

FEBRUARY 28, 2021

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH



MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday Mass: 10:30 a.m.

Text to Give: (833) 938-2034

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 4:00 p.m. or by appointment.

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Fr. Rob Adams

Deacon: Dcn. Joe Jacobs

Director of Religious Education:

Sr. Amy Westbrook, 614-282-2103

Administrative Assistant: Becky Griffith

Custodian: Lisa Scalf

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Pikeville, Kentucky 41501
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App: St Francis Pikeville



2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them.

- Mk 9:7-8



From the Pastor's Desk....

Sunday Offertory

2-21-202.....\$2,942
 Weekly Budget.....\$2,700
Surplus/Deficit.....\$242

YTD Offertory.....\$96,073
 YTD Budget.....\$91,800
Surplus/Deficit.....\$4,273

2-21-2021 Building Fund\$360

BUILDING FUND UPDATE: We currently owe **\$81,745** on the new church building. Thank you for your continued support of the Church Building Fund.



Genesis 22:1-2, 9a 10-13, 15-18
Romans 8:31b-34
Mark 9:2-10

Abraham offers the ultimate sacrifice of thanksgiving, the gift of his very son. This sacrifice prefigures the sacrifice of Jesus who died for us all. In his transfiguration, Jesus discloses a suffering messiahship.

Readings may be found in the Saint Augustine Hymnal Number 937

Happy Sunday everyone!

I have some good news to share. St. Francis's app is now available on Google Play and the Apple App Store as "St Francis Pikeville". Please download the app to receive the most up to date communication from us!

Today is the Second Sunday in Lent. Next week, we begin the three scrutinies for those who will be baptized at Easter. Historically, these were literal scrutinies—examinations of a person's lifestyle and morals. Nowadays, we do all that in private! However, the Church has kept these old scrutiny rituals as a way of spiritually rejecting sin and moving closer to the Gospel.

Just a reminder that we have Youth Group on Sunday evenings from 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm in the school cafeteria. On Tuesday evenings, there is Adoration from 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm. If you'd like to go to confession during Lent – please swing by and grab me! Finally, on Friday evenings, we have the Stations of the Cross at 5:30 pm followed by in-person RCIA at 6:00 pm.

Fr. Rob

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church is a Eucharistic family of Catholic Christians. Nourished by the sacraments and guided by the Holy Spirit, we proclaim Jesus Christ and the Good News of salvation. Following the spirit of the Gospel, St. Francis parish provides continuous religious education and spiritual growth for all parishioners, varied opportunities for social enrichment, and support for the needs of families in Pike County, our nation and the world.

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Saturday, February 27	5:00 pm Vigil Mass	For the People
Sunday, February 28	10:30 am Mass	+Drew & Lexi Dreggors
Monday, March 1	No Mass	
Tuesday, March 2	Noon Mass	+Angie Morrison
Wednesday, March 3	Noon Mass	+Anne Sykes Hinkebein
Thursday, March 4	Noon Mass	+Evelyn Dawahare
Friday, March 5	Noon Mass	CES Donor
Saturday, March 6	5:00 pm Vigil Mass	+Charles L. Schmidt
Sunday, March 7	10:30 am Mass	For the People

Parish Calendar & Announcements



**GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE
DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE**

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

A pregnant woman was walking in the store and met an old friend. Her friend exclaimed, "You are absolutely beaming!" The new life God placed in her womb radiated throughout her body. It was brightly visible on her face and in her eyes. Transformation and change usually happen from the inside out. It is very rare that simply imposing structure from the outside does any good. Yes, it is true that routines and habits can change when things are done differently. But, for this change to last there has to be an interior renewal and metamorphosis as well. Simply regulating behavior and bringing someone into conformity with accepted protocols doesn't mean their heart and soul come with them.

Peter was a homeless man who lived in a very remote and rudimentary tent community. He was happy to make his daily trip to McDonald's and always welcomed a gift card or two so that he could buy some coffee and something to eat. A generous advocate worked to secure him an apartment in hopes of moving Peter out of his makeshift housing and into something safer. Peter finally got the grand tour of his new "digs," received his own key, remarked how wonderful the place was, closed the door behind him when they left and never returned. He preferred his tent. No matter how much things changed on the outside, Peter was happy where he was. A poignant lesson was learned that day.

How is your Lent going? By now you ought to have a sense of whether you're really "into it" this year and something transformational is happening. For many, it's only the stuff on the outside that changes for a few weeks and then they return to business as usual. For others, there are some real inner changes happening that are deepening their relationships with God, others, self, and creation. If we are serious about moving to a new place and radiating with the presence of new life and joy, then we have to clear the way to listen for God's call. Then, there is God's request to change things up a bit and order our lives differently. After realizing we have been called and given a mission, we have to trust that this is where we need to be. And then, after all of this hard work we are asked to act. The fruit that is revealed will indicate whether our journey is authentic. The brilliance of conversion will begin to shine on our faces as we contemplate the One to whom we are asked to listen. ©LPi

ADORATION/CONFESSION will be each Tuesday, 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm during Lent.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be each Friday, 5:30 pm - 6:00 pm during Lent.

RCIA will be each Friday, 6:00 pm - 6:45 pm during Lent.

BOXES OF LOVE: Lisa delivered 11 boxes of food to First Christian Church for their monthly Community Dinner. Thank you for your continued support!

FISH ON FRIDAY

Question:
Why do Catholics eat fish on Friday?

Answer:
For centuries, meatless Fridays were the norm for Catholics throughout the world. Friday was chosen because that was the day on which Jesus died, and Christians wanted to find a way to honor that day with special prayers and acts of penance and self-denial. The practice of abstaining from meat on Fridays — under pain of sin — grew out of that desire, and it became an official part of Church teaching until the time of the Second Vatican Council.

In the 1960s, there was a shift in the Church's thinking, in large part because there was a recognition that differences in cultures and economic realities meant that eating or not eating meat had different meanings for different peoples. For example, in cultures that were largely dependent on seafood or a vegetarian diet, abstaining from meat was no sacrifice at all. While in other places, eating fish and other kinds of seafood was actually something rare and special and not a sacrifice. This was all part of a basic reflection on "why we do what we do" among the Church's pastors.

Today, Catholics throughout the world are still instructed to abstain from meat on the Fridays of Lent. The bishops of some countries, such as in England and Wales, ask Catholics to abstain from meat every Friday, continuing the older tradition. The Bishops of the United States have taken a slightly different approach, encouraging Catholics to honor Friday as a special day by abstaining from meat every Friday or by taking on some other work of penance or charity for the sake of others.

Regardless of what we choose to do, the real value in all of this is to see a reflection of Good Friday in each Friday, to remember the self-giving love of Jesus, and to honor that love through some sort of sacrifice or act of mercy. ©LPi

PRAYER REQUEST



Jim Goss

Ron Saros

Jonthan and Michelle Meece, pregnancy. Pat and Ron Saros, nephew

Dave Such, Mollie Dawahare Such's father in law

Andy Vanzant, Lisa Scalf's Family

Cindy and Christy Hedinger

Tedric Evangelista, Gloria Newsom's cousin, cancer

Rita Scheuer

Kenny Blackburn

Alpha Carroll, Signature Health Care

Dr. Harry Altman

Carol Rashella

Margarita Gomez

Fran Sykes

Peggy Brown, Jennifer Brown Day's grandmother

Lenten Disciplines of Fasting & Abstinence

Catholics in good health ages 18 to 59 are required to fast and to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Fasting consists of eating only one meal, with the possibility of two smaller snacks that do not add up to a single full meal.

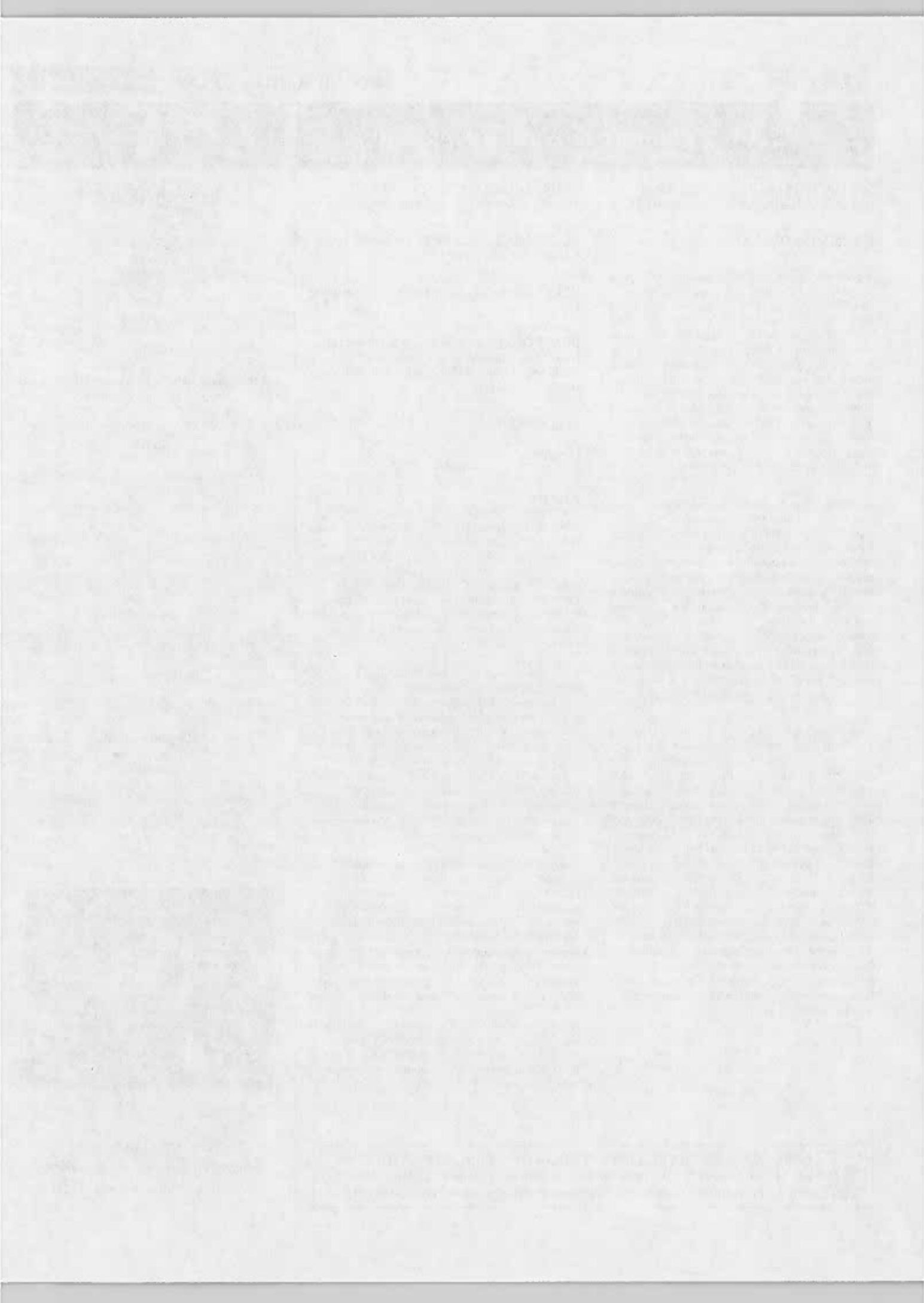
Catholics age 14 and older are to abstain from meat on all Fridays in Lent.

VOTIVE CANDLES:

Suggested donation: Large votives \$3.00 and small votives \$0.50



POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR FEBRUARY - VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN - We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.





Our Parish COMMUNITY

February 28, 2021

Second Sunday of Lent (B)

Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18

Rom 8:31b-34

Mk 9:2-10

Future Gazing

Some spiritual writers and psychologists tell us how important it is to live in the present. Still, many of our decisions are made with an eye toward the future. Life commitments are always future oriented. Each newborn child carries promises for the future. Because we are part of the emerging universe, we are always called into the future. Today's readings also carry implications for the future.

Isaac was not only Abraham's beloved son; he was Abraham's legacy and future dynasty. Isaac's death would have put an end to Abraham's memory in the future. Consequently, this was more than a test of obedience. Abraham was presented with a choice: Choose Isaac and all that the future might bring to your family and memory through him. Or, trust that the promise God made—that your descendants would be as numerous as the stars in the sky—would be fulfilled even if Isaac dies. God asked Abraham to place his future in God's hands.

Some scholars believe that the real meaning of Jesus' transfiguration lies in its effects on the disciples who witnessed it. In this experience they came to see Jesus in a significantly new way. They saw that he has somehow associated with Moses, an agent of the law, and Elijah, a great prophet. In other words, Jesus was somehow associated with the very core of Jewish religion. The disciples did not understand how, nor did they grasp what "rising from the dead meant." Still they placed their future in his hands.

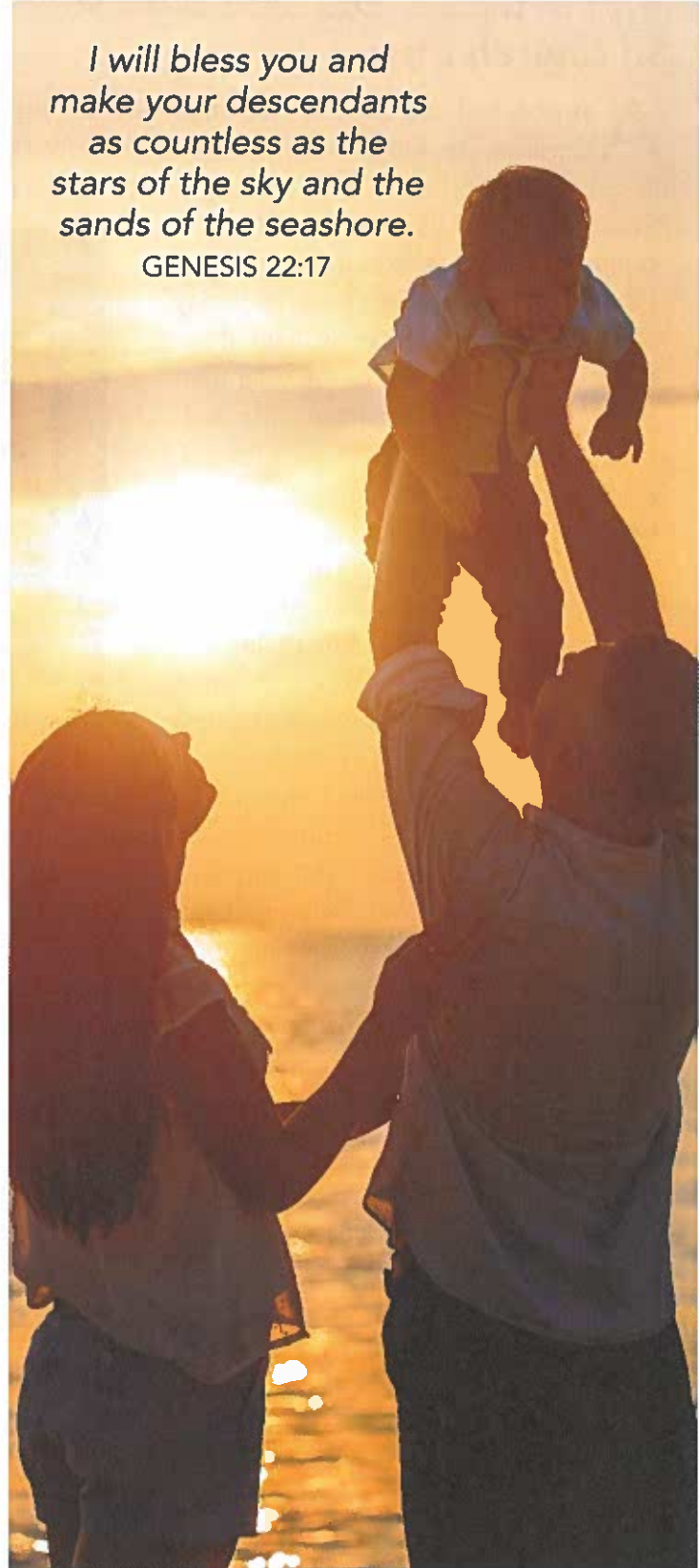
Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- * *Have you ever felt like your whole world has collapsed? How did you get through it?*
- * *True disciples must place their lives in God's hands. Pray for this grace.*

*I will bless you and
make your descendants
as countless as the
stars of the sky and the
sands of the seashore.*

GENESIS 22:17



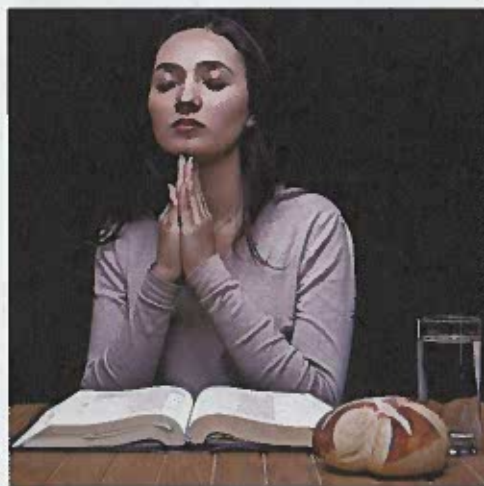
Dear Padre,

Was Lent always associated with sacrifice, sin, and penance? Did Lent have some other purpose in Church history?

A set period of Lent was not observed during the first centuries of Christianity. Rather, Christians prepared for the Easter celebration with an all-night vigil and a fast. This vigil concluded with a morning Eucharist. Gradually, Christians extended this celebration to include Jesus' own Passover (the supper on Holy Thursday and the death of Jesus on Friday). By the end of the second century, baptism became linked to the Easter Vigil, and the time leading to Easter became a period of intense preparation for baptism. At first, this preparation period lasted only three weeks. This baptismal preparation program eventually extended to forty days. The idea of forty days came out of Mark's Gospel (1:13), where we read about Jesus going into the desert for forty days to prepare for his ministry.

Today the Lenten period serves a double purpose. It is still a time of intense preparation for the catechumens, as they anticipate celebrating the sacrament of baptism at the Easter Vigil. But Lent also has become a time for baptized Christians to reflect on their own baptism. During Lent, the baptized are challenged to turn away from sin and choose again the deepest meaning of their baptism: the fact that they have died and risen with Christ and are now alive anew in Jesus. This renewal is done through the traditional penitential practices of fasting, prayer, and works of charity.

*From Dear Padre: Questions Catholics Ask © 2003 Liguori Publications
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org*



JESUS CERVANTES/SHUTTERSTOCK

Calendar

Monday

MARCH 1

Lenten Weekday

Dn 9:4b–10

Lk 6:36–38

Tuesday

MARCH 2

Lenten Weekday

Is 1:10, 16–20

Mt 23:1–12

Wednesday

MARCH 3

Lenten Weekday

Jer 18:18–20

Mt 20:17–28

Thursday

MARCH 4

Lenten Weekday

Jer 17:5–10

Lk 16:19–31

Friday

MARCH 5

Lenten Weekday

Gn 37:3–4, 12–13a,

17b–28a

Mt 21:33–43, 45–46

Saturday

MARCH 6

Lenten Weekday

Mi 7:14–15, 18–20

Lk 15:1–3, 11–32

Sunday

MARCH 7

Third Sunday of Lent

Ex 20:1–17 or

20:1–3, 7–8, 12–17

1 Cor 1:22–25

Jn 2:13–25

A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

We learn from Abraham to pray with faith, to dialogue, to argue, but always ready to receive the word of God and to put it into practice. We learn to talk with God as a child with his father: to listen to him, respond, argue, but transparent, as a child with his father.

GENERAL AUDIENCE, JUNE 3, 2020



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