



DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

# ROOTED IN CHRIST

LENT 2022



# SACRED *Sunday*

## **Lenten Mysteries**

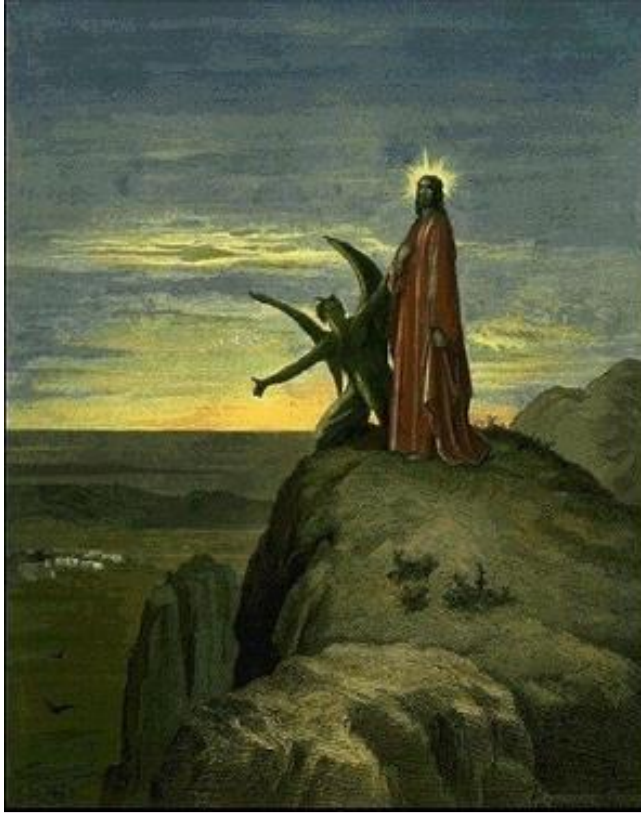
**The Temptation of Christ in the Desert (Luke 4:1-13)**

**The Transfiguration of the Lord (Luke 9:28B-36)**

**The Parable of the Fig Tree (Lk 13:1-9)**

**The Parable of the Prodigal Son (Lk 15:1-3, 11-32)**

**Jesus Shows Mercy to the Woman Caught in Adultery (Jn 8:1-11)**



# FIRST MYSTERY

THE TEMPTATION  
OF CHRIST IN THE  
DESERT

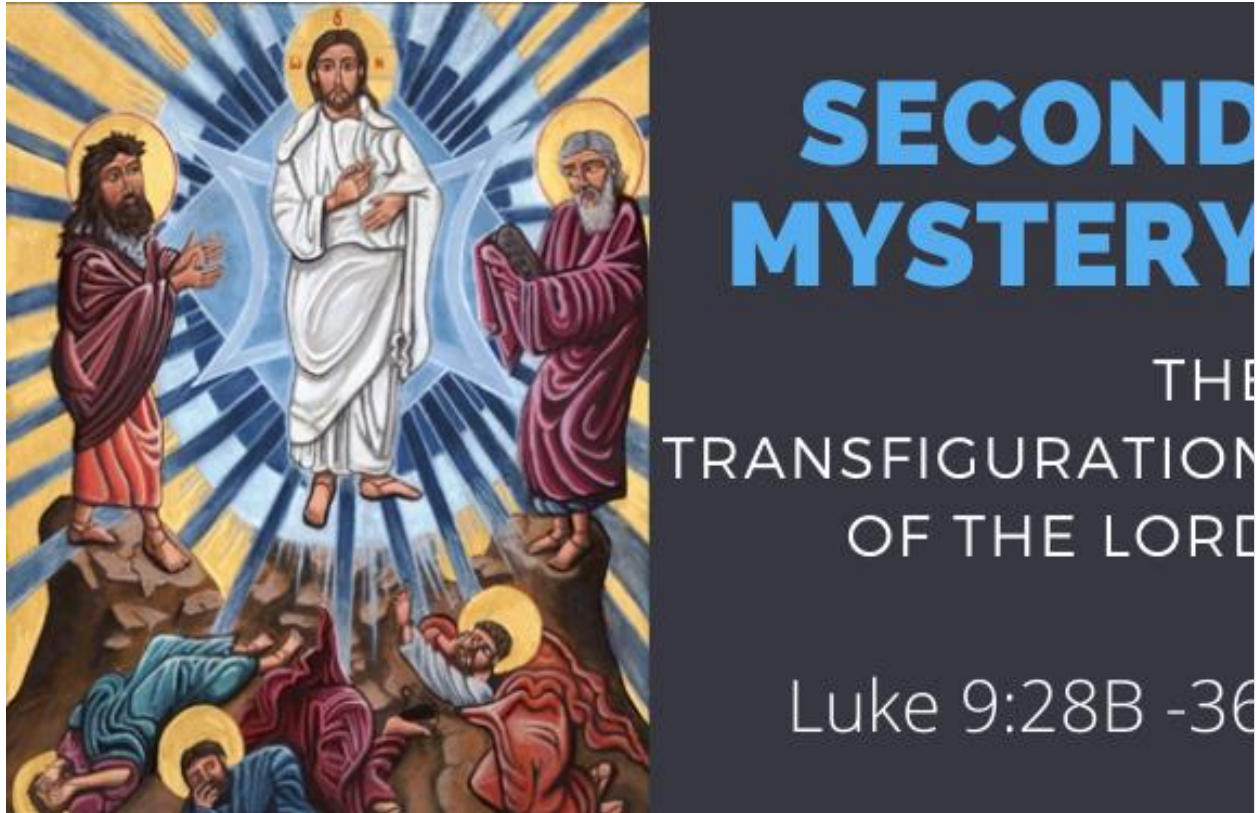
Luke 4:1-13

[Click here](#) to read the Scripture from the Gospel of Luke (Lk 4:1-13)

**Reflect:** There are many temptations we face each day, each week, each moment of our lives...sometimes we are successful in combating Satan's subtle influences, and sometimes we fall short.

- How many times have I tried to focus on a task, but something distracted me?
- How many times have I been prey to doing something in spite of my previous resolve to not follow through?
- What is a constant source of temptation in my life, great or small?

**For each bead of this decade,** offer up prayers for the moment(s) this past week where you have faced temptation (give thanksgiving for successes, and petitions for strength to do better next time).

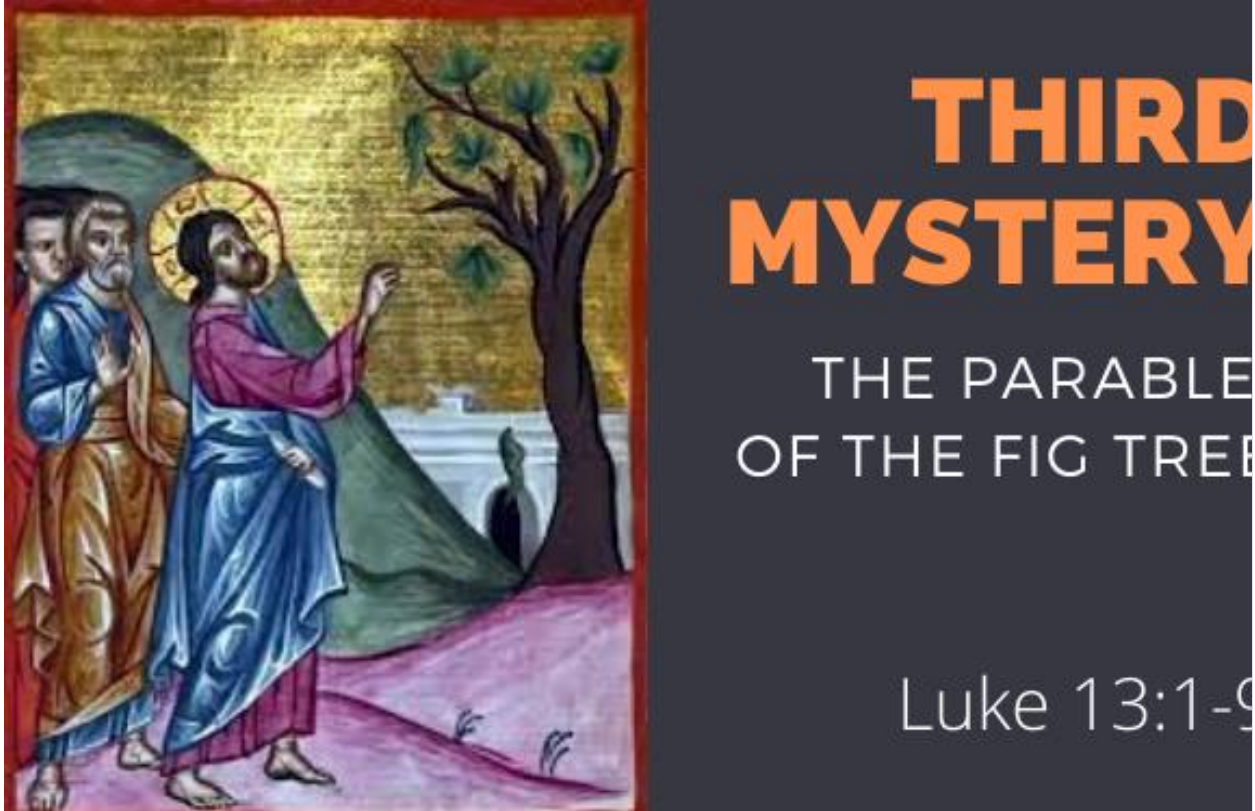


[Click here](#) to read the Scripture from the Gospel of Luke (Lk 9:28B-36)

**Reflect:** For Peter, James and John, this moment of going up the mountain with Jesus is a turning point for their discipleship journey. They have made the initial commitment to follow him when they leave their nets and their families—taking the leap of faith—to be his companions in ministry. But did they fully realize what they signed up for? When the voice speaks out “this is my chosen son, listen to him” it brings a new significance to their mission ahead.

- In what ways do I follow Christ and my faith values, but still need to root myself in the belief that he truly is God With Us?
- Where are the moments in my life when I need to get out of my own way (preconceptions, self-made plans) and allow God to guide my understanding of what I am called to do?

*For each bead of this decade,* offer up your prayers for moments of your unbelief/doubt that you have experienced this week, and ask Jesus to reveal himself in new ways to you in the days ahead.

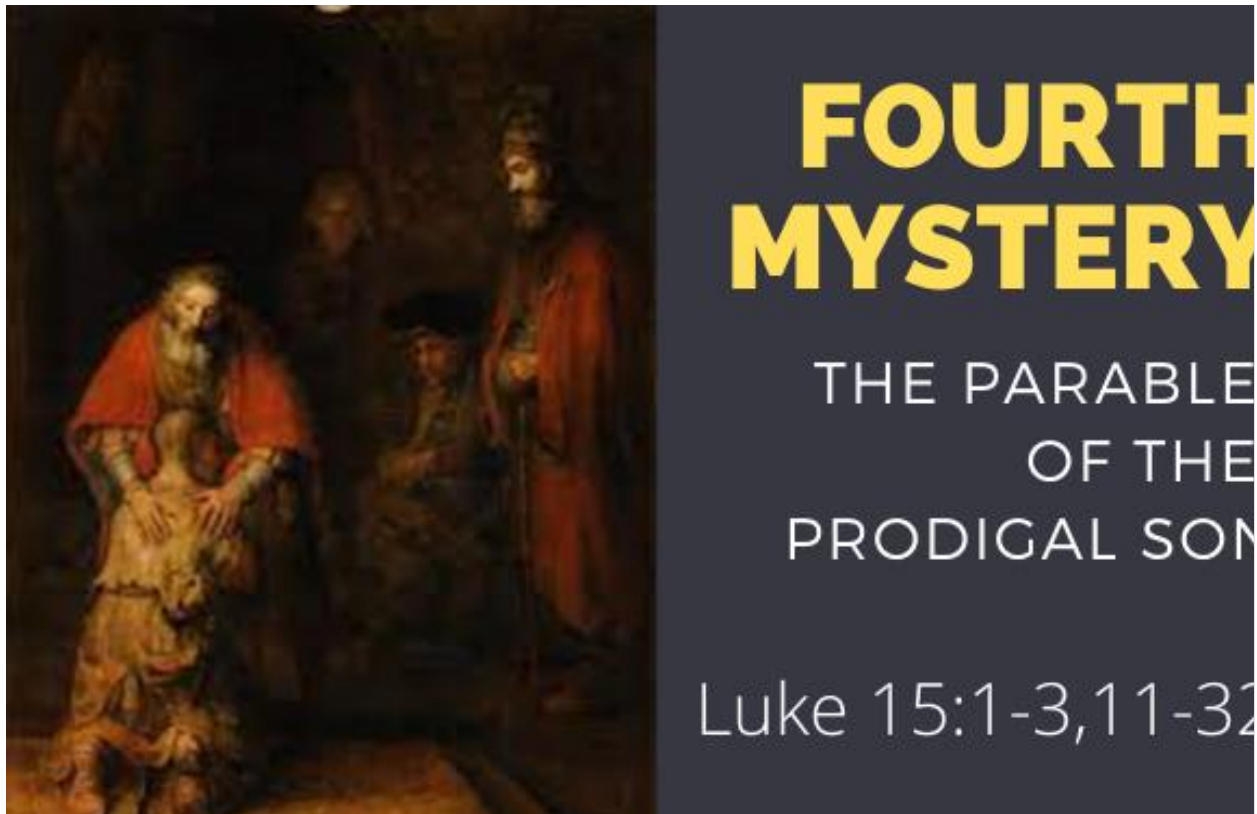


[Click here](#) to read the Scripture from the Gospel of Luke (Lk 13:1-9)

**Reflect:** Many times, we try to accomplish something only to wonder if it was all worth it, or if we saw any results of our efforts...sometimes we step away in order to focus our energies on things we *know* will succeed, and sometimes we are encouraged by ourselves, or others, to consider the bigger impact of what we do, beyond what we can see now.

- Where have I been invited to give something more time to come to fulfillment and I have hesitated to 'wait it out'?
- Where do I need to tend my own soil, so that it is fertile to receive what God has planned for me? What future promise from Christ is growing inside of me?

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# FOURTH MYSTERY

THE PARABLE  
OF THE  
PRODIGAL SON

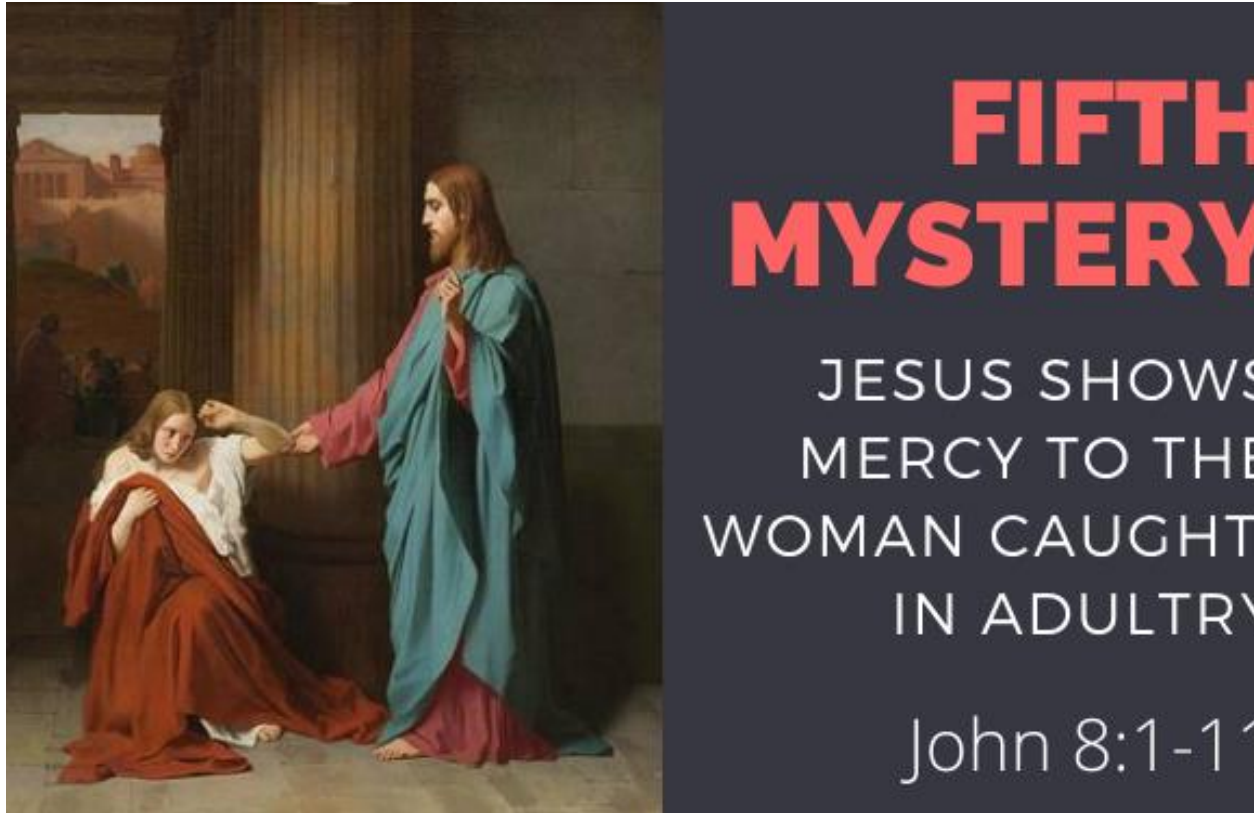
Luke 15:1-3,11-32

[Click here](#) to read the Scripture from the Gospel of Luke ( Lk 15:1-3, 11-3 )

**Reflect:** God always takes us back! No matter how far we have strayed, or messed up, or disobeyed, there is always love when we bring our troubles back home to God. God is the father, waiting at the window, running to the gate, and celebrating with us when we reconcile our sins. God is the father listening patiently when we behave like the resentful brother who stayed close to home.

- In which moments have I recognized a deep need for God in my everyday tasks, or big decisions?
- Where has God shown me immeasurable love?

**For each bead of this decade,** offer up special intentions for specific sins that you struggle to 'fix' in yourself; or offer up special prayers for where you can put aside resentments of others and be more loving.



[Click here](#) to read the Scripture from the Gospel of John (Jn 8:1-11)

**Reflect:** People in our society are increasingly divided, and relationships have been fractured over moral values and ideologies. With this reality around us, it is easy to recognize the attitudes of the temple crowd in this Gospel. There have been instances in our lives where we have been ‘guilty’ of offering up examples of ‘what not to do’; where we challenged others who have different perspectives; where we have sought validation when we received opposition to our own views. But then, we are also called to remember that we have been in situations where we can relate to the woman, subjected to scrutiny with no understanding to be found from anyone.

- What is a situation where a firm belief or value in my life has been shaken?
- Where/who have I needed support or solidarity from in my struggles to understand or be understood?

*For each bead of this decade,* take to prayer the moments where I have experienced judgment,

accusation, and where can I find, or respond with deeper Mercy?



**Kitty Scanlan** currently serve as the Coordinator for Lay Ministry Formation in the Diocese of Scranton. She oversees the local Diocesan Certificate in Lay Ministry program for parish leaders, offering opportunities for growth in ministry skills and pastoral care, through theological coursework, local workshops, and spiritual formation gatherings! In the hopes of continuing to build up the church of God in our local diocese and alongside others in the universal church, she works closely with other members of our Office for Parish Life team to provide diverse avenues for ministerial enrichment. When not working, Kitty enjoys cooking, gardening/composting, singing, and spending time with family (husband John Paul, daughter Junie, and a new baby Scanlan awaited, June 2022). For more information about our *Diocesan Certificate in Lay Ministry* process, visit <https://www.dioceseofscranton.org/parish-life/formation/> or call 570-207-2213.

[Click here for the Lenten Mysteries  
for Print](#)

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Diocese of Scranton  
2021 **DIOCESAN**  
ANNUAL APPEAL 