

Reflections of the Rector



Dear brothers and sisters,

In the past I have written about how sometimes we need to stop, look at how things are going, and make some changes if necessary. This past year we have had to do that a few times. If you have paid attention to the financial corner of our newsletter, you know our parish finances have been hit. Providentially right before the pandemic we encouraged people to consider giving by ACH, and many of you signed up to deduct your offertory directly from your checking account weekly or monthly. But our parish relies heavily on cash donations, and that is where our biggest shortfall is. That is the same reason why our buildings fund is also below where it should be. We are not able to do our monthly second collections towards our buildings upkeep, yet bills keep coming. So we have decided to make a change in the way we take this collection. This year you should have received twelve extra envelopes for this special collection. You may drop them any time in the regular collection basket. If you give online or through ACH, you may give through our website. Moving forward we will remind you of this collection once a month through Lines of Faith, our weekly e-bulletin.

We are now a couple weeks into Lent, and we should also stop, look into our Lenten practices, and make any necessary changes. As you probably remember, there are three things we are encouraged to do during Lent. They are prayer, fasting, and abstinence.

Today we should ask ourselves if we are praying more than we were praying before Ash Wednesday, and if not, let's do something about it. Adding some prayer at the beginning and end of the day shouldn't be too hard. Also, if you are not coming to Mass, but are going to restaurants or other public events, it's time to come back!

Fasting, in a strict sense, is only required for those between 18 and 59 years old on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. But during Lent we could fast from other things that we enjoy, like candy, desserts, steak, bacon, whiskey... Or is it only me that likes all those things? Joking aside, if we are not fasting from anything yet, it's not too late to start.

Abstinence is required for those over 14 years old every Friday of Lent. Fortunately parishes in the city make it easier for us to abstain from eating meat by hosting fish fries. As I mentioned in one of my weekly messages through Lines of Faith, attending parochial fish fries is a great way to support parishes that are also struggling financially, and of course a good way to keep our Lenten abstinence.



I pray that you are all having a blessed Lent. If you are not, just stop, look at what you need to change, and go for it!

In Christ,
Fr. David Esquiliano

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Cathedral Updates

Temporary schedule for the Chapel

Monday-Wednesday, from 4:00pm to 10:00pm or Thursday-Sunday, 24 hrs.

To sign up or manage your hours, go to epiphany.weadorehim.co.... Or Contact Fr. Wind if you have any questions at (712)255-1637 ext. 110 or at jwind@sccathedral.org. All Diocesan protocols will have to be observed.

Signup for Mass

Remember to register before you come to Mass, or let us know afterwards what Mass you attended. You can fill out a short form at sccathedral.org/live or call Laura at 255-1637 ext., 116

Confessions

Confessions are being heard once again in the Church. The priest will be behind the statue of Our Blessed Mother to the South of the Sanctuary in the Cathedral. Go to sccathedral.org/penance... for times.

The Financial Corner

| <u>INCOME</u> | Jan-21 |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Weekly Offerings | \$ 44,564.00 |
| Loose Offerings | \$ 9,446.18 |
| Programming Support | \$ 8,306.33 |
| Other Income | \$ 16,317.63 |
| Total Parish Income | \$ 78,634.14 |
| <u>EXPENSE</u> | |
| Salaries and Wages | \$ 30,116.27 |
| Administrative Expenses | \$ 7,245.53 |
| Ministry Expenses | \$ 305.02 |
| Utility Bills & Repairs | \$ 20,450.19 |
| Assessments | \$ 7,809.00 |
| Other Expenses | \$ 67.11 |
| Total Expenses | \$ 65,993.12 |
| Net Income | \$ 12,641.02 |

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

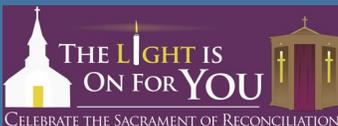
Paschal Candles

Would you like to sponsor one of our 3 paschal candles in memory of a loved one? The candle at Cathedral may be sponsored for \$350, and the candles at St. Joseph and St. Boniface for \$250/ea. The price difference is because of the size. Contact Fr. Esquiliano at desquiliano@sccathedral.org to check availability

OFFICE HOURS:

In April we will be opening the Cathedral office for a few hours. Watch for more details to come in the April Newsletter.

The Light is ON for you



On March 2nd we'll join other parishes in our diocese and our nation in leaving the light on for you. We will hear confessions at all 3 churches from 5 to 7pm.

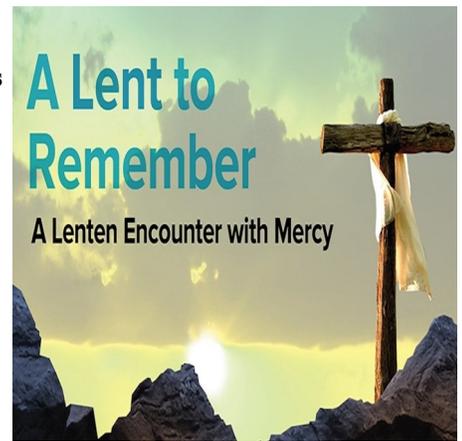
Stations of the Cross

Join us for the Stations of the Cross every Friday of Lent. Stations of the Cross in English are right after the noon Mass, and in Spanish right after the 5:30pm Mass.

Faith and Sacramental Formation



A very popular verse in Holy Scripture that should help us reflect during Lent is the verse from the Gospel of Luke, "**Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.**" (14:27). Praying, fasting, and giving during Lent help us unite ourselves to the suffering of Christ and to His Cross. Through penance for our sins and separating ourselves from earthly things, such as overeating and what we like the most, we slowly in this way bring our hearts closer to the Lord.



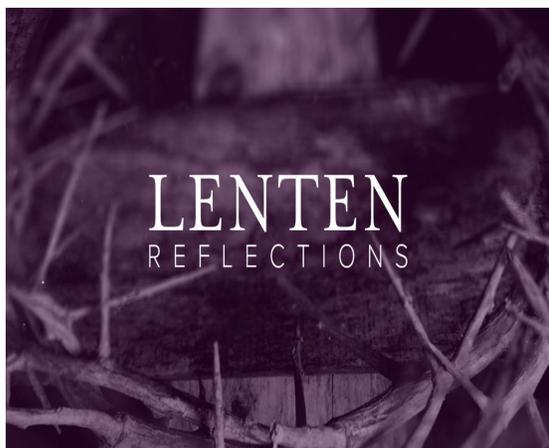
Lent is easy to remember and to always keep focused on the cross. However, we often overlook the second part of this verse of Scripture that focuses on discipleship.

A disciple is a person who follows Jesus and shares his mission, his joy, and his sufferings. As baptized Catholics, we have received the grace to live as disciples, and through this grace, we must seek to deepen our relationship with Jesus and strive to live according to our faith in all aspects of our lives.

All Catholics should seek to be disciples of Jesus. The main intention behind all the activities and programs offered in Religious Education programs such as catechesis for children and adolescents, including the youth group (not active at the moment), but we hope that with the help of God and the guidance of the Holy Spirit will soon be back on track with new projects for young people of all ages. In this group, young people have many opportunities to meet Jesus and respond to his invitation to discipleship through the Liturgy of the Hours, Eucharistic Adoration, Confession, Bible Studies, community service projects and meetings where friends meet. that can help them make better decisions in their lives.

Sacramental formation for adults (RCIA), Baptismal preparation, marriage preparation, as well as all services in the Church such as Lectors, extraordinary ministers of the Holy Eucharist, ushers, altar servers, is to guide the all of our parishioners and all the people of our community to discipleship. A good example would be the preparation time before celebrating any of the sacraments since it offers a beautiful opportunity for individuals to grow more in their faith and get closer to God and also commit themselves as disciples of Jesus, since they open their hearts and souls to the grace that the sacraments give.

Because of this, baptismal preparation includes a class that teaches parents and godparents about the sacrament, but also helps them learn how to pray and invites them to celebrate the sacrament of Communion so that they can further deepen their intimate relationship. with God, in addition to increasing their commitment to Christ, and always praying for the child to be baptized and for the entire family.

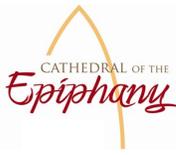


As you and your families participate in any of the Cathedral's programs either as assistants or as volunteers, consider how you could be part of or improve in discipleship of Jesus.

Hopefully this Lent you can take time to reflect in prayer, and that by being in the presence of Eucharistic Adoration you will be honest with yourself about your life and the call to be disciples of Jesus and challenge yourselves to grow closer to Him through your acts of prayer, fasting, and donation.

Santa Fernandez

Director of Faith and Sacramental Formation



Cathedral of the Epiphany

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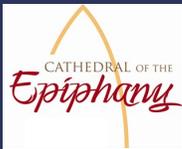
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March 2021

Very Rev. J. David Esquiliano, JCL Rector
Rev. Jeremy Wind, Parochial Vicar
Rev. Mauro Sanchez, Parochial Vicar
Very Rev. Bradley Pelzel, V.G., In-Residence

Website www.sccathedral.org
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Telephone 712-255-1637

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

MONDAY– SUNDAY 24 Hour
Adoration Chapel-Epiphany Center

CONFESSIONS

SUNDAY 8:00a- 8:30a Cathedral
MONDAY 4:30p -5:30p Cathedral
TUESDAY 4:30p -5:30p Cathedral
WEDNESDAY 4:30p-5:30p Cathedral
THURSDAY 4:30p-5:30p Cathedral
FRIDAY 11:30a -12:00p Cathedral
4:30p to 5:30p Cathedral
SATURDAY 3:00p to 4:00p St. Boniface
5:00p to 6:00p Cathedral

MASS SCHEDULE

MON.-FRI. 12:00 pm Cathedral English
5:30 pm Cathedral Spanish
SATURDAY: 4:00 pm St. Boniface English
6:00 pm Cathedral Spanish
SUNDAY: 8:30 am Cathedral Latin
8:30 am St. Joseph English
10:00 am Cathedral English
10:30 am St. Boniface Spanish
12:00 pm Cathedral Spanish
12:30 pm St. Joseph Vietnamese
1:30 pm Cathedral Spanish

MASSES HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

Anticipated / Vigil

5:30 p.m. St. Boniface (English)
5:30 p.m. Cathedral (Spanish)

On the Day of the Solemnity

7:00 a.m. St. Joseph (English)
12:00 p.m. Cathedral (English)
5:30 p.m. Cathedral (Spanish)

MASS CIVIL HOLIDAYS

9:00am Cathedral (Bilingual)