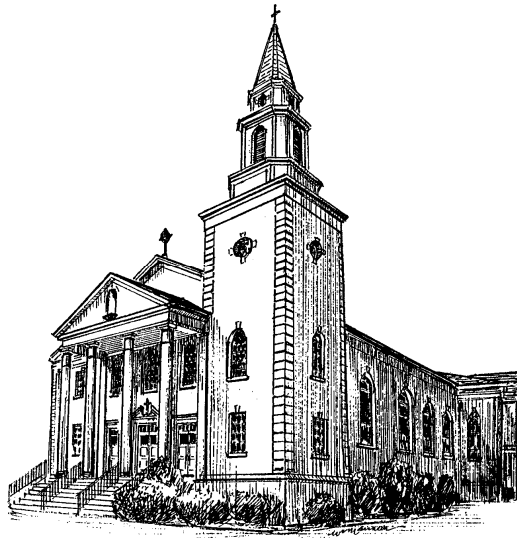


The People of God called to form the Christian Community of

St. Mary's Church

February 11, 2018

**Sixth Sunday in
Ordinary Time**



Mission Statement

We the Roman Catholic community of St. Mary's, united in the Eucharist and under the guidance of St. Mary of the Assumption, strengthen our faith by praising God, proclaiming His word, sharing His love with all people and serving those in need.

**St. Mary:
Pray for Us**

Rev. Stephen A. Carey, *Pastor*
Rev. Michael Barone, *Parochial Vicar*
Rev. Patrick W. Donohue, *In-Residence*
Deacon John L. Sylvester, *Permanent Deacon*
Mr. Joel Condon, *Director of Music Ministry*
Mrs. Kathleen Sylvester, *Pastoral Associate for Liturgy/RCIA*
Dr. William J. Mascitello, *Pastoral Associate for Catechetics*
Mr. Rudy Asistin, *Business Administrator*
Beth Miloscia, *Youth and Young Adult Ministries*
Dory Weiss, *Parish Secretary*
Mrs. Mattea Truppe, *Pastoral Council Chairperson*
Mrs. Janet Kaine, *Parish Trustee*
Mr. Michael Daly, *Parish Trustee*

Parish e-mail: info@stmarysdumont.org
Parish Website: www.stmarysdumont.org

Religious Education Office: 201-384-3062
e-mail: religiously@stmarysdumont.org

Director of Music:
email: music@stmarysdumont.org

Eucharistic Liturgy

Saturday Eve: 5:30 pm
Sunday: 7:45 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 pm
Holydays (except Saturday): 7:00 am, 8:45 am, & 7:30 pm
Weekdays: Monday - Friday 7:00 am & 8:45 am
Saturday: 8:30 am
Holiday: 9:00 am on Major Civil Holidays

Religious Devotions

Miraculous Medal Novena: Saturday following 8:30 am Mass.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday of the month, 8:00 am - 7:00 pm, in the lower church.

Sacrament of Penance

Saturday: 4:00 - 4:45 pm
Private confessions at any time. Please call the parish office.

Sacrament of Marriage

Common policy of the Archdiocese of Newark asks that arrangements be made one year in advance. Engaged couples must call to make an appointment to speak to a priest.

Sacrament of Baptism

Parents should register for the Baptism Preparation Program at the rectory...even before the baby is born!

Catechumenate

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is the process by which adults (and children who have reached the age of reason) are prepared to receive the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist. If you, or someone you know, would like to inquire about becoming a Catholic, please call the parish office.

Ministry to the Sick and Homebound

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is available to be celebrated with anyone in need. Please do not wait until death is imminent to contact the parish regarding an ill family member. Eucharistic Ministers and others serve our community by visiting and bringing Communion to the sick and homebound. Please call the parish office if you wish such a visit.

God's Plan for Giving - Tithing

Tithing is God's plan to support His Church. Full tithing means 10% of gross income to God. We ask half of this, or 5%, for your parish Church. The other 5% goes to your favorite charities.

280 Washington Avenue, Dumont, NJ 07628 Parish Office: 201-384-0557 Fax: 201-384-4986



Saturday	Feb. 10 - Vigil
5:30PM	Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Hunter
Sunday	Feb. 11 - Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:45AM	James and Theresa Serafini
10:00AM	Patrick Langford
12 Noon	Parishioners of St. Mary's
Monday	Feb. 12 - Weekday
7:00AM	Edmundo Villarba
8:45AM	Mrs. Roz Callahan (Living)
Tuesday	Feb. 13 - Weekday
7:00AM	Phyllis Ruttler
8:45AM	John and Eileen O'Neill
Wednesday	Feb. 14 - Ash Wednesday
7:00AM	Sr. Maureen O'Neill
8:45AM	Matt Cinneli (Living)
3:30PM	Prayer Service
7:30PM	Corazon Caballes
Thursday	Feb. 15 - Thursday after Ash Wednesday
7:00AM	Tomas R. Geronimo
8:45AM	The Rooney Family
Friday	Feb. 16 - Friday after Ash Wednesday
7:00AM	Eduardo Villamaria
8:45AM	Michael and Mary O'Neill
Saturday	Feb. 17 - Saturday after Ash Wednesday
8:30AM	Mike Burke
5:30PM	Parishioners of St. Mary's
Sunday	Feb. 18 - First Sunday of Lent
7:45AM	Deceased Members of the Markert Family
10:00AM	Petrina and John Scalice
12 Noon	Ivanica Telesmanich

Sunday – Feb. 11

8:30AM PACT Saints Session LC/School
 12:00PM Baptism UC
 6:30PM JWalk Meeting YRm

Monday - Feb. 12

After 8:45AM Mass Rosary LC
 7:00PM RCIA Catechetical Session MSRm
 7:00PM Social Justice Meeting PJ23Rm
 7:15PM Burning of Palms by the Rectory Garages

Tuesday – Feb. 13

After 8:45AM Mass Rosary LC
 3:30PM Children's Choir Rehearsal School
 3:30PM & 6:00PM FHC Prep #1/Banner UC/School
 7:30PM Adult Choir Rehearsal School

Wednesday - Feb. 14**Ash Wednesday**

After 8:45AM Mass Rosary LC
 Masses: 7:00AM, 8:45AM & 7:30PM
 3:30PM Prayer Service
 6:00PM Simple Supper Cafeteria
 7:00PM OLPH Novena LC
 Collection-Archdiocesan Retired Priests

**Thursday – Feb. 15**

After 8:45 AM Mass Rosary LC
 1:00PM Knitters and Crocheters FDVRm
 7:30PM Yoga (Linda) SFC

Friday – Feb. 16

After 8:45AM Mass Rosary LC
 7:30PM Stations of the Cross LC

Saturday – Feb. 17

After 8:30AM Mass Rosary LC
 Call to Continuing Conversion
 Food Collection

Sunday – Feb. 18

7:30AM Feeding at Missionaries of Charity Soup Kitchen, Newark
 4:00PM-6:00PM Youth Lenten Group YRm
 Food Collection
 Rite of Election

In Loving Memory

The Bread and Wine offered at this week's Masses and the Sanctuary Lamp will burn in praise of God and in memory of Christine Reilly, Mike Jeffers, and Eileen Serpa requested by the Jeffers Family.

We ask your prayers for our recently deceased Walter Fischer.

Burning of Palms - Feb. 12th

Please join us for a brief prayer service and burning of palms on Monday, Feb. 12th at 7:15pm by the rectory garage.

Ash Wednesday - Feb. 14th
Mass Schedule

© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



Ashes will be distributed at the 7:00 AM, 8:45 AM, and 7:30 PM Masses. There will also be a prayer service with distribution of ashes at 3:30 PM.

From the Pastor

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This coming Wednesday, most people will be busily observing, Valentine's Day; the annual celebration of romantic love. But this year, because of quirk in the calendar, Christians the world over will enter into the penitential season of Lent with the observance of Ash Wednesday.

We accept the disciplines of Lent to acknowledge our sinfulness and to give witness to our faith in the mercy of our loving God. Each of us is free to choose how to prayerfully enter into the season of Lent. Many of us will choose to abstain from some favorite food or drink. Others will abstain from some particular activity or behavior. The focus has always been on "what did you give up for Lent."

Instead of giving up something for Lent perhaps we should choose to adopt some new behavior or practice. It could be dedicating more time to prayer or committing to some new devotion. Perhaps it could be attending daily mass more often. It could be committing to give more time to community service or some charitable activity. It could be volunteering to be part of some new ministry here at St. Mary's. It may be a commitment to clearing out some of the clutter in our lives that hinder us in our devotion to God.

Lent should be seen as a gift in the Church calendar in which we are challenged to look at our relationship with God and asked to consider how we can make it better. What slows us down and what gets in the way in our journey of faith? Lent gives us a chance to ask the question and Lent gives an opportunity to seek for answers.

Fr. Carey

Simple Supper - Feb. 14th



All parishioners are invited to begin our Lenten Season by joining together for a simple meal of soup and bread (peanut butter and jelly for kids) at 6:00 pm in the school cafeteria. A freewill offering will be taken to share with St. John's Food Kitchen in Newark.

Call the parish office to make a reservation.

Mark Your Calendar

The 2019 Mass book will be opened on Wednesday, March 7th.

ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK

2018 LENTEN REGULATIONS

1. The days of both Fast and Abstinence during Lent are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily His Resurrection. The other Fridays of Lent are days of Abstinence.

On a day of Fast, only one (1) full meal is permitted, **and two (2) smaller meals, which, if added together, would not exceed the main meal in quantity.**

Those between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast.

On a day of Abstinence, no meat may be eaten. Those who have reached the age of 14 are obliged by the law of abstinence.

2. The obligation to observe the laws of Fast and Abstinence "substantially", or as a whole, is a serious obligation.
3. The Fridays of the year, outside of Lent, are designated as days of penance, but each individual may substitute for the traditional abstinence from meat some other practice of voluntary self-denial as penance.
4. The time for fulfilling the Paschal Precept (Easter Duty*) extends from the **First Sunday of Lent, February 18, 2018 to the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, May 27, 2018.**

*Canon 920, §1. *All the faithful, after they have been initiated into the Most Holy Eucharist, are bound by the obligation of receiving Communion at least once a year.*

Parish Mission - Feb. 24 - 28

Instead of giving something up for Lent this year, why not "do something"?

Please join us at our Parish Mission given by Fr. Bruce Lewandowski, C.S.S.R. who will speak at all masses the weekend of Feb. 24-25 and will present three special evenings of reflection on Feb. 26-28. (Monday-Wednesday) at 7:30pm in the church.

Fr. Bruce is a Redemptorist priest (the same order as Cardinal Tobin) and the pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Baltimore, Maryland

Food Pantry

Next weekend, February 17-18, is food collection weekend. If you could include one or two items from the list below when you do your grocery shopping, we greatly appreciate it. You can drop off your donation next weekend at the church or at the parish office during the week.

Peanut Butter and Jelly

Pancake Mix and Syrup

Cold Cereal

Jell-O and Pudding

Dry Packaged Soup
Dry Milk

Ketchup

Bar of Soap
Dish Soap
Laundry Detergent

Toothpaste
Shampoo

Paper Towel
Toilet Paper

***! Please Note: We have plenty of
! canned vegetables, soup, and pasta.***

God's Plan for Giving:

“The measure of your free-will offering shall be in proportion to the blessing the Lord, your God, has bestowed on you.”

(Deuteronomy 16:10)

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## **February Rosary Linen Schedule**

Feb. 11 Margaret Kennedy

Feb. 18 Pat Barclay

Feb. 25 Mary Cremin

[illegible]

### **Lenten Service Opportunity**



In this Sunday's second reading, Paul writes, "Whether you eat or drink . . . do everything for the glory of God. " What better way to give glory to God this Lenten season than by serving our brothers and sisters who do not have enough to eat?

On March 10th there will be an opportunity to do so at the Community Food Bank of NJ. We will meet at St. Mary's at 7:45 am and car pool to the warehouse. We will be back by noon.

Sign up by March 5th by e-mailing Deacon John at [deaconjohn@stmarysdumont.org](mailto:deaconjohn@stmarysdumont.org). Due to insurance regulations volunteers must be 12 years old or older.

## **2018 Offerings Available**

## Bread & Wine:

Jul. 8; Aug. 5 & 12; Sept. 2 & 30; Oct. 14; Nov. 18.

### Sanctuary Lamp:

Jul 8 & 15, & 22; Aug. 12; Sept. 2, 9, & 23; Nov. 18;  
Dec. 2.



***PACT/Religious Education  
Program***

## **PACT-MAP Mass Attendance Program**



 Remember that sign-in books for our PACT-MAP program are located in the back vestibule of the upper church. To be part of this special incentive program, PACT students should sign in every time they attend mass at the Saturday evening vigil or Sunday morning.

## **First Holy Communion Preparation**

Special preparation for First Holy Communion begins Tuesday 2/13 at the time shown on the information sheet distributed at the *Parent Meeting*.



The *Morning with Jesus* is Saturday, 2/24, 8:45 a.m. – 12 Noon. One parent attends with each candidate for First Holy Communion.

### Confirmation Preparation



Confirmation Interviews with a staff member here at St. Mary's may be scheduled via e-mail over the coming weeks.  
[religiousd@stmarysdumont.org](mailto:religiousd@stmarysdumont.org)

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## **St. Mary's Youth Group - JWalk**

The youth group will start preparing for the living stations prayer service that they lead on Good Friday evening. We will assign parts at our meeting tonight at 6:30pm in the youth room. Any high schoolers who like to participate are invited.

Our practices will be on:

|                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Sunday, February 25th | Sunday, March 4th  |
| Sunday, March 11th    | Sunday, March 18th |
| Sunday, March 25th    |                    |

All practices will be from 6:30pm-8:30pm in the Upper Church.

Anyone who is interested and cannot attend tonight's meeting should email Beth Miloscia at [youthmin@stmarysdumont.org](mailto:youthmin@stmarysdumont.org).

[illegible]

## **Lenten Giving Tree**



 Our parish will collect items for St. Clare's Home for Children, which is a part of the AIDS Resource Foundation in Newark. Tags are available the first weekend of Lent, Feb. 18th. Please take a tag off the Lenten tree and return it with the item to church before the end of Lent.

## **We Are Living Stones Update**

Thank you to the many generous parishioners who have made their commitment to the We Are Living Stones campaign.

|                        |                     |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Our Parish Goal</b> | <b>\$649,793.00</b> |
|------------------------|---------------------|

**To Date: Feb. 5, 2018**

|                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Total Pledge</b> | <b>\$310,196.00</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|

|                              |              |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| Total Amount <b>Received</b> | \$179,758.48 |
|------------------------------|--------------|

Number of Pledges 159

The portion to be shared is \$96,993.48 (total after tithing goal of \$82,500) and the **parish share is \$48,629.24.**

Remember our plan is to use the ***We Are Living Stones*** proceeds to build an **Elevator** inside the church.

## ***Knights of Columbus***

**Past Grand Knights Dinner**-We will be honoring our immediate Past Grand Knight Frank Gallacher, as well as all our Past Grand Knights on Saturday, February 17th from 7pm - 11pm. DJ music and dancing will be provided. Buffet dinner, Coffee, Tea, and Dessert. \$35 per person. RSVP REQUIRED by calling or texting Ken A. at 516-220-9333 or Emailing [KofC1345Reservations@gmail.com](mailto:KofC1345Reservations@gmail.com)

**Lenten Dinner-**St. John's Council #1345 and the St. John's Columbiette Auxiliary are hosting a Lenten Dinner Friday February 23rd from 6pm - 8pm to bring our community together during the season of Lent. This is a meal which is consistent with the laws of abstinence for Fridays during Lent. The menu features tossed salad, pasta, fried cod, french fries, cole slaw, coffee, tea, and dessert. There will be a cash bar available for this event. RSVP BY FEBRUARY 19th REQUIRED by calling or texting Ken A. at 516-220-9333

Or emailing [KofC1345Reservations@gmail.com](mailto:KofC1345Reservations@gmail.com). \$15 per person 13 years old and older, \$9 per person 12 years old and under. Under 3 free.

**Irish Night-Saturday, March 24, 2018, 7PM-11PM.**  
The evening will consist of an authentic Irish menu including Irish Soda Bread and a sit-down dinner. Coffee, tea, and beverages are included. Live entertainment by Frankie and the Currans. \$35 per person. RSVP REQUIRED by calling or texting Ken A. at 516-220-9333 or Emailing [KofC1345Reservations@gmail.com](mailto:KofC1345Reservations@gmail.com).

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## **Altar-Rosary Easter Candy Sale**

Gertrude Hawk Easter candy order forms are available in the rear of the church and at the parish office. Completed order forms must be submitted by Wednesday, February 27  
Pick-up dates will be March 24 & 25, Palm Sunday.

# LENT: THE JOURNEY BEGINS

by Art Zannoni

Lent begins with an invitation from God: "Come back to me, with all your heart" (see Joel 2:12). Our Lenten journey is our response to God's invitation.

## The Word "Lent"

Interestingly, the word "lent" comes from Old English through Middle English to modern English. Looking at its origin, "lent" is a shortening of the word "lengthen," used to describe the increasing amount of daylight each day: the harbinger of spring and new life, of sap running in trees, buds opening, green grass, daffodils, and tulips popping up.

Spring for many is a time of cleaning, and Lent is a time for spiritual spring cleaning. We clean out the clutter that has accumulated in our lives to make more room for God and one another.

## Liturgical Math: Counting Forty Days

Mathematically speaking, there are 46 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday. So how did we get forty? It was developed not by means of math but by theology. Every Sunday is Easter, even during the Lenten season, for every Sunday is a memorial of the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus. When we subtract the six Sundays of Lent from the total we end up with forty.

## Lent: A Brief History Lesson

Church historians tell us that by the end of the fourth century, a forty day period of fasting was observed in parts of the church in commemoration of Christ's forty days in the desert. Later this developed into a penitential season in preparation for Easter. Lent had two emphases: it was the time of formation and preparation for the catechumens (those seeking entrance into the church) and it was a time of reconciliation for those members of the church whose sins had separated them from God and the church.

The shape and understanding of Lent changed with time. The public reconciliation of penitents died out, as did the catechumenate. Lent had shifted from a season of baptismal renewal to a liturgical season of fasting.

## Ashes and Ash Wednesday

The origin and custom of using ashes is discovered in part in the Old Testament. They accompanied prayer in the case of Abraham when he said to God: "Let me take it upon myself to speak to my Lord, I who am but dust and ashes." The prophet Jeremiah uses ashes when he calls for repentance: "O daughter of my people, gird on sackcloth, roll in ashes" (Jer. 6:26). The prophet Daniel pleaded for God to rescue Israel with sackcloth and ashes as a sign of Israel's repentance: "I turned to the Lord God, pleading in earnest prayer, with fasting, sackcloth and ashes" (Dan. 9:3). In the New Testament, Jesus refers to the use of sackcloth and ashes as signs of repentance: (see Mt. 11:21; Lk. 10:13).

In the early church, when the season of Lent was a time period for reconciliation of public sinners, the penitents would come to church at the start of Lent wearing a garment suggesting a sackcloth, an Old Testament symbol for seeking repentance. They were sprinkled with ashes and ritually dismissed from the assembly to do their penance for forty days, returning to

church on Holy Thursday. With time, the dismissing of penitents disappeared, but the ashes remained as a reminder and call to penance of all the faithful. The act of imposing ashes symbolizes human mortality and fragility and the need to be redeemed by the mercy of God.

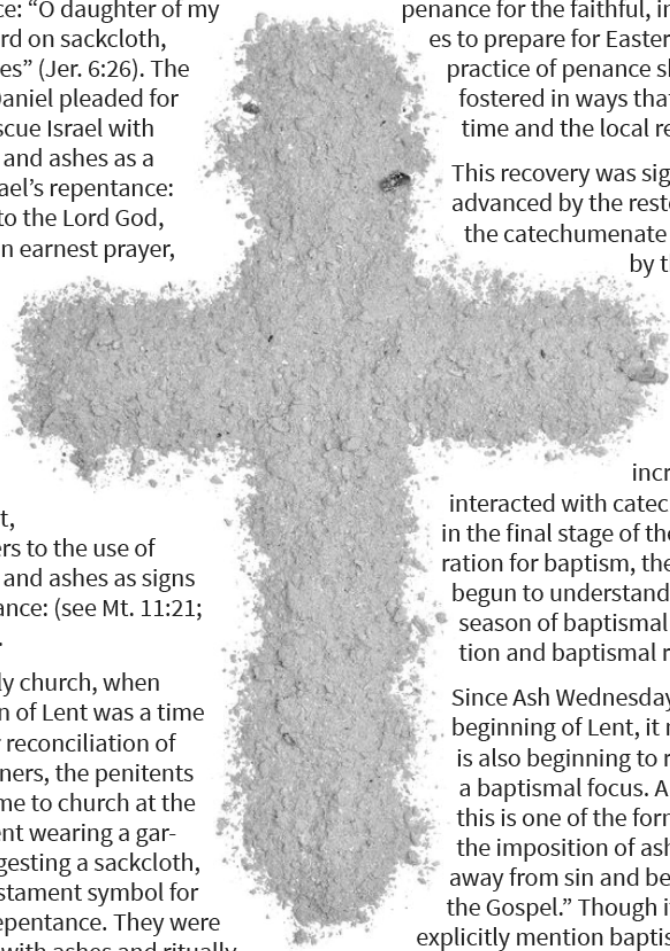
## Ash Wednesday after Vatican II

The Second Vatican Council (1962-1965) called for the renewal of Lent, recovering its ancient baptismal character. The Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy states: "The season of Lent is both a time of preparation for baptism and a time of penance for the faithful, in both cases to prepare for Easter. Hence the practice of penance should be fostered in ways that suit our time and the local region."

This recovery was significantly advanced by the restoration of the catechumenate mandated by the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (1972). As Catholics have increasingly

interacted with catechumens in the final stage of their preparation for baptism, they have begun to understand Lent as a season of baptismal preparation and baptismal renewal.

Since Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, it naturally is also beginning to recover a baptismal focus. A hint of this is one of the formulas for the imposition of ashes: "Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel." Though it doesn't explicitly mention baptism, it recalls the baptismal promises to reject sin and to profess our faith. It is a clear



call to conversion—that movement away from sin and toward Christ—that we have to embrace over and over again throughout our lives.

### From Ashes to the Font

The message of Ash Wednesday is the call to continuous conversion. We move through Lent from ashes to the baptismal font. We dirty our faces on Ash Wednesday and are cleansed in the waters of the font at the Easter Vigil. More profoundly, we embrace the need to die to sin and selfishness at the beginning of Lent so that we can come to fuller life in the Risen One at Easter.

When we receive ashes on our foreheads, we remember who we are. We remember that we are

creatures of the earth (“Remember that you are dust”). We remember that we are mortal beings (“and to dust you will return”). We remember that we are baptized. We remember that we are people on a journey of conversion (“Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel”). We remember that we are members of the body of Christ (and the smudge on our foreheads will proclaim that identity to others, too).

### Lenten Practices

Catholics are encouraged in Lent to cultivate three religious practices: fasting/abstinence, prayer, and almsgiving. The purpose of our Lenten practices is to discipline ourselves to be attuned to the activity of God in our lives.

### What does it mean to fast?

Fasting is making do with less food. The result of not eating so much and getting hungry is that we have a heightened sense of awareness. When we eat too much we have a sluggish feeling. When we fast, we are more alert and open to the activities of God in our lives. Fasting cleanses our bodies and prepares us to

pray more deeply.

### When do we fast?

Check with your local diocesan regulations regarding Lenten observances. In general, Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 are required to fast. This means that on these days we eat only one full meal, with no food between meals. It is understood that if one eats three meals a day the two other meals should not total one full meal. Of course, everyone is free to fast at any other time as an aid for prayer and reflection. Fasting—as opposed to dieting—enhances our hunger for God. Fasting is one of the most ancient practices in Lent.

### What does it mean to abstain?

To abstain is to refrain from eating meat as an act of penance and sacrifice. Since innumerable people in the world cannot afford to eat meat, our abstaining can put us in solidarity with the hungry and poor of the world.

### When do we abstain?

In general, Catholics in the United States and Canada abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays of Lent. This does not include abstaining from eggs and dairy products. Catholics ages fourteen and older are bound by the law of abstinence.

### Prayer

Prayer is described as the raising of the mind and heart to God or conversing with God.

Lent is a time to make a conscious daily effort to pray more and with greater regularity. There are many ways to pray in Lent:

- prayer daily either individually or with your family
- celebrate the Sunday Eucharist and if possible the daily Eucharist
- make a retreat

- make a pilgrimage to a holy place
- commit to spiritual reading

### Almsgiving

The giving of alms can be traced back to Jesus. In the story of the poor widow (Luke 21:1-4) Jesus notes that people were giving alms and uses the tradition to teach us about generosity. He says that it is the widow who gives the better share because she gives out of her daily living expenses, out of her poverty, while the rich give simply from their surplus. This Gospel passage reminds us that regardless of our finances, for Catholic Christians, the sharing of our various blessings is not optional.

Almsgiving is much more than giving money to the poor or to your favorite charity. It is all the things we can do to make the broken world whole again. The aim of giving alms is to right the wrong distribution caused by greed, power, or anything else. The three modes of giving alms are: time, talent, and treasure.

In our fast-paced world, **time** may be the form of alms that is hardest to give. But giving of our time is a healthy Lenten practice whether it is a parent or grandparent giving that time to a child generously and regularly, or a person volunteering time at a food bank or a women's shelter, or a person taking time to tutor adults in a literacy program.

Everyone has been blessed by God with talents. We can practice the **talent** alms by cooking a meal for a terminally ill person, elderly shut-in, widow, or widower. We could help fix up a person's home or do some spring cleaning for them. Lent is a time to inventory the talents we have and to make use of them.

Finally, Lent is a time to reflect on how we share our **treasures**, both the things we own and the money we earn. Could we live on less? What donations could we make to charity this Lent? Could we forgive someone a monetary debt they owe us?

As you begin your Lenten journey this year, consider how God may be inviting you to stretch yourself to live out the season more fully.

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