. With the discipline of the body, our spirit may be given attention, by penance. We humble ourselves to the one who is the provider, that He may not judge us, but shows us his love for we have undertaken the way of the cross that he began when he was hungry in the desert. Similar to those who went into the desert to repent, like Abba Anthony the hermit, Amma Mary of Egypt and St. Benedict in the wilderness, the first week of Lent invites us to retreat into the desert of our soul and empty ourselves the way we did when we welcomed baby Jesus during Advent. Lent is when we allow ourselves to be welcomed by the resurrected Jesus.

The first week of Lent remind us of our forgotten power that we received when we received the mark of Jesus in baptism, the gift of the Holy Spirit in the Sacrament of confirmation, for the consecrated religious; the vigilant force received by the evangelical vows, and for the ordained; the Christ like ministry. Like Jesus, who was tempted by Satan, we are not immune to him, we are meant to combat against him. We must expect that we will be oppressed by the mechanisms he has placed in this world to ruin our path towards goodness. Like our Lord proclaimed as "Son of God" in the waters of Jordan, we are announced as heirs to the kingdom by the virtue of baptism. When we were cleansed of original sin in water, we have been set up as watchers on the fortress with our lights as weapons against darkness. We must cast our fears and rejoice as partakes of the path of Jesus. Our consolation is his victory for we have suffered with him for 40 days.

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday (Mon - Sat): 8:00 AM

Sunday: (Sat. Vigil) 5 PM,
(Sun) 7 AM, 9 AM, 11 AM, 6 PM

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays: 3:30 PM to 4:30 PM
(or by appointment)

MISSION / VISION STATEMENT

We are a Catholic Christian Community, called to develop a deeper relationship with Christ. Such a relationship is fostered through active participation in: *Word, Sacrament, Renewal Programs, Ministry/Service,* and other ***Spirit-led*** activities. We dedicate our time, talent and treasure to install, in our parish community, the basic building blocks of Christian living, ***to preach the Good News of Jesus Christ to all through our words, deeds, and lives.***

Parish Rectory Hours**Monday:** 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM**Tues. - Fri.:** 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM**Saturday/Sunday:** Closed**Outreach Office Hours****Monday - Wednesday:** 9 AM to 2 PM**Thursday - Friday:** 9 AM to 11 AM**Saturday/Sunday:** Closed**FOOD PANTRY Hours****Monday - Wednesday:** 9 AM to 12 PM**Thursday - Friday:** 9 AM to 11 AM**Saturday/Sunday:** Closed**Religious Education Offices Hours****Tuesday - Thursday:** 12 pm - 8:30 pm**Fri.:** 10am - 6pm ~ **Sun:** 7am - 3:30pm**Saturday & Monday:** Closed**PARISH CLERGY & STAFF****Pastor (ext. 111)**

Msgr. John Mbinda

jmbinda@rcchawaii.org

Parochial Vicar (ext. 104)

Fr. Ramon Francisco

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Parochial Vicar (x 100)

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Deacon Romeo Ganibe

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Grounds & Maintenance

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Dcn. Modesto Cordero

Religious Ed. Director (x 206)

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Religious Ed. Secretary (x 204)

Dominique Kekiwi

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Preschool Director (744-9538)

Catherine Awong

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PASTOR'S MESSAGE**Grateful Giving of Treasure**

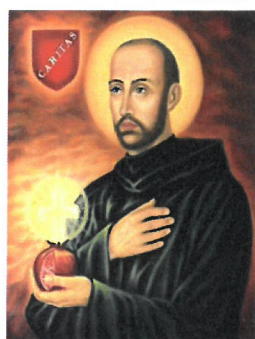
"How shall I make a return to the Lord for all the good He has done for me?" (Psalm 116:12). This catechesis focuses on being grateful for the treasures God gives to each of us. It may come as a surprise to learn that while the Bible has about 500 verses on prayer and fewer than 500 verses on faith, there over 2,300 biblical verses dealing money and possessions. Without apology, Jesus says more about money and possessions than he does on any other subjects including heaven and hell. Jesus knew the human heart so well. He knew the way money gets hold on our hearts and the way at times we forget the giver of all we possess.

We give to God because He first gave us all we possess. "What do you possess that you have not received? But if you have received it, why are you boasting as if you did not receive it?" (1 Cor 4:7). We have been abundantly blessed by God. Each time we come to celebrate the Holy Eucharist, we come intentionally to express gratitude to God. Shortly before the consecration, the presider and the congregation exchange a dialogue of thanksgiving. "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God", the presider prays, and we respond, "It is right and just." The presider continues to pray, "It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, Holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Christ our Lord."

Just as the Father sacrifices His Son on the Cross for our salvation, our thanksgiving to God needs to be sacrificial. Unless our monetary gift is sacrificial, it is not really a thanksgiving but more like a tip to God. One of the tensions in our discipleship lies in whether we live our life and give to God the leftovers, or whether we give to God first, and then manage the rest. During this capital campaign, put down your pledge to give for our *One Community Center* prayerfully. Count your blessings first, and then write down your pledge. May God bless you this Lenten season.

Msgr. John S. Mbinda

Saint of the WEEK

**John of God (1495-1550)**

Feast Day: March 8 — It is unclear whether he was taken from his Portuguese parents or left freely, but at just eight years old, John lived apart from his parents. He then led an irregular life in Spain and worked at various times as a shepherd, an estate manager, a book seller, and a soldier. His conversion at age 40 took such extreme forms—including beating himself in public while confessing his sins—that he was temporarily confined for lunacy. While confined, he began to serve other patients. In 1538, he began hospital work caring for the impoverished sick, begging for the supplies needed. He devoted himself to

sheltering and caring for the needy, including prostitutes and vagabonds. While he experienced persecution at first, this work eventually brought him respect and renown. He died on his 55th birthday, after which his companions who had joined him in service were organized into the *Hospitaller Order* of the Brothers of St. John of God. John of God is the patron of booksellers, firefighters, hospitals, nurses, and the sick.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 2017

First Reading: Genesis 12:1-4

In this reading, we hear about the call of Abram, whose change of name to Abraham is significant. He was originally from Ur in the Chaldean land, present-day Iraq. It was then an extremely fertile area, and had one of the most advanced cultures of the day. Abram, the Father of the Israelite people, was called to be the founder of a people faithful to the One True God. God's call and acceptance to leave his own familiar land and go to the unknown would later be seen as Abram's obedience to God's covenant with Israel. This obedience would be rewarded with blessings for Abraham and his greater family, the communities of the earth.



Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22

Psalm 33 is the loving and trusting prayer response of one who has heard and answered God's call. Response: "Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you."

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:8-10

Paul in this reading sees God's call in terms appropriate to second generation Christians, living a settled life in community. This call echoes the call to Abram, not to a new land or a new people, but to a new life in Christ. This new life is made possible because Jesus has conquered death and holds out saving grace to all people.

Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

The transfiguration of Jesus on the mountain described in this passage is meant to reveal to the disciples the true identity of Jesus and the nature of his mission. The purpose of his mission is not to be an earthly hero-messiah, but to be the source of final and eternal salvation to those who believe in him. In this passage, Jesus is portrayed as the new Moses. Matthew wanted to convince the Jewish Christians that the law of Moses had been completed by the law of Christ. The voice from the cloud and the command of the Father recall the giving of the law to Moses on the mountain. Following upon the disciples' awareness of the true meaning and mission of Christ, there is only one obligation for them and for us: "Listen to him!"



Masses For The Week

Monday, March 6, 2017 (8 am)

† Daria Barayuga
† Donna Rupp
† Alice Miraflor

Tuesday, March 7, 2017 (8 am)

† Alice Miraflor

Wednesday, March 8, 2017 (8 am)

† Alice Miraflor

Thursday, March 9, 2017 (8 am)

† Alice Miraflor

Friday, March 10, 2017 (8 am)

Camryn Grace (Birthday)
† Alice Miraflor

Saturday, March 11, 2017

8 AM: † Alice Miraflor
5 PM: Ava Sauget (Birthday)

Sunday, March 12, 2017

7 AM: † All Souls in Purgatory
9 AM: For the People
11 AM: † All Souls in Purgatory
6 PM: † Alice Miraflor

† = Rest in Peace

Follow Msgr. John's Homilies!

Blog (text):

www.sundayhomily.com

Podcast (audio):

<https://soundcloud.com/john-mbinda>

iTunes (audio):

Streaming Homilies

24-hr Adoration of the Blessed



Sacrament

Friday, March 3, after the
8 am Mass, ending at 7:30 am
on Saturday, March 4.

† FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Marciana C. Eugenio (RIP)

Tuesday, March 7 ~ St. John A&E

Visit.: 9:30 am ~ Mass: 11:00 am

Burial: 12:30 pm ~ Mililani Memorial

Santiago Q. Aquino (RIP)

Wed., March 29 ~ Mililani Memorial

Wake Service: 6:30 pm (Makai)

Thursday, March 30 ~ St. John A&E

Visit.: 9:30 am ~ Mass: 10:00 am

Burial: 1:00 pm ~ Hawaii State
Veteran's Cemetery



HEALING / BLESSINGS: Darrlyn & Ron Bunda, Matt Farris, Mona DeCosta, John Bates, James & Elaine Kahala, Ken Enomoto, Ellen Cleghorn, baby Mairenuí Tauotaha-Amo, Ron Thames, Gregory Castillo, Elaine Utu, Ben & Helen Guerrero, Mina DeJesus, John Basug, Alfred & Carmen Fajota, Santiago Tumpap, Bella Rillamas, Norma & Ethan Belamide, Jane Alukonis, Rosalie Tadda, and all names in Prayer Intentions Book.

DECEASED: Hilaria Santos, Kathy Beaver, John E. Szlosek, Ethel G. Rodrigues, Cripsin Bergantinos, Jr., Reggie Cabacungan, Sheila M. Gutierrez, Fr. Paul Minchak, Fr. Joseph Carroll, Demetria Manandic, Vicente Jamora, Fernando Acierto, Alice Miraflor, Santiago Q. Aquino, and Kathy Beaver.

***Upcoming Baptism Ceremony Dates (Infants to Age 6):**

March 12, March 26

***Baptism Preparation Classes:** April 2, May 14, June 9...

**** Please contact the Parish Office to make all arrangements in advance and for more information. ****

Marriages are scheduled by meeting with a clergy, at least 6 months prior to wedding date.



Blessings (home, auto, religious items, etc.),

Anointing of the Sick, Homebound

Communion, Funeral Services/Notices:

Please call the parish office for further coordination.

ENCOUNTER INNOVATION!

We encounter the Singh family from India, where a mother and father are using innovative farming techniques to feed their family amidst a flood. How is God inviting us to think outside the box in service to others this Lent? Visit csrcicebowl.org for more.

**STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE - FEB. 25/26**

Sunday Collection	\$14,069.40
- Children's Collection	\$48.47
- Online Donation (WeShare)	\$2,394.00
Building, Equipment, & Maintenance (BEM)	\$1,245.00
New Building Fund - OCC (non-assessed)	\$395.75
Candle Sales	413.00
Donation - All Souls	\$10.00
Donation - Charity	\$60.01
Donation - Christmas	\$1.00
Donation - Social Ministry	\$40.00
Mass Intentions	\$380.00
Offering - Baptisms	\$140.00
Stewardship Development	\$104.50
Weekend Total:	\$19,301.13

"Honor the Lord with your wealth, with fruits of all your produce." - Proverbs

Planned Giving - Your gifts to your church are a testimony to your faith and the confidence you have in your church. Both lifetime gifts and testamentary (those that are given through your will) express your feelings in a meaningful way. Please remember **St. John Apostle & Evangelist Catholic Church** in planning your will.

**Lent Schedule:**

Stations of the Cross: 7:00 pm (Fridays)

March 10, 17, 24, 31 & April 7

Lenten Mission/Retreat: "A Covenant of Mercy"

with **Fr. David C. Robinson, S.J.**

Retreat Nights: March 27-29, 7:00 pm

Penance Service: March 29, 7:00 pm.

Fr. David will preach at all Masses March 25/26 weekend.

Palm Sunday: April 9

Holy Triduum

Holy Thursday: April 13, (No Daily Mass)

8:00 am Morning Prayer

7:00 pm - Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday: April 14 (No Daily Mass)

****Parish Office Closed****

8:00 am Morning Prayer

3:00 pm - *Passion & Death of our Lord Jesus Christ*

Holy Saturday: April 15 (No Daily Mass)

8:00 am Morning Prayer — No 3:30 pm Confessions

7:00 pm Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday: April 16

7:00 am & 9:00 am

11:00 am at Kipapa Park w/ Bishop Larry.

**** No 6 pm Mass ****

Volunteer
Opportunities

**WE ARE CALLING OUT TO YOU!**

Do you enjoy working with youth and teens? Can you play an instrument: guitar, drums, ukulele? Do you like to sing? Do you like to have fun? Are you tech savvy? Do you have a flexible work schedule ... free on weekends?

Would you like to volunteer with our Youth Programs?

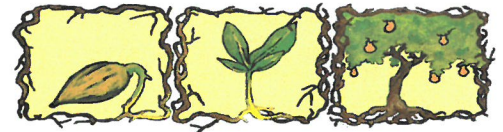
Our Religious Education Department is seeking the "young at heart" and young adults who are interested in joining our parish **RE & Youth Ministry Teams**. In readiness for the Restored Order of the Sacraments and the Sacrament of Confirmation being given to students, grades 2-12, starting next RE year 2017-2018; we invite & encourage parishioners to become catechists, classroom aides, youth ministers, youth leaders, family supporters and Confirmation Sponsors. ALL candidates are required to complete a background check and training that will take place this summer: June & July. Online Catechist Certification courses are available.

If you are interested, please contact the RE Office:

623-3332, ext. 204/206 or sjaeRE@rcchawaii.org



PARISH EVENTS & WEEKLY CALENDAR



The Spring 2017 40 Days for Life Prayer Vigil & Fasting Campaign has begun and will continue until *April 9th*. A group from our parish will physically participate in a prayer vigil at the *Planned Parenthood abortion facility* on *South King Street* on the following dates: *3/6, 3/13, 3/20, 3/27, & 4/3*. Those who are interested may sign-up at the back of the church. The group will leave the church at 9 am and return at approx. 11:30 am, depending on traffic. You can also participate online by visiting www.40daysforlife.com/honolulu. For more, contact Mary at 741-2358.

Hui O Laulima CHILDREN'S Clothing & Footwear Drive will take place on Saturday, March 11 from 9 am to 12 noon on the Church Breezeway. They will be collecting donations for *new or gently used* children's apparel and shoes for kids ages 1 to 12 years old ONLY. NO adult apparel. All donations will be sent to benefit Mauna Loa, Molokai, & other youth agencies.

Housing the Houseless Lecture - This special Mackey Marianist Lecture: Catholicism in Prophetic Dialogue on **March 12, 2017**, 4 pm at the Mystical Rose Oratory, the on-campus chapel. Free and open to the public. The lecture is proudly sponsored by St. Louis School, Chaminade University of Hawaii, and the Marianist Center of Hawaii. For more information, contact Brother Dennis Schmitz, SM, at 808-232-6691 or baldschmitz@aol.com.

The next Catholic Book Club meeting will be held on **Thurs., March 16**, 7:00-9:00 pm in classroom 6. The title of the discussion book is *The City of Joy* by *Dominique Lapierre*. Open to all! Call *Linda Ward* (277-1307) for more.

Understanding Dementia: Normal vs Not Normal Workshop, presented by **Dorothy Colby**, will be held on **Saturday, March 18**, 9:30 am in the Church. Free & Open to the public for all caregivers and families! Learn more about memory loss, forgetfulness, Alzheimer's disease, and other forms of dementia. See bulletin insert for more and how to register!

Environment Ministry - The Church is our sacred space that helps us to pray and focus on the sacrifice of Mass. If you are interested in joining our Environment Ministry, assisting in the preparation and decoration of our sacred space, see Nick Calzada after Mass or contact him at ncalzada@rcchawaii.org or 623-3332, ext 100.

In the Footsteps of Sts. John & Paul! Journey on a **12-day Pilgrimage to Greece & Turkey** with Msgr. John Mbinda, Spiritual Advisor, & Dr. Timothy Mullner, Pilgrimage Host, from **October 5-16, 2017**. For more, contact Jolly at 623-3332, ext. 103 or jollygt@rcchawaii.org.

THIS WEEK: March 6 - 12

Monday - Daily Mass (8 AM)

8:45 am - Rosary Prayer Group (CH)
4 pm - Girl Scouts (Rm 5)
7 pm - Boy Scouts (Rm 6)
7 pm - Charismatic PG (CH)
7 pm - 4th Degree KofC Mtg (Rm 5)

Tuesday - Daily Mass (8AM)

8:45 am - Rosary Prayer Group (CH)
9 am - Women's Bible Study (Rm 6)
3 pm - Cenacle Prayer Group (CH)
6 pm - Children's Choir Practice (CH)
7 pm - Combined Choir Practice (CH)
7:30 pm - AA Meeting (Rm 6)

Wednesday - Daily Mass (8 AM)

8:45 am - Rosary Prayer Group (CH)
6 pm - OLPH Prayer Group (CH)
7 pm - Combined Choir Practice for Holy Triduum (CH)
7 pm - RCIA (Rm 4/5)
7 pm - NA Meeting (Rm 6)

Thursday - Daily Mass (8 AM)

8:45 am - Rosary Prayer Group (CH)
9 am - Church Cleaning (Group 2)
7 pm - PPBC Mtg. (Rm 6)

Friday - Daily Mass (8 AM)

8:45 am - Rosary Prayer Group (CH)
6 pm - Girl Scouts (Rm 6)
7 pm - Stations of the Cross
(Frugal Meal Sponsored by Women's Guild)

Saturday - Daily Mass (CH)

8:45 am - Rosary Prayer Group (CH)
9 am - Hui O Laulima Children's Clothing & Footwear Drive
9:15 am - Liturgical Movement Ministry (Rm 4/5)
10:30 am - EMHC Faith Formation (CH)
3:30 pm - Confession
5 pm - Mass (Saturday Vigil)

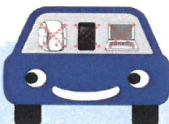
Sunday - Religious Ed: "B" Schedule

7 am, 9 am, 11 am, & 6 pm - Mass
9 am - Catechumen Dismissal
12:30 pm - Baptism Ceremony (CH)
4 pm - 6pm Choir Practice (CH)
6 pm - LifeTeen Night

FOR YOUR SECURITY PLEASE...

PARK SMART!

Take ALL your belongings with you.
Car thieves like to window shop!



... AND SECURE YOUR VEHICLE!

St. John Catholic Preschool is now accepting applications for **2017-2018 school year**, as well as the current school year. *Scholarships are available!* Based on qualifications, your child's tuition can be covered through scholarship programs. For more, call the Preschool Office: 744-9702.

PROCLAIMING CHRIST

Meditations for the Season of Lent



"To be attracted by power, by grandeur, by appearances, is tragically human. It is a great temptation that tries to insinuate itself everywhere.

But to give oneself to others, eliminating distances, dwelling in littleness and living the reality of one's everyday life: this is exquisitely divine."

— POPE FRANCIS, JULY 28, 2016

Temptations

Matthew 4:1-11

It's no accident that the Gospel reading for the First Sunday of Lent tells the story of Jesus being tempted by the devil. Jesus was divine, but he was also human. The temptation to put personal comfort, power, and pride ahead of what God wants is a struggle every human being faces at some point in life.

Being tempted is not a sin, but temptations can lead to sin. So it is important to recognize when we are being tempted. Our response must be an immediate "No!" The longer we allow temptations to linger in our minds, the more difficult they are to reject.

As we become more experienced in resisting temptations, their intensity usually weakens. St. Paul tells us

FOR REFLECTION

- › What is one temptation you have experienced?
- › How did you overcome that temptation?
- › What have you learned about God and yourself by overcoming temptation?

that God allows us to be tempted, but God also offers us the grace we need to overcome temptations. "God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your strength, but with the temptation will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it" (1 Cor 10:13).



DID YOU KNOW?

- There are forty days in the season of Lent because Jesus fasted for forty days in the wilderness.
- The word "Lent" comes from an Anglo-Saxon word that means "lengthen," a reference to the lengthening days as spring approaches.
- The first day of Lent is Ash Wednesday, one of the most popular days in the Church year.



Karen Callaway

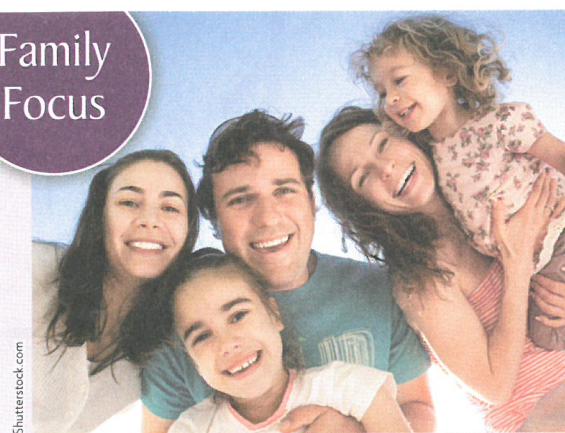
"Bless Me, Father ..."

A great way to deal with temptations — and the times when we were not successful in overcoming temptations — is in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Prepare for confession by examining your conscience, which simply means thinking back on your temptations and the sins you have committed. Most people start their confession by saying: "Bless me, Father, for I have sinned. It has been (the amount of time) since my last confession."

If you can't remember the words or you don't recall how long it's been, don't worry. Just tell the priest it's been a long time, and he will guide you through the process. What you will experience is the healing gift of God's love, a clear conscience, and an overwhelming sense of gratitude!

Family Focus



St. Francis de Sales says, "A temptation disclosed is a temptation half-vanquished." Talk to your kids about temptations. Let each family member mention a problem area that he or she would like to pray about in a special way. Talking about temptations helps to overcome them.



Catechism CONNECTION

"Fortitude is the moral virtue that ensures firmness in difficulties and constancy in the pursuit of the good. It strengthens the resolve to resist temptations and to overcome obstacles in the moral life."

— Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1808

Lenten Prayer

A traditional prayer to help us overcome temptations invokes the assistance of St. Michael the Archangel:

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do Thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the Divine Power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits, who roam throughout the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Why Do Catholics Fast?

In today's Gospel, Jesus fasts for forty days in the wilderness. Fasting has always been an important part of Lent. We abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and every Friday during Lent. Many people also give up chocolate, potato chips, ice cream, or anything else that is really loved but isn't all that great for us! When we resist the temptation to eat treats during Lent, we strengthen our will. But the real purpose of fasting is to create in ourselves a feeling of longing that helps us recognize our deep spiritual hunger for God. You might want to decide as a family what to give up for Lent. Maybe you could fast from television or video games. Maybe you could fast from gossip or saying unkind things. Maybe you could fast from complaining, or jealousy, or irritability. The possibilities are endless!

