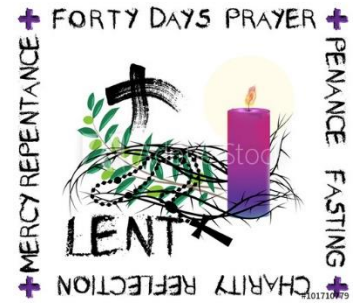


FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
SUNDAY FEBRUARY 21, 2021



Dear Friends in Christ,

We are in the holy season - Lent, again! We have begun Lent with our outward sign - receiving ashes on our heads. This outward sign has no meaning at all if our heart, mind and soul do not truly want to listen and follow the invitation from our Lord: repent and believe in the Gospel. Let the Lord transform us.

Remember that there are many forces out there trying to stop us from "listening and following" the Lord. All these forces are under one CEO: Satan. Particularly during this holy season when we try harder to come closer to God, these forces will also work harder.

When we try to sacrifice more, to pray fervently, to fight courageously against the temptations, these forces will scratch their heads! Be ready for these! Do not be afraid of these forces! We have our Mighty God with us; Jesus Christ our Lord is with us in the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. This is the source of our strength and courage in this spiritual battle against the CEO of Hell.



If you truly realize that the Holy Eucharist is the source of your strength and courage (by receiving the Eucharist); if you truly acknowledge that the help of God comes from the Eucharist; and if you do have time (or you might have to make time) and are able to come to Mass I just wonder why more people do not want to come to daily Mass! (Here at this Church or wherever you go.)



The Stations of the Cross will take place every Friday evening during Lent at 8:00 p.m. with our Hispanic community. This is one of many practices that we can undertake during Lent and make a spiritual pilgrimage of prayer, through meditating upon the chief scenes of Christ's sufferings and death. For the Stations of the Cross in English go to www.EWTN.com

Going to daily Mass is just a small step in listening and following the Lord. Yet, this is the first and important step of listening and following Our Lord. Many are converted to Catholicism by simply going to daily Mass. Many have been transformed and have let God transform them by going to daily Mass and receiving the Holy Eucharist.



Many are just thrilled (with true faith) to be in the Real Presence of the Lord in the Eucharist and this helps them deal with difficulties in life, to confront the Hell Company's forces, to trust in God in time of trouble, to say yes to the Lord with the cross on their shoulder, to keep their faith grounded firm on the "Rock Peter" with the Builder, our Lord Jesus Christ, and ...

Temptation will come, are you ready? The forces of Hell are very strong and dangerous. Are you equipped with the powerful weapons that God provides: the Holy Eucharist, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, the Holy Bible, the Rosary, the Lord's Prayer, Holy Water, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, the help from the Saints and many more, and with your powerful free-will wanting to please God first?

May this Lenten season prepare us to join our Lord Jesus Christ joyfully at the Easter Celebration.

Peace, Fr. Tien

STEWARDSHIP
Budgeted Weekly Needs \$4,825

<u>Weekly Collection</u>		
Cash/Envelopes	\$4,724	
Online Giving	\$ 490	
Total	\$5,214	

Thank you to all who faithfully contribute and are so generous to our Parish.



The First Week of Lent

(taken from "Lent and Easter with the Church Fathers")

Jerome, Letters (to Eustachius), 1, 22, 37

There is a risk that fasting can turn into a sort of tightening noose that has nothing to do with Lent, which instead requires us to be free and willing. What sense does it make to fast on required days but eat immoderately on the days before and after? And for those who almost never eat meat for reasons of personal choice, what sacrifice would it be to abstain from it on Fridays? Fasting and abstinence should be rooted in meditation on the Word of God and in the heart.

If you have fasted for two days, do not for this reason think yourself better than those who have not. You fast and perhaps become angry; another eats, but perhaps exercises kindness. You vent the frustration of your spirit and the hunger in your stomach in altercations; he, instead, eats in moderation and gives thanks to God. For this reason Isaiah cries out each day, "Is this the manner of fasting I wish....?" (Is 58:5). Indeed, "you carry out your own pursuits, / and drive all your laborers. / Yes, your fast ends in quarreling and fighting, / striking with wicked claw. / ... Do you call this a fast, / a day acceptable to the LORD?" (Is 58:3-5). What kind of fasting do you expect to be if it leaves anger unchecked not just for one whole night but for an entire month or longer? When you reflect on yourself, do not base your glory on the failings of others, but on the true value of your actions.



Pray for those who seek healing: Ray Behr, Dean Birchard, Francis Bourgeois, Alexander Canelas, Robert Cerritelli, Michael Ciochetti, Tom Coffey, Mary Cude, Craig Currier, Dotti Currier, Heath Currier, Patti Dameron, Dan DeBetta, Kathy DeBetta,

Lillianne Duong Davis, Terry Duffy, Lakelynn Ellis, Joseph Fernandez, Brendan Fox, Carol Fox, Becky Fricks, Mickey Goodwin, Curt Halter, Lori Bourgeois Harvey, Brandon Hatch, Peggy Hewlett, Joyce Hillard, Emilee Janson, Edline Jiglaui, Florencio Jimenez, Dwayne Edward Johnson, Larry Joseph, Jr., Lauren Kennedy, Bob and Ann Legere, Brandon Lowery, Holly Marsten, Lenore Maynard, Danny Mercer, Millard Michaels, Dakota Miller, Bill & Dee Moffitt, Germaine Moffitt, Dolores Molter, Laura Moore, Wanda Orf, Nonie Ortiz, Berry Rankin, Freeman Robinson, Josette Roisin, Derrick Scaletta, Bill Shaw, Bena Lee Shields, Cora Shope, Marlene Taber, John Tastinger, Elijah Thomas, Ronald Thomas, Pat Thompson, Irene Tisdale, Adan Vanbourgandien, Travis Verge, Teresa Williams, Thomas Wimpey, Marlene Woods, Charlene Youdell, Alice Yuzzi, Donna Zacarias.

Elderly & shut-in: Barbara Elliot, Candida Hernandez, Peggy Gibson

Mass Schedule and Intentions

Saturday, February 20

4:00 P.M. † Jim Singer by Art Todesco
† Clyde, Kerry & Michael Blue by Helen Blue

Sunday, February 21

First Sunday of Lent

9:00 A.M. Kathleen Fleshman by Mary Murphy
11:30 A.M. † Holy Souls in Purgatory by Basilia

Monday, February 22

The Chair of Saint Peter the Apostle

9:00 A.M. † Holy Souls in Purgatory

Tuesday, February 23

Saint Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr

9:00 A.M. † Ed Tisdale by Winnie Uebelher

Wednesday, February 24

5:30 P.M. † Holy Souls in Purgatory

Thursday, February 25

9:00 A.M. † Holy Souls in Purgatory

Friday, February 26

9:00 A.M. † Joan Agatha Coffey by Carol Todesco

Saturday, February 27

4:00 P.M. † Holy Souls in Purgatory

Sunday, February 28

Second Sunday of Lent

9:00 A.M. † Holy Souls in Purgatory
11:30 A.M. Parish Peoples Mass En Español

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 3:00 p.m.
Wednesday 6:15 p.m.

The Rosary

The Rosary is recited everyday
one-half hour before Mass.

Parishioners & all armed forces: Edmund Cameron, Matthew Cameron, Wallace Cameron, William Crunkleton, Patrick Debo, Michael Douglas, Jeremiah Elam, Jacob Ewing, Joseph Hagge, Ben Hunter, Carol Hysell, Thomas Hysell, Raymond Hysell, Amy Hysell, Stephen Karcher, Kyle McCormick, Chris Richards, Lauren Richards, Michael Ricke, Brandon Sanchez, Elizabeth Scoone. **Thank you for your service.**

