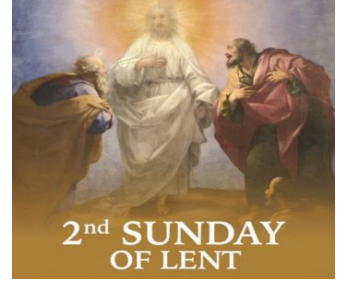


SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT  
FEBRUARY 25, 2024



Dear Friends in Christ,

We are in the second Sunday of Lent already. How is your Lenten discipline? What is your specific discipline for this Lent? Do you have difficulties in keeping and practicing the spirit of Lent: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving? Go into the desert with Jesus by spending five minutes a day (not half an hour nor fifteen minutes; just five minutes a day!) in quiet prayer or meditation. Join Jesus in the desert.

Speaking of prayer - people pray to God at night before they go to bed, but they often forget to pray to God in the morning when they wake up! The new day has been given to them, but they do not realize who gave it to them or why they have another new day. They think that it just happens coincidentally and do not think about it!

People pray to God before their meals; they bow their heads and hold others' hand (actually we, Catholics, have been "evangelized" too much by the Protestants!) but they forget to bless themselves with the sign of the Holy Cross which is the sign of victory, glory, and hope. Why are we afraid of making the sign of the Holy Cross on ourselves? Or why do we feel ashamed to make the sign of the Cross on us publicly when we are supposed to proclaim the death and resurrection and love of our Lord Jesus Christ?

Holy Mass is the highest form of prayer of the Church to the Almighty God, and this prayer is so beautiful, important and powerful. So why don't we use this time of Lent to practice this "highest" form of prayer by attending daily Mass more often?

Yes, many were snowed in earlier this month, but how about this week or next?

Fasting is not just for Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, but also for every day. We could wait 10 minutes more before our usual time for meals. Couldn't we? Or we can abstain from food/drink that we do like. Instead of spending three hours before TV, we can spend just one hour, and then with the other two hours we could use to read spiritual books, say the Rosary, do the Novena, meditate on the Stations of the Cross, read the Bible, or come to the Church to be with Jesus in the Tabernacle. These I call "spiritual fasting" and we can do it every day, not only during Lent.

Almsgiving is a sacrifice, and not limited in the terms of money that we give to charity or to the needy. It also includes our time, our talents, our prayer that we offer to the Church, like our Church here.

Friends, when all these things are done in a spirit of love and joy, you will benefit from it and also set a good example for others. We can also offer these acts of love as prayer for our loved ones who are living or deceased, or for our "enemies" (we do have enemies) or those who have left the Church or are not active in their faith life or do not practice at all. Absolutely, our Church will also benefit from your prayers, fasting, and almsgiving.

May our practices of Lenten disciplines bring us closer to God and prepare us for a "giant" joyful event of our faith: the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

"I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living." (The responsorial Psalm)

Pax, Fr. Tien



Please come to the Parish Office if you lost a set of keys for a Chevy.



The Stations of the Cross will take place every Friday evening during Lent. Join us this Friday at 7:00 p.m. for English and 8:00 p.m. for Spanish as we meditate on Christ's final walk through the streets of Jerusalem carrying the cross.

OCIA-Adult Education on Monday night February 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. is **Last Things. Death-Heaven-Purgatory-Hell.** Does God send souls to Hell? What is the difference of the 'Particular Judgement' and 'Final Judgement' we will face after dying? Is the concept purgatory mentioned anywhere in the Bible? Come join your fellow parishioners in the spirit of fellowship. Snacks provided.



Deacon David and the Education team



Envelope are available at the entrances of the church for those wishing to donate towards our Easter flowers.

Save the date!!! Our Women's Guild will be having a Crock Pot Party on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Sign up sheets will be available next weekend on the 24<sup>th</sup> and the 25<sup>th</sup>.



If you would like a copy of your donations for 2023, please contact our Parish Office.

There is a television schedule of The Fall Highlights from EWTN for the months of March thru May 2024. You can pick up a copy in the display rack at the entrance of the Church.



**Pray for healing:** Shirley Allegretti, Donna Barbaro, Robert Barnable, Ray Behr, Chad Cook, William Crunkleton, Susan Darby, Lillianne Duong Davis, Tony Frede, Carter Hellerer, Dariel Hellerer, Wayne Hirsch, Bill Holten, Guyla Ivers, Sandra Kanter, Georgette Lee, Dee and Germaine Moffitt, Delphine Moss, Monica Moya, Benjamin Nemeth, John Ontiveros, Freeman Robinson, Josette Roisin, Bill Shaw, Roxanne Lumia Smith, Wanda Stamey, Irene Tisdale, Alan Tucker, Ruby Christina Tucker, Charlene Youdell

**Please pray for our parishioners and all men and women in the armed forces:**

Stephen Fox, Lauren Richards, Christopher Richards, Jesus Rodriguez, Elizabeth Scoon



## Mass Schedule and Intentions

### Saturday, February 24

4:00 P.M. Dominik, Victoria, Jacob and Kacper by their parents  
John and Joyce Mielnik by Stan Michalik  
Juan Carlos Mendoza

### Sunday, February 25

#### Second Sunday of Lent

9:00 A.M. †John Turner by Nikki Turner,  
†Tom Malie, †Fr. Felix Pasquin,  
†Holy Souls in Purgatory  
11:30 A.M. †Holy Souls in Purgatory, †Xochitl Mendoza  
†Alcasia Lopez Valencia, †Rosenda Valencia  
Enriqueta Gomez Ramirez

### Monday, February 26

9:00 A.M. †Sergio Montero by Yolanda Montero  
†Holy Souls in Purgatory  
John and Joyce Mielnik by Stan Michalik

### Tuesday, February 27

Saint Gregory of Narek,  
Abbot and Doctor of the Church  
NO MASS

### Wednesday, February 28

5:30 P.M. †Francisco Ortiz, †Raquel Merlin  
Machelle Hughes by Dorothy Halpin

### Thursday, February 29

9:00 A.M. Ortiz-Ruiz Family, Katherine Parks  
†Holy Souls in Purgatory

### Friday, March 1

#### First Friday World Day of Prayer

9:00 A.M. Kristin, Josette, Wanda and Robert  
John and Joyce Mielnik by Stan Michalik

### Saturday, March

#### First Saturday

8:45 A.M. Benediction  
9:00 A.M. Fr. Tien's intentions  
4:00 P.M. †Andy Suligoy by Pat Tuscany,  
†Bill Moffitt & †Alice Yuzzy by Dee Moffitt

### Sunday, March 3

#### Third Sunday of Lent

9:00 A.M. †Caleb Watson by Bill and Dee Moffitt  
†John Turner by Nikki Turner  
†Justina Gonzalez Cortes  
†Calletana Cortes Lopez  
11:30 A.M. †Manuel Ramos, †David Ruiz Ordaz,  
by Felipe Diaz  
†Alcasia Lopez Valencia, †Rosenda Valencia

Rosary is prayed ½ hour before every Mass.

Adoration every Friday after our 9:00 a.m. Mass with the  
Chaplet of Divine Mercy at 11:30 a.m.  
and benediction till noon.

Reconciliation ½ hour before Vigil Mass; Wednesday at 6:15 p.m.