

## From Ashes to Easter

Lent is like a long retreat during which we can turn back into ourselves and listen to the voice of God, in order to defeat the temptation of the Evil One. It is a period of spiritual combat which we must experience alongside Jesus, not with pride and presumption, but using the arms of faith: prayer, listening to the word of God and penance. In this way, we will be able to celebrate Easter in truth, ready to renew the promise of our Baptism: Pope Benedict XVI

### Join us for Lenten Worship

**Weekdays** (Beginning February 15)

**Monday through Friday**-6:30 AM Communion Service, Main Church and 7:30 AM Mass in the Historic Church.

**Wednesdays** (Beginning February 21) 7:00 PM Stations of the Cross and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament in the Historic Church.

**Saturdays**— 4:00 PM to 4:30 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) in the Main Church

**Eucharistic Adoration**— This week, Wednesday, February 14, 9:30 AM to 6:30 PM-Chapel of the Main Church.

### Lenten Regulations from February 14, 2018 Ash Wednesday, To the Paschal Triduum

Abstinence from meat is to be observed by all Catholics 14 years old and older on Ash Wednesday and on all Fridays of Lent. Fasting is to be observed on Ash Wednesday by all Catholics who are 18 years of age but not 59. Those who are bound by this may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one's need, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted. The special Paschal fast, as well as abstinence, are prescribed for Good Friday and encouraged for Holy Saturday.



“Lent is ordered to preparing for the celebration of Easter, since the Lenten liturgy prepares for celebration of the Paschal Mystery both catechumens, by the various stages of Christian Initiation, and the faithful, who recall their own Baptism and do penance. (Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year, #27)

By the threefold discipline of fasting, almsgiving and prayer, the church keeps Lent from Ash Wednesday until the evening of Holy Thursday. All of the faithful and the catechumens should undertake the serious practice of these three traditions. Failure to observe penitential days totally or a substantial number of such days must be considered serious.

“On weekdays of Lent, we strongly recommend participation in daily Mass and self-imposed observances of fasting. In light of grave, human needs which weigh on the Christian conscience in all seasons, we urge particularly during Lent, generosity to local, national and world programs of sharing of all things needed to translate our duty to penance into a means of implementing the right of the poor to their part of our abundance.” (U.S. Bishops statement on penitential observance, 1966.)

### Our Lenten Worship at St. Pat's

Cardinal Cupich has asked us to practice and value SILENCE in our weekly liturgies as a way to become more intimately connected with the Lord during our Masses especially on Sundays. To this end, we will incorporate the following practice into our weekend worship during the Sundays of Lent.

- ◆ There will be NO Entrance Procession at the beginning of Mass. We are encouraging everyone to come early to Mass and spend the time in Silent Prayer and Reflection. The clergy and Ministers will be in their places before Mass begins. After the Greeting by the Presider, we will kneel together and join in the sung Litany of the Saints-asking these holy persons of every age and place to accompany us on our Lenten journey.
- ◆ The response to the Universal Prayer (Petitions) will be sung.
- ◆ We will employ silence during the Gospel Procession.
- ◆ We will sing the Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy) and the Angus Dei (Lamb of God) in their original Latin chant settings.
- ◆ We will have an extended period of Silent Prayer after Communion.

Please join with us each Lord's Day as we gather for worship and praise of God in the setting of the Eucharist.