



# LIGHTING THE WAY

A NEWSLETTER FOR FRIENDS OF THE CATHOLIC  
COMMUNITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI & ST. LADISLAS



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## Our Parish Mission Statement

**Our mission is to preserve in ever-changing ways a Catholic presence on the South Side of Columbus that remains faithful to our rich heritage; to reach out especially to those in our neighborhoods in ways that provide for basic human needs and that bear witness to the Gospel; and to provide a spiritual home that is beautiful and welcoming to all.**

## Message from Fr. Vince



Lent,  
a  
plane

We are now in the season of and often times I think of it as flight; usually we get on the and the flight attendant is there telling us the regulations and rules, but for many of us we ignore the flight attendant because we believe the rules don't apply to us.

I honestly think of the Scriptures from Ash Wednesday and this Sunday's Gospel, the First Sunday of Lent, as a kind of airplane safety announcement before the plane takes off. Every time we begin our flight, as a friendly warning, we get the admonition: Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return. We hear the words of the prophet; he announced that the Lord: Return to me with your whole heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning. Rend your hearts, not your garments and return to The Lord, your God. We hear Jesus being tempted in the desert. Temptations that come with hunger, with freedom and power. We receive a lecture from Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew: Pray, give alms, fast; do let your left hand know what your right is doing...and we've heard all this before, we've all been here before, we've all experienced this before, so like this spiritual Deja vu, we take it all in.....

What is Lent? Well most of the time I believe it's an unheeded season...it's a neglected season...and usually our approach goes something

like this: "What are you giving up for Lent"? And all the while in our mind, we are secretly thinking: "How can I get out of that"? And what are the laws that govern those practices....what about fasting? Does it include Sundays? Am I old enough? Am I too old? Is snake considered meat? That's a question I got last year...and really what happens by the end of it all? Well, sometimes I'm afraid not much....was it always like this with Lent?

In the Early Church, Lent was the season for catechumenates. It was for those people who were preparing to receive the Sacraments for the very first time. It was an ADULT season; a season for the mature or the maturing. It was a season of discovery and wonder that led the catechumenate from the Egypt of sin, to the bright promise of a new and heavenly Jerusalem. It was a season of conversion, and it still is for those men and women who are bouncing toward the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults and the celebration of the Sacraments on Holy Saturday.

So I ask, what if we can join the journey of our lives and attitudes toward Lent with theirs. What would it be like if we received the Creed like it was the first time we ever said it? What if we all received the Lord's Prayer with new eyes and a new voice? What if we all went through the scrutiny's unafraid to look at ourselves? What if we all could approach this altar as the very throne of God?

So I ask, where is Lent leading us? Where do we want to be on the other side? What destination are we aiming for in this annual flight? What if? What if we can give alms and feel the pinch a little, rather than scraping the bottom of our baggage to toss coins into the basket? What if we gave the alms of the time, REAL TIME, to help somebody in need, or listen to their troubles? Then we might surprisingly gain alms for ourselves, the alms of livelihood and service; the alms of true compassion.

What if we can pray without constantly worrying about all the other things we should be doing? What if we can adore without watches? What if we give God the time He truly deserves? What if the inner rooms of our heart could be open and the doors of our mouths close? What if we talk more to our neighbors about the joy of prayer and less about the sorrow of our lives or better yet- the sorrow we think is experienced in someone else's life?

If we did those things, we might find ourselves gaining that softness of heart of which Jesus speaks. Then we might find ourselves able to reveal our own struggles and pains honestly. Then we might learn to love with true, abiding love. What if we could fast without showiness? Deny ourselves a little? Purify ourselves a little? Learn to control our desires, just a little? What if we fasted from something meaningful? And by our fasting create new habits and eliminate those things that are not needed in our lives?

If we could accomplish all of that, we might find the purity of God to discover what Lent truly is: a season of opportunity, a season of promise; really a season of pure joy---joy for the grace that God has given us to really look at ourselves.

Lent is truly a time to face our temptations and conquer them. A chance to move towards the Resurrection with our eyes open and our hearts burning with love- love for Christ and love for one another. We need to ask ourselves: do we expect to rise on Easter as different people or do we expect to go back to our mundane, ordinary, temptable, predictable lives?

Well, it's time to go. The wheels have come down. Ladies and gentlemen, the pastor has eliminated the "Fasten Seat Belt" sign indicating our initial approach into Lent. Please ensure your seat backs and kneelers are in their upright and lock positions...flight attendants, prepare for landing...

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## Dates to Note

Refer to the Weekly Bulletin for details and additional events



- Mar. 2<sup>nd</sup>** –S.V.D.P. Mtng @ StL Bridges Out Of Poverty @ CC
- Mar. 4<sup>th</sup>** –Maintenance Committee Mtng
- Mar. 6<sup>th</sup>** –Ash Wednesday
- Mar. 8<sup>th</sup>** – Stations in Spanish at St. L. & Soup Supper & Stations in English at St. L.
- Mar. 10<sup>th</sup>** – Sr. Stars Mtng
- Mar. 11<sup>th</sup>** – Daylight Savings Time Begins
- Mar. 12<sup>th</sup>** –Stewardship Comm. Mtng

**Mar. 15<sup>th</sup>** – Soup Supper & Stations at C.C. & Spanish Stations at St. L.

**Mar. 17<sup>th</sup>** – St. Patrick's Day, Hungarian Cultural Assoc. Dinner

**Mar. 20<sup>th</sup>** --1st Day of spring

**Mar. 21<sup>st</sup>** – Knights of Columbus Mtng

**Mar. 22<sup>nd</sup>** – Soup Supper & Stations St. L. & Spanish Stations St. L.

**Mar. 26<sup>th</sup>** – Parish Council Mtng.

**Mar. 31<sup>st</sup>** – Reconciliation after Mass St. L.

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## Various Tid-Bits

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**Spanish Mass** --- On the second Sunday of every month, the 11:00 a.m. Mass St. Ladislav is celebrated in Spanish. All are welcome.



at

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## Interested in Learning more About the Catholic Faith, Returning to the Church, or Joining the Faith?

We can help! Give us a call or stop by the office. We are happy to answer any questions you may have. Our number is 614-443-2828. Our office is in the St. Ladislav school building.



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## Grant Application Status

**Catholic Foundation** --- As reported earlier, the foundation has awarded grant requests to both parishes. **Corpus Christi** has received a \$5,000 grant toward our religious education and youth group programs; the **SVDP Food Pantry** has received a \$5,500 grant; and most recently, **St. Lad's** has received \$15,000 for church building repairs and upgrades that will cost a total of \$29,657. Thanks again to the Foundation.

The St. L. \$29,657 projects include, repair of the church front doors, painting the entire church exterior trim and repair, weatherization and vandal protection of five sacristy windows and six stained-glass, side-chapel windows. All three projects have been continually delayed in recent years to accomplish less expensive or more critical needs. We are currently reviewing ideas of how to gather the funds to do 100% of the project this year.

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**Marian Foundation**---We recently filed a grant application for both parishes in support of our religious formation and youth group programs. A second application was also filed on behalf of the SVDP Food Pantry. We should be hearing the results sometime in April. The Marian Foundation has been a consistent supporter of our parishes for a number of years.

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## **Increased Offertory PROGRAM PROGRESS**

Here is the status of the program through 2/3/19:

### **CORPUS CHRISTI**---

Number of registered households ---- 142  
Number of households responding with commitment cards --- 36 (25% of registered households)

Amount of commitment card donation increase, exceeding 2017 donations; from the 36 respondents --- **\$30,684** per year; if all committed pledges are maintained throughout 2019.

### **ST. LADISLAS**---

Number of registered households ---- 212  
Number of households responding with commitment cards --- 49 (23% of registered households)

Amount of commitment card donation increase, exceeding 2017 donations; from the 49 respondents ---- **\$34,313 per year**, if all committed pledges are maintained throughout 2019.

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## **PRAYER TO THE VIRGIN**

(Never known to fail)

(As published in the Catholic Times)

Oh, most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of heaven blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in necessity. Oh star of the sea, help me and show me herein you are my Heaven and Earth. I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to secure me in this necessity. There are none who can withstand your powers. O, show me herein you are my Mother. Oh, Mary conceived without sin, pray for us, who have recourse to the. (Repeat three times)

Oh, Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hand. (Repeat three times) Holy Spirit, you who solve all problems, light all roads that I can obtain my goals.

You gave me the divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me, and in all instances in my life, you

are with me. I want, in this short prayer, to thank you for all things as you confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you in eternal glory. Thank you for your mercy toward me and mine.

The person must say this prayer three consecutive days, after three day, the request will be granted. This prayer must be published after the favor has been granted.

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## **ON-LINE GIVING**

The On-Line Giving application provides you a convenient option that you can access at any time. Your gift will be transferred from your credit card or bank account directly to your parish. It is easy to use, safe and secure and you can access it on the parish web site using the internet. To sign-up:

1. Visit the parish website at: [parishccslcolumbus@gmail.com](mailto:parishccslcolumbus@gmail.com)
  2. Scroll down to the On-Line Giving link—click on the link.
  3. Complete the On-Line registration Form
  4. Create your unique User Name & Password
  5. Click on “create a new account”
  6. Complete the Profile Information, Credentials & Payment Method
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## **Kroger Community Rewards Program**

When choosing where to shop for your groceries and various other items; remember to keep Kroger in mind. Our parishes can benefit from your shopping there if you sign-up for the rewards program as members of our parishes. They send us a check quarterly for a percentage of all purchases made by our parishioners who are rewards members. To sign-up their web site is: [www.krogercommunityrewards](http://www.krogercommunityrewards)

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## **Lent**

(Excerpts from “Lent in the Catholic Church”)

“Lenten” is a Middle English word, meaning springtime – the time of lengthening days. Lent is a Catholic Liturgical Season consisting of forty days of fasting, prayer and penitence beginning on Ash Wednesday (March 6<sup>th</sup>) and concluding at



sundown on Holy Thursday (April 18<sup>th</sup>). If you check your calendar, you'll actually count forty-four days, including Ash Wednesday and Holy Thursday.

In the very early years of Christianity, the preparation time of fasting and prayer was only three days and then extended to a week. There is evidence that in Rome the period lasted three weeks. By the fourth century, when Christianity was legalized, Lent had "developed" into its' current length of forty days. In early times it was designated as a time of intense spiritual and liturgical preparation for catechumens, before their Easter Baptism. The expansion to forty days was a reflection of the length of the fast and temptation of Jesus in the desert (Luke 4: 1-13).

In our very early years, many of us first learned about the concept of "sacrifice" when we learned about Lent. Sacrifice was explained to be a personal decision to not indulge in a treat, food, entertainment, habit etc., for the sake of demonstrating our love of God. We were encouraged to do something positive that we normally avoided --- like eating all our vegetables.

Another form of sacrifice was the sacrifice of time. We were to pray more often or stop by Church for a visit, or attend Mass more often than just Sunday. We attended the Stations of the Cross, Benediction and exposition and prayed the Rosary. Alms giving or aid to the needy was a long standing practice.

The practice of distributing ashes dates back to the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> centuries. Penitents looking for forgiveness and reentry to the community would dress in sackcloth and sprinkle ashes to demonstrate their repentance, a practice that predates Christianity. Receiving ashes on your forehead on Ash Wednesday is a long standing tradition and is an outward sign of our belief system and willingness to issue a public statement of it --- it is a form of Evangelization.

**AN ILLUSTRATED GUIDE TO LENTEN FASTING & ABSTINENCE**  
PREPARED BY ANTHONY TRUZZI OF THE PASTORAL CENTER

**WHEN FASTING AND ABSTINENCE**  
ASH WEDNESDAY  
GOOD FRIDAY  
FRIDAYS IN LENT

**WHO**

**CATHOLICS 14+**  
ARE OBLIGED TO PRACTICE ABSTINENCE

**CATHOLICS 18-59**  
ARE OBLIGED TO FAST

**THOSE OUTSIDE THE AGE LIMITS**  
and those whose state in life (e.g. pregnant women, manual laborers, those who are ill) may be excused from the requirements of fasting and abstinence, but are encouraged to take up some other form of penitence or acts of charity or piety.



Join us in a parish program designed to increase the health of your body, mind, and spirit. This will be an imaginary journey where we will travel from Columbus, Ohio to Jerusalem, Israel. Our trek will begin on Ash Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup> and end Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>. This program is open to all ages, including children. Individuals will keep track of their daily steps and turn in their totals at the end of each week.

All participants' steps will then be totaled and the groups' progress will be displayed in the social area at Corpus Christi.

A pedometer will be provided for anyone who needs a way of tracking steps. There are other ways to join in on the journey other than walking. Praying, attending Stations of the Cross, and volunteering are all alternate ways to add "steps" to our voyage. Any other form of exercise will also be acceptable, as a conversion chart will be provided.

Along this imaginary journey you will have an opportunity to participate in several optional cultural and spiritual gatherings. Possibilities include a Sunday brunch, a weekly devotion, or chats about the countries we have traveled through.

Everyone who participates will receive a "Heart and Sole Walk to Jerusalem" t-shirt. Sign-up sheets will be in the back of church. Make sure to sign up by Thursday, February 28<sup>th</sup> to ensure you receive at-shirt and pedometer if needed. Our kick off meeting will be Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> after Corpus Christi Mass. See next week's bulletin for information.

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For questions or comments contact:

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