

Saint Peter Church

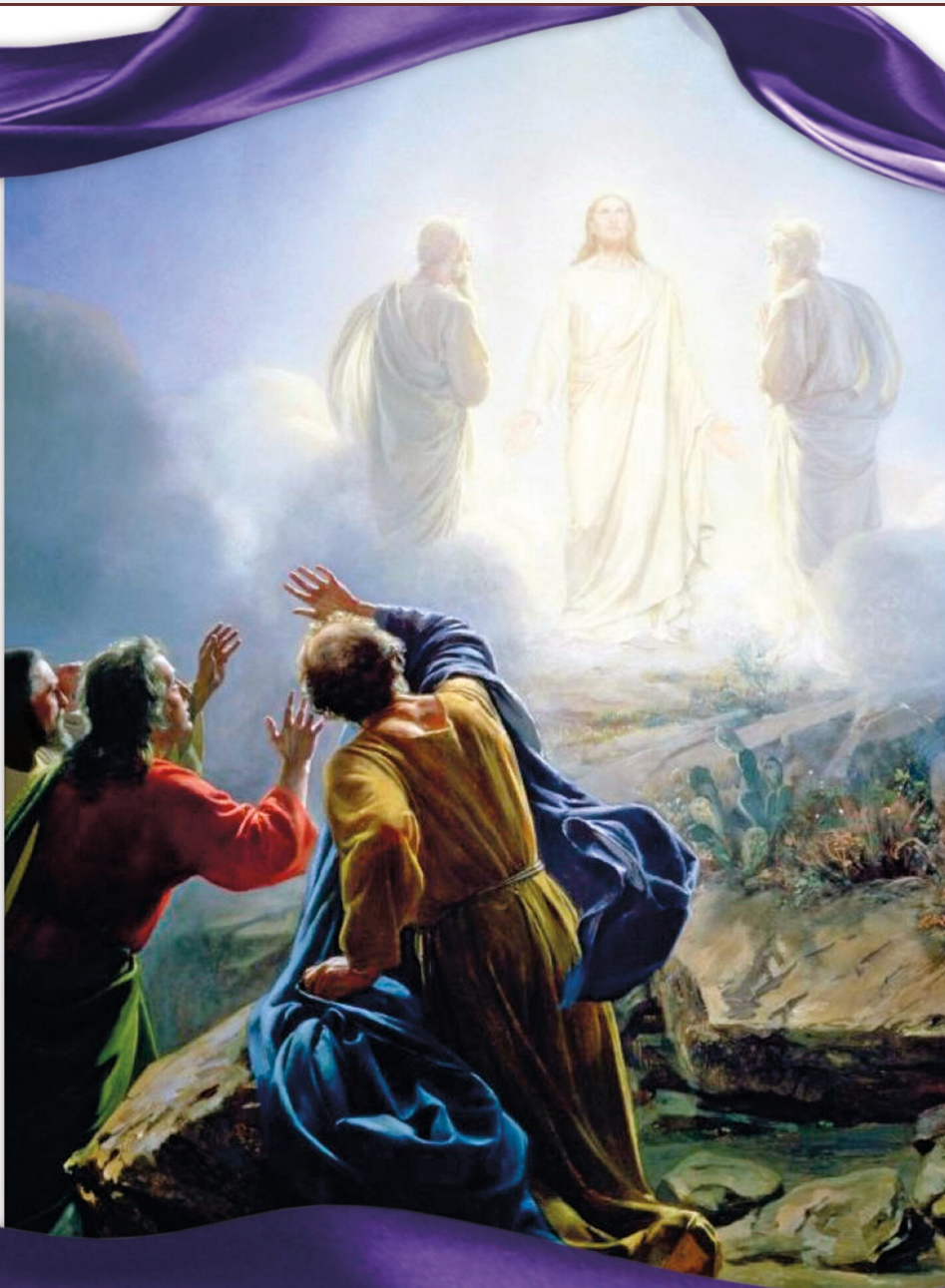
4 South 5th Street • Coplay, Pennsylvania 18037



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2024

Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white.

Mark 9:2,3



Transfiguration of Jesus
by Carl Bloch, 1872



2ND SUNDAY OF
LENT



PARISH STAFF

PASTOR: Rev. Msgr. David L. James V.G., J.C.L.

PASTORS EMERITI: Rev. Msgr. John J. Martin

Rev. Msgr. William E. Handges

PERMANENT DEACON: Mr. Thomas Reimer

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: Mrs. Lina Abi-Samra

FINANCE MANAGER: Mrs. Michelle Ahern

DIRECTOR OF REL. ED.: Mrs. Linda Johnson

MASS SCHEDULE: DAILY: 8 A.M. ~ Chapel (*except Monday & Saturday*)

Saturday Evening: 4:00 P.M. Sunday: 8:00 & 10:30 A.M.

Holy Days: 8:00 A.M. & 6:30 P.M.

PENANCE: Saturday: 3:00 to 3:45 P.M. and by appointment

During Advent and Lent, Communal Penance Services are celebrated.

BAPTISM: Contact the rectory for an appointment.

Baptism is scheduled on Sunday following the 10:30 A.M. Mass

Parents may be required to attend a preparatory instruction in the rectory.

MARRIAGE: Couples should contact the parish priest at least 1 year but no later than 6 months prior to the intended wedding date. Weddings are on Saturday between 10A.M. and 1P.M.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Notify the rectory when someone becomes seriously ill, or weak due to old age, so that the person might receive this Sacrament.

COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND: The priest & Deacons perform this service monthly. Notify us when someone wishes to be visited.

HOSPITALIZED: Alert us whenever someone has to be hospitalized, especially when their admission is an emergency. The parish identification number is #171.

PARISH REGISTRATION: New members should make an appointment with the pastor.

HIGH SCHOOL: Allentown Central Catholic, 4th & Chew Sts., Allentown 18102; Phone 610-437-4601

ELEMENTARY: Good Shepherd Catholic School, 1300 Newport Ave., Northampton, PA 18067

phone: 610-262-9171 Mrs. Susan Parker, M.Ed. Principal

CCD PROGRAM: Classes conducted at the Holy Apostles Catholic Education Center,
3008 Ruch St., Whitehall, PA 18052

The program is from September to the end of April.

These classes are necessary for eligibility to receive the

Sacraments of Penance, Eucharist and Confirmation.

Contact Mrs. Linda Johnson at 610-261-0144

BEQUESTS: Please remember St. Peter Church in your Last Will & Testament.

IN MEMORIAM FUND: After the death of a family member you are invited to have that person's name commemorated on the Church Plaque by suggesting that memorial offerings be donated to the Church in memory of the deceased person.

DIOCESAN VICTIM ASSISTANCE Wendy Krisak, Direct Telephone 1-800-791-9209 Email: victimassistance@allentowndiocese.org

DIOCESAN SAFE ENVIRONMENT Pamela Russo, MSW, MS 610-871-5200, Ext. 2204 Email: pruso@allentowndiocese.org

CATHOLIC BISHOP ABUSE REPORTING SERVICE If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop, please contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service at www.ReportBishopAbuse.org or by calling 800-276-1562.



www.stpeterchurchcoplay.com



info@stpetersrccoplay.com



610.262.2417



610.262.2652

Mission Statement

We, as a Catholic parish under the patronage of Saint Peter, are a Eucharistic family, centered in prayer and worship, dedicated to self-sacrificing stewardship, and journeying together, Spirit-inspired, to the heavenly Kingdom.



Sunday February 25th Second Sunday of Lent

Gn 22:1-2,9a,10-13,15-18; Rom 8:31b-34;
Mk 9:2-10

8:00 AM Joseph Fatul
10:30 AM Holy Name Society

Monday February 26th Lenten Weekday

Dn 9:4b-10; Lk 6:36-38

8:00 AM No Morning Mass

Tuesday February 27th Lenten Weekday

Is 1:10, 16-20; Mt 23:1-12

8:00 AM Anette Velekei

Wednesday February 28th Lenten Weekday

Jer 18:18-20; Mt 20:17-28

8:00AM Herrmina Ivankovits

Thursday February 29th Lenten Weekday

Jer 17:5-10; Lk 16:19-31

8:00 AM Cory Yandrisevitz

Friday March 1st Lenten Weekday; First Friday

Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

8:00AM Parishioners of Saint Peter
7:00PM Stations of the Cross

Saturday March 2nd Lenten Weekday

Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Confessions: 2:30-3:45pm

Vigil Mass

4:00 PM Rose J. Frisch

Sunday March 3rd Third Sunday of Lent

8:00 AM Parishioners of Saint Peter
10:30AM Elsie Kroboth

Masses said by retired priests:

Deceased: Richard Kropf, William Weiner,
Margaret Beslanovits, Mel and Ann Procanyn

Stewardship Corner

Sunday Collection Week of Sunday 2/10
Basket collection \$4995.00 plus online \$833..00
Please continue your weekly or monthly giving to our parish. Your contributions are vital in order for us to meet our obligations. If unable to attend Mass, kindly send your envelopes through the mail or drop them in the rectory mail slot.
Your **support** to your parish is critical.
I thank you for your kind and generous response.
Please be assured that you and your family are always in my prayers
Monsignor James



Online Giving

****Start giving online today!****
Visit our parish website at
<https://www.stpeterchurchcoplay.com>
Click on the online giving link
Create an account.
Schedule your recurring gifts



Flame of Love

Tuesday, February 27, 2024
In the Chapel
Flame of Love Adoration will not be held
On Tuesday, March 5th 2024



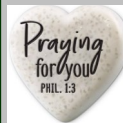
Holy Hour

Wednesday, February 28 at 6pm



DEVOTIONAL LAMP

Blessed Mother Vigil Lights
Will burn in memory of
Margaret Beslanovits
Offered by The Ehritz Family



Prayer Group

If you would like your name or the name of a family member to be added to the list please call the office at 610.262.2417

WHITEHALL COPLAY HUNGER INITIATIVE CEREAL COLLECTION



We will be collecting boxes of Cereal (hot and cold) in support of Whitehall-Coplay Hunger Initiative. Containers are located in the main vestibule and the elevator vestibule. This collection will take place on the last weekend of each month.

LUCKY CALENDARS

The annual sale of Lucky Calendars is one of our biggest fundraisers, second only to the parish festival.

If you have not purchased a calendar, please consider doing so. If you have already bought a calendar, please consider purchasing another.

Calendars purchased after January 1 are good for all daily drawings going forward from the date of purchase.

PLEASE HELP TO MAKE THIS FUNDRAISER A PROFITABLE SUCCESS FOR SAINT PETER PARISH

A LENTEN SERIES

Topic for Wednesday, February 28
The Liturgical Year, How the Church Keeps Time!



COPLAY FOOD PANTRY

During the season of Lent, we will be collecting food items for the Coplay Food Bank.

Containers will be provided in the vestibule. Please make sure the items that you are donating are not outdated. They are in need of microwavable food... spaghetti sauce, rice pouches, fruit cups, tuna, Hormel meals, canned pasta, apple sauce, instant potatoes, coffee, tea, crackers, paper products, toiletries...No big items please



THE CATHOLIC GRANDPARENTS ASSOCIATION

encourages parents and grandparents to teach their children about God's wonderful gift of a Guardian Angel who serves to protect and guide all of us. On **Saturday March 9th at 9:30 AM** in the Parish Center at Saint Joseph the Worker, in Orefield. The Catholic Grandparents Association will host a learning and craft session. All parents and grandparents are encouraged to bring their children to learn about their Guardian Angel through making a craft that they can take home and a surprise that they can give to Mom or Grandmom. Deacon Campanell will be there to give a short talk. The session is free (although a free will offering for supplies would be appreciated). Please let us know if you will attend by completing a registration form which can be found in the Church vestibule hall leading to the Cry Room at St. Joseph Church in Orefield. A box has been provided to collect completed forms.

Good Shepherd Catholic School

Please join us Wednesdays during Lent at 1:30pm for Stations of the Cross at Queenship of Mary Church. CYO Co-Ed Volleyball Signups are now open for JV – 4th -6th and Varsity 7th & 8th Website to sign up: <http://tinyurl.com/3whyu6v7>

Deadline for signups ends 11:59 pm 2/25/24

CYO is possibly offering Track & Field for boys and girls in grades 6th-8th grade. Events include 100 meter dash, 400, 800, and 1600 meter runs, 800 meter relay, shot put, running long jump, high jump, and youth javelin. This will be dependent on interest. Anyone interested should email gscscyo@gmail.com for further information. We will now be selling Family Prayer Cards. Each card is \$5.00. You can enroll deceased family members or friends, or someone for health and blessings. Prayer cards are available for purchase during school hours, and before and after our school Masses. They will be acknowledged in the following ways:

A votive candle will be lit in their honor. Their name will be written in our intention book. They will be remembered every day in the prayers of all the children during morning Prayer, and at every School Mass.



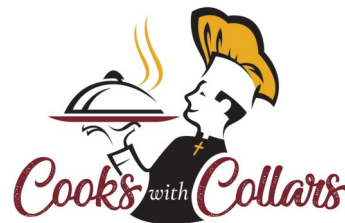
Holy Apostles RE

610.261.0144 or holyapostlesre@holyapostlesre.org
Office Fall Hours : M-Th 3-8PM; closed Fridays

Regular Classes

Confirmation practice 3/3

Confirmation 3/5 4:30pm at St. Peter Church



The Cooks with Collars Competition concluded and Father Bob George, pastor of Saint Joseph Church of the Panther Valley,

in Summit Hill came in first with total votes of 41,710. Yours truly came in 21st (same as last year) in a field of 44 cooks with total votes of \$4,400. Thanks to all those who supported my Caramel Corn. The funds collected will be used toward the renovation of the convent. I am already thinking about what to enter next year. Any ideas?

Knights of Columbus Council # 4050
Will hold Lenten Fish Dinner

5:00PM to 7:00PM March, 1, 8 and 15

St. John the Baptist Social Hall
Corner of Chestnut & Ruch Streets

Enjoy in or Carry Out

Adult Baked Fish and Pierogi Dinners
Child Baked Fish and Mac & Cheese Dinners
All proceeds support KOC Charity Funds
For Info & Menu contact KofC4050.org



St. Mary's Church, 122 Union St.,
Catasauqua
Will hold its Lenten Dinner on Friday,
March 8th from 4:30-6:30pm in the
Parish Center, Platter includes: baked
cod, in a lightly seasoned butter sauce, choice of sea-
soned roasted potatoes or cabbage & noodle, choice
of green beans or side salad, includes roll and butter,
and a beverage. Desserts sold separately. Dinners are
\$15.00 in advance, \$16.00 for walk-ins. Kids up to
the age of ten \$8.00(Choice of fish or pasta w/ mari-
nara sauce) please email:
kim.stmarys122@gmail.com or call 610.264.0332

ENROLL TODAY FOR 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR!



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in a faith-filled community!

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or cmeskill@acchs.info. Financial aid and scholarships are available.



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LENT

THE BASICS

WHAT IS LENT?

Lent is the annual preparation for Easter observance—calling us to reform our lives and to open our hearts to the blessings God has promised to bestow on us. Lent begins Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Thursday evening when the Triduum begins.

WHAT MUST I DO?

According to the Church's Canon Law, all healthy Catholics from age 18 to 59 are required to fast and abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, and to abstain from meat on all other Fridays of Lent. Fasting is a bodily way to remind ourselves that we need God above all things. Fasting is also a sacrifice, a gift back to God of our heart's intent to depend more completely on God.

WHAT SHOULD I DO?

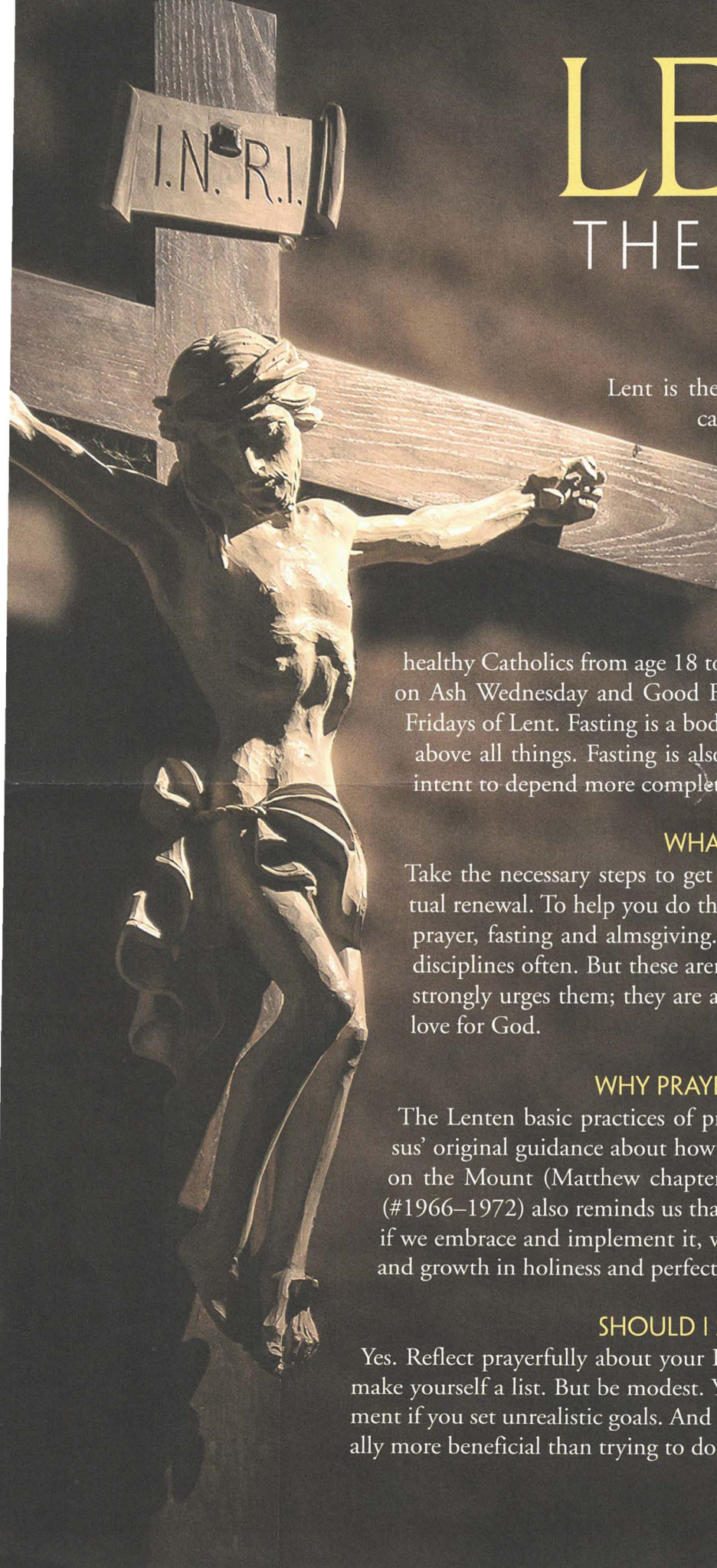
Take the necessary steps to get yourself on the road to conversion and spiritual renewal. To help you do this, the three main Lenten disciplines urged are prayer, fasting and almsgiving. We are invited during Lent to practice these disciplines often. But these aren't just chores we must do because the Church strongly urges them; they are above all opportunities to grow in faith and in love for God.

WHY PRAYER, FASTING AND ALMS?

The Lenten basic practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving are rooted in Jesus' original guidance about how to be his disciples that we find in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew chapter 5–7). *The Catechism of the Catholic Church* (#1966–1972) also reminds us that Jesus here outlines for us the new law which, if we embrace and implement it, will lead us more surely to the interior renewal and growth in holiness and perfection that Jesus expects of us as his disciples.

SHOULD I SET LENTEN GOALS?

Yes. Reflect prayerfully about your Lenten resolutions before making them. Then make yourself a list. But be modest. You may be setting yourself up for disappointment if you set unrealistic goals. And doing a little with love and devotion is spiritually more beneficial than trying to do much but doing it halfheartedly.



THE SYMBOLS OF LENT

Colors: Violet is the usual color for Lent, symbolizing repentance. Red on Good Friday relates to Jesus death, while white is the color for Easter.

Ashes placed on the forehead hint at an ancient ritual—covering oneself with ashes in penitence. Receiving the cross shaped “smudge” reminds us that we are dust and is a public statement of repentance. Usually the ashes are from the previous year’s Palm Sunday branches, illustrating the circle of the Church Year.

The **Forty Days of Lent** parallel the 50 days which Jesus spent in fasting and prayer in the wilderness.

Palm branches in ancient times signified victory and were used in triumphal processions by Romans and Jews.

The **Paschal or Easter Candle** is a large, decorated and dated candle, lit each year at the Easter Vigil bonfire and then carried into the darkened church. Standing for the risen Savior who is the light of the world, it is then displayed prominently at services and baptisms during the year.

Pretzels had their origin in early Christian Lenten practice. Made from simple dough which has no dairy or fat, pretzels remind us of fasting and, shaped like two arms crossed, of prayer.

A **fish** is a Lenten symbol for the obligation to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday and to abstain from all flesh meat on every Friday in Lent.

Stones remind us of Jesus’ experience in the desert for forty days and being tempted by the devil. Jesus remained steadfast and overcame the temptations. The stones symbolize austerity and rigor, desolation, misery and sadness.

MORE ABOUT THE THREE BASIC LENTEN DISCIPLINES



Fasting: Expresses our desire to find happiness in God rather than in the satisfaction of our physical needs. The control we gain over our appetites helps us recognize more deeply that all true and lasting pleasure comes from God. Knowing this we are freed to gratefully accept food and savor it, or to avoid or limit foods that we know are unhealthy for us. Through fasting, our relationship to ourselves is reoriented toward God.



Almsgiving: Provides assistance to the poor among us and helps us recognize God as the true source of our security. Property and wealth exercise less control over us when we give away or share our wealth out of love for God and for others. Almsgiving is a way of bringing our relationship to others into the orbit of Christ’s love.



Prayer: Changes our relationship to God. Through prayer, we admit our need for a power that is greater than ourselves. We acknowledge our limitations and let go of the drive to control everything. In the process, we open ourselves to all that God has to offer us.



WHY DOES LENT SEEM SO NEGATIVE?

Starting with the somber symbol of ashes, Lent indeed has its negative side, in part because Lenten discipline aims to make us aware of our own weakness and need for conversion and renewal. We won’t seek a doctor if we don’t know we’re sick. We won’t seek help unless we realize how much we need help. But the purpose of Lenten discipline isn’t negative. Self-denial is necessary, said St. Augustine, because, unless we can give up what is good, many of us cannot avoid committing evil when tempted. Self-denial helps us empty ourselves so that we can be filled with God, helps us hunger and thirst for the food and drink our souls need. We freely give up good for the promise of something better. We should not undertake Lenten disciplines as if by themselves they heal us, make us holy or earn God’s favor. Rather, their purpose is to open our hearts so that the Holy Spirit can work in us.

READINGS FOR LENT 2023

Ash Wednesday: Joel 2:12-18; 2 Corinthians 5:20—6:2; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

1st Sunday: Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11

2nd Sunday: Genesis 12:1-4; 2 Timothy 1:8-10; Matthew 17:1-9

3rd Sunday: Exodus 17:3-7; Romans 5:1-2, 5-8; John 4:5-42

4th Sunday: 1 Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41

5th Sunday: Ezekiel 37:12-14; Romans 8:8-11; John 11:1-45

Palm Sunday: Matthew 21:1-11; Isaiah 50:4-7; Philippians 2:6-11;
Matthew 26:14—27:66

Holy Thursday: Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14; Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-15

Good Friday: Isaiah 52:13—53:12; Hebrews 4:14-16 and 5:7-9; John 18:1—19:42

Easter Vigil: Genesis 1:1—2:2; Genesis 22:1-18; Exodus 14:15—15:1;

Isaiah 54:5-14; Isaiah 55:1-11; Baruch 3:9-15, 32—4:4;

Ezekiel 36:16-17a, 18-28; Romans 6:3-11; Matthew 28:1-10