YOUNG READERS -

"Let the little children come to me" – Matthew 19:14

Get ready for Lent

First Sunday of Lent • March 9

Lent is the special time when we prepare for the celebration of Jesus' passion, death and resurrection. We get our souls ready with prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

Prayer is talking with God. We need to talk with God even more than we need to talk to our



family and friends. Lent is a good time to get into a habit of talking with God every day.



Fasting is eating less than you normally would. It's a good idea to give up a little something you like for Lent. Giving things up helps us remember we need

God more than food and treats.

Almsgiving means giving to those who are in need. Maybe you have something you can give to the poor or to the Church. It reminds us how generous God is with us!



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Are there birthdays in heaven? - Andrew (8), Carl (6), Stella (4), and Jeanmarie (1) Malcolm; St. Thomas More, Lynchburg

• Everything good is perfected in heaven, so yes, birthdays - which are good - are celebrated perfectly in heaven!

Each year, the Church celebrates a feast day on the birth of Jesus (Christmas), the birth of John the Baptist (June 24), and the birth of Our Lady (Sept. 8). We know that

the angels and saints in heaven join with us in these prayers at Mass. That means birthdays are celebrated in heaven and on Earth.

The feast day of a saint is often celebrated on the date of their death, which is sometimes called their "birthday in heaven."

It is good to celebrate our birthdays, because we are reminded that God loves us so much that he brought us into existence. And by celebrating other people's birthdays, we show them how grateful we are that God created them.

Kids 12 and younger: make sure to check with your parent/guardian, then email Bishop Knestout <u>YOUR</u> question.

> AskTheBishop@catholicvirginian.org Include your full name, age, and home parish.

How well do you know the story of Jesus' temptation?

1. Jesus went to the desert and didn't eat anything for 40 days. True or False? (circle one)

2. Jesus was never tempted by the devil. True or False?

3. Jesus wasn't hungry, even after 40 days with no food. True or False?

4. The devil said that all the kingdoms of the world belonged to him. True or False?

5. Jesus wouldn't throw himself off the Temple because He said it was "putting God to the test." **True or False?**



SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for March 9, 2025 Luke 4: 1-13

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the First Sunday of Lent, Cycle C: Jesus's 40 days in the desert. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

JORDAN NOTHING COMMAND WRITTEN WORLD THROW AGAINST

DAYS HUNGRY BECOME NOT LIVE WORSHIP ME ANGELS A STONE

BY THE DEVIL SON OF GOD BREAD SHOWED LORD FOOT TO THE TEST

'WORSHIP ME'

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