

# building hope

Family of Four Parishes Lent 2019

Lent - Week 1

Temptation of Jesus

“Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus ....was led by the Spirit into the desert for forty days.” I’m trying to imagine what that was like. All alone and hungry for forty days. I think I would be just a “lit-tle” crabby! I think I would be despondent and feel like nobody loved me. But that’s not the example Jesus gives us. He responds to the temptations from the devil of more power and glory and all the food he wants with the phrase “You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.”

That Holy Spirit must be pretty powerful! I was thinking back to my confirmation days when I learned about the gifts of the Holy Spirit - wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety and fear of the Lord. Jesus must have called on all of those gifts to make it through the forty days and then the temptation. He must have trusted the Holy Spirit and his loving Father. How can I face my temptations with the same faith and trust? The forty days of Lent offer us an opportunity to be ‘led into the desert’ in a manner of speaking. Prayer opens our heart to an encounter with Christ and to learn how to call on the Holy Spirit to help us face our own temptations; fasting opens up space and time in our lives for that which provides nourishment and almsgiving allows us to reach beyond ourselves and build hope for someone else. The results of listening and walking with the Holy Spirit or ‘the fruits of the Spirit’ are pretty awesome as well. Love, Joy, peace, patience, kindness, long-suffering, humility, fidelity, chastity. I think my challenge this Lent for myself will be to spend more time in prayer, listening to the Holy Spirit, do some fasting and increase my almsgiving so people will see more love, more joy, more peace, more patience, more kindness, etc. from me, and my temptations will be faced with trust in a God who loves me more than I can ever imagine! Will you join me?

*-Mary Robertson, Director of Music and Liturgy, Three Holy Women and Our Lady of Divine Providence Parishes*

## Reflection questions:

1. What are your greatest temptations? Try praying Psalm 91 “Be with Me Lord when I am in trouble” when you feel tempted.
2. Take time this Lent to pray regularly and to fast to make space in your heart for God. Use the little black book for meditation.
3. Use a journal and keep track of how you use the ‘gifts’ of the Spirit and how the ‘fruits’ of the Spirit increase as a result. Note the results on Easter Sunday!



Milwaukee  
**Habitat**  
for Humanity®

# Building Hope

Thanks to people like you, these families now have safe, affordable homes.



## Pa & Paw

In their last rental, Pa had to carry his disabled son in and out of the house to get to the bus stop. They just couldn't afford a rental with a wheelchair ramp. Thanks to your support, their new affordable Habitat home is completely ADA accessible.



## Lavitta

Before coming to Habitat, Lavitta was forced to move her children three times in just three years due to continually rising rent. Her girls now know the stability of a safe place they can always come home to, while Lavitta has the financial security to save for their futures.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Habitat homeowners help build their own homes and pay an affordable mortgage.



## Tiara

Tiara had been renting what she called a "concrete townhouse." Simple concrete block, without insulation, meant huge heating bills. On top of that, her landlord increased rent twice in just over a year. In 2018, Tiara became the first homeowner of our historic Midtown 100 initiative.



## Felecia

Felecia and her son JoJo had been living in the same rental for ten years when her landlord abruptly raised the rent and ordered them to move out. After struggling to find a safe place they could afford, Felecia came to Habitat and is now raising JoJo in a home of her own.

Find out how you can help more families build hope | [milwaukeehabitat.org](http://milwaukeehabitat.org)