

FIRST DOWN & 40

BY FR. ERIC TELLEZ, PASTOR



Dear Friends,

Our Catholic faith rituals and traditions many times connect us with our human experiences in powerful ways. When someone has made a mistake towards another and we know we have done wrong, there is a response of trying to make up for the mistake by acts that show we want to be different or change. We may be more sensitive towards others, we may perform acts that show a desire to be caring

for others and less self centered. This is a good thing in our humanity, knowing we made a mistake, yet wanting in our hearts the desire to be a better person.

This is why I think Catholics really connect with the season of Lent. The acts of penance in Lent help us to make up for our failings and shortcomings by showing God our gratitude for his grace and mercy. We are familiar with the act of "giving up" or sacrificing during the season of Lent. These are reminders that we join in Christ's suffering for the salvation of the world. For others, we choose to "take on" acts of service, praying, and charity. These acts form great habits and devotions that can go beyond the season of Lent and carry us into living the 50 days of the Easter season. I find in the secular world that people are aware of Lent, they know people give up things, they do not eat meat on Fridays, and they confess their sins. These acts are attractive to people who desire the discipline and tradition of Lent. I invite all parishioners to remember we are being watched by all people during Lent and the way we choose to give up or take on will be the core of what it really means to be human. A desire to be our best, make up for our failings, and know we are loved always for who we are.

Please view the calendar and other items of information that will support us in Penance, Prayer and Acts of Charity.

Peace in Christ

- FR. FRIC

UNDIES SUNDAYS

LENTEN COLLECTION

At all Masses during Lent, we will be collecting underwear for those in need.

This collection will help these organizations meet the needs of the people they serve:

- · André House
- St. Vincent De Paul
- Justa Center
- Homeless MATters
- · The Welcome Center
- Paz de Cristo

These organizations request: new white cotton briefs, Men, sizes 32-38 and Women, sizes 5-8



GPS GIVING · PRAYING · SERVING

Lent is also a great time to take a look at your own personal GPS. How are you giving? How are you praying? How are you serving? How are our stewardship pillars of Giving, Praying & Serving related and connected to the Lenten pillars of Praying, Fasting & Almsgiving? What actions can you take this Lenten season to foster growth in these areas? On the back side of this card we offer some reflections and suggestions.

LENTEN SURVIVAL KIT

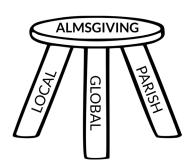
† PRAYING • Make a commitment to Mass; attend daily Mass; spend time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament; pray the Stations of the Cross on Friday evenings; pray as a family by reading through the upcoming Sunday readings; come to our "Big Mondays;" find a devotion or prayer for this special season; as a family listen and talk about the Gospel.

† FASTING • Giving up things for Lent is a powerful experience. Fasting could entail eating less than normal, or fasting from the things we love to eat. We may also choose to fast from things like television, the internet, social media, or things that consume us. We should reflect on how fasting from such things might help us live differently at Easter time.

† ALMSGIVING • Put money aside as an offering; reach out to neighbors, co-workers and others who could use your support; use the Lenten Almsgiving resources available in the Narthex; participate in "Undies Sundays;" lessen another's burden by placing the needs of others before your own needs; be open to understanding your own blindness to the suffering around us.

THREE LEGGED STOOL

In our almsgiving, we are called to keep in mind **local, global and parish** needs. We encourage you to consider the 3 legged stool when you discern your almsgiving this Lenten season.



LOCAL HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Supports affordable housing in central Arizona. Habitat brings people together to build homes, communities, and hope. Follow along in the Habitat Lenten calendar and fill up your Lenten banks to help support this organization.

GLOBAL CRS RICE BOWL

Supports Catholic Relief Services (CRS), the official humanitarian agency of the Catholic community in the US. CRS assists poor and suffering people in 91 countries on the basis of need, without regard to race, religion or nationality. Rice Bowls and additional info are available in the Narthex.

PARISH CATHOLIC CHARITIES COMMUNITY SERVICES

Supports counseling services for parishioners in need. Catholic Charities offers quality behavioral health services here at the parish. Consider supporting these services by placing a gift in the Catholic Charities envelope.



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OUR WEBSITE

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THE SEASON OF LENT

Sundays, February 26, March 5, 12, 19, 26 "Undies Sundays" Collection at all Masses during Lent

REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE

Weekends Saturday: 4:30 pm

Sunday: 8:30 am, 10:30 am & 5:00 pm

Weekdays Monday - Friday: 8:00 am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Online prayer service on YouTube and Facebook released on Monday, March 13 and available on-demand throughout the season of Lent.

Wednesday, March 15 • 2 priests from 6:00-7:30 pm Wednesday, March 22 • 2 priests from 6:00-7:30 pm Monday, March 27 • 1 priest from 12 noon-2:00 pm Wednesday, March 29 • 2 priests from 6:00-7:30 pm Monday, April 3 • 8 priests from 6:00-8:00 pm Wednesday, April 5 • from 6:00-7:30 pm (Last opportunity before Triduum)

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays, February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31 at 6:00 pm beginning in the Daily Mass Chapel

BIG MONDAYS

Mondays, February 27, March 6, 13, 20 & 27
Dinner from 5:30-6:15 pm • Events from 6:30-7:45 pm
Each Monday during Lent, we invite EVERYONE to join
together for our "Big Mondays!" There will be food
available, we will all gather for prayer, and then we will
break off by age groups for a special education,
reflection, service or prayer opportunity. Childcare will
be available for the young ones. Youth in 4th through
8th grade will go to ROCK45 and EDGE. Adults will break
off for the following events...

Mental Health Check • February 27 with Fr. Eric & Jill McMahon

Come, Fill the Well • March 6
Music, prayer and renewal for the soul
with Paul Hillebrand and friends

Service Habit • March 13 Everyone will stay together for a hands on night of fun, teaching, and service. Taizé Prayer • March 20 Prayer & song around the Cross

In Presenza Di (In the Presence of) • March 27 Praise, Worship, Teaching & Eucharistic Adoration with Adam & Edel Stein and Nic Cortez leading music and special guest speaker, Brian Cannon

HOLY WEEK & EASTER

PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION • APRIL 2
Regular Mass Schedule • Please Wear Red
(Lenten almsgiving banks & envelopes returned)

HOLY THURSDAY • APRIL 6

7:00 pm • Mass of the Lord's Supper Eucharistic Adoration will follow Mass until 11:00 pm

GOOD FRIDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION • APRIL 7

12:00 pm • Family Stations of the Cross
Featuring ministers from ROCK45, EDGE & Singing Angels.
1:00-3:00 pm • Quiet Prayer and Meditation
7:00 pm • Good Friday Liturgy
Passion, Veneration of the Cross & Eucharist

HOLY SATURDAY • APRIL 8 11:00 am • Easter Basket Blessing 7:00 pm • The Easter Vigil

EASTER SUNDAY • APRIL 9

8:30 am • Church & Fenlon Hospitality Center 10:30 am • Church & Fenlon Hospitality Center 12:30 pm • Church

THE EASTER SEASON

Sundays, April 16, 23, 30, May 7, 14, 21, & 28 Regular Mass Schedule

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD • MAY 21 Regular Mass Schedule

PENTECOST SUNDAY • MAY 28 • Regular Mass Schedule • Please Wear Red

Please pray for the candidates and catechumens as they discern their commitment to the Easter Sacraments.





LENTEN 2023 PRAYER CHALLENGELent is a season of reflection and preparation through fasting, almsgiving, and prayer. Use this calendar to help you reflect and pray this season.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
19	20	21	22 Mt 6:1-6, 16-181	23 LK 9:22-25	24 Mt 9:14-15	25 Lk 5:27-32
			Jesus urges us to turn away from ourselves and instead focus on fasting, almsgiving, and praying. How will you spend your Lent?	How will you deny yourself, take up your cross, and follow Jesus this Lent?	Fasting is a sign of mourning, but today Jesus wants us to fill our hearts with God's joy. To hunger for him.	Who today would be in Matthew's position? How will you put prejudices aside as Jesus did?
			Ash Wednesday			
26 Mt 4:1-11	27 Mt 25: 31-46	28 Mt 6: 7-15	1 LK 11:29-32	2 Mt 7:7-12	3 Mt 5:20-26	4 Mt 5:43-48
Jesus is tempted today but remains steadfast.	Jesus calls us to be generous and humble, helping all those in need.	Jesus teaches us how to pray.	Jesus asks this generation to repent as Jonah did.	Jesus tells us to come before God with expectant hearts.	Jesus teaches us about righteousness and not only loving God, but our neighbor too.	Jesus teaches us the importance of loving our enemies.
Reflection: God is with us in times of trials and tribulations. 1st Sunday in Lent	<u>Prayer Challenge:</u> Pray for the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked, the sick, and the prisoner.	<u>Prayer Challenge</u> : Pray the Our Father prayer today.	<u>Prayer Challenge</u> : Pray for the areas of your life that need conversion.	Prayer Challenge: Ask for what you need and be grateful for the time spent with God in prayer today.	<u>Prayer Challenge</u> : Pray for	Reflection: Am I persecuting anyone right now? What can I do to love my enemies?
5 Mt 17:1-9 The transfiguration of Jesus is powerful.	6 LK 6:36-38 Jesus teaches the importance of a merciful heart.	7 Mt 23:1-12 Jesus tells us to be consistent in our words and actions; placing God	8 LK 6:36-38 Jesus wants us to be merciful and have loving hearts.	9 Mt 20:17-28 Jesus teaches us about humble service.	10 Lk 16:19-31 Jesus tells us to be alert and respond to the needs of others.	11 Lk 15:1-3, 11-32 Jesus teaches us through the Prodigal Son about love and true forgiveness.
Reflection: What am I afraid of and how can I sit and listen to what God has to say about fear? 2nd Sunday in Lent	<u>Prayer Challenge</u> : Pray for a more merciful heart today.	above all else. <u>Prayer Challenge</u> : Pray for the ability to serve others with love.	<u>Prayer Challenge</u> : Pray for forgiveness today.	<u>Prayer Challenge</u> : Pray to be the least and not the greatest.	Prayer Challenge: Pray to keep your eyes and hearts open to helping those in need.	Reflection: Which of the three characters do I identify with the most right now?
12 Jn 4:5-42	13 LK 4:24-30	14 Mt 18:21-35	15 Mt 5:17-19	16 Lk 11:14-23	17 Mk 12:28-34	18 Lk 18:9-14
Jesus speaks to the woman at the well.	Jesus teaches us the importance of loving and healing others.	Jesus tells us that forgiveness and mercy alone can save the world.	Jesus reminds us to love God and neighbor as oneself.	Jesus teaches us that a house divided against itself cannot stand.	Jesus reminds us that above all else, we must first love God, and then	Jesus shares a parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector.
Reflection: How do I live out my baptismal call in my day-to-day life? 3rd Sunday in Lent	Prayer Challenge: Pray for ears to listen and eyes to see those who I have failed to pay attention to.	<u>Prayer Challenge</u> : Pray for the grace to forgive someone you are holding a grudge against.	<u>Prayer Challenge</u> : Pray to God to help you love yourself and others, just as much as God loves you.	<u>Prayer Challenge:</u> Pray for an end to division in the world.	love our neighbor. <u>Prayer Challenge</u> : Pray for a loving heart to reach out to others in Jesus' name.	Reflection: Which of these two do I identify with more? Do I pray with a sincere heart?
19 Jn 9:1-41	20 Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a	21 Jn 5:1-16	22 Jn 5:17-30	23 Jn 5:31-47	24 Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30	25 LK 1:26-38
Jesus heals the man born blind.	Today we learn of Joseph's strength and obedience.	Jesus tells us he is Son of God, and heals an ill man.	Jesus gives a glimpse of his unity with God.	Jesus teaches us about blind mentality.	Jesus is criticized and rejected, but remains steadfast.	Mary is visited by Angel Gabriel and responds, "yes".
Reflection: Have I placed blame on others this week? 4th Sunday in Lent	Prayer Challenge: Pray for obedience and the wisdom to follow God's paths.	<u>Prayer Challenge</u> : Pray for someone who needs healing today.	Prayer Challenge: Pray as you read this scripture slowly. Where are you in the story?	<u>Prayer Challenge:</u> Pray for those who are struggling with their faith.	<u>Prayer Challenge:</u> Pray for those who are rejected and criticized by society.	Reflection: When have you been called by God and responded, "yes"?
26 Jn 11:1-45	27 Jn 8:1-11	28 Jn 8:21-30	29 Jn 8:31-42	30 Jn 8:51-59	31 Jn 10:31-42	1 Jn 11:45-56
Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead.	Jesus invites the one who has never sinned to throw the first stone.	Jesus and the Father are one because Jesus lives in his ways.	Jesus tells us that the truth will set us free.	Jesus assures us that God gives new life to those who listen to his word.	Jesus says that when we do good works, God can be seen through us.	Not everyone accepts Jesus's message; some plan to silence him.
Reflection: What is God calling me to "die" to; what is he calling me to "rise" to? 5th Sunday in Lent	Prayer Challenge: Pray for someone with whom I am angry.	<u>Prayer Challenge:</u> Pray to God the Father to help you live in his ways.	<u>Prayer Challenge:</u> Pray for God to help you embrace the truth.	Prayer Challenge: Pray to God to help you deepen your trust in him.	<u>Prayer Challenge:</u> Pray for the safety of those who do volunteer service around the world.	<u>Prayer Challenge:</u> Pray for the courage to do the right thing, even when it's hard.