

Reflection

The best Lent is one in which we enter the season wholeheartedly. All too often people either take on too much or don't take on enough. The solution is to simplify our disciplines, focus our intentions, and concentrate more clearly on our spiritual goals.

Lenten Thought

What Catholic hasn't said, "I don't belong inside a church," or "After the way I've lived God doesn't want me there." On Ash Wednesday the entire Church admits that none of us "belongs in there." Our ash-smeared foreheads admit our sinfulness. If belonging to the Church depended on good behavior, who could last beyond infancy? But ashes are in the shape of the Cross - showing that our sinfulness is not the end of the story. We belong in the Church because of the goodness of Jesus Christ who sees us as the most loveable being in all creation. No sin of ours can stop His love. His sacrifice has conquered sin. So sin itself is not the problem. The problem is a heart that is too prideful or fearful to seek His loving and merciful embrace. You do belong inside the Church. After the things you've done it is the only place that will bring you the forgiveness, peace, and true happiness you long for. So welcome to Lent! Welcome to the Church! Welcome home! Jesus has been waiting for YOU!



LENTEN REGULATIONS

WEEKDAYS OF LENT - Although there is no obligation to fast, Jesus calls us to do penance. Voluntary acts of self-denial are highly recommended and encouraged.

ASH WEDNESDAY AND GOOD FRIDAY - are days of fast and abstinence. Limit one full meal on these days to all between 18 and 59 years of age. The other two meals should be lighter than they normally would be. Eating between meals is to be avoided. No meat for those 14 years and older.

FRIDAYS OF LENT - are days of abstinence, that is, Catholics who are 14 years and over are required to give up meat.

EASTER DUTY - the obligation to receive Holy Communion at least once a year is to be fulfilled during the Easter Season.

Lent Begins February 22nd

On **Ash Wednesday, February 22nd**, we begin that special season of penitential observance known as LENT. It is that time of year when we take time out to seriously examine our human values against profoundly different Gospel values—when we reassess our principles against principles of the Good News of Jesus.



Ash Wednesday – February 22nd

Blessed ashes distributed during all Masses.

7:30 am & 5:30 pm – Masses in English

7:00 pm – Mass in Spanish

LOOKING AHEAD

February 22 – Ash Wednesday

March 12 – Daylight Savings Time

April 2 – Palm Sunday

April 9 – Easter Sunday

April 16 – Divine Mercy Sunday

April 23 – Confirmation at

Cathedral of Ss. Peter & Paul

May 20 – Annual Parish Dinner Dance

at Santa Maria Di Prata Hall

2023 CATHOLIC CHARITY FUND APPEAL

Every gift matters.

Every gift makes a difference.

The Annual Catholic Charity Fund Appeal will get underway in our parish with the In-Pew Appeal in March. In the past, generous donors have contributed by a gift or pledge. Although, we are all living in difficult financial times – we need to reach out and help those worse off than we are – as we offer thanks to God for His many gifts and blessings to us. Any and all donations will be greatly appreciated!



"It is in giving that we receive..."

Prayer of Saint Francis

MASSES FOR

FEBRUARY 20 - 26, 2023

Every Mass is offered for the faithful, living or dead, however the following are specifically remembered this week.

Monday, February 20

7:30 am – Rev. Charles J. Zanoni, C.S.
6 Month Remembrance

Tuesday, February 21

7:30 am – Deceased of the Pio A. Romano, Sr. Family

Ash Wednesday, February 22

7:30 am – Ash Wednesday – Mass in English
5:30 pm – Ash Wednesday – Mass in English
7:00 pm – Ash Wednesday – Mass in Spanish

Thursday After Ash Wednesday, February 23

7:30 am – Paul Gallo by family

Friday After Ash Wednesday, February 24

7:30 am – Intentions of Parishioners
3:00 pm – Divine Mercy Chaplet

Saturday After Ash Wednesday, February 25

8:00 am – Intentions of Parishioners



**Sanctuary Candle &
Altar Bread & Wine:**



*Angelo & Rose Moretti
Arthur & Jeanne Weinzierl*

WEEKLY CHURCH SUPPORT

What Our Lord Asks Is Not Equal Gifts - But Equal Sacrifice.
(Increased Giving Campaign)

Church Collections & Mail-in Budgets

Weekend of February 11 & 12, 2023

Collections: \$5,216.00

LORD'S DAY MASSES

Saturday, February 25

5:00 pm

Delores Cardullo
Antonio, Cora, & Antonio Jr., Manfredi

6:30 pm

Mass in Spanish

Sunday, February 26

First Sunday of Lent

8:00 am

Michael R. Mancini

9:30 am

Mass in Spanish

11:30 am

Intentions of Parishioners

SPONSORS FOR OUR BULLETIN

Because our weekly parish bulletin can no longer be paid by ads on the back page, we are hoping to help defray this expense by asking parishioners to come forward each week by sponsoring the bulletin with a donation of **\$40.00**. Please call the parish office if you wish to help.

Bulletin Sponsored

In Memory Of