



**ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK
2021 LENTEN REGULATIONS**

1. The days of both Fast and Abstinence during Lent are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. If possible, the Fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the “paschal fast” to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily His Resurrection. The other Fridays of Lent are days of Abstinence.

On a day of Fast, **only one (1) full meal is permitted, and two (2) smaller meals**, which, if added together, would not exceed the main meal in quantity.

Those between the **ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to Fast.**

On a day of Abstinence, no meat may be eaten. Those who have reached the **age of 14 are obliged by the law of Abstinence.**

2. The obligation to observe the laws of Fast and Abstinence “substantially”, or as a whole, is a serious obligation.
3. The Fridays of the year, outside of Lent, are designated as days of penance, but each individual may substitute for the traditional abstinence from meat some other practice of voluntary self-denial as penance.
4. The time for fulfilling the Paschal Precept (Easter Duty*) extends from the First Sunday of Lent, February 21, 2021 to The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, May 30, 2021.

*Canon 920, paragraph 1: All the faithful, after they have been initiated into the Most Holy Eucharist, are bound by the obligation of receiving Communion at least once a year.

January 25, 2021

Also note: the individual penance we impose on ourselves during Lent should be continuous, even on the Sundays of Lent which some have “excused” themselves from. Note that even the liturgy of the Church does not include the “Gloria” or the “Alleluia” on the Sundays of Lent.

*In other words, the Sundays of Lent are not a “free day” to eat, drink or participate in what you have sacrificed for the Holy Season.