Are you ready to change lives with what you give up this Lent? Let our Parish Lenten Blessing Box be your guide on this 40 day Lenten journey.

The Lenten Blessing Box is our Parish Lenten Almsgiving program. The program invites you to give so others may have hope and a better future. It supports scholarships and formation for 32 students in our sister community, San Rafael Cedros, El Salvador.

Join us this Lent in the practices of praying, fasting and almsgiving as you reflect on the daily scripture readings and the lives of those in a third world country. Select a special container or envelope at home to collect your change during Lent. At the end of Lent, write a check to Our Lady of Presentation and place it in an envelope marked Blessing Box and place it in the collection basket at mass.

| Feb 26  | Ash Wednesday | Read and reflect on Matthew 6:1
As we received ashes on our forehead today we hear “turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel”. What words do the Gospels hold for us to help us to better love our neighbors? What do we need to let go of so others may live better? Today write your Lenten goals on your Blessing Box.

| Feb 27  | Thursday after Ash Wednesday | Read and reflect on Luke 9:22-23
The daily interactions we have in our homes and in our workplaces provides ample opportunity to practice denying ourselves, taking up our cross and following Christ. Whether we’re on the giving or receiving end of meals served, tasks completed, or favors requested, we find a never-ending supply of chances to follow Jesus’ commandment to love.
Learn about our brothers and sisters in El Salvador by visiting www.cis-elsalvador.org.

| Feb 28  | Friday after Ash Wednesday  | Read and reflect on Isaiah 58:6-7
Fasting means not get something. Often times, it is something that we like or want. God does not ask us to simply give up something we like or want – or even need. He asks us to do so for a reason – to give, what we give-up, to someone else.

   Fast in solidarity with the more than 780 thousand in El Salvador and 840 million people worldwide who live in hunger.

   Give 50¢ to your Blessing Box for each time you eat today.

| Feb 29  | Saturday after Ash Wednesday | Read and reflect on Luke 5:30
As a rule, we don’t choose to eat with strangers nor dine with enemies. Sharing a meal binds us together. If a relationship needs mending a peace meal may be just the thing. Our Eucharistic table is where God seeks to make amends with us!

   Pray for the people of El Salvador and around the world, who struggle to put food on the table.

   Give 25¢ to your Blessing Box in thanksgiving for the people with whom you share meals.