

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

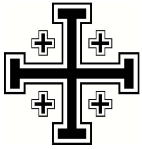


Lenten Fridays

February 19 through March 26
6:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross
7:00 p.m. Mass

Lenten Prayer Service & Benediction

Wednesdays at **12 noon**, February 24 through March 24.



Continuing Education for Catholic & Non-Catholic Adults

Questions? Please call 342-1852 to speak with one of the priests, who will be happy to answer any questions.

Wednesdays, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., Feb. 24 through Mar. 31 in the Adult Education Room in the Community Center.

Men's Lenten Challenge

Take the opportunity to grow spiritually during Lent Tuesday mornings for an hour of prayer, reading the Gospel, and discussion of living our Catholic faith.

Men of St. Joseph

Tuesdays, 7 to 8 a.m. in the Family Room

Info: Jim Donaghey, jbd@orthomobile.com or www.MenOfStJoseph.com

Join us for Lent!

Women of Mary

Starting Thursday, Feb. 25. Two meeting times:

Thursdays, 8:45 to 9:45 a.m. and 7 to 8 p.m. in Conference Room, 2nd Flr

All women are welcome to meet for prayer, reading the Gospel, and discussion.

Info: Judi Ankiewicz, 344-0321, or Sr. Deborah Kennedy, 316-39608

Bible Study Groups

Sun: 8:45-10 a.m. 2nd Corinthians. School Conf. Rm. Ken Crowley, 423-6921.

Tue: 7 pm Com Ctr, rm 6 (2nd flr). Paul's Prison Ltrs.. Dave Burchette, 633-4242

Thur: 1:45-3 p.m. Acts. Com. Ctr., Rm. 4, (2nd Flr.). Judi Ankiewicz 344-0321

Spiritual Book Club: (1st Tue) Mar. 2, 7 pm, Com. Ctr., 2nd Flr, Rm 6 "The Screwtape Letters" by C.S. Lewis." Spiritual guidance & exercises for busy people. **Info:** Linda Cszaszar, 607-9183; Theresa Hickey, 454-5852

Children's First Eucharist Preparation

Parent Meeting: Mon., Feb. 22, 6:30 p.m., the Adult Ed. Room, Community Ctr.

Enrollment Mass / Bread Party: Sun., Feb. 28, 9 a.m. Each family is asked to bring a bread to share in the Banquet Hall of the Community Center after Mass.

Catholic Charities

3rd Report: 592 pledges totaling \$267,645.76
This year's Goal: \$260,000.00

Thinking of Priesthood Day

Saturday, Feb. 27, 9:30 a.m.

Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Student Center
6051 Old Shell Road

For single men, ages 18-35

The day will be led by Fr. Jonathan Fassero, O.S.B., a former member of the faculty at St. Meinrad School of Theology in St. Meinrad, Indiana, with 30 years of work with seminarians. The day will close with the Vigil Mass for Sunday at 4 p.m. RSVP by sending an email to sacredhrtrfalex@mindspring.com, or by leaving a message at 343-3662 for Fr. Alejandro Valladares, Director or Vocations. You will receive a confirmation and a detailed schedule of the day!

40 Days for Life – Sign up after Mass

All are welcome to join in this national campaign of prayer & fasting, community outreach, and peaceful prayer vigil on Wednesdays at the Mobile abortion facility. **Info:** Mae Rehm, 344-4752 or 554-2032 or maemouse@aol.com

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Meetings (1st & 3rd Mondays): Next meeting, Mar. 1, 7 p.m., Conf Rm (2nd Flr)

POOR BOX: Donations to the Poor Box located in the vestibule are distributed to the needy by our parish's St. Vincent de Paul Society.

FOOD PANTRY: Place non-perishable food items in vestibule for distribution by our St. Vincent de Paul Society to the needy.

CLOTHES: Leave clothing in the vestibule for delivery to The Service Center of Catholic Social Services for distribution to the needy.

Lenten Food Drive – March 13-14

For Catholic Social Services and St. Vincent de Paul food pantries

Donate New or Used Items for Catholic Social Services'

Refugee Resettlement Program: Collection boxes are placed in the vestibule (or atrium) by 8th Grade Girl Scout Troop 8093 for new or used pots, pans, blankets, sheets, towels, dishes, cooking utensils, flatware, etc., and also toiletries (deodorant, shampoo, toothpaste & toothbrushes) and toilet tissue, all-purpose cleaners, etc. Large items (beds, sofas, tables, chairs must be brought to the CSS Refugee Resettlement Center at 211 South Catherine St. **Thanks!**

SCHOOL NEWS

New Student Registration: Some spaces are available! Please call the school office at 342-5474, ext. 1, for information.
Join us for Stations of the Cross: Fridays, Feb. 19 (2:30 p.m.), Feb. 26 (1:30 p.m.), Mar. 5 (2:00 p.m.), Mar. 12 (2:30 p.m.)

Wednesday Night Dinners

5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Banquet Hall of the Community Center
\$8.00 for Adults ! \$3.00 for Children

Includes Iced Tea & Coffee. Wine glasses are provided for those who bring wine. Reservation Envelopes & Menus are in the vestibule.

Feb. 24: Grilled Tuna w/Dill Sauce, Seasoned Oven-Roasted Potatoes, Island Veggies, House Salad w/Dressing, Dinner Roll, Bread Pudding w/Rum Butter.

Reservations required no later than the Sun. before each Wed. dinner.

First Week Of Lent

MONDAY:

Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18

Ps 19:8,9,10,15

Matthew 25:31-46

TUESDAY:

Isaiah 55:10-11

Ps 34:4-5,6-7,16-17,18-19

Matthew 6:7-15

WEDNESDAY:

Jonah 3:1-10

Ps 51:-3-4,12-13,18-19

Luke 11:29-32

THURSDAY:

Esther C:12,14-16,23-25

Ps 138:1-2ab,2cde-3,7c-8

Matthew 7:7-12

FRIDAY:

Ezekiel 18:21-28

Ps 130: 1-2,3-4,5-7a,7bc-8

Matthew 5:20-26

SATURDAY:

Deuteronomy 26:16-19

Ps 119:1-2,4-5,7-8

Matthew 5:43:48

Quotations for Reflection

No one, young people included, should be led to think that it is possible all at once to live a 100 percent Christian life, without doubts and sins. The Christian life is a continuing process of conversion, of stumbling, asking forgiveness and starting over. The process is a source of good for others as well because when someone experiences his own shortcomings and forgiveness of his faults, he finds it easier to accept the shortcomings of others and offer them pardon.

Pope Benedict XVI

The apostles and first disciples weren't perfect, but had their own arguments and controversies. This is very consoling to me, because we see that the saints did not drop as saints from heaven. They were men like us with problems and even, with sins.

Pope Benedict XVI

People should not fear God, thinking he is always ready to punish, but rather they should love him because he is always ready to forgive. God is not a relentless sovereign who condemns the guilty, but a loving father whom we must love not out of fear of punishment, but because of his goodness. The Lord is a God who is just, but always ready to reveal himself as merciful and compassionate.

Pope Benedict XVI

God is not only a Supreme Being of omnipotence, but Love itself. He is Love which did not stop loving us even when we sinned and turned away from Him. He is Love which cannot stop loving us.

Archbishop Thomas Rodi

It is not because I have been preserved from serious sin that I lift up my heart to God in trust and love. I am certain that even if I had on my conscience every imaginable sin, I should lose nothing of my confidence, but would throw myself, my heart broken with sorrow, into the arms of my Savior.

St. Therese of Lisieux

Merciful and gracious is the Lord, slow to anger and abounding in kindness. He pardons all your iniquities, he heals all your ills. He redeems your life from destruction, he crowns you with kindness and compassion. Not according to our sins does he deal with us. As far as the east is from the west, so far has he put our transgressions from us.

Psalms 103

Liturgical Colors

by Paul Turner

On a Sunday before Christmas a visitor to our parish looked out over the congregation and remarked, “Isn’t it great to see so many people wearing red for Christmas?” I politely agreed. But inside I knew another reason: The local football team had a game that afternoon, and a good many church-goers were actually sporting the team colors.

Purple vestments and hangings in church during Lent make our eyes take notice. Before we sing about these forty days, before we notice the Glory to God is missing, before they substitute a new Gospel acclamation for that word we’re not supposed to say (Alleluia) – our eyes have meditated on purple, and told us a new season has come.

Why do we have liturgical colors? Why do they affect us?

Even in the secular world we associate colors with particular celebrations: red and green for Christmas, purple and yellow for Easter, red-white-and-blue for the fourth of July, white for the bridal gown. Schools have colors, so do doctoral robes, and of course, sports teams.

The early church used only one liturgical color: white. Favored for the newly-baptized, it symbolized the pure new life they attained in Christ. Colors were few for a simple reason: Colored clothing was so expensive in those days that only the wealthy could afford it.

Not until 12th century Jerusalem, when dyes were more commonplace, did liturgical colors start to become law. After a false start (they wanted black for Christmas and blue for Epiphany) the 13th century dawned with Pope Innocent III’s decree for the colors we basically follow today: White for festive days and saints, red for martyrs and the Holy Spirit, green for the daily life of what we now call “ordinary time,” and violet for the penitential seasons – like Lent. Violet, together with blue and black, shared the range of colors for mourning. Hence, even though purple was originally one of the most expensive dyes to obtain, it came to symbolize a season of mourning – a time to die to ourselves and live for Christ.

Liturgical colors still work their magic, helping us meditate on the seasons of the year and the meaning of life.

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Pretzels!

Pretzels had their origin in early Christian lenten practices. Because fat, eggs, and milk were forbidden during Lent, a special bread was made with dough consisting of only flour, salt, and water. These little breads were shaped in the form of arms crossed in prayer and were called *bracellae* (Latin, “little arms”). Among the Germans the Latin word became *bretzel*. These pretzels were a common Lenten food through the Middle Ages in Europe and became an all year round snack, in its original shape, only in the last century.

Lenten Symbols Lent... Why Forty Days?

Timothy McCanna



The season of Lent has long been the Church’s preparation for Easter. Both the Greek and the Latin languages referred to the time simply as “the forty days.” More than likely the forty-day span was chosen in imitation of Jesus’ stay in the desert.

Matthew, Mark and Luke all tell us that Jesus spent forty days in the desert after his baptism in the Jordan River. “Jesus... was conducted by the Spirit into the desert for forty days, where he was tempted by the devil” (Lk 4:1-2).

Jesus’ desert experience reminded the gospel communities of the Israelites who were freed from Egyptian slavery, only to wander in the desert for forty years on their way to the Promised Land. During that time, they were tempted and they sinned. Jesus reversed that failure. He encountered, but overcame, the same temptations by faithfulness to God.

The practice of preparing for Easter with six weeks of prayer, fasting, almsgiving, and penance seems to have its origin in the late fourth century. Government persecution of Christians and official refusal to recognize the Church prior to that time may explain the lack of historical evidence for any earlier Lenten practices. Apparently, the preparation for Easter was limited to catechumens studying for baptism and members of the faithful who joined them out of solidarity. Available records indicate a fast of one or two days before Easter or perhaps a forty-hour fast.

When the practice of Lent finally did emerge, it was not the precise forty days we now have in the Roman Catholic Church. Originally there was a seven-week observance in the Eastern Rite Church and a six-week duration in the Roman Catholic Church. Neither Church counted Sundays as part of Lent, and the Eastern Catholics didn’t even count Saturdays. At some point later, the Roman Catholic Church added Ash Wednesday and the balance of that week to make exactly forty days. © 1991, Ligouri Publications

I should be distressed that I drop off to sleep during my prayers and during my thanksgiving after Holy Communion. But I don’t feel at all distressed. I know that children are just as dear to their parents whether they are asleep or awake, and I know that doctors put their patients asleep before they operate. So I just think that God knows “knows our frame. He remembers that we are dust.”

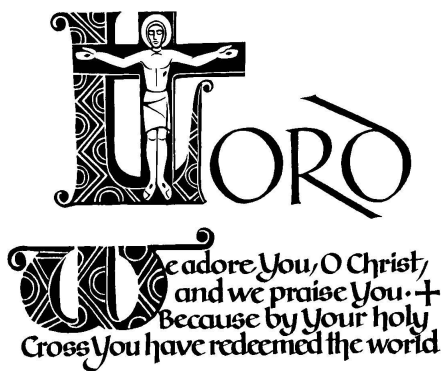
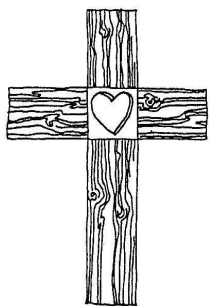
...I’d never before heard it said that one’s faults did not distress God, and I was overwhelmed with joy at this assurance. It gave me patience to endure this life of exile. It was, too, the echo of my inmost thoughts. For a long time I had realized that Our Lord was more tender than a mother – and how well I know the depths of tenderness in more than one mother’s heart! I know that a mother is always ready to forgive the unintentional mistakes of her child. *St. Therese of Lisieux, “Autobiography of a Soul”*

PRAYER AND LENT

A FEW HINTS

This first Sunday of Lent is a good time to recommit to daily prayer. Here are a few suggestions for making that happen.

- + Prayer is communication with God. The place is anywhere you feel comfortable. Pray however you are able; words are not even required.
- + Be relaxed. Sometimes we create expectations that cause us to become discouraged or give up entirely. For example, we imagine a need to feel intense emotion. Accept whatever feeling is there.
- + Prayer is a matter of the will – the will to give ourselves to God, to join with God as one. Begin with simple admission of your total dependence on the Lord; draw from his strength. Be confident of his sustaining grace as the day passes.
- + How much time we give to prayer isn't as important as giving some time to prayer, even three minutes at the start of the day. If we pray a few minutes each day, the desire to increase the time will grow automatically.
- + Be humble in prayer; admit that you are not perfect, that you are not free from all distraction. Three simple keys: cling to God, think of others, don't put yourself down.



STATIONS

of the

C ❖ R ❖ O ❖ S ❖ S

We adore You, O Christ,
and we praise You. +
Because by Your holy
Cross You have redeemed the world

A friend, who is not a Catholic, stopped for a visit at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City. Once inside, this friend observed two people walking around the church with regular stops in front of pictures. Above each picture

was a cross. His curiosity led to an examination of the pictures and the discovery that they depicted Jesus' suffering and death.

As mysterious as all of this might have been for my friend, most Catholics readily associate the Stations of the Cross, or Way of the Cross, with Lent and Holy Week. Who doesn't remember the standing, genuflecting, and kneeling that accompany the pilgrimage from one station to the next?

This devotion was originally brought back by pilgrims who had meditated on Jesus' suffering as they walked from the Garden of Gethsemane to Calvary. Returning to their homes in Europe, some put up crosses or pictures or statues to remind them of Holy Land shrines. For those faithful who could not afford or endure travel to the Holy Land, the local symbols became their shrines for meditation.

In the 16th and 17th centuries the Stations of the Cross, as we know them today, took form. The number of stations had varied, but finally the present fourteen were accepted. The devotion spread through Germany, the Netherlands, Italy, France and Spain. The Franciscans worked to establish the devotion, and succeeded to the point where nearly every church and chapel had its set of fourteen crosses, with or without scenes from the passion.

Praying the Stations requires only the meditative walk from one to the next. No specific prayer format is required, though many have been written. Scripture makes an excellent guide.

On Palm Sunday and Good Friday the gospel accounts of Jesus' passion and death can truly move us. The Stations enable us to experience sorrow for sin and gratitude for forgiveness as we walk with Jesus from the trial before Pilate to Christ's collapse under the weight of the cross, his meeting with Mary, the crucifixion, death and burial. This Lenten tradition makes Good Friday a living moment in our faith encounter.

God Beholds You...

God beholds you... He calls you by your name.

He sees you and understands you as He made you.

He knows what is in you, all your peculiar feelings and thoughts, your disposition and likings, your strength and your weakness.

He views you in your day of rejoicing and in your day of sorrow.

He sympathizes in your hopes and your temptations.

He interests Himself in all your anxieties and remembrances, all the risings and fallings of your spirit...

He encompasses you round and bears you in His arms...

He notes your very countenance, whether smiling or in tears...

He looks tenderly upon you...

He hears your voice, the beating of your heart and your very breathing.

You do not love yourself better than He loves you.

You cannot shrink from pain more than He dislikes your bearing it.

And if He puts it on you, it is as you will put it on yourself, if you are wise, for greater good afterward.

John Henry Cardinal Newman

A construction worker who visited St. Patrick's Cathedral every day on his lunch hour was asked by one of his fellow workers, "What do you do there?" He responded, "I say, Hello, Jesus, this is Jerry. Then I look at Him, and He looks at me."

I cannot bring myself to hunt through books for beautiful prayers. There are so many of them that I get a headache. Besides, each prayer seems lovelier than the next. I cannot possibly say them all and do not know which to choose. I behave like children who cannot read: I tell God very simply what I want and He always understands.

For me, prayer is an upward leap of the heart, an untroubled glance towards heaven, a cry of gratitude and love which I utter from the depths of sorrow as well as from the heights of joy...

When I feel so spiritually barren that I cannot summon up a single worthwhile thought, I say an our Father or a Hail Mary. These two prayers fill me with rapture and feed and satisfy my soul.

St. Therese of Lisieux

God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and wisdom to know the difference – living one day at a time – accepting hardships as a pathway to peace – taking, as Jesus did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it – trusting that You will make all things right if I surrender to Your will, so that I may be reasonably happy in this life and supremely happy with You forever in the next. Amen.

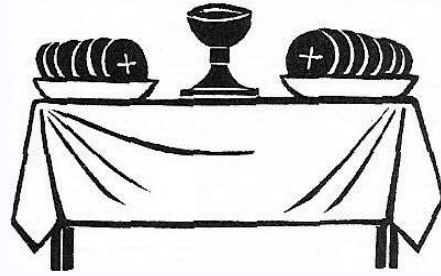
Reinhold Niebuhr

It is a great grace of God to practice self-examination; but too much is as bad as too little. Believe me, by God's help, we shall advance more by contemplating God than by keeping our eyes fixed on ourselves.

St. Teresa of Avila

O tender Father, you gave me more, much more, than I ever thought to ask for. Thank you, and thank you again, O Father, for granting my requests, and for granting those things that I never realized I needed or sought.

St. Catherine of Siena



LENT *is more than a time of fasting; it can also be a joyous season of feasting. Lent is a time to fast from certain things, and to feast on others.*

**Fast from judging others,
Feast on the Christ dwelling in them**
**Fast from emphasis on differences
Feast on the unity of life**
**Fast from apparent darkness
Feast on the reality of light**

**Fast from thoughts of illness
Feast on the healing power of God**
**Fast from words that pollute
Feast on words that purify**
**Fast from discontent
Feast on gratitude**

**Fast from anger
Feast on patience**
**Fast from pessimism
Feast on optimism**
**Fast from worry
Feast on Divine Providence**

**Fast from hostility
Feast on peace**
**Fast from bitterness
Feast on forgiveness**
**Fast from self-concern
Feast on compassion for others**

**Fast from needless anxiety
Feast on trust**
**Fast from discouragement
Feast on hope**
**Fast from acts that tear down
Feast on acts which build up**

**Fast on thoughts that weaken
Feast on promises that inspire**
**Fast from idle gossip
Feast on purposeful silence**
**Fast from problems which overwhelm
Feast on prayer that strengthens**

Come to the Corpus Christi Booster Club

Cash Bash

Saturday, March 6. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$100 for a chance to win \$10,000.00, and include dinner & drinks for two and door prizes.

Please support this fundraiser for New Locker Rooms in the Gym for our Corpus Christi children. The project is to be completed in time for the new 2010-2011 school year! For more info please call Ellen Maxime at 379-1866, or Michael Herrero at 656-6760.

Booster Club Meeting

Wednesday, Feb. 24, 7 p.m., Family Room

CYO Golf League • For 5th through 8th Grades

All players who did not play last year must qualify a score before the first match March 7. Registration forms, qualifying scorecard and \$110.00 registration fee are due to the CYO Office by Mar. 2: Do not send to school or parish office. Contact Jay Henley, Golf Director, 802-3494, jhenley@covington.com for a registration form. Volunteers for these matches are needed and appreciated!

Singers & Instrumentalists

Join the Choir!

instrumentalists: Violin, Cello, Flute, Oboe, Trumpet, French Horn, Light Percussion, Drum Set.

Singers: Adults & students, 9th Grade & up, especially those in choral programs

Knights of Columbus

Meeting: (4th Tues.) Feb. 23, 7 p.m., Com. Ctr. Conf. Rm. (2nd Flr).

Contact: Grand Knight, Don Johnson, 604-8176.

The Women's Club

Next Meeting: Monday, Mar. 8, 6:30 p.m., Community Center atrium All are asked to bring a soup, salad or bread to share. Our meeting will include a Lenten reflection service, a speaker from the St. Vincent de Paul Society, and a short planning meeting for our annual Family Bingo Night to take place in April. Info: Earline Thorne, 414-3507.

THE FRIENDSHIP CLUB

For parishioners, family and friends 50+ years

Meet for lunch at the Golden Corral every 3rd Tuesday of the month at 12 noon. No reservations; just come to lunch & visit.

Bay Area Catholic Singles (25-50)

For Catholic singles & friends: cmoore1999@yahoo.com or 391-7747.

For events, pictures and info: www.BayAreaCatholicSingles.com.

Pack 29 Cub Scouts

Tues., Feb. 23: Pack mtg, 6 p.m., Arrow of Light, Cake Decorating. Com. Center.

Feb. 27-28: Pack Campout, Camp Grace. **Info:** Stephen Doyle, 776-6509.

AA — Alanon — OA — CODA

AA: Sun., 7 p.m., and Wed., 7 p.m., Arts & Sciences Bldg.

Alanon: Sun., 7 p.m., and Wed., 7 p.m., Arts & Sciences Bldg.

OA: Sat., 9 a.m., Arts & Sciences Bldg.

CODA: Tues., 6:45 p.m., Community Center, Rm. 4 (2nd Floor)

No Parking — Fire Lane

The west drive beside the church is for two-way traffic, as is the drive beside the community center and McKenna Drive. Parked cars in either lane block emergency vehicles and traffic flow.

Additional "Sunday Parking" is available inside the field on the east side of Hillview Road; the posts are spaced to provide entry into the field at the middle and at each end of the "fenced-in" field.

Adult Music Theory Class—Info: Matthew Purvis, 366-9187

Wednesdays, 6:15 p.m., school music rm. \$25 per quarter (proceeds to CCC Choir.) For beginners. Learn to read music. No need to sign up, just show up!

Welcome, New Parishioners

Mike & Jolene Harwell and their son, **Seth + April Lee + Zack & Ashely Orrell** and their daughter, **Gracie + Denise Pacheco + Clint & Joanie Padgett + Daniel & Amy Roland** and their daughters, **Sydney, Morgan, Seth and Caleb + Shawn & Rose Whiteker** and their daughter, **Emma.**

BAPTIZED IN CHRIST

Jose Ernesto Aguilar, II (son of Dean Matthew Aguilar & Elizabeth Ann Biggs Aguilar) + **Kinsley Peyton Shea** (daughter of Philip Randolph Shea & Kristi Lynn Catlette Shea).

REST IN PEACE

Robert (Bob) Byrne

Rose Ella McCreary (mother of Barbara Irvin; grandmother of Bruce Irvin)

Catherine (Kitty) Terrell (sister-in-law of Susi Stadther)

Flowers

The flowers before the altar this weekend have been placed in memory of

Anne Harrison

on the 4th anniversary of her death and the 76th anniversary of her birth..

Given by her daughters, Alicia Willett, Cheryl Wainwright, Cindy Johnson, and Lynne Frantz.

Flowers

The flowers before the altar last weekend were placed in memory of

Doris Jacobs

on the 10th anniversary of her death.

Given by her daughter, Roberta Jacobs Butera.

FIRST COLLECTION TODAY for tithing offerings.

SECOND COLLECTION TODAY for African & Native American Missions.

LAST WEEKEND'S BUILDING FUND COLLECTION: \$820.00

LAST WEEKEND'S TITHING COLLECTION: \$19,786.50

Thank You and God Bless You

God bless all who faithfully tithed and contribute to the support of God's work here at Corpus Christi, and those who make a special bequest in their will for Corpus Christi Church. To make a direct donation of stock, contact your stockbroker, or call Steve Setterstrom at Citigroup Global Mkts. at 470-1060.