



**Fr Andrew O'Sullivan, Parish Priest**  
**Parish Chaplain**      **Fr David Larkin**  
**Priest in Residence**      **Fr William King**  
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#### CHILD SAFEGUARDING TEAM

A meeting will be in the Parish Hall, Rathgar .Wednesday 16th March at 7.30pm, all volunteers and any interested parties are very welcome to attend. This is an important priority for Rathgar Parish. Your support will be greatly appreciated.

We are delighted to announce our return of her Monday morning tea and coffee/chat on Monday 14th March after 10am mass All are welcome.

#### Lent 2022 - Adult Faith Classes -

Rathmines Parish is hosting a weekly adult faith formation evening for Lent 2022 from the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March to 7<sup>th</sup> of April every Thursday evening from 7.30pm – 9pm in Rathmines Parish Centre. The programme will be based on the popular documentary series 'Catholicism' and will be followed by tea's/coffees. You do not have to attend the previous class to attend any evening. **ALL ARE WELCOME.** Please contact [secretary@rathminesparish.com](mailto:secretary@rathminesparish.com) to register your interest. More information can be found at [www.rathminesparish.ie](http://www.rathminesparish.ie)

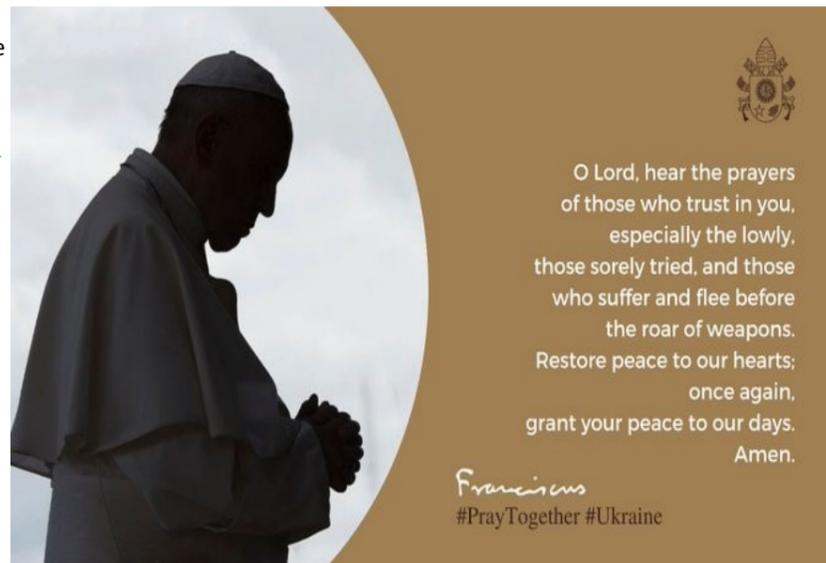
#### MASSES FOR LENT

7.30AM MONDAY TO FRIDAY

10AM MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY.

TUESDAY AND THURSDAY 5.30PM

THERE WILL BE NO 7.30AM MASS ON 17TH AND 18TH OF MARCH AS IT IS A BANK HOLIDAY



O Lord, hear the prayers of those who trust in you, especially the lowly, those sorely tried, and those who suffer and flee before the roar of weapons. Restore peace to our hearts; once again, grant your peace to our days. Amen.

Franciscans  
#PrayTogether #Ukraine

#### HOMILY

The Gospel which is the story of the temptation of Christ in the desert is a classic Lenten reading.

Each of the temptations that came to Christ, as is each that comes to us, was a temptation to infidelity, to faithlessness. It was the Father's design that the Messiah would accomplish his saving work by taking on himself the weaknesses of his people and overcoming those weaknesses by infusing them with his own fidelity. The Messiah was to be a patient, gentle servant, not a king, not a general.

Satan tempted Christ with a style of living that must certainly have been attractive to him personally. It would be to anyone. But it was one which was completely inconsistent with the role the Father was asking him to play in the world.

Adding to the temptation, certainly, was the fact that the kind of Messiah Satan urged Christ to become was exactly what all the people around him wanted as well. If Christ had chosen to be a ruler of cities, supported by throngs of Angels who turned stones into bread, he would have been accepted immediately.

There would have been no hunger, no poverty, no weariness, no Judas, no crucifixion. But neither would there have been a Resurrection, nor a Pentecost. The only real change that would have been made in God's people would have been a full stomach, and people can be just as weak and foolish and vain on a full stomach as they can on an empty one.

which God If the Messiah was to change and renew God's people, it was to the emptiness of infidelity that he had to first address himself.

All of those attractive things that were offered, things that seem so good, are in fact evil when choosing them means being unfaithful to the kind of life to calls not only his Messiah but every one of his people.

We too are certainly tempted, as a Church, as families, as marriage partners, as parents, as children, as individuals. Tempted time and again by so many things that seem so good. Tempted by so many opportunities that seem to promise to increase our wealth, our comfort, our social acceptability, our power. All seemingly so easy to do .... and all so faithless. All so foreign to what we are called to be.

In the desert, Christ did not debate with Satan, he didn't try to match wits with him, he simply said "No". Faithfulness. Fidelity to what he knew was God's design. That was Christ's strength in the desert, and it will be ours as well.